

N O R T H W E S T E R N M I C H I G A N C O L L E G E

WHITE PINE PRESS

We hew to the line; let the chips fall where they may.

Living In an RV, Bathing in The Bay

Homeless NMC Student Speaks Out

Kim Geyer

A young woman boils her drinking water every day and decides between running the electric heater or using the toaster oven for food. The RV she currently lives in stays at 61 degrees during the day, but that temperature is expected to drop considerably as the winter months get colder.

There is a growing epidemic of homelessness that spans the United States and reaches deep into NMC's campus. Ari, a Traverse City native and NMC student studying Psychology, struggles with chronic homelessness. For students like her, higher education goals are often set aside to focus on survival. Ari chose to remain anonymous in this story.

Like most people combating homelessness, Ari has a job. She works part-time, earning \$17 an hour, for the Northwest Michigan Community Action Agency (NMCAA), a non-profit organization that helps people in Ari's situation. Even with an income and access to NMCAA's resources, she can't find a home. The lack of affordable housing, housing shortages, income to rent discrepancies, and unreasonable lease agreements all contribute to the problem.

"There is no housing, and there are overnight shelters, but not housing," said Ari.

Ari lost her apartment when a roommate decided to move out. Her landlord chose not to maintain Ari's housing status by declining a new roommate due to bad credit, despite possessing rent money. "If you can afford the apartment, you shouldn't have to make an additional \$2,000 per month for approval," she said.

Ari approached the Father Fred Foundation, which couldn't help her unless she received an official eviction notice. "I can't allow myself to get to the point of eviction before I seek help," said Ari. "It feels like they won't send help until you're already drowning." Having to wait until she reached rock bottom was overwhelming for Ari and she questioned whether asking for help was worth the effort.

After the apartment fell through in May 2021, reality set in. "Is this real, is this really what's going on?" she asked herself. Not having housing often means living in a tent with no access to electricity, laundry, or showers. "It's a hard reality, many people like to skim the surface, but it's genuinely brutal."

To try and avoid this scenario, Ari found a friend who owns a pop-up camper. She stayed there for a while until mice became

a problem, causing a strain on the friendship. By the end of June, she once again found herself without a home.

This time she fully embraced tent living. She spent time outdoors hiking and sleeping on the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. "You can accept the fact that it's a struggle, accept the fact that it's difficult, and challenge you to be a better person," Ari said.

Living in a prolonged state of survival, Ari had to be creative to solve simple everyday problems. Being resourceful, she found ways to bathe in Grand Traverse Bay, use the car's air conditioning, and sit in the only chair she had, her carseat, which gave her back much-needed relief.

As temperatures began to drop in the fall, she and her partner began looking for winter accommodations. "We got Planet Fitness memberships for \$10 to take showers every couple of days," Ari said. "People need food, but what about a shower? What about a place to do laundry? Other people don't have that as a priority." She reached out to the Goodwill Inn, which gave her a \$30 voucher. She was thankful but could only

buy a few items. She still lacks necessities like warm clothing.

Ari has lived in an RV with her partner since October, but still doesn't have running water, has limited electricity, and uses an outdoor port-a-potty. She has used community resources like the NMC Food Pantry but, with certain food intolerances, had issues getting her dietary needs met. This focus on survival has forced Ari to take the fall semester off, but she plans on returning this spring.

NMC success coaches have been a lifeboat for students like Ari, who says she wouldn't finish her degree without them. She described them as security blankets that walk alongside students on mental health days. While she feels that success coaches are doing an amazing job, she doesn't always feel supported in the classroom.

She feels that some instructors don't fully appreciate her situation and the struggles she faces. "This is your job as a community college. Some instructors could use empathy training; students are suffering in ways some faculty don't fully comprehend," Ari said. "Although NMC does much for its students, a true connection of student mental health is lacking."

Her next steps include working towards a rental assistance grant, but the process has faced many setbacks. It can be difficult navigating the paperwork and there is a disconnect between organizations and the needs of locals in the Grand Traverse community. "It would be nice to have someone walk alongside you to help with things like rental applications because it's overwhelming."

Applications have tight deadlines and require proof of homelessness. Ari has a P.O. Box so she wasn't approved, even after submitting photographic evidence of living in a tent. "I'm homeless. Why do I have to prove that I am homeless?" she asked.

If she is able to get her application approved and receive a housing voucher, a landlord still needs to be willing to accept it, "Landlords would rather shut a door in your face because it's easier not to deal with vouchers," said Ari.

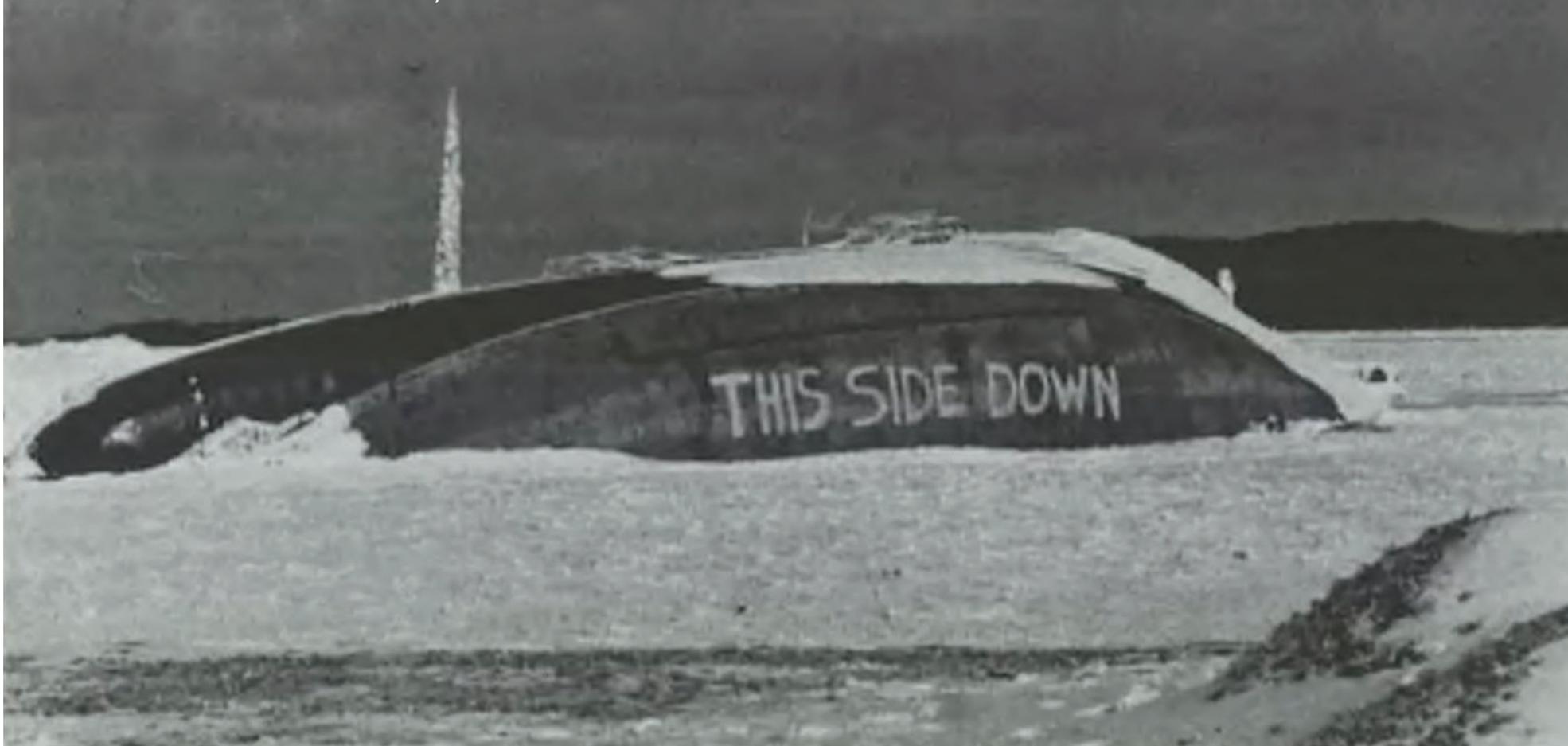
There is no end in sight for Ari, no clear path to safety and security. For students like her, who struggle with daily survival, focusing on the future is a luxury they cannot afford.

