A NEW CHAPTER

On October 8, over 400 people participated in the Superior Library Book Brigade. We passed over 2,000 books hand-to-hand from the old location to the new library building now open at 1900 Harris Road. Everyone ooh-ed and ahh-ed over books they’d read or wanted to read, making recommendations to their neighbors in line. We shared treasured memories of picture books we loved as children, and discovered other titles completely new to us. This unique event symbolized just how much our community loves its library.

Thank you for all the ways you support YDL. By getting a card, checking out a book, using computers or wi-fi, attending an event, downloading a movie, or bringing a child to storytime, you support us. Thank you for your votes, your tax dollars, your donations, and your help making the new library a reality. Together we’ve built something special, for all of us to share. Come visit!

– Lisa Hoenig, Director

YDL-MICHIGAN TURNS 60!

The library in Ypsilanti was founded over 150 years ago. For nearly half that time, the YDL-Michigan building has been part of its fabric.

Paula Drummond, who heads YDL’s Adult Services, says the library was connected to the downtown in entertaining ways. She remembers helping a patron who called from a bar asking how old Smokey the Bear was.

“Pretty quick to find today, but before the Internet it took research to track down things like that,” said Drummond. “He was very happy I could help him win his bet.”

As Ypsilanti celebrates its Bicentennial in 2023, here’s a look at how YDL-Michigan has changed, improved, and been a staple of the historic downtown since 1963.

The Journey to 229 W. Michigan Avenue

Ypsilanti’s library was started in 1868 by six women with 175 books who charged $1 for a library card. They housed the library on the second floor of the Arcade Building on North Huron. In 1886, the library moved to the second floor on the Union Block of Michigan Avenue. It soon became a public institution open to all at no cost, and “the Ladies Library” then moved into the historic home on Huron Street donated by the Starkweather family in 1890.

Having changed its name to “Public Library,” the library expanded again in 1963 to its current location at 229 W. Michigan. The former Carnegie post office building was sold to the City of Ypsilanti for $1 in 1962. The City renovated and opened the library there the following year.

Improvements Inside and Out

The original plaza fountain was built in 1982 with the help of Ypsilanti resident Patsy Chandler, who held annual tea parties on her birthday to raise funds for worthy local causes. You can find one of the tea sets she used for those parties in the Michigan History Room at YDL-Whittaker.

When YDL-Whittaker opened, YDL-Michigan closed for more large-scale renovations, which were unveiled in 2003. The Library Park Plaza was redesigned in 2006, funded by the Friends of YDL, the Downtown Development Authority, Pfizer, and a variety of local fundraising efforts. The fountain was restored and covered in its mosaic glass tile, and a new life-size bronze statue of

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Ypsilanti District Library | The Loop
Winter 2022–23
WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG
5577 Whittaker Road
Ypsilanti, MI, 48197
Non-profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 658
Ypsilanti, Michigan
ECPWSSSDDM
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER
From 1941 to 1945, Nazi Germany committed the systematic murder of over six million Jews. Today, an estimated 400,000 Holocaust survivors remain, sharing a collective narrative of both suffering and resilience.

The Ones Who Remember is an anthology of the stories of 16 families grappling with the legacy of genocide and the inherited trauma of growing up in the shadow of their parents’ pain.

At 7pm on January 12 at YDL-Whittaker, the authors and other 2nd-generation Holocaust survivors will share their stories in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day. An author signing will follow. The holiday, which takes place on January 27, 2023, is observed to prevent future acts of genocide.

Looking Forward

YDL completed a space needs assessment in 2019, inspiring some big plans for a thorough future renovation. Those goals were amplified in YDL’s most recent strategic planning survey, where the community overwhelmingly affirmed that more renovations are desired. More exciting plans are on the way to keep this historic downtown jewel as vibrant as ever!

Making these investments now, Drummond said, “will show that YDL recognizes the importance of the Michigan Avenue branch to the downtown area and to the lives of those who count on its services and its presence.”

Fun Facts

- Mr. Robert Kramp was the first director at YDL-Michigan.
- For the first few years, only the main floor was open to the public.
- In 1966, the Ypsilanti Historical Society renovated the lower level, which became the historical museum.
- Four years later, the Historical Society moved to its current location, and the library’s youth collection was moved to the lower level, where it resides today.
- The original renovation to open the building as a library in 1963 cost the City $128,000.
- In 1968 Ypsilanti Township gained access to the library through an arrangement where the Township paid an annual subscription fee of $5 for each card holder. Nearly 250 people received cards.

To learn more about the Holocaust and its impact, use these resources:

- The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: ushmm.org/learn
- What is Holocaust Remembrance Day? hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day
WINTER PROGRAMMING AT YDL

Winter has arrived and YDL has great family-friendly, seasonal events for all ages (see pages 4–7 for more events):

YDL-Whittaker:

December 4
• Paul Keller Ensemble Holiday Jazz Concert: Get into the holiday spirit with this nationally-known local jazz ensemble! Enjoy familiar and original holiday tunes thoughtfully arranged with a jazzy flair by Keller and his bandmates. This all-ages event is sponsored by the Friends of YDL.

