MAKING 2020 COUNT

“If information is the currency of democracy, then libraries are its banks.” — Senator Wendell Ford

This year, YDL focuses on our institutional and individual roles in a successful democracy. We encourage everyone to stand up and be counted in the 2020 US Census. The 19th Amendment was passed 100 years ago, granting women the right to vote. This summer, YDL hosts two exhibits, highlighting women’s suffrage and the civil rights movement. We’ll round out the year with non-partisan information about November’s local elections, changes you’ll see at the ballot box, and the importance of casting your vote.

Expanded community information in The Loop in 2020 is supported in part by a grant from the United Way of Washtenaw County. Thanks to their generosity, our newsletter shows you more ways to connect with your community.

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WASHTENAW READS: A CITIZEN’S SEARCH FOR HOME

Every year, Washtenaw County libraries and patrons gather to promote reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of a common book.

For 2020, the selection is author Jose Antonio Vargas’s Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen. This moving memoir details the hardships that Vargas and over 11 million other undocumented immigrants face when trying to adapt to a new culture and status in the United States.

At the age of 12, Vargas was sent to America from the Philippines to live with his maternal grandparents. Immediately he was faced with the unsettling challenge of lying and hiding from the government, in fear of arrest and deportation. Common tasks such as applying for college or obtaining a driver’s license forced him to use fake papers. Vargas knew that without documentation, his opportunities were limited. To this day, he remains undocumented.

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Thursday, January 30

AUTHOR VISIT: JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS
7:00 PM | WCC Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr.
Join the discussion with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jose Antonio Vargas and enjoy light refreshments. Books will be available for signing and purchase.
The author emphasizes that his memoir isn’t focused on the politics of immigration, but rather the longing of families to find a home. Through his story, he pledges to change the narrative of undocumented immigrants in American media. Find a copy of the book, including Young Reader editions, at any YDL location, or use our digital catalog to download the eBook or eAudiobook.

ABOUT JOSE ANTONIO VARGAS
Jose Antonio Vargas is a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker, and Tony-nominated producer. A leading voice for the human rights of immigrants, he founded the non-profit media and culture organization Define American, named one of the World’s Most Innovative Companies by Fast Company. His best-selling memoir, Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen, was published by HarperCollins in 2018. To learn more about Jose Antonio Vargas and his work, visit joseantoniovargas.com.

CENSUS HELP
For the first time, the Census will be conducted primarily online. During Count Week (Mar 22–28), all three YDL locations will have dedicated computers for your participation in the 2020 Census. No library card is needed.

YDL-Michigan Avenue
Dedicated laptop on the first and second floors

YDL-Superior
Laptop available for request

YDL-Whittaker
Dedicated laptop on second floor; additional access in the 2nd floor computer training lab on the following dates/times:
- SUN, MAR 22: 1–5 pm
- MON, MAR 23: 10–11:30 am, 2–4:30 pm
- TUE, MAR 24: 2–5 pm
- WED, MAR 25: 10 am–12 pm
- THU, MAR 26: 2–5 pm

Staff is always available to help you. During the computer training lab hours, staff can sit with you upon request to help navigate the form.

The Importance of the Census to the Ypsilanti Community
The Decennial Census has a real impact on daily life in Ypsilanti and Washtenaw County. The results of the Census determine political representation at the national, state, and local levels. Michigan’s seats in the US House of Representatives could decrease based on the results of the 2020 Census. It also is used to allocate billions of dollars of federal funding, with each additional individual who takes the Census representing approximately $1,800 in annual dollars used to support our roads, community infrastructure projects, and social service programs. The Census is also used to plan development in communities, attract businesses, and improve public transportation. These are just a few of the reasons an accurate count is so important to the Ypsilanti community.

How to Take the Census
By April 1, 2020, every household will receive an invitation to respond to the Census online or over the phone. In some cases, households will still receive a paper form. The individual who completes the Census will do so for every member of the household, answering the following questions:
1. The number of people living or staying at your home, and the name of each person.
2. Whether the home is owned or rented.
3. The sex of each person in the household.
4. The age of each person in the household.
5. The race of each person in the household.
6. Whether a person in the household is of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin.
7. The relationship of each person in the household to each other.

Need Help?
During Count Week, libraries, nonprofit agencies, and businesses will be reserving computers for members of the public to complete the Census with volunteers available to help answer questions. Census events at churches, clubs, and other venues will allow community members to come together to take the Census. Dates and locations will be posted on washtenaw.org/Census2020 in the coming months. YDL is also offering dedicated computers and staff assistance to participate in the Census. See the sidebar for more information.

Get Involved
Do you have a great idea about how to increase participation and help Washtenaw County’s Census outreach efforts? Visit washtenaw.org/Census2020 to join the conversation and help spread the word.

The League of Women Voters will also have a table in the lobby at the YDL-Whittaker branch every Saturday in January and February from 12–2 pm to provide information about the Census. See page 6 for more League of Women Voters events related to the Census.
FREE TAX ASSISTANCE EXPANDING

For the first time, free income tax return assistance will be offered at all YDL locations! Federal and Michigan 1040 forms will be submitted electronically and you will receive a paper copy of your return to take home.