If you or a student you know are struggling with homelessness, please contact NMC's Student Success Center - (231) 995-2828 for assistance or Personal Counseling - (231) 995-1118 to speak with someone about mental health concerns.



Ari, an NMC student, has struggled with homelessness since losing her home in May 2021.

The Allegheny seemed like a bad omen for the newly launched Great Lakes Maritime Academy. By the Spring of 1970, the Academy was poised to begin its first full training cycle when the Allegheny promptly sank (actually, it merely settled in a few feet of water at its mooring). Then, in the January blizzard of '78, the ship iced up and tipped over at the new pier (shown below). She was eventually sold after her string of bad luck and the proceeds put into an endowment fund for the Academy



NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

WHITE PINE PRESS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
PRODUCTION MANAGER
COPY EDITOR

Kathryn DePauw
Martha Sprout

STAFF WRITERS

Rachel Bonesteel
Kim Geyer
Kyle Hoffman
Ally Licht
Micah Mabey
Molly Salter

PAGE DESIGNER

Martha Sprout
Chris Fulton

WEBSITE DESIGN

Chris Fulton

PHOTOGRAPHER

FACULTY ADVISER
DESIGN ADVISER

Jacob Wheeler
Kathy Schwartz

The *White Pine Press*
welcomes comments,
suggestions, ideas for news
stories and calendar items.

NEWSROOM 231.995.1173
DISTRIBUTION
ADVERTISING
EMAIL whitepinepress@gmail.com

Printed by Stafford Media Solutions and distributed free.
Printed on 100% recycled paper

NEWS IN BRIEF

Library Hours over winter break: December 18–23 & January 4–9

Monday–Thursday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday: CLOSED

NMC trustees unanimously approved a new, three-year contract for President Nick Nissley. He will be paid \$204,000 for the 2022 calendar year, a 4.7% raise from 2021. His salary will be adjusted by the same percentage rate as the staff and executive salary scale in 2023 and 2024. In addition, his fiscal year office holder allowance was increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000.

NMC has paused taking action on OSHA's COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS). The 5th US Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a motion to stay OSHA's order, which stated employers with more than 100 employees must require vaccination or mandatory testing for all employees. The ETS may eventually be changed or not be implemented at all.

“We are standing by and intend to take no further action to enforce the ETS until the legal status and our compliance requirements are clear. As I stated in the previous email, our top priorities continue to be the health and safety of our community, and minimal disruption to those served by the college while also complying with legal requirements.” - Mark Liebling, NMC's AVP of Human Resources.

NMC and Munson Healthcare support new legislation that would allow community colleges to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing as soon as 2022. The legislation, House Bills 5556 and 5557, were introduced by State Representatives John Roth of Traverse City and John Damoose of Harbor Springs, respectively. The bills also prohibit community colleges from eliminating any associate degree options when creating a Bachelor degree program, unless it is due to a lack of demand.

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

Success Coaches Help NMC Students Over Hurdles During COVID

Kyle Hoffman NMC student success Coaches have played an increasingly important role in many students' lives since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. The coaches are dedicated to helping students reach their goals, whatever those may be.

Many NMC students struggle to provide for themselves and their families. School has been put on the back-burner for many who have to figure out how they will get their next meal before worrying about their class assignments.

Even those without such challenges have struggled to succeed in a virtual school format unfamiliar to them. In-person schooling was not an option for much of last year, and many students continue to learn remotely for safety reasons, despite the difficulties. Some students find it hard to focus and be productive in their own home, especially compared to campus—a space designated for productivity.

Everyone faces hardships from COVID-19 since it officially arrived in Michigan in March 2020. Everyone is impacted in unique ways, and many studies suggest that college-aged adults have been most affected. Peer-reviewed studies from China, Spain, and Slovenia all show that this age group have experienced higher rates of depression and anxiety during the pandemic.

Student success coaches at NMC are here to help students navigate these difficulties. They are not tutors. They help students manage their time, reduce stress and test anxiety, help break down assignments and make a plan of attack—among many other things. Coaches provide the support that is most effective for the individual to ensure that students find their success.

The team is led by Student Success Coordinator Sally Smarsty. She manages the Student Success Center and also finds time to coach students. The team's effort started small in 2015: aiming to improve academic success for students. As the program has grown, the team has broadened its scope.

"We've sort of shifted to goal-setting and empowerment, and then sprinkling academic stuff with that," Smarsty told the *White Pine Press*. "It's really talking to the students and asking 'What works for you, what has worked in the past, how can we help you be most successful?'"

