

# WHITE PINE PRESS

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



Photo by Devon Hains

## 22 to None

The battle to end veteran suicide

**Deanna Luton** Staff Writer  
Twenty-two veterans die each day across the nation as a result of suicide. “One is too many, let alone 22,” says Lucas Clark, President of the Student Veteran Association (SVA) at NMC.

It is an issue Clark holds very close to his heart. He has lost two fellow unit members to suicide; one after unsuccessfully trying to adjust to life as a civilian, and the other while still in the service. In 2009, a U.S. Army Report stated that veteran families have double the suicide rate of non-veterans.

Coming home from war leaves many soldiers with lasting physical and mental hardships. Clark fears that the of perception of “weakness” drives many veterans to hide the emotional trials they are battling from others. “Everybody knows a veteran. All it takes is letting them know you care. You can say ‘Hey, if you ever need to talk I’m here.’ That’s an awesome thing about NMC faculty.”

Clark says that professors have been very understanding

about making accommodations for him and his service dog Bailee. NMC professor Teresa Scollon runs writing groups for veterans, who find it a beneficial outlet to purge negative thoughts and feelings.

Schools like NMC, which provide educational services for veterans upon returning home, also help the transition to civilian life. In fact, NMC ranks in the top five veteran friendly colleges in the nation. Many service members seek out NMC after their tours of duty, to use their G.I. Bill funds in a less chaotic college environment. NMC facilitates a safe place to learn for former soldiers.

For veterans seeking additional help, Clark recommends the support services offered at the Traverse City Veterans Center across from Meijer on US-31. Geared specifically toward combat veterans and their families, they provide free services to help spouses, parents, children, and siblings of veterans. Additionally, Veterans for Peace meet Saturday at

10 a.m. at Horizon Books. Their president, Tim Keenan, is a veteran with a history in dealing with mental health issues.

Here on campus, the NMC Veteran’s Office, located in the Tanis building, can provide additional resources for veterans needing assistance. General counseling is also available for free in the Student Life office by appointment.

To help reduce the appalling rates of veteran suicide, SVA, a NMC student group, is working with local organization Reining Liberty Ranch, to bring awareness to the cause. They are supporting 22 TO NONE, a national organization fighting to end veteran suicide. On Saturday, Oct. 22 from 8 to 10 a.m., supporters will hike 22 miles in support of the active and discharged soldiers who struggle with suicide. The hike will start at Milton Township Fire Department in Kewadin and end at Bryant Park in Traverse City.

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**WHITE PINE PRESS**

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Breanne Russell

**COPY EDITOR** Ann Hosler

**STAFF WRITERS** Tom Clarke  
Zack Harrington  
Laureen Horan  
Ann Hosler  
Deanna Luton  
Taylor McLain  
London Rauch  
James Robinson  
Isaac Vanderwal

**WEB/PAGE DESIGNER** Kenna Marar

**STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER** Devon Hains

**FACULTY ADVISER** Jacob Wheeler  
**DESIGN ADVISER** Kathy Schwartz

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

**NEWSROOM** 231.995.1173  
**DISTRIBUTION** 231.995.1322  
**ADVERTISING** 231.995.1996  
**FAX** 231.995.2110  
**EMAIL** whitepinepress@gmail.com

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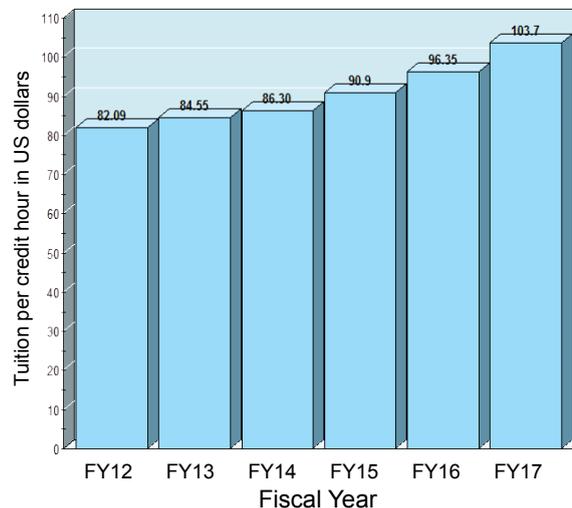
## Correction

### Turmoil over tuition

Students' costs on the rise

WPP Issue No. 2 graph "Tuition Rates - In District" contained an error. All "Fiscal Year" dates read "FY12". The following graph includes the correct "Fiscal Year" data

**NMC Tuition Rates - In District**



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# 22 to None

Continued from page 1

Those interested in participating can sign up for the whole hike or any mile in between, or can help by donating cases of water, protein bars, or volunteering to staff the checkpoints and encourage hikers along the way. Clark says even driving by and honking your car horn in support of the vets and civilians participating is encouraged.

The Facebook event is titled “Take A Hike to Help Fight the Fight” and tickets can be purchased at [222none.weebly.com](http://222none.weebly.com). All donations go directly to the Reining Liberty Ranch, [www.reininglibertyranch.org](http://www.reininglibertyranch.org), located on Silver Pines Rd, which provides amazing programs for veterans and their families including therapy horses and a community farm atmosphere.

Same day registration takes place at the starting point at 7am before an opening ceremony at 7:30am.

But it is not only veterans who deal with suicidal thoughts. Suicide is the third leading cause of death in individuals between age 15 and 24.

A multitude of contributing factors can lead to suicidal tendencies. Depression, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), anxiety, mental health issues, abuse, bullying, or trauma can all lead to thoughts of ending one’s life. It is critical to reach out when feeling lost, alone,

hopeless, or depressed. If not to family members, friends or others in one’s life, The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-8255, is a confidential resource to any in need. If you or anyone you love is struggling with suicidal thoughts, encourage them to call and seek assistance. It may save their life.

Locally, resources are available to those in need.

