


Comments

 **To Kim** Tell us how the library is doing.
Turn this card in at the library or by mail.


Date: 4-12-2023 Time of Event: 1:00ish

Library Branch or Department: When I come to the library
I don't expect perfect silences, but I
also don't expect to hear workers
speaking so loudly that I can hear
every word of their conversation
when I am a floor above. And I
REALLY don't appreciate hearing
them make comments about my
daughter as she leaves. TACKY!
DISRESPECTFUL! RUDE!

Check here if you wish to have the library respond to your comment.

Name: Connie Contact: 369-3254

Staff Comments: Kimberly and the Coldwater Branch Manager meet with all staff who were working the service desk when this event occurred. Staff were reminded that comments about patrons were not appropriate. Also the volume of conversations needs to be monitored. Kimberly was able to talk to the library guest and pass along the staff's sincere apologizes for the comment made.

 **BRANCH** Tell us how the library is doing.
Turn this card in at the library or by mail.
DISTRICT LIBRARY

Date: 4/20/23 Time of Event: _____

Library Branch or Department: Vox Books / Quincy
My mom is blind and the
vox books allow her to share
stories with my niece. What's
a greater joy than having a child
sit on your lap to hear a story?
Now my mom can experience
it too.

Check here if you wish to have the library respond to your comment.

Name: Becky Hanson Contact: _____



Tell us how the library is doing. Turn this card in at the library or by mail.

Date: 5-4-23 Time of Event: 11:30 Am

Library Branch or Department: I would like to acknowledge Maria Piper and Andres Tennyson at the Union City library for all of there hard work. They are so kind and helpful every time I'm at the library. you ladies Rock!!

Check here if you wish to have the library respond to your comment.

Name: Cindy Sheriff Contact:

Publicity

Coldwater Daily Reporter, May 3, 2023, p. 2A

Poll: Michigan voters oppose ban on books about race and LGBTQ topics

Clara Hendrickson Detroit Free Press USA TODAY NETWORK

Most Michigan voters would support a bill to protect against book bans amid efforts in communities across the U.S. to restrict or remove access to books, according to a new survey commissioned by the Michigan Library Association.

Deborah Mikula, executive director of the association, celebrated the results of the poll by Lansing-based survey research firm EPIC-MRA. "I think the statistics indicate that maybe the actions of a small vocal minority are giving the impression that our libraries are full of offensive materials and I think what our findings have found is that's simply not the case," she said.

In Ottawa County's Jamestown Township, residents voted down a library millage in the last midterm election, forcing the closure of the lone local library after staff refused to remove LGBTQ books from its collection. Just last week, Michigan libraries were thrust into the political spotlight once more with a party-line



Khalifah Green, of Detroit and her daughter Yara, 4, add to Yara's stack of books on their first visit to the newly reopened Chaney Public Library on Grand River Avenue. NEAL RUBIN

vote on a Democratic resolution in the state House to honor Librarian and Library Worker Day.

Most voters want to keep decisions about books in the hands of local librarians, not politicians, according to the survey.

"Every single angle that one would want to look at, book banning is against the wishes of Michigan voters and librarians are very popular and trusted to

make the right decisions on what books should be in their collections," said pollster Bernie Porn.

Respondents were split on whether they think a situation would ever warrant banning books: 45% said there are "rare times" when doing so may be appropriate while 42% said there is "absolutely no time" when a book should be banned. The survey revealed a partisan divide with 57% of Democrats saying books should never be banned and 27% of Republicans saying the same.

But asked about specific types of books that are often the subject of bans, voters expressed opposition to removing them from the shelves. Voters oppose the removal of books including discussions about race (89%) as well as discussions about sex, gender identity or sexual orientation (67%).

The vast majority - 71% - agreed with the statement that "book banning is un-American, infringes on our freedoms, and harms our democracy," while about a fifth of respondents - 21% - agreed that "books that are anti-American, anti-police, or hostile to basic family values do

not belong on the shelves of our local public libraries."

A third of Republican voters surveyed said that books that don't promote such values should be removed while 56% described such a ban as un-American. Democrats were more united with 87% calling a ban un-American.

Overall, 83% of voters said they would support legislation protecting the right of the public to read what they want in local libraries and not have books banned. Only 12% said they would oppose such legislation.

The survey - conducted March 23-30 - sampled 800 registered voters in Michigan with 70% completing the survey via cell phones. It has a margin of error of +/- 3.5% percentage points.

Clara Hendrickson fact-checks Michigan issues and politics as a corps member with Report for America, an initiative of The GroundTruth Project. Make a tax-deductible contribution to support her work at bit.ly/freepRFA. Contact her at chendrickson@freepress.com or 313-296-5743. Follow her on Twitter @clarajanehen.