For the second year, YDL-Superior will serve as a Scan & Go tax preparation site, in partnership with United Way of Washtenaw County and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. Trained and certified library staff scan your documentation and upload it to a secure United Way tax website. Tax-certified United Way volunteers then complete your taxes. Once your taxes are complete, the volunteer contacts you to arrange another appointment, where you’ll review and sign. After that second appointment, your taxes are filed electronically. To be eligible for the Scan & Go service, your income should be under $56,000. All Scan & Go sessions are made by appointment, either by calling YDL-Superior at 734-482-4110, x1310 or by registering at www.uwwashtenaw.org/freetaxhelp.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers have been doing taxes at YDL-Michigan, at no cost, completing the taxes of hundreds of taxpayers annually. This year, AARP will also do taxes at YDL-Whittaker. AARP’s Tax-Aide assistance program is provided by trained volunteers in partnership with the IRS. AARP’s tax preparation is targeted at low- and moderate-income taxpayers. There is no age requirement, but this service especially targets those over 50 years old. AARP membership is not required. Call 734-482-4110, x2411 or x2421 to make an AARP Tax-Aide appointment or for more information.

BRING WITH YOU:

- Picture ID. If filing jointly, both spouses must be present and bring photo ID and SSN card
- SSN card or Social Security statement and birthdates for yourself, spouse, and dependents
- Voided personal check for direct deposit into your bank account
- Last year’s tax return
- All W-2s and 1099s as proof of income
- Bring 1095-A if you received ACA health insurance
- If renting, proof of paid rent, landlord’s name and address
- If potential Heating Credit, bring Dec, Jan, or Feb DTE bill
- If potential Property Tax Credit, bring 2019 Summer/Winter Property Tax statement

AARP TAX-AIDE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Tuesdays**
- Feb 4
  - 9:30 AM–3:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
  - By Appointment Only
- Feb 11–April 14
  - 9:30 AM–12:30 PM | YDL-Michigan
  - Walk-ins
  - 1:00 PM–3:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
  - By Appointment Only

**Wednesdays**
- Feb 12, Feb 26, Mar 11, Mar 25, April 8
  - 9:30 AM–3:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
  - By Appointment Only

**Thursdays**
- Feb 6–April 9
  - 10:00 AM–4:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
  - By Appointment Only

CALLING ALL COMMISSIONERS

If the 2020 Census has started you thinking about how government works and wanting to participate, you’re in luck! The City of Ypsilanti has several boards, commissions, and committees that you can volunteer to serve on—no election needed. These boards, commissions, and committees generally advise City Council in specific areas, such as the arts, sustainability, social issues, long-range planning, and others. Some can also review ordinance changes or make decisions on applications. The City also appoints resident delegates to certain regional committees to represent the City’s viewpoint and goals on regional issues. The City has more than 10 of its own boards and commissions, and is represented on at least three regional bodies. In other words, when engaged citizens participate on these boards, the community benefits!

More information about the local and regional boards and commissions, including duties, time commitments, current vacancies, and applications can be found at cityofypsilanti.com/boardsandcommissions. You can also call the City Clerk’s office at 734-483-1100 for more information.
THE FIRST RULE OF PUNK: BE YOURSELF

This season’s Family Read pick is 2018 Pura Belpré Author Honor Book The First Rule of Punk, by Celia C. Pérez. María Luisa, known to friends and family as Malú, loves punk rock, skateboarding, zines, and Søyrizo (but not cilantro). When her college-professor mom takes a new job, they move thousands of miles from her music-loving dad, who reminds her that everything will be OK as long as she remembers the first rule of punk: be yourself. She learns more about her Mexican heritage and Chicanx influences on her favorite music genre from her new neighbors, and eventually forms a band that auditions for the school talent show. But will the anti-punk school administration choose them to perform?

There will be plenty of chances to engage with the book at the library. Kids can read the book together, chat, try food from the story, and make art at weekly YDL-Superior and YDL-Whittaker Tween Reading Circles. Readers of all ages are invited to make zines at the Ypsi Writes Zine Writing 24-hour Challenge. Kids can explore the traditional art of the Otomi and make Frida Kahlo inspired miniature shadow boxes at art workshops, plus learn to make tamales, friendship bracelets, and more. At the final celebration, everyone is invited to the library for Mexican treats, hands-on art stations, and to hear mariachi punk.

Collage art zines are scattered throughout the book, pulling the reader through the story visually, making it feel like a graphic novel. Because the Family Read was designed to encourage families to unplug and read aloud together, there are many great conversation starters. The First Rule of Punk touches on themes such as standing up for your right to express yourself, discovering your own identity and culture, fitting in at school, and that everyone’s voice counts.

The books we choose are appropriate for kids as young as 3rd grade but interesting enough for adults. Go to ypsilibrary.org for our complementary booklist for younger readers so everyone can be part of the fun.

COME TO THE "WRITE" PLACE: YPSI WRITES NOW OPEN

Did you ever think about talking with someone about your writing? Try Ypsi Writes, a community writing center located at all three YDL locations. Trained writing tutors are available for drop-in hours where you can bring in a piece of writing, an idea for a piece of writing, or just questions about writing in general. The tutors can help you:

- Get started with your writing
- Address your audience
- Revise and polish your writing
- Try different genres—from resumes to novels to poetry to memoirs to blogs

Ypsi Writes is a partnership among three organizations devoted to promoting reading and writing: Eastern Michigan University’s Office of Campus and Community Writing, 826michigan (the youth writing and tutoring program), and YDL. Its goal is to help writers of all ages and abilities discover their writing selves and share the joy of writing.

In addition to tutoring, Ypsi Writes offers evening workshops: some for adults, some for teens, some for children, and some for all ages together.

“We believe everyone is a writer,” says Ann Blakeslee, director of EMU’s Office of Campus and Community Writing and co-founder of Ypsi Writes. “In collaboration with 826michigan and YDL, we are committed to helping all Ypsilanti residents enjoy and experience the benefits of writing.”

If you’re interested in joining Ypsi Writes as a prospective writer, stop by for drop-in hours or attend a workshop. If you’re interested in learning more about volunteering as a tutor, sign up using the form on the Ypsi Writes website: emich.edu/ccw/ypsi-writes.

