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Read, Share, and Discuss This Year's Washtenaw Read at the Chelsea District Library.

The Chelsea District Library has teamed up with neighboring libraries to offer the 6th Annual Washtenaw Reads, a countywide program that promotes reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of reading and discussing a notable book. This year's choice is *Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist*, by Judith Heumann with Kristen Joiner, a thoughtful memoir that recounts Heumann's struggle to receive respect and dignity in society as a person paralyzed by polio in the mid 20th century. Ample copies will be available for borrowing at the Chelsea District Library.

"Candid, intimate, and irreverent, Judy Heumann's memoir about resistance to exclusion invites readers to imagine and make real a world in which we all belong." –Penguin Random House

Participants will have a chance to hear Judith Heumann and Kristen Joiner speak at a virtual live event via Zoom on Thursday, February 17 at 4 pm. Listen as Heumann speaks about her childhood struggle for equality after becoming paralyzed from polio, and her adult fights for justice in ensuring and protecting disabled peoples' rights. Hearing an author discuss their work can reveal unexpected insights and viewpoints and will offer further chance for respectful dialogue around this year's Read. There is no charge to attend the author talk, nor does it require registration; it is open to all. Books will be available for purchase after the event.

Here at the Chelsea District Library, there will be a few programs offered in relation to this year's Washtenaw Read. On February 16 at 6:30pm there will be a book discussion with CDL librarians and fellow community members. In partnership with Serendipity Books, CDL is offering a 2-part writing workshop on January 25 and February 22 at 6:30pm via ZOOM. Sign up on the library's website: https://bit.ly/WR_workshop1 and https://bit.ly/WR_workshop2.

For more information on Washtenaw Reads and related events, visit <https://aadl.org/washtenawreads> or call 734-475-8732 x219.

About Washtenaw Reads: The Washtenaw Reads program is a community initiative to promote reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of reading and discussing a common book. Participating libraries include Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Dexter, Milan, Northfield Township, Saline, and Ypsilanti.

About Us: Chelsea District Library is a not for profit organization whose mission is to engage,

inspire, and equip through evolving services and resources. The Library currently serves 15,010 residents in the Chelsea area including the City of Chelsea plus Dexter, Lima, Lyndon and Sylvan townships. More than 16,000 individuals visit the Library each month. For more information visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org.

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