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Michigan
College

NEXUS

THE NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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KATY ROGERS

How many Michiganders would you guess have some college credit, but no credential to show for the time and money they've spent on higher education?

Half a million? A million? More?

A lot more—more than 2 million, in fact.

Working in tandem with state initiatives to grow talent pools for a 21st century knowledge economy, NMC is trying to reach those adult learners. They're older than the typical 18-22 year old college student, may attend part-time because they're working as well, and have families. Due to those commitments they can be reluctant to return to school—yet aware that the certificate or degree they're striving for means a pay boost, a better job, an improved quality of life.

In this issue, we spotlight four adult learners. Hint: One is pictured above. Two others are also women. One is a man. Identify all four to me in an email (cnoga@nmc.edu) and be entered to win a gift certificate from either the NMC campus bookstore or the Dennon Museum Store.

As their stories reveal, it's never too late to start—or finish. In that spirit, I hope you'll read this issue through to the back cover. Happy holidays. **N**

4 POSSIBILITIES



- 2** Aerial View:
This Side Up
- 4** Letter from the President
- 5** Notes & Notables
- 7** My NMC: Tops In Transfer
Jerry Dobek / Deb Maison / Jay Smith
- 8** Art. Culture:
Campus Pow Wow
- 10** Inside My Bag:
Surgical Technology
- 12** **FEATURE**
Cozy Up to Reality...TV
- 16** **COVER FEATURE**
Man on a Mission / Timothy J. Nelson
- 22** Dualie Profile:
Jacie King, Kingsley H.S.
- 24** **FEATURE**
Be What's Possible
- 26** Past. Present. Future:
Library Evolution
- 27** Alumni Notes
- 30** From Our Kitchens:
Vanessa Grasset, Crepes & Co.
- 32** NMC Events Calendar
- 33** Get Social

STATE OF MICHIGAN

THE GREAT LAKES MARITIME ACADEMY CELEBRATES ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR. FIND PHOTOS ON FACEBOOK: NMCALUMNI, OR NMC.EDU/GLMA50.



THIS SIDE UP

NMC flight instructor Arran Macdonald snapped this shot over Duck Lake peninsula near Interlochen in March while brushing up on maneuvers prior to his commercial license check ride.

After earning his bachelor's degree from the University of Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom, an NMC aviation partner, Macdonald, 26, came to NMC for flight training as an international student. He is now working as a certified flight instructor.

"I am just happy to be building experience in the industry while sharing my love of aviation with others," Macdonald said.

Read more about the NMC-UK aviation partnership, and other international partnerships, at nmc.edu/nexus. ■

Find out more at nmc.edu/aviation





REFLECT, LEARN AND BELIEVE



**TIMOTHY J. NELSON,
PRESIDENT**

Farewell, my friends. I want you to know what a privilege it has been to serve this college and our communities. I can't imagine a better place to live, work, and play. I'm grateful to my wife Nancy and son, Leland, for their support that allowed me to take this amazing journey. I'm grateful to all of you for your commitment to making our communities grow and prosper.

As I get to the end of my tenure at Northwestern Michigan College, I'm intentionally

reflecting on the journey we've taken together. In August at our Opening Conference, we talked about how important it is for each of us individually and collectively to take time to reflect.

Why is this important? We all too often rush to the next thing. We may not take enough time to reflect, celebrate and learn from what we have accomplished. I encourage each of us to think about what has happened and to ask "so what?" What did it all mean? And then, what's next? I want you to take some time to do this reflection and avoid just rushing into the future. Don't ruminate on the past. Reflect. Learn.

Here are two stories that have been part of my reflection process. At my last commencement ceremony I shared a conversation

I had on an airplane with a soon-to-be graduate's mother. I asked her if there was anything she wanted me to say as I handed her child his degree. She gave me a profound suggestion. She said, "Tell him you believe in him." I think that is why I stayed here at NMC as president for almost 19 years while the national average is between three and five years. Because I believe in the importance of the work we do together. I believe in the possibilities for us to create a future that doesn't yet exist. I believe in our ability to disagree in a civil manner so that we can learn from and cherish our differences. I believe in you.

When I arrived here, I was asked, "How long will you stay?" My answer had three parts. I said I would stay as long as I believed I was doing something valuable for others, I had a faculty and staff that supported our journey and a Board that, likewise, supported our actions. I'm fortunate because I had all three of those for my entire tenure.

I did not come here to prepare for a move to a larger college, but to prepare our learners for success in a global economy and society. I am not yet sure where my next journey will take me, but I know you and this college will always be an important part of my life. Enjoy the next stage of your own journey. Thank you for everything you have done, and continue to do, to "Keep Learning at the Center." **N**



11 YEARS RESEARCHING NATIONAL PARKS

Last summer, the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute completed surveying and mapping activities at Isle Royale National Park in Lake Superior. A crew of three, including Max Crowe, Marine Technology bachelor's degree student (pictured), conducted lakebed classification work in support of Siscowet lake trout spawning reefs using remotely operated vehicles and sonars. Since 2008, students from the Marine Technology and Freshwater Studies programs have also worked at the Sleeping Bear Dunes, Pictured Rocks and Apostle Islands National Lakeshore parks.



LEFT, STUDY ABROAD BRAZIL // RIGHT, STUDY ABROAD IRELAND

RECORD 8 STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCES PLANNED FOR 2020

Seven different destinations, two offered for the first time, are being offered to students by the Office of International Services and Service Learning.