Winter/Spring Drop-In Hours
FOR TEENS & ADULTS (starting Jan 18)

- Saturdays 12:00–2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
- Tuesdays 1:00 AM–1:00 PM | YDL-Superior
- Wednesdays 6:00–7:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

FOR YOUTH (TUTORING)
Mon–Thurs 4:00–6:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Winter/Spring Workshops

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop Title</th>
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<td>The First Rule of Punk: Be Yourself</td>
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<td>All Ages</td>
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<td>FREEWRITING: A PLACE TO BEGIN</td>
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<td>Ages 13+</td>
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<td>Jan 25</td>
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<td>Jan 29</td>
<td>MOTHERS'/FATHERS' DAY &amp; LOVE LETTER DROP-IN WRITING (All Ages)</td>
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<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>BLACK WRITERS MATTER</td>
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<td>Feb 8</td>
<td>WRITE STUFF: WHERE CREATIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY MEET (Ages 14–26)</td>
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<td>Feb 15</td>
<td>YPSI WRITES: BETTER COLLEGE WRITING (Ages 13+)</td>
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<td>Feb 22</td>
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<td>YDL-Michigan</td>
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<td>Feb 29</td>
<td>MOTHERS'/FATHERS' DAY &amp; LOVE LETTER DROP-IN WRITING (All Ages)</td>
<td>YDL-Whittaker</td>
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<td>Mar 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 12</td>
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<td>Ages 13+</td>
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<td>Mar 19</td>
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<td>YDL-Whittaker</td>
<td>All Ages</td>
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<td>Mar 26</td>
<td>WRITE STUFF: WHERE CREATIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY MEET (Ages 14–26)</td>
<td>YDL-Michigan</td>
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<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>BLACK WRITERS MATTER</td>
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<td>Ages 11+</td>
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<td>Apr 9</td>
<td>WRITE STUFF: WHERE CREATIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY MEET (Ages 14–26)</td>
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<td>Ages 14–26</td>
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Winter/Spring Workshops
FAMILY READ EVENTS
THE FIRST RULE OF PUNK: BE YOURSELF

Mondays | Jan 6–Apr 20
TWEEN READING CIRCLE
5:30 PM | YDL-Superior

Tuesdays | Feb 18–April 16
TWEEN READING CIRCLE
5:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Saturday, March 14 | Sunday, March 15
YPSI WRITES 24-HOUR ZINES
1:00–3:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

TRY OUR NEW SENSORY KITS

Since 2017, YDL has circulated kits with simple tools for caregivers to use with kids experiencing life with autism spectrum disorder, as well as two balance boards that help with sensory integration. Now, we are expanding our collection of Sensory Kits. In addition to toys and tools that support specific skill development, each kit will contain four picture books caregivers can read aloud with kids. New kits that are already circulating include fidgets, speech therapy tools, and toys that develop fine motor skills. As we expand our Library of Things this year, watch for more kits with materials that:

- Develop gross motor skills and self-esteem
- Assist with visual impairment
- Teach baby sign language
- Help you engage in hands-on stories
- Help a child who is experiencing anxiety calm down.

Along with these new kits, YDL is supporting a three-part series hosted by Landria Seals Green, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and speech language pathologist. The series will be held on Tuesday evenings beginning January 14, at 6:30 pm (details on page 9). Ms. Green is the President and CCO of Momentum Autism Therapy and Momentum Therapy Network, and is also the founder and Chief Knowledge Office of SOAR Solutions for Autism, ABA, and Special Education. Topics for caregivers of children experiencing life with autism spectrum disorder will include toilet training and bedtime routines.

Are there other tools or programs we can offer to help you in your role as a caregiver? Contact Jodi Krahnke, jodi@ypsilibrary.org to share ideas.

We’re installing new computers at all YDL locations! By early 2020, patrons will have access to new software on the Windows 10 system, crisp 21.5-inch monitors, and 2400G processors. You will also get the latest version of Microsoft Office, which will improve your experience.

With over 100 new public PCs to change out, our IT staff will install them in batches. YDL-Superior and Michigan will be first, followed by the Whittaker Road location and its computer lab. Our friendly staff will be well prepared to help you learn what’s new.

Our printers and scanners are also available to anyone. Want to bring in your own laptop or tablet? We offer free wi-fi for anyone who wants to connect here, and wireless printing from your devices.

SAMPLE KITS

FIDGETS
Try out several different fidgets that could help with concentration and provide sensory input for your child.

SPEECH THERAPY
A combination of simple toys and wordless picture books that will encourage interaction, speech, and creativity.

FINE MOTOR SKILLS
Interactive picture books and toys that will help a child who is experiencing anxiety calm down.

NEW COMPUTERS, SAME FRIENDLY SUPPORT

Did you know YDL also offers computer classes? Our top-notch trainer offers hands-on classes on a number of topics in our Whittaker computer lab. Learn e-mail and internet basics, Microsoft Office programs, Google Calendar, and much more. Call the Adult Services desk at extension 2411 for more information, or stop by any YDL location and pick up a computer class brochure. You can also visit ypsilibrary.org and browse the computer classes page.

Free Classes

Winter–Spring 2020
Ypsilanti District Library | The Loop
Event Schedule | Winter–Spring 2020

Ypsilanti District Library | The Loop
Winter–Spring 2020

JANUARY

**ADULT**

**Monday, January 20**

**ELECTION ISSUES: CLIMATE CHANGE 101**

7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Get a basic understanding of Earth’s climate history, how climate can change naturally, and how various types of energy use can affect climate.