The success coaches are a diverse team and all have undergraduate or graduate degrees. One coach has a neurodiversity degree from University of Michigan and serves as an AmeriCorp member working with first-generation, low-income, and minority students. One coach is a former NMC student who was involved with international studies, went to the University Center, and came back as a coach. Another coach is a partially-retired polymer chemist.

"We know that not every student is going to connect with every coach," Smarsty said. "We want to make sure we have someone who can connect with you to help you through your educational journey."

And their help goes beyond academics. "If you come into our office and say that you're a single mom, we can say 'Have you been to a single moms group? Have you heard about the scholarship for women in the community with children?'" Smarsty said. "We can really help to focus on things that best serve you here."

Coaches can also provide support in areas that they may not have the tools to solve directly. "It's helpful having that person that knows about all of the different resources," Smarsty said. They can connect students to things like counseling or the food pantry in the Osterlin building.

Having to shift to online coaching due to COVID-19 was a challenge, but the student success coaches met it head-on. They had one online-only coach before the pandemic, which allowed the other coaches to learn from her experience.

Being forced to meet the challenges brought on by COVID-19 has made the team more flexible in meeting the needs of the student. They can meet with students in multiple formats and are available for extended hours.

Appointments can be made through the "My Success" link on NMC's student website. From there one can see each coach and their bio. The coaches have different hours of availability—spanning from 8 am to 8 pm on weekdays—and provide their support through different formats: phone, Zoom, or in-person at the Student Success Center in the Osterlin building. Students can choose which coach seems like the best for them based on their different backgrounds, availability, and the formats offered.

Their increase in flexibility paired with more student demand resulted in great impact—and it shows.

A Spring 2021 survey polled 46 students and showed that

- 37% of students had one meeting with a success coach, 13% had two, 50% had 3 or more.
- 93.5% of students said they achieved one or more goals with their success coach.

That means that at least 14 of the 17 students surveyed with only one meeting with a success coach met at least one of their goals as a result of the meeting.

When asked, on a scale of 1-5, how likely they were to recommend a success coach to another student,

- 78.3% said 5 (most likely), 17.4% said 4, and the other 4.3% said 3.
- 73.9% of students said that a coach helped them connect with another campus service or resource.
- 91.3% of students felt welcomed and empowered by their coaches.

"I don't know what I would do without my coach Jen, she means the world to me," one student said in the feedback section of the survey. "I truly believe my grades reflect how well the tools, ideas, and support were! Having a success coach helped me feel like I was not in this adventure alone," another student said.

The team has made its mark. "Prior to COVID, we would go into classrooms and give presentations and it would be the first time students had heard of coaching," Smarsty said. "Now students just know. We go into classrooms and ask how many students have seen a coach, and half of the students put their hands up."

"Some people think that seeing a success coach implies that maybe you have failed something, but after coming to see a success coach it's exactly the opposite," Smarsty said. "The people who are doing well, applying to U of M and Notre Dame, those are the people who are coming to see coaches because they know the power of having someone who can help you towards your goals."

Photos courtesy of Sally Smarsty



Student Ambassador Zoe Zinchook (left) and Student Success Coordinator Sally Smarsty (right)



Success Coach Kelsey Wright (left) & Success Coach Kailey Rubinas at the Student Success Center



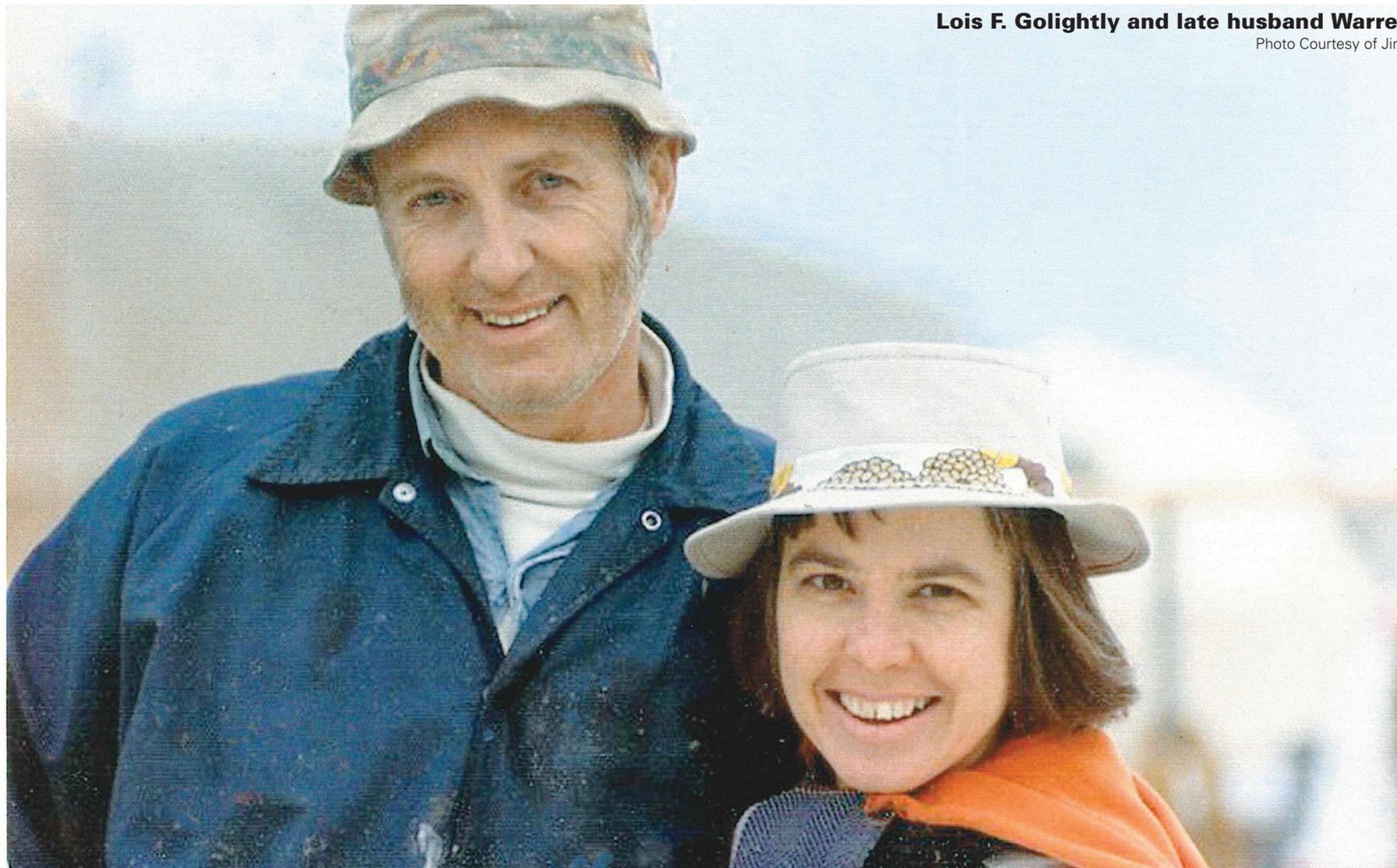
Success Coach Kailey Rubinas (left) & Success Coach Erica Whiting (right) at TC Pit Spitter game

How an Iconic Exhibit Raised the Consciousness of Traverse City

Lois F. Golightly and the "Birth Project"

Lois F. Golightly and late husband Warren Lange.