Third Level Crisis Center, located at 1022 East Front Street, assists those in crisis, whether it be suicide, depression, homelessness, abuse, or other challenges in life. Their 24-hour crisis services include crisis counseling, suicide prevention, immediate in-person counseling and a text line. Learn more at [www.cfsnwmi.org/thirdlevel](http://www.cfsnwmi.org/thirdlevel).

Survivors of Suicide, a support group located at Michael’s Place, 1212 Veterans Drive, is specifically for individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide, or are struggling with suicidal thoughts themselves. The group meets every Monday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception School. Michael’s Place also serves those grieving from any loss. Visit [www.mymichaelsplace.net](http://www.mymichaelsplace.net) for more information.

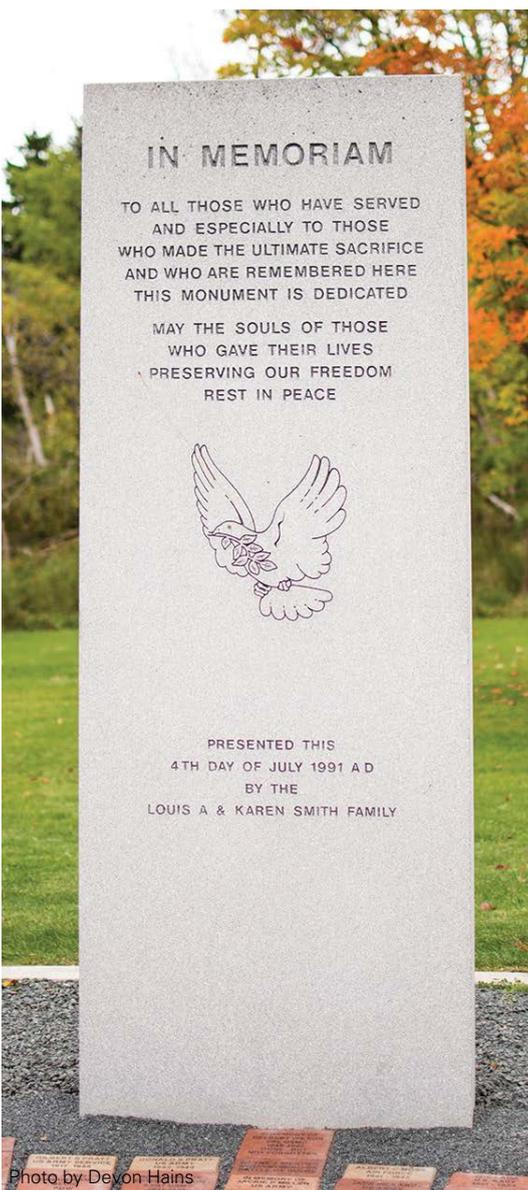
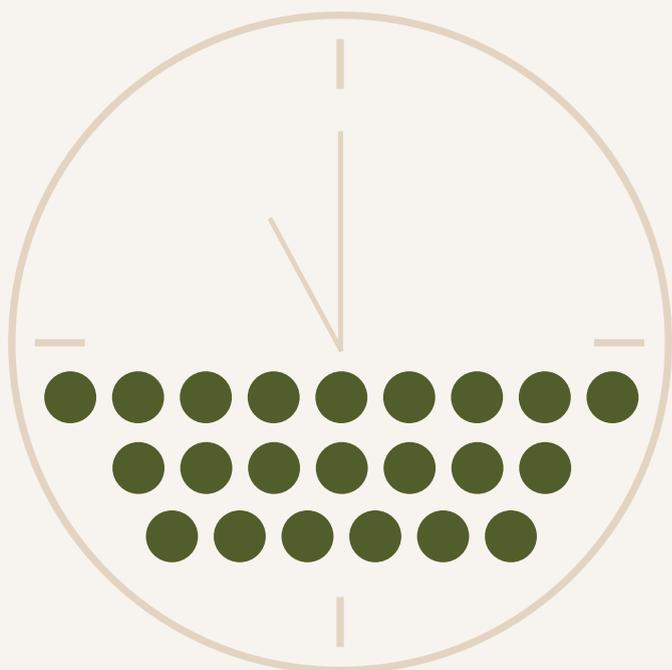


Photo by Devon Hains

## Suicide Warning Signs

- Wanting to die or to kill oneself
- Expressing feelings of hopeless
- Feeling trapped or in unbearable pain
- Feeling like a burden to others
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs
- Behaving recklessly
- Sleeping too little or too much
- Withdrawing or feeling isolated
- Displaying extreme mood swings

**22 VETERAN SUICIDES PER DAY**



**1 EVERY 65 MINUTES**

**3 OUT OF 10 VETERANS**



**HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE**

Statistics from Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America Survey, 2013



## Freshwater Summit at NMC

Photo by Devon Hains

**James Robinson**  
Staff Writer

Water is undoubtedly the most important natural resource in the world. With 97% of the water on Earth being saltwater, the remaining 3% of freshwater is even more precious. Roughly 68.7% of freshwater is locked away in glaciers and icecaps at the poles, 30.1% is stored as groundwater in aquifers, and 0.3% circulates through streams and lakes as surface freshwater.

The surface freshwater that flows through Kids Creek, the Boardman River, and eventually into the west arm of Grand Traverse Bay is all part of the larger Grand Traverse Bay watershed. The Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay “acts to protect and preserve the Bay’s watershed” and is focused on “achieving broad community commitment to clean water.” The Freshwater Summit is one of the many ways in which they seek to accomplish these goals.

The Freshwater Summit is an annual conference where environmental professionals, students, and concerned citizens gather to discuss current events related to the GT Bay watershed and the larger Great Lakes region. It provides environmental professionals the opportunity to showcase their projects and research, and provides citizens the opportunity to meet local and regional environmental organizations that work to preserve both our resources and quality of life. This year’s conference will be held on Friday, Oct. 28.

The Watershed Center is the primary organizer of the event, and it receives assistance from other member organizations of the Freshwater Roundtable. This includes NMC’s Great Lakes Water Studies Institute, Michigan Sea Grant Extension, Great Lakes Environmental Center, Inland Seas Education Association, Grand Traverse Conservation District, and the NOAA Office for Coastal Management.

