January 25, 2019 Vol. XXXV No. 8

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NMC offered horseback riding as a physical education class for three summers during the 1970s. The class took place at Northwood Farm, located south of Traverse City and owned by former instructor Edna Sargent (pictured holding the reins). Now age 93, Sargent—who also worked as a counselor and later as the registrar at NMC—says that at the time she had 16 horses, including several boarded at the farm.

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What's Up on Campus

Two new Associate of Applied Science degrees were approved by the Board of Trustees on Dec. 17. The Culinary Sales degree includes a mix of culinary and general business courses. The Surveying degree complements existing marine technology and unmanned aerial systems training.

The Osterlin Library has digitized back issues of the White Pine Press, as well as NMC's previous newspapers, dating back to the 1950s. A link to this resource is available at whitepinepresstc.com/archive or nmc.edu/library/a-z-resource.html.

The Board of Trustees has chosen a firm to aid in the search for NMC's next president. A unanimous vote on Jan. 14 selected Pauly Group, Inc., from Illinois. According to a press release, "Pauly Group estimated fees for the face-to-face services trustees said they preferred at \$52,000." Additional costs may include \$2,500 per day, plus travel expenses, for on-campus visits that exceed the three visits outlined in the proposal.

Check out Meals on the Move on Mondays and Wednesdays in the Health & Science lobby. Between 11am-1:30pm, NMC Dining Services will be on-site making cook-to-order hot meals. Bring your meal plan or credit cards: this is a cashless location.

NMC launches partially redesigned website. The changes are intended to make site navigation easier for potential students at nmc.edu.

West Hall Innovation Center's projected completion date has been pushed to Spring 2020.

NMC's annual Festival of Foods takes place on Saturday, Feb. 2 from 10am-3pm in the Hagerty Center. The event costs \$99 at nmc.edu/festival-of-foods. Registration includes live demonstrations, sampling throughout the day, and light appetizers at 12:30pm.

Non-Discrimination Policy Notice

Northwestern Michigan College is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, genetic information, height, weight, marital status or veteran status in employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions. nmc.edu/nondiscrimination

NEWS

Alumni Spotlight: Becky Tranchell



Photo courtesy of Becky Tranchell

Emily Slater

Becky Tranchell just wants to see people happy. A 2008 graduate of the Great Lakes Culinary Institute at NMC, Tranchell has spent the last 11 years honing her craft and building up an impressive resume. She has worked for acclaimed chef Alice Waters in San Francisco, and was a personal chef for a filmmaker in New York for a few years. She's run her own food truck down by Little Fleet, and was the executive chef at the now closed OM Cafe in town. She even spent four semesters as an adjunct culinary arts professor at NMC.

On paper, the breadth of her work is wide ranging and formidable for someone so young. But Tranchell wasn't looking for a life built on paper. Late nights and running herself into the ground in the name of success didn't sit well with her. The last decade was as much about gaining experience as it was about helping her to slowly chip away to the core of what she wanted out of a career. She wanted hours that left her with the chance to build a life outside of her work. She wanted to provide a place in her neighborhood where people could enjoy a cup of coffee and locally sourced food. She wanted to provide a space for them to feel welcomed and find comfort.

Enter: Rose and Fern.

Rose and Fern, Tranchell's new cafe next to Potter's Bakery on Eighth Street, is a testament to her love for community and good food. It was important to her that all of the food be sourced locally in Michigan, and that the menu be both approachable and intriguing. Tranchell notes, "I know that my dad could come here and find something that he's comfortable with, but then my vegetarian brother from New York could find something he's excited to try, too."

Tranchell makes all the food herself in the cafe's kitchen, while Jeff Brown, who provides the coffee for Rose and Fern from his company, Stockist Coffee, mans the front counter. Even though she's not on the floor with the customers, Tranchell makes sure she is connecting with everyone coming through her shop's doors. "The door to the kitchen stays open. I pop out regularly, I bring out the food, and I try to make eye contact with every person that comes in, if I can." She says. She's emphatic about the necessity of connecting with people. "You have to remember people's names, you have to shake people's hands. You have to care about what other people are doing, too."

Though she is the sole owner of Rose and Fern, she can constantly be caught using, "we" and "us" instead of "I" and "me" when she speaks of the cafe. It's a subtle nod to the community she loves. From signs and murals to electricity and tiles and table tops, nearly every part of the cafe has been touched and improved in some way by Tranchell and her friends and family, who have come alongside her to help her achieve the Rose and Fern dream. You can sense it when you walk in. It exudes joy and warmth, and you feel the hard work and the care that went into creating a space for a well-loved neighborhood.

You feel happy.



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FEATURE

A Winter's Night in Traverse City

Kyle Jasper Traverse City is known throughout our country as a beautiful vacation Staff Writer destination. Tourism in our city accounts for about 30 percent of our economy, according to traversecity.com. Looking at the busy streets and downtown shops in the summer, it's understandable that most of our tourism money is earned during our four or so months of amazing, warm weather. But what happens to our town in the winter? Well, if you've lived in this area for some time, you've probably noticed a lack of people perusing through downtown this time of year. While some may see ice, snow, and chilly temperatures as a reason



Photo by Kyle Jasper

to stay inside, I see an opportunity to have a night out on the town to truly explore our little corner of the Earth.

Whether you're going out solo, on a date, or with a group of friends, "hitting the town" usually starts with food. Deciding where to eat can be difficult, especially with all the great restaurants Traverse City has to offer. If you're a sushi person like me, Firefly, on Cass Street, is a great choice. My personal favorite is the spider roll, but you can't go wrong with the classic spicy tuna roll. Firefly also has excellent cocktails—if you're 21 or older, of course.