Bosnia/Croatia for history students and Iceland for biology and freshwater studies students are the two new destinations on the 2020 itinerary. Experiences in Brazil, Cuba, England, Spain and Ireland are also available.

In 2017, NMC was nationally ranked at No. 17 among community colleges for short-term study abroad opportunities by the Institute of International Education. NMC was the only community college in Michigan to make the top 20 that year. All trips will take place between the end of March and early June. *Find out more at nmc.edu/studyabroad.*



ALEX WALSH, NMC 2012

THE SMART CHOICE

Long known as a smart financial choice, NMC is increasingly simply a smart choice. This fall, 13 valedictorians and 3 salutatorians from northern Michigan's high school Class of 2019 started classes at NMC. More than 120 students have a grade point average of 3.9 or better on a 4.0 scale.

"We've had a good run this year," said Cathryn Claerhout, director of admissions. "We've got people who are not (just) looking at us to save money, it's because we've got their program."

Meanwhile, 2012 alumnus Alex Walsh was admitted as a sophomore to Harvard University this fall. Walsh was one of just a dozen transfer students admitted among 1,600 applicants to the most venerable of the Ivy League institutions.

"Being able to find ways to push myself at NMC, challenge myself, helped put me on this path," said Walsh, who plans to major in economics and minor in government, likely international relations. An MBA or law school could follow.



NEW LEADERS AND LEADERSHIP ROLES IN 2019

A) ED BAILEY, The Marine Center: Previously the director of NMC's Technical Division, Bailey leads the Center in providing comprehensive technical and training solutions to the remotely-operated and autonomous marine, unmanned aerial and land industry sectors.

B) LES ECKERT, Great Lakes Culinary Institute: Eckert studied, taught and managed programs at three campuses of the International Culinary Schools, most recently in Raleigh, N.C. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Chefs and certified by the American Culinary Federation.

C) CRAIG HADLEY, Dennon Museum Center: Hadley comes from DePaul University in Indiana where he was director/curator with rank of assistant professor.

He oversaw DePauw's recently accredited University Galleries & Collections, which serves as a hub for undergraduate teaching and research.

D) AMY JONES, Nursing and Allied Health: An RN since 2000 with a passion for patient-centered care, Jones served at Mercy Hospital-Springfield (Missouri) in a variety of roles, including leading the associate degree nursing program.

GAIL KUROWSKI, Police Academy: Kurowski is the first woman to lead the department she graduated from in 1983. She spent 20 years with the Michigan State Police, and aspires to make NMC a destination program for anyone interested in the law enforcement profession.

E) Kristy McDonald, Experiential Learning Institute: Led by longtime business faculty member and EL practitioner McDonald, experiential learning actively engages learners in relevant and ongoing experience, critical problem solving and reflective practices.

KERREY WOUGHTEY, NMC Library: An educator of more than 20 years, Woughter has library and classroom experience, most recently at Traverse City Central High School, where she was the teacher-librarian since 2004.



TOPS IN TRANSFER

JERRY DOBEK / DEB MAISON / JAY SMITH

Through 18 months of work and more than 60 course descriptions in seven different engineering specialties, Jerry Dobek (seated) kept one thing in mind: Student success.

Dobek, fellow science and math instructor Jay Smith (right) and NMC adviser Deb Maison (center) won the 2019 statewide Innovation in Transfer Award for their work on new engineering articulation agreements with Michigan Technological University, one of the state's leading engineering schools. Students who complete NMC's engineering certificate with a 2.75 GPA are guaranteed admission to MTU, entering as juniors to complete their bachelor of science.

The first 2+2 program between NMC and MTU (inset photo) was created in 1990. The new agreements reflect how engineering programs have changed and how graduation requirements have become more specialized. *Read more at nmc.edu/engineering*

NMC has articulation agreements in place with 35 educational institutions for more than 100 programs. **N**

MY
NMC





CAMPUS POW WOW

Head female dancer Julia Martell (at left in blue), vice president of NMC's Native American Student Organization and a member of the Grand Traverse Band, leads student Anna Wilson (orange dress) and other dancers at the traditional pow wow held on campus last summer in honor of Native American graduates.

NMC has one of the highest Native American student enrollments among Michigan community colleges, with 88 Native students attending fall 2019 semester. NASO promotes cultural and community awareness on campus. In June, an immersion camp will be held to introduce Native American middle and high school students to college. (Wilson is a past participant.) *For more information, contact Todd Parker at (231) 995-3025.* ■

INSIDE MY BAG



INSIDE MY BAG SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

Find out more about Surgical Technology at nmc.edu/surg-tech

1

Show Stopper

2

Proxima

Proxima

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ASSISTANT GRASP HERE

13



BRITTANY LOCKE, 30 DECEMBER 2019 GRADUATE

Locke had already earned a bachelor's degree from Michigan State when she decided to combine a career change with a move up north. The affiliation of the surgical technology program with Munson Medical Center plus the financial aid opportunities drew her to NMC.

"The scholarship opportunities are way more abundant, and the tuition rates are great, being local," said Locke, who is already employed as a department assistant for the operating room at Munson, in addition to completing her clinical classes there.