**Tuesday, January 21**

**AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY THROUGH STORY**

7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Stories passed on in African American families may be the only record of their past. Join Jean Winborn and Cheryl Garnett of the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society will show how you may be able to verify that information using standard genealogy resources.

**Friday, January 24**

**MAKE MOCHI**

7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Learn how to make mochi, Japanese rice cakes. Recipe provided. Practice makes perfect!

**Saturday, January 25**

**TASTE TEST: PI[3] DAY**

6:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

In honor of PI Day, join us for a taste test of pies and coffee.

**February**

**Monday, February 10**

**BLACK LOYALISTS: FORGOTTEN SOLDIERS**

7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Learn why Black loyalist soldiers of African descent, joined with the British and where they went after the Revolutionary War. Presented by Cheryl Garnett, co-founder of the Washtenaw County African American Genealogical Society.

**Monday, February 17**

**TUENight SOUP MAKING**

6:30 PM | YDL-Michigan

Put some spring in your step by adding tinsel to your hair. Bring a friend to practice on. Registration required.

**Wednesday, February 19**

**AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY THROUGH STORY**

7:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Learn how Black loyalists came to America, and the part they played during the Revolutionary War.

**Thursday, February 20**

**DIY PRODUCTS: JELLY SOAPS**

3:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Create DIY shower jelly soaps from liquid soap and gelatin, then customize them with a variety of additives. Register online or call 734-482-4110 x385.

**February 20**

**DARK FANTASY: ICE BAR**

3:30 PM | YDL-Michigan

Join local author Petra Kuppers for a reading of her award-winning novel. This winter-themed reading will feature creative dialogues, interactive performance.

**APRIL**

**Monday, April 1**

**STUPID CUPID**

4:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Tired of celebrating Valentine’s Day? Help us UNcelebrate this holiday with candy, crafts, and some fun music!

**April 10**

**EARTH DAY RALLY**

10:00 AM–1:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Help us find out whodunit at this interactive murder mystery. Registration encouraged, but not required.

**April 15**

**EARTH DAY RALLY**

10:00 AM–2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Help us find out whodunit at this interactive murder mystery. Registration encouraged, but not required.

**Friday, April 25**

**FREE LEGAL ADVICE DAY**

1:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Learn how to nurture healthy, organic landscapes that integrate native plants and edible fruit from a certified arborist from Urban Arbor Care.

**Saturday, May 2**

**VPSI WRITES: MOTHER’S DAY/ FATHER’S DAY LETTERS**

All ages

2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Create pin buttons and bottle cap magnets to celebrate an important Dad or Mom. Create pins to remember those special people who are no longer with us.

**May**

**Sunday, May 10**

**THE BUZZ ON POLLINATOR GARDENING**

2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Learn how to attract and keep the pollinators which are vital to our food supply. Guests will be given seeds to take home and plant. There will be a drawing for a free gardening book.
ADULT MEETUPS

TUESDAYS

Jan 7–May 25
KNITTING PLUS
6:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
Open to all, any handcraft welcome. Knitting instruction will be available during the first hour.

Jan 14–May 19
DROP-IN WRITING
11:00 AM–11:45 AM
Get help with short stories, cover letters, and more! Sponsored by EMU’s Office of Campus and Community Writing as part of Ypsi Writes.

Jan 16 & 20
FILM CLUB WITH PERRY SEIBERT
(18+)
7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Join film critic Perry Seibert to watch and dissect American Authors. Join us for lively discussions of books by African American Authors.

Jan 20
DIABETES PATH
(Ages 55+)
10:00 AM | YDL-Whittaker
A 6-week workshop designed to provide the skills and tools needed for people living with diabetes to improve their health and manage their symptoms, in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging /PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED/ Space is limited to 16 people per workshop. To register call 734-482-4110 x3243.

Jan 22–Feb 16
FREE WRITING—A PLACE TO BEGIN
6:30 PM | YDL-Whittaker
The perfect way to begin writing is just to write. Prompts will be given as a jumping off points for timed writing. This is an Ypsi Writes program in partnership with EMU’s Office of Campus and Community Writing. Register online or call 734-482-4110 x3235.

Jan 22–Feb 26
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Jan 7–May 26
ESL BOOK GROUP
11:00 AM | YDL-Michigan
Read and discuss books for fun and to learn about vocabulary, pronunciation, and American culture. Leaders with intermediate or advanced ESL reading levels are welcome. For more information or to register, contact Waternear Literacy at info@waternearliteracy.org or call 734-482-4110 x3245.

Jan 22–Mar 2
INTRO TO CARDIO DRUMMING
(Age 55+)
12:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Get fit and have fun with each committed drum alive fitness instructor Lady P, as she leads an energetic cardio drumming class. All levels are welcome. Please bring a water bottle. Register online or call 734-482-4110 x3245.

Jan 27
INTRO TO CARdio DRUMMING
(Age 55+)
12:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Wednesdays

Jan 8–May 27
ESL DROP-IN TUTORING
1:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Drop in for help with writing. Snacks included.

Jan 27
MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Calling all Mystery Lovers! Check out a new mystery title each month.

Thursdays

Jan 28–Apr 7
LNGO CREATIVE AGING: FABRIC COLLAGE
(Age 55+)
6:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Create one-of-a-kind compositions. Sewing is optional. As part of our Learning Never Gets Old series, this program is limited to those age 55 and up. Call 734-482-4110 x3245 to register.

Jan 29
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Jan 29
MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 29
ESL DROP-IN TUTORING
1:00 PM
Jan 29
Mysteries LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 29
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM

FRIDAYS

Jan 3–May 29
AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS
7:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Sponsored by Washtenaw Literacy and Eastern Michigan University.

