

# THE CITY OF YPSILANTI NEWSLETTER



MAY 2023

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER

Greetings from the City Managers' Office! It's hard to believe it's already May. Let's look at this month as a different chapter for everyone and try to make a difference in our community. Embracing Our Differences is returning to our community in Riverside Park from May through the end of October. Do you recall the vast displays in Parkridge Park and Riverside Park last year? More information about EOD is in the Around Town portion of our newsletter.

I hope most readers could attend at least one of the UMS PILOT Program events at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse; if not, they will return for an entire month of programming in September. Be sure to visit their [website](#) for any updates. The kick-off week was incredible, and here at the city, we're

excited to see what the future holds for our community.

Plenty of indoor and outdoor events are ongoing within Ypsilanti! Please join residents and the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra for the Memorial Day concert at Riverside Park. Refer to the City of Ypsilanti calendar of events to stay informed of upcoming activities. We're so fortunate to have the events and

Again, we're now at Phase 3 for our road renovations in town, meaning the reconstruction of Michigan Ave and the underground water mains. Stay informed of YCUA projects with the [Everbridge app](#). Thank you for being so patient with the construction in town; it may add a few minutes more to your daily commute. The construction project will be here



briefly, and the results will be tremendous for the Ypsilanti community in the big picture.

As mentioned in the April newsletter, The Michigan Recreation and Parks Association awarded the Outstanding Park Design Award to the City of Ypsilanti and the Ypsi-Arbor Little League (YALL) for their work on the Bill Anhut Memorial Field in Waterworks Park. YALL raised over \$12,500 for renovations, with 140 volunteers included to make this possible. We're blessed to have over 95 acres of parks with the incredible support of our Parks and Recreation Department.

Lastly, if you haven't heard the news yet, as of April 20th, Chief Kirk Moore is now a member of our city staff. Based on the selection process, Chief Moore is the best leader for our police force to serve our beloved community. He has expressed his enthusiasm for the future. With support from city staff and the community, I am optimistic that our city is ready to continue making Ypsilanti a safe place to live, work and play.

Staying Connected,  
Frances McMullan



## CITY UPDATES

### HELP US WELCOME OUR NEW EMPLOYEES!



**Chief Kirk Moore**  
Police Chief  
Ypsilanti Police Department



**Rachel Frye**  
Human Resources Director  
Human Resources Department



**Malik Mullen**  
Equipment Operator  
Department of Public Services

Chief Moore holds a Master of Public Administration – MPA Organizational Leadership, a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement Administration from National University, and a Political Science and Government Degree from Tennessee State University. He served as Police Captain for the City of Henderson in the state of Nevada. His skills include Law Enforcement, Community Policing, Crisis Management, and Criminal Intelligence. His priority is learning about the department and its culture and gaining a deeper understanding of the team and organization.

Rachel holds a Bachelor of Science from Eastern Michigan University and a Master's Degree in Human Resource Management from Keller Graduate School of Management. She has served as Human Resource Manager for K-Mart, Human Resource Support Assistant, HR Representative II, Senior HR Representative for Records Administration, and HR Specialist for Workforce Administration at Trinity Health-Human Resource Service Center. Her skills include employee relations, training and development, and interpersonal. She is excited to begin her journey with the City of Ypsilanti, fostering meaningful connections to all within.

Provides tree care for city trees: pruning, disease control, planting, and stump removal; grass cutting, seeding, leaf removal, ball field upkeep and field markings, facility/play equipment repair and maintenance are all included in the upkeep of city parks; performs routine upkeep on city buildings and property locations, such as mowing and snow and ice removal; performs site cleanup, such as mowing and rubbish disposal, and private property protection as directed by the code enforcement officers.

[Click here for job postings at the City of Ypsilanti.](#)

## FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### Firehose Training

In the early afternoon of April 19th, four local fire departments joined for training at the fire station on Michigan Avenue (Ann Arbor Township, Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, and Superior Township). The four departments work together to respond to

incidents in the surrounding area. These united departments are known as automatic mutual aid, meaning all will respond to work as a team in an emergency. On this date, the drill was a hose line deployment organized by Captain Schultz.

The Ypsilanti Fire Department trains

diligently on all tasks they may be called on to perform, including the most basic skills, such as hose line deployment. This helps ensure that the citizens of Ypsilanti receive the service they deserve from the fire department, and this training is crucial for firefighters of experience level to participate in regularly. Since



one or more hose lines are deployed at every structure fire, drills like this ensure that personnel is prepared, and equipment is in working order.



### NDS Testing at YFD

NDS Wellness visited our first responders at the fire station from April 24th to the 26th. The organization had their



onsite trailer set up outside, conducting Cancer, Cardiovascular, and Comprehensive screenings involving tests: Ultrasound, Bloodwork, Skin check, EKG, etc. Each employee will receive their results confidentially within a few days after testing and will be directly contacted with any potential concerns.

[See all the services available.](#)

If you weren't aware, cancer is a leading cause of death among firefighters. Studies show firefighters may have a greater risk of some types of cancer than the general population. Since Firefighters work on 24-hour shifts here in our community, finding time to get testing done can be an obstacle. NDS being onsite over three days

alleviates the hurdle of making an appointment.

Since 2007 NDS has focused on onsite programs for municipalities and self-insured corporations to remove barriers to participating by delivering a program at their place of work. They focus on educating participants regarding health status, behavior change options, and seeking additional care when needed.

The same organization will soon visit our neighbors in Ypsilanti Township, Pittsfield Township, and Superior Township, conducting similar screenings for their fire departments. For any questions or resources, please visit [ndswellness.com](http://ndswellness.com) or contact Nina Carlson at [ncarlson@ndswellness.com](mailto:ncarlson@ndswellness.com)

### BACK IN YPSI: EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES

Starting May 17, Embracing Our Differences - Southeast Michigan will offer no-cost field trips to the Gallup Park and Riverside Park installations for all Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti public schools. The docent-led trips are



already being booked.

Sixty banners will be spread out across the parks. Embracing Our Differences - Southeast Michigan received 40 entries, which were pared down by a panel of local judges in response to a

call for submissions from Washtenaw County residents last year.

Embracing Our Differences Michigan invites everyone for fun activities and entertainment on Sunday, May 21st, from 11 AM to 3 PM at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor. Guests will experience a multi-media event in the middle of public art. Surrounding the event will be 45 giant banners about diversity—the 2023 installation celebrating the diversity of the human family. Each art piece tells a story and stimulates discussion.

### GRASS AND WEEDS - NOTICE TO ALL PROPERTY OWNERS - LOW MOW SPRING

Grass and weeds may not be permitted to grow higher than 12 inches. (ref. Sec. 110-81) Tree limbs and branches shall be maintained a minimum of eight (10) feet above the sidewalks and public right-of-ways (ref. Sec. 110-45). Shrubs, bushes and fence lines shall be maintained in accordance with the Traffic Visibility Ordinance, (ref. Sec. 122-675).

If properties are not in compliance with Sections 110-81, 110-45, and 122-675 of the Ypsilanti City Code by May 25, 2023, the City's independent contractor will be hired to correct the violation, with all costs for services billed to the property owner. Further information may be obtained through the Ordinance Enforcement Division at (734) 482-9626.

#### LOW MOW SPRING

Lawns cover 40 million acres, or 2%, of land in the US, [making them the single largest irrigated crop we grow](#). Lawns are mowed, raked, fertilized, weeded,

chemically treated, and watered—sucking up time, money, and other resources. Lawns provide little benefit to wildlife, and are often harmful. Grass-only lawns lack floral resources and nesting sites for bees and are often treated with pesticides that harm bees and other invertebrates.

When we think of habitat loss, we tend to imagine bulldozers and rutted dirt, but acres of manicured lawn are as much a loss of habitat as any development site.

Re-thinking the American lawn can take a variety of forms from reducing mowing frequency or area mown to permanently converting lawn to a more diverse and natural landscape.

Why mow less in the spring?