"They give you the opportunity to practice the skills," she said of the clinicals. "The sterile field's your baby. If you don't take care of it, you put the patient at risk." **N**



Inside Locke's backpack—a giveaway, notes the thrifty student who is also planning a wedding:

1. Showstopper notebook: Another freebie, from a dance competition. Locke owned a competitive dance studio in Lansing for six years. Used for odds and ends, from school notes to wedding planning.
2. Tags: From the sterile gowns donned in the operating room, also used for note-taking. Outside paper cannot be brought into a sterile environment, hence the improvisation.
3. Lip Balm: "I love Burt's Bees! The original kind is my go-to."
4. Ibuprofen: For headaches. Refills the travel size bottle to avoid carrying a large one.
5. Student Badge: To enter the hospital and during clinicals. "When you walk in the front door without your badge, they will take the time to search your backpack, so if you're running late, you'll be extra late! My employee badge is on the backside so I'm not lugging around two badges."
6. Glasses & Case: Used mostly for seeing the board from farther away and driving at night. "Coming home from class or work around 9 p.m. they help out a lot, especially after my long days!"
7. iPad: Loaded with class materials, books and study/project apps. "It helps not to have to lug around 6-7 different books in our bags."
8. Headphones: Constant companion, she listens to music everywhere.
9. Keyboard: Bluetooth keyboard that links to iPad.
10. Clinical Binder: Contains evaluations and case summaries for clinical assignments.
11. Granola Bar: To hold her over in between meals during long days at the hospital.
12. Keys: "My car gets me everywhere!" A favorite destination: The home she and her fiance share with a puppy.
13. Highlighter/Pen/Pencil: She typically has all three (as well as a backup) in her bag.

THIS WINTER, COZY UP TO REALITY

TV, that is.





WE ALL HOPE THE POLAR VORTEX SPARES NORTHERN MICHIGAN IN 2020. BUT HERE AT THE 45TH PARALLEL, A FEW BLIZZARDS ARE JUST ABOUT GUARANTEED. SO FIRE UP YOUR STREAMING SERVICES AND HUNKER DOWN WITH SHOWS FEATURING THESE NMC ALUMNI, STUDENTS AND FACULTY.

(ALL FOUR FEATURED SHOWS ARE AVAILABLE ON AMAZON PRIME VIDEO; ALL EXCEPT 'THE ARRANGEMENT' ARE ALSO ON HULU) ►



PHOTOS COURTESY OF:
FOX; HISTORY; HISTORY AND PROMETHEUS; JORGE URIBE





JASON CRUM
CURRENT NMC STUDENT

Show: *Forged In Fire*, the History Channel, summer 2019

Where he is now: Working at WKLT radio and taking classes online to fit his schedule as a dad.

Why he did it: Crum, 49, started watching YouTube videos on blacksmithing and built his first forge out of a brake rotor. He refined his DIY skills over six years and replied

to a show casting call. After a two-month selection process, he was on his way to Connecticut for the filming in June 2018.

What he learned: Crum’s why-not entry into blacksmithing is reflected in his attitude toward returning to school. He’s taking classes online but also volunteers at radio station WNMC and is interested in other student groups like the International Club. “One of my goals was the college experience,” he said. “As I was coming up on 50, I was feeling very regretful that I never pursued college. This one’s for me.”

Find it: history.com (Type “*Forged in Fire*” into search field. Select Season 6, Episode 28, “*Blackbeard’s Cutlass*.” Multiple streaming options.



AARON SMOCK
CULINARY STUDENT, 2011-12

Show: *Hell’s Kitchen* Season 16, 2016-17

Where he now: Sous chef, Mission Table on Old Mission Peninsula

Why he did it: “It was a really good experience to do it when I was 22, and be able to learn from Gordon Ramsay. I would do it all over again.” Now 28, Smock said he’s glad he didn’t win the prize—head chef at a

Las Vegas restaurant. He likes Mission Table’s mission—serving locally sourced, sustainable food. Previously only open in summers, Mission Table is now open for dinner Fridays and Saturdays through the winter. “We can be very creative and change the menu every week,” Smock said.

What he learned: The high intensity of the show prepped him for the intensity of the culinary industry.

Find it: fox.com. Search for *Hell’s Kitchen* season 16. Smock is in the first five episodes. Multiple streaming options.



MARK HOLLEY
ANTHROPOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

Show: *The Curse of Civil War Gold*, the History Channel, spring 2019

Why he did it: Essentially, because he was asked. Filmed in Lake Michigan in summer 2018, the episode is part of a series in which treasure hunters search for a cache of gold rumored to have been smuggled out of the South during the Civil War. While—

spoiler alert!—Holley and co. didn’t find gold, he said the film crew did make a cool nautical archaeology find: a turn of the century scow in the waters off of Frankfort.

“It’d make a great project for one of our students,” said Holley, who teaches online and holds an annual nautical archaeology field school in West Grand Traverse Bay. He’s previously appeared on the National Geographic Channel, Science Channel and Japanese TV.

Fun fact: Holley purchased the side-scan sonar equipment used in the episode with money from the NMC Barbecue.

Find it: history.com (Type “*Curse of Civil War Gold*” into search field. Navigate to Season 2, Episode 1, “*The Return*.”) Multiple streaming options.



DEREK WOODRUFF
2009 ALUMNUS

Show: *The Arrangement*, 2010

Where he is now: Owner of the Floral Underground, Traverse City

Why he did it: “I’ve always wanted to be famous,” said Woodruff, now 35. It seems to have worked. The second runner-up in the show, Woodruff is now a sought-after speaker and teacher, booking up to 30 engagements a year. He was

also contacted by another reality show as a potential host.

What he learned: The importance of credentials, like his accreditation from the American Institute of Floral Design. Time management, “which is also an asset as a business owner.” The importance of pleasing the judges.