Jan 3–May 29
STELLAR STEAM CAFÉ
7:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
A 6-week workshop designed to provide the skills and tools needed for people living with diabetes to improve their health and manage their symptoms, in partnership with the Area Agency on Aging /PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED/ Space is limited to 16 people per workshop. To register call 734-482-4110 x3243.

Jan 3–May 29
LNGO CRAFTROOMS
3:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Cultural events will also be incorporated into our TEEN ONLY Cafes.

Jan 3–May 29
WRITE STUFF: WHERE CREATIVITY AND ACCESSIBILITY MEET
(Age 11–18)
11:00 AM | YDL-Michigan
In partnership with the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living, these workshops will highlight and support projects by writers with disabilities.

Jan 3–May 29
DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS
2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Meet up and play Dungeons and Dragons with members of the Teen Advisory Group. All supplies and snacks provided.

Jan 3–May 29
THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for lively discussions.

Jan 3–May 29
AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEOLOGY
10:30 AM | YDL-Michigan
Disclose your family history and share the challenges and rewards of African American Genealogy. Each session will focus on a different resource or technique.

Jan 3–May 29
TEEN MEETUPS

MONDAYS

Jan 20
BLESLIANTI WRITERS MATTER (Ages 11 up)
11:00 AM | YDL-Michigan
This workshop series will kick off with a community service project and writing workshop on Martin Luther King Jr. Day (snacks included) and examining voices of black writers. The workshop will conclude with an open mic. Students ages 11+ and all ability levels are encouraged to participate.

Jan 20
TEEN ADVISORY GROUP (Ages 12–18)
5:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Share your ideas about how the library can meet teen needs. Plan programs, recommend materials, volunteer in the community, eat snacks, and meet friends.

Jan 20
TEEN ADVISORY GROUP (Ages 12–18)
4:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Join the Teen Advisory Group. Plan programs, write grants, develop leadership skills, meet friends, help your community, build your resume. Apply online ypsilib.org/teens/apply.

TUESDAYS

Jan 27
MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 27
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Jan 27
Mysteries LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 27
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM

WEDNESDAYS

Jan 8–May 27
ESL DROP-IN TUTORING
1:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Drop in for help with writing. Snacks included.

Jan 27
MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 27
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Jan 27
Mysteries LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 27
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM

THURSDAYS

Jan 28–Apr 7
LNGO CREATIVE AGING: FABRIC COLLAGE
(Age 55+)
6:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Create one-of-a-kind compositions. Sewing is optional. As part of our Learning Never Gets Old series, this program is limited to those age 55 and up. Call 734-482-4110 x3245 to register.

Jan 29
MYSTERY LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 29
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Jan 29
Mysteries LOVERS BOOK GROUP
2:00 PM
Jan 29
ESL BOOK GROUP
1:00 PM
Event Schedule | Winter–Spring 2020

KIDS & PARENTS

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**January**

**Sunday, January 5**

**BIRTHDAY KICKOFF!**

**YDL-Michigan**

1:00 PM–3:00 PM

Get ready to celebrate! Join us for a special celebration of the Library!

**Monday, January 20**

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**

**YDL-Michigan**

2:00 PM

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr and his life’s work, this film marathon will focus on America’s fight against racial inequality. Discussion will follow each film. Light refreshments provided.

3:00–3:30 PM Seinor, Lord, Seinma (1999, all ages)

4:30–5:15 PM Detroit (2017, R) followed by discussion (ages 14+)

**Tuesday, January 21**

**LIBRARY LAB: STEMTEST**

**YDL-Michigan**

2:00 PM–5:00 PM

UM spotlight scientists return to share the latest research at hands-on stations kids and families can explore.

**Wednesday, January 22**

**ELEPHANT & PIGGY PARTY**

3:30 PM–5:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Hear some Elephant & Piggie stories, make an elephant or piggie puppet, play games, and enjoy a treat.

**Thursday, January 23**

**LIBRARY LAB: HARRY POTTER POTION**

5:00 PM–7:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Mix up chemical reactions inspired by the potions and spells in Harry Potter.

**Saturday, January 25**

**LIBRARY LAB: BABY CHICKS**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

What happens inside of the egg before the chick hatches? HURON-CLINTON Metroparks brings fertile eggs and an incubator to the library for you to learn!

**February**

**February 3**

**THE FROG PRINCE**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Bring the whole family to this fun afternoon of live theatre with actors from the Black and Brown Theatre.

**February 10**

**FAMILY COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE**

9:00 AM–1:00 PM **Ypsilanti Community High School**

Join other YCS families to learn what resources are available in our community.

**February 14**

**YPSI WRITES: VALENTINE’S**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

2:00 PM **YDL-Superior**

Drop in to write with other romantics at 828michigan and CWV volunteers for this special session of Love Letters. Make Valentine’s Day cards and write a love letter to someone.

**February 28**

**LIBRARY LAB: STEM STATIONS**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Join us from the University of Michigan for engaging, hands-on stem activities presented in a fun, exploratory environment.

**February 28**

**YPSI WRITES: ZINES**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

2:00 PM **YDL-Superior**

Drop in to write with other zinesters at 828michigan and CWV volunteers for this special session of Love Letters. Make Valentine’s Day cards and write a love letter to someone.

**March**

**March 1**

**FAMILY READ TAMBALADA**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Make your own Mexican-style tamales with a variety of fillings as part of our Family Read The First Rule of Punk Part of the Garden to Table Series.

**March 2**

**FAMILY ON THE FLY**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Join Y on the Fly Director Tess Jackson, MSW, at 828michigan to learn about ways to keep kids and families active under school closures. Make homemade snacks and get your hands dirty, learn about gardening, and help plant this year’s educational garden at Superior.

