

## DOORS OPEN AGAIN!

After 15 months of seeing you on computer screens or inside your car, we get to see you back inside the library!

YDL still has virtual programming and curbside service, but now you can also browse the stacks, use the computers, and visit with staff at Whittaker Road and Michigan Avenue. At Superior, brand new lockers are available for holds pickup (see page 2).

The library is still taking steps to stay safe. The vast majority of staff is vaccinated, and air purification systems installed at Whittaker Road and Michigan Avenue are designed to clean the air as well as surfaces. Staff will be following all current MIOSHA guidelines regarding mask wearing in the buildings, and patrons are encouraged to wear masks inside.

There will be a combination of indoor, outdoor, and virtual events this fall. See pages 4–7 for details and safety precautions in place. It's wonderful to see everyone again, but virtual events mean expanded access. We'll offer hybrid virtual/in-person events when it makes sense.

The library's WiFi was upgraded during the closure, so come in and enjoy! YDL meeting rooms remain closed, but should be available to reserve soon. YDL has a brand new, easy-to-use room booking system. There will be kiosks at each location where you can reserve a room from inside the building.

The Friends of YDL Book Shop has also resumed normal hours of operation. For more details on the shop, upcoming book sales, and volunteering for the Friends, see page 12.

For the latest reopening news, visit [ypsilibrary.org/reopening](http://ypsilibrary.org/reopening), or follow YDL on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.



## SUPERIOR PROGRESS

Thank you! Your generous contributions to the Young Family Next Chapter Challenge in June and July totaled over \$100,000. The Young Family Foundation will match this 2:1, giving YDL's capital campaign an additional \$200,000 to build the new Superior library! Over 160 donors contributed, including a \$35,000 gift from the Song Family Fund via the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation that put us over the top.

The Next Chapter Campaign is currently working to raise enough to purchase the new library's opening day collection of picture books. If you haven't made your gift yet, help us start the building's first generation of little ones off right. Contributions of any size make



Photo courtesy of the Song family

a difference. Help our kids discover a love of reading by funding one book or 50.

On October 1st a new \$100,000 matching challenge kicks off, sponsored by a generous local foundation donor. Visit [www.ypsilibrary.org/nextchapter](http://www.ypsilibrary.org/nextchapter) for details. We appreciate your support!

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# REFLECTIONS ON REOPENING

On March 13, 2020, when YDL closed its doors to prevent the spread of COVID, we planned to reopen two weeks later. Cut to June 21, 2021, when Whittaker finally welcomed patrons back inside after 15 long months.

It was unprecedented. Read on for how our staff felt during those lonely months.

## What did you think when we first closed?

**John (Circulation):** I was working that last day. When it was announced we were closing, it became crazy busy. People came in to stock up. At the time I thought we'd be closed six weeks, tops!

**Liz P. (Youth Librarian):** Coming back to the library after the closure was like those post-apocalyptic movies where folks are walking through a city seeing evidence of what the people did on their last day. There were abandoned coats on the hooks, mugs in the drying rack, and flyers for programs long since cancelled.

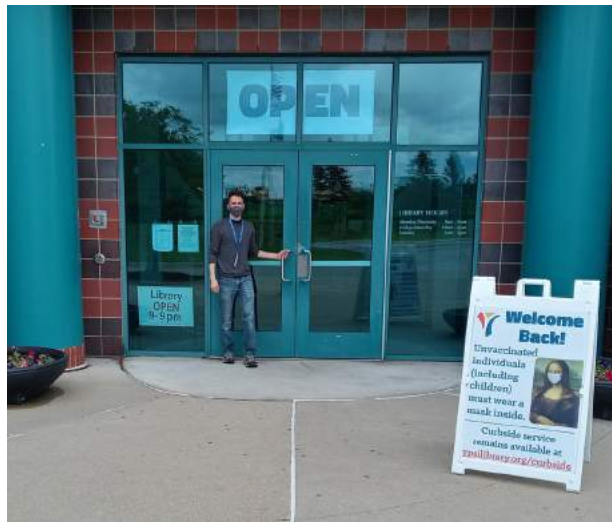
**Mary (Outreach):** I was in shock and felt a little scattered, trying to tie up loose ends. I had a couple of hours to do that at my desk on the last day we were open, and that was a very busy few hours.

**Kelly (Youth Librarian):** When we first closed, I was relieved because we were facing this unprecedented pandemic and nobody really knew what was going to happen. It was a scary time, so being closed felt like the safest decision for patrons and staff.

**Sheila (Adult Librarian):** The seriousness of the pandemic started to sink in, and I truly worried about how many of our patrons would get along without services like computers or quiet places to work and study.

## Any unexpected positives that emerged?

**John:** It really reinforced to me the amazing sense of community we have in our area.



**Kittie (Circulation):** We called many patrons during the closure and were able to resolve a lot of issues and setbacks they were experiencing because of the pandemic.

**Shoshanna (Adult Librarian):** It was nice to get to start the Ypsi Stories podcast! I missed the routine of seeing people every day though.

**Jodi (Youth Librarian):** Teachers and librarians across the country used our Family Read because it was all online.

**Sheila:** We heard from many people that the library was a lifeline for them...They'd pick up items curbside each week and that kept them going.

## What were you thinking the night before we reopened?

**Mary:** I was full of curiosity about how it would be, who we would see, and the stories we would hear. I was very eager!

**Kelly:** FINALLY! I couldn't wait to see our youth and teen patrons...To reconnect with them about how they have been and where they are at now was very exciting to think about.

**Jodi:** Wondering how busy it would be and if people would still practice safety precautions. Working in the youth department, about 75% of the people we're in close contact with aren't vaccinated, so

making sure people in my department are still safe is a priority.

## What has been the best part about reopening?

**Sheila:** There's life in the building again!

**John:** Seeing all of our "new" little patrons. Many kids were born right before or right after we closed. Not only are they coming in for their first visit to the library, but they're walking in too!

**Kelly:** Having kids and teens back in the building. Libraries without patrons are sad. Our patrons are what give our buildings life.

**Jodi:** Even young kids remembered us and the building and have good memories about the library.

**Shane (Circulation):** Getting to meet all of the patrons that I had been talking to on the phone and through car windows, but never really got to meet in person.

## How has the atmosphere in the Library been since reopening?

**Shane:** It's amazing the sheer number of people I've had tell me they're happy that we reopened. It really makes you feel valued and useful to the community.

**Kittie:** Everyone was so joyful on opening day and the first week...It's so fun seeing all our "regulars" again.

**Kelly:** Seeing how much the little ones have grown and watching them walk in with a smile is the best part of my day now.

**Liz P.:** One teen asked if I remembered him and I had to ask his name. He had grown so much that I hadn't recognized him!

**Mary:** It was so jubilant inside the library the first few days after reopening. People love this library, and we love the people. We were separated too long!

