

SMALL STEPS GIANT LEAPS at NMC

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PLUTO TO PICASSO Dennos director Gene Jenneman: A retrospective

AIR RACE CLASSIC Female pilots follow in contrails of Amelia Earhart



Northwestern Michigan College

EDITOR'S NOTE

# THE NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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# MyÑorth

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My mother missed the moon landing because of me.

I was born six days before the *Eagle* landed at Tranquility base. As my dad watched the live broadcast of Neil Armstrong making his historic descent and those legendary first steps, he hollered at my mother to come join him. She hollered back, "But I can't get this baby to stop crying!"

Told and retold over the last 50 years, this story has given me a bit of a guilt complex. So I'm taking this opportunity to make sure you don't miss any of the goodies tucked into this issue of *Nexus*, commemorating NMC's small steps and giant leaps since the lunar landing. Be sure to read about:

- The most significant exhibition during Gene Jenneman's 28-year career leading the Dennos Museum Center (p.12)
- The number of miles International Services director Jim Bensley has traveled on study abroad trips (p. 7)
- The name of NMC's top-performing aviation student this academic year (p. 24)
- The significance of the community college baccalaureate degree, and NMC's leadership in its passage (p.18)
- The four-year university Abby Siddall took a pass on in order to enroll in NMC's BS-Marine Technology (p.8)
- The number of pineapple varieties in Thailand, where an NMC culinary grad dispatches this issue's recipe (p. 30)

Thanks for spending some time with this issue.  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}$ 

Cai Noga

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MOON PHOTO BY JERRY DOBEK TAKEN THROUGH ROGERS OBSERVATORY TELESCOPE

AERIAL VIEW

# ROGERS OBSERVATORY

Slightly elevated and situated just south enough of Traverse City to escape light pollution lies Rogers Observatory, named for longtime science and math instructor Joseph H. Rogers. It's the only observatory run by a community college in Michigan and hosts public viewing nights at least monthly, drawing more than 150,000 stargazers since it opened in 1981. The next public viewing night is July 5 from 9-11 p.m. Cost is \$2/individual or \$5/family.

Interested in drone photography and videography? NMC's Extended Educational Services division offers its first class in the new technology July 29-Aug. 1. Visit nmc.edu/ees or call (231) 995-1700 to find out more and register. A specialized Unmanned Aerial Systems degree is also available. Find out more at nmc.edu/uas **N** 



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# HIGHER ED'S FUTURE IS IN THE BLUE OCEAN



TIMOTHY J. NELSON, PRESIDENT

One of the most powerful images of planet Earth was made possible by space flight. This "blue marble" view from far above illustrates how dominant the oceans are in our planet's health.

I have spent much of my career thinking about blue oceans. Not just in terms of NMC's internationally-recognized expertise in water, but the blue ocean business strategy that leads organizations to find new marketplaces and create new demand.

Imagine a school of sharks living in an area with a declining food supply. None of the sharks leave, and as they compete to capture the limited number of prey, the ocean begins to turn red. Eventually there is not enough food to nourish any of them. A few swim to a new, blue ocean area. They find food and are sustained.

Which ocean do you want to live in? This question should guide the strategy for all higher education leaders today. In order to survive, and to prepare our learners for the future, we must explore, innovate and create a blue ocean.

NMC has been a leader since it was created as Michigan's first true community college, but like most higher education institutions, we largely operated within a limited geography. We now live in an increasingly connected world and a VUCA environment: volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous. Consider:

• NMC enrollment has declined nearly 30 percent, mostly in the 21+ age group, since it peaked during the Great Recession, a trend seen at all 28 Michigan community colleges.

- Michigan's population is aging. By 2023, the high school senior class statewide will number 85,000, one-quarter smaller than the class of 2019
- Michigan has more institutions of higher education (93) than it can sustain
- 2.8 million Michiganders ages 25-64 have at least a high school diploma, but no college credential

This last point is where NMC surges ahead. We have built a college culture and systems that take us beyond the red ocean strategy, competing for the same, now-dwindling, traditional student population. Our blue ocean strategy includes professional training in new program areas like marine technology, drones and aviation. Not only do these programs build on existing expertise, they bring in new revenue streams that will support the critical work to educate learners in more traditional areas.

In addition to what we offer our learners, how we offer it is critical. NMC is neither a two-year college nor a four-year college. We are more than both. We must remain connected to learners their whole lives. Traditional degree paths are still necessary, but insufficient. We are working to develop more industry certifications and stackable credentials to help our students get ahead. Does the traditional academic calendar, or semesters, fit people's lives anymore? If not, we must adjust it. Even how we use our buildings must change as the way we deliver learning changes. And we will need help. We cannot afford all of the resources our learners need, so we must continue to form partnerships through a networked workforce.

The future of higher education lies in the blue ocean and I am confident the systems we have developed will position NMC for success for many more decades. N

Cin Neb

# TRANSFER OPTIONS EXPAND

NMC students in many academic areas, including, nursing and engineering will find smoother paths to a bachelor's degree thanks to new agreements.

- Articulation agreements signed with Lake Superior State University in March allow NMC students to roll two years of credits toward a bachelor's degree in geology, accounting, conservation biology, robotics engineering and fisheries and wildlife management.
- Nursing students wishing to complete a bachelor's of science in nursing at Grand Valley State University will be able to do so about a year faster thanks to a concurrent enrollment agreement signed in May.
- In August, NMC and Michigan Technological University are slated to sign eight articulation agreements in engineering. NMC students will be able to enter Michigan Tech as juniors.





AKE SUPERIOR

TATE UNIVERSITY



# NMC-TRAVERSE HOUSE PARTNERSHIP WINS STATEWIDE AWARD

NMC's Hagerty Center has won a statewide award for its three-year-old transitional employment partnership with Traverse House, a unit of Northern Lakes Community Mental Health.

Started in 2016, the partnership offers a vulnerable population an important hand up to independence and addresses an NMC strategic goal of building collaborative relationships.

"We choose the best employers," said Traverse House Director Hannah Driver, who nominated the Hagerty Center for the award.

One transitional employee has been hired permanently, Brenda Clifton, pictured with executive chef Scott Williams.



# **EDSONS RECEIVE NMC'S HIGHEST HONOR**

Lifelong supporters of education Daniel and Debra Edson are the recipients of the 2019 NMC Fellow award.

As the co-founder of American Proficiency Institute in Traverse City, a global leader in laboratory testing with 20,000 clients worldwide, Dan has collaborated with educational and medical partners including Michigan State University, Ferris State University and Munson Healthcare.