December 15 & 17
• Holiday Paper Craft Workshop: Drop in and create! For adults who like to personalize their gift packaging, we’ll construct gift bags with tags. For kids who enjoy creating that special card to give for the holidays, we’ll have lots of card-making materials to use.

December 27 & 29 and January 3 & 5
• Winter Break Art: Drop in Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Winter Break and get creative! We’ll have a different craft each day, including votive candle holders, printmaking, DIY collages, and popsicle stick puzzles.

January 28
• WinterFEST: Celebrate the end of finals at an after hours program for teens at the library! Eat s’mores, make winter crafts and cocoa bombs, and watch a movie on the big screen. Hosted by the Teen Advisory Group.

YDL-Michigan:

December 2
• Holiday Tree Lighting: Enjoy singing, sipping hot chocolate, decorating cookies, and making simple snow flakes. Santa will join us for a photo op in his sleigh!

December 10 & 14
• Family Craft-Snow Globes: Join us to make a snow globe - all supplies provided! Please register - with the number of family members - so we have enough supplies on hand.

December 27–30 & January 3–6
• Winter Break Boredom Busters: Enjoy daily afternoon activities for families, teens, or youth ranging from STEM events to a movie.

Virtual:

December 3
• Writing as a Gift: Join YpsiWrites and YDL for a hands-on virtual writing session to create gifts of writing for loved ones.

THANK YOU, KAY!

After 45 years of dedication to the Ypsilanti and Superior communities, YDL Board Trustee Kay Williams is stepping down from her position. Williams has been a champion for YDL’s presence in Superior Township and the construction of the new Superior Branch, which opened on November 14.

“I am so excited about the new Superior Library,” Williams said. “I love to read and have loved libraries since I was a little girl and went to a K-8 two-room country school.”

Williams has been on the YDL Board of Trustees since 2009, taking on the roles of Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer during her tenure. YDL thanks her for her commitment to the Board and to the Library district.

In addition to her library contributions, Williams carried out the duties of Superior Township’s Clerk from 1977–1978 and 2001–2008 and Parks Commissioner from 1992–1996. From 2018-2021, she served on the Superior Township Board of Review.

To learn more about Kay Williams and her legacy in the community, visit ypsilibrary.org/thank-you-kay.

WASHTENAW READS

The 2023 Washtenaw Read has been announced! Called “the most provocative page-turner of the year” by Entertainment Weekly, Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid is “a big-hearted story about race and privilege, set around a young black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer, and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both.” Over 60 copies of the book are available across YDL locations in multiple formats.

Author Kiley Reid will be at the Ann Arbor District Library on Sunday, February 5th at 4 pm for a talk, Q&A, and book signing. The talk will be recorded and available to view online for a week following the event. It will be held in the Lobbytorium at AADL’s downtown branch (343 S. Fifth Ave). All city parking, including the next door underground parking garage and surface lot, is free of charge on Sundays.

Looking for more great reads? Use your library account to access NoveList Plus! Search for new titles by author, subject or genre, or find the perfect novel using the appeal mixer. Either way, you’ll get book recommendations perfect for your next read!
Dec - Feb Events

Dec 1, Jan 5, Feb 1
TWEEN BOOK CLUB (Grades 6–8)
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoyment of registration required. Email michelle@ypsilibrary.org.
Dec 1: The Detective’s Assistant by Kate Manning
Jan 5: Front Desk by Kelly Yang
Feb 1: The Threat: Roar of the Beast by Chad Sell

Dec 1, Jan 5, Feb 1
PLAY ON THE GROUND MURAL CAPTIVATE!
7:00pm | YDL-Superior
YDL needs your creative voice and vision! We are embarking on a crowdfunded ground mural project that involves play and interaction on the patio outside the youth area. Artist Yen Azarzo will show input and ideas already received, then will guide participants through the process to develop a unique ground mural for the new library.

Dec 1
THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for interesting discussions of a variety of books. Copies of the books are available at the Whitaker Road branch Circulation Desk one month before the discussion date. Questions? Contact Sheila at skonen@ypsilibrary.org.
Dec 1: Patchicko by Min Jin Lee
Feb 2: Such a Fun Age: a novel by Kiley Reid - Washtenaw Reads 2023 selection

Dec 1
HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING
5:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Enjoy kid friendly hot chocolate, decorating cookies, and making simple snow flake. Santa will join us for a photo op in his skit

Dec 1, Jan 7, Feb 4
LITTLE ONES PLAY
11:00am | YDL-Whittler
Little ones can get some winter energy out while parents and caregivers chat nearby. We will have very small and big toys out in the space for free play.

Dec 1
WRITING AS A GIFT
10:00am | Virtual
Join YpsiWrites and YDL for a hands-on virtual writing session to learn about and create different types of writing gifts for loved ones. Join our facilitators and choose between holiday letters, recipes, and telling stories about favorite holiday traditions and memories. We’ll send you the Zoom meeting information a few days before the even.

Dec 3, Jan 7 & 21, Feb 4 & 28
DUNCECk & DRAGONS: DROP IN FOR TEENS
10:00am | YDL-Michigan
Join us for D&D with an experienced DM, an adventurous storyline, and pre-generated characters. Each Saturday is a one-shot game (done in one sitting) with an overarching campaign. For ages 13–18. Registration preferred, but drop-in is also fine. Email jhannah@ypsilibrary.org with questions.