Fun fact: This fall, Woodruff was flown to Colorado to serve as florist at a wedding with a \$20,000 floral budget.

Find it: logotv.com. Search for *The Arrangement*. Woodruff is in eight episodes of season 1. Stream on Amazon Prime.

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MAN ON A MISSION



Retiring president oversaw an era of innovation and entrepreneurship

It's no simple task to sum up the impact of nearly two decades spent in an all-consuming job leading an institution that's not only a regional cornerstone, but one that's emerging onto national and even international stages.

Complexity has never fazed Northwestern Michigan College President Timothy J. Nelson, however, and his living legacy is as handy as the college's mission, vision and values document, which hangs on the wall of almost every campus building.

"One of the most important things we did, and I think that we're pretty good at living by it, is that we articulated these values that are on the wall," said Nelson, who will pass by the copy hanging in his Tanis Building conference room for the last time December 31, when he retires after a nearly 19-year tenure.

When reflecting on a career, it's common to be asked about moments—milestones, benchmarks,

turning points. But though Nelson's presidency has included plenty of those, from transforming multiple campuses to new programs and degrees, including Michigan's first community college baccalaureate, for him, leadership has always been as much about the process as the outcomes.

NMC's mission, vision and values and five strategic directions, which are connected to the regional economy and assets, are the principles guiding the processes. To Nelson, they're critical organizational infrastructure. Undergirding many of the values and strategic directions are the concepts of entrepreneurship and innovation. Nelson brought these to NMC from his experience creating three businesses in the private sector.

"Entrepreneurship and innovation are ways to change into the future," Nelson said. ▶



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1) TIM NELSON READING TO CHILDREN 2) NELSON AT THE NMC BARBECUE 3) NELSON WITH RETIRED MICHIGAN SEN. CARL LEVIN AT NMC'S ENERGY DEMONSTRATION CENTER 4) NELSON, TRUSTEES AND OTHER SUPPORTERS AT THE GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE WEST HALL INNOVATION CENTER.



Most people 20 years ago thought community colleges were there for this region only, but we're not going to service this community well if we aren't looking at the whole world. We've built a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. —TIM NELSON

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION UNLEASH SUCCESS

Cultivating that mindset can be a challenge in higher education, generally regarded as a field that values stability, Nelson said. But meeting that challenge is also among the most rewarding parts of the job.

“(What’s rewarding is) I think, first of all, watching people succeed, whether those are students or employees. Watching their curiosity, watching them turn their curiosity into something new. And building something that you think has some ability to persist, to sustain.”

That process of empowerment has led to some truly pioneering outcomes that launched under Nelson’s leadership.

“You don’t get anyplace by yourself,” Nelson said. “There are more people that have engaged in this.”

Specifically, he pointed to:

- NMC’s international partnership in marine technology and construction technology with Yellow River Conservancy Technical Institute in Kaifeng, China
- Comprehensive unmanned systems programs (aerial, ground and marine) which led to new agricultural applications partnerships with Michigan State University, among others
- Military and veterans services, in which NMC has ranked as the second “Best for Vets” community college in the country for two consecutive years
- Short-term study abroad (No. 1 in Michigan, No. 17 nationally)
- Professional development investment. NMC consistently ranks in the top 94-95 percent for community colleges

- Experiential learning. Earlier this year, NMC was one of only four community colleges invited to an EL training at Stanford University

“I’m really encouraged by the work in experiential learning,” said Nelson, noting how EL’s do-to-learn principles have spread across academic disciplines and into staff operations.

With the benefit of 20 years of hindsight and the weight of accolades, it seems obvious to aim the college in those directions, developing programs and initiatives not traditionally considered part of a community college’s purview. But widening the lens of “community” beyond the Grand Traverse region wasn’t always easy, and is in fact an outcome in its own right.

COMMUNITY = GLOBAL

The original geographic jurisdiction is right there in the name, “Northwestern Michigan” College. Twenty-six of Michigan’s 28 community colleges are similarly named for a region or county. For Nelson, while what’s often called the college’s “service area” may start regionally, it certainly doesn’t stop there.

“We have made a big investment in programs, program development, and thinking differently on what the overall role of a community college is,” Nelson said. “We have a role in connecting beyond this region.”

Nelson has put his money where his mouth is. In 2011, to celebrate his 10th anniversary as president as well as NMC’s 60th anniversary, he and his wife Nancy Johnson created the Global Opportunities Scholarship. So far, more than 250 students have used it to visit 17 different countries.

“Our geography is the world. I think that we have done a good job in terms of investing in technology, the equipment and resources, that are required to have a world-class education. I think we’ve redefined what community means to this community college,” Nelson said.

BEYOND THE TANIS BUILDING

That redefinition has been another process, this one ongoing. And that suits Nelson just fine.

“It would be boring to manage a system that’s just going to be static. So look around. What’s needed? How can you improve things? What can you do? What can you try? Those are the things that give me energy,” Nelson said.

In retirement, he hopes to be more selective about identifying which energy-delivering opportunities he’ll pursue. Traveling with Nancy—whose tireless, unpaid advocacy on behalf of the college merits her unofficial title “Mrs. President”—and writing are two likely possibilities. As an Eagle Scout since the age of 16, Nelson, now 67, also feels good about leaving his campsite—NMC—better than he found it.