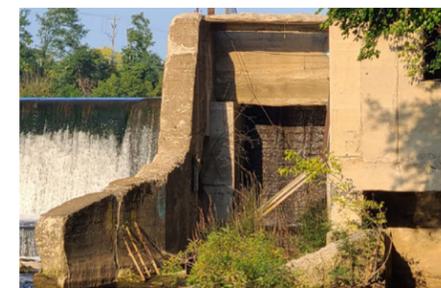
The start of the growing season is a critical time for hungry, newly emerged native bees. Floral resources may be hard to find, especially in urban and suburban landscapes. By



allowing it to grow longer, and letting flowers bloom, your lawn can provide nectar and pollen to help your bee neighbors thrive.

Mowing less creates habitat and can increase the abundance and diversity of wildlife including bees and other pollinators. One way to reduce mowing is by participating in No Mow April, No Mow May, or Low Mow Spring.

### HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL



The Huron River Watershed Council works closely with The City of Ypsilanti, and they recently released a blog post on How to Remove a Dam. Given the current status of the Peninsular Dam, the article is very relevant and informative.

Removing dams is an incredible way to restore a river, but it takes time and careful planning. Thankfully, for the Pen Dam removal project, HRWC is working with a broad coalition of



experts at federal and state regulatory agencies, local municipalities, academic institutions, and local nonprofit organizations. We're excited to remove Pen Dam and restore this

wonderful stretch of the Huron River.

[How To Remove a Dam - Huron River Watershed Council \(hrwc.org\)](#)

## CELEBRATE YPSILANTI'S BICENTENNIAL



Explore [Ypsilanti's timeline](#) over the past 200 years! Learn more about impactful moments in #Ypsi history leading up to this year's celebration.

[Ypsilanti Histories: A Look Back at the Last Fifty Years](#) commemorates the city's bicentennial through a diverse and eclectic collection of essays, written by local professional and amateur historians—book release party: July 16th.

Join upcoming Bicentennial Walking events throughout 2023! Explore Ypsilanti every second Sunday of each month and discover the natural world along the Huron River.

Or take a new guided tour each month and discover Ypsilanti's rich history. These events include visiting historic neighborhoods, the Bicentennial Volksmarch, touring the bridges of Ypsilanti, and more.

The following tours will be led by a Ypsilanti native and resident of one of Ypsi's oldest houses, Stefan Szumko, also known as SlugWhisperer. [Find updates and more information here.](#)

All walking tours will happen rain or shine (unless SlugWhisperer's basement floods or there is a significant chance of lightning).

**Monthly Riverside Rambles Through December, Second Sunday of Each Month - 10am**

We will explore the natural world along

the Huron River for nature nerds of all ages. (2 hours - approximately 1 mile round trip). *April through December* Meet at the pavilion at Waterworks Park (40 Catherine Street)

### Ypsilanti Bicentennial 5K/10K Volksmarch

**May 6, Saturday - 10am**

Created especially to highlight Ypsilanti's history - from Depot Town to Woodruff's Grove, Independence Island to the Water Tower, walkers can purchase a map or walk with a guided group. Meet at the Freighthouse (100 Market Pl)

### Historic Walking Tours: Depot Town and the Historic East Side

**June 25, Sunday - 10am**

After the history walk through Depot Town, we'll walk up and down a steep hill through the east side neighborhoods (2 hours). Meet at the Freight House (100 Market Pl).

### Historic Walking Tours: Cross St/ EMU

**July 23, Sunday - 10am**

Walk from one of the lowest points in the city (Frog Island) to the highest elevation (the water tower) with a quick stroll through the original State Normal College (now EMU). (2 hours). Meet at the Freighthouse (100 Market Pl).

### YHF Historic Home Tour

**August 19 (likely), Saturday-Time TBA**

This event will retrace the route of the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation's first Historic Home Tour in 1978 along N. Huron from Michigan Ave. to Cross St. Participants can walk with a guided group or independently using the annotated map. (1-2 hours). (Start point and date TBD)

### Bridges of Ypsilanti Walk

**September 4, Monday - 10am**

If you count the Tridge as 3, there are 14 bridges within roughly a mile from downtown Ypsi (not including the freeway overpasses). The walking route is just a bit over 10K. The 5K route has 10 bridges. Meet at the Freighthouse (100 Market Pl).

### Ypsilanti Bicentennial 5K/10K Volksmarch

**Fall 2023 - Date TBA**

Created especially to highlight Ypsilanti's history - from Depot Town to Woodruff's Grove, Independence Island to the Water Tower, walkers can purchase a map or walk with a guided group. Meet at the Freighthouse (100 Market Pl)

### Historic District Perimeter

**November 26, Sunday - 10am**

Walk the perimeter of the Ypsilanti Historic District, the 3rd largest in Michigan. Distance is approximately 6K (3 miles). Meet at the Main Branch of the Ypsilanti District Library (229 W Michigan Ave).



## SPONSOR THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION!

BE PART OF AN EVENT 200 YEARS IN THE MAKING!

**CALL FOR SPONSORS**

We want to put on a celebration that captures the joy and vibrancy of our city, and we need your help! Scan the QR code to learn more about the perks of contributing funds for the Ypsilanti Bicentennial plans!

SCAN TO BE A PART OF THE CELEBRATIONS!

## GET TAX CREDITS FOR WORK ON HOMEOWNER-OCCUPIED HISTORIC PROPERTIES

If you are the owner and occupant of a house that contributes to the local historic district or to the National Register district and you are doing work on the house, you may be eligible to receive up to 25% of your rehabilitation costs as a state income tax credit. Please visit [this website](#) for more information, and preservation planner Ellen Thackery is always happy to answer any questions or

### HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Ypsilanti Historic District Commission has two vacancies. Please apply if you are interested in local historic preservation and would like to serve! Applicants must be city residents. You can learn more about being on a commission [here](#). [Apply here](#)

help homeowners with their projects and applications. She can be reached at [ethackery@cityofypsilanti.com](mailto:ethackery@cityofypsilanti.com) and 734.482.9709. Homeowners can apply for this program until all of 2023's tax credits have been reserved.

**Thursday, June 15, 2023, 7 pm, Webinar Info Session: State Historic Preservation Tax Credit**

Architect Mara Lancaster from the

### POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Ypsilanti Police Advisory commission still has open positions. For those who are interested, they meet on the fourth Thursday of every month.

- Monthly presentation from YPD with an overview of stats, department staffing and activities, use of force incidents,

## SOLAR REBATE PROGRAM

**City of Ypsilanti**  
Get money back when you install Solar Power!  
**Grace Sweeney**  
**Solar Rebate Program**

Residents can get at least a \$2,000 rebate for installing solar panels on their homes or business. There is \$80,000 available for rebates for anyone interested, that's enough to accommodate 40 different homes. The project has been named the Grace Sweeney Solar Rebate program and is named for the late Ypsilanti resident and wife of longtime city leader Pete Murdock.

To the businesses in Downtown and West Cross Street, the DDA has made available \$150,000 in solar rebates. Visit [ypsilantidda.com/solar](http://ypsilantidda.com/solar) for more details.

State Historic Preservation Office will present virtually (and answer your questions) about the new historic preservation state income tax credit program. The program is for owners of contributing owner-occupied houses in the local or National Register district. The session is free but registration is required. [Please register at the historic district webpage.](#)

and citizen complaints if any.

- Presentation and discussion of the use of body cameras. You can find YPD policies and procedures involving body cameras [here](#).
- YPAC chair submitted the first annual report to the city council

## JOIN THE ARTS COMMISSION

The City of Ypsilanti currently has open seats for community members to serve on the [Ypsilanti Arts Commission \(YAC\)](#). Commissioners promote the arts in the community, approve art in public spaces, and help foster creative assets and artists in the community. Currently, the opportunity will include overseeing new programs, including implementing a Community and Artist Survey this spring & a new Ypsilanti Youth Poet

Laureate beginning this year. Plus, any other ideas a new member wishes to champion! There are five open seats, including one that is open to a non-city resident. There are also openings for two youth members (age 16-17). YAC is the municipal local arts agency (LAA) in Ypsilanti and created by the City of Ypsilanti in 2020.

[Fill out this online form](#) for the Ypsilanti City Council consideration if you are interested in serving.