Dec 3
SPINNING DOT THEATRE
11:00am | YDL-Whittaker
Watch Spinning Dot Repertory Company perform Only a Day! In this stunning production, a fox and a wild bear come between themselves to tell a dally that her life only lasts a single day. A blend of music, movement, humor, and deep feeling create a memorable experience for audiences of all ages.

Dec 3
FAMILY BIRDING WALK
12:00pm | North Bay Park
Join us for a duck walk along the Ford Lake boardwalk to see birds, paddles, scoters, canvases, and many more of the 20+ species that visit Washtenaw County in the winter. Meet at the Grove Street Entrance to the boardwalk. Hosted by the Washtenaw Audubon Society who will bring spotting scopes and binoculars.

Dec 3
DROP IN & DRAW
1:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for some focused, low-stress drawing time with Casey Dixon, a local and nationally-recognized artist and sculptor. All supplies provided. Open to youth and teens.

Dec 6
PASCHEN'S FROM MARS TO THE MOON: A PICTURE BOOK
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a discussion about a geht of a picture book by Kocianek, the illustrator. The story is about a man who journeys to Mars and returns to Earth with knowledge of the planet's secrets.

Dec 6, Jan 3, Feb 7
826MICHIGAN TUTORING
6:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Meet with other parents and share your projects and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any handcraft welcome!

Dec 7, Jan 23 & Feb 27
ESL BOOK CLUB
11:00am | YDL-Michigan
Join Washtenaw Library’s ESL book club for intermediate to advanced readers. Members will be expected to read approximately 45 pages in advance of each session. To register, contact Washtenaw Literacy at (734) 337-3338.

Dec 11
VIRTUAL MYSTERY LOVER’S BOOK CLUB
2:00pm | Virtual
Calling all mystery lovers! Check out a new mystery title each month.
Dec 11: Iced in Paradise by Naomi Hirahara
Jan 22: Woman in the Library by Sunali Gentil
Feb 22: How the Lights Get In by Louise Penny
For more information or help using Zoom, please contact Paula Drummond at drummond@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1206.

Dec 12, 19 & 26
KIDS CHESS CLUB
4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Drop in and learn chess with the library with Jenny Skidmore Smith. All skill levels are welcome, but instruction will be provided. Snacks will be served.

Dec 15
SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY:
ALTERNATE FINANCING (IF YOU CAN’T USE A BANK OR RICH RELATIVE)
6:30pm | Virtual
Learn about microloan opportunities from Todd Vanapallepdim, loan officer at CEED. This is the first of six sessions in our winter Small Business Savvy series. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register at attend.ypsilibrary.org events or call 482-4110 x 2411.
For more information, email Paula Drummond at drummond@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

Dec 22–Feb 23
JAZZ CONCERT
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join Leah Fox from Robinson's Music in a special music class for together. Music Together is an international, research-based program for young children with the core curriculum. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register at attend.ypsilibrary.org/events or call 482-4110 x 2411.
For more information, email Paula Drummond at drummond@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

Dec 24
PLAY ON THE GROUND MURAL CAPTIVATE!
TEEN INPUT SESSION
7:00pm | YDL-Superior
TEENS: Have a snack and lend your voice to the mural project at the new YDL Superior Library. Artist Yen Azarzo will showcase input and ideas already received, then will guide participants through the process to develop a unique ground mural for the new library. This activity is generously supported by the Washtenaw and Michigan Arts Culture Council. Snacks will be served.

Dec 24
SOMETHING TO READ: SHARING BONUS
9:00pm | Virtual
Join YpsiWrites and Washtenaw Library for a monthly read a loud event. Join us for a reading of a new book and a chance to talk about your favorite reads. Registration required.

Dec 31
POTPOURRI OF COURTESY LOVERS
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a traditional January 1st celebration of the love of reading. Students can join any time during the year. A parent or guardian must complete paperwork on or before the student’s first day.

Dec 31
THE ROAR OF THE BEAST
by Chad Sell

Dec 1
THE DETECTIVE’S ASSISTANT
by Naomi Hirahara

Jan 2
WOMAN IN THE LIBRARY
by Sunali Gentil

Feb 22
HOW THE LIGHTS GET IN
by Louise Penny

Dec 6
I CRIED IN PARADISE
by Naomi Hirahara

Jan 22
WOMAN IN THE LIBRARY
by Sunali Gentil

Feb 22
HOW THE LIGHTS GET IN
by Louise Penny

Dec 3
CALLING ALL MYSTERY LOVERS!

Jan 23
CALLING ALL MYSTERY LOVERS!

Feb 23
CALLING ALL MYSTERY LOVERS!

YpsiWrites Love Letters - Drop In Sessions
The 2023 Ypsilanti Bicentennial will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the City of Ypsilanti’s incorporation on April 22, 1823. To celebrate, join YpsiWrites in writing love letters and about the city we love so much! This is a drop-in event and YpsiWrites volunteers will be available to help create a love letter postcard. All are welcome!

Dec 15
JAZZ CONCERT
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join in to make a snow globe—all supplies provided. Please register online at attend.ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec 11
2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a discussion of the book and enjoy a snack. Registration required.