This year’s Summit is chock-full of interesting and meaningful topics. Invasive species is one of the hot issues that will be discussed this year. Keynote speaker Mark Luttenton, a professor of Biology at Grand Valley State University and

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**Once a personal connection has been made, people are more likely to take action and become better stewards of their natural resources.**

**This is the ultimate goal of the Freshwater Summit — to enable citizens to make more informed decisions concerning their limited freshwater resources.**

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Associate Research Scientist in the Annis Water Resources Institute, will discuss his research on Michigan’s latest invasive species — the New Zealand mudsnail. These harmful, aquatic hitchhikers have been found in both the Au Sable and the Boardman rivers. An aquatic invasive species panel will also examine the status, prevention, and control of various invasive plants, fish, and invertebrates.

Other topics will include a discussion on water issues in China, led by Hans VanSumeren, Director of the Great Lakes WSI, as well as a presentation by students in the Great Lakes WSI, who will talk about their experience analyzing the water quality of inland lakes for the Long Lake Association, additional presentations include the placement of large, woody debris in the Grass River and the blooming of golden-brown algae in Torch Lake. Each partner of the Freshwater Roundtable will also have the opportunity to give a “lightning talk” — a quick, eight-minute speech — on their current projects in the watershed.

The Watershed Center Executive Director Christina Crissman is “hoping to get a wide range of folks” to attend the Summit this year. Keeping with their broad community commitment to clean water, Crissman said The Watershed Center “[tries] to get topics that interest a wide variety of people. Anybody in this area that cares about the Great Lakes and wants to know what’s happening” is welcome to attend. Those interested in attending are encouraged to sign up in

advance. You can do this by visiting [gtbay.org](http://gtbay.org), clicking on the Projects & Programs tab, and selected Freshwater Summit. Tickets are sold on MyNorthTickets and cost \$35 per person (\$15 per student), which includes a full day of presentations with lunch provided.

“There are a lot of groups out there doing a lot of really good things,” says Crissman, “and we want to make sure that folks are aware of these actions and what the impacts might be on them.” Have you enjoyed canoeing or kayaking through the Brown Bridge Quiet Area? Come hear about the dam removal and river restoration efforts of the Grand Traverse Conservation District. Curious about the rain gardens in Suttons Bay or concerned about the health of Kids Creek? Come learn about The Watershed Center’s stormwater collection projects and Kids Creek restoration efforts. Ever wondered how water quality data is collected on Lake Michigan? Listen to a presentation by the Inland Seas Education Association. As Crissman states, “We’re hoping people will come and learn about a variety of things and hopefully one of those things will pique someone’s interest.” Once a personal connection has been made, people are more likely to take action and become better stewards of their natural resources. This is the ultimate goal of the Freshwater Summit — to enable citizens to make more informed decisions concerning their limited freshwater resources.

# Novels in November: Words with Friends

**Zack Harrington**  
Staff Writer

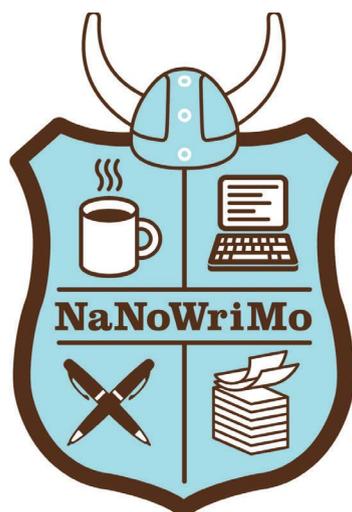
Thousands go into battle this November. Their common foe: the written word. Writers the world over gather next month under the banner of one non-profit who declared, in 1999, November to be National Novel Writing Month, or NaNoWriMo for short. The 30-day marathon challenges aspiring novelists to reach the goal of 50,000 written words by the end of the month. Not only a call to arms, NaNoWriMo also hopes to create a community and inspire youth to fall in love with writing.

Through donations and sponsors, NaNoWriMo funds Municipal Liaison events and their Young Writer's Program kits, which they send to over 2,000 classrooms globally. These resources are then used to aid authors. Should a novelist catch the dreaded "writer's block" disease, others are there for back-up as support groups and brothers-in-arms.

What does all this mean? It means that the 350,000+ people around the world using NaNoWriMo can gain the encouragement needed to get their novel off the ground. As a writer, you are encouraged to undertake this marathon *and* help others in the process.

Create a NaNoWriMo account with various features, the most important being an overview of your novel, where all genres are welcome! The goal is to write an average of 1,666 words a day, a study-verified amount that is difficult, but do-able. By the time you reach 50,000 words, you'll have a novel about the size of *The Great Gatsby*. Update your word count as much as you want, with milestones at various numbers.

Just like girl or boy scouts, your achievements earn badges along the way as an incentive to keep at it. These have a communal



purpose. Some are for attending Camp NaNoWriMo or being a NaNoWriMo veteran. Others are for having a writing soundtrack or drinking too much coffee. When you reach the 50,000 word goal, submit your writing. A word calculator counts to see if you qualify as a winner. But don't worry, your submitted work is immediately deleted to protect your novel. If at anytime you feel like you've hit a wall, forums with other writers are available to help, but you have to help yourself, too.

Cari Noga, who works in Public Relations at NMC, has done NaNoWriMo four times, and won twice! "Chris Baty, the founder [of NaNoWriMo], wrote a great book called *No Plot? No Problem* that I followed almost to the letter the first year I made the 50k, so I highly recommend reading that."