## BOARDS & COMMISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

### Arts Commission

Five Commissioners  
Two Youth Members

### Human Relations Commission

Five Commissioners  
Two Youth Members

### Dangerous Bldgs

Dangerous Buildings Officer

### Parks & Recreation Commission

Four Commissioners  
One Youth Member

### Ethics Board

Three Board Members

### Police Advisory Commission

Two Commissioners  
Two Youth Members

### Historic District Commission

Two Commissioners

### Sustainability Commission

Two Commissioners  
Two Youth Members

## NON-MOTORIZED COMMITTEE

Join us for the monthly meeting on the second Thursday of the month, 7:00 PM, at the Ypsilanti District Library, 229 W Michigan Ave.

The City [Non-Motorized Advisory Committee](#) needs Committee members and a youth member. If you have any interest or ideas, contact Bob Krzewinski via email at [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com)

Fill out this [online form](#) if you are interested in the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions.



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATES

### CITY OF YPSILANTI ROLLS OUT NEW SINGLE-SORT RECYCLING PROGRAM

**WE'RE  
ON A  
ROLL**  
**CARTS ARRIVE  
MAY 2023**

Meet your new recycling cart, City of Ypsilanti.



The City will begin rolling out new recycling carts for residents next week as it officially increases its "single-stream" collection service.

With this new carted recycling program, residents will be able to place all recyclable items directly into a new, larger recycling container. The 96-gallon carts will begin arriving at residents' homes on May 8th and continue through the week. The carts will replace the smaller bins currently used for residential recycling and come with wheels for easy maneuvering and attached lids to keep recyclables dry and secure. Current

TO LEARN MORE,  
call **734.483.1421**  
or visit [cityofypsilanti.com/recycle](http://cityofypsilanti.com/recycle)

## CONT. RECYCLING CARTS

commercial or multifamily recyclers currently using red bins can contact the Department of Public Services to make arrangements.

"This is an important step forward in the City's pursuit of sustainability," said Bonnie Wessler, Director of Public Services. "Improving our volume of recyclables collected while keeping our contamination rates low helps us to be able to continue this well-established and valued program."

The City asks that residents continue to do their part by placing only recyclable materials in their carts, including glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans, food and beverage cartons, paper products (including newspapers and flattened cardboard), and empty plastic bottles and containers. To help limit contamination, give food and drink containers a quick rinse and then place them directly into the recycling cart—no sorting needed.

Some items that cannot be recycled include plastic bags, paper towels, pizza boxes, electrical equipment, batteries, and clothing. These items often get mixed into recycling carts because of "wishcycling," or the hope that they can be recycled. While

well-intentioned, non-recyclable items cause serious issues.

The City applied for and received a grant from The Recycling Partnership, an NGO advancing a circular economy in U.S. communities and states. Ypsilanti was selected to receive grant support because of its dedication to advancing recycling in the community. The grant from The Recycling Partnership will provide just over 5,800 new carts and includes funding for education and outreach about the new collection process.

"The Recycling Partnership is excited for Ypsilanti residents to start receiving carts next week. The carts will be easier to use and provide almost 3 times more capacity so residents can recycle more," says Cassandra Ford, Community Program Manager with The Partnership. "We have been honored to work with multiple communities in Washtenaw County, WRRMA and Recycle Ann Arbor to make improvements to the recycling infrastructure and overall system."

For more information on what can and can't go into the cart, [click here](#).

Residents can begin using their new

carts beginning May 15, 2023. The collection schedule will be changing slightly as the City transitions to an every-other week recycling and yard waste collection program due to the increased capacity of the new carts; please check the City's website or call us to see if you're an "A" week or a "B" week. Trash pickup schedules remain unchanged. Residents are welcome to keep their existing red bins.

To find your recycling day, plus answers to other Frequently Asked Questions, [visit our website](#) or contact the Department of Public Services at 734-483-1421, Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm, or by emailing [recycling@cityofypsilanti.com](mailto:recycling@cityofypsilanti.com).

The City of Ypsilanti has 20,000 residents, spans 4.5 square miles, and is known for its rich history, Huron River parks, and as the home of Eastern Michigan University. The City's mission is to work creatively and collaboratively to enhance the natural and built environment so that its population grows and thrives. To keep up with City of Ypsilanti information, subscribe for email updates, and follow us on Facebook.

### Recycling Cart Roll Out FAQ

#### 1. Can I opt out of the program and continue using my red bin?

No. Red bins will no longer be serviced after you receive your new cart.

#### 2. I live in a multifamily or i have commercial pick up. What do I need to know?

Unlike residential homes that will have the bins delivered by us, commercial or multifamily recyclers currently using red bins can contact the Department of Public Services to make arrangements to get theirs. Red bins will no longer be accepted for commercial/multifamily users after the last week of June.

#### 3. What do i do with my old red bin?

It's yours to dispose of as you wish. You can put it out with the trash, just clearly mark it as such.

## DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION UPDATE:

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Environmental Leaders



www.ycua.org

Dedicated to Providing Top Quality, Cost Effective, and Environmentally Safe Water and Wastewater Services to Our Customers

(YCUA) As part of the ongoing dedication to providing top-quality, cost-effective, and environmentally safe water and wastewater services to our customers, YCUA continues to make improvements to both existing water and wastewater utilities within the M-17 and US-12 corridors in the City of Ypsilanti. The improvements are being constructed for YCUA by DiPonio Contracting, Inc. (DiPonio), of Shelby Township, Michigan. OHM Advisors, Inc. (OHM) of Livonia, Michigan, is administering the construction contract and providing full-time, on-site observation of the work by DiPonio on behalf of YCUA.

The final phase of YCUA's project, within or adjacent to Michigan Avenue from Huron Street west to Ballard Street, will start by the first week of May. The scope of work has been revised from the original plan to abandon the existing water main in Michigan Avenue between Huron Street and Washington Street as well as between Adams Street and Hamilton Street. Most properties along the south side of Michigan Avenue between Huron Street and Washington Street will have their water services relocated to an existing water main in the parking lot south of the buildings. Properties along the north side of Michigan Avenue between Washington Street and Adams Street will have their water services connected to an improved water main in the alley and parking

lot north of the buildings. Properties along the south side of Michigan Avenue between Washington Street and Adams Street will be reconnected to a new water main installed under the eastbound lanes of Michigan Avenue. The revised scope of work will lessen disruption to traffic flow along Michigan Avenue.

Access to residences and businesses within the project limits will be maintained at all times during the project. Although every effort will be made to minimize disruptions caused by the water and wastewater system improvements, the construction work will invariably result in some inconveniences.

Similar to the first phase of the project, south of Michigan Avenue, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will follow YCUA's construction completed late last year into Washtenaw Avenue, Hamilton Street, and Huron Street north of Michigan Avenue this year to resurface or repair those portions of the pavement not impacted by YCUA's work in phase 2. MDOT will then follow into the Michigan Avenue corridor following completion of YCUA's utility work. The attached map shows the phasing of the work and anticipated time frame for each phase.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please call YCUA at (734)

484-4600 and ask for Scott Westover, Engineering Manager, at extension 220 or via electronic mail at [swestover@ycua.org](mailto:swestover@ycua.org).

The Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA), the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), and the City will work together to improve the safety of our drinking water and transportation system. This project will affect traffic on Huron from I-94 to Cross; Hamilton from I-94 to Washtenaw; Washtenaw from W. Cross to Hamilton; and Michigan from Ballard to the Huron River.

We're now at Phase 3 for our road renovations in town, meaning the reconstruction of Michigan Ave and the underground water mains. The ongoing construction commencing over the next few months will include renovations to the past phases to ensure the longevity of the current projects.

Patience is vital with this project within our community; prepare for possible back-ups and leave earlier than usual to avoid any delays. The construction project will be here briefly, and the results will be tremendous for the Ypsilanti community in the big picture.

For more information about the road diet project, please visit here. The pavement project will improve and extend the life of the roadways; the road diet project will enhance the safety of the roads for all users.