If sushi isn't your thing, you could enjoy a meal at one of Traverse City's best-known eateries: Bubba's on Front Street. Jen Haase, Bubba's assistant manager and bar manager, says that the restaurant is known for its burgers. "[We've been voted] best burger in town for about... 13 or 14 years in a row, so I'd highly recommend one of those." If you're a vegetarian, Bubba's also has a great veggie burrito, along with other veggie options. If you're just stopping by for appetizers, Haase suggests the mac and cheese bites, Irish egg rolls, or sweet potato tater tots.

Stopping into some of the many downtown shops is not only a necessity to stay warm on a chilly winter evening, it's also a good source of entertainment. Our city has many unique stores, but perhaps none as unique as Diversions, on the corner of Front and Union. In Diversions, it's easy to lose track of time while trying on hats from different eras. You may even decide to buy one of those porkpie hats you've always wanted!

It's hard to talk about downtown T.C. without mentioning the State Theatre. The wonderful cinema is a tourist attraction in its own right, and is a staple of our town. The State Theatre offers a unique atmosphere, complete with a variety of fun snacks for sale. Catching a flick at the State is the perfect way to end your night out on the town. If you're a planner like me, you can check out what's playing and movie times at stateandbijou.org.

Perhaps the best part of all of these establishments? As an NMC student, you are eligible for a discount! Just stop into the Enrollment Services office in the Tanis building and get your NMC ID. Then you can receive a discount from all of the businesses I've mentioned, plus many others. So, put on your warmest coat, fuzziest hat, and most comfortable boots, then get out there and explore what our city has to offer! After all, there's no shortage of possibilities for a wintery night in downtown Traverse City.

Start Your Countdown! The Year of the Pig is on its Way!

Valerie Reeves
Staff WriterDespite the New Year having already
passed for the United States, the
United States, the
Chinese, who follow a lunar calendar, are preparing to celebrate
their New Year on Feb. 5. Celebrations last for a week, where
people visit family, exchange gifts and give each other "Red
Pocket Money"—lucky money for the New Year given in red
envelopes. Usually, parents give money to their kids, but since
the whole family is giving to each other, all the money circles
around.

"Being together with family for New Year is like Thanksgiving in the United States," smiled Jeff Zhao, student leader of NMC's international club. "Besides receiving Red Pocket Money, visiting family is one of my favorite parts of New Year."

Leading up to the week of festivities, TV programs play a countdown of performances by singers, comedians, and other celebrities. Parades, too, are sometimes part of the countdown program. "It's a big honor to get on the New Year countdown show," Zhao said.

During the week of New Year, people have many ways of bringing in good luck. New clothes are bought, lanterns lit, and the universally lucky China Knot is hung inside cars and on door handles. The entire house is cleaned from top to bottom not only for the arrival of friends and family, but also to clean out the bad luck and embrace good luck for the coming year. In businesses, Red Pocket Money is stapled to indoor orange trees for financial luck. Finally, the lucky Dragon Dance is performed. For the dance, several people dress in either the head or the tail of the dragon costume, while others dance

around the dragon.

Before fireworks and firecrackers were banned in cities, they were sold throughout the streets and shops for New Year. In China, fireworks were cheaper than in the United States, and the bigger the firework, the better the luck. "I remember before fireworks were banned, a lot of people would buy them. Then they would honk their car horns in the streets for good luck as the fireworks went off," Zhao said.

In China, one of the luckiest things to eat on New Year are dumplings, the most common flavors being either pork and chives or egg and chives. Sometimes, people would put a gold coin into one of the dumplings, and whoever finds it will have good luck in the coming year. "My family doesn't have many of the other lucky foods, because they are optional," Zhao explained. "But dumplings are a must-have!"

Legends about Chinese New Year and the animals differ from place to place throughout China. Although the stories surrounding them are different, the New Year animals are similar to the zodiac signs in western culture. But instead of each birth month representing personality traits and lucky signs, Chinese animals go by the year. "I am born in the Year of the Dragon," Zhao said. "Therefore, some people say it is lucky for me to wear red underwear on my animal's year."

So here's for a happy 2019, from the proud tiger to the humble rat. For all those born in the Year of the Pig—don't forget your lucky red underwear! **NEWS**

Save Money with Open Educational Resources

Liam Strong Despite the transition Staff Writer of so many colleges and universities toward being more internet friendly, students continue to struggle with scrounging up funds for expensive textbooks. However, the shift has allotted for reform in how educators approach the crutch of textbooks. On Northwestern Michigan College's campus, progress has been made with the installation of Open Education Resources (OER) to grant access to free online materials for the student body.

OER comes in all forms, too: textbooks, assignments, quizzes, and labs, which are open to the scrutiny of sharing, distributing, revising, and printing—all for free. Tina Ulrich, NMC's director of library services and member of the campus OER Squad, suggests that, because of large production companies adopting digital rights to materials, universities and professors have no ulterior control over what they charge. "It's kind of like a doctor prescribing a medication to a patient. The doctor probably doesn't even know how much the medicine costs and the patient has to pay whatever the pharmaceutical company charges," Ulrich said. Subsequently, OER is malleable under Creative Commons licenses, which iterate that with proper author credit, the creators of the content can give permission to use the resources to anyone.

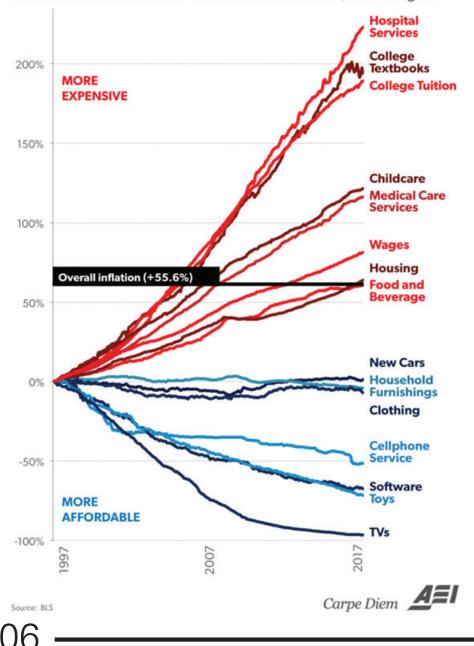
This past fall, NMC had 30 courses taught utilizing free or low-cost textbooks. In the grand scheme of things, this totals up to \$200,000 saved. Since OER's inception in 2015, NMC faculty have generated \$1,047,300 worth of savings from free and low-cost textbooks. Faculty in almost every department are concentrating on helping students.

