Launching edu-tourism

For generations, Grand Traverse Bay has beckoned summer visitors seeking rest and relaxation. Now, thanks to multiple unique NMC programs, it’s drawing more visitors for licensure, professional development, credits and certification.

One of West Bay’s most familiar landmarks, the T/S State of Michigan, will be out of harbor twice as long this summer due to demand for its berths. Doubling its days out on the lakes accommodates not only NMC’s 70 Great Lakes Maritime Academy cadets, but 30 Texas Maritime Academy cadets.

Col. Richard Mallahan, TMA deputy superintendent, said in the past Texas has sent four or five cadets on GLMA cruises. A second cruise enables more Texas cadets to take advantage of the opportunity to sail the Great Lakes.

“Your crew members are great instructors, and when our cadets come back they can’t stop talking about how much they learned sailing on the Great Lakes,” Mallahan said.

The R/V Northwestern, NMC’s research vessel for Water Studies and Marine Technology, also has a busy research and training schedule, including a Marine Technology camp drawing international students and U.S. naval officers, search and recovery training, marine engineering professional development and lab courses in partnership with Western Michigan University.

Also at the Great Lakes campus, for a sixth consecutive year NMC will host an archaeology field school in partnership with the UK-based Nautical Archaeology Society.

Looking from blue bay to blue skies, this summer NMC Aviation will be joined by 37 international flight students, the largest contingent to date.
From the President

Back at bat after a grand slam

NMC hasn’t fielded a baseball team in decades, but I’m proud to say that this spring, we still knocked one out of the park.

In April, we welcomed Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and his staff to our Aero Park campus to tour the skilled trade program equipment that we installed last fall with a $2 million state grant. Northwestern Michigan College was one of 18 community colleges to receive those state dollars, which we matched with almost $700,000 in NMC funds.

We were the first site that the governor visited, and we set the bar high. He was emphatic in his praise of not only our investments in Engineering Technology, Marine Technology, Welding Technology, Nursing and Computer Information Technology, but in our partnerships. We work with local businesses and leaders to make sure our investments benefit the greater Grand Traverse region. As president, it was a proud moment for me to witness our faculty, staff and students share their knowledge and skill with our Lansing guests.

It’s also important because we need strong ties to Lansing to provide the facilities our students need. At the moment, that includes state funding to renovate and expand West Hall. As the West Hall Innovation Center, our students will have access to adaptive learning spaces able to accommodate simulation, team-based and project learning as well as traditional learning. The project advanced significantly on the governor’s list of recommended capital outlay projects earlier this year. We’ll hear about the next steps soon.

As always, let me know what you think at tnelson@nmc.edu

Humanities instructors named 2016 Faculty Excellence award winners

History instructor Jim Press is the Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence Award winner. World Cultures instructor Jim Bensley is the Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award winner. Chosen by a student selection committee, criteria for both awards include teaching excellence, rapport with students, innovation in the classroom and a sense of dedication.

Press began at NMC in 1989 and retired this year after 27 years in the classroom. He was perhaps best known for leading NMC’s participation in the Veterans History Project, a nationwide effort by the Library of Congress to preserve the memories, correspondence and photographs from American veterans dating to World War I. More than 130 area veterans were interviewed by students of Press over more than 10 years.

Bensley began his career at NMC in 1983 and has held a variety of positions at the college. He has been teaching since 2010 and also serves as the director of International Services and Service Learning. Under his leadership, NMC in 2014 ranked sixteenth among community colleges nationwide for student participation in short-term study abroad experiences.

(See p. 6) Bensley is personally invested in the study abroad effort. In 2015 he took students on NMC’s first trip to Cuba. This year he escorted students to Greece.

The Faculty Excellence award was initiated by a contribution from longtime NMC benefactors Harold and Imogene Wise in 1970 and first awarded to a full-time faculty member in 1971. The Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award was created in 1999 as a companion.