## NEW LOCKERS AT SUPERIOR



Thanks to a generous gift of \$10,000 from the DTE Foundation, we have new and improved lockers at the Superior Township library for pick-up of library materials. If the

library's current hours are difficult for you, place your items on hold for pickup at YDL-Superior, then choose locker pickup when you make your curbside reservation. Simply scan your library card and the door with your items will pop open, already checked out to you.

**DTE Foundation**

## GET "THE SMARTEST CARD"

A promotional graphic for Library Card Sign-Up Month. It features a young girl with dark hair and a blue top. The text reads: "September is LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH!" and "A library card provides opportunity for discovery and access to a rich and diverse world. It empowers you to make change and experience new stories." Below this is a quote from Marley Dias, Library Card Sign-Up Month Honorary Chair. Logos for ALA, OverDrive, and Ypsi are at the bottom.

This September, to celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month, we encourage you to open your world with a free library card. Your card lets you check out materials from the library and access all of YDL's digital offerings, including books, audiobooks, movies, and more. Use our easy, online application to get started at [ypsilibrary.org/library-cards](https://ypsilibrary.org/library-cards).

Marley Dias, author, executive producer, and founder of #1000BlackGirlBooks, is joining the American Library Association and libraries nationwide in promoting the power of a library card this September as this year's honorary chair.

"A library card provides opportunity for discovery and access to a rich and diverse world. It empowers you to make change and experience new stories," said Dias.

For more information about Library Card Sign-up Month and activities you can participate in, visit [ala.org/conferenceevents/celebrationweeks/card](https://ala.org/conferenceevents/celebrationweeks/card).

Everyone in our community should have a YDL card, and now is the perfect time to sign up!

# YDL'S TEEN ADVISORY GROUP WINS \$24,000 GRANT

Adapted from an article by Sarah Rigg published July 14 as part of Concentrate Media's On the Ground Ypsilanti segment. The original article can be viewed at [concentratemedia.com](https://concentratemedia.com).



Bringing young people a sense of togetherness while they're physically separated is the theme of a newly expanded teen subscription pack program organized by the Ypsilanti District Library's (YDL) Teen Advisory Group (TAG).

Since January, TAG members had been creating packets of free take-home activities and conversational ice-breakers, using funds from YDL's budget. Now they plan to expand the program, reach more teens, and provide paid internships. That major expansion is thanks to a \$24,000 grant from Generator Z, an initiative of the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation that supports teens and after-school programming providers.

"Teen mental health was something we wanted to prioritize and positively contribute to," said TAG member Sophie Nepiuk, 17. "So we designed a program where we could get online resources and goodies to people to make them feel cared about during this time."

In addition to handing out more packs, the grant will allow TAG members to expand programming and record a podcast. They'll be vetting and interviewing candidates to become paid interns, who will help create and run teen programming through YDL. YDL is now taking applications for internships. Teens can apply for an internship, reserve a pack, or listen to the podcast at [ypsilibrary.org/subscription-packs](https://ypsilibrary.org/subscription-packs).

Nepiuk says the goal is to help connect young people to each other in an ongoing way, not just during the pandemic. The monthly packs usually contain a book, plus conversation starters, and each month focuses on a different theme. Topics tackled so far include social justice and the Black Lives Matter movement; Pride; Juneteenth; and self-care and mental health.

"We want our packs to tie into important issues like social justice, and global and community issues," says TAG member Ayesha Nadeem, 14.

TAG is a group of teen volunteers who guide

the library in selecting materials and designing programming for teens. They also write grant proposals, present to other youth organizations, and volunteer at YDL youth programs.

"They really feel passionate about making positive change in the community and the larger world. They're tackling big topics—issues that are complicated for everyone, but especially for teens," says YDL Youth Librarian Kelly Scott. Scott says a steady group of about 17 young people met throughout the pandemic.

With new grant funding, TAG plans to increase the number of packs it creates from 20–30 per month to 100 per month. Some packs will be distributed at the library, while others will go to youth-serving organizations like Ozone House and the Corner Health Center.

Nadeem is not only a TAG member but was one of 1,000 teens chosen to guide the Generator Z ideas lab, which launched in 2020. The teen "generators" shared their stories and insights, and nearly 100 organizations received grants to turn some of those ideas into programs.

Nadeem was part of a roundtable of teens that helped Generator Z define teens' after-school needs, and she even gave feedback on Generator Z branding and marketing materials.

Scott notes that TAG truly is a youth-driven group. Teens take on the bulk of all projects they pursue. Steering committee members are also gaining experience with crafting a strategic plan, interviewing, and hiring.

"At every step, we the teens were part of it," Nadeem says. "This program is unique in that it truly is for teens, by teens. We're really blessed to have a library that values teen input."

Both Scott and fellow youth librarian Jodi Krahnke note that the TAG members on the steering committee for the subscription packs are getting real-world experience that will help them later in life.

"We're really excited," Krahnke says. "It's a large grant, and it's great to be able to walk teens through managing a process like this."

Scott says the work the teens have done in starting and expanding the teen subscription pack program is "a testament to how engaged our youth are in what's happening in the world."

Any local teens ages 13–18 interested in learning more about or joining TAG can find more information at [ypsilibrary.org/tag](https://ypsilibrary.org/tag).



**Telling It** serves school age youth in Washtenaw County using the expressive arts as platforms for self-expression and healing.

In-person programming will return in the fall at the Parkridge Community Center, 591 Armstrong Drive.

For details visit [lsa.umich.edu/tellingit](https://lsa.umich.edu/tellingit) or contact Founding Director, Deb Gordon-Gurfinkel at [dmgordon@umich.edu](mailto:dmgordon@umich.edu) or 734-649-3118.



**Ozone House** is a community-based, nonprofit agency that helps young people lead safe, healthy, and productive lives through intensive intervention, prevention services, housing, and support programs.

The Drop-In Center on 102 N. Hamilton Street will have a variety of in-person programs in the fall, including recurring support groups and panel discussions.

For more information, Ozone House can be reached at 734-662-2222 (1600 N. Huron River Drive), 734-485-2222 (Drop-In Center), or at [ozonehouse.org](https://ozonehouse.org).



**NAMI** is the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

NAMI Washtenaw County will be holding young adult support group meetings this fall. For more information on support groups and advocacy events, visit [namiwc.org](https://namiwc.org).



**Corner Health** offers a full range of health care, mental health, and supportive services for young people as they transition to adulthood.

To make an appointment, visit 47 N. Huron Street in downtown Ypsilanti, or call 734-484-3600. For more information on services and events, visit [cornerhealth.org](https://cornerhealth.org).

## NOISE PERMIT RESCHEDULED

Our Summer Noise Permit Workshops for teens have been rescheduled for the fall.

In partnership with Eastern Michigan University, teens can attend weekly workshops at 6 pm on Mondays from October 4 through November 1 to celebrate arts and culture in our teen community. From songwriting to digital design to video production, one of these workshops will be just the ticket for gaining a new skill or honing an artistic dream.