Professors not only here, but around the nation, are beginning to further this pattern. If students learn just as well (if not better) from free materials, why should obscenelypriced textbooks be enforced? Communities devoted to selling used textbooks and materials are a seasoned revolt against purchasing brand new ones from bookstores. This thrivability is cousin to used car dealerships, to give another comparison. Used, in this context, does not mean useless.

Since this trend is practically a polar opposite to how things used to be conducted with

Price changes (Jan. 1997–Dec. 2017)

Selected US Consumer Goods and Services, and Wages



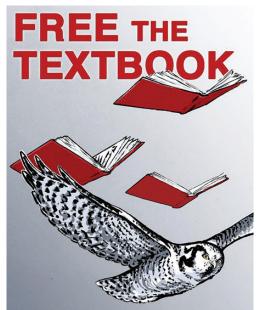
educational materials, the backlash in moving forward tends to be from understanding the movement. The biggest hurdle can simply be in convincing others, students, professors, and administration alike, to help promote it. The librarians and Educational Media Technologies staff have aided in the process of converting history professor Tom Gordon's HST 111 and 112 textbooks into a source that can be constantly revised. In another light, this can be seen as an investment for a \$25 online and/or physical copy versus the \$150 original version



from which the textbook was derived. That's an immense difference.

For a movement which began in community colleges and has since spread to the university level, this reformation isn't slowing down—if anything, it's picking up. Professors are now becoming authors for the benefit of many, and universities are inquiring community colleges about how to get OER on their campuses.

The startling realization is that the constant stream of new textbook editions may not be necessary anymore. The internet is a canvas with clear advantages to lessen the daunting



nmc.libguides.com/freeandopen Images courtesy of Tina Ulrich

pain of what higher education has made itself to be. Though the copyright system of the United States has yet to adapt to the capabilities of the internet, the material itself is not changing. It's similar to what Ulrich considers a "delivery system"—the textbook serves in the same capacity it would have if developed by a publishing company.

OER isn't a fledgling movement anymore. It has its roots across the globe which continue to germinate. Education, at its center, was meant to be open, accessible for anyone. The staff and faculty of NMC and other campuses around the world are making this happen. "People don't learn from buildings," Ulrich said. "They learn from excellent teachers and books they can afford."

For more information about Open Education Resources on campus, consult the Osterlin Library's page on OER: nmc.edu/library/help/oer.



NEWS

Local Mariners Face Uncertainty Under the Government Shutdown

Dylan Jewell "The shutdown throws a Staff Writer "The shutdown throws a wrench into pretty much all that we've been preparing for," says NMC student Tom Clarke, a cadet whose only remaining business at the Great Lakes Maritime Academy (GLMA) involves taking licensing exams—tests administered by proctors from the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG). "But I wouldn't blame the folks at the academy or in the Coast Guard; we wholeheartedly appreciate all the effort they've put into keeping us updated and trying to work out solutions."

For a select bunch at NMC, the government shutdown is more than simply a talking point. At GLMA, many wait to take their exams have been left in limbo. In total, 48 cadets are affected, according to GLMA licensing and internship coordinator Patrick Podolan. Of these, 26 cadets have completed their sea projects (which can take up to 130 days at sea), and require both the USCG exams and current semester classes. Another 11 cadets have completed both their sea projects and classes, and simply need to take the exams to obtain their degree.

Eleven more cadets who completed their Bachelor's degree classes in December 2018, were supposed to take their exams on Jan. 8, then sail on the ocean for their sea projects. "These cadets were probably all paying \$100 per month in addition online support to help them study for the USCG exams," said Podolan. "[They] will not have the internet access to continue their online studying while they are out to sea, but will have lots of books to take with them. Hopefully they will have the time while aboard the ship to study." These cadets now await answers about when they will be able to get their licensing and begin seeking employment. Like most Americans, their guess is as good as anyone's when it comes to knowing when the government shutdown will end.

As of press time, the shutdown, which began at midnight on Dec. 22, has lasted more than one month. One of its many consequences is that, for the first time in the history of the United States government, Coast Guard active duty members and employees have gone without pay, and several of its operations have ceased.

Among the 800,000 federal workers affected by the shutdown are 114 active duty members at the Traverse City Coast Guard Air Station who, while not receiving their paychecks, fulfill their responsibilities while waiting on the government to return the favor. In the interest of helping out, the Cherryland VFW chapter along with local markets have helped supplement bills and donate groceries to Coast Guard workers currently trying to stay afloat without compensation.

This year, GLMA has its largest class since the mid-1980s. Instead of spending time with family over the winter break, some cadets studied for exams they currently can't take.

Still, the shutdown has left cadets in suspense. "None of us know for sure [when] the shutdown will end and suddenly we'll have to jump into licensing the next week," Clarke said. "That would be devastating." However, Clarke considers his situation to be more felicitous than that of some of his fellow cadets. "I spend my days this spring semester not





going to classes, but simply studying every day for license testing so that I can be as prepared as possible."

Nick Zarafonitis is another cadet awaiting examination. "As of right now I have no classes left," says Zarafonitis, who only has 19 sea days remaining before he can take the exams to become officially licensed. Maritime cadets are required to sit for a total of 15 exams, and to score at least 90 percent in order to fully qualify for their licensing. The exams cover successful navigation of established courses, maritime law, vessel maneuvering and procedures, and characteristics of cargo safety and stowage, among other things.