Debbie's career was spent in special education within the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District. Now, the NMC Foundation benefits from her leadership as a board member and campaign steering committee member.

The couple's philanthropic support of NMC spans 26 years and has included scholarships, the University Center, the Dennos Museum Center, radio station WNMC and the West Hall Innovation Center. Their support also includes a full tuition scholarship to the MSU College of Human Medicine that offers preference to an NMC transfer student.

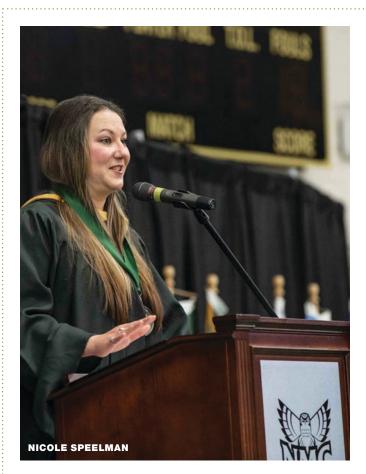
The Fellow award has been presented annually since 1964. *Read more at nmc.edu/fellow* 



# **GREETING THE GOVERNOR**

NMC students Isaac Dedenbach and Emma Moulton met Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (center) at a Lansing reception in March. Both members of the Student Green Team, the students went prepared to discuss topics including the Line 5 pipeline, protecting the Great Lakes, the Flint water crisis, and student debt.

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# FACULTY EXCELLENCE HONORED AT COMMENCEMENT

Chemistry instructor Nicole Speelman is NMC's 2019 Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence Award winner. English instructor Cathy Warner is the 2019 Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award winner.

Chosen by a student selection committee and announced annually at Commencement, criteria for both awards includes teaching excellence, rapport with students, innovation in the classroom and a sense of dedication. The Imogene Wise award was first bestowed in 1971. The adjunct award was created as a companion in 1999.

Read more: nmc.edu/cie







LEFT TO RIGHT: TERRY BEIA FRANK DITURI DR. MARIE SOCHA

# **THREE NAMED OUTSTANDING ALUMNI**

Chosen for significant professional achievements and/or exemplary leadership in the local or global community, the 2019 recipients are:

**Terry Beia**, 1983 - Petroleum Engineering Technology. In 1998 Beia made his first real estate investment in downtown Traverse City. In the two decades since the investment, he's been an active booster and backer of downtown.

**Frank Dituri**, 1979 - Parks and Recreation Management and Biology. A highlight of Dituri's career in both private and public sectors is serving as chairman of the Boardman River Dams Implementation Team, tasked with the restoration of Traverse City's Boardman River. **Dr. Marie Socha**, 1983 - Pre-med studies. After earning both a master's and PhD., Socha went on to a career in public health as an epidemiologist, serving agencies from the Centers for Disease Control to the Department of Homeland Security.

Read more: nmc.edu/alumni

# Jim Bensley / Director, International Services and Service Learning

Bensley's worked for NMC for more than 30 years in many roles, but is truly at home in International Services, where he's led the college to a No. 1 ranking among Michigan community colleges for short-term study abroad (#17 nationally.) More from his travel log:

# MILES TRAVELED: 61,887

DESTINATIONS: Peru, Costa Rica, Cuba, Greece, India, Brazil, Morocco (pictured.)

# **BEST MEMORIES:**

- Homestays in Morocco. "Living with families always connects us with the common elements of humanity."
- Working with Syrian refugees in Athens, Greece.
   "I was able to witness students gain a profound understanding of a current global crisis."
- Trekking the Himalayas. "Experiencing the beauty of the planet at 13,000 feet was a very special opportunity."

HOPED-FOR NEXT PASSPORT STAMP: Egypt N



# MY BAG MARINE TECHNOLOGY

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Find out more about Marine Technology at nmc.edu/marine	
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FEBRUARY

11.0



# ABBY SIDDALL, 20 2021 B.S. MARINE TECHNOLOGY GRADUATE

Manton High School graduate Abby Siddall, 20, enrolled in NMC as a Commitment Scholar, planning to transfer to Michigan Tech. That changed when she learned about NMC's bachelor's degree in marine technology. The degree prepares students to work on- and off-shore in support of marine industries. Now the president of NMC's Women in STEM student group expects to graduate in the high-demand field in 2021. So far Siddall's spent most of her time in the labs and makerspace at the Parsons-Stulen Building, as well as working for the college's technology help desk. Her first on-the-water class was aboard NMC's research vessel Northwestern in May. She's undecided about whether she'll persue a career path on- or off-shore. N

Siddall's backpack, clockwise from planner and felt-tip pens:

- 1. Paper planner and felt tip pens keep her organized. Each of her four classes is designated a different color.
- 2. Pens and eraser for taking notes.
- 3. Mug for her daily cup of cappuccino.
- 4. Laptop, mouse, and USB extender that enables her to plug in more than one peripheral device (mouse, thumb drive).
- 5. Phase shifter—built in the Makerspace—enables her to shift from high to low voltage, and power supply, built in circuits class.

- Snacks—usually Goldfish or chips—help her stay energized, especially during her nine-hour class marathon on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Calculator for electronics and manufacturing classes, binder is for holding class papers and homework. "I would be so lost without it."
- Purple notebook holds Electronics class notes. Zippered pouch corrals all her pens, pencils, and erasers within the backpack.
- Bottom textbook—GIS class; top textbook—Electronics class.
- 10. Ruler—for drawing during free time between classes. **N**

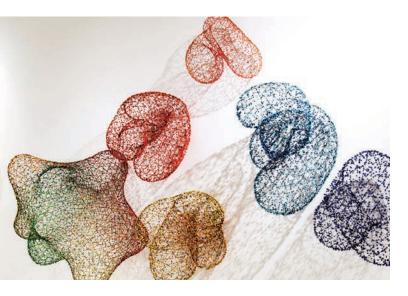


ABOVE: LANDSCAPE PAINTER THE LATE ARMAND MERIZON OF MICHIGAN AND NEW YORK // OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM: TEXTILE ARTIST GERHARDT KNODEL OF MICHIGAN // CERAMICIST SUSANNE STEPHENSON OF MICHIGAN // SCULPTOR LEE SUNG KEUN OF KOREA

# ART CULTURE







# *FINALE* INSTALLATION

The four exhibitions on view at the Dennos Museum Center through Sept. 8 are the last to open under first and founding Executive Director Gene Jenneman.