► Read more and see a list of all past recipients at nmc.edu/cie
Alumni Notes

Kathryn Bertodatto, class of 2014, was chosen to give the commencement address to the class of 2016 at the University of Michigan. She shared the stage with keynote speaker Michael Bloomberg, former mayor of New York City. Bertodatto commuted from Traverse City so as not to disrupt her young children’s education. That meant racking up some 30,000 miles in the process of earning her bachelor’s degree in English.*

Two Great Lakes Culinary Institute alumni have attained executive chef positions with Park City Resort in Utah, the largest ski resort in the United States – and the opportunity to commute by chairlift to their mountainside kitchens.

Jared Pontius, class of 2010, is Executive Chef at Miners Camp, a 400-seat restaurant at 8,500 feet elevation, and supervises 12-15 cooks.

Jeremy Stanley, class of 2011, is Executive Chef of Summit House, seating 300 and supervising 13 cooks while perched at 9,400 feet.*

Tory Fletcher, plant science-turf grass management, 2005, has been recognized as the Seasonal Operator of the Year by the Michigan Lodging and Tourism Association.

Fletcher is the director of golf/superintendent at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel in Mount Pleasant. He accepted the award at the “Stars of the Industry” awards dinner in April, part of the 2016 Pure Michigan Governor’s Conference on Tourism in Lansing.

Ryan Goddard, class of 2015, recently accepted a position as new police officer with the Sterling Heights Police Department. Goddard had previously served as an employee at the Charlevoix Police Department. Goddard earned his Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement.

Sue Godwin, class of 1984, had her painting, “Scenic Symphony at Sand Hills State Park” - selected for the 61st Annual Exhibition of the National Society of Painters in Casein and Acrylic at the Salmagundi Club in New York City in 2015. Now a full-time landscape artist, Godwin, who lives in Kansas, attributes much of her earlier success as a commercial artist to the NMC art program, in particular to her former professor, the late Jill Hinds.

Nathan Griswold, class of 2000, was awarded the Environmentalist of the Year Award (Business category) from NMEAC. Northern Michigan Environmental Action Council in April. “I love this region and will continue to push for green infrastructure to ensure our futures,” said Griswold, founder and president of Traverse City based Inhabitect, LLC, a full service firm that designs, builds and grows all forms of living architecture.

Laureen Horan, class of 2015 and former NMC White Pine Press editor-in-chief, accepted a position in May 2016 as a reporter for the Cadillac (Mich.) News. Under Horan’s leadership, the White Pine Press won second place for Best in Show among two-year community colleges at the Associated Collegiate Press conference held in February in Los Angeles. Horan is also pursuing her bachelor’s degree at Grand Valley State University.

John R. Lutchko, class of 2013, was selected as one of only 50 Presidential Scholars among Western Michigan University’s 6,500 seniors. The award is Western’s highest undergraduate academic honor. Lutchko is now simultaneously pursuing his bachelor’s in Freshwater Science and Sustainability and a second associate degree from NMC in Engineering Technology-Marine Technology.

Margo Marks, Great Lakes Maritime Academy class of 1983, was elected president of the Passenger Vessel Association for 2016. PVA is a national association representing owners and operators of dinner cruise vessels, sightseeing and excursion vessels, car and passenger ferries and other vessels that carry more than 200 million passengers per year. Marks is also president of the Charlevoix-based Beaver Island Boat Company.*

Roger W. Paupore, class of 2012, recently had a volume of poetry published with Friesen Press. Paupore currently lives in Texas and is a former student of NMC Communications adjunct faculty member Terri Reisig.

Roxanne (Roxy) Scrivener, class of 2016, was named Michigan’s 2016 New Century Scholar by achieving the state’s highest score in the All-USA Community College Academic Team competition. Scrivener received a $2,000 scholarship, which she plans to use to continue her education in computer information systems at Ferris State University through NMC’s University Center. She is NMC’s second straight New Century Scholar and the third in the last four years.

Michelle Witkop, DNP, FNP-BC, a 1977 graduate and 2016 Outstanding Alumna, received the 2015 American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Nurse of the Year Award for Transformational Leadership. ANCC is the world’s largest and most prestigious nurse credentialing organization. Witkop is a Nurse Practitioner at Munson Medical Center’s Northern Regional Bleeding Disorder Center.