Resources:

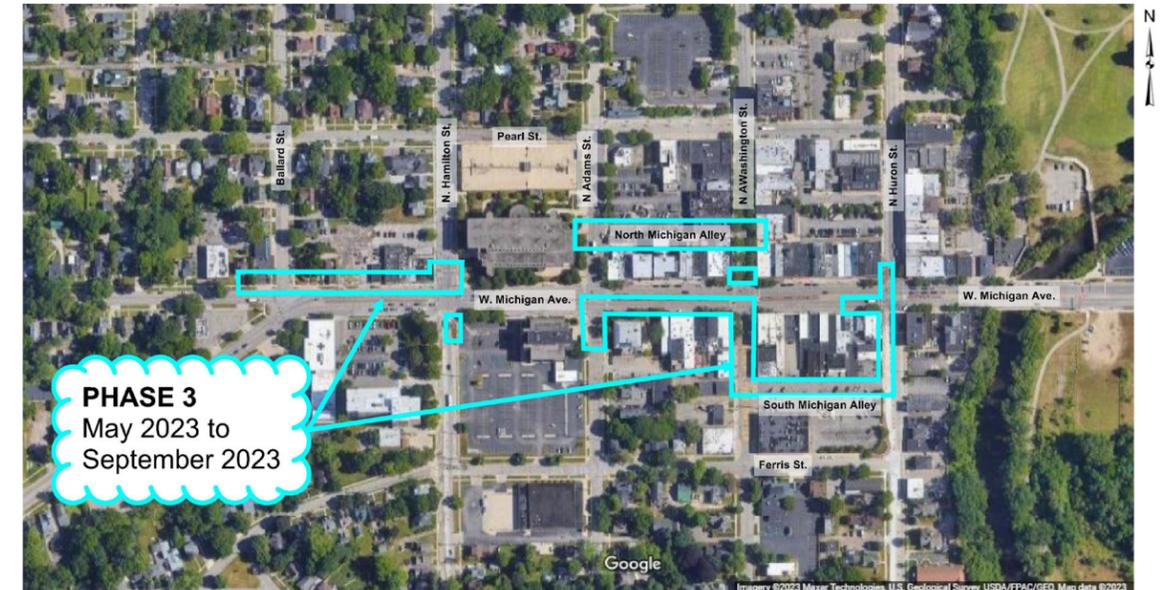
-Please visit our website at [Ypsilanti Road Renovations | Ypsilanti, MI](https://www.ycua.org).

-Stay informed of YCUA projects with the [Everbridge app](#).

-Traffic shifts and closures on Hamilton, Huron, Michigan, West Cross, and Washtenaw are posted to [MDOT's Mi Drive Site](#).

## 2023 CONSTRUCTION MAP

### YCUA US12/M17 Water Infrastructure Improvements



PHASE 1 AND 2 IS COMPLETE



## ARBOR DAY TREE GIVEAWAY

Arbor Day was April 28th, In celebration of Arbor Day 2023, the City of Ypsilanti has partnered with Washtenaw County Conservation District to give away 200 trees to City

residents! **\*\*\*While supplies last**

Residents may choose between Black Hills Spruce or Black Cherry; these trees will be approximately 2 to 3 feet

tall.

[To request your tree, please visit this website](#) or scan the QR Code.

# Arbor Day Tree Giveaway

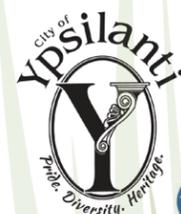


SIGN UP HERE

In celebration of Arbor Day 2023, the City has partnered with the Washtenaw County Conservation District to give away 200 trees to City residents!

Residents will have a choice of Black Hills Spruce or Black Cherry; these trees will be approximately 2-3 ft in height.

Visit [cityofypsilanti.com/trees](https://cityofypsilanti.com/trees) or scan QR Code to sign up.



## DDA BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The DDA Staff and Board meet monthly to discuss various things that make Ypsilanti uniquely Ypsilanti. You can attend meetings every third Thursday at 8:30am (Freighthouse Cafe - 100 Market Pl.) or you can catch the minutes and packets online [HERE](#).

### Approved:

- Memorandum of Understanding with First Fridays Ypsilanti
- Special Event Sponsorships for: Ypsi glow, Rumble of the Bumble, Big Little Fair, Beautifypsi, 4th of July Parade, All Hallows Eve, Ypsi Jazz Fest, Ypsi Pride, Juneteenth, YDL Downtown Events, Depot Town Halloween, independent Film Festival Ypsilanti
- Dumpster cleaning contract renewal with Zoelife Environmental
- 2023 landscaping contract with DJ's Landscaping
- Bicentennial Billboard design, printing, and installation

### Discussed:

- Downtown Construction Phase 3

## DDA STAFF OFFICE HOURS

We are here offering open hours every THIRD Friday of the month 10-2pm. We will be rotating locations throughout each district.

Friday May 19th, you can find us at Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea - 735 W. Cross St. Though you can always schedule with us, we wanted to make sure that stakeholders have more ways to connect with us.

- Get updates on the previous days board meeting.

- Learn what the DDA is, how it functions, and how to get involved.
- Discuss the DDAs strategic priorities and its equity and accessibility.
- Starting, expanding or relocating a business to the DDA district.
- Learn how the DDA is different from the City Government and how it relates to the City Government
- Learn about upcoming projects/

- past projects
- Listen /discuss/ share ideas on how to improve the DDA landscape, organization, programming
- Learn about grants or sponsorships we offer
- Get help with a grant or sponsorship we offer
- Get help navigating City processes (planning, permits, etc)
- Get connected to other DDA businesses/organizations/events



**APPROVED:**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH FIRST FRIDAYS YPSILANTI

SPECIAL EVENT SPONSORSHIPS FOR:  
YPSI GLOW, RUMBLE OF THE BUMBLE, BIG LITTLE FAIR, BEAUTIFYPSI, 4TH OF JULY PARADE, ALL HALLOWS EVE, YPSI JAZZ FEST, YPSI PRIDE, JUNETEENTH, YDL DOWNTOWN EVENTS, DEPOT TOWN HALLOWEEN, INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL YPSILANTI

DUMPSTER CLEANING CONTRACT RENEWAL WITH ZOELIFE ENVIROMENTAL

2023 LANDSCAPING CONTRACT WITH DJ'S LANDSCAPING

BICENTENNIAL BILLBOARD DESIGN, PRINTING, AND INSTALLATION

**DISCUSSED:**

DOWNTOWN CONSTRUCTION PHASE 3

## AROUND TOWN

### FIRST FRIDAYS IS MAY 5TH!



First Fridays Ypsilanti is a self-guided art and culture walk event that happens on the First Friday of each month.

#### Created for artists, by artists.

FFY venues provide free events: art openings. live music. art workshops. performance arts. discounted prices and more!

#### 22 North

22 N Huron; 5-9p  
Women's Caucus for Art Michigan: Seeds of Change Resilience  
Seven EMU grad students in fine and graphic arts present work in a variety of media.

#### Betty Green Salon

25 N. Washington St; 6-8p  
Containers of Love: The Ceramic Arts of Jenn Cooper  
Join one of our newest stylists, Randall Stephan, as she hosts the lovingly made functional ceramic arts of Jenn Cooper. We are so excited to have Jenn in our space for Mental Health Awareness month as each piece of pottery is designed for everyday use and appreciation. Hor d'oeuvres and beverages will be available.

#### Bridge Community Cafe

217 W Michigan Ave; 6-10p  
Poets for GEO (recommendend donation of \$10)  
Poets4 is a monthly fundraising event hosted around poetry readings by local performers and arts vendors. Poets for GEO [P4G] responds in solidarity to the latest labor demands from U-M's Graduate Student Employees' Organization and aims to raise donations for the GEO Strike Fund. Reading will start at 7 pm.

#### Corner Health Center

47 N. Huron St; 5-6:30p  
Paint at the Corner  
Stop by the Corner for some free popcorn and painting. Learn about our programs while you create your own masterpiece! As always, the clinic will also be open for walk-in vaccines and std/pregnancy testing, if needed.

#### Evenstars Chalice

36 N. Washington St; 5-8p  
Meet Lorraine U'Ren of Raingems Designs  
Lorraine is a local Ypsilanti jewelry make who has beautiful handcrafted semi-precious & gemstone jewelry. She's a real "stone whisperer" and works with the properties and energetic qualities of the stones & crystals - making aesthetically beautiful, powerful and supportive pieces.