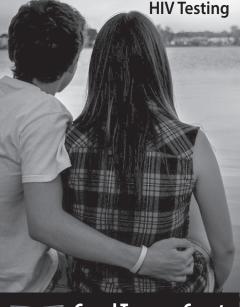
"Has it affected us? Yes," says John Biolchini, deck instructor at the academy. "As it continues and drags on, it affects us worse and worse." At least 24 of his own deck students and 17 engineers feel these effects. "They can't even go to Toledo and test." The Regional Examination Center (REC) is located in Toledo, where proctors travel to administer tests to graduating cadets. "Right now, the REC are at reduced operating status and are...just waiting to get the government back open." The nuclear option, Biolchini says, is to ask graduating cadets to travel to Toledo to take the test there once the government begins operating again, as the process of getting proctors up to GLMA will be significantly delayed. "I am currently in the process of renewing my licensing myself," he adds. "Along with thousands of other mariners, I'm sailing on expired credentials."

Cadets hope to finally take their exams sometime in February. "Although I'm benefiting from this shutdown in some ways," Clarke said, "I'd prefer it wasn't at the expense of 800,000 federal workers going without paychecks and other cadets who've worked hard to prepare for their license exams."

Photos by Nick Moug

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Tom Clarke (pictured)

OPINION

What the Tech?!

Careers in Game Design

Stewart Jack

Contributing Writer

"Hey mom, dad, I know what I want to do for a job!" I know that as a good parent I'm not supposed to groan when I hear those words, but for those of you who have been through your child's

declarations of becoming a rock star, pro footballer, or their modern equivalents (professional YouTuber or video game player), it's hard not to cringe. My son's next words didn't seem much better at first. "A game developer," he proudly proclaims.

Now, in my mind anything with the word "game" in it is a bad sign. I've been told not to crush his dreams (again) by telling him not to be so silly, my wife was very emphatic about that, so instead I try to steer him away with a few leading questions. "Are there many jobs available for game designers, son?" I was expecting a vague "don't know," but his reply made me sit up and start to take him more seriously. "With everyone playing mobile games these days, there are lots of small and indie developers hiring," he told me. My son then explained that he discovered there were more than 4,000 current openings according to Indeed.com. In addition, the U.S. will need more than 31,000

game designers over the next ten years according to Sonaku.com, a growth rate of more than nine percent. "Plus, if I can't get a job developing games, I can still work as a more general software developer," he added.

He's clearly put some thought into this, plus it has a plan B already baked in. I'm starting to like this better. When I asked how much it pays, he said that the average annual salary is almost \$90K. I double checked—his numbers were pretty accurate.

His next words sealed the deal. "NMC has started offering game design and development as an elective class, so I can try it to see if I like it while working towards another degree or picking up my Gen Eds." Can't argue with that. Have fun, son!

Stewart Jack is an instructor in the CIT Developer program at NMC.

Thank You, Next: The Self-Awareness of Ariana Grande

Tamara Wiget
Staff WriterA shooting in Manchester. The death of a
cherished ex. The end of an engagement.Being sexually assaulted by a pastor at a funeral. Unending
accusations over an number of frivolous things. Most people
would be angry and burdened by any one of these things, and
by all of them in just a couple years would make just about
anyone want to pull the covers over their head and give up.

But not Ariana Grande.

Not so long ago, Grande broke into the public eye by playing the sweet but flighty Cat Valentine on Nickelodeon's "Victorious," as well as the spinoff "Sam and Cat." Not long after, her music career took off, but personally I haven't been paying much attention, only coming in contact with Grande's music at my former retail job where listening to mega pop hits like "One Less Problem" and "Bang Bang" at least once a day was mandatory. (I also have all the words of Taylor Swift's 1989 memorized thanks to that job, but that's a trauma with which I'm not yet ready to reconcile.)

Since then, I've slowly come to respect Grande. Her music still doesn't hold much appeal for me, but I like her as a human being. In the wake of the Manchester shooting at one of her shows in 2017, she was genuinely traumatized by the fact that people who just wanted to share a love of her music were hurt. Instead of hiding in fear, she did another show in Manchester to raise funds for the British Red Cross. Unfortunately, this event seemed to be just the beginning of what must surely have been an emotional rollercoaster. As her career continued its upward arch over the past year, so too did the number of tragedies in her life. She was groped on national television by a religious leader while trying to pay tribute to the late and great Aretha Franklin. Her relationship with rapper Mac Miller ended. He died of an overdose not long after, and to add insult to injury, Twitter trolls blamed Grande for his demise, suggesting that if she had stayed with him maybe he wouldn't have died. (To her credit, Grande gracefully responded: "I have cared for him and tried to support his sobriety & prayed for his balance for years (and always will of course) but shaming/ blaming women for a man's inability to keep his s-t together is a very major problem.") Mac Miller's death caused a rift in Grande's quick engagement to SNL star Pete Davidson, and

they split in 2018.

Given her relationship woes on top of all the other unfortunate events she's endured, you'd think Grande would be bitter. It might even be considered understandable if she were angry at Mac Miller for his drug use, or at Davidson

for perhaps not supporting her enough through such a difficult time. If her recent single "thank u, next" is any indication, though, quite the opposite is true. At first glance the dismissive title is indicative of a ruthless #gurrrrlpwr break up jam which, in a society that equates post-relationship empowerment with revenge (looking at you, Carrie Underwood), distracting oneself with boozy nights with friends, racking up debt through retail therapy, and jumping into bed with the nearest stranger in order to move on quickly, would make the song just one of many on a playlist of any recently single pop music fan.

Instead, "thank u, next" is essentially a show of appreciation and gratitude to the men of her past. She names rapper Big Sean, dancer Ricky Alvarez, Mac Miller, and Davidson, stating "One taught me love, one taught me patience" and "I'm so fucking grateful for my ex."