For more information, see pages 5–6. Questions? Email Kelly at [kscott@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:kscott@ypsilibrary.org). Activities may be canceled or moved virtually due to COVID rates, so please check the events calendar for updates each week.

This activity is supported by the MICHIGAN COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS and the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS.



# Sept-Nov Events

**Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3**

### NEW EPISODES OF YPSI STORIES

Ypsi Stories looks into our community's past with historians and local experts! New episode unveiled every 1st Wednesday wherever you find your podcasts or at [ypsilibrary.org/ypsistories](https://ypsilibrary.org/ypsistories).

**Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov 4**

### THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP

10:30am | **YDL-Whittaker**  
Join us once a month for lively discussion of a variety of books.

**Sept 2:** *The Last Flight* by Julie Clark  
**Oct 7:** *The Poison Squad: one chemist's single-minded crusade for food safety at the turn of the twentieth century* by Deborah Blum  
**Nov 4:** *Run Me to Earth* by Paul Yoon  
\*\*The September 2nd meeting will take place online via Zoom. Email [skonen@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:skonen@ypsilibrary.org) for the Zoom link.



**Sept 2, Oct 7, Nov 4**

### TWEEN BOOK CLUB (Grades 6-8)

6:30pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Enjoy snacks and a monthly discussion of a shared book.  
**Sept 2:** *The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey* by Trenton Lee Stewart  
**Oct 7:** *The Name of this Book is Secret* by Pseudonymous Bosch  
**Nov 4:** *A Good Kind of Trouble* by Lisa Moore Ramée  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org).

**Sept 3 & 17, Oct 1 & 15, Nov 5 & 19**

### FRIDAY WALKING CLUB (55+)

10:30am | **YDL-Whittaker**  
Join us for a 30-minute walk along a path near the library, and enjoy each other's company while getting some exercise! We'll meet in the Whittaker lobby. Questions? Call (734) 482-4110 x2411.



**Sept 4**

### GOOGLE DOCS FOR BEGINNERS

(Adult)  
10:30am | **Virtual**  
Learn to format, select, copy, paste, and edit text. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a document. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Sept 7**

### GOOGLE SHEETS FOR BEGINNERS

(Adult)  
2:00 PM | **Virtual**  
Learn to enter and edit data, format cells, and create simple formulas. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a spreadsheet. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Sept 7**

### PROMOTIONAL WRITING: WRITING ENGAGINGLY AND PERSUASIVELY SESSION 1: APPEALING TO YOUR AUDIENCE

4:00pm | **YDL-Whittaker**  
In the first of a three-part series, Sam Killian, Ypsilanti District Library's Community Relations Coordinator, will share tips on identifying the audiences for your promotional writing and developing your writing to appeal to their needs. Perfect for anyone who needs to write press releases, flyers, blogs, social media posts, or promotional emails.



**Tuesdays, Sept. 7 – Nov. 30**

### KNITTING PLUS

6:00pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Meet with other yarnies and share your projects and ideas every Tuesday! Open to all, any handcraft welcome!

**Sept 8**

### FROM BOOMERS TO ZOOMERS: ZOOM PRACTICE FOR SENIORS (55+)

10:30am | **Virtual**  
Learn the basics of navigating the Zoom meeting interface. While working with other seniors, you can see yourself on camera, test your microphone, learn to chat, and more. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Sept 8**

### DINE TO DONATE AT AUBREE'S

11:00 AM – 10:00 PM | **Aubree's 2122 Whittaker Rd**  
Order food from Aubree's on Whittaker Road to benefit YDL!

**Sept 8, Oct 13, Nov 10**

### FAMILY MAKER NIGHTS

6:30 PM | **YDL-Michigan**  
Enjoy spending time as a family exploring themed science and art-based activities. Children of all ages are welcome; accompanying adult preferred.  
**Sept 8:** Soap Fun: Clouds and Shapes  
**Oct 13:** Things That Glow in the Night (for ypsiGLOW)  
**Nov. 10:** Light Play: Rainbows, Reflections, and Refractions

**Thursdays, Sept 9 & 23; Oct 14 & 28**

### READ TO PADDINGTON THE LIBRARY DOG

6:00pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Reading to a Therapaws dog helps children develop confidence and become better readers. Sign up for a 15-minute slot with the library dog. REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org).



**Sept 9**

### MICROSOFT PUBLISHER - BASICS (Adult)

6:30pm | **Whittaker**  
Learn the basics for creating greeting cards, flyers, and calendars including page layout and formatting text and images. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call 734-482-4110 ext. 2411.

**Sept 10 – Oct 11**

### 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11: THE DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

**YDL-Michigan**  
As we observe the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, this curated exhibition presents the history of 9/11, its origins, and its ongoing implications. This poster exhibition recounts the events of September 11, 2001 through the personal stories of those who witnessed and survived the attacks and includes archival photographs and images of artifacts. Browse the exhibit materials through Oct. 11. Sponsored by the 9/11 Memorial and Museum.

**Sept 11 & 25, Oct 9 & 23, Nov 6 & 20**

### SATURDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS

9:00am | **Virtual**  
Start your weekends off with a thirty minute session that allows you to center, breathe, and just be. Students only need to bring themselves and a curious mind. Beginners are welcome. If you need help using Zoom, please contact Paula Drummond: [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x1306.



**Sept 11 & 25, Oct 9 & 23, Nov 13 & 27**

### GUITAR CLUB FOR ADULTS (18+)

10:00am | **Growing Hope's Farmer's Market**  
Guitar Club is for guitar players of all levels and ages (18+). Through September and October we will be meeting in person at Growing Hope's Ypsilanti Farmer's Market. Guitar Club may be canceled due to COVID rates. Check the YDL-Michigan Guitar Club Facebook page for updates or contact Scott Marlowe at [smarlowe@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:smarlowe@ypsilibrary.org) or 734-482-4110, x1334 for more information.



**Sept 11**

### MICROSOFT WORD - BASICS (Adult)

10:30am | **YDL-Whittaker**  
An introduction to word processing. Learn to enter, format, select, copy, paste, and edit text. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

**Sept 11**

### GMAIL - BASICS (Adult)

2:00pm | **YDL-Whittaker**  
Learn how to send and retrieve messages, add attachments like files or photos, create and manage labels and filters, add contacts, and manage junk email. Register online or call (734) 4110 x2411.

**Sept 11, Oct 16, Nov 20**

### MAKING COLLEGE ACCESSIBLE: TEEN WORKSHOP SERIES

2:00 PM | **YDL-Michigan**  
Navigate the ins and outs of the college search and application process  
**Sept. 11:** Financial Aid  
**Oct. 16:** Application Time!  
**Nov. 20:** Choosing a School

**Sept 11**

### MOVIES IN THE PARK

7:30 PM | **Oakbrook Park, 8460 Berkshire Dr. Superior Township**  
Enjoy family games and kite flying beginning at 7:30pm followed by a family friendly movie on a giant 20 foot screen. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, snack, and coolers. NO ALCOHOL is permitted. A Superior Township Parks and Rec event.

