



This Week

With the Mayor



December 7th, 2018

Correction: Again! Oy Vey! Did you ever have one of those things that just go wrong, time after time? It's the joint meeting with Council and the Parks and Rec Commission, coming up on December 11. I got the location wrong, twice in a row!

Here are the **actual** details:

7 PM, Tuesday December 11 at Senior Center
(I do believe I got it right this time, and my apologies!)

Link for getting recycling card

<http://cityofypsilanti.com/FormCenter/Main-Forms-10/Recycling-Center-Card-Request-Ford-65>

Local News and Event Highlights of the Week

Heritage: Historical Society Open House

The community values summarized in our city motto are Pride, Diversity, Heritage. In our little 2x2 city, we have several museums and one of them is our Historical Museum. In that gem of a museum, we have some interesting items which celebrate our city's heritage. Maps, clothing, artifacts, instruments, so much of what made Ypsilanti what it is today is available for you to see there! You have an opportunity to check it out at their [annual open house](#) this Sunday. Stop by for cookies and history! I'll be there and I hope to see you!

Diversity: Brother 2 Brother Program

A new Ypsilanti-based initiative called Brother to Brother is pairing at-risk youth with local businessmen as mentors, and will soon add a partnership offering academic support for youth. Mentors include barbershop or salon owners Shawn Green of Finesse 1, Opio Shaah of Stylez Unlimited, and Ryan Griffin of Griff's Unlimited Cutz. "The mentoring session starts during their haircuts," says Cheyenne Turner, community support specialist at the Washtenaw County Youth Center. "They get practical life lessons and grooming from prominent men in the community, and the mentors engage them in dialogue about various topics." Read the whole article in [On The Ground Ypsi](#), a project of Concentrate Media.

Pride:

SAVE THE DATE for upcoming [MLK Day Celebrations](#) at EMU Jan 19-22
This annual celebration brings together town and gown in commemoration of the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This year's celebration begins with a march, reception, and

student art show. The latter includes selected art pieces created by EMU students that will be featured in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A returning event from a decade ago (originally called Nothing Said) is the Gospel Fest which will take place at Pease Auditorium from 3-6pm on Sat, 1/19/19. Keith Boykin, New York Times bestselling author and TV's leading commentator on politics, race, and sexual orientation will be 2019's MLK keynote speaker at 2pm on Monday, 1/21/19 at the EMU Student Center auditorium, 900 Oakwood Street, Ypsi. All the above noted events are free and open to the general public. For more details, contact 734-487-1107 or egold@emich.edu

Upcoming Council Business

Train Stop Town Hall and Format for Public Engagement

The city has released the proposed designs for the proposed train stop in the works. These public plans have been the subject of community and social media discussion for a couple of weeks. City council has proposed a town hall for community input. Town halls have been kind of a go-to method of public engagement. And yet, town halls alone don't reach everyone. So, here is what Council proposes for the train stop plans:

AMTRAK RAIL PLATFORM REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS - DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT PHASES

First public engagement process regarding rail platform feasibility study report findings:

1. SEMCOG facilitated public information meeting (town hall): OHM and Bergman to be present for questions
2. 2 week period of time to accept messages specifically about the design
3. Date: Tuesday, February 19 - Decision TBA by Council on preferred location

Second public engagement process regarding environmental study report findings:

1. SEMCOG facilitated information meeting to present results of environmental study
2. 2-week comment period
3. Decision by city council on next steps in project planning process

Peninsular Dam Removal or Repair decision

Details on the public engagement process for Pen Dam will be released soon. At this time, we have scheduled a similar process for that, beginning with a facilitated town hall with a presentation by both Hydro Electric and OHM (engineering firms who did the removal and repair study, respectively) on Wednesday, February 13, SAVE THE DATE. Details will be forthcoming.



Shout Out to City Clerk McMullen #GivingTuesday Supports Women Leaders

Gifts to the Michigan Municipal League Foundation remove barriers

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan residents can help increase the number of women in leadership positions in local communities through the Michigan Municipal League Foundation’s Nov. 27 #GivingTuesday campaign.

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities and organizations to encourage philanthropy and to celebrate generosity worldwide. Following Thanksgiving, Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday, #GivingTuesday kicks off the giving season by inspiring people to give back.

This year, the MML Foundation’s #GivingTuesday campaign supports the Michigan Municipal League’s 16/50 Project. The initiative is focused on increasing the number of women serving at the most-executive level of government in Michigan.

“Women represent just 16 percent of Michigan’s local chief administrative officers, despite making up more than half the population,” said Melanie Piana, the League’s Board president and a Ferndale council member. “Donations to the 16/50 Project are an investment in the next generation of women leaders.”

Those interested in joining the MML Foundation’s #GivingTuesday initiative can visit mmlfoundation.org/donate. Donors are encouraged to make gifts of \$16.50, \$165 or \$1,650 to support training in:

- Municipal Budgeting and Finance
- Economic Development
- Council-Manager Relations

Frances McMullen has three decades of experience in local government. She has served as interim city manager twice. She has a graduate degree and extensive experience and training.

Now McMullen, the Ypsilanti City Clerk, is working toward her goal of becoming a permanent city manager.

The personal coaching, networking, budgeting, and economic development training she has gotten through the 16/50 Project have prepared her to become a city manager. She encouraged others to make a gift to the campaign to support women in executive local government positions.

“Donors should consider investing in this program to advance women into the management role because this is way past due,” McMullen said. “I believe that if we can start now, if we can get investors believing in the program, we really have the potential to increase the number of women entering the field.”

The additional skills will give women the extra boost they need, she added.

“It’s like saying, ‘Welcome. We want you here.’ It says that you believe in us. You’re willing to invest in us. You trust the future of our government.”

Women around the state can benefit from additional training from current municipal managers so they can build confidence and be truly ready for leadership roles, said Summer Minnick, the League’s deputy executive director and chief membership officer.

“Together, we can provide highly qualified women executives—and those who seek to become them—with the content, tools, and opportunities that can help serve their specific needs,” Minnick said.

The above donation link will remain live, despite #GivingTuesday having passed. You may also make your investment in women candidates by check, mailed to MML Foundation, 1675 Green Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

Your Experience and Opinions are Needed Parking Strategy Survey

We are beginning the work of addressing the parking problems our downtown areas are experiencing. Please help us by [taking this survey](#). Your input will help us make smart decisions and identify needs more accurately. Thank you!

Updates on Past Business

The plaque dedicating the new accessible play structure at Riverside Park to our beloved Liz Dahl-MacGregor will be erected early next week. I will release the date and time as soon as it is available. We will have a ceremony with her family present to unveil the plaque and celebrate just one of her many contributions when it is unveiled.

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