In addition to showcasing a range of media, from textiles to paints to ceramics to sculpture, the four exhibitions demonstrate the relationships Jenneman has built with museums and galleries around the world, including Pewabic Pottery, Detroit; Waterfall Mansion and Gallery, New York City; the Muskegon Museum of Art and the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University.

"They are all here to one degree or another from my working relationships with the other museums, whom I have collaborated with for many years." said Jenneman.

In another example of collaboration, The Dennos recently joined Museums for All, a program of the Institute of Museum and Library Services which aims for people of all backgrounds to regularly visit museums. The Dennos offers free admission for up to four people who present their SNAP EBT card. **N** 

# **FIVE FAVORITES**

# You can only visit one more museum or art gallery. Where would you go and why?

The Museum of Modern Art in New York City. I got involved in the arts in the last quarter of the 20th century, and feel most connected to artists of this period. The MOMA has much of their best work.

# If \$1 would buy you any piece of artwork, what would you buy?

Likely a Mark Rothko - a huge canvas of "vibrating" warm colors. I would then donate it to the Dennos.

# One of your top five contemporary artists?

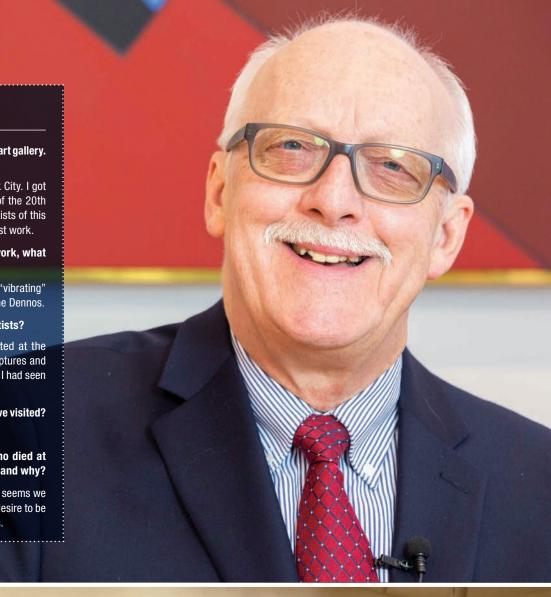
Korean artist Seung Mo Park, presented at the Dennos in 2014. His wire-wrapped sculptures and layered screen images were like nothing I had seen or we had shown before.

### Most visually awe-inspiring place you've visited?

Machu Picchu, Peru

If you could reincarnate an artist who died at least 100 years ago, who would it be, and why?

The cave painters of Lascaux, France. It seems we could learn a lot more about the human desire to be creative and document our surroundings.





# FROM PLUTO TO PICASSO

FOUNDING DENNOS MUSEUM CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GENE JENNEMAN: A RETROSPECTIVE

For someone who never planned a career in the arts, Gene Jenneman still managed to craft a masterpiece as the first and founding executive director of the Dennos Museum Center, ending his three-decade tenure this month.

Jenneman graduated from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire with a couple art appreciation courses, a B.S. in physics, a minor in chemistry and a plan to teach high school science and run a planetarium.

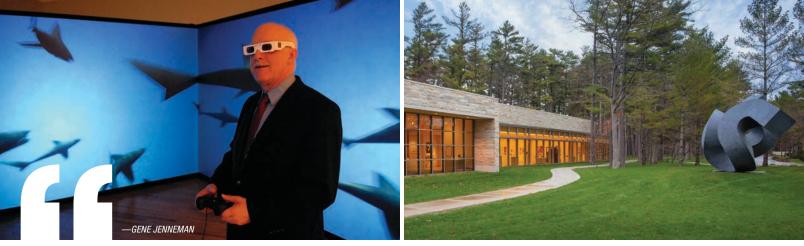
He did the planetarium part—13 years at Alpena's Besser Museum, home to a full-dome planetarium. A year into his tenure at Besser, on a backpacking trip through Europe, Jenneman first saw museums "in a serious way." Upon his return, he was inspired to improve what the Besser offered the community.

He went to Detroit and met gallery owners. He saw works that weren't being displayed and asked if he could borrow them.

"I was curating exhibits (in Alpena) from commercial art gallery backrooms in Detroit," he said.

A short stint at the Erie Museum Authority in Pennsylvania followed. Jenneman ran the Erie Historical Museum and planetarium. Then he got word of NMC's plans to build a museum.

OPPOSITE PAGE: JENNEMAN SAID THIS 1997 PICASSO TO WARHOL EXHIBIT WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT OF HIS CAREER.



# The priority is to bring the rest of the world to the community.

# **DEFINING THE VISION**

Jenneman applied for what would become the Dennos job on the last day applications were accepted, without the educational requirements. To his surprise, he got a call. His vision to bring the world to Traverse City ended up being exactly what NMC leaders were looking for.

"This was not going to be a museum to recycle Traverse City," said Jenneman, 69. "The priority is to bring the rest of the world to the community. I had the privilege of defining it; no one will have that opportunity in the same way."

But first, the museum had to be built.

Jenneman worked alongside architect Bob Holdeman to design the facility and create what people would experience inside. The museum opened 28 years ago, on July 6, 1991, bringing under its roof the Inuit Art Gallery, housing the college's most significant collection, three changing exhibit galleries, a sculpture court, hands-on Discovery Gallery, and the 350-seat Milliken Auditorium.

While the list of exhibits and musicians to pass through the Dennos is long and impressive, Jenneman cited a 1997 exhibit as the most important of his career. "Picasso to Warhol" showcased about 50 pieces from the modern collection of the Detroit Institute of Arts. The works, including pieces by Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol, normally do not travel, but needed to be temporarily relocated for a renovation project.

Jenneman was initially offered just three pieces. He wanted more – all of it, to be specific. So, just like he did back in Alpena, he asked for it. The Dennos' five-month exhibit became the only time the works were shown as one exhibit.

"I wanted to show people in northern Michigan something they wouldn't otherwise see," said Jenneman.

### CHINA AND EXPANSION

Whatever appears on the Dennos walls and Milliken stage, it's due in large part to relationships. (See Art/Culture, p. 8.) Jenneman is especially proud of the relationships he's fostered with artists and musicians from China in 16 trips to the country. While NMC now has educational partnerships in China, Jenneman's connections pre-date those and all started with a project involving jazz musician Bob James. Numerous Chinese artists have had works exhibited at the Dennos and some have visited, too. Relationships also fostered the culmination of Jenneman's career: an expansion of the Dennos. Completed in 2017, it included two new permanent collection galleries, a new sculpture gallery and larger Inuit art gallery and was driven by generous donations from the late Dudley and Barbara Smith, and Richard and Diana Milock. The Milocks were so invested, in fact, that they increased their support so that part of the expansion planned for a later date was instead done first. *(Photo above, right.)* 

"It made the project bigger, and the end result way better than it originally would have been," said Jenneman, who deferred his original 2015 retirement date to see the expansion completed.