“I think the college is at a good platform for this next run. Financially healthy, the facilities are good, the people are creating programs, they’re focused on the right things. You know I’ll watch from afar. I’m grateful and it’s been a wonderful opportunity.” ▶





TIM NELSON AND NANCY JOHNSON / NELSON WITH GOVERNOR RICK SNYDER / NELSON WITH BIG LITTLE HERO VOLUNTEERS AND INSTRUCTOR KRISTY MCDONALD

President Timothy J. Nelson

An era of innovation and entrepreneurship

2001-2019



FEBRUARY 26, 2001 / Timothy J. Nelson is hired as president of Northwestern Michigan College.

2002 / The Great Lakes Maritime Academy acquires a former Navy vessel as a training ship, now the T/S *State of Michigan*.



Seasoned education executive steps into NMC president's office

Nick Nissley, an education executive with 25 years experience in leadership roles, will become the 11th president of Northwestern Michigan College Jan. 1, 2020.



“Dr. Nissley’s proven experience in leadership and innovation make him the right leader to take our community’s college forward,” said board chair Chris Bott. “We are extremely pleased to conclude our comprehensive and transparent presidential search by officially welcoming Dr. Nissley to NMC.”

Nissley’s two-year contract was unanimously approved by the NMC Board of Trustees in October. An education executive whose leadership roles span K-12, community college and university settings in both the United States and Canada, Nissley describes himself as a “possibilitarian.” Leadership development at mission-driven institutions has been at the forefront of a career spent building individual and organizational capabilities that support organizational effectiveness, and innovation cultures in support of educational excellence.

“I seek to inspire others through my can-do spirit and restless determination to continually improve upon the present,” said Nissley, who has served as the Executive Director of The School for Creative & Performing Arts in Cincinnati, Ohio since 2015. “Engaging the strengths of NMC’s faculty and staff, I believe the college can achieve more than was ever originally imagined.”

From 2010-15 Nissley served as dean of the Business Technologies division at Cincinnati State Community College, one of the largest community colleges in Ohio with more than 12,000 students. His accomplishments there included increasing first-time student enrollment, overall headcount and credit hours; expanding off-campus programming; expanded high school dual enrollment; and development of online programming, including the largest at Cincinnati State. **N**

2003 / The west wing of Great Lakes Campus opens, new home to the Great Lakes Maritime Academy as well as the new Great Lakes Water Studies Institute.

2004 / Grand opening for the entire Great Lakes Campus in April. The east wing is new home to the Great Lakes Culinary Institute and Lobdell's, A Teaching Restaurant, as well as the Hagerty Center, a new conference venue.

2006 / The Michigan Energy Demonstration Center opens at Aero Park Campus, showcasing renewable energy alternatives and offering training opportunities.

2008 / The NMC Barbecue serves its 500,000th guest since the fundraising picnic began in 1956; The Michigan New Jobs Training Program is signed into law, creating a community college training program for employers that hire new employees.

2009 / An associate degree in Freshwater Studies debuts.

2010 / Fall enrollment reaches an all-time peak, surpassing 5,400 students. The first Unmanned Aerial Systems courses are offered.

2011 / Nelson and his wife Nancy Johnson create the Global Opportunities Scholarship Fund to celebrate NMC's 60th anniversary and Nelson's 10th as president. NMC's LEED certified Aero Park Laboratories open for classes in renewable energy and construction technology programs.

2012 / The Office of Military & Veteran Services is created. NMC ranks No. 2 in the nation among community colleges for services to veterans.



NMC hosts a visit from a group of Chinese colleges for the Vocational Leadership Training Program as part of the Chinese Education Association for International Exchange.

2013 / A new Engineering Technology associate degree debuts and draws double the anticipated enrollment.

Following Nelson's lobbying in Lansing, NMC wins approval to offer Michigan's first community college bachelor's degree, in Maritime Technology.

2014 / Two maritime students become the first to receive NMC's bachelor's degree in Maritime Technology.

NMC's Nursing program receives national accreditation.

NMC partners with Munson to offer on-campus child care.

2015 / NMC receives its largest donation ever from a living donor, \$2 million from Richard and Diana Milock, to expand the Dennos Museum.



NMC ranks No. 1 in Michigan for short-term study abroad opportunities.

NMC is awarded more than \$2 million from the State of Michigan for equipment to provide training and education for high-wage, high-demand and high-skill jobs.

2016 / Nelson is appointed to Governor Rick Snyder's 21st Century Economy Commission, tasked with identifying priorities for the state over the next 20 years, along with short term action items to achieve the vision of Michigan's economic future.

2017 / NMC receives final legislative approval for \$7 million in state funding to renovate West Hall into the West Hall Innovation Center.

North Hall opens, NMC's first new residence hall in more than 40 years.

2018 / The NMC Foundation awards \$1 million in scholarships to 750 students.

Ground is broken for the West Hall Innovation Center and Library.

Rededication of the Shirley S. Okerstrom Fine Arts Building.

2019 / NMC launches the Experiential Learning Institute devoted to experiential learning and community engagement.

The Great Lakes Maritime Academy celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Timothy J. Nelson retires.



I was thinking
'I'll get ahead,
it will be easier,'
but I never thought
I'd get a full
year done.

– Jacie King



KINGSLEY'S KING WILL

Salutatorian enters Albion College as a sophomore

As a four-sport athlete and honors student at Kingsley High School, Jacie King didn't get much downtime. Even commuting to campus for dual-enrolled classes was rushed—Kingsley classes ended at 12:30 p.m., and NMC's started at 1.

So she savored her rare opportunities, like the after-class time she and a classmate had before they'd head back to Kingsley for basketball or cross-country or track or volleyball practice.