#### First United Methodist Church Ypsilanti

209 Washtenaw Ave; 5-8p  
Small World Shop Open House  
The Small World Shop displays art work, jewelry, clothing, coffee, chocolate and other products at a fair and just price from SERRV International and Equal Exchange. Also, our beautiful and historic sanctuary will be open for all to enjoy.

#### Hinton Real Estate

36 N Washington St; 5-7p  
Free Raffle Giveaway  
Stop in to say hi, and enter the free raffle for amazing gift baskets and cool prizes!

#### Keystone Bar and Arcade

200 W. Michigan Ave; 8p-12a  
Friday night karaoke (21+)  
DJ Big Booty is at Keystone to play the songs you love to sing!

#### MAIZ Mexican Cantina

36 E. Cross St; 11a-12a  
Cinco De Mayo  
Come celebrate Cinco de Mayo @ MAIZ Mexican Cantina! We will be offering food and drink specials ALL DAY! Happy Hour 10pm-Midnight

#### The Mix Fitness Studios

306 N. River St Ste C; 4:30-6:30p  
Mixn' with a Purpose (Suggested donation \$5 per class)  
We'll have a Rock Your Pride painting party for all ages! We'll also be offering mini 15 minute classes with all donations being made to support Ypsilanti Pride! 4:30 Pilates • 5:00 Queer Strength • 5:30 Mix Total Body • 6:00 Intro to Bounce

#### Riverside Arts Center

76 N. Huron St; 8-11p  
Riverside Swings  
Learn to swing dance! Every Friday at Riverside Arts Center in the 2nd floor dance studio. FREE beginner lesson 8-9pm, open dancing 9-11! FREE on First Fridays!

#### Riverside Park

2 E. Cross St; 6-9p  
Putt in the Park  
Enjoy the spring weather with Grit & Grace Ladies Disc Golf Club and Ypsi Dubs Putting League for our first disc golf putting course in Riverside Park! We'll have a short 6 hole putting course that is fun for beginners and pros! Never disc golfed before? No problem! Club members will be there to show you how it's done!

#### The Rocket Candy & Novelties

122 W Michigan Ave; 5-8:30p  
FFY Official Merch Stop  
Get your First Fridays merch here! All proceeds benefit FFY!

#### Stone & Spoon + The Gallery at Stone & Spoon (upstairs)

110 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p  
Spring Artisan Maker's Market  
This Spring Market will feature the works of five local artists: Asha Candle Co., The Fancy Philodendron, Anusree Sattaluri, Wonderful Art & Designs, & Bird Dog Bakery. It's the perfect opportunity to purchase the unique and handmade goods you've been looking for to gift the ones you love for Mother's Day!

#### This, That & the ODDer things

50 E. Cross St; 5-9p  
MACRAMANIA!!! in the house  
Dawn Matyzius has developed her skills with colorful cord, wool roving and yarn over the years and has recently fallen back in love with her craft. Her busy life as a nurse has found Peace; working on her macrame plant and wall hangings and even hanging furniture is a wonderful creative outlet for her.

#### Triple Goddess Tasting Room

93 Ecorse Rd; 7-10p  
Paint Your Own Mandala Sun Catcher  
Color Your Own Stained Glass Mandala Window  
Cling! 1 Free per person! Drink some UV Kombucha Beer or Tea and relax with friends in the coolest vibe in town!

#### Unicorn Feed & Supply

144 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p  
"More Drag Queens, Less Guns" Pop-Up & Fundraiser with EmbyTees  
Join us for a very special pop-up & fundraiser event with EmbyTees! Shirts, stickers, and tote bags will be available for purchase. First come, first serve. A portion of all sales will be donated to the Tennessee Equality Project.

#### WAVE (Washtenaw Alliance for Virtual Education)

301 W. Michigan Ave; 5-7p  
WAVE Student Showcase  
WAVE is an alternative public high school of Washtenaw County. We welcome you to come see the amazing things our students have created. Partake in a gallery walk through our lab space to see an incredibly diverse showcase of student work - murals, independent artworks, coding projects, podcasts, creative writing, videos, and more!



## CONT. FIRST FRIDAYS - MAY 5TH

### Wyrd Byrd

9 S. Washington St; 8-10:15p  
Wyrd Movie Night - *The Wicker Man* (1973) (Rated R - 18+)

Join us as we watch *The Wicker Man* (1973). We move things around at close and put out chairs. The film begins at 8:15 pm but space is limited so get here on time to get a seat! Bring your own snacks/drinks!

### Ypsi Art Supply

76 N Huron St; 5-10p  
*Life is Hard. Art Can Help.*

Along with the shop being open with all of its yummy art supplies & artist's life-related stickers, pins, and prints, we are hosting a community art project where visitors can add a words to the shop windows in chalk marker that answer the question, "How does art make life more tolerable for you?"

### Ypsilanti District Library: Michigan Avenue Library Plaza

229 W. Michigan Ave; 5-6:30p  
*First Friday Storytime at YDL!*

Each month we will do a storytime, an art experience, and music and movement in the Library Plaza. May's Storytime Theme: Flowers The saying is April showers bring May... flowers! This month's craft will be creating a bunch of paper flowers- some with a special surprise in the middle! In case of severe weather we will have our event inside!



### Ypsilanti Freighthouse

100 Market Pl; 5-9p

*Rest In Peace Self Care Fair & Artisan Market*

This May, we're celebrating First Friday with a focus on mental health, wellness, body positivity, and self-love. This market is free to the public to attend, and features local artists, makers, tarot readings, art activities, and more.

### Ypsi Thrift Shop

14 S. Washington St; 1-8p

*Celebration of Moms*

Moms come in wonderful varieties! Moms of children, Moms of moms, Moms of pets, and Moms of gardens of Mother Nature! In the immortal words of James Brown- Does "Momma need a brand new bag"!?! Please join us, we've saved purses and handbags, AND treasures of pearls and sterling silver for your selection!!

## THE RIDE COMMUTER CHALLENGE



Returning this year is TheRide's Commuter Challenge on May 1st! [Learn about the challenge](#) and find out how you can win prizes by trying alternative commutes.

The Commuter Challenge encourages individuals and coworkers to try

alternative modes of transportation to work besides driving alone. The goal of the Commuter Challenge is to help community members become more inclined to commute via walking, biking, carpooling, vanpooling, and taking the bus in May and after the competition.

## YPSI 9TH HOUR

Calling all Jedis! (...and entrepreneurs, business professionals, independent contractors, and more ...)

Ypsi 9th Hour falls on May the 4th this year – and we couldn't resist a bit of Star Wars fun. Please join us as we convert SPARK East into our very own Mos Eisley Cantina for Ypsi 9th Hour, an after-work social scene of networking and camaraderie!

Sponsored and co-created by BOS and Ann Arbor SPARK East Innovation Center, this after-work networking scene is for anyone looking to socialize



in a casual, relaxed atmosphere with complimentary refreshments. [Register Today!](#)

## YPSI FARMERS MARKET - OPENING DAY!

2023 Farmers Market Opening Day: Join vendors, musicians, activities, and more on May 6th from 9 AM - 1 PM at 100 Rice St.

We'll be there with fresh, local goods and produce every week until November.

## Ypsilanti Farmers Markets 2023

### Tuesday Online Preorder

Order Thurs-Sun for pickup on Tuesday from 3-7pm



[growinghope.net/ypsi-area-online-market](http://growinghope.net/ypsi-area-online-market)

### Saturday Open Air Market

Shop in person in Depot Town Saturday 9am-1pm



Use your EBT/P-EBT Card in person or online!



## Y ART: A YCS STUDENT EXHIBITION



Join Riverside Arts Center and Ypsilanti Community Schools as we celebrate the opening of this special exhibition: Y ART: YCS Student Exhibition. Experience the fabulous and creative work of YCS's students.

The Gallery and opening reception **CAN I HELP YOU, TOO?**



Neighborhood Theatre Group is putting years of work serving, stocking, taking calls and taking crap to good use in the re-boot of their sketch comedy musical "Can I Help You, Too?" Now with new songs, new sketches and a new cast that explores, exposes and exalts the chaos and comedy

will be held in the North Gallery. The opening reception will occur on May 11th, from 4:30 – 6:30pm. Refreshments will be provided. The exhibition runs from May 11th to June 5th, 2023.

of the modern American service industry!

