

THE CITY OF YPSILANTI NEWSLETTER



JULY 2023

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER

Greetings from the City Manager's Office, and happy July, everyone! As the weather is getting hotter every day. I want to share [all of the cooling centers here in Washtenaw County](#). We all must stay hydrated and take breaks when exposed to direct sunlight.

Also, I want to thank everyone who attended our Juneteenth celebration! We had perfect weather for the event and a fantastic turnout. It's been incredible to see the event growing each year already looking forward to next year's Juneteenth event and the ideas for programming. Thank you to everyone involved for making it a safe, joyous experience.



Mayor Nicole Brown, Police Chief Kirk Moore, and City Manager Frances McMullan at Juneteenth.

Independence Day, or the 4th of July, is a memorable holiday celebrating our country's freedom. We still have a long way to go, but we are making progress each day. I want to remind everyone to be safe and respectable

when celebrating. City Hall will be open to the public on Monday, July 3rd but closed on the 4th and will resume regular business hours on Wednesday, July 5th, at 8 AM. If you're available, be sure to join in with our annual parade marching down Cross Street to Depot Town. We have a special event this year; the Bicentennial Commission will unveil a time capsule from 1973. Find information on the event held at Riverside Park at [Ypsi200.com](#).

The Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority – or [TheRide](#) – is teaming up to offer free bus rides every weekend through Summer for anyone who presents their library card. From June 10th to August 27th, ride any of TheRide local fixed-route buses for free every Saturday and Sunday.

See [The Free Ride Weekends](#) for more information. Public transit is available to everyone, and with the construction season underway, please consider using commuting alternatives.



Lastly, the Ypsilanti Community County Clean-Up Day will be held this year on August 26th, 2023. Registration is required to attend any County Clean-Up Day event. Sign-up begins six weeks before the event (July 14th). If interested, please see more information in the Around Town portion of the City of Ypsilanti Newsletter.

Staying Connected,
Frances McMullan



Juneteenth Celebration in the S. Huron Lot in Downtown Ypsilanti.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATES

RECYCLING AND YARD WASTE REMINDER

2023 Collection Schedule

Garbage Collection

Garbage is collected weekly.

Recycling Collection – A Week

Recycling is collected every other week.

Recycling Collection – B Week

Recycling is collected every other week.

Yard Waste Collection

Yard Waste is collected every other week.

Holidays

Collection schedule is adjusted for these holidays:

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 29
- Independence Day – Tuesday, July 4
- Labor Day – Monday, September 4
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 23
- Christmas Day – Monday, December 25
- New Years Day – Monday, January 1



TO LEARN MORE,
call **734.483.1421**
or visit cityofypsilanti.com/recycle

May

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

June

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	

September

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December

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

July

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

October

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

January 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Recycling and Yard Waste B Week kicks off the first full week of July. Just keep in mind that trash, yard waste, and recycling will be a day behind for people on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday because of the Independence Day Holiday on Tuesday. [Recycling and Yard Waste Pickup Schedule](#).

With the new recycling cart program, we'd like to remind you of items we can't accept curbside. We call those items contaminants. If our crews notice contaminants in a cart, we will not pick up that cart that week. Also, please remember we're no longer accepting items in the red bins or placed alongside the carts; everything must be within the cart to be picked up. Do you still need a cart or have additional questions?

Visit cityofypsilanti.com/recycle for information.

Common contaminants:

Metal items - Please take to the [Drop-Off Station](#) or another recycling partner:

- Scrap metal
- Paper-Please place in the trash:
 - Shredded paper
 - Plastic or metal tabs, binders, transparencies, carbon paper, or tissue paper
 - Pizza boxes

Cartons or Containers

- Must be empty, rinsed, and clean
- No loose straws or caps

Bottles & Jars of any color

- Must be empty, rinsed, and clean
- No other glass products, including Pyrex or glass storage containers.

[Please visit the website](#) for a reminder of accepted materials.

Please note that we cannot accept materials placed outside the cart, and that if our pickup crews see material that we cannot accept curbside in your cart, we will not pick up the cart.

Material placed outside the cart we cannot accept for three reasons. First, because it's safer for our employees and reduces the risk of injury associated with bending and lifting. Next, because it reduces the likelihood that recycling can be blown around the neighborhood, becoming litter. Finally, and most importantly, because it reduces contamination. Wet paper and cardboard products cannot be recycled and are considered contaminants. Piles of material next to

CONT. RECYCLING



garbage and recycling may also be contaminated further by passers-by, even if dry. Material that cannot be recycled are considered contamination. If we take a highly contaminated load to the recycling facility, it will be rejected. When a load is rejected, the

tons of recyclable materials that have been collected that day will be put into the trash, and the City may be assessed an additional fee. In order to ensure that we can continue curbside recycling, we must reject non-recyclable materials. [The Recycle Ann Arbor Drop Off Station can accept for recycling all the items we accept curbside, plus many additional items.](#)

City of Ypsilanti residents are eligible to sign up for a pass to use [Recycle Ann Arbor's Drop-Off Station](#) at a reduced rate. Commercial entities are not eligible for this pass. Please fill out the [electronic form](#) to sign up for a pass. Paper forms and same-day passes are available at City Hall or the Department of Public Services during normal business hours.

The Recycle Ann Arbor Drop-Off Station accepts the same items the City accepts curbside, plus the items

on the below list.