**Tuesdays, Sept 14 – Oct 19 & Nov 9 – Dec 14**

### ZUMBA & STRENGTH TRAINING

12:00pm | **Virtual**  
Join us for a fun, energetic fitness series with trainer Jerry Powell of Lifestyle Fitness. This class is designed for adults ages 55 & up, but is open to all adults who would enjoy a gentler workout. Register online for the class link.



**Sept 14**

### GOOGLE SHEETS TIPS & TRICKS (Adult)

2:00pm | **Virtual**  
Explore more advanced features of Google Sheets including: using formulas, conditional functions and formatting, sorting, filtering and linking data, and defining a print area. A Google (or Gmail) account and prior Google Sheets experience required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Sept 14**

### PROMOTIONAL WRITING: WRITING ENGAGINGLY AND PERSUASIVELY SESSION 2: BOOSTING YOUR ORGANIZATION'S IMAGE

4:00pm | **YDL-Whittaker**  
Writing can help you paint a picture of your organization or event. In the second of this three-part series, Sam Killian, YDL's Community Relations Coordinator, will share tips on making your writing recognizable and consistent with your brand. You'll learn to identify your organization's brand image, whether you're marketing something for a nonprofit, business, organization, or small group. Come away with ideas for using writing to promote your organization's image.

**Sept 14 & 28, Oct 12 & 26, Nov 9 & 23**

### YPSIWITES DROP-IN HOURS

4:00pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Get assistance with any kind of writing. YpsiWrites has trained writing tutors to help you plan, write, revise, and edit your writing, whether a resume, job letter, poem, short story, or even a novel. This program is made possible by a partnership with YpsiWrites, an initiative from YDL and EMU's Office of Campus and Community Writing.

**Sept 14 & 28, Oct 12 & 26, Nov 9 & 23**

### TAG-TEEN ADVISORY GROUP

4:30pm | **YDL-Whittaker & YDL-Michigan**  
Join TAG to help the library best serve Ypsi teens. Plan and implement library programs, design new services and spaces, earn service hours with practical experience, and meet new friends! We'll meet in-person, COVID rates permitting, and provide a Zoom link for some meetings. Grades 8-12 can apply and learn more: [ypsilibrary.org/TAG](https://ypsilibrary.org/TAG).

**Sept 14, Oct 12, Nov 9**

### MANGA, COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVEL INTEREST GROUP

6:30pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Calling all teens to join us for a monthly meeting to talk about new and old manga, comics, and graphic novels. Meet others and share interests. Every month will feature a different topic.



**Sept 15**

### HOW TO HOST A ZOOM MEETING

(Adult)  
10:30am | **Virtual**  
Learn to host a Zoom meeting from start to finish. Topics include: scheduling, securing and starting your meeting, inviting participants, using host controls, zoom etiquette, and basic troubleshooting. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18**

### SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

1:00pm | **YDL-Whittaker**  
Contribute to the library by sharing ideas and resources. For more information email Monique at [mgeiman@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mgeiman@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x1362.

**Sept 16**

### MICROSOFT EXCEL - BASICS (Adult)

6:30pm | **YDL-Whittaker**  
A basic introduction to spreadsheets. Learn to enter and edit data, select cell ranges, format cells, use the fill handle, and create simple formulas Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

**Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18**

### KIDS BOOK CLUB (Grades 3-5)

6:30pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Enjoy a snack and a monthly discussion of a shared book.  
**Sep 16:** *Stink and the Shark Sleepover* by Megan McDonald  
**Oct 21:** *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary  
**Nov 18:** *Frindle* by Andrew Clements  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org)

**Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18**

### THIRD THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB (Ages 18+)

7:00pm | **YDL-Michigan**  
Join us for creative projects for adult craft enthusiasts.  
**Sept 16:** Fall Wall Plaque  
**Oct 21:** Raffia Basket Weaving  
**Nov 18:** Essential Oil Diffuser  
For questions, contact Kim at [krowe@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:krowe@ypsilibrary.org) or 734-482-4110 x 1385.



**Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18**

### VIRTUAL MONTHLY GARDENING TIPS

7:00pm | **Virtual**  
Get expert gardening tips from Carol Brodbeck, Advanced Master Gardener/past State President of Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. Listen, learn, share information, and ask questions in these monthly virtual meetings. For help using Zoom, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.





Nov 2

**MICROSOFT EXCEL - BASICS** (Adult)  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 16 description.

Nov 3

**MICROSOFT POWERPOINT - BASICS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 25 description.

Nov 3

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: BOOKKEEPING AND CASH FLOW**  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Basic financial reports and concepts that small business owners need to know. This session will be presented in person at the Ypsilanti District Library. You can also watch on Zoom from home or at the Salem South Lyon District Library. Register online or call 482-4110 x 2411. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306. The 3rd of 6 sessions in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office.

Nov 4

**GOOGLE SHEETS FOR BEGINNERS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | Virtual  
See Sept. 7 description.

Nov 4

**GOOGLE DRIVE - BASICS** (Adult)  
7:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 21 description.

Nov 6

**DIY I SPY**  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
Use a variety of supplies to create your own I Spy layout and write a description of what readers should hunt for on your page. We'll take photos and make a book for the library. Copies will be available to take home the following week.



Nov 9

**GOOGLE DOCS TIPS & TRICKS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | Virtual  
See Sept. 18 description.

Nov 9

**MICROSOFT EXCEL - INTERMEDIATE** (Adult)  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 23 description.

Nov 10

**MICROSOFT WORD - BASICS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 11 description.

Nov 10

**WHICH DIET IS RIGHT FOR YOU AND YOUR HEALTH?**  
7:00pm | Virtual

This 90-minute virtual presentation by Lisa Misleve, a functional registered dietitian, will explain the differences between paleo, Mediterranean, ketogenic, fasting, juicing, and vegan diets. You will leave understanding the pros and cons of each type and what the "rules" are, and you'll have a better sense of what suits your health goals. Registration required.



Nov 13

**COMPUTER BASICS - GETTING STARTED** (Adult)  
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 22 description.

Nov 13

**TRADITIONS: USING WRITING TO WEAVE OUR PAST AND FUTURES**  
1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

As the holiday season nears, we'll write about some of our favorite family and holiday traditions and use writing to explore traditions we may be inspired to begin.

Nov 13

**STORYTELLING WITH SANDY**  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join storyteller extraordinaire Sandy Ryder, Co-founder of Wild Swan Theater, for an hour of stories, laughs and surprises! Kids and adults alike will find themselves delighted by Sandy's unique and engaging style of sharing stories.

Nov 13

**GOOGLE CALENDAR - BASICS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 28 description.

Nov 15

**INTRODUCTION TO THE LIBRARY'S STREAMING SERVICES**  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Your library account lets you access thousands of DVDs and a constantly growing number of digital titles. Learn to search for digital and physical materials, how to request physical materials, and how to stream digital titles on different devices. Class will include using Hoopla and other streaming services. Register online or call 734-482-4110 x 2411. Space is limited. Email Robert at [neil@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:neil@ypsilibrary.org) with questions.

