

# News

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## *A Small Adjustment in Hours Has a Big Impact on Library Savings* **New Hours Begin May 3 at Some Mahoning County Libraries**

On May 3, the Public Library of Youngstown & Mahoning County (PLYMC) will make slight changes in hours at several of its branch libraries. The changes are minor and only cut 10 hours per week system wide. But the impact on the Library's budget is sizeable, representing a savings of nearly \$400,000 due to changes in staffing patterns.

The Library continues to make modifications due to a decline in state funding, which is down nearly \$380,000 this year. Since 2001, the Library has experienced a decline in annual funding of \$1.8 million.

Statistics show that in tough economic times, use of libraries is up. PLYMC has seen usage rise over the past months and is aware of the tremendous importance of libraries to the community. Therefore, the Library is giving careful consideration to any changes that impact the public, such as hours.

With the change in hours, Mahoning County's libraries will still be open to the public 744.5 hours each week, which is down by only 10 hours per week system wide.

A flyer listing current hours is available at all libraries in the Mahoning County system and on the Library's website: <http://www.libraryvisit.org/locations.htm>

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