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Plastics (#1, #2, and #5 only)
- Metal
- Glass food and beverage containers
- Up to 3 bags of textiles
- Automotive and rechargeable batteries
- Up to 5 gallons of motor oil
- Up to 5 gallons of vegetable oil
- Oil filters
- Styrofoam
- Plastic bags

The Drop-Off Station accepts more items for recycling and disposal but charges additional fees to accept them. Please check their website at [recycleannarbor.org](#) or call (734) 971-7400 for a current list of items they accept and fees.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE(S)

The [Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority \(YCUA\)](#), the [Michigan Department of Transportation \(MDOT\)](#), and the City are working together to improve the safety of our drinking water and transportation system.

Downtown Construction

We're now at Phase 3 for our road renovations in town, meaning the reconstruction of Michigan Ave and the underground water mains.

The contractor continues to work to install the water mains on Michigan Ave, and Currently, it is closed to Eastbound Traffic at Hamilton. The suggested detour is Hamilton to Catherine or Harriet, to Huron back to Michigan Ave. We understand the inconvenience this is causing and are looking forward to the completion. For Updates, please visit the city website at [Ypsilanti Road Renovations | Ypsilanti, MI \(cityofypsilanti.com\)](#).

Huron River Drive Closed From LeForge to Cornell

As part of this reconstruction, we plan to add sidewalks to the north side, upgrade crosswalks at Cornell, Oakwood, and LeForge, and convert



a travel lane to a center turn lane, resulting in safer travels for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

At this time, we suggest that people walk through campus if able to. This project will affect traffic and those using the sidewalk along North Huron River Drive from Cornell to LeForge.

A substantial part of the project will occur over 2023, pausing for the winter months and targeting completion in the Spring of 2024. For updates, [please visit our website.](#)



CONT. CONSTRUCTION

Forest Avenue Bridge

The Forest Bridge over the Huron River will be closed beginning on July 5th, and will be closed into the fall for rehabilitation work. This work will include deck patching, shallow concrete deck overlay, pier cap replacement, bearing replacement at pier, approach reconstruction, guard-rail replacement, slope paving repairs, and sidewalk (including sidewalk widening on the south side to accommodate the Border to Border Trail), as well as necessary related work. This project is largely funded by a competitive grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation's Local Bridge Fund.

Miscellaneous Permit Work

Various utilities and private contractors are performing work within the rights-of-way this summer. Please drive, bike, and walk carefully around areas of active work, and don't cross through construction barriers of caution tape.

Patience is vital with these projects 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, and the water main projects will ensure that we have safe

and clean water for years to come.

[More information about the road diet project.](#) 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.

Additional Resources:

- Stay informed of YCUA projects and any outages in your area with the [Everbridge app.](#)
- Traffic shifts and closures on Hamilton, Huron, Michigan, West Cross, and Washtenaw are posted to [MDOT's Mi Drive Site.](#)

CONSTRUCTION AT PARKRIDGE PAVILION

In Parkridge Park, we're currently in the process of replacing the concrete slab under the pavilion and adding an accessible, ADA-compliant walkway from the Community Center sidewalk to the walking path. The pavilion work is planned to be completed by mid-July, and the walkway is planned to be completed by mid-August. This work is funded largely by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administered by Washtenaw County, with a portion from City funds.



BICENTENNIAL UPDATES

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.

BICENTENNIAL COMMUNITY PICNIC AND TIME CAPSULE



YCUA Crews digging up the capsule for the grand opening on July 4th. The capsule was buried by the Water Tower in 1973.

On July 4, 2023, we are excited to open Ypsilanti's Sesquicentennial time capsule, originally buried on July 8, 1973 to celebrate 150 years of Ypsilanti's incorporation. To continue the celebration, this treasure will be opened this year during Ypsilanti's Bicentennial celebration- 50 years later!

The time capsule is scheduled to be opened immediately following the Fourth of July parade in Depot Town for all to enjoy.

The parade begins at 11am on the corner of Oakwood and Cross Streets and ends at Rice Street in Ypsilanti's Historic Depot Town.



Y P S I L A N T I

4th of July Parade

BICENTENNIAL COMMUNITY PICNIC

★ TIME CAPSULE OPENING CEREMONY ★

LIVE MUSIC from THE SPACEHEATERS & THUNDERBUCK RAM

FACE PAINTING ★ LEMONADE LANE ★ DEENIE the CLOWN

★ TOUCH-A-TRUCK ★ LAWN & WATER TOYS ★

12-3PM AT RIVERSIDE PARK following the parade

CELEBRATING 200 THROUGH ART & CULTURE WITH FIRST FRIDAYS AND RAC

First Fridays Ypsi venues will be celebrating the Bicentennial on July 7th! The Bicentennial Commission will be selling shirts at Sidetrack Bar and Grill from 5-7pm. T-Shirts are \$20, Long Sleeve Shirts are \$25, and Hoodies are \$40. Be sure and stop by for your Bicentennial merchandise!

Two notable anniversaries are also happening this year. First Fridays Ypsilanti is celebrating TEN years, and Apple Annies Vintage (29 E. Cross) is celebrating FORTY FIVE years of business in the same exact location in Depot Town. They are offering buy one get one for Forty Five Percent Off during First Fridays! You can find the full First Fridays event listing in the around town section of this newsletter.

MAIZ Mexican Cantina
36 E. Cross St; 6-8p *Family Fun Night*
Join us for Family Fun Night at MAIZ in celebration of the Ypsilanti Bicentennial. From 6-8pm we will have free face painting, games & prizes! For adults: Available all day is the Ypsi-Panty Dropper, our take on the Pink Panty Dropper, in homage to the famous "Ypsilanti Lady" of the Ypsilanti Underwear Company.