Through this display of thoughtfulness that is often lacking in popular music, she exudes a level of self-awareness and love that most of us are too petty to ever achieve. In a society that encourages placing blame on the other person in a severed relationship, Grande, puts out there the wild idea that the postrelationship state is an opportunity for self-reflection and examination of lessons learned. This is an idea that collides with the societal notion that a failed relationship means you have failed. Grande, as a woman in a position of influence, is kindly turning this idea aside in favor of nurturing herself. Leading by example, she encourages her listeners to do the same; and for this loving piece of advice, I'm so fucking grateful.



OPINION Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor of the White Pine Press,

This letter is not just to the editor, but to everyone reading this. What do you think of when you see the word needle? A small prick when getting a shot or the oversized foot-long needle we see in horror movies? Heck, maybe even a sewing needle? What about blood? Maybe you think of forensic cases where people are trying to find a match? Maybe there is even a shiver or a nauseous feeling for those a little queasier about it. When we put blood and needles together, we get more than just a nightmare. We have a recipe for life.

I am writing to you as a blood donor. I was that weird kid always fascinated by blood, the movements, the physical properties of it, and even what it does. For many years, I had wanted to donate never really knowing why. So even after donating, I got to thinking "What do I donate for?" and even "Why am I donating in the first place?" I spent night of researching why should I donate and who really benefits from it. This led me to the Community Blood Center website which has shown that less than 40 percent of the population in the United States can donate blood, and less than 10 percent of that will donate even a minimum of once a year. They also state that people need blood every two seconds. That is a lot of blood that people need.

The fact that people all around the world need blood, and with a population so large we are barely helping really irritates me. People worldwide need blood every few seconds due to emergencies, accidents, people who cannot produce enough blood, and even cancer. Yet most people put donating blood off and it becomes a "somebody else can do it" concept. No, nobody else will do it. We have the power to change and even save lives.

Now the other issue is most people do not even know where to donate. An easy way to fix that is even just searching for centers like MI Blood and Red Cross near you. Most blood donation centers have both a main office and some even have blood vans. As weird as that sounds yes, they have busses that go different places and allow people to donate then and there. There was even a bus here at campus not too long ago. Signing up is easy. Most of the time you can just go into a main office and tell them that you would like to become a new donor. Before you donate, you may have to answer questions in order to give them the knowledge that they need to make sure the donation goes properly.

We have always had the power of life and death in us. We have always had the cure. But what we do with that knowledge is completely up to us. We must decide whether to fight or standby. But just keep in mind what there is at risk here. The future. Not just our future, but the future of everyone. Death is inevitable, but it doesn't have to be so soon.

Sincerely, **Reaves** Pickard

According to the National Kidney Randi Upton Staff Write Foundation, there are more than 121,000 people waiting for an organ transplant. Of those, 100,000 are waiting for a kidney donation. More than 3,000 patients are added to the kidney waitlist every month, and 5,000 patients die every year waiting for a kidney. Another 3,000 become too sick to receive a transplant because of health complications from waiting too long for a transplant. In Michigan, the wait time for a kidney transplant is much lower than a lot of other states at four to seven years.

This is an issue that many people do not think about unless it actively affects them or a loved one. These issues do affect me personally: my partner and father of my child has a chronic kidney condition that causes kidney failure. He has had it since childhood and received two transplants because kidney transplants only last 10-15 years from a deceased donor, and 15-20 years from a living donor. He has only had deceased donors, and also suffers from chronic rejection. Rejection of a transplant means that the body's immune system sees the transplant as an intruder and destroys it, or the patient's kidney disease comes back and does the same as before.

The process for getting a kidney transplant is not as simple as some doctor's appointments then going on the waitlist. Once the kidney has reached failure, the patient begins dialysis that they and a doctor have decided is the best route to take. Most insurance requires the patient already be on dialysis to even begin the process of being on the transplant list.

First thing to do is to find a hospital that does transplants. In Michigan, there is Mercy Health in Grand Rapids, and University of Michigan Health in Ann Arbor. Then there are several diagnostic tests to be done like stress tests and EKG,

Dear Reaves,

Thank you for your letter. Donating blood is very important, and depending on blood type, the available supply can be quite low. As of early January, MI Blood reports having a 58 percent 4-day supply of O-Negative and a 47 percent supply of B positive. Platelet levels are lower at 44 percent. Like you mention, donating empowers us to be a part of a lifesaving process.

If anyone reading this is dubious of the impact you could have, here is my own story: 14 years ago, I would have died had it not been for a blood transfusion following an emergency surgery. Two pints of blood saved my life that night. While I will never know who made those donations, they have my gratitude for being able to write this today.

I encourage everyone to go donate at your first opportunity. If getting off campus is a problem, the MI Blood mobile bus comes to NMC's main campus about once a month. Its next two dates are:

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1-5:30pm Wednesday, March 13, 1-5:30pm

You can also make an appointment at the local MI Blood center, located at 2575 Aero Park Drive in Traverse City by calling 231-935-3030 or going online at donate.miblood.org.

Regards, Ann Hosler WPP Editor-in-Chief

WRITE US A LETTER

OUR POLICY: White Pine Press accepts letters to the editor from members of the college and community. Letters should be less than 400 words, typewritten, and signed with your name, address and phone number. Letters may be edited for clarib, grammar spelling and length clarity, grammar, spelling and length. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the *White Pine Press* staff or any college employee.

BY MAIL: White Pine Press Letters to the Editor 1701 East Front St Traverse City, MI 49686

BY EMAIL: whitepinepress@amail.com

Waiting on Maybe: The Reality of Kidney Transplants

bloodwork and imaging.

Once that is done, an appointment is made with the transplant team. These appointments are done in groups and all in one day, making for a very long day. The patient has to bring someone with them who will be caring for them after the surgery. This person sits in for all of the appointments so they understand the process, and can have any questions they may have answered. We sat in a classroom and listened to a presentation that goes over costs and insurance, transplant list information and wait times. Patients can also fundraise to cover costs. This is done by selling things like candy or candles so the cost of the transplant would not possibly bankrupt a family.