Nov 16

**MICROSOFT PUBLISHER - BASICS** (Adult)  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 9 description.

Nov 16

**IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK: RESEARCHING YOUR HOUSE**  
7:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Bob Myers from the Historical Society of Michigan will explain how to uncover house histories including who built them and when, their architectural styles, and the stories of the families who called them home. In partnership with Ypsilanti Historical Society.



Nov 17

**MICROSOFT WORD - INTERMEDIATE** (Adult)  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 25 description.

Nov 17

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING AND METRICS**  
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Learn current popular social media platforms, their key components, recommended marketing practices, and an examination of the platform statistics to determine customer engagement, conversion, and return on investment. This session will be presented in person at the Salem South Lyon District Library. You can also watch this session at YDL-Whittaker Road or virtually via Zoom. The 4th of 6 sessions in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online or call 482-4110 x 2411. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

Nov 18

**GOOGLE SHEETS TIPS & TRICKS** (Adult)  
2:00pm | Virtual  
See Sept. 14 description.

Nov 20

**GOOGLE SLIDES FOR BEGINNERS** (Adult)  
10:30am | Virtual  
See Sept. 30 description.

Nov 20

**FRIENDS OF YDL HOLIDAY BOOK SALE**  
11:00am | YDL-Whittaker

Visit the Friend's shop for a special holiday book sale!

Nov 20

**EMU MUSICAL PRODUCTION OF A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD**  
2:00 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Join the cast of the EMU musical production of "A Year with Frog and Toad" for a reading of the beloved stories, as well as a musical performance.

Nov 23

**FROM BOOMERS TO ZOOMERS: ZOOM PRACTICE FOR SENIORS** (55+)  
2:00pm | Virtual  
See Sept. 8 description.

Nov 27

**INTERNET BASICS - HOW TO SEARCH THE WEB** (Adult)  
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker  
See Sept. 29 description.

Nov 27

**MICROSOFT EXCEL - PIVOT TABLES - INTERMEDIATE** (Adult)  
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker  
See Oct. 28 description.

Nov 30

**HOW TO HOST A ZOOM MEETING** (Adult)  
2:00pm | Virtual  
See Sept. 15 description.

Nov 30

**YOUNG AND SOBER: SUBSTANCE ABUSE AWARENESS FOR TEENS**  
6:00 PM | YDL-Michigan

Join us for Dawn Farm's Young & Sober Program: an informative presentation aimed at educating young people on substance use and addiction. Teen participants will be entered in a raffle to win a \$25 gift card. For more information on this program, please email Kelly at [kscott@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:kscott@ypsilibrary.org).



Dec 1

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: ART MARKETING**  
6:30 PM | YDL-Whittaker

Learn to formulate a plan, strategy, and tactics to sell art at art fairs, galleries, virtual galleries, or through a variety of online channels. This session will be presented in person at the Ypsilanti District Library. You can also watch this session at the Salem South Lyon District Library or virtually via Zoom. Register online or call 482-4110 x 2411. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306. The 5th of 6 sessions presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office.

Dec 15

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: E-COMMERCE**

The last of 6 sessions presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor Area SCORE office. Look for more details in the Winter issue of *The Loop*.

## STORIES & FUN FOR LITTLE ONES

All storytimes will be socially distanced and masks are encouraged for anyone over 2 years old. Look for yoga mats or other markers when you come. There will typically be two readings for the storytime. If you can't find an empty marker or mat, visit the youth area, then return for the second reading.

### MONDAY

Sept 20–Nov 8

**JUMPSTART KINDERGARTEN: STORYTIME**

10:30 & 11:15 AM | YDL-Whittaker  
We'll explore a range of emotions and learn some coping ideas. Designed for listeners ready for longer books. To keep capacity lower, we'll offer repeat read aloud sessions at 10:30 and 11:15, with self-directed parent/child arts, crafts and STEM activities in between. Do the activity before or after your read aloud.

### TUESDAY

Sept 21–Nov 9

**DISCOVERY TIME** (Little ones 2–4 years old)  
10:30 | YDL-Whittaker

Learn a variety of preschool readiness skills, from ABCs to kindness, at fast-paced storytimes filled with music, movement, fingerplays, and books. We'll offer repeat read aloud/music sessions with exploratory, play-based activities in between. Attend Tuesday OR Wednesday and do the activity before OR after the read aloud. Look for an empty yoga mat when you arrive. If all the mats are full, the day's activities in the children's area, then return for the second read aloud.

### WEDNESDAY

Sept 22–Nov 10

**DISCOVERY TIME** (Little ones 2–4 years old)  
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker  
Same as the Tuesday session.

### THURSDAY

Sept 23–Nov 4

**BABY TIME**  
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

Hear a book and learn fun songs during a short lapsit storytime designed for pre-walkers. Afterwards stay to chat with other new parents during tummy time play time.



Sept 23–Nov 4

**STORIES IN MOTION**  
6:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Each week a different book will inspire our yoga or dance influenced movements, as well as our breathing and mindfulness exercises, which will help you get ready for a relaxing and easy bedtime.



Sept 23 – Nov 4

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME**  
10:30am | YDL-Michigan

Preschool story time will include a variety of music, movement, and hands-on activities. We'll read picture books, get some wiggles out, sing, and have fun.

### FRIDAY

Sept 24 – Nov 12

**READ SING PLAY** (Little Ones 1–3 years old)  
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

Learn colors, shapes, and numbers through music and movement. Each week we'll read a book and sing movement songs. Afterward, parents can stay and chat while kids play nearby. Look for an empty yoga mat when you enter the Community Room.

# SCHOOLS

## YPSI CONNECTED COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS K-8

Ypsilanti Community Schools has rolled out a learning-at-a-distance option to students in the community.

Using lessons learned during the pandemic school year, YCS has created the YPSI Connected Community School. In this learning-at-a-distance school, teachers conduct daily live instruction for K-8 students via the Internet. YPSI Connected Community School, which will be called YC2 (why-see-squared) for short, will also offer in-person opportunities for students.

During the pandemic, students missed out on field trip opportunities and other safe ways to see other students and teachers in person. While YC2 will offer field trips and gatherings to students, they are not required. YC2 will have classrooms, meeting rooms, offices,



and labs on the A.C.C.E. Campus located at 1076 Ecorse Road in Ypsilanti.

Students enrolled in the school will find:

- Personalized learning pathways created for each student in partnership with the family.
- Small group instruction for academic acceleration by master teachers.
- Learning alliances with the community: Families, teachers, and students all have a voice.
- Placed-based community service projects.
- YC2 believes the joy of learning can take place anywhere and will develop relationships with families and students to accelerate the learning trajectory.