Photo Courtesy of Jimi Lee Haswell



Gretchen Carr Contributing Writer In the winter of 1986, the "Birth Project", an exhibit of needlepoint, paintings, and drawings, depicting the metaphor of birth as creation, came to Northwestern Michigan College. Judy Chicago, the pioneering feminist artist created "Birth Project" with more than 150 artists from around the globe including dozens of images of the various aspects of the birth process; from the painful to the celebratory to the mythical.

The work was deemed controversial, and debated by the status quo art world if it was actual art. When NMC announced that the "Birth Project" would be coming to campus, the word began to spread, but not just locally, for this was the first time that Chicago's work had ever come to Michigan.

Prior to the opening day of the exhibit, the *Traverse City Record-Eagle* published photos of the pieces which sparked outrage, curiosity and praise. Some readers wrote in, expressing their disgust with the images of women giving birth, calling them "offensive and repulsive and pornographic." Others applauded and admired the images and the intricate work that went into pieces, heralding the artists who depicted the beauty of birth, and taking the important step in presenting the female body in a powerful way.

Why is this relevant today? It seems that the rest of the world is finally recognizing the impact of Judy Chicago. First, her iconic work is currently being honored in a retrospective exhibit at San Francisco's de Young Museum. Second, her "Childbirth in America" exhibit at Through the Flower Art Space in Belem, New Mexico, was recently launched and runs until April 2022. More importantly, the Dennon Museum owns four pieces from the collected works of "Birth Project" which are archived in their permanent collection. It seems

that now would be a great time to bring the "Birth Project" pieces out of the archives, since last year marked the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment which guaranteed women's right to vote across the United States.

How did "Birth Project" come to NMC 35 years ago? And more importantly, how did the Dennon obtain such important work? The answer: Lois Golightly.

Golightly had first read of Judy Chicago's work in *Ms. Magazine*. While attending a Quaker meeting in Cleveland, she and her husband, Warren Lange, were encouraged by a friend to see "The Dinner Party," the iconic 1970s artwork that symbolized the history of women in civilization. The work had a profound impact on her. As she drove home, she committed herself to bringing Chicago's work to her home in Michigan.

Lois was no stranger to the NMC campus. In addition to taking classes, she was a regular columnist in the *White Pine Press*. Her column, "The Feminist Forum" ran from December 1983 to January 1986, and provided an expression of women's concerns worldwide. Her daughter, Jimi Lee Haswell, also a student at NMC, was the founding editor of the *White Pine Press* and active in NMC's Student Government Association (SGA).

Both Lois and Jimi mentioned the idea of bringing "Birth Project" to Chet Janik, Student Activities Director. Coincidentally, he had heard about the "Birth Project" on NPR a few days later. The mother and daughter proposal was timely. Golightly was invited to give a presentation to SGA and they voted unanimously to allocate funds for the exhibit. Golightly contacted Judy Chicago's Through the Flower, a nonprofit organization which honors women's experience, and organized tours of the "Birth Project". Preparations were

underway to bring the "Birth Project" to NMC.

Finding a location to house the exhibit was a challenge. At the time, there was no exhibition space on campus other than the Fine Arts Building, which did not meet the site-specific requirements for the exhibit. After careful consideration, the Oleson Building was designated as the site and the exhibit dates were set for February 24 through March 14, 1986.

In my interview with Chet Janik, he was "aware that a museum had been in discussion for several years, as the Fine Art Department was acquiring a large art collection. He asserts that if it weren't for the efforts of Lois Golightly and the students who allocated the funds, the exhibit would have never arrived in Traverse City." Janik also stated, "there was resistance to bring "Birth Project" to NMC from some community organizations and NMC officials due to the nature of the exhibition. When the show opened with large attendance on a daily basis, the mood and tone changed and all of the sudden almost everyone was in favor of the exhibition, even individuals that were critical of the exhibition prior to viewing it."

On Thursday, February 20, Kathy Prentice, a Traverse City resident and special writer for *Detroit Free Press* published a full-page article on the front page of "The Way We Live" section. Included in the article were photos of the works by artists in Michigan who had spent hundreds of hours working on their pieces for "Birth Project". Prentice reported that "artists and women's groups across Michigan were surprised that Traverse City was the first and so far, the only show scheduled in Michigan." Prentice also reported that "the impact had already spread beyond the college and Traverse City with busloads from Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing having scheduled visits to northern Michigan to see the "Birth Project". (cont. pg 5)

Iconic Exhibit (cont from pg. 4)

The day after the Prentice piece appeared in the *Free Press*, the *Traverse City Record-Eagle* published a front page headline, “Prestigious Birth Project to Open at NMC” and special report by Karen Norton, which included images from the exhibit. The late Ann Ozegovic, NMC Fine Arts faculty member and former executive director for the Traverse City Arts Council was quoted as saying “that the ‘Birth Project’ was the most prestigious exhibit ever to come to Traverse City. It’s a real coup.” Ozegovic went on to say that she did not think that the show was controversial. “If it is controversial then we should all stop having children.”

But for some, it was controversial.

Readers of the *Record-Eagle* wrote to the Editor Jim Herman calling the published images “pagan pornography,” “distasteful,” and “that they belonged in a centerfold of *Playboy*.”

Herman followed up with a piece entitled “Deciding to run Chicago’s Birth Project” stating that “his interpretation of the images was based upon his experience as a youngster and later as a parent. And it was from that vantage point that I formulated the position I took as this newspaper’s editor. Since the artwork is a matter of interpretation, I reasoned, any obscene visions would have to be conjured in the minds of the beholders. The decision to publish the photos drew objections from some *Record-Eagle* employees prior to publication. One

employee warned that the photos would prompt an avalanche of protest from the community.” The protests never happened, and hundreds of people continued to flock to the exhibit until the closing day.