May 12-14 and 19-21 Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 PM, Sundays at 2:30 PM at The Back Office Studio (13 N Washington St, Ypsilanti)

\$12 online, \$15 at door, \$10 Students [Purchase Tickets Here.](#)

Join us after the Friday evening performances for a social hour with the cast and crew!

Directed by Marisa Dlugé | Music Direction by Kristin Anne Danko

## FREE SEEDLINGS!

Free Summer Seedling Distribution: Get ready to plant! Growing Hope is hosting our second seedling distribution of the season on May 13th from 2 PM - 5 PM at Growing Hope Urban Farm (922 W. Michigan Ave).

Some of the seedlings you'll be able to pick up include: bunching onions, yellow onions, flowers, carrots, herbs such as catnip, savory, rosemary, thyme, lettuce, pac choi, kale, spinach, cilantro, chervil, sage, arugula, broccoli, beets, and cabbage.

## YPSI FINE ARTS CLUB



Announcing Riverside's Ypsi Fine Arts Club

Inspired by the [Detroit Fine Arts Breakfast Club](#), Riverside is looking forward to providing a space for local artists to showcase their work, talk about their process, and maybe even sell a piece. We are proud to announce the start of Riverside's Ypsi Fine Arts Club.

The first and third Wednesday of every month, artists can bring two pieces of original art to present. Artists, art lovers, collectors, curators - everyone

## CONT. YPSI FINE ARTS

is welcome from Ypsi and beyond! Attendees are not required to present. Anyone is welcome to simply gather with our community and enjoy the incredible artwork. If you would like to present work,

you must arrive and sign up by 6pm. Presentations occur on a first-come-first-served basis. Doors open at 5:00 pm and presentations start at 5:30 pm.

Ypsi Fine Arts Breakfast Club's inaugural meeting will open on May 17 at 5:00 pm in the Off Center (64 N. Huron). Following this event, Riverside's Ypsilanti Fine Arts Club will meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month (excluding holidays), from 5:00pm-8:00pm.

We highly encourage you to attend the Detroit Fine Arts Breakfast Club Mondays at Marygrove College in Detroit. They take place every Monday from 5:30pm-8:00pm (doors at 4:30) except holidays. Check out their social media for more information and updates.

## COMMUNITY BBQ

On Friday, May 19th, 2023, from 3-7 PM at Riverside Park in Ypsilanti

Whether you are a mentor, a mentee, a supporter, or simply someone who loves a good BBQ with good people and is curious about A Brighter Way, we welcome you to join us at our annual Community BBQ.

No registration is required. Show up and enjoy!

A Brighter Way empowers formerly incarcerated individuals returning to our community to achieve purpose-filled lives with the guidance of a supportive, experienced team. For any questions, please get in touch with [community@abrighterway.org](mailto:community@abrighterway.org).

## WALK & WAG AND RUN



PRESENTED BY TOYOTA & SUBARU of ANN ARBOR

44TH ANNUAL Humane Society of Huron Valley

Let's GET them HOME!

Walk & Wag and Run

Saturday, May 20th, 2023

ME-OW too!

It's the Biggest Pup Party of the Year!

ROLLING HILLS COUNTY PARK • 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Walk & Wag is fun for the whole family: run, walk with your dog, enjoy a day of festivities, or fundraise from home — all in support of homeless and abused animals in our community.

Register at [hshv.org/walkandwag](https://hshv.org/walkandwag)

[Hshv.org/walkandwag](https://hshv.org/walkandwag)

Saturday, May 20th, from 8 am-1 pm at Rolling Hills County Park, Ypsilanti

Voted "Best Outdoor Event" in Best of Washtenaw

Walk, wag, and run to save animals! Together we can get them all into homes! Every dollar you raise for Walk & Wag assists in the rescue, care and new beginning for the most vulnerable animals right here in our community.

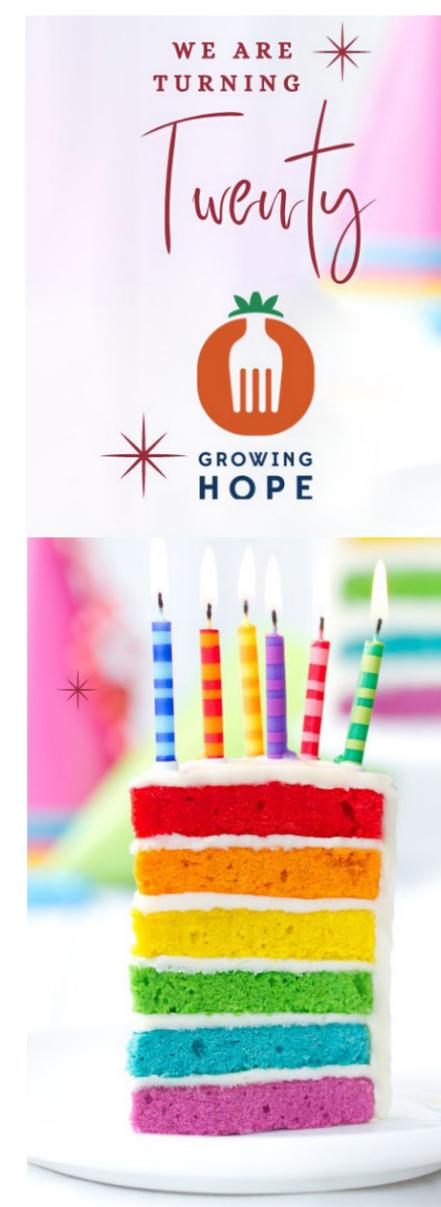
Plus, Walk & Wag is the best pup party of the year! Join us May 20th to celebrate your fundraising success with

a 5k run, mile walk, Kids' Dash, dog diving, yummy food trucks, and tons of dog-and-kid-friendly activities. You won't want to miss it!

Walk & Wag is presented by Toyota and Subaru of Ann Arbor.



## GROWING HOPE'S 20TH



WE ARE TURNING

Twenty

GROWING HOPE

20th Birthday

Growing Hope's 20th Birthday: May 21st, 4 PM - 7 PM, 922 W. Michigan Ave. Ypsilanti, MI.

Growing Hope's 20th Birthday: May 21st, 4 PM - 7 PM, 922 W. Michigan Ave. Ypsilanti, MI.

Whether you've been with us from the beginning or just a few weeks, we'd love to have you join us for a fun, casual celebration. We'll have food from our friends at FedUp, in addition to light deserts and drinks, tours of the farm, farmhouse, and marketplace, a bounce house, rock painting, party games, the smoothie bike, and lounging in the garden for all. This event is free and open to all. We look forward to celebrating with you!

## YCS KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE



YCS

CLASS OF 2036

Kindergarten

Enrollment begins February 1, 2023

Open Houses

Apr 27 & May 24 (3:00-4:00 pm)

Perry 550 Perry Street p: (734) 221-1701

Ford 2440 Clark Rd p: (734) 221-1801

YC<sup>2</sup> 1076 Ecorse Rd p: (734) 221-1696

Apr 27 & May 24 (4:45 - 5:45 pm)

YIES 503 Oak Street p: (734) 221-2400

You will need the following to enroll:

- Birth Certificate
- Immunization Records
- Proof of Residency
- Parent ID
- Your Child

Appointment Sign up



Kindergarten enrollment is open. Ypsilanti Community Schools has great options for our families. Stop by one of our open houses to learn more, or email [Records@ycschools.us](mailto:Records@ycschools.us) with any questions.

[Find more info about enrollment here.](#)

YCS

## POPS IN THE PARK

Mestro Adam C. Riccinto and the Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra (YSO) will celebrate the conclusion of a successful 2022-23 season with their much anticipated annual "Pops in the Park!" concert over Memorial Day weekend. The free outdoor concert will be held at Ypsilanti's Riverside Park Pavilion at 2 PM on Saturday, May 27th, with a rain date of Sunday, May 28. Music lovers of all ages are invited to bring a chair or blanket and celebrate the start of summer as they enjoy a concert of popular and family-friendly favorites. The orchestra will also be joined by special guests and audience favorite Gemini. The Ann Arbor-based duo, consisting of brothers Sandor and Lazlo Slomovits, has been performing as Gemini since 1973, playing music from all over the world and engaging audiences of enthusiastic children and families throughout the US and Canada. They also perform with Sandor's daughter Emily as "Gemily" (Gemini + Emily), offering a wide range of traditional and contemporary folk, jazz, and classical music for all ages.