"If we had enough time, we'd stop at Culver's and get their \$1 cone," King said.

Andes mint was her favorite flavor. Fittingly, it's named for a mountain range, since it seems that King, 18, will ascend to almost any goal she sets for herself. The 2019 Kingsley salutatorian is now playing basketball at Albion College, where she entered as a sophomore thanks to 26 credits earned through dual enrollment, plus a few more through Advanced Placement classes.

"I can pretty much go right into my degree," said King, who is studying exercise science, of the benefit of dual enrollment. "I was thinking 'I'll get ahead, it will be easier,' but I never thought I'd get a full year done."

After spending her junior year racing to get to face-to-face classes on time, King took online classes as a senior. She says she thinks she learned more in the face-to-face setting—she especially liked John Zachman's Introduction to U.S. Politics—but either way preferred her dual-enrolled classes to Advanced Placement (AP), where earning credit is less assured.

King aims to become a physical education teacher, like both her mother and her basketball coach. While she's student teaching she plans to earn a master's in special education—coincidentally what her coach, Matt Schelich, happens to teach in addition to gym. While she will likely return to northern Michigan eventually, "other opportunities may arise," she said.

"I just want to make an impact," she said.

King was the third student in her family to dual enroll, behind both a brother and a sister. The youngest King, Lexie, is now dual-enrolled this fall. **N**

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

BE WHAT'S POSSIBLE AT A GLANCE

- NMC's first-ever comprehensive campaign, designed to help support multiple institutional priorities at once
- Four priority areas:
 - The Fund for NMC (unrestricted support)
 - Innovative Facilities (focused on the West Hall Innovation Center and Dennon Museum Center)
 - Strong Programs (all areas)
 - Scholarships (all areas)
- \$35 million goal; \$28 million raised in "quiet" phase begun in 2016
- How to give: nmc.edu/give; (231) 995-1021



HAWK OWL SOARS

POSSIBILITIES FLOURISH FOR ADULT LEARNER AT NMC

When Katy Rogers participates in NMC graduation ceremonies next May, she'll mark an achievement she never imagined.

"Never in a million years," said Rogers, 35. She called her mom the day she ordered her cap and gown.

Rogers is on a path to a wildly different life than she once envisioned. NMC has helped her see beyond past challenges—high school dropout, teenage mother, domestic violence survivor from a past relationship. Through grit and a whole lot of hard work, she is creating a successful future for herself and her family.

Six years ago, Rogers was clocking way more than eight hours a day at two fast food jobs. She had supervisors with daughters her age. She decided she wanted something else, to show her children other possibilities, to improve her and their lives.

After completing the certified nursing assistant program through Kirtland Community College, she got a job as a home health aide nearly five years ago. But when she was encouraged to look at the bigger picture and plan as far ahead as possible, she made her way to NMC in 2018. She commutes from Mesick, where she lives with her husband, a medically-discharged veteran, and four children, and just finished her fourth semester.

That simply wouldn't have been possible, Rogers said, without the scholarship support she has received.

"If it wasn't for my scholarships, there's no way I could have continued," she said. One scholarship was designated for a student from her home county. Another was for her work in health care. Yet another was for academic achievement. Rogers has been on the dean's list every semester.

It's because of such life-changing stories that NMC is working to increase the number and size of scholarships for current and future students as one priority area of its \$35 million Be What's Possible fundraising effort.

Rogers' life trajectory—and that of her family—is undeniably changed by her time at NMC. But her educational goals don't stop at the office administration support certificate she will complete this spring. Next month she plans to start her first semester as a Ferris State student at NMC's University Center, majoring in criminal justice. Her sights are set on a 2023 graduation and a career as a victim advocate.

NMC has been the absolute best fit for her and her family, Rogers said. She credits her academic advisors and instructors with guiding her along her educational path, understanding her delicate balance of work, school and family and helping her figure out how to make it all work.

"Empowerment, support and encouragement," she said, allows her to realize all that is possible. **N**

LIBRARY EVOLUTION

Where and how students study has changed significantly throughout NMC's seven decades.

1) In the late 1950s, Coast Guard barracks moved from NMC's original airport campus to the new main campus were used to build the college's first library. 2, 3) Completed in 1961, the current Osterlin Library was the second building constructed on main campus. At left, the now obsolete card catalogue; at right, the media room for listening to music and foreign language recordings. 4) By the 2010s students still gathered at Osterlin but most used laptops and tablets. 5) The library will get its next lease on life as part of the West Hall Innovation Center, scheduled to open in early 2020. Housed on the second floor (gray cantilevered segment) the college's goal is to have it open 24-7 to students.

Find out more about the progress at nmc.edu/innovation. **N**





1



2



3

ALUMNI NOTES

1 SUSIE JANIS, 1967 and Bruce Byl, 1979, serve as the co-chairs for the NMC Foundation's Be What's Possible campaign. Together with the volunteer team they lead, the duo is working to increase philanthropic support for NMC's innovative facilities, diverse and vibrant programs, inspirational faculty and staff, and to provide critical scholarship support for students. Read more on p. 24; donate to the campaign at nmc.edu/give

2 SALLY ROGERS, Arts 1974, completed a centerpiece art installation for Kent State University in Ohio. Rogers also sculpted Nexus, a piece on NMC's campus, and her work has been exhibited at the Dennon Museum. She is the daughter of emeritus

faculty member the late Joseph Rogers, for whom NMC's Rogers Observatory is named.

