

November 2020



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter, *Up-to-Speed*, featuring insights and tips especially for court reporting students. In this issue, a student shares how she decided court reporting was a career for her family, students show steno enthusiasm, and scholarship applications are open.

## Student Spotlight



### Court reporting a good fit for farming family

*Up to Speed* talked to Andrea Franje, who is married to a full-time farmer and has three daughters. After a 12-year career as a hair stylist, she now attends Des Moines Area Community College and studies court reporting.

[Read more.](#)

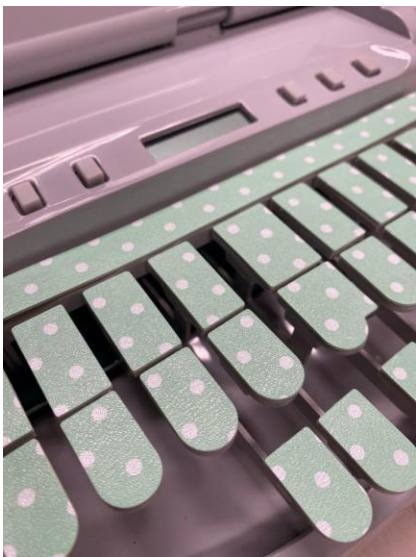
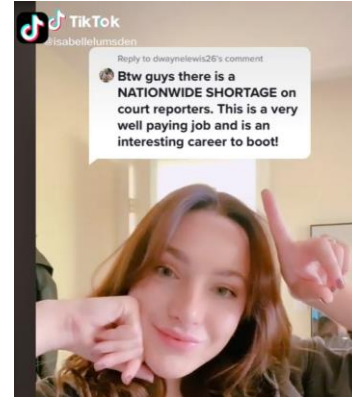
Do you know a student currently attending an NCRA-approved court reporting program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

## Showing some student style

## Steno represented on TikTok

Have you visited TikTok recently? If you did, you might be surprised to see some posts about court reporting attracting hundreds of thousands and even millions of views. Isabelle Lumsden (@isabellelumsden on TikTok) is a student in her first semester at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

[Read more.](#)



## Student creates steno fashion

Diana Ruiz, a student at Downey Adult School in Downey, Calif., had an idea to make her machine look unique and start a business at the same time.

[Read more.](#)

## Get motivated



## You'll thank me later

Loretta Berrigan, a court reporting student at the Community College of Allegheny County in Pittsburgh, Pa., has only been in school for little over a year, but she is already finding a valuable way to contribute by participating in her school's peer tutoring program. "Cut to a few weeks since I've started tutoring my peers, and you'll find me singing a whole different tune. I know how cliché this sounds, but I like to think that they help me just as much as I help them."

[Read more.](#)

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## You got this! You can do it!

“You will learn from those challenges. You will attain that speed level. Changing your behaviors, overcoming negative habits, it’s challenging. It’s hard. You have to talk to your inner self and come to the realization that you have to get rid of self-doubt and negative thoughts.” Debbie Kriegshauser, FAPR, RMR, CRR, CRC, CLVS, Chair of NCRA’s Student/Teacher Committee and an official reporter in Dallas, Texas, gives students a pep talk.



[Read more.](#)

## How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

**JOIN** NCRA as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, conference registration, study guides, and more.

**CONTRIBUTE** to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

**LEARN** about upcoming scholarship and grant opportunities.



## Grants and scholarships

**Students, apply now!**



**Scholarship worth up to \$5,000 per year!**

**Open Nov. 18, 2020 – Jan. 23, 2021**

## Stenograph partners with NCRF again to sponsor student scholarship

Nominations are being solicited for Stenograph's Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship. Students from NCRA-approved reporter education programs are encouraged to apply for the merit-based two-year award, which is worth up to \$5,000 per year and will include use of a student writer and software.

[Read more.](#)

## New deadline for Student Intern Scholarship

The National Court Reporters Foundation Student Intern Scholarship deadline has been extended to Dec. 31. Two \$1,000 awards will be given to qualified court reporting students who have completed their internship.

[Read more.](#)



## Questions of the Month

You're at a kiosk shopping for a mandatory-wear facial mask. Are you going to buy one that:

- 58.2% – Is a solid color
- 4.4% – Has cartoon characters
- 31.9% – Has a floral/pattern print
- 2.2% – Has text or slogans
- 3.3% – Has a sports logo

If you are a student, what is your age range?

- 8.1% – Under 22
- 28.4% – 23-30
- 31.1% – 31-40
- 21.6% – 41-50
- 10.8% – Over 50

What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?

Turkey

[Select](#)

Dressing/Stuffing

[Select](#)

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**Mashed potatoes/Yams**

[Select](#)

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**Green bean casserole**

[Select](#)

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**Pumpkin pie**

[Select](#)

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How did you vote?

**By mail**

[Select](#)

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**Absentee ballot drop-off**

[Select](#)

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**At a pop-up voting location**

[Select](#)

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**At my regular polling place**

[Select](#)

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**I did not vote**

[Select](#)

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Want to see your school in the news? *Up-to-Speed* is looking for news from court reporting programs to feature in our newsletter. Send ideas and information to [schools@ncra.org](mailto:schools@ncra.org).

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## Schools in the news

- [Program helps Texas high school students earn a court reporting degree by graduation](#)
- [Vernon College holds court reporting classes](#)
- [How one NYC college is making strides for the court reporting profession](#)

## Testing center

- [Online Skills Test registration opens Dec. 1](#)
- [Online Written Knowledge Test registration opens Dec. 1](#)
- [Exam Retention Policy](#)