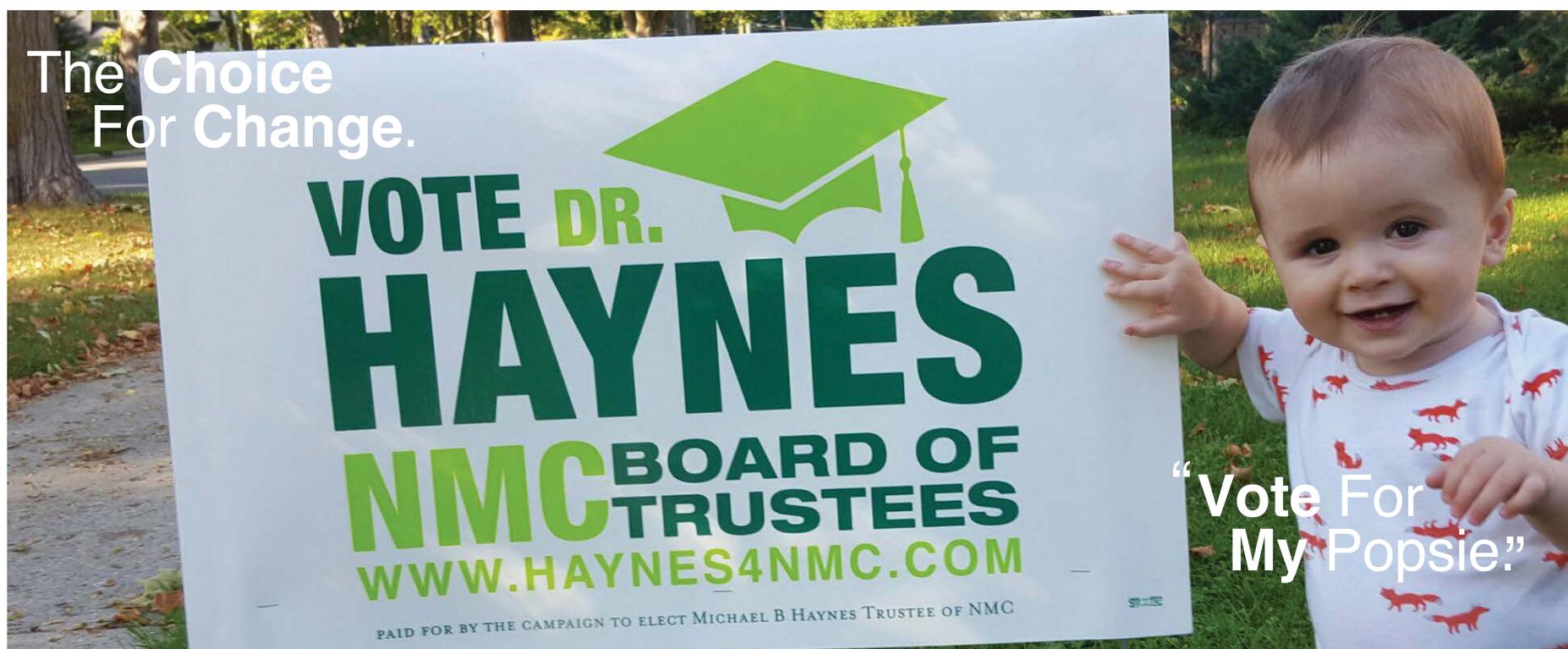
For a personal touch, or a help group you can meet in the real world, NaNoWriMo posts events, including local ones, for specific regions. Only a few are available in Petoskey and Elk Rapids, but there are some local Traverse City resources as well. The Facebook group "TC WriMos" has daily chats at 9:30a.m. as writing "sprints", and holds powwows to meet other NaNoWriMo participants. Their first meeting, "How to Win!", will be held Thursday Oct. 27 from 6 - 8p.m. at the Traverse Area District Library off Woodmere Avenue. Past NaNoWriMo participants will be swapping tips on surviving the marathon. Their second meeting, "Kick Off Write In!", is on Saturday Nov. 5 from noon - 5p.m., featuring writing games and prompts at the Horizon Shine Cafe on Front St, downtown Traverse City.

In the months after November, NaNoWriMo supports the revision and editing process. Some of their sponsors are even publishing houses. What's the point of writing a novel if others don't read it, right? If you are interested in pursuing your novel after the November event, continued support is available.

A 50,000-word destination can be a little daunting. Those who have tried are called "survivors". A resource like NaNoWriMo makes the sometimes lonely and isolated task of writing a social movement filled with energy and potential.

Does being published appeal to you? Does meeting other authors, in person or electronically, seem enticing? Do deadlines motivate you? If so, NaNoWriMo could be for you.

This writer will be racing towards finishing a novel in a month, alongside other NMC students. In fact, this writer has a friend with a published novel, written with NaNoWriMo. So why don't you join me and our hundreds of thousands writing comrades to give the world its next good read. See you at the finish line!



Heal rift between NMC faculty / administration  
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Retired Orthopedic Surgeon  
Initiated a Hospital/Physician Compact for the St. John / Providence Health System, Detroit  
Advised the Surgical Tech Program at Macomb Community College

**EXPERIENCE**

# Alumni Spotlight: Brian Olson

**Deanna Luton**  
Staff Writer

Brian Olson is a 1996 NMC alumnus, originally from East Bay Township, who came to NMC after struggling at Michigan Tech. He wanted to pursue his passion for engineering, and after successfully completing NMC's pre-engineering program he transferred to Michigan State University to earn his PhD in mechanical engineering. During his time as a student at MSU Olson worked as a research assistant, and following his graduation took an instructor position. Currently he is the Senior Staff Engineer and Dynamics Section Supervisor in the Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering Group of the Air and Missile Defense Sector at the prestigious Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU/APL).

Olson's work consists of a "focus on thought leadership in air and missile defense, new business development, targeted college recruiting, and technical staff management." His double certification in mechanical and aeronautical engineering play a crucial role in his multi-faceted position. "I especially enjoy finding synergies between these seemingly disparate focus areas, to establish mutual benefit and value to JHU/APL and relevant stakeholders in industry, government, and academia."

As an engineering major, it can be hard to choose a focus within the discipline. There are a wide variety of options for engineers to choose, from electric or civil engineering to technical or theoretical. Olson discovered his niche while

attending NMC. "The first clue came from taking Physics at NMC, where the topics of Physics I (Mechanics) fascinated me much more than Physics II (Electromagnetism and Optics)." His love for dynamics made it clear that mechanical engineering would be his ideal career.