PETER IVES, Culinary 2011, named Executive Chef of Matsuhisa in Vail, Col. The Nobu Matsuhisa Japanese restaurants are located around the world, and Ives is very excited to lead the kitchen team in Vail.

3 KELLY VOGELHEIM, Culinary 2014, executive chef at Town Hall in Florence, S.C., has been named a 2019 South Carolina Chef Ambassador. Designed to bolster local economies and strengthen collaboration between agriculture and culinary arts, the governor-initiated program names one key culinary figure in each major region of

the state as Chef Ambassador. Following graduation, Vogelheim first worked as head chef for the Interlake Steamship Co. She moved to South Carolina in 2017.

DIEGO JACHO, 2016, was named a Forbes Under 30 Scholar and recognized at a summit in Detroit representing the University of Toledo, where he now attends. An international student from Ecuador, Jacho graduated with high honors as an Engineering major. At NMC he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international community college honor society, and the NMC International Club and also worked in the residence halls. ▶

SAVE THE DATE!

March 5, 2020 Alumni Career Fair
Networking Reception

Free and open to all former NMC
students who have earned academic
credit and their significant others.

5-6:30 p.m., (immediately follows
Career Fair at Hagerty Center)
Lobdell's: A Teaching Restaurant

Cash bar, heavy appetizers, and Hawk
Owl door prizes.

Business casual attire.

Registration is encouraged, but not
required, alumni@nmc.edu.



4

4 SHANE PERKINS, 2018 graduate of the NMC Marine Technology program, prepares to launch a research submersible in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Perkins is working as an autonomous underwater vehicle field engineer for Fugro, a multinational geo-data specialist company based in the Netherlands. Perkins is one of Fugro's 10,000 employees collecting and analyzing comprehensive information about the Earth and the structures built upon it.

NICKOLE JIMENEZ, Culinary 2019, joined the Antrim County Commission on Aging as a chef. Working with a team she converted the agency's meal service to a farm-to-table operation utilizing local food

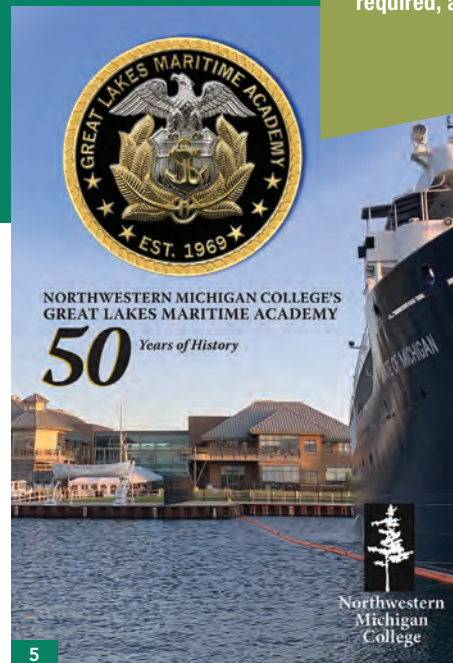
as much as possible. Their efforts were featured in the Antrim County Review. The meals are served to seniors at four locations in the county, as well as through Meals on Wheels.

5 NMC HAS PUBLISHED A HISTORY BOOK in honor of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy's 50th anniversary. The book is available through the NMC Alumni Relations office. (231) 995-1021

2019 40 UNDER 40—This year marks the Traverse City Business News' 13th annual list of the 40 most influential regional leaders under age 40. It's only fitting that 13 of the 40 are alumni of NMC, with seven being repeat selections. This highly-anticipated celebration recognizes

individuals in Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie and Kalkaska counties whose professional and community efforts during this past year had the most impact on their community, the region and the economy. *Read about all the Hawk Owl selections at nmc.edu/under40.*

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



5

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AMERICAN DREAM COME TRUE

Schooled at GLCI, French native brings crêpes to TC

Traverse City's water and woods fed Vanessa Grasset's soul. Now the native of Poitiers, France feeds Traverse City.

Grasset, a 2015 Great Lakes Culinary Institute graduate, opened Crêpes & Co., a traditional French creperie, in the State Street Marketplace in 2018.

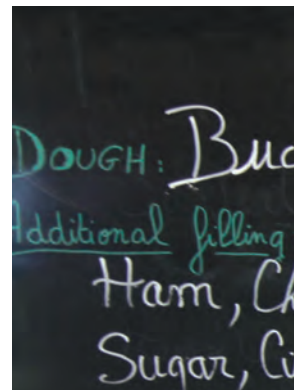
"I wanted to do something French, but not fancy," she said. Her most popular item, the ham, egg and cheese crêpe, is exactly that.

The restaurant is the culmination of a nearly decade-long dream to live in northern Michigan. A former

exchange student downstate, Grasset visited her host mother up north in 2006 and had decided to live here by 2011. A student visa made it possible, and she enrolled in GLCI, which became her second home.

"Great program, great teachers," said Grasset, 46. "It's because of the restaurant classes that I got comfortable being in a professional kitchen."