Stone & Spoon
110 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p *Everything Ypsi!*
Join us as we celebrate Ypsilanti's Bicentennial Celebration with 23% Off ALL Ypsi-themed products here at Stone & Spoon! We will also be sampling S.Tea.P Iced Tea!

Ypsilanti Freighthouse
100 Market Pl; 5-9p
Two Cents: Ypsi Bicentennial Artist Market
The "Two Cents" Market is a celebration of Ypsilanti's bicentennial, and will feature a variety of local vendors selling unique and handmade goods. To parents: Some vendors may carry work that features artistic nudity and adult language.



RIVERSIDE ARTS CENTER

Keeping it Weird
Celebrating 200 Years of Ypsilanti Greatness

Call for Art
Submit by July 31, 2023

OPEN CALL: This year, Ypsilanti is celebrating its bicentennial. As a part of that celebration, Riverside Arts Center will showcase the talent and creativity of our community in the RAC North Gallery. There are many unique people, places, and things that set Ypsilanti apart from other cities. The purpose of this exhibit is to tell stories about the city, our community, and all of the reasons we love to call Ypsilanti home.

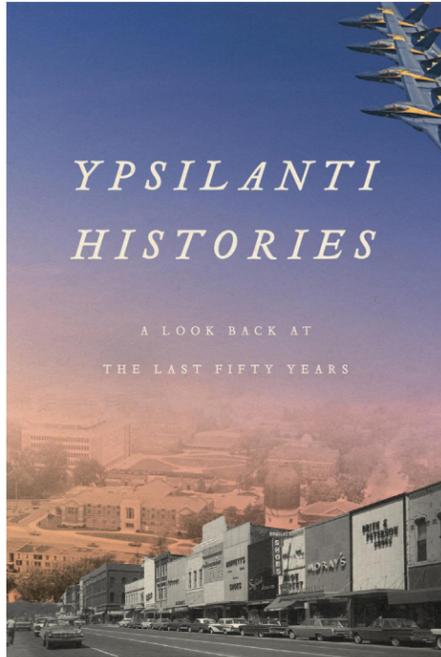
Riverside Arts Center is looking for Ypsilanti based artists or artists that have created work that is Ypsilanti-centric. This exhibition will be juried by RAC staff and community members.

The application deadline is July 31st at midnight. There is no application fee.

Exhibition Dates: 9/1/23-10/29/23

[Click here for more details on the call for art and to submit.](#)

BOOK RELEASE AND WALKING TOURS



On July 16th, at Ypsilanti District Library (Whittaker), The Bicentennial Commission release their book [Ypsilanti Histories: A Look Back at the Last Fifty Years](#).

The book commemorates the city's bicentennial through a diverse and eclectic collection of essays.

These essays are written by local professional and amateur historians, Ypsilanti Histories profiles the institutions, businesses, community organizations, neighborhoods, and individuals that have made Ypsilanti a unique place to live, work, and learn over the past half-century.

Join us for the book release party!

BICENTENNIAL WALKING TOURS

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)

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.

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 Historical Society Walking Tour

August 20, 2023; Noon to 5:00p.m. The Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation's Bicentennial Historic Home Tour will feature a number of homes along N. Huron St., highlighting the best examples of the various architectural styles popular throughout the city's history. The tour will start at the Towner House located at 303 N. Huron St. In celebration of Ypsilanti's Bicentennial, there will also be a VIP ticket option which includes food and drinks at the Newton of Ypsilanti, 220 S. Huron St. Free parking is available at the First Presbyterian Church - 300 N Washington St. Ypsilanti, MI 48197

[Link to purchase tickets.](#)



Since 1977, Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation has proudly showcased our community's wealth of historic architecture and heritage. This year's 43rd tour will showcase the inside and outside architectural treasures found on Huron Street built from 1836 to 1921, sharing the results of historic preservation and investment in Ypsilanti.

WALKING TOURS

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).

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!

BICENTENNIAL
1823 2023
CITY OF YPSILANTI

OTHER CITY UPDATES

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS! - ARTIST SURVEY

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS!

Community and Artists Survey Outreach Consultant

The City of Ypsilanti, through the Ypsilanti Art Commission, will organize and solicit a grant-funded survey of the Ypsilanti community in 2023. The Community and Artists Survey will be

open to city residents and local artists. The intent is to collect information from the community about the arts to inform the Commission in its role with the City, share this information with

local, state and national arts organizations and provide some insight on the arts in Ypsilanti at this particular time.

A temporary outreach consultant is requested to assist with the implementation through outreach to increase participation and to organize the results.

[More information at this link.](#)



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 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.

City of Ypsilanti
Get money back when you install Solar Power!
Grace Sweeney
Solar Rebate Program
Forty \$2000 solar rebates available to any resident, business, non-profit in the City. Ten \$5000 solar rebates available for homes in the Heritage Park neighborhood which can be stacked for a total of \$7000 per solar installation.

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.

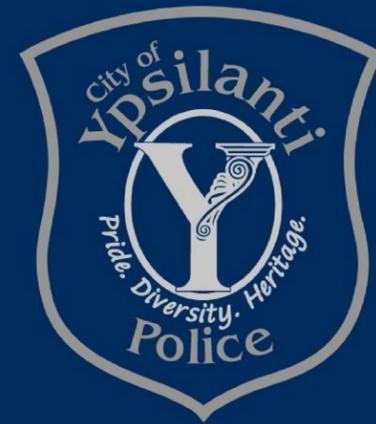
To the businesses in Downtown and West Cross Street, the DDA has made available \$150,000 in solar rebates.