Olson gives three pieces of advice for NMC's current students; in particular, to aspiring engineers. First, "find a course of study and professional career that you love, and balance this with the realities of job salary, location, work-life, or whatever else is important to you. Considering that we will spend most of our awake time at work, it is essential to our overall health and wellbeing that we are happy with our jobs." The old adage rings true: "Do something you love and you will never work a day in your life."

Second, Olson understands that while focusing on grades is important, it is critical to pursue opportunities that set an individual apart from the crowd. This could include internships, co-ops, study abroad, and student groups. Recruiters like Olson expect your baseline technical qualifications to be excellent, but it is the extras that make you unique. They seek out students who demonstrate initiative, excellent oral/written communication and interpersonal skills, leadership experience, and the ability to work in teams that combine disciplines.

Finally, he says to remember the primary purpose of the engineering curriculum is to teach you how to learn, think critically, and solve problems. He encourages students to treat

all classes as unique opportunities to hone these skills. It is important to see whether you like the subject and how it fits into the big picture. Engineering programs will set you up for a successful career path no matter what you choose.



Photo courtesy of Brian Olson



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# Millennial Woes: The perils of being a 20-something

**Laureen Horan**  
Staff Writer

NMC's biggest student population, millennials, are in the process of completing their education and entering the workforce, but it's not easy. Most 20-somethings are facing acute financial stress along with limited job and housing markets. To add salt to this wound, the generations of people who created these less-than-livable economic conditions seem eager to make jobs at millennials for just about any reason.

We members of Generation Y (born between 1980 and 2000) currently make up 25% of the U.S. population and 21% of all consumer purchases. That said, we're a big piece of the functioning American workforce. Why do we have such a bad reputation?

As a millennial, I'll be the first to admit that most of my peers are a little afraid to grow up. We refer to everyday responsibilities as "adulting," we've demanded the reboots of countless movies and television shows from our childhoods, and we do spend a lot of time with our faces in front of a screen.

We're not perfect, but I'm going to go out on a limb here and make a claim for the rest of Generation Y: we've become the victims of character assassination.

Seriously, though. Millennials get a bad rap based off assumptions about our generation, and I'm sick of having to defend myself at family gatherings just because I was allowed to use a calculator in math class growing up. We get called naive, bratty, selfish, entitled, lazy, spineless, uninformed and obsessed with social media. Harsh.

We do spend a lot of time online (at least three hours per day according to Pew Research data), but to say we are uninformed couldn't be further from the truth. News stories and trending topics unceasingly are posted to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other popular social media sites. The online world produces a lot of false information and articles, but millennials are better than any other generation at determining the validity

of information.

It's no secret we're tech-savvy, which is a huge benefit to us in the workforce, despite the economic challenges we face. Other generations paint us as lazy, but it's not that we don't want to work — we just don't want to work for other people. According to a survey from Bentley University, 67% of their respondents said they wanted to start their own business, while 13% said they hope to climb the ladders to become CEO or president. Due to us being so tech-literate, we're seeing more millennials run companies and start their own brands. In fact, four NMC students started a food delivery service here in Traverse City called Chompler (available in app stores) earlier this year and it has seen overwhelming success since its startup. But like most business endeavors, it's had its fair share of hurdles.

"We've faced a lot of challenges throughout this venture," says Erik Akerley, one of Chompler's creators. "Some of the more prominent ones would probably be have to be the risks and sacrifices that we had to take in order to make Chompler, our passion, the best that it can be. When things started to take off for my business partner, Jacob Dalton, and myself, we had to make the decision of whether we wanted to go through with college (Jacob was incredibly invested into the Maritime academy already) or to pursue our business. In the end we made the mutual decision to go all in with Chompler. We have a tremendous vision for the company outside of the town we started it in (though we will always operate in Traverse City) and we are actually expanding to another city this upcoming spring."

I'll also admit that we may not be the most patriotic generation, but can you blame us? Don't even get me started with the election. We are the most educated generation, but this creates a huge supply of workers for a limited amount of full-time jobs, which means people go to school longer to become more qualified

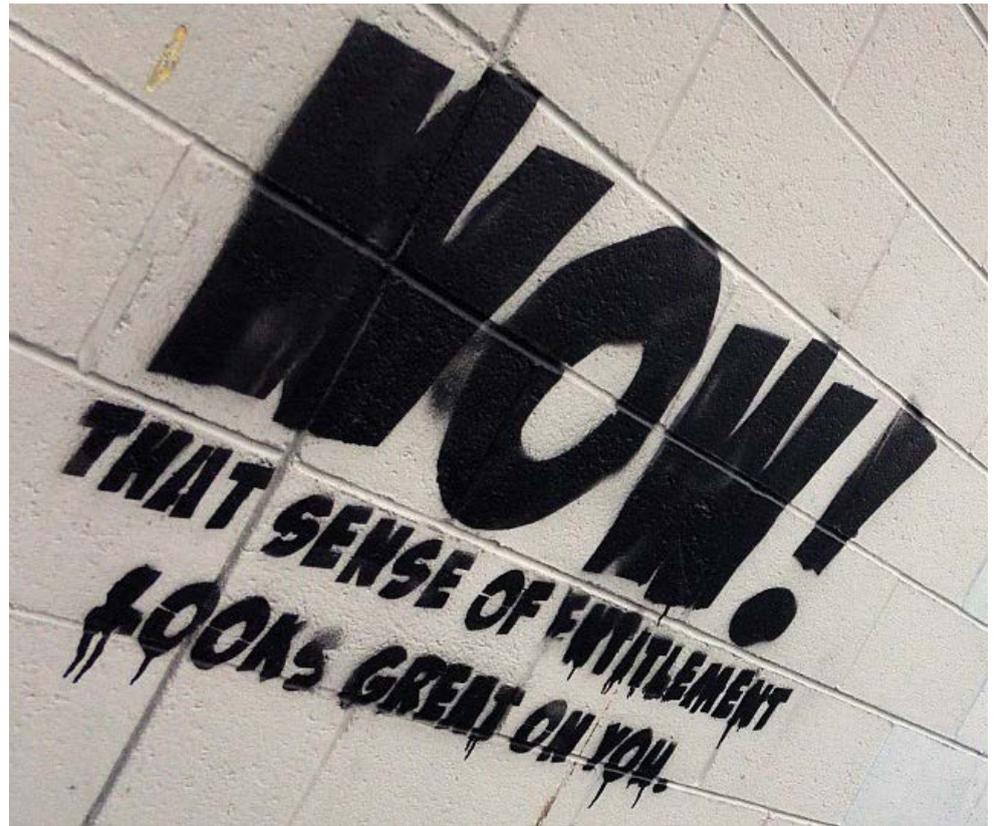


Photo by Mark & Andrea Busse/flickr

Street graffiti relates common societal stereotypes surrounding millennials. That they are lazy, self-absorbed and entitled.