Dec 16
ESL WRITING SUPPORT
3:00pm | YDL-Whittaker
Help you learn new techniques and tips for successful writing.

Dec 18
826MICHIGAN TUTORING
6:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Meet with other parents and share your projects and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any handcraft welcome!

Dec 21
PLANTS AND GIFTS WORKSHOP
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us to make gift cards and kids can create a special card to give for the holidays. Please attend only once. All materials are included. For questions, contact Sheila at skonen@ypsilibrary.org or Robert at neil@ypsilibrary.org.

Dec 22
SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY:
SOMETHING SIMPLER STEPS TO FIND GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS
6:30pm | Virtual
Learn about the fundamental steps and techniques you need to potentially obtain federal contracts. This is the second of six sessions in our winter Small Business Savvy series. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register at attend.ypsilibrary.org/events or call 482-4110 x 2411.
For more information, email Paula Drummond at drummond@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

Dec 23
PAPER CRAFT WORKSHOP
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
HOLIDAY PAPER CRAFT WORKSHOP
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Dec 25
THE FORGOTTEN
by Naomi Hirahara

Jan 11
THE WORST
by Chad Sell

Feb 22
THE FORGOTTEN
by Chad Sell

Dec 25
TEENS: Have a snack and lend your voice to the mural project at the new YDL Superior Library. Artist Yen Azarzo will showcase input and ideas already received, then will guide participants through the process to develop a unique ground mural for the new library. This activity is generously supported by the Washtenaw and Michigan Arts Culture Council. Snacks will be served.

Dec 26
SOMETHING TO READ: SHARING BONUS
9:00pm | Virtual
Join YpsiWrites and Washtenaw Library for a monthly read a loud event. Join us for a reading of a new book and a chance to talk about your favorite reads. Registration required.


**Event Schedule | Dec 2022 – Feb 2023 | Visit attend.ypsilibrary.org/events**

**WINTER BREAK FUND 2:00pm | YDL-Michigan**
Are you bored at home? Drop in at YDL Michigan during Winter Break!
**Dec 27:** Scrap Creative Use Bugs
**Dec 28:** 3D Paper Globes
**Dec 29:** Fun Feltations
**Dec 30:** Pine Cone Bird Feeder
**Jan 3:** Decorate Ornaments
**Jan 4:** Shrinky Dinks
**Jan 5:** Crystal Snowflakes
**Jan 6:** Movie: Encanto

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: E-COMMERCE - WHERE TO BEGIN**
This session will consider types of e-commerce, market segments, current/recent market trends, along with websites, platforms, and more. This is the third of six sessions in our winter Small Business Savvy series. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register at attend.ypsilibrary.org or call 482-4110 x 2411. For more information, email Paul Drummond at drummond@ypsilibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1106.

**SAFELY TALK ABOUT RACE & RACISM**
This month we will have a hybrid event, screening portions of: A Filmic Recorded...Montgomery to Memphis. Discussion will be followed by Lon Williams, local storyteller and peace activist.
**Tuesday, Jan 10 - Feb 24**

**ESL COMMUNITY TUTORING**
10:00am | YDL-Whittaker
Join ESL instructor Jerry Powell each week for a mid-day workshop. Designed for ages 55 & up, but open to all adults who would enjoy a gentler workout. Registration required.

**DOMINO TOPPLING MEETUP**
6:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Come join us for a fun game of dominoes with our goal being to create a wall and knock it down! This is a fun game for all ages. Registration is required.
**Jan 27 & 28, Jan 30 & Feb 2 & 3**

**DANCE TOGETHER**
12:00pm | YDL-Whittaker
Drop in Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Winter Break and get creative!
**Dec 27:** Vote candle holders
**Dec 28:** Printmaking
**Jan 3:** DIY envelopes and than you card collages
**Jan 5:** Poppy seed stick puzzles

**READ TO MOON THE LIBRARY DOG**
9:30am - 1:00pm | YDL-Superior
Reading to a Therapawel dog helps children develop confidence and become better readers. Sign up for a 10-minute slot with Moon. Registration required. Email mittch@ypsilibrary.org.

**YPSIWRITES WRITERS ROOM**
10:00am | YDL-Superior
Ypsi Writes comes to YDL Superior. Join other writers for open writing time in YpsiWriters' Writers Room. If you're feeling stuck, no worries - we'll provide a prompt. We'll also make time for writers wishing to share their work and get feedback.

**ALL LIVES STAND UP: A JAZZ CONCERT CELEBRATING MLK JR.**
Join jazz musician and educator Sean Dobkins and his ensemble for a musical reflection on the legendary legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This all ages show will include original music and some by the jazz masters of the past. Sponsored by the Friends of YDL.

**PAIN A POT, PLANT A SUCCULENT**
4:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Gardening with other teens to get creative by painting a pot and then use your green thumb to plant a succulent to take home!

**COOKING WITH YOUR INSTANT POT WITH MARY SPENCER**
Culinary instructor Mary Spencer will demonstrate 2 recipes that will take the fear out of using your Instant Pot. This presentation will be recorded and posted to YDL's YouTube channel for two months.

**WINTER TEA PARTY**
3:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Come wear your coziest pajamas and lounge in the library with other teens. We'll watch a movie and make some yummy snacks to take home and enjoy!