Visit ypsilantidda.com/solar for more details.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Gun locks can be picked up at the Ypsilanti Police Department front desk. Please take a few moments to stop by and grab a FREE device that could save the life of a loved one.



The Ypsilanti Police Department wants to remind our community that we offer gun locks to anyone needing them. Thanks to a donation of locks from Project Child Safe, we can provide these locks FREE of charge.

Starting June 30th, 2023, [a new law will take effect](#) in Michigan regarding cell phone use while operating a motor vehicle.

Under this new law, the following things are not permitted: Send or receive a phone call. Send, receive, or

view a text message. View, record, or transmit a video. Access, read, or post to a social networking site.

Please note that this is not a catch-all list, and we encourage you to read the entire law (MCL 257.602b) to avoid any citations.

NEW HISTORIC STATE TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

In June, architect Mara Lancaster from the State Historic Preservation Office presented about the new historic state tax credit program.

We've posted the webinar [here](#) so you can watch on demand.

The program is for owners of contributing owner-occupied houses in the local or National Register district, and owners of eligible properties can receive a state income tax credit for up to 25% of their estimated qualified

expenses. Please visit miplace.org for more information, and contact preservation planner Ellen Thackery with questions at 734-482-9709 or ethackery@cityofypsilanti.com. The credits for homeowners will be open until the program maximum has been reached.

Please visit the [Historic District Website](#) for general information and updates about the historic district.

HELP US WELCOME OUR NEW EMPLOYEES!



Benjamin Reichow
Police Officer
Ypsilanti Police Department

Patrols City of Ypsilanti, preserving law and order, responding to calls and complaints, taking the

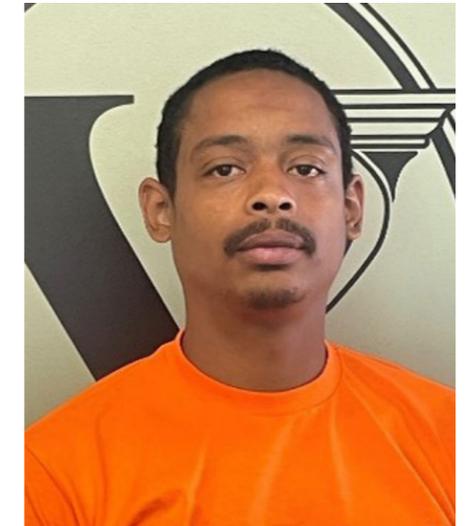
necessary police action; conducts preliminary investigations; establishes traffic control and protection at incidents which attract crowds; performs police duties at special events and activities, such as parades, festivals, sporting events, and performs daily routine maintenance and safety inspections.

YouXue Liang
Clerk-Finance Generalist
Finance Department

Assists with collecting payments, preparing tax/delinquent roll, preparation of late notice letters,

processing bankruptcies and memos to City attorney, prepares quarterly census report, maintains

residential parking permit spreadsheets, collects cash transactions for the City or other taxing units for taxes, special assessments, fees and charges, permits and other city revenues; assists in election process, including voter registration, processing absent voter ballots, and election preparation.



Brandon Knox
Equipment Operator
Department of Public Services

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.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Arts Commission

Four Commissioners
Two Youth Members

Dangerous Bldgs

Dangerous Buildings Officer

Ethics Board

Three Board Members

Fire Civil Service Commission

One Commissioner

Historic District Commission

Two Commissioners

Human Relations Commission

Five Commissioners
Two Youth Members

Parks & Recreation Commission

Four Commissioners
One Youth Member

Police Advisory Commission

One Commissioner
Two Youth Members

Sustainability Commission

One Commissioner
Two Youth Members

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



NEWS FROM THE DDA

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](#).

NOTE: WE DO NOT MEET IN JULY. SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

Approved:

- Equity Needs Assessment Results from Thrive and Shine Consulting.
- Extension of the Ad Hoc Committee for Equity and Inclusion.
- Facade Grants for 36 N. Washington, 10 N. Washington, 118 W. Michigan, and 17-21 E. Cross.
- Accessibility Update Proposal for the DDA website from Invisible Engines
- ExploreYpsi Marketing Materials from Yiftee
- Landscape and Business Portrait RFP's

Discussed:

- Occupancy Certificates and Business Licenses



JUNE 15, 2023

APPROVED:

- EQUITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT RESULTS
- EXTENSION OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION
- FACADE GRANTS FOR 36 N. WASHINGTON, 10 N. WASHINGTON, 118 W. MICHIGAN, AND 17-21 E. CROSS
- ACCESSIBILITY UPDATE PROPOSAL FOR WEBSITE FROM INVISIBLE ENGINES

- EXPLOREYPSI MARKETING MATERIALS FROM YIFTEE
- LANDSCAPE AND BUSINESS PORTRAIT RFP'S

DISCUSSED:

- OCCUPANCY CERTIFICATES AND BUSINESS LICENSES

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 July 21st, you can find us at Bridge Community Cafe (217 W. Michigan Ave.)

- Get updates on the 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,

CONT. DDA STAFF OPEN HOURS

- 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
- Hang out and talk about life with

some likeminded Ypsi loving people.

- And More!