for jobs, but also accrue more debt. Combine that with piss-poor starting salaries, a shaky housing market and strict rules for buying homes... you can see why we aren't exactly thrilled with economic conditions. "America the great—"... if you have lots of money. Maybe so many of us don't fully consider ourselves to be adults until later in life because many college degrees are no more beneficial in the job market than a high school diploma.

Okay, perhaps I'm cynical, but I'm not the only one. The financial stress that is put on millennials has been proven by psychiatrists to parallel the symptoms of PTSD. According to Psychology Today, millennials are reporting the highest levels of clinical anxiety, stress and depression of any other generation at this age.

We've been raised to compete and succeed in everything we do, so we don't accept failure well. We're stressed out because we feel like we should have our lives together by now, yet we don't.

One thing we are doing right when it comes to mental health is discussing it and having open resources available in our communities and online. We try to break the stigma against mental illnesses and encourage people to reach out and seek whatever help they need.

So call us what you will, but millennials are pretty inspiring. We speak our minds, are innovative, take a stance for social injustices, and help others on their journey. So don't ask "Generation Y?," ask "Generation Y Not?"



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Chris Bott



Michael Estes



Rachel Johnson



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Chris Dailey



Carolyn Collins

# NMC Board of Trustee Election

Voters in Grand Traverse County won't only be casting ballots for presidential candidates on Nov. 8. Two positions for NMC's Board of Trustees need to be filled, and six candidates are in the running. The White Pine Press reached out to each of the candidates and asked important questions regarding the role they will play at NMC, and in the surrounding community.

**Laureen Horan**  
Staff Writer

## WPP: Why do you want to be a trustee?

**Chris Bott:** I want to give back to the college where I started my college education. I have had the privilege to serve the past 17 months as a trustee. I was appointed in May of 2015 to fill a board vacancy. So knowing the time commitment that is required to be a trustee, I still want to continue to serve and give back to the college that gave me my chance to achieve a higher education.

**Michael Estes:** To work with other trustees to ensure that quality affordable post high school education is available locally, especially for the residents of Grand Traverse County.

**Rachel Johnson:** NMC is vital to the economic, social, and cultural health of our region. For NMC students, the college offers an opportunity to grow, learn, and pursue new opportunities. There is a lot at stake in the decisions made by the board of trustees. I believe boards make better decisions when they benefit from a diversity of perspectives. As a young professional living and working in this community. I bring a new and fresh perspective that will benefit everyone at NMC.

**Michael Haynes:** NMC is a major asset for our community. To optimize its value requires the energies and talents of all parties including student, faculty, staff, administration, and the wider community. I wish to represent that community, to bring together all parties for the sake of NMC's future.

**Christopher Dailey:** I believe that communication between the administration and the faculty is lacking. Prior to the election in 2014 for the Board of Trustees, the faculty discussed forming a union because of this very thing. When the union was formed, the Board of Trustees was caught unaware even though it was an issue I brought up to the board at this time. The current culture of the board is disconnected to the ongoings of the college and what the priorities should be. In the October 2014 meeting of the Board of Trustees, Ross Childs said the most important people at the college is the Board of Trustees, then the President, then the faculty. That is backwards. It is the students first—without students, there is no college. Then it is the faculty as a close second, because without the faculty there is no college. The rest of the positions just support these two groups. Considering all this it is dire that the Board of Trustees works closely with the

faculty council for the greater good of the college.

The second reason I wish to be a trustee is continue veteran support. I personally believe that college is a critical step for many veterans in resocialization back into civilian life. Not only does this help veterans learn critical skills to continue in life, but it also helps them reacclimate back into social groups in an environment with structure. It helps them transition from a soldier to a civilian.

**Carolyn Collins:** I am grateful for the education I received from NMC that helped me launch my business career. Serving on the board is my way of giving back to the community.

## WPP: What qualifications do you possess that make you a good fit for trustee?

**Chris Bott:** I am a Certified Public Accountant with over 30 years of experience providing business and tax consulting services to individuals and small businesses. I bring my professional experience and that of a business owner of my own CPA firm for the past 18 years to the college. I believe that I also bring the personal perspective of an individual that attended NMC earning my Associate degree, along with six other siblings. I also have the perspective of a parent. My three children also attended NMC, earning their Associate degrees. I am native to Grand Traverse County, having grown up in Hannah, attended St. Mary's Elementary School, and then St. Francis High School in Traverse City. With the exception of two years at Ferris State University and four years in Grand Rapids, I have lived my entire life in this area.

**Michael Estes:** I'm a three term mayor of TC, have over 30 years of business experience and service on numerous local boards and committees. These experiences, in addition to my MBA and the experience [of] seeing two children through college, make for an ideal fit as an NMC trustee.

**Rachel Johnson:** As the Member Relations Manager at Cherryland Electric Cooperative, my job affords me the opportunity to work closely with the rural communities we serve. I also have previous experience in higher education as both an administrator and an instructor. My connections with the local community and my understanding of the challenges and trends that are changing higher education will make me a great trustee.