**PARANORMAL 7:00pm | YDL-Michigan**
Are you fascinated by paranormal phenomena? Join YDL’s Paranormal Club where we will share and discuss bizarre phenomena that's confounded mankind.
**Dec 23, Jan 20, Feb 17, & Mar 17**

**LNGO CRAFTROOMS (Ages 55+)**
2:00pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for a light-hearted afternoon on a craft project where the goals are to engage your mind, connect with others, and build new brain neurons with a new technique.
**Dec 23:** Diamond Painting
**Jan 20:** Coiled Yarn/Rope Basket
**Feb 17:** Wine Glass Board
Registration required.

**HEALTHY SNOW COOKING**
10:00am | YDL-Whittaker
Learn to make simple and healthy snow dough, make art with ice cubes, and enjoy a healthy winter treat under the instruction of oboist Timothy Michling from the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.

**YPSIWRITES WRITERS ROOM**
10:00am | YDL-Superior
Ypsi Writes comes to YDL Superior. Join other writers for open writing time in YpsiWriters’ Writers Room. If you’re feeling stuck, no worries – we’ll provide a prompt. We’ll also make time for writers wishing to share their work and get feedback.

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**HOMELAND AWARENESS GROUP**

7:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

This group meets weekly to focus on the homeland crisis in our community. We will have discussions, readings, and activities to raise awareness of the complexities of living without stable housing.

**GET CONNECTED: LINKING OLDER ADULTS WITH RESOURCES**

2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County will give three presentations on how to find resources and share resources about coping with life transitions, using medication wisely, mental health awareness, and more.

**NEWS: WRITING BEST PRACTICES: INTERVIEWING SOURCES AND IMPOSSIBLE PRACTICES**

6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join Sue Becker, Community Relations Coordinator at YDL, for guided practice interviewing your sources and tips on incorporating their thoughts into your writing. You’ll also learn to highlight the main hook of your article and how to write in a way that keeps everyone reading until the last line. In partnership with YpsiWrites and Groundcover News.

**LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND: A VISIT WITH A PUPPY RAISER**

7:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Visit with leader dog puppy raiser Sue McDowell and hear touching stories of her organization, and the clients, volunteers, and dogs who make so much possible. Sue is co-counselor for the Ann Arbor Area Puppy Raisers chapter of Leader Dogs for the Blind, whose activism and volunteer encouragement ensures that puppies are ready for their training when they return to the Leader Dog campus. Sue’s current puppy, Frida, will be on site during this program.

**OPEN HEARTS AND MINDS: MEDITATION AND JOURNALING**

10:00am | Virtual

Join YpsiWrites and YDL for the first of two writing workshops exploring interactions of writing, meditation and self-care. Poet and clinical social worker David Boeving will guide participants in a meditation and journaling exercise. The second workshop, “Writing with Heart: Self-Care and Autobiography,” will take place Feb 25. You can register for one or both workshops.

**SPRINGING DOT THEATER**

11:00am | YDL-Whittaker

Springing Dot Repertory Company will perform You'll Never Believe What Happened To You, a zany play from Australia.

**ANIME MEETUP**

1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Do you love manga or anime, or do you want to learn more? Meet up to watch and discuss your favorite things. Meets every third Thursday.

**FAMILY LITERACY SUPERHERO DAY**

6:30pm | YDL-Michigan

Come to the library to make a mini cake to take home! This after school reading club is for fans of graphic novels. Over the course of several weeks, you will have the book read aloud to you, then discuss your favorite parts while making art. We will start with reading Amulet Book 1, The Stonekeeper by Kazu Kibuishi, then choose our next book together.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA CONTEST**

7:00pm | Virtual

Join us for lively discussions of books by African American Authors.

**FAMILY LITERACY SUPERHERO NIGHT**

5:30pm | YDL-Michigan

Join the library for a painting/printing project using Hydro Dipped Mugs. A mug using nail polish and the hydro dip technique, then assemble your own cocoa mix to use at home.

**SPRINGING DOT THEATER**

11:00am | YDL-Whittaker

Spin your magic or make something extra special today by celebrating Black History Month by competing in an online trivia contest. Answer questions related to Black History for your chance to win prizes. Contact open to library cardholders and individuals within the Ypsilanti Library service area only. Call 734-482-4110 x2411 for more details. Questions will be released at 11am on Feb 1 at attend.ypsilib.org/events.

**FAMILY LITERACY SUPERHERO**

1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join Jesse Deucher, Physical Education teacher at Mack Open and creator of PandaFit, for fun games to keep you active indoors in the winter. Games may include “Head, Shoulder, Knees, and Cones,” the “Get-Up” challenge, “Partner Twister,” and “Thread the Needle.”

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA CONTEST**

7:00pm | Virtual

Join YpsiWrites and YDL for the first of two writing workshops exploring interactions writing, meditation and self-care. Poet and clinical social worker David Boeving will guide participants in a meditation and journaling exercise. The second workshop, “Writing with Heart: Self-Care and Autobiography,” will take place Feb 25. You can register for one or both workshops.