After the class they meet with the doctors. This was six hours of sitting in the same room as a dietician, nephrologist, a surgeon, a social worker, and a nurse practitioner. We had to make a plan to be submitted to the team. This plan is important and must be done before being considered for organ donation. When getting a deceased kidney, once the kidney is harvested it must be in the patient receiving it within 18 hours, and the doctors prefer within 12. Once a patient gets the phone call, they have to leave immediately. The plan makes sure the patient can get a transplant at any time. Missing out on it because of a lack of planning means a kidney wasted. The plan includes everything from childcare, backup

childcare, transportation, ability to pay for transportation, time off work or school, and aftercare.

We also discussed living donor versus deceased donor. Living donor is always the best option as the transplants last longer. These donations come from a family member or friend but can be a stranger. As a living donor all costs of the surgery and aftercare are paid for by the insurance of the one receiving the transplant. A deceased donor is someone who has passed away and signed up to be an organ donor. These donations do not last as long. The doctors then have a meeting and decide if the patient is accepted to the waitlist.

Yes, accepted. There are patients that go through all of this, months and months of doctors and tests, to be denied the option for a transplant. This can be for various reasons, such as a history of noncompliance or the patient may be deemed unfit because their body could not handle the stress of surgery. Some patients that have the means get on lists in different states. In Michigan a patient can be on the list at only one hospital; some states allow multiple or unlimited hospitals. More wait lists mean more chances of survival, but not everyone has the means to buy a last-minute plane ticket because they got the call that a kidney is available.

We need more organ donors in this country, even if it is just checking the "Organ Donor" box on a driver's license or adding it to a will. The long wait times due to lack of donors is reason for so many dying waiting for a transplant. There are also websites like Be the Match. To donate a kidney anonymously, contact a transplant center such as the University of Michigan Medical Center (734-936-8363). The National Kidney Foundation website has information and locations at kidney.org/transplantation/livingdonors.

09

•5. 2019 HEALTH & WELLNESS Vegetarians vs. the American Agenda: The Nation's Troubling Stigma

Claire Ackerman Contributing Writer With the United States moving toward a politically progressive climate each day, you might be inclined to believe that there are more vegetarians and vegans than ever before, but you would be wrong.

Compared to other nations around the world, America lacks the growth and appreciation for plant-based and vegetarian diets as other countries have. While places like the U.K., Canada, and Switzerland have skyrocketed into vegetarian/vegan diets, America has stagnated in growth since early 2012. This stagnation is believed to have something to do with America's conditioned love for meat. Unlike many groups of people around the world, Americans center their diets and meals on meat and have since the early 1900s. The first USDA food guide pyramid, for example, was published in 1912 and focused heavily on meat-based nutrition—more than any other country. Furthermore, the USDA food pyramid wasn't edited to consider plant-based diets and nutrition until 1992 and even then did little to bring attention to these types of lifestyles.

While the changes to accept plant-based diets were eventually made, the effects were lackluster. America is rooted in a love for meat that seems impossible to sway. A survey in 2018 from *The Washington Post* revealed that 51 percent of Americans still consider a meal not containing meat to be incomplete. Opposite of this, another study in 2018 from *The Post* found that one-third of all dinners in the United Kingdom are meat-free, and a market research firm, Mintel, found that the number of new vegetarian products introduced to the U.K. market doubled between 2009 and 2013.

As the nation continues to support and perpetuate meat-based diets, it also supports practices such as intensive animal farming, also known as factory farming, or livestock farming, to supply all the meat. This practice of factory farming is not only unethical, but it is also heavily damaging to the environment. Factory farming is practiced within very small confinements of high stock density in order to produce the highest possible output at the lowest possible costs. Animals subject to factory farming are exposed to intensive hunger, thirst, discomfort, and intentional pain such a "beak breaking" of chickens to prevent harm and cannibalism to

This vegetarian recipe is an excellent and hearty winter lentil soup—try it tonight!

Winter Lentil Soup

INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 leeks (white and green parts) cut into 1/4 inch half-moons
- 1 28-ounce can of whole tomatoes, drained
- 2 sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2 inch-wide strips
- 1 bunch of kale (or your choice of healthy greens!), thick stems removed and leaves cut into ½ inch-wide strips
 - ¹/₂ cup of brown lentils
 - 1 tablespoon of fresh thyme
 - Kosher salt and black pepper
 - Grated parmesan (optional)

DIRECTIONS

1.) Heat the oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the leeks and cook, stirring occasionally, until they begin to soften, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the tomatoes and cook, breaking them up with a spoon, for 5 minutes.

2.) Add 6 cups water and bring to a boil. Stir in the sweet potatoes, kale, lentils, thyme, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons salt, and $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon pepper. Simmer until the lentils are tender, 25 to 30 minutes.

3.) Spoon into bowls and top with the Parmesan, if using.

other animals. Perhaps the treatment of animals is not as pressing as other consequences of factory farming, for example, a 2010 article from *The Guardian* stated that carbon emissions of animals bred for meat accounted for more than 18 percent of global pollution and that it continuously rises. On top of this, *The Guardian* also found that roughly 26 percent of the ice-free land surface area on the Earth is used for livestock farming. Not enough to change your mind? How about the issue of world hunger? Freshwater issues? It's important to know that one-third of total cropland goes toward livestock farming and that every pound of beef made for consumption takes almost 2,000 gallons of water to produce.

I would hope that these numbers upset you as much as they did me when I first read them. There are, however, many steps you can take to do your part in reforming and educating America. Being a vegetarian (abstaining from meat) or vegan (abstaining from all animal products) is not a shameful act, and while America might be largely speculative when it comes to accepting deviation from the standard norm, switching to a plant-based diet would be your little step in helping to make the world a better place. I myself switched to vegetarianism three years ago, and I am hoping to one day go vegan. This change challenged me in many ways and forced me out of my comfort zone when confronted about my new diet. While the lifestyle is a hard one to acclimate to at first, I implore you to step out of your comfort zone and take the initiative for the environment and for the animals. The next time you go to plan dinner or look for a restaurant to eat, consider the plant-friendly options, and consider the environment.