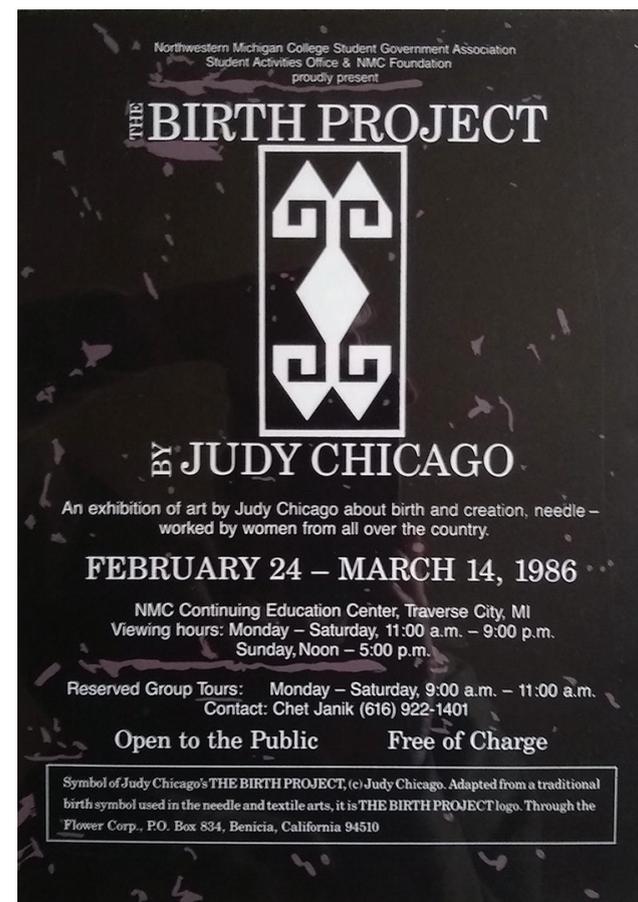
Through the Flower requested a follow up report from each entity that showcased “Birth Project”. Lois and her husband prepared an eight-page document highlighting attendance, volunteer organization, and viewer commentary as well as recommendations for the Art Gallery Steering Committee and the NMC Fine Arts Department as to what they could learn from the experience.

The final report was presented to the SGA, Student Activities Office, and the NMC Foundation with copies made available to the NMC Fine Arts Department and the Traverse City Arts Council. Visitor data showed that more than 3,500 people attended the three-week run. It was emphasized that the exhibit took place during the winter and that four of the days that the exhibit was open were ones that had winter storm warnings, yet that did not deter attendance. Also noted in the report were that some members of the group of “visiting art directors and gallery managers almost came to blows at Dill’s restaurant discussing their different opinions as to whether the project was indeed art.”

“Birth Project” artworks were exhibited in more than 100 museums, galleries, and alternative spaces. Because there was a lack of birth imagery in museums, Through the Flower established a permanent placement program, gifting pieces from the exhibit to various prominent institutions around the country. In early 1991, four of the pieces were gifted to the Dennos’ permanent collection. The Dennos had not yet opened with its grand opening scheduled for later that summer.

Judy Chicago wrote in her 2014 book, *The Dinner Party: Restoring Women to History*, that Dr. Viki Thompson Wilder, an authority on her work (having written a PhD dissertation on “The Dinner Party” and “Birth Project”): “spoke to Eugene Jenneman, then executive director of the Dennos Museum Center at Northwestern Michigan College. When they first received the four pieces gifted to them by Through the Flower their museum didn’t yet exist (which we hadn’t realized). Then works were initially presented in a building on campus and showcased as an example of the type of exhibition opportunities that could be available to the community if they had a museum, which was subsequently built, thanks in part to our art.”

In my conversation with Jenneman on November 5, 2021, he stated, “The ‘Birth Project’ was a perfect example of what could come here if the Dennos Museum existed. And she, Lois F. Golightly, brought it here. The work was of national



The original Birth Project promotional poster from 1986

and international stature, and it was that initial seed that was planted to show the possibility.”

In my interview with retired NMC Fine Art Department Chair Paul Welch on Nov. 2, 2021, when asked if Golightly should be added to the list of people responsible for the “rise of the visual arts in Traverse City,” he agreed that she should be recognized.

Golightly shared with me that if she could write a book about her life, she would give it the title, “From Common to Community.” “I was a common person. I didn’t have any particular background that made it seem for me to be involved in the arts, but it was just my ability to connect with people. There was some part of me that didn’t allow me to be intimidated.”

It is evident that Lois F. Golightly’s success in bringing “Birth Project” to NMC and Traverse City raised the collective consciousness of the community, and impacted the regional culture at a time when the college was contemplating the possibility of building and endowing a museum. In just five years following the “Birth Project” exhibit, the Dennos Museum opened its doors and all who entered “came alive inside.”



1217 E FRONT ST
231.929.2999

1294 W SOUTH AIRPORT RD
231.935.9355

JIMMYJOHNS.COM



Misinformation is a Digital Pandemic

Young Users in the Crosshairs

Kyle Hoffman, Staff Writer Growing up it was “stranger danger”, then it was cyberbullying, avoiding addiction, protecting your passwords, and then social media became the threat everyone was worried about. In the age of COVID-19, harsh political climates, and vaccine skepticism, it is misinformation that has quickly taken the top spot. In a world where misinformation is 70% more likely to be retweeted on Twitter than the truth, according to an October 2020 MIT study, algorithms have the power to influence personal beliefs—and society at large.

It often starts with disinformation, falsehoods that are spread with the intent to mislead. Victims of disinformation believe the lies and share it on social media sites as misinformation, false information that is spread regardless of intent. In this way, misinformation can spread quickly. 78% of people said they have heard at least one of eight different false statements about COVID-19, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation report published last month.

Algorithms make the spreading of false information easier. These programmed rules that social media sites follow vary by platform and decide what content users see. For example, Twitter shows the posts of accounts that a user follows in chronological order, whereas a platform like TikTok shows posts that they think a user would like to see based on their activity.