"The Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra is looking forward to celebrating the end of another fantastic season by sharing music in the park with our community," said Music Director Adam C. Riccinto. "And we are excited to welcome back Gemini, a big favorite with our audiences both young and old, and a frequent partner at our May outdoor concerts. Come join

## YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY EVENTS IN MAY

### Ypsilanti District Library Events

In the first session on **May 4** from 1 PM - 2:30 PM (YDL Whittaker), Seeds Planted will talk about our legacy as it stands and how it does or does not match the gift we'd like to leave. Where have you been? How have you lived? What stories do you expect to be told about you after you're gone?

Are there other stories you hope might be said, too? In the second session (May 25th), Fruit Shared, we'll talk about how you can cultivate your legacy during this season of your life.

On **May 6th** (YDL Michigan) from 4 PM to 5 PM, EMU Professor Christine Hume will discuss her new non-fiction book, Everything I Never Wanted

us for this Memorial Day weekend tradition!"

To add to the festivities, concert-goers can also check out the Children's Entrepreneur Market while they are in Riverside Park from 2-5 p.m. This outdoor market, run by young people and hosting vendors ages 5 to 16, is designed to support child and youth entrepreneurs as they develop small

**YPSILANTI**  
Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra Season Finale Concert

**CHILDREN'S ENTREPRENEUR market**

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**  
Support children and their small businesses!

**VENDORS ARE AGES 5-16**

**May 27, 2023**  
**2 PM - 5 PM**

**Riverside Park**  
2 E. Cross Street  
Ypsilanti MI 48197

YPSILANTI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

businesses.

The YSO will perform "Pops in the Park!" on Saturday, May 27 at 2:00 p.m. at the Riverside Park Pavilion, 2 East Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI, 48198. Rain date is Sunday, May 28 at 2:00 p.m. at Riverside Park. Tickets are free.

More information about the YSO can be found at [www.ypsilantisymphony.org](http://www.ypsilantisymphony.org) and on Facebook.

to Know, which addresses issues of women's bodies, bodily autonomy, and more. For this collaborative discussion, she has invited writer and multimedia artist [Aisha Sabatini Sloan](#), who teaches Creative Non-fiction at the University of Michigan. There will also be open time for Q+A.

On **May 13th** from 1 PM to 4 PM (YDL

## CONT. YDL - MAY EVENTS

Superior), Join fellow creatives to paint a 650 sq. foot ground mural outside of the youth department. Artists will collaborate to bring this design to life in one afternoon. All supplies will be provided along with snacks and free commemorative t-shirts (while supplies last). In the event of rain, the event will be postponed to 1 pm on Saturday, June 24th.

Annual Book Sale (YDL Whittaker) Book sale prices are \$1 for hardcovers, 25¢ for paperbacks, and 50¢ for over-size paperbacks. On **May 21st**, bags of books will be available for \$4, and

some books will be sold for a reduced price. The hours are below. May 18th from 6-8 PM will be a members-only preview sale. Memberships will be available for purchase at the door, so it's the perfect time to join the Friends and help make library events possible!

**May 18th: 6 PM - 8 PM** (members-only sale)

**May 19th: 11 AM - 5 PM**

**May 20th: 11 AM - 3 PM**

**May 21st: 1 PM - 4 PM**

Looking for cool new threads? Trying to declutter after staying in all winter?

On Wednesday **May 25th**, from 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Join us in the downtown library plaza for a Spring All Ages Clothing Swap to find something new and connect with others in our community. All ages and sizes are encouraged to attend. Registration is not required but is encouraged for those bringing clothing. Leftover clothing will be donated to the Ypsilanti Thrift Shop. Questions? Contact Shoshanna ([shoshanna@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:shoshanna@ypsilibrary.org)) or Madelynne ([mrivenbark@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mrivenbark@ypsilibrary.org)).

## YPSI PRIDE



Ypsi Pride is back after a year of rest!

Due to construction, the Downtown event will be held in Depot Town for a bigger, bolder, and brighter kick-off to Pride Month.

Ypsi Pride will take place during First Fridays Ypsilanti on June 2nd from 4-10pm. There will be tons of vendors, live music and performances, and activities for the whole family.

Come support Ypsi huge and vibrant LGBTQ+ community!

Line-up forthcoming.

[Facebook Event.](#)

## MOMS DEMAND ACTION



Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense will be cleaning up outside the Freighthouse on Saturday, June 3, from 10 AM - 2 PM (or until we're done). We'll plant flowers, rake the gardens and wear Orange t-shirts to mark our 'non-violence' weekend. Community members are welcome to join us. Bring work gloves and a rake if you've got them! For any questions or to get involved, contact Rochelle Igrisan at [igrisanr@gmail.com](mailto:igrisanr@gmail.com).

## ZION WELL PRIDE YOGA



Zion Well will be hosting its 3rd annual Pride Yoga and Wellness event in the park. At this event, we host local mental health vendors, wellness businesses, and other resources that support the LGBTQIA2+ community and beyond. Look forward to an all-levels yoga class, temporary tattoos, music and giveaways. Proceeds will support Ozone House, a local non-profit providing housing assistance to at-risk youth.

Date/Time: June 4, 9:30-11:30 AM  
Location: Riverside Park, 5 E Cross St,  
Itinerary for the event:  
9:30 am: Arrive and get checked in  
10 am: Welcome + Yoga Class  
11 am: Wellness fair + giveaways  
11:30 am: Event ends  
[Find Tickets Here.](#)

## YPSILANTI JAZZ FESTIVAL - 2023

**YPSILANTI FREE**  
**2023 JAZZ FESTIVAL**  
 Riverside Park-Ypsilanti, MI  
 6-9 p.m. (Show starts at 7 p.m.)

**July 1:**  
**LADY SUNSHINE & THE X-BAND**  
 HOST: Cherisa Allen & Taryn Willis  
 Girl Power Night

**July 8:**  
**DETROIT RSVP ALL STARS**  
 HOST: Big Dooley  
 Pop-Up Shop Night

**July 15:**  
**JIBREEL JOHNSON**  
 HOST: Monica Bass & Kim Smith-Bass  
 UAW Night

**July 22:**  
**NO SHOW**  
 YCS Jazz In The Parking Lot  
 At Shadford Field

**July 29:**  
**SEAN DOBBINS**  
 HOST: Cherisa Allen & Taryn Willis  
 Divine 9 / Black Org Night

**August 5:**  
**ALLEN DENNARD**  
 HOST: Keith Paul Jason  
 Children's Entrepreneur Market

For Sponsorship and Vendor Information  
 Email- [ypsijazzfest@gmail.com](mailto:ypsijazzfest@gmail.com)  
 Phone-734.485.8889  
 Office Address -105 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

### 3RD ANNUAL FUN FEST

This year's Fun Fest will be the 3rd annual event. Once again, at the Frog Island Amphitheater this year on Saturday, August 12th, run by Taylor Greensheids. We asked him to provide some information about the event and his involvement:

"I have been hanging around Ypsi for about ten years now, and for so long, my friends and I have sat around Frog Island and said, 'Wow, wouldn't

it be awesome to have a show on this stage?!" I got tired of saying that repeatedly and decided to put together the first Fun Fest in 2021.

I am an Audio Engineer/Musician and run a local Audio Production company called Fundamental Sound Co. (this is where I got the "fun" part of Fun Fest). I record, mix and produce many local bands and feature them at the festival!



I am very excited about year 3 of the festival; after the first two years, word has spread, and people are more aware of the event.

For over ten years, I have been working behind the scenes as an engineer, helping amplify artists' voices so they can be heard and make a difference. This festival is just another opportunity to showcase exceptional talent in our community.

But it's not just about music; every year, we have the soccer field at frog island filled with dozens of local vendors. We sell everything from artwork to vintage clothes, jewelry, food, live painting, and more. Last year we had a bounce house for the kids as well! So there's something fun for everyone! This year's artist lineup and flyer will be announced SOON!