**March 5**

**LIBRARY LAB: BABY CHICKS**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

This week, what have you been reading? Have you been reading The First Rule of Punk? Ready to hear the book come to life with mariachi punk music? Come dance to music, sample Mexican snacks, and make art.

**March 12**

**APPLE TREE SEED PLANTING & STORYTIME**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

3:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Sample some fruit, decorate and label a pot, extract seeds from your fruit, and plant the seeds in your pot to take home. Presented by Dawn Hughes from Urban Arbor Care.

**March 19**

**NINJA CHALLENGE!**

(Ages 6–12)

3:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Make a mask and cape, perform ninja tasks, and refuel with snacks.

**March 20**

**SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

11:00 AM **Fireman's Park, 8775 MackArthur, Superior Township**

Join Ypsilanti District Library | The Loop Winter–Spring 2020 8

Mondays

**January 6–April 28**

**TWEEN READING CIRCLE**

5:30 PM **YDL-Superior**

We’ll take turns reading aloud from The First Rule of Punk and then have a snack.

**Jan 6**

2:00 PM

**2021**

**Feb 7**

**Mar 7**

**Apr 7**

**March 11**

**April 13**

**TUESDAYS**

**January 19–May 12**

**826MI TUTORING**

Grades K–8

826michigan offers free tutoring for students ages 8 to 18. Students must bring homework assignments and study materials, and parents or guardians must accompany students and complete registration paperwork either on or before a student’s first day.

**February 1**

**COURTNEY**

4:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Write code, program robots and machines, and get help during these awesome mini-robots lessons each week.

**February 9**

**BIOLOGY**

4:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Get free one-on-one help with homework in any subject. For more information call 734-642-4100 #240. No registration needed.

**February 23**

**TUESDAYS**

**January 19–May 12**

**826MI TUTORING**

Grades 6–8

826michigan offers free tutoring for students ages 8 to 18. Students must bring homework assignments and study materials, and parents or guardians must accompany students and complete registration paperwork either on or before a student’s first day.

**January 26**

**LIBRARY LAB: BABY CHICKS**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

The First Rule of Punk? Have you been reading? Find out what’s next in the life of a chick.

**February 2**

**LIBRARY LAB: BABY CHICKS**

2:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Have you been reading The First Rule of Punk? Make your own seed tape and learn about Native American traditions.

**March 16**

**FAMILY READ COOKING**

4:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Make your quesadillas as part of our Family Read The First Rule of Punk.

**April 5**

**FAMILY READ Baking**

4:00 PM **YDL-Michigan**

Learn the skills for baking your favorite sugar cookie or pancake, and create your own heroes and villains. Cover perspective, shading, and dimensions, and discuss how to develop original stories and narrative.

**May 1**

**SUPERIOR GARDEN PLANTING**

1:00 PM **YDL-Whittaker**

Get your hands dirty, learn about gardening, and help plant this year’s educational garden at Superior.
**Stories & Fun for Little Ones**

**Monday, January 13**

**KINDERCONCERT**
10:00 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Musicians from the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra join Geri Stein for a music and movement experience especially for little ones, featuring the Charming Cellos.

**Friday, February 28**

**MOVEMENT STORYTIME**
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Join Amy Cadwallader of Dance Uprising for stories and songs that you and your little one can move to.

**Friday, March 20**

**TINKERLAB: OWL STORIES**
11:00 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Meet some feathered friends from the Leslie Science and Nature Center and hear owl stories at this special session of TinkerLab.

**Friday, May 11**

**CREATIVE MOVEMENT FOR LITTLE ONES**
11:00 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Join Amy Cadwallader of Dance Uprising for fun games and songs that incorporate the principles of movement and dance.

**MONDAYS**

**Jan 13–Mar 12**
**DOWNTOWN STORYTIME**
(5 and older)
10:30 AM | YDL-Michigan
Introduce your child to the wonders of reading with stories, songs, and art.

**Jan 20–Mar 10**
**BABY STORYTIME**
(0–18 months)
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Inspire a love for books in your future reader through songs, stories, movement, and rhyme. Stay afterward to play and socialize with other caregivers.

**Tuesday, February 25**

**PRECHOOL RESOURCE FAIR**
12:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Chat with representatives from local schools while your child explores hands-on learning activities nearby.

**STORIES & FUN FOR LITTLE ONES**

**Friday, February 28**

**LIFE WITH ASD**
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Landria Seals Green, a board certified Behavior Analyst and Speech Language Pathologist, will be facilitating an education and support program for the caregivers of children who experience life with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Topics discussed will include toilet training, bedtime routines, and more.

**Thursday, March 5**

**COMMUNITY DRUM CIRCLE**
7:00 PM | YDL-Michigan
Using rhythm to communicate, collaborate with neighbors of all ages in this creative musical experience. No drumming experience necessary. You may bring your own drum or percussion instrument or use one of ours.

**Friday, March 12**

**FAMILY MAKER NIGHT**
6:30 PM | YDL-Michigan
Create, explore, and enjoy being together as a family. We’ll provide pizza and all the supplies you need to explore a different tool or challenge. Parents must be present. 1/2 Waffl Fantasy: Use a waffle maker for everything but waffles. 2/5 Soap Making: Make fun and smelly soaps to take home. 3/11 Reading the World: Make kindness rocks, rock critters, start a rock tumbler project. 4/5 Great Growing: Welcome spring with seed starting. 5/20 Catching the Sun: Learn about sun catchers and prisms.

**Additional Dates**

**Saturday, February 29**

**ART EXPLORATIONS**
5:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for fun, food, and conversation with your peers. Plan and test library activities and earn service hours.