The latter is more dangerous. Users are shown posts based

on what they interact with. The platform’s algorithm records what videos a user likes, comments on, or even watches longer than others. The information is used to show the user content that would most likely interest them. The concept is harmless, or even beneficial, in many contexts. If a user only interacts with content that they deem funny, for example, the algorithm will show them funny content. It gets dangerous when a user begins to interact with political content.

If a user likes multiple left or right-leaning TikToks, the algorithm records that and shows more of that content. The user will likely continue to interact with the content, creating a snowball effect. Regardless of where the user considered themselves to stand politically, they may find themselves in a bubble of perspectives similar to their own. The one-sided viewpoint is reinforced by the lack of differing opinions, which the algorithms filter out.

An analysis from Media Matters For America, a nonprofit organization and media watchdog group, shows that interacting with far-right content on TikTok can further radicalize users. Media Matters made and tracked accounts for platform recommendations. TikTok suggested that one of Media Matters’ tracked accounts should follow an account connected to “QAnon”—a far-right conspiracy theory and movement. Media Matters accepted the suggestion and TikTok immediately recommended another account connected to “Three Percenters”—a different far-right ideology predicated

on the unproven belief that the American Revolution was fought by only 3% of American colonists. This group, like many similar groups, falls within the ideologies of the larger anti-government and militia movements.

As the tracked accounts accepted TikTok’s suggestions to follow extremist accounts, the number of extremist accounts being suggested multiplied. All of these recommendations came without any searching. The accounts made and monitored by Media Matters were subjected to ideologies like white supremacy, neo-fascism, and others deeply connected to events like the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

TikTok’s age demographics highlight the threat to young users. The largest segment of TikTok users, at 32.5%, are ages 10-19, according to Walloo Media. Ages 20-29 are the next biggest group at 29.5%. Children have a much harder time spotting misinformation and could be more influenced by the algorithm on this platform.

The problem is by no means exclusive to TikTok. Giants like Twitter and Meta (formerly known as Facebook) pose the same dangers to their users. Misinformation is being spread like wildfire by platform algorithms and users alike. 72% of the public uses social media, according to a Pew Research report. As society spends more and more time navigating social media it is important to be mindful of potential misinformation and what algorithms may be feeding you.

MADE TO MOVE ONWARD AND UPWARD

Your future, your opportunity, your next move. Find it all here. Ferris offers flexible, convenient classes in Traverse City and online. Transfer your Northwestern Michigan College credit hours and finish your bachelor’s degree close to home. Meet with an advisor now to maximize your transfer credits and move Ferris Forward.

▶▶▶ [FERRIS.EDU/TRVERSECITY](https://www.ferris.edu/traversecity)

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

TRAVERSE CITY

Ferris State University is an equal opportunity institution. For information on the University’s Policy on Non-Discrimination, visit [ferris.edu/non-discrimination](https://www.ferris.edu/non-discrimination). 20211124



Holiday Event Calendar

“The Most Wonderful Time of the Year” - NMC Concert Band

December 14, 7:30 p.m. (Milliken Auditorium, Dennon Museum Center)

Masks are required, regardless of vaccination status.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, and \$7 for students and seniors.

Come celebrate “the most wonderful time of the year” with a fun holiday trip “over the river and through the woods” to hear all of your favorite Christmas & Hanukkah music. Enjoy an evening of holiday music! Tickets are available from MyNorthTickets.com. Tickets are also available at the door. Call (800) 836-0717 for more information.

NMC Chamber Singers and NMC Grand Traverse Chorale

December 18 & 19, 7:30 p.m. & 3 p.m. (Corson Auditorium, 4000 M-137, Interlochen)

Masks are required, regardless of vaccination status.

Tickets are \$25.50 - \$61.50

The NMC Chamber Singers and NMC Grand Traverse Chorale join the Traverse Symphony Orchestra for “Home for the Holidays.” Come be a part of this wonderful tradition! Call the TSO at (231) 947-7120 for more information.

Santa Claus is Coming to Downtown Traverse City

First three Fridays in December, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (downtown neighborhoods)

Outdoors - masking is optional

Free

Santa will be touring downtown Traverse City in style, by being chauffeured by the Antique Fire Engine. Enjoy a Santa sighting from your own yard! In partnership with

the Traverse City firefighters, the Traverse City Downtown Development Authority plans to safely spread cheer to everyone since Santa won't have a house in downtown Traverse City this year. Firefighters will also be collecting letters along Santa's route.

A Lighthouse Christmas at the Grand Traverse Lighthouse

December 13 - 24, Mon-Fri 12 noon to 3 p.m. & Sat-Sun 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Grand Traverse Lighthouse, 15500 N Lighthouse Point Rd., Northport)

Admission is \$5 per Adult, \$2 Children ages 6 - 17, 5 and under FREE!

Share the spirit of the holidays at the Grand Traverse Lighthouse! Outside, you will see decorated trees, holiday cut-outs, and inflatables while inside will feature a self-guided family holiday tour where you will step back into the sights and sounds of Christmastime in the 1920s and 1930s. The highlight of your experience will be climbing the lighthouse tower to enjoy the spectacular wintry view.

Winter Sounds Holiday Celebration

December 15, 2021, 5 p.m. (Michigan Legacy Art Park, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr., Thompsonville)

Outdoors - masks optional

\$10 suggested donation

You are invited to attend this family-friendly celebration of the season with hot cocoa, a warm bonfire, a magical winter hike through the woods and an inspiring half-hour outdoor performance by the Benzie Central High School Chamber Choir. Dress for cold weather, bring warm blankets or camp chairs to sit on. Help us save waste by bringing your own mugs or bring your own hot beverages and snacks. Dogs on leashes are welcome! Donations benefit the Art Park and Benzie Central High School Choral Programs.

Jingle Bell Run

December 19, 5 - 7 p.m. (begins at the Workshop Brewing Company, 221 Garland St, Traverse City)

Registration costs \$20-\$25

This beloved seasonal run tours Traverse City neighborhood streets bordering downtown that are decked out in holiday lights and decorations. Join or watch runners of all ages and abilities donned in festive holiday costumes in this non-timed 5K run which will be followed by holiday cookies and hot chocolate. The event will help area high school track and cross country runners facing financial hardship to obtain shoes necessary for safe running.

Classic Christmas Movies at the State Theatre

December 17 - December 24 (recurring daily at the State Theatre, 233 E Front St. TC)

Visitors must show proof of full vaccination, pass a health screening, and wear a mask at all times.