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nmc.edu/nmcnow
Exhibited and Acquired: 25 Years of Exhibitions that Added Art to The Dennos Collection

Spanning a range of media from paintings to sculpture to photography, this exhibition offers a survey of the growth of The Dennos collections while chronicling the history of selected exhibitions since the museum opened its doors in 1991.

Clockwise from top, the glass sculpture by Dale Chihuly and “Karma” by noted Michigan State University art professor Cliff McChesney, who also taught for the Leelanau School summer art program for many years, were both part of the museum’s inaugural exhibition in 1991. “Stravinsky” by Arnold Newman was part of a 2004 exhibition on photographic art, and “Hemingway” was part of a 2007 exhibition of portrait photographer Yousuf Karsh’s work. Hemingway can also be seen overlooking Park Street in downtown Traverse City, one of several Dennos works that are part of the art banner project.
Soo Sunny Park: Unwoven Light

Korean artist Park is best known for using everyday building materials to create large, experiential installations that rely on repetition and the interplay of light. At The Dennos, she will recreate a version of her installation Unwoven Light. Suspended as a sculptural composition of chain-link fencing and iridescent Plexiglas formed in organic shapes, it will transform the gallery into a shimmering world of light, shadow, and brilliant color.

Ilhwa Kim: Seed Universe

Thousands of hand-dyed, cut, and rolled sheets of Korean mulberry paper form Kim’s colorful, three-dimensional works of art. She developed this nearly sculptural way of creating artworks using layers of paper, which she calls “seeds,” to make the surface and sense of her images change from morning to night. Depending on the angle, distance and light, her pieces transform in a constantly shifting wave of texture, dimensions, depth, and color.
News digest

Seven projects share $41,720 in Barbecue funds

The Barbecue Board, a group of NMC employees and community volunteers, chose the following college projects to receive proceeds from the 61st annual NMC Barbecue, held May 22:

- G1000 basic Aviation training device
- Apartment and daycare center playground equipment
- Surgical Technology program equipment and library resources
- Dennos Museum art banner project
- NMC Scholarship Open sponsorship
- NMC Observatory telescope drive replacement and upgrade
- Shipwreck research in Northport Harbor for Nautical Archaeology students

The late Gerald W. Oleson and his wife Frances, founders of Oleson’s Food Stores in Traverse City, started the annual fund raiser picnic in 1956. Oleson’s Food Stores continues to donate all the food. Several thousand people attend every year, raising more than $1.8 million for college programs and equipment over the years.

One-year law enforcement certificate now available

NMC is now offering a one-year law enforcement certificate in addition to a degree, creating a more affordable option for individuals interested in law enforcement careers.

The Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, MCOLES, requires a minimum of an associate degree before prospective officers may take a state licensing exam. NMC’s two-year degree program, also known as the Police Academy, was designed as one year of general education credits, and a second year of law enforcement-specific credits.

The new certificate consists of only the second-year curriculum. It serves as an option for students who have already earned some college credits or an associate degree or higher from NMC or any other institution.

With the creation of the certificate, MCOLES also agreed to waive the degree requirement for honorably-discharged military veterans with one year of military police officer service. Veterans who meet this criteria can use GI Bill funds to enroll in the certificate program and become a police officer in two semesters.

The new credential comes as NMC’s law enforcement program approaches its 30th anniversary this fall. Police Academy Director Brian Heffner said the new certificate is timely in an era of higher educational attainment and more frequent career changes.

“We have many inquiries at NMC from individuals who have degrees in other fields that are wishing to change careers - this creates an opportunity for students to gain their MCOLES certification to become a police officer in two semesters,” Heffner said.

NMC 16th in study abroad

From sweet sixteen to top ten, Northwestern Michigan College is pushing its study abroad standing ever higher.

In 2014, NMC ranked sixteenth among community colleges nationwide for student participation in short-term study abroad experiences, according to the Institute for International Education. Using 2015 numbers NMC would rank tenth, placing among colleges whose enrollments are double or triple, said Jim Bensley, director of International Services and Service Learning.

An increased emphasis on study abroad is part of NMC’s strategic direction to ensure that learners are prepared for success in a global society and economy. This year, 60 students from a dozen academic disciplines traveled to six different countries on three continents, all in the month of May. First-time destinations included Greece, Ghana and Ecuador. Returning destinations included South Africa, Costa Rica and Russia.