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Join YpsiWrites and YDL for the first of two writing workshops exploring interactions writing, meditation and self-care. Poet and clinical social worker David Boeving will guide participants in a meditation and journaling exercise. The second workshop, “Writing with Heart: Self-Care and Autobiography,” will take place Feb 25. You can register for one or both workshops.
TALK GROWS INTO INDIANA

Ypsilanti District Library’s school-readiness text message service, TALK: Text and Learn for Kindergarten, is now available to parents in Indiana as well as Michigan! TALK was developed and refined by youth staff at YDL with the help of other libraries and community partners in Washtenaw County. Its success here helped YDL secure grant funding to make it available to a wider audience by partnering with the Library of Michigan, State Library of Indiana, and the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services.

If you are a parent or caregiver with children under 6, you can sign up by texting the word TALK to the phone number 75547, or by filling out the online form at texttolearn.com. You’ll get two activity suggestions via text message each week, plus reminders about library events for little ones. The activity ideas you’ll receive are targeted to your child’s age and can be done at home to build pre-reading and early math skills and pave the way for school success when they start kindergarten. Contact jodi@ypsilibrary.org for more information.

LCS GETS PILOT GRANT

Lincoln Consolidated Schools has earned a pilot grant to improve Social-Emotional Learning (SEL). Social-Emotional Learning is part of the Michigan Department of Education’s Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) and focuses on the whole child. LCS is in the second half of the sixteen-month Pilot which has allowed them to scale SEL from one building to the whole district. In 2023, LCS will focus on strengthening those district-wide SEL efforts by:

- Adhering to the core components of CASEL’s five SEL competencies (Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Responsible Decision Making, Relationship Skills, and Social Awareness) through ongoing training and support;
- Professional learning on approved district SEL resources that are differentiated to meet the needs of the staff and community;
- Putting processes in place for how and when to use the SEL resources;
- Ensuring that equity is inseparable from the five SEL competencies.

When the pilot program ends, LCS anticipates being able to fully implement the work as a staple in their curriculum.

YDL IS ON TIK TOK!

Do you want to see amazing behind-the-scenes content from our talented staff? Watch us unbox books and Library of Things materials, see footage from events, discover library resources, and find hidden gems inside our buildings by following @ypsilibrary on Tik Tok. The new Tik Tok account will help YDL connect with more local teens and younger adults, as the platform has over 1 billion users, over half of which are ages 18–24. Visit tiktok.com/@ypsilibrary to follow the fun.

GET A YDL CARD, SHARE A SELFIE!

Getting your YDL card is exciting, and we want you to show off how pumped you are! Sign up for your card at any branch, then grab a selfie frame and snap a picture to share on social media with #LibraryLove.

No matter which is your favorite branch, we have a customized frame to show it off. Your library card can open up your world. We hope you share the news with your friends online.
DO YOU KNOW THE HISTORY OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

February is Black History Month. The 2023 theme is “Black Resistance,” which recognizes and celebrates the resistance of Black people, organizations, and institutions to racism in the past and present.

Black History Month started in 1925, when historian Carter G. Woodson wanted to raise awareness of the contributions of Black Americans to U.S. society. According to blackhistorymonth.gov, the event was first celebrated in February 1926.

The week was met with an overwhelmingly positive response by Black Americans. The article from blackhistorymonth.gov said, “Black history clubs sprang up; [and] teachers demanded materials to instruct their pupils.” By the 1950s, it “had become a central part of African American life and substantial progress had been made in bringing more Americans to appreciate the celebration.”

The celebrations continued during the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s. Finally, in 1976–200 years after the founding of the United States—Black History Month was officially recognized. President Gerald R. Ford said of the historic event, “Seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

The Library is celebrating Black History Month with a trivia contest. From February 1–28, answer questions related to Black history for your chance to win prizes. Questions will be available starting Feb. 1 at ypsilibrary.org.

Other Resources:
- blackhistorymonth.gov/about
  » Note: Data for this piece came from the essay by Daryl Michael Scott on this page.
- asahl.org/black-history-themes

To learn more about local Black history, visit the A.P. Marshall African American Oral History Archive. This project chronicles the lives and struggles of Black Ypsilantians in their own words. Recorded by historian A.P. Marshall in the 1980s, these interviews span several generations and help to tell the rich and varied story of African Americans in Ypsilanti.

Explore the project at history.ypsilibrary.org.
### 5 Tips for a Healthier Winter

**Stay healthier in the cold months with these 5 tips!**

1. If you don’t feel well, avoid others.
2. Get an updated booster and stay up-to-date on your COVID vaccines. Visit washtenaw.org/covid19vaccine for vaccine info.
3. Get a flu shot! Everyone 6 months old and older should get a yearly flu vaccine. Flu shots are especially important for seniors, anyone with underlying health conditions, pregnant people, and young kids.
4. Stay COVID-prepared. Keep an eye on our community’s level to see what precautions you should be taking (bit.ly/WCC19LVL). Make sure you have at-home tests and masks and verify your eligibility for COVID treatments.
5. Keep up with general healthy habits! Visit your doctor to get any routine vaccinations or preventative screenings needed. A nutritious diet, plenty of sleep, and regular exercise can also help you feel better and stay healthier during cold and flu season.

Want to stay updated on all things health in Washtenaw County? Join the WCHD email list at bit.ly/WCHD555.