Once again, he put his personal mark on it, this time influenced by the galleries he loves at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. One of those galleries in the Milock wing now bears Jenneman's name.

"It's my tombstone," Jenneman quipped.

# **MOVING ON**

Jenneman's legacy will endure beyond the physical museum, even as he steps aside to make way for new energy and ideas. Of course, he noted, many staff and volunteers supported him along the way. About a year ago, he consciously decided to move aside, putting the museum's day-to-day operations in the hands of three young professionals who worked for him.

"I wanted them to feel complete ownership," Jenneman said.

Giving the trio the opportunity to really grow in their respective roles at the museum was also a way for Jenneman to pay forward a gift he received at the start of his career, when a Wisconsin professor bought him a plane ticket to Alpena to interview for the Besser job.

Jenneman and his wife Marcia Borell plan to stay in Traverse City, though Jenneman already has his eyes on his next adventure.

"I love to travel and plan to continue to travel ... including, a trip around the world."  ${\rm N}$ 

: The search for a new Dennos Museum Center director is underway.

- A successor is expected to be named this summer.

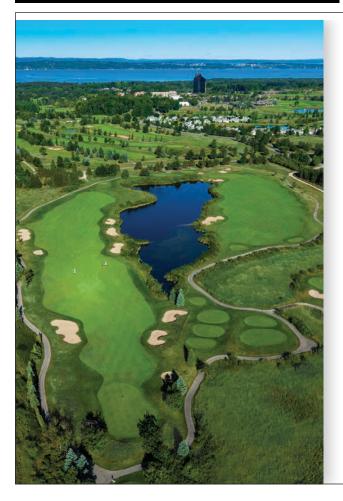


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SMALL STEPS

# That's one small step for man ... one giant leap for mankind - Mil Armstorg's orbit one step for man ...

As the world marks this summer's 50th anniversary of the first lunar landing, we examine Northwestern Michigan College's small steps and giant leaps since then. Like the Apollo program, these college endeavors called for **leadership**, **agility**, **collaboration** and **innovation**. The timeline on the next page shows how small steps collectively enable giant leaps. A case study in each category is profiled on the following pages.

Each project profiled also bears the hallmarks of momentum and vision. At NMC, giant leaps are always in progress, strategized and executed for the benefit of the students and communities we serve.



# **ART/CULTURE**

# Denno<mark>s Museum</mark> Center exp<mark>ansion '17</mark>

International Affairs Forum lecture series begins '93

> Dennos Museum Center opens '91

Radio station WNMC goes on-air, broadcasting to the dorms **\*67** 

Inuit art collection grows '60s

# **DOLLARS & CENTS**

NMC Foundation awards \$1 million+ in scholarships 17, 18

Alex Briggs, Commitment Scholar, named top community college scholar in MI \*18

> \$2.7 million state equipment grant received for nursing, marine tech/ROVs, UAS, CIT '15

NMC Barbecue serves 500,000th patron '08

Grand Traverse County approves millage in perpetuity '95

Commitment Sc<mark>holarship</mark> begins '93

> NMC Foundation created '82

# WATER

First community college bachelor's degrees awarded in Maritime Technology '14

Associates in freshwater studies introduced '09

> Great Lakes Campus opens '04

Training ship *State of Michigan* acquired 102

GLMA opens, first freshwater academy in the U.S. '69





**JOBS** 

Surgical technology program begins

MI New Jobs Training Act passes; boon to region's advanced manufacturers '08

Aviation hangar property purchased;

will become Aero Park campus '75

in collaboration with Munson '16

UAS programs begin '10

Online classes offered '98

First nursing graduates '63

# SMALL STEPS

# COMMUNITY COLLEGE BACCALAUREATE

Small steps lead to giant leaps. Sometimes, giant leaps even become monumental milestones.

That's the case with community college bachelor's degrees, enabled in Michigan in 2012 after eight years of effort.

"I think it's the most significant policy change in higher education in this state in a generation," said Mike Hansen, president of the Michigan Community College Association, adding NMC President Timothy J. Nelson was among the "primary advocates."

NMC subsequently awarded the very first community college bachelor's degrees in the state, in Maritime Technology (*bottom photo*), and has led Michigan ever since. Of the 49 bachelor's degrees awarded by community colleges statewide in 2017-18, 40 were at NMC. Since 2014, NMC has awarded 229 bachelor's degrees. Four degrees in technical, applied fields are allowed under the legislation.

In addition to Maritime Technology, in which students choose either deck or engineering degrees and work aboard ships, NMC in 2015 introduced a bachelor's in Marine Technology. Marine Tech graduates like Matt Moss *(top photo)* perform applied technical work such as data collection, processing and mapping in support of marine industries both off- and onshore. Graduates of all three programs enjoy immediate employment worldwide.

"There is more than 100 percent opportunity and students get multiple job offers," said Hans VanSumeren of Marine Tech, which now enrolls about 35 students. "We have capacity to double and want more students."

In order to pass the enabling legislation, community colleges had to forego a degree in nursing, which faced the strongest opposition from four-year schools. But especially as more states permit their community colleges to offer BAs — Michigan, at No. 21 to do so was near the tipping point — Hansen believes it will return.

"It's a matter of when, not if," Hansen said. "It's just going to be a workforce issue." Munson Medical Center supported including nursing in the legislation, sending representatives to testify in Lansing (center photo).

Entry-level credential requirements will rise in other fields, too, Hansen said. Community colleges can't control that, but must be able to respond. The CCBA enables that.

"I can't think of a policy change that has the potential to have more impact," Hansen said. "To get it over the finish line was a giant step." N









# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential Learning (EL) first flipped higher education's traditional "learn to do" methodology on its head. Now, NMC EL leaders are stretching beyond campus, establishing the Experiential Learning Institute this spring.

Visual Designs, in

BIG

After spreading across several academic areas, EL became an NMC accreditation project in 2016, meaning it's one of the criteria under which the Higher Learning Commision grants the college a *de facto* license to operate. Establishing the Institute this spring was the next step to expand EL, both on campus and in the community, via partners at local, national and global levels.

"It's a front door for the community," said Kristy McDonald, Experiential Learning Institute director and NMC business instructor (*center photo, black shirt*).