It's a free festival, but there is a suggested donation to pay for the bands and cover expenses. My goal is to be able to keep it a free festival and make it accessible to everyone. Frog Island is a park anyone can enjoy, so even if you randomly walk up to the festival, you can still enjoy it.

Lastly, I want to touch on the feeling and vibe created when you get the community together and celebrate art, music, and connection. There is so much talent in this area, but sometimes there needs to be a place to showcase it. Such festivals like this are an excellent way to give talented folks a platform to do their thing!!!"

### COUNTY CLEAN-UP DAY

County Clean-Up Day (Ypsilanti)  
 ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023

Registration opens on July 14, 2023.  
[Register here.](#)

This year, registration will be required to attend any County Clean-Up Day event. This change will allow us to better serve residents by spacing out event traffic arrival time. This strategy will significantly reduce wait times and reduce carbon emissions caused by idling cars at events.

Registration for each event will open six weeks before the event and close one week before the event or when all slots are filled.



#### Accepted Items:

- Appliances
- Bulk Waste
- Electronics
- Household Hazardous Waste
- Scrap Metal
- Tires (limit of 10 tires, agricultural tires cannot be accepted)

## RESOURCE CORNER

### FREE HOME IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH WASHTENAW COUNTY

The Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development is offering FREE weatherization services to county homeowners and renters. The program aims to help residents lower their utility bills through home improvements. Clients who apply now can expect to have their homes serviced before the end of 2023.

To apply, [visit this website](#), or call 734-544-3008 if you have any questions.

Examples of services we perform are:

- Energy audit to help decide what work needs to be done
- Insulation, ventilation, furnace replacements, and HVAC safety checks
- Air sealing and weather stripping

We DO NOT perform:

- Window and door replacement

Persons in family/household	80% HUD Area Median Income*
1	\$62,600
2	\$71,550
3	\$80,500
4	\$89,400
5	\$96,600
6	\$103,750
7	\$110,900
8	\$118,050

### RIVERSIDE SWINGS!

**RIVERSIDE SWINGS**  
**FRIDAY NIGHTS**  
 9PM-11:30PM  
 All ages  
 All skill levels  
 \$5 General Admission  
 \$4 Students  
 8PM-9PM  
 Free beginner lesson

Learn how to swing dance!  
**Where:** 2nd-floor dance studio, Riverside Arts Center 76 N Huron St, Ypsilanti  
 All ages and experience levels welcome! [Facebook Page](#)



*Weatherization Works*

- Most electrical and plumbing work
- Gutters, steps, and porches
- Mold remediation and cosmetic repairs

You must have a before-tax income of 80% of the HUD Area Median Income to qualify. You automatically qualify for the program if a member of the household has received Supplemental Security Income (SSI), State Disability Assistance (SDA), and cash benefits through the Family Independence Program (FIP) within three months of application.

## PAST-DUE WATER BILL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE NOW!

Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development is offering past-due water bill assistance through the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). LIHWAP creates water accessibility widely throughout Washtenaw County by providing direct water utility payments to qualifying households with an outstanding balance. Applications are now open for qualifying households to apply for

up to \$1,500 in water arrearage relief and 90 days of guaranteed service.

Qualifications include:

- Be a residential account holder
- Have water arrearages or disconnection notice
- Households at or below 150% of the Federal Poverty Limit or automatically qualify are a part of select programs such as Temporary Assistance for Needy

Families, Social Security Income, State Emergency Relief, Food Assistance Program, or SNAP.

- Applicant's water provider must be providing

To learn more information, check if your provider is participating, or to apply, [click here](#), or contact Arieona Klaus at [klaus@washtenaw.org](mailto:klaus@washtenaw.org) or 734-554-6721.

## CITY CALENDAR - MAY 2023

FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFO CLICK [HERE](#)

## PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

ALL HELD AT CITY HALL - 1 S. HURON UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

May 1 - May 5, 2023  
Double Trash Week for Spring 2023

Arts Commission Meeting  
May 11, 2023, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Historic District Commission  
May 23, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

City Council Meeting  
May 2, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting  
May 15, 2023, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Police Advisory Commission  
May 25, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Sustainability Commission Meeting  
May 8, 2023, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

City Council Meeting  
May 16, 2023, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Memorial Day - Administrative Office Closed  
May 29, 2023, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Historic District Commission  
May 9, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting  
May 17, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

## EVENTS AND RECREATION CALENDAR

### Senior Center

1015 N. Congress

[Register HERE](#) for fitness classes

All other inquiries, email [info@ypsiseniorcenter.org](mailto:info@ypsiseniorcenter.org)

#### RECURRING EVENTS

Art	Bingo	Euchre	Gentle Fitness
12:30-2PM May 5, 19, 26	12:30-2PM May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	12:30-2PM May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	10:30-11:30AM May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Gentle Fitness	Knitting/Crochet	Norwegian Therapeutic Massage	
10:45-11:45AM May 5, 12, 19, 26	12:30-2PM May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	12-1PM May 5, 12, 19, 26	
Memory Cafe	Tai Chi Class		
2-4PM May 9	2:30-3:30PM May 4, 11, 18, 25		

### Parkridge Community Center

591 Armstrong Dr.

#### RECURRING PROGRAMS

After-School Programming  
4-7PM  
Monday - Thursday through June 8th  
[More info here.](#)

### Freighthouse

100 Market Pl.

#### PUBLIC EVENTS

First Fridays Ypsilanti : Rest in Peace: Mental Health Awareness Artisan Market  
May 5: 5-9PM

Bourbon Fest ([ticketed](#))  
May 13: 4PM

Ypsi Flea & Swap  
May 14: 10-3PM

Voce Velata Woven Soundscapes ([register](#))  
May 22: 7pm

## SEECICKFIX

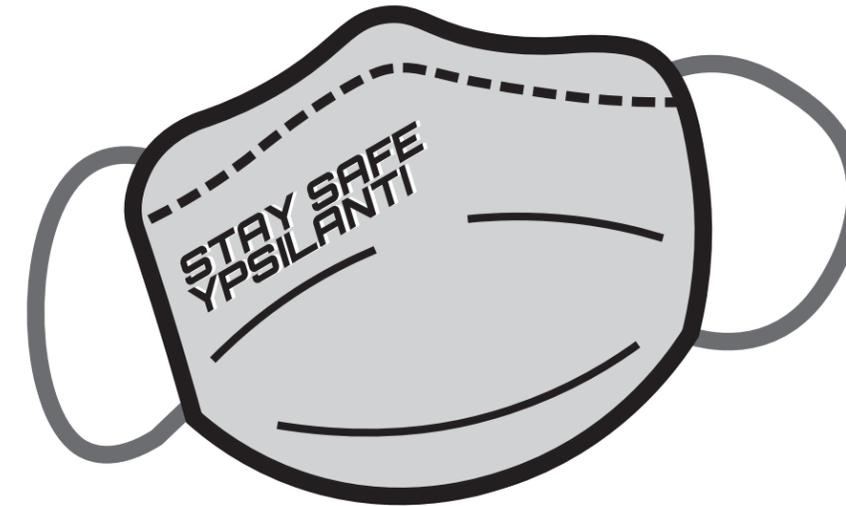


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BROKEN PARK EQUIPMENT AND PUBLIC FACILITY ISSUES, POTHOLES, DEAD TREES OR BRANCHES, ABANDONED VEHICLES, GARBAGE, BLIGHT, BROKEN SIDEWALKS, ICE & SNOW, PESTS, GENERAL ORDINANCE ISSUES & MORE.

SEARCH **YPSI CONNECT** IN YOUR MOBILE APP STORE TO GET STARTED!



Do you have something happening in the city you'd like to share in the monthly newsletter? **MUST BE IN OR RELATED TO THE CITY OF YPSILANTI.**

Email your article to [tkoch@cityofypsilanti.com](mailto:tkoch@cityofypsilanti.com)

**Submissions are due on the 15th of each month.**



City Hall 1 S. Huron St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Phone: 734-483-1100 Hours: Monday - Friday: 8am-4pm [cityofypsilanti.com](http://cityofypsilanti.com)  
Compiled by: Tom Koch, Newsletter design by: Elize Jakobson