For enrollment information please visit [ycschools.us](https://ycschools.us) or call 734-221-1066. YCS offers School of Choice for students who live outside district boundaries.

## NEW VIRTUAL ACADEMY AT LCS

Lincoln Consolidated Schools is making its LCS Virtual Academy a permanent part of the school community.

As COVID-19 spread, school districts throughout Michigan were creating online learning opportunities for families. LCS had already been thinking about this type of learning experience due to needs discovered within the student community.

“Lincoln had been talking about having a virtual academy for years before the pandemic, and we plan on continuing ours,” said Karensa Smith, assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction. “I don’t think this year it’s as

much about the pandemic as about ‘This is what works better for my child.’ There are students and families that just prefer this option and thrive in this setting.”

LCS Virtual Academy is open to all kindergarten through high school students. Students will receive instruction from Lincoln teachers and will enjoy the same educational opportunities and extracurricular activities as their peers that attend in-person instruction. Virtual Academy students can take part in athletics, drama, robotics, and other activities outside school hours.

Students attend virtual instruction remotely and can complete class assignments as they best

fit in their daily schedules. LCS Virtual Academy students will have the same opportunities to build relationships with our students and staff.

“We want our LCS Virtual Academy students to feel connected to our school community,” Smith said. “That’s the value of having our own teachers be the teachers at LCS Virtual Academy. You’re still part of our Lincoln family and can be building relationships with students and staff.”

Learn more about the Academy by watching the district’s presentation at [www.youtube.com/embed/za91jv5DAkg](https://www.youtube.com/embed/za91jv5DAkg).



## TIME TO TALK

Looking for activities to make sure your little one is ready to start school when the time comes? Scan the code to sign up for TALK! We'll text you two activities each week you can do at home.





# YDL SCHOOL HELP

## BACK TO SCHOOL WITH CONFIDENCE

This fall, many students are returning to an in-person classroom for the first time in a year and a half. Most are probably excited to see friends again, but they may also have fears about going back. Read on for tips to help with the transition.

### CREATE A ROUTINE

**Before School:** Start with a morning routine that feels comfortable, safe, and nurturing. Include a calming activity like reading a book together or make a special breakfast.

**At school:** For children transitioning from elementary school to middle school, it may be helpful to meet with your child's teachers and advisors to prepare them for things like moving classrooms, using lockers, and having multiple teachers for the first time.

**After School:** See the Homework Help article on this page for ways the library can help support good study habits after school.

There are activity bins with supplies in the library that can help your child brush up on early reading skills, too. Make sure your daily routine has a consistent evening wind-down, and include quiet time for reading. You can request a "hand-picked for you" bundle, or grab a preassembled themed bag of books from the YDL youth department.



**BUILD COPING SKILLS** Uncertainty can fuel anxiety about returning to school. Answer questions honestly. Let your child know feeling nervous is normal, and end the conversation on a positive note.

Put a photo or other special item inside their lunchbox to help them feel connected to home. Teach mindfulness techniques to help your child calm down if they feel anxious. School age kids are encouraged to attend YDL's Thursday evening Stories in Motion sessions, which include a read aloud, yoga stretches, and mindfulness techniques to wind down before bed (details on page 7). Don't miss counselor Christina Herbin's paper flowers workshop on October 9, where she'll show kids how to make tissue paper flowers to create and encourage positive thoughts (details on page 6).

**MANAGE EXPECTATIONS** If your child is nervous about what school is going to look like, take a virtual tour! Ypsilanti Community Schools has virtual tours of every district school building on their website.

Check in with the teacher to learn how the day will go. Consider putting a schedule in your child's backpack as a reminder of how their day looks. Use a visual schedule for younger children, with simple pictures or drawings, including someone picking your child up at the end of the school day.

Your child is probably out of the habit of packing everything they need for school and after school activities, so make it easier by creating a daily backpack checklist. At the library, middle and high school students can attend Yen Azzaro's sketchnote workshop on October 10 (see page 6) to learn a new creative way to take better notes and stay organized. If your child discovered a new activity they enjoyed during the pandemic, check to see if there are after school clubs or library events they can join to find friends with similar interests.

## ATTENTION TEACHERS!

Looking for ways YDL can help in the classroom? Teachers can apply for a classroom card in addition to their personal library card if they teach in Ypsilanti Community Schools, Lincoln Consolidated Schools, or any other public, private, or charter school in the YDL service area.

With a classroom card, there are no limits on the number of items that can be checked out, no late fees, and a four-week checkout period. With the 85 classroom cards currently active, teachers have allowed students to choose a book during field trips to keep in the classroom, found materials to prepare for thematic units, and checked out extra copies of books for group reading assignments. Getting a classroom card is easy—to apply, just ask at any YDL location and bring a recent paycheck stub or ID from your employer, along with a photo ID that shows your current address.

Need help finding resources for a particular lesson? Teachers can use their classroom cards to request book bundles. Book bundles are a great way to find supporting materials for an upcoming unit or topic. Nearly 2,000 items were checked out last year using classroom cards, including materials that were part of these bundles!

You can request fiction, nonfiction, picture books, audiobooks, and DVDs in your bundle. Simply fill out the form on our website with your desired grade level, type of materials, quantity, and topic, and our librarians will put together a variety of materials for classroom use. You can also request one of our Book Club Kits. Visit [ypsilibrary.org/book-club-kits](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/book-club-kits) for details.

Find the bundle request forms, classroom card information, and much more at [ypsilibrary.org/school-support](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/school-support).

## HOMEWORK HELP



Whether we're in for a more average school year, or another strange one, YDL can help your family navigate it.

Tutoring isn't just for those who are struggling academically. According to a 2021 Michigan Department of Education presentation on Accelerated Learning, individual tutoring has "large, positive effects on students." It can offer "more engagement, rapid feedback, and less distractions." Sessions can improve not only academic performance, but also encourage good study habits and increase student motivation and confidence.

Most importantly, tutors can accommodate a variety of learning styles that may differ from the teaching style used in a large classroom setting, and can provide an academic challenge for advanced students.

You can use your YDL card to get live, online homework help in any subject on [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com). Tutors are available to help you with math, science, foreign languages, AP classes, and more. Test prep and career resources are available, along with proofreading and editing assistance.

Students can access research tools and databases at [ypsilibrary.org/research](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/research). Whether you need to find scholarly articles on Explora or practice a new art technique with Creativebug, there's an online resource for you.

There are also a number of local options for homework help.

826michigan will continue to offer online writing and schoolwork support for all ages beginning in October. For high school students, YpsiWrites will offer drop in writing help on alternating Tuesdays and Saturdays at Michigan Avenue and Whittaker Road (see page 4-5).

SAT math prep tutor Geetha Elangovan will also return to help high school students prepare for the math portion of the SAT (see page 5).

Keep an eye out on the YDL calendar for other tutoring sessions that may be added throughout the fall.