Find out more at nmc.edu/studyabroad

Congratulations

Congratulations to these retirees who collectively dedicated more than 200 years of service to NMC.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry Compton</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Science/Math Instructor</td>
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<td>Gale Cook</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dennos</td>
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<td>Dori Creighton</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Assistant – Accounting</td>
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<td>Jim Gaylord</td>
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<td>Custodian</td>
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<td>Jo Hendrix</td>
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<td>Health Occupations Instructor</td>
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<td>Sherry Howard**</td>
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<td>Business Instructor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Oliver</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Director of Educational Media Technologies</td>
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<td>Jim Press**</td>
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<td>Humanities Instructor</td>
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<td>Darrell Rogers</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Training Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean Rokus**</td>
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<td>Dan Yeider</td>
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<td>Maintenance Mechanic</td>
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<td>**Faculty Emeritus</td>
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Culinary student Nick Berden shows off the flag of Ecuador, his study abroad destination this spring.

NMC’s Police Academy Class of 2016 at their graduation ceremony.
Attorney and community servant Charles B. “Chuck” Judson has been named the 2016 recipient of the NMC Fellow award, the highest honor the college bestows.

As a member and emeritus chair of the NMC Foundation Board, Judson has been a volunteer and advocate for NMC for two decades. He joined the Foundation Board in 1996 and served as chair in 2001. During his tenure Judson helped to establish the Great Lakes campus, home to several signature college programs.

His philanthropy has even longer longevity. Since 1986, he has given to programs ranging from student scholarships to the Dennos Museum Center, and served as a volunteer and champion for NMC’s Annual Fund Campaign.

NMC is just one of the many Traverse City organizations to benefit from Judson’s time and energy. The length and breadth of his community service culminated in his selection as the 2015 recipient of the Traverse City Area Chamber’s Distinguished Service Award. The DSA is among the oldest community service awards, dating to 1929.

In his professional life as an attorney and shareholder at Smith Haughey Rice & Roegge, Judson serves as an attorney of counsel to NMC.

The NMC Board of Trustees has named Fellows each year since 1964 as a way of recognizing and thanking those individuals who have made special contributions to the college.

Four diverse alumni win award

NMC’s Outstanding Alumni award recognizes alumni with significant professional achievements and/or exemplary leadership in the local or global community. The 2016 winners are:

Korvyn Hansen, 1985-1987: Hansen has spent most of his career at the Grand Traverse Pavilions and is now CEO of one of the region’s largest employers. The Pavilions provides services for more than 300 residents and 100 daily program participants, and serves as a teaching facility for NMC healthcare students.

Therese Renis, pre-engineering, 1977-78: Since 2001 Renis has served as a nuclear safeguards engineer for the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. Notably, she was a member of the IAEA’s Nobel Peace Prize-winning team in 2005, a prize shared with IAEA director Mohamed El Baradei. In 2015 she was promoted to a directorship.

Michelle Witkop, nursing class of 1977: Witkop is the lead clinician in Munson Medical Center’s Northern Regional Bleeding Disorder Center, the only U.S. facility of its kind medically managed by nurse practitioners. Last year the American Nurses Credentialing Center named Witkop Nurse of the Year for transformational leadership, for her groundbreaking research related to pain management in hemophilia patients.

Capt. Dean Hobbs, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, 1976 (posthumously): Senior captain of the car ferry SS Badger; senior trial master for the Marinette Marine Corporation, and assisted in the sea trials and delivery of many of its new vessels, including more than 25 U.S. Coast Guard cutters and U.S. Navy Littoral combat ships. Hobbs passed away in 2013.
UC partners roll out four new degrees

NMC’s four-year partners at the University Center are offering several new degrees in Traverse City.

• Central Michigan University is offering a master’s in Public Administration.

• Davenport University is offering a masters of Business Administration in 12 months.

• Ferris State University is offering a bachelor’s in Early Childhood Education.

• Grand Valley State University is offering a master’s degree in Physician Assistant studies.

For more information on these or any of the more than 50 advanced degree programs in business, education, information technology and health care offered by NMC’s eight University Center partners, visit nmc.edu/uc