### Prioritize Your Health in 2023!

The end of each year is a good time to destress and get ready for new opportunities. It’s important to take care of your mental, physical, and financial health. Luckily, YDL has resources available to help you prioritize your health and happiness in 2023.

### Take care of your mental health with these resources:

- Engage in hobbies that help you find peace. If you like cooking, check out the Food America database. Want to get creative? Visit the Hobbies and Crafts Research Center database.
- Socialize at our amazing clubs for all ages and interests. Kids can join our Children and Family Painting Club, Kids Chess Club, or Love of Learning Club. The Anime Club and the Teen Advisory Group are perfect for teens. Adults can jam out at Guitar Club or do some yarn work at Knitting Plus.
- Or, check out these amazing events! Find Sensory Stations and Legos for kids, Charcoal Drawing and Hydro Dipped Mug-making for teens, and Instant Pot and Air Fryer cooking with Mary Spencer for aspiring chefs.

### Looking to take care of your physical health?

- Stay warm inside while getting in a workout with fitness instructor Jerry Powell at LNGO Fitness.
- It may be winter, but there are still over 20 species of ducks in Michigan. Join us for a Family Birding Walk and get exercise while admiring nature’s resilience.

### Improve your financial health by taking advantage of all YDL has to offer:

- If you hope to start off the new year with a new job, visit our Job Seekers interest page (ypsilibrary.org/interests/job-seekers-skill-builders). Find resume and cover letter help, job listing sites, and more! You can also check out our Job Center at YDL-Whittaker to find job postings.
- Looking to make a big purchase? Use the Consumer Reports database to find product evaluations and ratings so you can make the right choice.
- Tax season is upon us, but have no fear. Starting Feb. 1, AARP will be available Tuesdays and Wednesdays at YDL-Michigan and Thursdays at YDL-Whittaker to help seniors and low income residents with filing their taxes (see page 12).

### 5 Tips for a Healthier Winter

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200 YEARS IN THE MAKING

Ypsilanti will celebrate its Bicentennial in 2023, and the Bicentennial Planning Committee is kicking things off with a New Year’s Eve Ball Drop on South Washington Street (Black Lives Matter Blvd). Details to come.

There is a full year of Ypsilanti-inspired events and meaningful community gatherings to recognize the 200th anniversary of Ypsilanti’s incorporation on April 22, 1823. In addition to the Ball Drop, there will be a Fourth of July lunch in the park with a time capsule reveal, and a main celebration in August with art areas, delicious local food, a beer tent, and other entertainment.

You can also join YpsiWrites in writing love letters and about the city we love so much! Write your own love letter to Ypsilanti or use an YpsiWrites prompt. Postcards with prompts are available at all YDL branches. Submitted letters and cards may be displayed on YpsiWrites’ website or at events celebrating the bicentennial.

These celebrations are funded through the city and donations collected by the Bicentennial Committee.

For more Bicentennial news, visit cityofypsilanti.com/861/Bicentennial-Committee.

WARMING SHELTERS

The Shelter Association of Washtenaw County has announced its daytime and overnight warming shelter locations for this winter.

Those looking for daytime shelter can visit any of these locations:

- All 3 YDL branches are open from 9am–9pm Monday through Thursday and 10am–6pm on Friday and Saturday. Additionally, YDL-Whittaker is open on Sunday from 1–5pm. See page 12 for addresses.
- Ypsilanti Freighthouse at 100 Market Place: This location will be open Monday through Thursday from 8am–6pm until March 31.
- Ann Arbor Day Shelter: Time and locations to be announced.
- Delonis Center: Access shelter on the weekends at 312 W. Huron St, Ann Arbor until March 31.

For those seeking overnight shelter, the Delonis Center is open at 7pm each night until March 31. According to the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, individuals seeking emergency shelter should contact Housing Access of Washtenaw County (734-961-1999) for a referral to the Delonis Center. If it is after 5pm or during the weekend, come directly to the Delonis Center for assistance. In addition to a place to sleep, individuals will be able to access resources and services such as meals, medical care, and case management, as well as assistance in finding permanent housing.

MEET THE 2022 WRITERS OF YPSILANTI

YpsiWrites is excited to introduce the 2022 Writers of Ypsilanti. The 2022 theme is Write for Change, and all 11 of this year’s writers embody that theme.

Angela Verge was nominated by Debbie Taylor for being “a prolific writer who embodies positive change.” Angela believes her writing “encourages, informs, and inspires personal growth.”

Lauren Fardig-Diop was nominated by Lynn Malinoff because she is “deeply committed…and a strong influence on young writers.” Lauren enjoys when readers connect with her writing and understand the impact of shared words.

Brian Geiringer, nominated by Sarah Rigg, “regularly writes news and commentary about the Ypsilanti area, with a focus on government and political issues, including affordable housing.” Brian believes writing through the reader’s mind creates great stories.

Ciatta Tucker was nominated by Molly Raynor and Venus Pasha, who celebrate Ciatta for “capturing the often untold stories of her [community], especially Black girls, and of Ypsilanti.” ForCiatta, brainstorming and idea exploration is the best part of the writing process.