# WASHTENAW COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT COVID-19 UPDATE

## Need your COVID-19 vaccine?

COVID-19 vaccines are safe, effective, FREE, and easy to get. Visit <http://bit.ly/vaxwchd> or call 734-544-6700 to get your vaccine. Many local pharmacies can also provide COVID-19 vaccines. For the latest on COVID-19 in Washtenaw County, see [www.washtenaw.org/covid19](http://www.washtenaw.org/covid19)



## Be protected: get your flu shot!

Flu season is coming up. The Health Department strongly recommends everyone six months and older get vaccinated against flu every year – ideally before the end of October and definitely before the winter holidays. Getting vaccinated, washing your hands, covering coughs, 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. The flu can affect anyone, but older adults, children, and people with chronic health conditions are at greater risk for severe complications from flu.

Flu shots can protect you against severe illness, hospitalization, or death. Getting vaccinated also

protects the people around you who may be at greater risk of serious illness! Get vaccinated at your doctor's office, pharmacy, or call the Health Department at 734-544-6700. See [www.washtenaw.org/flu](http://www.washtenaw.org/flu) for updates.

## What does the Health Department do?

The Washtenaw County Health Department works with the community to help everyone be as healthy as possible. They respond to serious diseases like COVID-19, whooping cough, and measles, and provide clinical services like vaccines and HIV & STI testing. They also run community-driven health promotion programs and work to make sure Washtenaw County residents have access to healthy food, clean water, and safe food and housing.

Contact them to schedule an appointment for clinical services like HIV/STI testing, vaccines, and birth control. There are many programs aimed at protecting and promoting health:

- WIC provides food for pregnant women and kids up to 5 years old. Available to low and moderate income families. Call 734-544-6800 or email [ypsilantiwic@yahoo.com](mailto:ypsilantiwic@yahoo.com)
- For help with health insurance, contact the Washtenaw Health Plan at 734-544-3030 or email [whp@washtenaw.org](mailto:whp@washtenaw.org)
- Washtenaw County Dental Clinic: new patients call 877-313-6232
- **#WishYouKnew** Youth Mental Health Campaign: follow [@wishyouknewwashtenaw](https://www.instagram.com/wishyouknewwashtenaw) on Instagram

- The Maternal Infant Health Program supports new moms with Medicaid. Call 734-544-2984 or 734-544-9749 or ask your doctor for a referral.
- Children's Special Health Care Services provides support based on medical diagnosis not income, call 734-544-9700.

Follow the Health Department on Facebook, Instagram, NextDoor, and Twitter ([@wcpublichealth](https://www.instagram.com/wcpublichealth)) for updates on health in our community! For more information, call 734-544-6700 or email [health@washtenaw.org](mailto:health@washtenaw.org).



# RENTAL AND UTILITY RELIEF ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE NOW

**A**re you experiencing prolonged financial hardships due to COVID? You can get help from the COVID Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) program.

The Federal CDC Eviction Moratorium has been extended to October 31, 2021, and funds are available for qualifying households in Washtenaw County who continue to face pandemic-related hardships in avoiding eviction. CERA is available for income-eligible households in Washtenaw County who have fallen behind on rent, utility, and/or Internet bills during COVID-19.

If you have experienced a loss of income, changes in unemployment income, or a similar economic hardship, you may qualify for up to 12 months of back rent assistance, with 3 months of forward rent assistance.

Documentation is required, but the application can be completed online at [CERAapp.michigan.gov](https://CERAapp.michigan.gov) or [michigan.gov/cera](https://michigan.gov/cera). Paper applications are also available by contacting Housing Access for Washtenaw County at (734) 961-1999. Applications must be emailed to [hawc.washtenaw@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:hawc.washtenaw@usc.salvationarmy.org) or mailed or dropped off at Housing Access for Washtenaw County, 100 Arbana Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.



CERA is administered locally through a partnership between the Washtenaw County Office of Community & Economic Development, Housing Access for Washtenaw County (HAWC), and SOS Community Services.

When applying it helps to have as many of these documents available as possible:

- Photo ID (e.g. Driver's License, State ID, or Passport)
- Paystubs or other proof of income or benefits (unemployment, SSI) for the last 30 days
- Copy of lease and information about owed rent
- Income tax return
- Utility statements you are responsible for
- Internet bills or statements, if applicable
- Explanation of how COVID impacted you financially

If you need help applying for CERA assistance, please contact HAWC at (734) 961-1999. More details and information can be found at [michigan.gov/cera](https://michigan.gov/cera). A tenant user guide is available in English and Spanish at [www.washtenaw.org/3421/CERA](http://www.washtenaw.org/3421/CERA).

¿Habla español y necesita ayuda en ese idioma? Llame a Buenos Vecinos al 734-210-0112 para recibir asistencia de renta, servicios públicos y/o internet a través del Programa de Asistencia de Alquiler de Emergencia por COVID (CERA).

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS: NEW NAME, SAME COMMITMENT

To better recognize the work and dedication of members across the county, the local League of Women Voters is changing their name. The League of Women Voters – Ann Arbor Area is now the League of Women Voters Washtenaw County.

“Many of our 300-plus members reside far afield, doing valuable work in Washtenaw County’s townships and communities that don’t see themselves as part of Ann Arbor,” said President Joan Sampieri. “Our recent efforts toward diversity, equity, and inclusion in our programs and our membership inspired the name change, which reflects broader participation by citizens of all backgrounds, parties, and localities.”

The group is still doing the same work, such as local candidate forums prior to elections, a county-wide observer corps, providing local ballot information through [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org), voter registration, and other programs to educate members and the public. They do also welcome men who want to be a part of the group.

The League has a new website location, and updated Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages. They also have a new email address.

Find more information about the League of Women Voters Washtenaw County in the following places:

- Website: [lwwashtenaw.org](http://lwwashtenaw.org)
- Email: [league@lwwashtenaw.org](mailto:league@lwwashtenaw.org)
- Facebook: [facebook.com/LWVWashtenaw](https://facebook.com/LWVWashtenaw)
- Twitter: [twitter.com/lwwashtenaw](https://twitter.com/lwwashtenaw)
- Instagram: [instagram.com/lwwashtenaw](https://instagram.com/lwwashtenaw)



## National Voter Registration Day

Voting is an important way to enjoy the rights and opportunities we all share as Americans and celebrate our democracy. Join us on National Voter Registration Day, Tuesday, Sep 28th, to learn about how to register, sign up for election reminders, request mail-in ballots, early voting options, and more. Let your voice be heard! Details coming soon.

## FOOD DELIVERY FOR SENIORS



The Ypsi Area Online Market is starting deliveries of local produce and goods to seniors living at Chidester Place, Cross Street Village, and Towne Centre Place. Growing Hope is piloting this delivery program to improve food access for populations that are vulnerable to COVID-19 and/or have limited access to transportation or the Internet.

No computer is necessary—place an order by phone and the market will deliver to you! The online market offers seasonal fruits and vegetables, meats, dairy, baked goods, and more.