Photo by Marzia Aziz / littlespicejar.com

10

Movie Review: "Bird Box"

Miranda Feltv Staff Writer

"Bird Box," a Netflix original based on the book by Josh Malerman of the same title, had a lot of hype to live up to, but unfortunately, didn't.

The movie shifts back and forth between the onset of the apocalypse, where the arrival of otherworldly entities causes the people who see them to commit suicide. Five years forward into the present, Malorie and her two children try to seek refuge, all while remaining blindfolded to protect themselves from the creatures who still lurk the Earth.

The horror-thriller left me disoriented, with more questions than answers. It's not that I felt like I wasted two hours of my life by watching this movie. It was entertaining for the most part, but just as equally frustrating. "Bird Box" had neither clear direction nor clear resolve.

The characters were generic and written as if they were plot devices rather than fleshed-out individuals. Malorie, the main character, was an interesting protagonist-a reluctant mother and isolated artist with a disconnection from society. This was a fresh and new twist to the typical heroic protagonist that is common in post-apocalyptic films. Although her character growth-if you can call it that-was rushed, I at least had an idea of what the writers had in mind.

It was hard to get invested in any of the characters, to really believe that anything was at stake, and to suspend my disbelief with all the coincidences and plot holes "Bird Box" had. The flashback style did more harm than good, making the story feel disjointed and disrupting any elements of suspense that the flashbacks tried to build. I was more invested during the flashbacks of the beginning of the apocalypse where Malorie and the other survivors were trying to make sense of what was happening and finding strategies to stay alive, than I was in present-day Malorie trying to complete the trip to safety with her children along the river. "Bird Box" suffered from trying to do too much at once, while also not filling up its two-hour run time with substantial story, character development, and impactful horror.

Overall rating: 5/10

Shady Lady Book Reviews

Tamara Wiget

The works of Jean Craighead George have received much recognition, including a Newbery Medal Staff Writer for "Julie of the Wolves" and a Newbery Honor Award for "My Side of the Mountain." Often inspired by her love of nature, she wrote more than 100 wonderful children's books prior to her death in 2012.

"My Side of the Mountain"

Sam Gribley is tired of the city life. New York is bright and noisy, and with eight siblings in one small apartment, there isn't really much breathing room. And so, Sam does what every kid has considered at least once in their life: he runs away. He runs to the mountains, searching for the abandoned family farm, of which his father has told him many stories.

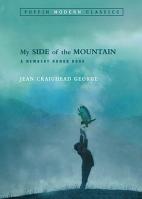
Sam does well in the wild; it quickly becomes evident that he has vigorously studied for this adventure. Save for a few scuffles with his small, ferocious neighbor, The Baron, Sam leads a harmonious existence in nature, living off the land without depleting resources for all the wildlife with which he coexists. Living his dream is sometimes lonely, even with his falcon, Frightful, for company, and a few surprise human visitors (including his father who, perhaps insanely but also admirably, does not try to convince Sam to come home).

"My Side of the Mountain" is outlandish and beautiful in its simplicity. Jean Craighead George writes so vividly of nature and the dreams of a young boy that one could almost believe it to be a true story.

"Julie of the Wolves"

Young Inuit adventurer Miyax is not doing so well on the barren tundra. Abandoned by her father and married off before puberty, she has traversed many miles through the frozen wilderness to escape her mentally challenged teenage husband, who has begun to take on the harmful habits of his alcoholic father. Alone on the icy plains, she has shelter, but no food. Her situation is dire. She is weak and desolate. In her desperation, she can see only one way out: learn how to communicate with a nearby wolf pack and ask for food. If this sounds like a foolish plan, that's because it is; but as a young girl facing death, perhaps being torn apart by wolves is preferable to dying a slow, agonizing death by starvation.

George's tale appears to be that of a young girl trying to survive in the wilderness, but between the lines is also an intelligent commentary on the struggle to preserve "the old ways" of a culture that just can't keep up with the fast-paced dazzle of the Western world. In leaving her abusive home, Miyax rediscovers her identity through the customs taught to her by her father and long celebrated by her ancestors.





2018: A Year of Good (and Not Good) Music

Liam Strong Staff Writer

With Confidence - "Love and Loathing"

Either I'm too asexual to care about pop-punk bands writing the same songs about relationships and girls, or this music is too advanced for me. But it's not. The nonsense notes

abound while petty pleas for sad-boy-sympathy dribble off shallow guitar tones. Just get a fleshlight, guys. You might write more fascinating music with that kind of inspiration.





WITH CONFIDENCE

Thou - "Magus" The problem with "Magus" is that it's so good it makes the other three records they released this year alone pale in comparison. They made a noise rock EP, a

folk rock split EP with Ragana, and a grungy covers EP that makes me wish they wrote the originals. "Magus," however, is possibly the heaviest metal record of the year, combining sludge and doom influences for almost an hour and a half. This band can do whatever they want, and they'll do it right.

Earl Sweatshirt - "Some Rap Songs"

unit of time it was. There were obvious rights and wrongs in many 2018 releases. Below is a selection of these polarizations.

Earl Sweatshirt feels like someone who has been on the brink of a coming-of-age record for years, and though I don't think "Some Rap Songs" is it, what the album does do right is reminisce the quality of some of the most brilliant hip-hop

producers out there-Madlib and J Dilla would be proud. This is more than a mixtape. It's an elegy to his father's with hauntingly death. orchestrated production.



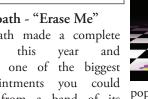
Underoath - "Erase Me" Underoath made a complete this U-turn year released one of the biggest

disappointments you could expect from a band of its posture. The band could have gone down a road of soulless

and insubstantial radio rock years ago when it had the chance. Underoath should have stayed broken up, for the sake of not resuscitating nostalgia that was already deceased.