Guiding the work of the Institute, which will make its permanent home in the West Hall Innovation Center *(top photo)*, are more than a dozen faculty and staff advisers certified through the New Jerseybased Experiential Education Academy. Instructional designer Ryan Bernstein is one. He sees how instructors from a host of disciplines are implementing EL in an effort to engage students more deeply, leading to greater student persistence and graduation, as well as lifelong, self-directed learners.

"Faculty are starting to think about how they can change an assignment, or change a project based on something real," Bernstein said. "These have the potential to impact your cultural view, your world view, your community view. And that's deeper learning, beyond the simple recall of dates and facts."

Key to the Institute's future is an inventory of current EL opportunities scheduled for this summer.

"From semester-long projects like the Big Little Hero Race benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters and the collaborative Homelessness Awareness Project to smaller classroom experiences, it's important for us to know how we are reaching out, and how the community is reaching in," McDonald said.

Contact McDonald at (231) 995-1059 or el@nmc.edu for more information about the Institute.

BOTTOM PHOTO: IN ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF EL, A CLASS USES VIRTUAL REALITY GOGGLES TO "TOUR" AFRICA. WEST HALL WILL INCLUDE A VR LAB.



# SMALL STEPS

# UNIVERSITY CENTER

When NMC's University Center opened its doors in 1995, cutting-edge classroom technology was a boxy television equipped for two-way interaction between students in Traverse City and faculty at the UC partners' home campuses scattered statewide, from Grand Rapids to East Lansing to the U.P.

"Five years later, it was almost obsolete," recalls Marguerite Cotto, NMC vice president of lifelong and professional learning.

The advent of the Internet could have proved fatal (see: big box retailers), yet thanks to committed collaboration, the University Center remains robust today. About 650 students are enrolled in programs through six university partners.

"The effective change is that we've moved to serving as regional centers," Cotto said. "Students are accessing online degrees that are not limited by face-to-face requirements."

Post-baccalaureate degrees in education, business and health fields remain the most popular, but thanks to online offerings, students have much broader options.

"The entire university's catalog is available to a student who walks into the Boardman Lake campus," Cotto said.

Traverse City resident Victoria Derks, 50 *(right)*, has earned three graduate degrees through the UC, in addition to her associate's from NMC, in 1989. She had to leave the state for her bachelor's, but the UC was available by the time she was ready for a master's. She earned it from MSU in 2001.

"It was right here, and consolidated to the summer. In three summers I could live, eat and breathe my master's program, but I would be done," said Derks. She then went on to earn two more education degrees from Central Michigan University at the UC — an education specialist in 2010 and doctor of education in 2015. She is now the principal at Cherry Knoll Elementary School in Traverse City.

"I don't think I would have gotten my other degrees had it not been for the University Center. I now had a family, and it wouldn't be so plausible to go away," she said. "Getting four of my five degrees there is pretty incredible." N

PHOTOS-TOP TO BOTTOM: NMC UNIVERSITY CENTER PARTNERS // DR. VICTORIA DERKS READS WITH STUDENTS AT CHERRY KNOLL ELELMENTARY WHERE SHE IS PRINCIPAL.

# Welcome Center Partner Universities

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ity Center

Central Michigan University Davenport University Ferris State University Grand Valley State University Michigan State University Western Michigan University



# INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In less than a decade, NMC has parlayed innovative programs into innovative partnerships, fulfilling two strategic directions: Ensuring that NMC learners are prepared for success in a global society and economy and establishing international competencies connected to the regional economy.

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Key to success was identification of complementary partners that fill gaps and augment what NMC already offers in aviation, freshwater studies, and marine technology and construction.

"It was a huge undertaking in terms of logistics and finding the right partners. We found partners that let us grow," said Constanza Hazelwood, education and outreach coordinator for the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute and leader of the partnership with Costa Rica's EARTH University.

Hazelwood said NMC considered other schools, but found them too research-focused. EARTH, a leader in agronomy and sustainability education, had the hands-on, entrepreneurial approach that aligned with NMC's.

"The first time I saw experiential learning applied and implemented was there," Hazelwood said. "You're not learning theory. It's based on application first."

Likewise with aviation, NMC identified an alignment opportunity in the UK, where students typically receive a bachelor's degree first and pilot training second — the reverse of the U.S. So NMC planes were available to UK students in the summer, when NMC students were off.

"From a business perspective it made sense because it utilized our aircraft," said Steve Ursell, NMC international aviation coordinator.

Another innovation advantage is the glass cockpit technology of NMC's planes, as well as the chance for students to train in the world-renowned FAA-regulated environment. Lastly, there's the simple fact that the weather's better. "Students weren't getting their pilot training done," in the UK, Ursell said. "Coming to NMC it ticks that box for their degree in the UK."▶

PHOTOS-TOP TO BOTTOM: CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY-CHINA // AVIATION STUDENTS FROM THE UK WITH NMC AVIATION DIRECTOR ALEX BLOYE, RIGHT // WATER STUDIES INSTITUTE-COSTA RICA



Importantly, having 30 international students on campus each summer gives NMC's American students international exposure, too.

"They're going to be dealing with different cultures for their jobs, flying overseas," Ursell said.

At the Yellow River Conservancy Technical Institute in China, NMC found yet another complementary partner. The three-year technical school offers China's largest land-surveying program. NMC's expertise in marine technology adds a new dimension. After beginning discussions in 2012 and first visiting in 2015, NMC instructors pioneered English-language delivery of applied curriculum to Yellow River students in 2017.

"They're very well positioned to do the terrestrial mapping," said Hans VanSumeren. "We bring the competencies needed to work in and under the water."

In turn, NMC's new land surveying degree, offered beginning this fall, was informed by Yellow River. "Building an international team like this, we're able to broaden our perspective," Van Sumeren said. "We're highly focused on integrating the land component into our degree to make much stronger graduates, industry-ready." N

# **AT A GLANCE**

### **AVIATION—UNITED KINGDOM**

### **STARTED: 2010**

**EVOLUTION:** 230 students from 25 countries have attended NMC through three primary partners: University of the West of England, Bristol; University of Hertfordshire and Manchester University. Manchester students get unmanned aerial systems and pilot training.

WHAT'S NEXT: About 30 international students will complete pilot and UAS training at NMC this summer.