Tickets are \$9 Adults, \$8 Seniors, \$7 Children (5-12 and under — no unvaccinated children may attend), \$7 all matinees before 4pm

It's that time of year again when the State Theatre rolls out all the best iconic holiday films! There will be something to please just about everyone, so join us at the State for a classic holiday movie -- a Traverse City holiday tradition!

Traverse City New Year's Eve CherryT Ball Drop

December 31, 10:30 p.m. to 12:20 p.m. (Park Street and Front Street)

\$3 donation per person

If you can't make it to Times Square to witness the Ball Drop, the CherryT Ball Drop is the next best thing! We may be partial, but we believe it's just as sweet. The large cherry drops from the sky as we ring in the New Year!

Classic Holiday Pumpkin Pie

Photo by Molly Salter

Molly Salter
Staff Writer

It's hard to imagine a classic winter holiday such as Thanksgiving or Christmas without the steaming hot turkey, rolls fresh from the oven, creamy spiced gravy and... you guessed it, the warm flavors of a pumpkin pie!

The deep American roots that pumpkin pie has in our history are grand, starting all the way back to 1620 when the first English immigrants were sailing on the Mayflower to the colonies. Back before flour crusts became as popular for pies, the crust of a pumpkin pie was the pumpkin itself. Added to the sliced pumpkin was thick custard spiced with the same spices we use today, primarily cinnamon and ginger. It was then placed directly into a fire and cooked until the custard had set and could hold its shape.

The Wampanoag Native American tribe, who welcomed the Pilgrims off the Mayflower back in 1620, contributed to the establishment of this food staple and helped develop the modern pumpkin pie. Wampanoag grew pumpkins, harvested them, and taught the Pilgrims ways to use them—including their unique version of a pumpkin pie which included the pumpkin itself as the crust.

Over time, this dessert grew and developed into the classic American pie served on many holiday tables. It used to hold a different form, but eventually we settled on this delectable and spice filled custard pie held in a flaky, buttery pie crust. Here is my take on this classic pie that has become a symbol of holiday spirit.

Pie Filling:

Pumpkin Puree - 1 (16 ounce can)
Evaporated Milk - 1 (12 ounce can)
Eggs - 2
Granulated Sugar - ¾ cup
Ground Cinnamon - 2 teaspoons
Salt - ½ teaspoon
Ground Ginger - ¾ teaspoon
Ground Cloves - ¼ teaspoon

Makes 1 pie, 8 servings

Crust:

Cold, Salted Butter - 9 ounces
Pastry Flour - 2 cups
Salt - ½ teaspoon
Granulated Sugar - 2 tablespoons
Cold Water - 6 to 8 tablespoons

*Note: The recipe makes two crusts. The second one can be frozen for later use or the filling recipe can be doubled to make two pies.

Directions

Preheat your oven to 425°F.

To Make the Crust:

1. Combine together the flour, salt, and sugar, and mix together.
2. Take the butter out of the fridge and cut into small cubes.
 - Place the cubed butter into the flour and work into the flour with either a pastry cutter, or your fingertips until small, pea-sized pieces are formed.
 - Have cold water in a cup with ice cubes in it and measure out the water from the cup, leaving behind the ice cubes.
 - Mix all the ingredients together until just combined (don't over mix the dough, you want to see butter chunks).
 - Roll into a log and wrap in plastic wrap and place in the fridge to let rest.

To Make the Filling:

3. While the dough is chilling, whisk the pumpkin puree, evaporated milk, and eggs, together.
 - Add the sugar and combine.
 - In a separate bowl, combine the spices and salt, then pour into the pumpkin mixture.
 - Mix everything until perfectly smooth, set aside.
4. Flour your work surface and roll out half of your pie crust, if only making one pie, to ¼ inch thick.
5. Place in a pie tin, cut off the excess, and crimp the edges with your fingers.
6. Pour the pumpkin filling into the crust and then place in your preheated oven.
7. Bake at 425°F for 15-20 minutes.
8. Lower the temperature of your oven to 350°F and bake for 40 minutes, or until a knife can be inserted in the center and comes out clean.
9. Let it cool to room temperature before serving.

View NMC Faculty Artwork Before It's Gone!

Craig Hadley

Executive Director and Chief Curator

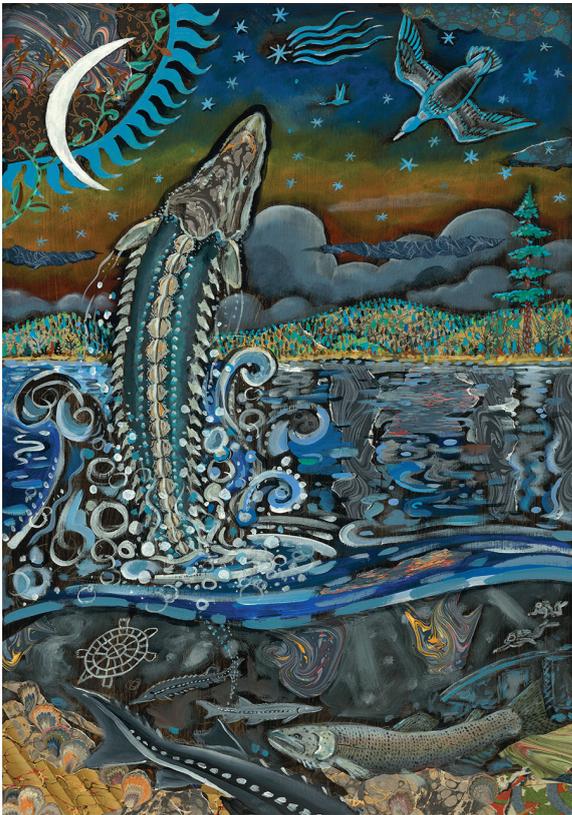
The Dennos Museum Center is honored to showcase current work by NMC art faculty Coreene Kreiser, Matthew McGovern, Randolph Melick, Caroline Schaefer-Hills, Leah Schroeder, Rufus James Snoddy, Zach Tate, Adam VanHouten, and Glenn Wolff. Each faculty member is a dedicated educator as well as a working professional artist and each brings a wealth of experience to their teaching as well

as their daily practice. From Snoddy's meticulously crafted construction paintings, to Schaefer-Hills' video installations, there is an acknowledgement of the past, present, and visions of the future.