Nuola Akinde, nominated by Antoinette Moncrieff, has “been an integral presence as a writer, educator, and community activist in Ypsilanti for many years.” Nuola loves poetry “because it can take whatever form it needs to suit who you are and what you’re feeling in a given moment.”

Chanel Stitt was nominated by Sarah Rigg for her journalistic passion as a Detroit Free Press business reporter, a member of the National Association of Black Journalists, and the Vice President of Print for Detroit NABJ. Chanel enjoys her work “because every person has a story, but the journey of entrepreneurship can be a difficult process.”

Nesi Jordan’s son, Carson Jordan (a past Writer of Ypsilanti!) nominated Nesi for being a mother of five who’s helped many people. Nesi believes “Writing for change should inspire those who want a different narrative for themselves.”

Maria Patton was nominated by her former teacher, Kari Safieddine, because, “Her personal stories of being a black, young woman in our society are honest, brave, and inspiring.” Maria thinks her writing “pushes [her] community to think critically about the treatment of people around them.” She aspires to create a more equitable world for all, including her own community.

Greg Pizzino, nominated by previous Writer of Ypsilanti Aaron Mark Dean, promotes his peers and the art of play writing “with a sense of fun and discovery.” Greg enjoys play writing because it’s livelier than prose. “Every production and every performance is going to be… different,” says Greg.

Janice Anschuetz was recognized by Robert Anschuetz because her Ypsilanti Historical Society articles illuminate the stories of people and places previously unknown. Janice wants her writing to help readers “understand the dynamics of historical situations and how they may have influenced a person’s social development.”

Cynthia Fassbender was nominated by Debora Marsh for her dedication to her students and desire to “give them opportunities to write and develop their voices.” Cynthia’s favorite writing is collaborative, which allows her “to learn about other people and creates an understanding between... co-writers that is unique.”
TAX HELP

Ypsilanti District Library will again serve as a site for free tax preparation during this upcoming season. From February until mid-April, AARP will offer tax assistance at the YDL-Whittaker and YDL-Michigan branches.

Scheduling for tax-preparation appointments will begin in January 2023. Visit ypsilibrary.org/taxprep for updates on the tax help services that will be available at YDL, along with additional resources to help you prepare your taxes.

AARP’s TaxAide assistance program is provided by trained volunteers in partnership with the IRS and 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.

All interactions will be socially distanced. AARP requires masks. Call 734-482-4110 x2411 or x2421 to make an appointment or for more information.

Please note the following before you arrive for your appointment:
• You can pick up information and forms (to be filled out before your appointment) at the branch where you have scheduled your appointment.
• If filing jointly, both spouses must be present. Have birthdates for yourself, spouse, and dependents.

Make sure you bring:
• All W-2s, 1099s, and any other records of income.
• Last year’s tax return.
• Government issued photo ID and Social Security card for yourself and spouse.
• Social Security card for all dependents.
• Personal check for routing/account numbers for direct deposit of a refund.
• 1095-A if you received ACA health insurance.
• Any other tax documents, such as 1098s.
• Dec, Jan, or Feb DTE bill if you are eligible for the home heating credit.

For updates on the tax help services that will be offered at YDL, please visit ypsilibrary.org/bookmobile.

WINTER TIPS FROM THERIDE

With the change of seasons, many people will be commuting by bus when it is dark out and in inclement weather. Here are some tips to keep you safe:
• Give yourself extra time for your commute. Bad weather may cause road conditions to be poor, which will result in delays.
• Wear reflective clothing or have a light to ensure you are seen in the dark.
• If your bus stop is unsafe due to snow or ice, please wait at the nearest and safest cleared area. Signal to the driver when your bus approaches.
• Some routes may be placed on detour during severe weather or have delays. Sign up for the MyAlerts system to receive an email if your route is on detour.
• You can track your bus at TheRide.org.

As a reminder, pass prices have been reduced and you can use EZFare for mobile ticketing. Plan your trip at TheRide.org.

Please note the following before you arrive for your appointment:
• You can pick up information and forms (to be filled out before your appointment) at the branch where you have scheduled your appointment.
• If filing jointly, both spouses must be present. Have birthdates for yourself, spouse, and dependents.

Make sure you bring:
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• Last year’s tax return.
• Government issued photo ID and Social Security card for yourself and spouse.
• Social Security card for all dependents.
• Personal check for routing/account numbers for direct deposit of a refund.
• 1095-A if you received ACA health insurance.
• Any other tax documents, such as 1098s.
• Dec, Jan, or Feb DTE bill if you are eligible for the home heating credit.

Friends of YDL

The Friends of YDL Annual Book Sale is back!

Book sale prices are $1 for hardcovers, 25¢ for paperbacks, and 50¢ for oversize paperbacks. On Jan. 22 there will be bags of books available for $4, and some books will be sold for a reduced price. At the members only preview sale, memberships will be available for purchase at the door. It’s the perfect time to join the Friends and help make library events possible! Dues start at just $10.

Jan. 19: 6–8pm (members-only sale)
Jan. 20: 11am–5pm
Jan. 21: 11am–3pm
Jan. 22: 1–4pm

The Friends also 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. If you’re interested in becoming a volunteer, please fill out the application at ypsilibrary.org/volunteer-at-the-friends-book-shop.

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