### FRESHWATER STUDIES INTERNSHIP—COSTA RICA

### **STARTED: 2011**

### PARTNER: EARTH University, San Jose

**EVOLUTION:** Grown to include students in aviation, plant science and education. Students take a two-week Spanish boot camp before departure. NMC has also hosted one EARTH faculty member as a guest lecturer, in 2014, and four EARTH students completing their internships, or *pasantías*, the most recent in 2018.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** 2020 trip, tentatively with nursing students and Kellogg Community College students.

# MARINE TECHNOLOGY/CONSTRUCTION—CHINA

**STARTED:** Discussions in 2012, instructional delivery in 2017

PARTNER: Yellow River Conservancy Technical Institute, Kaifeng, China

WHAT'S NEXT: Second cohort of Chinese students will complete NMC degrees this spring. Third cohort to complete in 2020.

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**grow**.

22 SUMMER 2019 | VOLUME 3 | ISSUE 2



# great lakes MARITIME ACADEMY

Nation's only freshwater Maritime Academy boasts 100% employment

Fifty years ago this fall, the first Great Lakes Maritime Academy cadets entered NMC. Its original West Bay home (1) became the Great Lakes campus (6) in 2004, while its vessels changed from the Allegheny in the 1970s (2) to the T/S State of Michigan (4, 6) in 2002. Cadets initially could earn a bachelor's degree from partner Ferris State University (3) and can now do so from NMC, which leads the state in community college bachelor's degrees (see p. 18.) Training includes state-of-theart simulation training (5) and the annual spring cruise on the Great Lakes (4, in Port Huron.) Cadets graduate licensed to sail the Great Lakes and oceans. GLMA is the only academy that offers both licenses.

More info at nmc.edu/maritime N



GREAT LAKES MARITIME ACADEMY





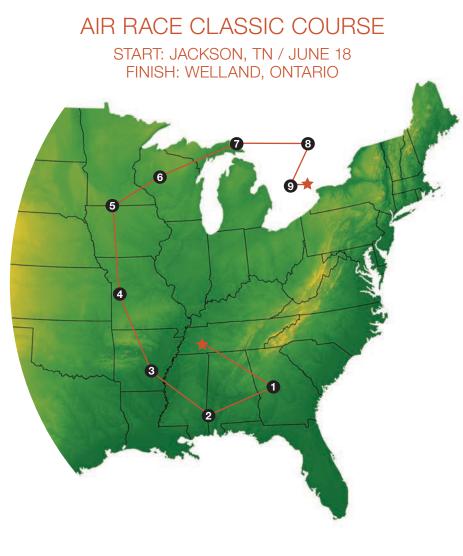
IN THE CONTRAILS OF AMELIA EARHART

annah Beard came to NMC aviation as the crow flies; Jessi Martin's path meandered. This month, their courses will merge when they spend four days elbow-toelbow in a Cessna cockpit, competing in the Air Race Classic, a point-to-point race across North America exclusively for female pilots.

Ninety years after legendary aviator Amelia Earhart made cross-country racing popular, the Air Race Classic is a lofty showcase for NMC Aviation. It's also the latest example of how women at NMC are making significant strides in what has long been a male-dominated field. While only 4 percent of current U.S. airline pilots are female, nearly 20 percent of current students are women.

Women are also becoming leaders among the overall student population. Aviation





director Alex Bloye said Beard was NMC's top-performing aviation student during the 2018-19 academic year, mastering commercial pilot skills faster than any other student.

"This race will put NMC and our pilots on the national stage with some of the best aviators in the world," Bloye said. "Like with any other collegiate sport, this race will build camaraderie, pride in the school, and expand the envelope of student experience."

To earn their commercial pilot's license, each woman has already logged a solo 250-mile flight. In the Air Race Classic, they'll rack up nine consecutive similar flights, each a leg in the 2,600 mile race from Jackson, Tenn., to Welland, Ont.

"It's going to be a marathon," Martin said. Takeoff is June 18 and they expect to reach the finish line by June 21. The copilots, both members of NMC's Women in Aviation International chapter who expect to graduate at the end of the upcoming fall semester, sat down for a Q and A.

### WHY CHOOSE A PILOT CAREER?

"I didn't want to sit in an office. I get a view with aviation." Beard, 23

"I wanted to go back to something I loved," Martin, 43, on choosing what will become her third career, after zookeeper and U.S. Air Force linguist (she learned Farsi) plus a ten-year stint as a stay-at-home mom. With college tuition for her sons, 11 and 13, looming, the strong job prospects and income potential of a pilot was attractive, too.

### FLIGHTS TOGETHER TO DATE:

Only one. "More important than the flying is the communication, and Hannah and I are pretty compatible," Martin said.

### **BIGGEST CHALLENGE:**

Flying into Canada, said Beard, with its own version of the FAA governing operations.

# **HOW DO YOU PREPARE?**

Martin: Review pre-flight routines. Study airport diagrams and runways, choosing primary and backup approaches. Evaluate the potential impact of terrain changes. "If we can find altitude that gives us a tailwind, it'll give us a faster ground speed."

# GOAL:

"Finish it."-Beard

"Placing would be great."-Martin

Both: Networking with other pilots, getting NMC's name noticed, and nurturing a 2020 team when they become NMC flight instructors. **N** 



# It's good to adjust this year instead of college being a whole new experience when I'm on my own."

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– Massimo Vozza



# TRIO FINDS DUAL ENROLLMENT PAVES THE WAY TO ANN ARBOR

As he cuts through the gate and across College Drive between Traverse City Central High School and NMC, Massimo Vozza crosses a mental threshold, too —from high school to college student.

The 2019 Traverse City Central High School graduate dual-enrolled at NMC during his senior year to get a head start on college courses. Not just any college courses. Vozza signed up for Differential Equations, Calculus 3, and calculusbased physics.

"I wanted to take a heavy course load so I wouldn't give myself an excuse to slip," said the 18-year-old. "If I don't push myself, I get really lazy, and won't perform as well, even if I have less classes."

His rationale seems to have worked: Vozza was a 2019 National Merit Scholarship finalist, which places him among the top 1 percent of high school seniors nationwide. Not to mention that if he didn't push himself, his two brothers Angelo and Dante would. By turning to them for advice, the youngest Vozza not only spared himself grief, he learned how to maximize the dual enrollment experience.

"I tried to follow the same path as my brothers did," said Vozza. Each is two years ahead of him (Angelo graduated TC Central in 2015; Dante in 2017) both dual-enrolled at NMC, and both went on to the University of Michigan.

"It was very helpful to know what the college environment was like," said Dante Vozza, who's majoring in astronomy. "You have to do a lot more out of the classroom."