The act of making art offers alternative and viable ways of seeing, asking questions, and telling a story. Personal narratives as well as expressions of deep emotion are intertwined within

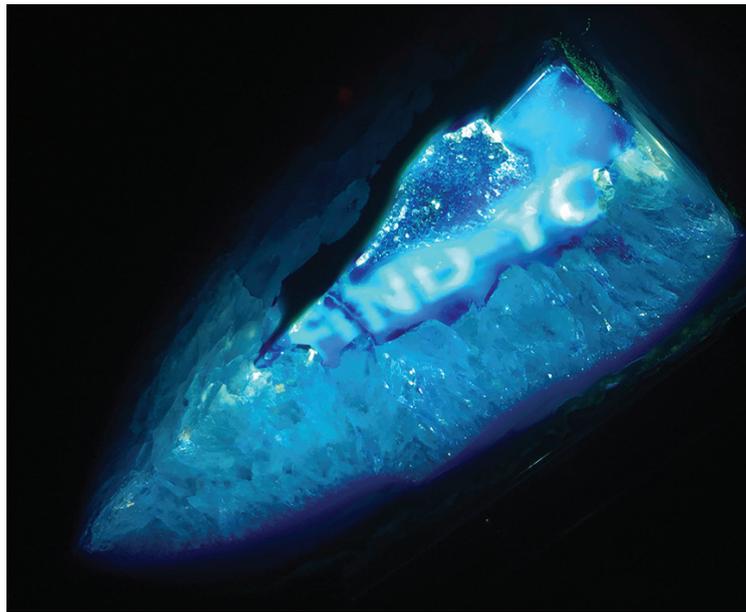
the work on display. Tying together each of these unique artists in this exhibition is their intense need to create.

On behalf of all of us at the Dennos, we hope you will stop by in between final exams and enjoy this special exhibition before it closes on January 3, 2022. As always, admission is free to all NMC students when you present your NMC student ID card.

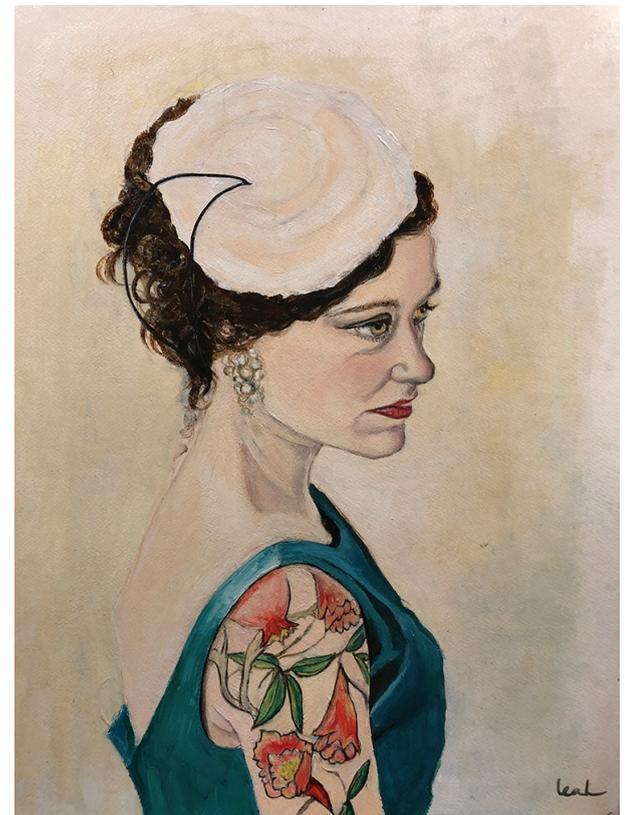


"The Accidental Reef", 2020, Mixed media and acrylic on wood by Glenn Wolff

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DENNOS MUSEUM CENTER



Taken from Caroline Schaefer-Hill's "PAPERWEIGHT" digital series, 2019-2020, digital video, 2D and 4D animation.



"Olympia, Washington", 2019, acrylic on canva by Leah Schroeder

Downtown Gifts That Give Back

Rachel Bonesteel
Staff Writer

The holidays are fast approaching here in Traverse City. As students prepare for their finals there's one more thing on everyone's mind—finding the perfect gift for their loved ones. With a variety of businesses ranging from food to fashion there is something for everyone downtown Traverse City this holiday season. Many local businesses also give back to the community and can help you spread cheer to more than just your family.

My Secret Stash is located on Cass Street downtown Traverse City. Here you can find an array of shirts, stickers and buttons featuring rainbows that give back 100% of the proceeds to Up North Pride. If you aren't familiar, Up North Pride is a local group that holds celebrations for those in the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. The nonprofit's goals according to their website are "To foster inclusive spaces by providing education and resources, activism and advocacy, and producing community focused 2SLGBTQIA+ programs and events." Whether you or a family member are in the LGBTQ+ community or you just want to support a great cause and get some colorful gear, My Secret Stash has it.

The American Spoon located on Front Street is a wonderful place for those who can't stop cooking. They feature a wide array of jams, preserves, salsas and roasting sauces. This family owned business is based out of Petoskey and has been sourcing 90% of the ingredients from local farms all over western Michigan since 1984. They ship nationwide, and by ordering from them not only are you getting natural products but you're also supporting local farmers and foragers from across the state. American Spoon's products are great for the foodies in the family

and offer a variety of recipes in-store and online featuring their products.

It's just as important to support the environment as it is to support local businesses. At Green Island, a locally owned business on Front Street, you'll find a variety of gifts that support fair trade, are recyclable, or are made from recycled or compostable materials. Green Island has everything from bedding to handmade bowls and reusable totes. They also work with a variety of companies that donate proceeds back towards their communities and help with environmental causes.

Horizon Books has two floors of everything from children's books to thrillers to history novels. Horizon has been selling books in Traverse City for 50 years (established in 1961) and also has locations in Petoskey and Cadillac. They have books from Michigan authors such as P.J. Parnish, a Detroit born sibling duo who write mystery thrillers. For younger readers, books such as *M as in Mitten*, *The Legend of Leelanau*, and *Goodnight Traverse City* are great holiday gift options. Horizon ships right to your doorstep, and by buying select books you can support Michigan authors.

Brew is a great place to grab a drink and a gift certificate for anyone who loves coffee or alcoholic beverages. Brew uses organic teas, coffees and espressos. They also feature local wines, microbrews and cocktails for those 21+. Not only do they have fast and convenient service with online ordering, but they also offer free wifi and a relaxing atmosphere for customers to work, read, or simply enjoy a beverage and a pastry. This independent and locally owned business is perfect for those who enjoy a nice pick me up drink.