AROUND TOWN

REIMAGINE WASHTENAW VIRTUAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Since 2014 the City has been working with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Ypsilanti Township, Pittsfield Township, the City of Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County, the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study, and other partners to improve how Washtenaw Avenue functions for all users in an effort called [Reimagine Washtenaw](#).

This Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study conducted by MDOT is the first step in seeking federal funding for the project, by updating, reaffirming, and fine-tuning the findings and the goals of that Reimagine Washtenaw effort.



Please visit the MDOT PEL website at www.tinyurl.com/washtenawpel to learn more about Washtenaw, evaluate proposed designs, and provide your feedback!

HOLIDAY TRANSIT SCHEDULE



The Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority ([TheRide](#)) will not operate fixed-route bus service, [FlexRide](#) East/West, or [A-Ride](#) services on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. [Regular Service](#) will resume on Wednesday, July 5. The Blake Transit Center, Ypsilanti Transit Center and TheRide's Main Office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 and will re-open on Wednesday, July 5.

[More information.](#)

SPACE QUEST! A NEW MUSICAL

July 6,7,8 at 7:30 PM
&
July 9th at 1:30 PM
At Riverside Arts Center



In the Summer of 2023, Northern Town Parodies will be debuting their Original New Musical: "SpaceQuest!". Set "long, long ago in a galaxy not-too-far away," an ordinary couple is thrust into the middle of the galactic conflict when their ship is stolen by a pair of smugglers and a wizard. The five of them must journey across the cosmos to save the galaxy. "SpaceQuest!" is a fast-paced, action-packed, new comedy musical that takes Space Operas and High Fantasy and morphs them into one.

Tickets are available at [Space Quest! A New Musical Tickets, Multiple Dates | Eventbrite](#)





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!

NEW THIS YEAR! FIRST FRIDAYS IN THE PARKS SERIES

FRIDAY, JULY 7

Frog Island Park
669 Rice St; 9-11p
First Fridays Movie Night
A Wyrd movie night in the park. Please join us on Frog Island for a free outdoor showing of *Fantastic Planet* (1973)! This film is rated PG and may contain content not suitable for young viewers (those under 13). Viewer discretion is advised. Hosted by Wyrd Byrd. Check out their shop at 9 S. Washington St.

Riverside Park
2 E. Cross St; 6-9p
Putt in the Park
Ever try disc golf? Now is your opportunity! Come borrow a disc and try your hand at playing our 9 hole pop-up course in Ypsilanti's Riverside Park! Grit & Grace Ladies Disc Golf Club and Ypsi Dubs Disc Golf Club have united to organize this one day only beginner friendly course. We are here to help guide you as you play along with us and learn the basics of the sport. Discraft has graciously sponsored this occasion so we will have special First Friday stamped Discraft putters for sale! We'd love to welcome you to the adventure of disc golf! Come check out our course from 6-9pm in Riverside Park. Participation for the course is free of charge.

JULY VENUES:

22 North
22 N Huron; 5-8p
Valerie Mann: Good Grief
Serious, uplifting, and moving, Valerie Mann's serious, moving, and uplifting installations explore collective and individual grief during the time of COVID, reflecting on "closing off, opening up, solitude, vulnerability and joy."

Apple Annies Vintage
29 E. Cross St; 4-9p
Celebrating our 45 years in Depot Town
We are celebrating our heritage and forty five years of business in the same exact location in Depot Town. We are offering buy one get one for Forty Five Percent Off!!!

Bellflower
209 Pearl St; 11p-2a
Bellflower After Hours Tiki Pop-Up
Come out for Bellflower's second After-Hours Pop-up: Tiki Edition! We will be staying open late for cocktails, wine, and N/A drinks as well! Jams will include a mix of surf rock, exotica, Hawaiian and more! There will be a best dressed contest, so come out in your best tropical garb for the chance to win a sweet gift from Bellflower!

Betty Green Salon
25 N. Washington St; 6-8p
Midsummer First Friday
We will have snacks and a wine bar while you chat with our two wonderful feat. artists! Help save the ocean when you purchase a cute hand crafted crochet marine animals by Stacie Benison, creator of Happy Little Whales. William Mandela Matthews seeks to explore the power, strength and duality of Black America.

Bobby's
22 E. Cross St; 4:30-9:30p
Grand Opening!
Bobby's is finally opening! We're a boutique salon owned by an experienced stylist who lives up the street. Pop in to experience our cozy and inviting atmosphere. Grab a product sample or a quick glass of bubbles while you're here. We can't wait to greet you!

The Deep End Cafe & Gallery
310 Perrin St; 9a-6p
Healing Deep with Artist Jasmine Bruce
This event is free and open to the public. We invite everyone to come enjoy fresh drinks and delicious food while exploring the wonderful art on display by multidisciplinary artist Jasmine Bruce. All art is for sale and there will be plenty of good music and wavy vibes here in THEDEEPEND. @jasminebruceart

Keystone Bar and Arcade
200 W. Michigan Ave; 7:30p-12a
Friday night karaoke (21+)
Dj Big booty will be playing all your favorites to sing along to until midnight!

The Love Stand
315 N. River St; 6-10p
The Smeat Frog Festival
Join us at the Love Stand for free music from SDE, Herb-One and Messy J & Codini with Kolorblind. There will be refreshments, a Smeat Frog Statue made of Milk Crates, a Car Wash to sponsor Ozone

House, as well as participatory art!