"A lot of the stuff I've experienced this year is just shifting into the college experience. It's more independence, the schedules are different," Massimo agreed. "It's good to adjust this year instead of it being a whole new experience when I'm on my own."

All three said they preferred their dualenrolled classes to the Advanced Placement classes they also took in high school. The Vozzas felt more confident of achieving the credits at stake because their NMC instructors wrote their own exams instead of standardized exams. Courses at NMC that would be freshmanlevel at a four-year university also meant smaller class sizes and more instructor attention.

"I liked my dual enrollment classes better because it was more like the college class," said Angelo Vozza, who graduated from U-M this year with a bachelor's in computer science. Going into U-M with credits also allowed more flexibility in course selection and schedules. Dante has had more time to conduct research in his astronomy field. Angelo graduated with a political science minor in addition to his computer science major.

So far, Massimo thinks he will follow Angelo into computer science at Michigan. But his NMC physics class is more appealing than he expected.

"Some of the classes I've taken at (NMC) have given me more insight into what I do and don't want to do in college," he said. "Taking these classes has opened my eyes to what my strong points are and maybe my weak points."

Not to mention keeping him on his toes, all the way to the very end.

"When I'm taking the college classes, I can't use the excuse, 'it's senior year,'" he said. N

Dual-enrolled high school students are the fastest-growing segment of enrollment at NMC. Find out more at nmc.edu/dualenroll

OPPOSITE PAGE: MASSIMO VOZZA, FRONT, AND HIS BROTHERS DANTE, LEFT, AND ANGELO, RIGHT, ALL DUAL-ENROLLED AT NMC DURING HIGH SCHOOL AT TRAVERSE CITY CENTRAL.













# ALUMNI NOTES

JEFFREY A. BOYD, 1979, released his two novels Wolf's Head Bay: Journey of the Courageous Eleven and Wolf's Head Bay: Journey of the Courageous Eleven, Book 2 the Race for Home in August of 2018. Boyd has said that these novels are inspired by actual events and his time in Traverse City, Michigan, was the inspiration for his Wolf's Head Bay novels.

BILLY GAUTHIER, 1982, celebrated his 40th anniversary performing with the NMC Jazz Band in April. A trombonist, Gauthier has performed in every concert since the band formed in 1979. "I love to put a smile on people's face and make them dance," he said.

**2** ANDREA GALLOUP, 1982 and 1991, has been selected as the Traverse Area Association of Realtors (TAAR) 2018 Realtor of the Year. The ROTY Award is the highest honor bestowed upon a Realtor, and stands for integrity, leadership, and service to the general public. Chosen from over 900 TAAR members, Galloup is licensed with Century 21 Northland in Traverse City.

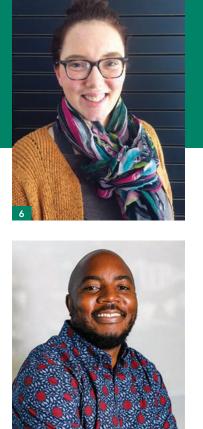
**3 BETH LANGENBURG**, Nursing 1984, was promoted to chief operating officer at Spectrum Health Big Rapids and Reed City hospitals in February.

As COO, Langenburg, who recently earned a masters in business administration from Ferris State University, will supervise a wide range of hospital operations, including rehabilitation services, lab, radiology, nutrition services, supply chain, risk, accreditation, emergency preparedness, medical staff office, occupational health and volunteer services.

JOHN HAEUSSLER, 1985-87, was reelected to the Hancock (MI) City Council and selected by the council to serve as mayor. Haeussler is also finishing his third book exploring the stories and individuals that shaped Hancock, Michigan.

▲ JOHN MILITELLO, 1990, visited Traverse City start-up incubator 20Fathoms in January to discuss the challenges and experiences faced by entrepreneurs. A 2014 NMC Outstanding Alumnus, Militello, the past director of marketing for Volvo Cars USA and a creative director at Google, co-founded strategy studio Longblink in 2018.

**5** AARON DRAPLIN, 1993, designed a U.S. postage stamp. On Instagram, Draplin, founder of Draplin Design Co. in Portland, Ore., said the U.S. Postal Service's selection of the Star Ribbon represents a career milestone and that he has loved stamps for years. "Everyone needs a stamp. Everyone gets to enjoy the art on them. Too many times, art and design is only for





those who can afford it. Stamps? They are a democratization of design. And that? That's my favorite kind of graphic design." Draplin spoke at NMC in 2015 in conjunction with an exhibition at the Dennos Museum Center.

**G** RUTHY KIRWAN, 2003, published *The Healthy Sheet Pan Cookbook* and visited Traverse City for book signings in February. The Great Lakes Culinary Institute graduate now lives in New York City where she is also a cooking instructor and freelance recipe tester for cookbook publishers. Kirwan also offers a newsletter with meal planning tips at percolatekitchen.com

**Z** GODWIN JABANGWE, 2007-10, signed a deal with Netflix to write his first animated family adventure musical, *Tunga*. Originally from Zimbabwe, Jabangwe discovered screenwriting while working in the Beckett Building computer lab. After NMC, he earned a bachelor's degree in film from Grand Valley State University and an MFA from UCLA's screenwriting program. Jabangwe's deal is the first to come out of Imagine Impact, a talent incubator founded by Hollywood heavyweights Ron Howard and Brian Grazer in 2018. *Tunga* is inspired by the mythology of the Shona culture that Jabangwe was raised in. No release date has yet been announced.

Two Law Enforcement alumni received the Andrew Carnegie Medal, awarded to those who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree saving or attempting to save the lives of others.

Kalkaska County Sheriff's Deputy BENJAMIN HAWKINS, 2004, and BLAKE HUFF, 2014, were nominated for the medal by U.S. Congressman Jack Bergman for their response to a 2017 Kalkaska house fire and subsequent rescue of the homeowner, who had paraplegia and could not leave the home. Huff was then a sergeant with the Kalkaska Department of Public Safety and is now with the Gaylord Police Department.

**RICH SWINEHART**, 2013-14, purchased The Muffler Shop automobile repair from

his former automotive instructor, Pete Cataldo. Cataldo started the shop in 1975 and joined NMC's adjunct faculty in 1995, teaching a management class. Swinehart enrolled in the automotive program after working in construction previously. Swinehart said that owning a business has been a long-time goal. "Teaching and learning is key to my success," Swinehart said.

JONATHAN HOORT, Maritime 2016, attended the Oval Office signing of the Military2Maritime Executive Order in March, witnessing the ceremony with President Donald Trump and U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao. Hoort works for Central Marine Logistics.