Grasset's buckwheat crêpe dough recipe may be filled with the sweet or savory fillings of your choice. **N**



BUCKWHEAT DOUGH

- 16 oz buckwheat flour
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups water
- 1 teaspoon honey (liquid)
- 1 cup water
- 2 cups water as needed

In a bowl, put together flour, egg, salt and honey

Add 2 cups of water. Mix until smooth by hand making sure the flour is all dissolved (no lumps)

Add 1 cup water, again, mix and make sure there are no lumps

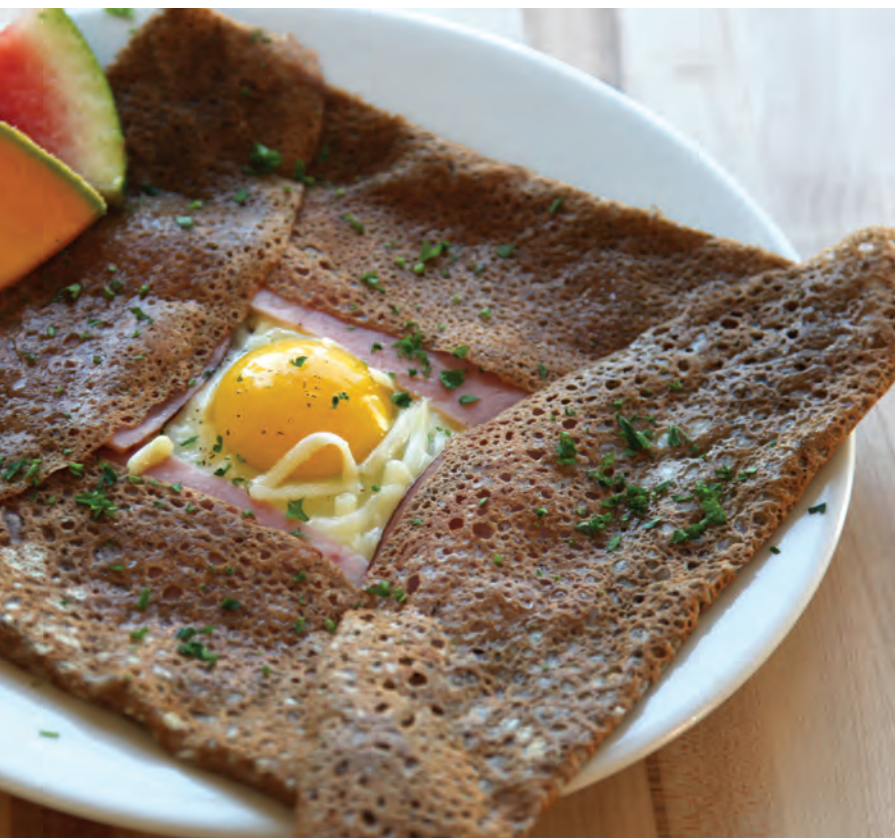
Tap dough with the flat of your hand until it makes bubbles (or beat with paddle on speed 6 if you use a mixer)

Let the dough rise for at least 2 hours. At this stage the dough can be kept in a close closed container up to 3 days in a refrigerator

When ready, add remaining water to the desired consistency

For a 16" cast iron, use a 4 fl oz ladle for 1 Galette (Buckwheat Crêpe)

Once the water is added, dough is good for 24 hours



CRÊPES
 Buckwheat (GF) or Wheat with Salted Butter \$5
 \$1.50 each
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 Cinnamon Sugar, lemon sugar, local jam, local honey,
 ...

CRÊPES
 Sour dough, ...
 Additional fillings
 Ham, Egg
 Fried Mushrooms



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FORUM

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

CALENDAR

JANUARY

03

Public Viewing Night
9–11 p.m., Rogers Observatory
Admission \$2/person, \$5/family
Continues first Friday of most months. All 2020 dates: nmc.edu/rogersobservatory

19

New exhibitions open at The Dennos:

- 40 Chances: Finding Hope in a Hungry World—photography. Through April 26.
- Pulped Under Pressure—hand papermaking. Through May 24
- Ergo Sum: A Crow a Day—hand-cut, hand-gessoed panels. Through May 24.

20

Reservations open for spring semester lunches at Lobdell's: A Teaching Restaurant.
Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Feb. 5-April 28. (231) 995-3120

FEBRUARY

20

• **International Affairs Forum lecture series: The International Dimensions of Child Protection**
6 p.m., Milliken Auditorium
Continues third Thursday of each month through June. tciaf.com for speakers and topics.

21

• **Dennos Concert Series**
Khalif Wailin' Walter
8 p.m., Milliken Auditorium
Dennosmuseum.org/milliken for tickets and details on the full Dennos concert series, through May.

23

NMC Choral performance—featuring the NMC Chamber Singers, Canticum Novum and the NMC Children's Choirs.
3 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium*

28

NMC Concert Band & Grand Traverse Chorale
7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium*

MARCH

05

Career Fair
3–6 p.m., Hagerty Center
Open to the public as well as NMC students
nmc.edu/careerfair

APRIL

17

A Taste of Success
6:30 p.m., Great Lakes Campus
Tickets \$100, available at nmc.edu/tasteofsuccess

18

Big Little Hero Race
Experiential learning project to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters
1 mile, 5K and 10K options
9 a.m., main campus
Registration details at nmc.edu/hero-race mid-March

22

NMC Dance concert
7 p.m., Milliken Auditorium*

25

Spring Jazz Ensemble Showcase
featuring NMC Jazz Band and Vocal Jazz Ensemble
7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium*

26

NMC Children's Choir performance
3 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium*

28

NMC Concert Band
7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium*

MAY

02

Commencement
2 p.m., Traverse City Central High School

17

• **NMC Barbecue**
11 a.m.–5 p.m., Main Campus
Tickets and info: nmc.edu/bbq

* Tickets available at the door or at MyNorthTickets.com / (800) 836-0717



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