MAIZ Mexican Cantina
36 E. Cross St; 6-8p
Family Fun Night
Join us for Family Fun Night at MAIZ in celebration of the Ypsilanti Bicentennial. From 6-8pm we will have free face painting, games & prizes! Available all day is the Ypsi-Panty Dropper, our take on the Pink Panty Dropper, in homage to the famous "Ypsilanti Lady" of the Ypsilanti Underwear Company.

Riverside Arts Center (2nd Floor Dance Studio)
76 N. Huron St; 8-11p
Riverside Swings
Learn to swing dance! FREE beginner lesson 8-9pm, open dancing 9-11! FREE on First Fridays!

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
110 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p
Everything Ypsi!
Join us as we celebrate Ypsilanti's Bicentennial Celebration with 23% Off ALL Ypsi-themed products here at Stone & Spoon! We will also be sampling S.Tea.P Iced Tea!

Tipsy Ypsi
5 S. Washington St; 6-9p
DIY Paint Party and Karaoke
Join us from 6 pm to 9 pm for Ypsi's greatest DIY paint party. Come in and Karaoke for free! Painting prices range from \$10 - \$20, so there is something for everyone!

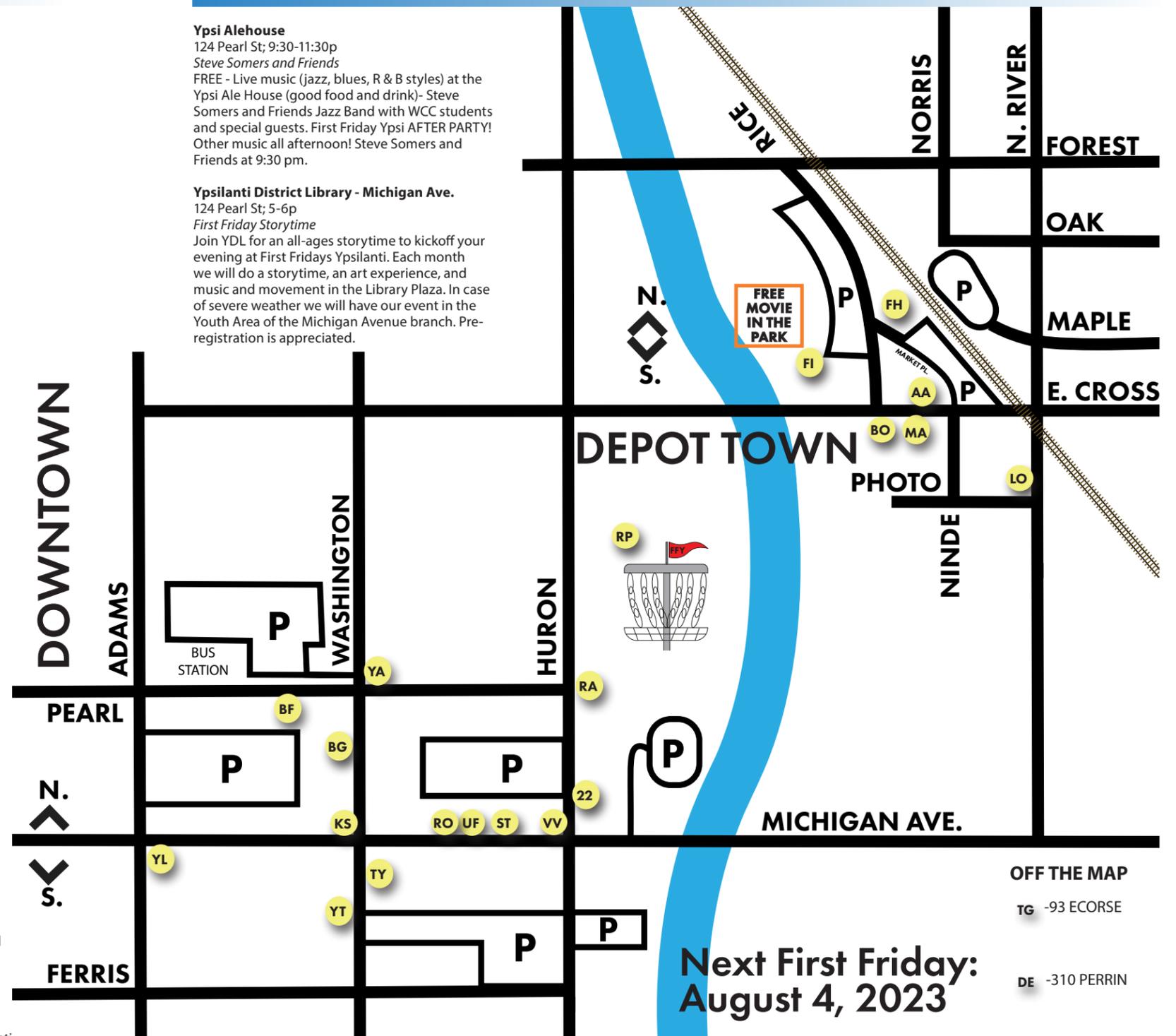
Triple Goddess Tasting Room
93 Ecorse Rd; 8-10p
AK Lackadaizical & Super B wsg/Cactus Williams, Jr.
Enjoy tunes from Richard Richman as he is making his Tye Dyed, Country Fied, Jugband, Blues way in to the solo circuit! Kandy Fredrick is gonna try to bring you some classic rock tunes! And then get yourself ready for some major rock n' roll vibes with AK Lackadaizical & Super B wsg/Cactus Williams, Jr!