**Saturday, March 7**

**TAB: TWEEN ADVISORY**
5:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for fun, food, and conversation with your peers. Plan and test library activities and earn service hours.

**Saturday, March 14**

**TWEEN BOOK CLUB**
(Grades 3–5)
6:30 PM | YDL-Michigan
We will have a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack. Registration required: 734-482-4110 x1390

**Saturday, April 11**

**TODDLER STORYTIME**
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
This storytime is a duplicate of Monday’s, with the same stories and activities each time. Parents can choose which session to attend.

**Saturday, April 18**

**MUSIC AND MEDITATION STORYTIME**
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Join children’s meditation experts for stories, music, and movement to build body and hand strength.

**Saturday, May 16**

**RAINBOW STORYTIME**
10:30 AM | YDL-Whittaker
Children will be facilitating an education and support program to build a support network, tackle challenging problems, and let your children interact with others and have fun. RSVP at 734-484-9544. Part of the Parents as Teachers program with SOS Community Services.
BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM

Did you know that Lincoln Consolidated Schools offers the only Spanish Immersion program in Washtenaw County? This free program is located at Bishop Elementary, home to Lincoln’s Multi-Age program.

Immersion is a language learning model where the student is surrounded by the target language. It works well with younger children because the brain is primed to learn language from birth, and students easily adjust in their elementary years. Research shows speaking multiple languages can benefit children in many ways:

- Positive effect on intellectual growth
- Greater flexibility in thinking and listening
- Improved understanding of native language
- Opportunities to meet new people
- Better prepared for high school and college
- Improved job opportunities and salary potential
- Understanding of other cultures and appreciation for differences

Lincoln Spanish Immersion classes use a full-immersion model, where Spanish is the language of content instruction, not just a subject of instruction. Students learn core subjects in Spanish. Specials (art, music, physical education, technology, and media/library), assemblies, and field trips are presented in English.

YDL'S INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE COLLECTION: BROADEN YOUR HORIZON

YDL offers books in languages other than English for both adults and youth. The Adult International Languages Collection is located at our Whittaker Road branch on the 2nd floor with popular and classic fiction and nonfiction titles in many subject areas. Languages represented are

- Arabic
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Hindi
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Tamil

Whittaker’s Youth ILC on the 1st floor has books in Arabic, Chinese, First Nations, French, German, Hindi, Russian, and Spanish. YDL patrons have access to many other titles in non-English languages via the MeLCat interloan system.

YDL also has an extensive collection of digital, print, and audio materials for help in learning another language, including downloadable books in a variety of languages, and foreign movies. Visit www.ypsilibrary.org to find more information, to access the online catalog and MeLCat system, or to submit an online materials suggestion form. We welcome your input for expanding and improving our collection.

STORYTIME: SO MUCH MORE THAN READING

Have you tried reading a story to your child lately? Don’t be discouraged if they don’t want to sit still! Storytime provides a valuable learning experience, even when it comes in small doses.

Storytime is not just fun, but is an enriching experience that helps children develop a love of learning and build the many skills needed for school success. Storytime at YDL is strategically designed to support young children throughout their learning journey. Baby storytime lets parents connect with each other. Toddler storytime lets little ones listen and engage while they move around. Preschool storytime includes process art and STEM projects, all of which help build school-readiness skills. Research shows that storytime boosts learning by using sounds, crafts, and other individual and group activities to build fine motor skills, gross motor skills, and group participation.

Storytime at YDL is designed to meet your needs, and our offerings include evening storytime for working families and rainbow storytime that celebrates the wonderful diversity in the Ypsilanti area. Parents and caregivers should never be deterred if their child doesn’t want to sit still, be quiet, or appears shy. We know that all youngsters are different and come to us with various preferences and levels of confidence. There is never a commitment or fee to attend, so we invite you to come and learn with us at any time. No matter what stage your child is in, there is something for you at library storytime!

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Can you and your tot rack up 1000 books? Track your progress on ypsilibrary.org to earn stickers and get your child’s name on the Wall of Fame, or sign up at any library location.
SEE THE SOON-TO-BE-IMPROVED FIREMAN'S PARK

Early this year, visitors to YDL-Superior should notice changes happening at the adjacent playground. Superior Township Parks and Recreation received a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of $30,000 to expand Fireman’s Park. The renovated playground will include slides, climbers, and musical play panels. The new structure will be ADA accessible with the installation of a 6’ wide sidewalk leading up to the equipment. The total playground area will increase to approximately 2,500 square feet. Construction is scheduled for spring 2020, so Fireman’s Park will be ready for early summer when kids get out of school.

For more information on the construction contact Superior Township’s Parks and Recreation Administrator Juan Bradford at jbradford@superior-twp.org, or (734) 649-1991.

THE NEWS ABOUT OUR HEALTH

The Washtenaw County Health Department is engaged in a number of community efforts to help folks feel safe, healthy, and supported. The campaigns below provide information about what health looks like in our community, and ways you can be proactive.

#wishyouknew Mental Health Campaign

The Washtenaw County Health Department has teamed up with Washtenaw County Community Mental Health to address community concerns around youth mental health and reduce stigma.

Driven by community conversations, this campaign aims to spark honest and supportive conversations about mental health between youth and adults, and to spread hope that if we can share our truth with trusted people in our life, we can begin to heal.

The campaign is funded by the Washtenaw County Mental Health and Public Safety Preservation Millage. Follow on Instagram @wishyouknewwashtenaw or at www.washtenaw.org/wishyouknew.

What Does Health Look Like in Washtenaw County?

The Washtenaw County Health Department has launched a new website with interactive data on hundreds of factors related to community health. The Health for All Washtenaw website, www.healthforallwashtenaw.org, offers information, stories, and action items on what impacts our health—think of it as an online health record for all of Washtenaw County.