Share your alumni news by emailing alumni@nmc.edu.



# HAVE APRON, WILL TRAVEL

# Globetrotting 2006 GLCI grad finds home in southeast Asian hotel kitchens

Hospitality has been part of Dustin Baxter's life since high school, when he worked for his parents at Pippins Restaurant in Boyne City. He's combined that background, a talent for pastry and a love of travel into an international career, working in three states and four countries. He says learning new cultures and adding his own style to unique ingredients (like 27 varieties of pineapple in Thailand) is his favorite part of working abroad. He offers a refreshing summertime dessert with ingredients native to Thailand but available in the U.S. **N** 

# WHERE IN THE WORLD IS DUSTIN BAXTER?

2006	Graduated Great Lakes Culinary Institute
2007	Sarasota, FL (Ritz-Carlton)
2009	Half Moon Bay, CA (Ritz-Carlton)
2012	Chicago, IL (Earned a Michelin star at The Peninsula Hotel)
2014	Dubai, United Arab Emirates (Ritz-Carlton)—First executive pastry chef position supervising 11 cooks
2015	Singapore (pre-opening team for new brand, Patina Hotels)
2016	Thailand (The Four Seasons, Koh Samui - supervised eight pastry cooks)
2019	Cambodia (Rosewood Hotels, Phnom Penh)





# FROM OUR KITCHENS

# STRAWBERRY LYCHEE PAVLOVA

If you ever aspired to try your skills as a professional pastry chef, here's a chance to show your chops.

### MERINGUE

- 4 egg whites
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup powdered sugar, sifted

# **STRAWBERRY GEL**

- 4 cups pureed strawberries
- 2 ½ tablespoons agar (acts like a gelatin; available at specialty food stores and amazon.com)
- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cups granulated sugar

### LYCHEE

1 20-oz. can lychee fruit (available at Asian markets) 2 limes zested

### **STRAWBERRY LYCHEE SOUP**

7 cups frozen strawberries
½ cup sugar
1 1/4 cups reserved lychee juice
2 limes zested

**FOR MERINGUES:** Place egg whites in a large bowl; let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes. Beat egg whites, gradually adding granulated sugar, until stiff and glossy. Gently fold in sifted powdered sugar.

Using a gallon-sized Ziploc snipped at the corner, pipe meringue into a 3-inch diameter circle and a 1.5-inch diameter circle on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet.

Pipe small kisses on paper.

BAKE at 195 degrees F for 2 hours; turn off heat and allow to stand in oven for at least 1 hour.

FOR STRAWBERRY GEL: Heat strawberry puree. Mix agar with sugar and add to puree. Bring to a boil for 3 minutes. Refrigerate overnight. Next day, blend with blender or food processor until smooth.

**FOR LYCHEE:** Strain lychee, and save juice for soup. Add lime zest and place into container overnight. Next day, cut into a small dice to serve.

FOR SOUP: Place frozen strawberries, lychee juice, lime zest and sugar in a bowl and wrap very well with plastic wrap. Place over a water bath, gently boiling for 1 hour.

Strain and cool in ice bath.

Assemble pavlova and serve with ice cream or sorbet of your choice.







# CALENDAR

# **JUNE** 17-AUG 16

# College for Kids classes

Most classes run one week each. Choose from STEM subjects, art, outdoor education, culinary and more.

Register at nmc.edu/kids or call (231) 995-1700

- 22 NMC Summer Band Concert
   With the Lansing Concert Band
   7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium
   NMC Summer Band Concert
- **JULY** NMC Summer Band Concert 3 7 p.m. in Glen Arbor
  - 05 Public Viewing Night @ Rogers Observatory

9–11 p.m.

Admission \$2/person or \$5/family Later 2019 dates: nmc.edu/rogersobservatory

# 12 NMC Summer Band Concert

With the Oakland Community Band 7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

# AUGUST

# Scholarship Open

Grand Traverse Resort and Spa

The region's largest golf tournament supports merit-based scholarships. *nmc.edu/golf* 

- 24 Fall semester classes begin nmc.edu/fall
- 27 Pine Palooza student fair

11 a.m.-2 p.m. nmc.edu/studentlife

# SEPT Lobdell's opens for lunch

Reservations available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

(231) 995-3120

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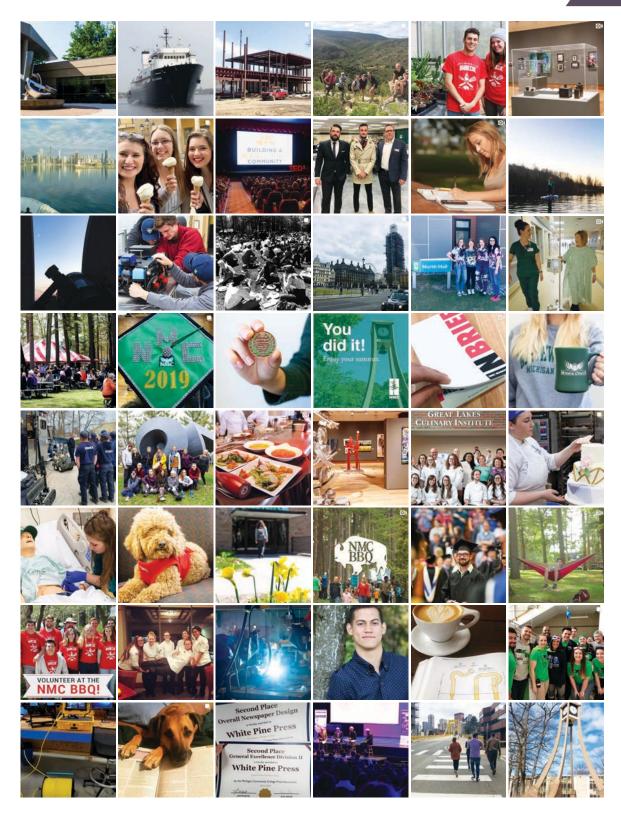
Menu: nmc.edu/lobdells

# **NOV** Lifelong Learning Campus Day

A customized day of learning for those 55 and older.

Registration begins Aug. 12 nmc.edu/ees

# GET SOCIAL



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nmc\_tc | Are YOU following us? | FRAME IT. SNAP IT. POST IT. #thisismyNMC #nmcnow #neverstoplearning



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Trevor Bower

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ENJOY COFFEE AND PASTRIES FROM 7-11 A.M. TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS JUNE 25-AUG. 1 IN CAFE LOBDELL'S. NMC.EDU/LOBDELLS



Kathryn Zolen