Ordering by phone is open on Thursdays from 11AM to 2PM and on Fridays from 12PM to 4PM. Call 734-707-1795. The market accepts SNAP/EBT and DUFEB. If you would prefer to order online or would like more information, please email [vivi@growinghope.net](mailto:vivi@growinghope.net), or call 734-707-1795.

## GET YOUR GARDEN READY FOR FALL

As the gardening season comes to an end, a few things should be done in preparation for the next one. You may have noticed that many of the garden plants have seeds that are ready to harvest. You can save those seeds to plant in your garden next year!

Carefully monitor your plants for ripe seeds. Seeds are produced and mature in different ways and places for different plants. For example, bean seeds grow inside their pods. You have to wait for the lettuce to bloom to see the seeds in the flowers’ capsules. Tomato, squash, and cucumber seeds mature within fleshy fruits.

While the ideal time for gathering seeds varies from crop to crop, fall is a great time to gather seeds as many crops mature in August or September. Generally, let vegetable garden seeds dry on the plant as long as possible. For flowers and herbs, wait for the stalk to turn brown, and carefully shake off the seeds. Try to harvest seeds on a sunny day, once the dew has dried.

Store seeds where it’s cool, dark, and dry, and make sure that they are completely dry and free of pulp by spreading them out on a flat surface in a dry, airy place. Once seeds are dry, put them in envelopes or jars and label them. You can even make and decorate your own seed packet. Find suggestions for a design on our Food Justice blog post at [ypsilibrary.org/food-justice](https://ypsilibrary.org/food-justice).

Learn more about seeds and seed saving at [ypsilibrary.org/seedsaving](https://ypsilibrary.org/seedsaving).

Don’t have a garden where you can harvest seeds? Visit any of YDL’s community gardens and harvest the seeds here! Next year, plant them in a container that you can keep on your balcony or patio. Some plants, like herbs and lettuce, can live on a windowsill. You really don’t need much space to start growing your own food!



# CELEBRATING 2 YEARS OF YPSIWWRITES!

October marks the second anniversary of YpsiWrites, the community writing resource powered by Eastern Michigan University's Office of Campus & Community Writing, Ypsilanti District Library, and 826michigan.

This year's theme for YpsiWrites, which will be incorporated in the anniversary celebration, is "Write Now."

To celebrate, writers of all ages can join in writing activities and share their own reasons for writing. This year's celebration is Saturday, October 23, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at YDL-Whittaker. Some activities will also be available that day at Michigan Avenue.

YpsiWrites was founded on the premise that everyone's a writer "whether they write lists, social media posts, emails, text messages, or novels," said Ann Blakeslee, EMU English professor and YpsiWrites co-founder. "We also believe that writing matters."

YpsiWrites has something to support or inspire all writers, regardless of experience or comfort level. Anything from "Tips for Tackling All Kinds of Writing" to nature writing prompts are at [ypsiwrites.com](http://ypsiwrites.com).

Writing volunteers from Ypsilanti and the surrounding communities also facilitate YpsiWrites workshops on topics ranging from writing children's books to creating gifts with writing, writing blog posts and news articles, writing poetry, and even writing marketing materials.

"I'm so glad we have an expert resource for people who need writing help" said YDL outreach librarian, Mary Garboden. "It has been a game changer that we can direct people to the expert writing support provided by YpsiWrites."

Diane Winder, volunteer and Professor Emeritus of Music at EMU, added, "YpsiWrites has succeeded as a town-grown, multi-age project. This results in learning, joy, and writing for partners as diverse as the Ypsilanti District Library, Mentor2Youth, Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, the Washtenaw Jewish News, and A2Ethics."

YpsiWrites will deliver more in-person writing support this fall with drop-in tutoring hours at both Whittaker Road and Michigan Avenue (see pages 4 & 5). Workshops will also be in person, with some remaining virtual.

For more information about YpsiWrites initiatives and programs, to download resources and program materials, or to volunteer, visit [ypsiwrites.com](http://ypsiwrites.com). Writers can also connect with YpsiWrites on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date on future writing projects, events, and workshops.



# WELCOME BACK TO THERIDE!



Full-service levels for TheRide resumed on August 29. Capacity limits have been lifted and riders are encouraged to take TheRide wherever you need to go! As a reminder, per federal law, face masks are required until further notice. Safety continues to be TheRide's priority, and many safety precautions are in place to ensure vehicles are clean and ready to welcome riders back.

TheRide's FlexRide-East is a shared-ride transportation service that connects riders to TheRide's fixed-routes. Transfers are free between TheRide's fixed-routes and FlexRide-East. FlexRide-East also has a direct connection to the Ypsilanti Transit Center. Learn more about the service at [MyFlexRide.org](http://MyFlexRide.org).

For more information on TheRide's service, and to learn about TheRide's COVID safety measures, visit [TheRide.org](http://TheRide.org).



# THE FRIENDS BOOK SALE IS BACK

The Friends of YDL Book Shop is back, and the book sale is returning this fall! Mark your calendars for September 23-26 at Whittaker Road.

Book sale prices are \$1 for hardcovers, 25¢ for paperbacks, and 50¢ for oversize paperbacks. On September 26 there will be bags of books available for \$4, and some books will be sold for a reduced price. September 23 from 6-8pm will be a members only preview sale. Memberships will be available for purchase at the door.

So far, donations from 2021 have already funded:

- A2SF Concerts
- The Mystery Maker Challenge with Ypsi Writes
- Curbside activity kits during the library closure
- A new cell phone charging station
- The Library Summer Olympic Games



Since the book shop at YDL-Whittaker has resumed normal hours of operation, the Friends need volunteers. There are plenty of ways to help, like assisting with book shop sales and sorting the generous donations the Friends receive. Whatever your availability, your assistance is greatly appreciated.

## THE BOOK SHOP'S HOURS OF OPERATION ARE:

- Monday 2-8:00
- Tuesday 6-8:00
- Wednesday 10-2:00
- Thursday 10-4:00
- Friday 10-2:00
- Saturday 11-5:00
- Sunday 2-4:00

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer, please fill out the application at [ypsilibrary.org/volunteer-at-the-friends-book-shop](http://ypsilibrary.org/volunteer-at-the-friends-book-shop).

[WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG)



## LOCATIONS & HOURS

### YDL-WHITTAKER

5577 Whittaker Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 9am-9pm  
Fri and Sat: 10am-6pm  
Sun: 1-5pm

### YDL-MICHIGAN

229 West Michigan Avenue  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 9am-9pm  
Fri and Sat: 10am-6pm

### YDL-SUPERIOR

8795 MacArthur Blvd  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

#### HOURS

Locker pick up and curbside service

### YDL-BOOKMOBILE

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Curbside service

Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. They are open to the public. Visit [ypsilibrary.org/board](http://ypsilibrary.org/board) for updated meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes.

Visit [ypsilibrary.org/contact-us](http://ypsilibrary.org/contact-us) or 734-482-4110

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