Unicorn Feed & Supply
114 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p
Bubble Tea Pop-Up with Poppin's of Ypsilanti
Join us for an extra special POP-UP with Poppin's Tea of Ypsilanti for all of your boba dreams! Poppin's will be offering multiple flavors of their vegan boba tea as we celebrate another amazing First Friday in Ypsilanti!

Valkyries of Valhalla
100 W. Michigan Ave Suite A; 2-8p
First Friday Specials
\$20 Aura Photos and \$25 Mini Tarot Readings. Free Crystal with Purchase

Ypsi Alehouse
124 Pearl St; 9:30-11:30p
Steve Somers and Friends
FREE - Live music (jazz, blues, R & B styles) at the Ypsi Ale House (good food and drink)- Steve Somers and Friends Jazz Band with WCC students and special guests. First Friday Ypsi AFTER PARTY! Other music all afternoon! Steve Somers and Friends at 9:30 pm.

Ypsilanti District Library - Michigan Ave.
124 Pearl St; 5-6p
First Friday Storytime
Join YDL for an all-ages storytime to kickoff your evening at First Fridays Ypsilanti. Each month we will do a storytime, an art experience, and music and movement in the Library Plaza. In case of severe weather we will have our event in the Youth Area of the Michigan Avenue branch. Pre-registration is appreciated.



Next First Friday:
August 4, 2023

Ypsilanti Freighthouse
100 Market Pl; 5-9p
Two Cents: Ypsi Bicentennial Artist Market
Join us for a day of shopping, art, and community. The "Two Cents" Market is a celebration of Ypsilanti's bicentennial, and will feature a variety of local vendors selling unique and handmade goods. To parents: Some vendors may carry work that features artistic nudity and adult language.

Ypsi Thrift Shop
14 S. Washington St; 1-8p
First Friday open until 8pm
Our 100% volunteer staff will keep our shop open until 8pm for your shopping pleasure.

Please be mindful of the Michigan Ave. construction Downtown and give yourself a few extra minutes to arrive and find parking. We encourage local folks to walk, bike, or carpool!

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
 Phone-734.485.8889
 Office Address -105 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

JAZZ FEST

YPSI FARMERS MARKET



Visit the Ypsilanti Farmers Market in Depot Town on Saturdays from 9-1, adjacent to the Ypsilanti Freighthouse at 100 Rice St., running every weekend from now until October.

Each market features seasonal produce, plants & flowers, locally raised meat & eggs, honey, jam, syrup,

prepared foods, artisan jewelry and crafts, and more!

The Ypsilanti Farmers Markets accepts cash, credit cards, SNAP/EBT Bridge Cards, Double Up Food Bucks, Prescription for Health, WIC Project FRESH, Senior Market FRESH, and Market Dollars. Visit the Info booth to learn more.

YDL EVENTS IN JULY

[Join the Bookmobile in Ypsilanti's 4th of July Parade](#) - July 4, 10-12 pm (Parade Route) Celebrate the 94th Annual Ypsilanti 4th of July Parade with the YDL Bookmobile!

[Kelsey Ronan reads at YDL-Michigan](#) - July 1, 3 PM Kelsey Ronan will visit YDL-Michigan to read and discuss her debut novel Chevy in the Hole (2022), which follows characters in the city of Flint, spanning multiple generations into Flint's history.

Lunch, Listen & Learn - Weekdays, all 3 branches:

- [Michigan from 12:30-1:30](#)
- [Whittaker from 1-2](#)
- [Superior from 1:30-2:30](#)

[Bluey Birthday Party!](#) - July 8 at 11 AM at Michigan Ave

[Boblo Boats: A Detroit Ferry Tale](#) - July 8 at 2 PM at Ypsilanti District Library(Superior)

[Celebrate International Plastic Bag Free Day](#) - July 10 at Whittaker at 6 PM

[Critical Hit: Fantasy Stories by Chance and Design with 826michigan](#) - July 28 at 4 at Michigan Ave (followed by...)

[Live the Adventure! After Hours One-Shot D&D Event](#) - July 28 at 6 PM at Michigan

PACKARD HEALTH WEEKLY FRESH PRODUCE

FRESH-A-SPROUT
 PACKARD HEALTH

Weekly fresh produce outdoor market held at all clinic locations

Fridays 10am - 1pm

6/23 - Packard Health West
 1915 Pauline Blvd., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

6/30 - Packard Health Carpenter
 2650 Carpenter Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108

7/7 - Packard Health Ypsilanti
 200 Arnet St., Suite 150, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

7/14 - Packard Health West

7/21 - Packard Health Carpenter

FREE

Welcome to summer! One of our favorite parts of this season is eating fresh, local, and DELICIOUS produce - and we're happy to make it available to everyone in our community at our Fresh-A-Sprout FREE new food market. The market rotates through our clinic locations on Fridays through

the growing season from 10 AM until approximately 1 PM or when supplies run out. On July 7th, we will be at At Packard Health (200 Arnet St., Suite 150) in Ypsilanti any questions. Please call: (734) 985-7200. For local transit through TheRide, AATA: Route 43, 44, 45. Hope to see you there!