2018 was... a year? I think that's what young folk call it. Nevertheless, there were recitations from the unwinding domain of music which eclipse this past year as the



Mouse on the Keys - "tres" I've always liked the Radiohead-esque method of incorporating

electronic music and minimalism with jazz; Mouse on the Keys are a band who weave all of this and more. There's

elements of R&B, pop, and math rock, and it's smooth to the point that the record falls out of your ears (partly because of a fairly short running time).



6ix9ine - "DUMMY BOY"

challenge myself to T sometimes listen to music I normally wouldn't, and this incidentally veers me down a worn route of trends in

popular music. Trap music and Soundcloud rappers, however, are ruining what could have been a vivid scene for hip-hop, with social media subverting the necessity for expensive studio time. Certain music just makes me angry, but for the wrong reason, and "DUMMY BOY" should never have existed.



EVENTS CALENDAR

January 25 - February 8

Rachel Lynn Moore

Staff Writer

Friday, January 25

7:30pm: The Arts Academy Music Ensemble will perform at the Interlochen Fine Arts Center's Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall. Tickets are \$8 for youth and seniors, \$11 for others. See tickets.interlochen.org for purchase and more information.

8pm: At Film Night at Studio Anatomy, catch a free showing of "Hard Ticket to Hawaii". Doors open at 7pm for this 18+ event.

Saturday, January 26

9am: The Bigfoot 5k & 10k Snowshoe Race will be held at Timber Ridge Resort in Traverse City. Day of registration is \$30. See runssnow.com for more information.

10am: Join the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy for a 1.6 mile hike through the Proposed Torch River Nature Preserve in Kalkaska. Bring your own winter gear, including snow shoes or skis. Register and find more information at gtrlc.org/recreation-events/events/. 10:30am: Sarah Townsend Yoga and the Great Lakes Children's Museum partnered for an interactive Kids Yoga Class held at the museum. The class is included with the \$7 museum admission fee. See greatlakeskids.org for more information.

11am: Yetifest in Suttons Bay is an all ages winter festival featuring a story time, crafts, snowman building competition, chili cook off, and more. See facebook.com/YetiFest/ for more information.

3pm: The TC Sings! Community Choir is holding a concert to benefit the Northwest MI Community Action Agency at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Grand Traverse. Donations encouraged. See tcsings.org for more.

Sunday, January 27

12pm: Silver Spruce Brewing Company in Traverse City hosts a one hour yoga flow class and will be open for beers afterward. The class is free but donations are appreciated. Bring your own yoga mat.

2pm: Enjoy the Clearwater Sierra Club Snowshoe Hike at Ransom Lake Natural Area. The group will meet at the area's parking lot off Lake Ann Road. RSVP and bring your own snowshoes. Contact Vicki Olsen at volsen17@yahoo.com for more information. 4pm: The Joe Wilson trio will perform at Sleder's Family Tavern in Traverse City to celebrate the release of their latest album. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door.

Tuesday, January 29

5pm: 123 Speakeasy in Traverse City hosts a 21+ Speed Networking event including a cocktail hour and raffle. Admission is \$10 and includes a drink ticket. See mynorthtickets. com/events/speed-networking-123 for more information and to purchase tickets. 6pm: Harm Reduction Michigan presents an OD Clinic at the Traverse Area District Library in the Thirlby Room. Information taught includes how to use Naloxone or Narcan to save someone unconscious from opioid use. Participants will receive an emergency overdose rescue kit. The event is free. See harmreductionmi.org/events for more information.

Wednesday, January 30

2pm: Leland Township Library Director Mark Morton will lead a free Cybersecurity Computer Workshop. Attendees will learn how to protect themselves online from identity thefts, scams, and more. See lelandlibrary.org for more information.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS MIZADAW INIZADAW INIZADAW INIZADAW A create it. But briefly. Guidelines: nmc.edu/nmcmagazine SPRING 2019 Volume 41, Issue 2

Thursday, January 31

6pm: Press On Juice in Traverse City hosts a one hour Detox Yoga Flow class led by Sarah Townsend, designed to assist in eliminating toxins. The class is free but donations are appreciated and yoga mats are not provided. See eventbrite.com/e/detox-yoga-flow-at-press-on-juice-tickets-53812020201 to register.

Friday, February 1

10:30am: Storytime at the Leland Township Librarys is a free event for children 0-6 and their caregivers. See lelandlibrary.org for more information.

Saturday, February 2

9:30am: The White Pine Stampede at Mancelona High School features a variety of cross-country ski races, as well as a Short's Cool-Down Party & Awards Ceremony after. Registration fees range from \$40 to \$95. See whitepinestampede.org for more information. 10am-3pm: The NMC Festival of Foods will be held at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City, featuring demonstrations by chefs and gourmet food artisans, as well as tastings. Tickets are \$99. See nmc.edu/festival-of-foods for more details.

11am-4pm: The Vine to Wine Showshoe Tour takes participants on a scenic snowy hike through three different wineries overlooking Grand Traverse Bay and includes a chili or soup lunch. Snowshoes are available for rental. Tickets range from \$45 to \$55. See grandtraversebiketours.com/vine-to-wine-snowshoe-tour.html for more details and purchase. 7:30pm: The Men's Glee Club from the University of Michigan will perform at the First Congregational Church in Traverse City. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. See fcctc.org/events/reserve-a-seat.php for purchase and details.

Sunday, February 3

9:30am: Sarah Townsend runs an all-levels yoga class at Running Fit in downtown Traverse City designed to help build strength, flexibility, and loosen tight muscles. Yoga mats are not provided and donations are appreciated. See eventbrite.com/e/yoga-recovery-at-running-fit-tickets-54829517563 for more information.

Wednesday, February 6

5-7pm: February Recess is a 21+ networking happy hour event catered by Harrington's By the Bay, Founders, and Short's Brewing Co. The event includes prizes for attendees. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Friday, February 8

10:30am: Storytime at the Leland Township Library.





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