On the new website, you can find data at the county, city, zip code, or even census tract level related to health, economics, education, environment, transportation, and more. The data is displayed in interactive dashboards, charts, graphs, and maps. Data is compared to previous years, as well as to state and national averages. You can easily create your own dashboard or report with the data that interests you.

Health for All Washtenaw also provides stories to put faces to the data. Plus, there is a directory of promising practices, funding opportunities, and local resources to help users take action.

Explore www.healthforallwashtenaw.org today to see what health looks like in your neighborhood.

Prevent Flu: Get a Flu Shot and Wash Your Hands

Winter means flu season. The Washtenaw County Health Department urges everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against the flu. We don’t know how bad the season will be, but we know vaccination, good handwashing, covering your cough, and staying away from others when sick can prevent the spread of flu.

Flu is a contagious illness that can be spread person to person through droplets when an infected person sneezes, coughs, or talks. Symptoms of the flu include coughing, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, sore throat, headache, fatigue, fever, and chills. The flu can affect anyone, but older adults, children, and individuals with chronic health conditions are at greater risk for complications.

Vaccination can protect you against severe illness, hospitalization, or death due to flu. Getting vaccinated also protects the people around you, who may be more likely to get seriously ill from flu. Get vaccinated at your doctor’s office, pharmacy, or call the Health Department at 734-544-6700. See www.washtenaw.org/flu for updates.
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Become a Friend

The Friends of the Library is a volunteer group that supports the Ypsilanti District Library through book sales and membership. Friends of YDL memberships start at just $10 and give you early admission to book sales and the satisfaction of supporting your library! To learn more, ask at any library desk or call 734-482-4110 x1368.

Donate Books

The Friends of YDL gladly accept donations of books, DVDs, and CDs! All proceeds from donated books support the library. Donations are limited to 10 boxes or bags of materials, and we cannot accept books that are wet, mildewed, or missing covers or pages. Books may be dropped off at the circulation desk at YDL-Whittaker any time the library is open.

Friends Book Sale

Here’s your chance to expand your personal library with the best used book sale in town! Stock up on books, DVDs, and CDs. Fill a bag on Sunday for only $4!

Weekend Book Sales
January 16–19 | YDL-Whittaker
May 14–17 | YDL-Whittaker

Thursday ........................................ 6pm–8pm
Members only preview night.
Memberships available at the door.

Friday ........................................ 11am–5pm
Saturday ........................................ 11am–3pm
Sunday ........................................ 1pm–4pm

Friends Shop

The Friends Shop inside YDL-Whittaker offers a wonderful selection of gently-used books at great prices. The shop is open seven days a week.

Monday ........................................ 2pm–8pm
Tuesday ........................................ 6pm–8pm
Wednesday .................................... 10am–2pm
Thursday ....................................... 10am–4pm
Friday ........................................... 10am–2pm
Saturday ........................................ 11am–5pm
Sunday ........................................... 2pm–4pm

Friends Cart

The Friends also offer books for sale from a cart at YDL-Michigan. Ask at the front desk if you’re interested in buying a book.

NEED A LIFT?

TheRide Provides Connections to Ypsilanti Township

TheRide provides the greater Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area with transportation options to get you to your appointments, shopping, class, and family and friends. In recent years, TheRide has provided more options to those living and working in Ypsilanti Township to connect to TheRide’s fixed-route system.

Route 46—Huron-Textile and A-Ride service gets you to more places, and the FlexRide service is a shared-ride option in Southeastern Ypsilanti Township connecting you to TheRide’s fixed-route system.

TheRide can get you directly to any of the three YDL locations. Start planning your trip today at TheRide.org.

Ypsilanti District Library
5577 Whittaker Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(734) 482-4110 x1350

Ypsilanti District Library
229 West Michigan Avenue
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(734) 482-4110 x1325

Ypsilanti District Library
8795 MacArthur Blvd
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
(734) 482-4110 x1310

Ypsilanti District Library
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(734) 482-4110 x1359

HOURS

Monday–Thursday ........ 9am–9pm
Friday / Saturday ......... 10am–6pm
Sunday ......................... 1pm–5pm

HOURS

Monday–Thursday ........ 9am–9pm
Friday / Saturday ......... 10am–6pm
Sunday ......................... Closed

HOURS

Monday–Thursday ........ 12pm–8pm
Tuesday ......................... 10am–6pm
Wednesday / Thursday ... 4pm–8pm
Friday ......................... Closed
Saturday ......................... 10am–6pm
Sunday ......................... Closed

HOURS

Monday–Thursday ........ 4pm–8pm

See the bookmobile’s neighborhood route and schedule at www.ypsilibrary.org/bookmobile

Holiday Observations

Wednesday, January 1 New Year’s Day (Closed)
Monday, January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Open with special programs)
Sunday, April 12 Easter (Closed)
Sunday, May 24 Memorial Day Sunday (Closed)
Monday, May 25 Memorial Day (Closed)
Friday, May 29 Annual Staff In-service (Closed)

Board of Trustees

Brian Steimel
Jean Winborn
Kay Williams
Patricia J. Horne McGee
Kristy Cooper

Bethany Kennedy
Theresa M. Maddix
Lisa Hoenig, Library Director

Call (734) 482-4110 x1371 for details.

Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm in the board room at YDL-Whittaker. They are open to the public. Visit ypsilibrary.org/board for updated meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library is a volunteer group that supports the Ypsilanti District Library through book sales and membership. Friends of YDL memberships start at just $10 and give you early admission to book sales and the satisfaction of supporting your library! To learn more, ask at any library desk or call 734-482-4110 x1368.

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