**Michael Haynes:** I have been fortunate to have a career as

a physician, caring for my patients. I have held many leadership positions as department chair, President of the Medical Staff and later as Vice President of Medical Affairs. I've been able to bring diverse groups together to reform and improve our hospitals. I initiated a Physician Hospital Compact bringing doctors and administrators together to work for common goals. The compact has endured through 8 years and 3 different administrations. I have been an educator of medical and nursing students, resident physicians, and led safety programs for system wide staff. I've been the Medical Advisor for a community college surgical tech program.

**Christopher Dailey:** I am a recent alumni of NMC, graduating with an AAS in Business Administration - Management with High Honors (2014) and an alumni of Davenport University with a Bachelors in Business Administration with High Honors (2016). I am currently enrolled with Davenport University for a Master's in Business Administration - Finance. I am a combat veteran of six years of service in the US Army. I have worked with veteran groups within Grand Traverse County and continue to work hard to ensure my battle brothers are not left behind. I was endorsed by the local chapter of the Student Veterans of America in 2014 and the *Record Eagle* in 2014. I have ties with the faculty council at NMC and believe we have some of the best instructors in the region, if not the state, and they deserve to be treated with respect. I won't deny that I am the disruptive candidate on the ballot. I am not a yes man; I am not afraid to stand up for what is right, and I will do this with a soldier's resolve.

**Carolyn Collins:** 33 years of leadership positions in business, and volunteer service work have prepared me for this position. My experience as a business owner working with employees and families, teaching children and young adults, selling homes for 15 years and serving on five nonprofit boards and local committees have created strong relationships through the years in our community. My ability to work with others, completing tasks and accomplishing goals, is a strong attribute for me.

## WPP: What personal connections do you have with NMC?

**Chris Bott:** I received my Associate Degree in Accounting from NMC. Six of my siblings also attended NMC, earning their Associate degrees. It gave us the opportunity to go on to

higher education resulting in five Bachelor's degrees, two Master's degrees, and has produced two Certified Public Accountants and one medical doctor. My three children also attended NMC receiving their Associate degrees, and led to three Bachelor's degrees, one Master's degree and a medical doctor currently working at Munson Medical Center as an Infectious Disease doctor. I have not completed my entire list of immediate family and relatives that have attended either NMC or the University Center, but I am currently at 26 family members that have attended this college.

**Michael Estes:** I know and have worked with most of the board members, administrators, and many of the instructors. My daughter spent three semesters at NMC and I have been a frequent guest lecturer.

**Rachel Johnson:** I taught as an adjunct instructor at NMC in the Communications program. In addition to teaching Public Speaking, I worked with the building trades programs to promote construction careers at the first annual Building Tomorrow career event last spring. NMC is a really special place and an important community asset. I am constantly impressed with the students, faculty, and programs at the college.

**Michael Haynes:** Member of Dennon Museum, Member of International Affairs Forum, student at Extended Education, support of WNMC, attends cultural events.

**Christopher Dailey:** I have ties with the faculty council and have spoken with the department heads in the past. I intend to carry on this tradition of communicating with the people that work on the front lines with the students to see what they need to help students excel.

**Carolyn Collins:** I am a former student of NMC. After moving to Traverse City in 1989 with my husband and three children, NMC helped me launch a career in business and early childhood development. My husband, children, and niece have attended classes at NMC. As a business owner I participated in NMC's student class programs and employed students part time.

I have served on the NMC Barbecue Board one year and volunteered at this event for 12 years.

## **WPP: What changes would you like to see within the campus community?**

**Chris Bott:** I would like to see the faculty participate more in the faculty council and committees and again become a regular Board of Trustee agenda item. They were a regular part of the board meetings until they asked to be removed from the agenda in November of 2007. When we hear of their successes at a board-level meeting, everyone benefits from the positive message.

I would also like to see more alumni connect back to the college and provide some mentoring to students pursuing similar degree paths.

**Michael Estes:** Classes need to be added that will assist the growing demand for job related skills for both degree and non-degree programs.

**Rachel Johnson:** I would like to see the advancement of degree programs, such as nursing and the construction trades, that prepare students for in-demand jobs in our community. I would also like to see improved collaboration and communication between the faculty and administration.

**Michael Haynes:** I would like to establish a compact to heal the rift between faculty and administration. I would like to strengthen Health Occupations, especially a four-year BSN degree. I want to keep tuition affordable.

**Christopher Dailey:** During my recent time as a student at NMC, I always had good vibes about the campus. When I would step onto campus I couldn't help but smile. There is such a positive energy at NMC it is hard to say what I would like to see changed. I believe I would mainly like to continue with service based learning. I experienced this at my time at NMC and I think it is a great way to learn valuable skills and at the

same time help out your community.

**Carolyn Collins:** Having a four year nursing program at NMC would be great for our community. It would be a feeder to Munson Medical Center which currently will not hire NMC graduates.

## **WPP: What is your perception of NMC's financial condition?**

**Chris Bott:** NMC is financially sound due to a strong planning and budgeting process, support from the community and an excellent foundation. Reserves have been established to cover contingencies and future projects and initiatives.

**Michael Estes:** NMC is in fine financial shape; however, continued efforts must be made to assist those students with financial needs.

**Rachel Johnson:** NMC faces real financial challenges due to limited property tax increases, minimal state appropriation increases after years of declining state appropriations, and declining enrollment. I believe the college can thrive within a challenging financial environment by strengthening partnerships with local employers, increasing recruitment efforts locally, and leveraging in-demand training programs to recruit outside of our region.

**Michael Haynes:** It appears to be sound by all indications. As Vice President of Medical Affairs/CMO with a medical staff of over 900 physicians, I have managed budgets in excess of \$200 million dollars, including research, pharmacy, and physician services.

**Christopher Dailey:** Looking at NMC's benchmarking against other schools at a glance, a few of the areas looked a little high. Considering this has always been a focus in my education, but overall it seems comparable to other colleges. The areas that are high I would want to investigate further, but it is likely since NMC has many unique programs for community colleges, it may be hard to accurately assess how the college is doing in comparison. It is something I would have to dive into the team with and talk to various departments to investigate further.