YPSI FINE ARTS CLUB

RIVERSIDE'S YPSI FINE ARTS CLUB

INSPIRED BY:
 THE DETROIT FINE ARTS BREAKFAST CLUB

The first and third Wednesday of every month, join us at Riverside Arts Center to present two pieces of original art. Artists, art lovers, collectors, curators - everyone is welcome from Ypsi and beyond!
 Attendees are not required to present.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



CIRCLES WITH FRIENDS



Cohort 4 Members meet together on a Tuesday evening. Pictured: Julie Cruz, Ondrea Gooch, Brad Silvester, David Greene

Circles Washtenaw County Set to Start 6th Cohort

Circles with Friends In Deed is currently recruiting participants for its 6th Cohort of Circle Leaders. Circles is a 2 year program designed to build community and support around individuals who have intentional goals of eliminating poverty from their lives. We meet weekly on Tuesdays from 6-8pm (dinner and children's program provided). Circle Leaders who are accepted into the program (must be at least 18 years old and reside in Washtenaw County) will participate in a 14 week training course. After completing the Circle Leader training class, each Leader will be matched with 2 Allies who will become a part of their designated support circle. The Leader/Ally commitment is 18 months long. We encourage both Leaders and Allies to use this intentional space to learn and grow with each other. If you would like to learn more about the Circles program, please visit [friend-sindeedmi.org](http://friendsindeedmi.org) or email Tracey Hoesch at circles@friendsindeedmi.org.

SUMMER BEER FEST TIME!

2023 SUMMER BEER FESTIVAL

Friday, July 21
5pm-9pm

Saturday, July 22
1pm-6pm

Riverside Park
2 E Cross St,
Ypsilanti, MI
48198

www.mibeer.com

MICHIGAN THE GREAT BEER STATE

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 Greensheilds. 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!

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

FREE JAZZ IN THE PARKING LOT!

FREE Ypsilanti Community Schools

JAZZ in the **PARKING LOT**

2023

Saxophonist **Shelby Brown**

Vendor Fair including the **Children's Entrepreneur Network**

YCS YPSILANTI COMMUNITY SCHOOLS YPSILANTI CHILDREN SUCCEED

www.ycschools.us

Saturday Evening
July 22
7-9 p.m.

YCS Shadford Field
2095 Packard Rd., Ypsilanti

YCS Enrollment Tent
School of Choice Open Enrollment Available for 2023-2024 School Year

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!!!"

CRUISE NIGHTS AND RALLY IN THE ALLEY

THURSDAYS - 5 TO 9PM - ALL SUMMER

CLASSIC CARS - GREAT BARS - GROOVY JAMS
FANTASTIC FOOD - FUN MARKET

DEPOT TOWN
Cruise Nights

Rally in the Alley

Come join us for a weekly summertime market in conjunction with Depot Town Cruise Night. Local artists, crafters, vendors, and activities.

THURSDAYS
5-9 PM
ALL SUMMER
DEPOT TOWN ALLEYWAY

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](#)

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)

STORYTIME WITH HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL AND MAXI CHANEL!



It's storytime! This month, we are sharing a story about Super Creatures of the Huron River

Starting from the edge of Lake Erie, at the mouth of the Huron River, Gilly the Bluegill fish dreams of swimming 130 miles up the Huron River. His path will be challenging, as many dams will block his way, but Gilly is determined to try! As he begins his adventure,

Gilly makes a friend named Lilly. Gilly and Lilly set out to discover what type of creature she is, making friends with many Huron River creatures along the way. Maxi Chanel, an award-winning local Drag Queen star, hosts this storytime reading brought to you by the Huron River Watershed Council (HRWC). Super Creatures of the Huron River was created by Adlerstein, Berge and Fuller.

[Link to the video](#)

If you are interested in purchasing the book, [it is now available here.](#)

For more kids activities, check out HRWC's KidzRoom here: [The Huron River Kidzroom - Huron River Watershed Council \(hrwc.org\)](#)

CITY CALENDAR - JULY 2023

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

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

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

Huron River Drive CONSTRUCTION May 22, 2023 - October 27, 2023 Huron River Drive, Cornell to LeForge.	City Council Meeting July 11, 2023, 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting July 17, 2023, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Youth Mini Grant Application Window Opens July 1, 2023, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Historic District Commission July 11, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Freighthouse	Planning Commission Meeting July 19, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
4th of July - Administrative Office Closed July 4, 2023, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Arts Commission Meeting July 13, 2023, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	City Council Meeting July 25, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Forest Avenue Bridge CONSTRUCTION July 5, 2023 - September 8, 2023 Forest Ave bridge over the Huron River	Non-Motorized Committee Meeting July 13, 2023, 7:00 PM Ypsilanti District Library Meeting Room #1 (First Floor)	Historic District Commission July 25, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Freighthouse
		Police Advisory Commission July 27, 2023, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

CITY EVENTS AND RECREATION CALENDAR

Senior Center
1015 N. Congress

[Register HERE](#) for fitness classes
All other inquiries, email info@ypsiseniorcenter.org

RECURRING EVENTS

Art 12:30-2PM July 7, 14, 21, 28	Bingo 12:30-2PM July 5, 12, 19, 26	Euchre 12:30-2PM July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Gentle Fitness 10:30-11:30AM July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Gentle Fitness 10:45-11:45AM July 7, 14, 21, 28	Knitting/Crochet 12:30-2PM July 4, 11, 18, 25	Norwegian Therapeutic Massage 12-1PM July 7, 14, 21, 28	
	Service Project 10-11:30AM July 4, 11, 18, 25	Tech 10-11:30AM July 4, 11, 18, 25	

Freighthouse
100 Market Pl.

PUBLIC EVENTS

First Fridays - Two Cents - Local Artisans Market
July 7: 5-9PM

Historic District Commission Meeting
July 11 and July 25: 7PM

Ypsi Flea & Swap
July 9: 10-3PM



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

Submissions are due on the 15th of each month.