**Carolyn Collins:** It has come to my attention from documents provided to me that that we need to be building a future business plan to create a surplus fund of investment for unexpected expenses. A significant portion of our revenues are subsidized from state, federal grants, access to unlimited loans, and private scholarships. There are risks to these future funds and we will need to be prepared for an unexpected change in revenue that is out of our control.

The NMC Foundation has provided more than \$43 million to support programs, facilities and services. It currently stewards \$35 million in assets.

## **WPP: What concerns do you have, if any, about NMC's unionization efforts?**

**Chris Bott:** Regarding the negotiating process, first union contracts always take the longest. While it may not be moving along as fast as everyone would like, it is critical that we end up with a contract that is correctly written and one that is good for the faculty, the college and the community.

**Michael Estes:** Every employee has a right to unionize. If elected to the NMC Board, I will work to establish better communications with all NMC employees.

**Rachel Johnson:** My priority is NMC's students and Grand Traverse County taxpayers. I hope that the administration and faculty can negotiate a contract that keeps learning at the center and protects the interests of the students, the faculty, and the taxpayers.

**Michael Haynes:** It is the right of the faculty to unionize. The vast majority of faculty of community colleges and four-year colleges are unionized. The college should bargain in good faith and in a timely fashion to reach a fair contract.

**Christopher Dailey:** I believe the faculty is a valuable

resource of the college. If the board continues their long history of not taking the faculty's concerns seriously, I do not see any other option for them but unions. The faculty has spent a long time trying to work with the Board of Trustees with very limited success. I am in favor the faculty getting the resources they need to effectively do their jobs.

**Carolyn Collins:** I am concerned that it will eliminate collaboration between the parties.

It may be costly in the long run and regretted by those in favor of it at present.

## **WPP: What are three things that you consider to be an important part of a college environment?**

**Chris Bott:**

1. A strong engaged and passionate faculty
2. Strong community support for the college
3. Students that choose to come to NMC that see the value and opportunities that the college provides

**Michael Estes:** To have an open environment for learning, to ensure that classes are meaningful and to ensure that NMC meets the demands of its students with opportunities both inside and outside of the classroom.

**Rachel Johnson:** Rather than approach this campaign thinking about what I want or consider important, I've focused on listening to what voters want and think is important. The students I've spoken with are concerned about increasing costs, rising tuition and access to classes. The local businesses I've spoken with are concerned about a skilled trades gap and access to a trained labor force. The local citizens I've spoken with would like to see increased partnerships with local high schools and the expansion of programming that leverages local resources. As a trustee, I will focus on helping this community and the various constituencies served by the college achieve their goals.

**Michael Haynes:**

1. A governance that is inclusive and considers the talents and requirements of an engaged and active faculty, staff, students, and community

2. Motivated students who seek education both in general studies as well as career specific courses, and are prepared for a successful future as citizens and participants in society

3. A constant view to the future needs and requirements of our students

**Christopher Dailey:**

1. The Students: without the students, there is no college. We should encourage them to work through their degree and help build them up for success. When students feel they are good at something and receive the help they require, they will want to succeed.

2. The Faculty: The instructors of the college are those working at the ground level. They are the ones that inspire, mold, and help them work towards greatness. A great instructor will change lives and build futures. If we don't take care of them, they will be forced to forge out a living elsewhere.

3. The Culture: Overall, the college has a great culture. It is a place of a general positive environment. People are happy, friendly, and often helpful to each other. Often people will hold doors open for each other, say hello to just about anyone and everyone and it is a great place to meet new people. There is the Dennon Museum on campus, various flower gardens, and modern art displays. Overall, the feeling is hard to describe.

**Carolyn Collins:**

1. Safe environment where all students feel secure. An environment where students can express opinions openly without judgement and feel respected and valued regardless of diversity.

2. Success driven environment where NMC learners are prepared for a global society and economy

3. A sense of belonging. The need for students to feel connected to the NMC community is important. Offering activities where learners can get to know each other, create friendships, and enjoy like interests is vital to one's well-being.



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# Halloween Around the World

**Tom Clarke**  
Staff Writer

The average person's knowledge about Halloween seldom extends past dressing up in a costume or trick-or-treating. Those who have outgrown this childhood pastime may instead be satisfied staying home and handing out candy, chaperoning cute little monsters on their nighttime adventures, or attending a party where donning a creative costume is just as expected. Eating handfuls of candy corn while watching Hocus Pocus or some cheesy horror films doesn't hurt either! Despite what you know regarding the origins of Halloween, the ancient Celtic celebration of Samhain and All Hallows Eve (Eve of All Saints Day), not everyone in the world celebrates this American tradition. Here are a few cultural celebrations around the globe which exemplify the same frightening macabre themes as our own beloved Halloween.

Whether or not one believes in an afterlife, it is not so difficult to see how participating in small cultural acts of remembrance can improve the quality of life and bring the living closer together.

## Latin-America and Spain

Perhaps the most obvious to make the list, is "Dia de los Muertos," the Day of the Dead, which takes place over the course of three days, beginning on October 31. Dia de los Muertos is a time to remember deceased friends and family. Though one might expect such a holiday to bear as much mirth as a three-day funeral, it is not a time for mourning, but instead is for happiness! To remember the dead, the living honor them in a number of ways, mainly, by constructing an altar in the home decorated with sweets, pictures, and flowers. Spirits of children are appropriately offered toys and candy, while adult spirits delight in cigarettes and shots of mezcal. Many families lay out a feast for their loved ones visiting from the afterlife. Gravesites are groomed and decorated, festivals parade through the streets, and hearts are filled with comfort, and joy while, those who have passed.

## Japan

On the other side of the Pacific, Japanese Buddhists celebrate the "Obon Festival" for a similar purpose, though the execution is quite different. Like Spanish-speaking countries who celebrate the Dia de los Muertos, the Japanese also take the time to honor their deceased. This is done in a more solemn fashion. Gravesites are cleaned and decorated, and glowing red lights are hung about in many urban settings. Every night of the event, which commonly spans three days, a fire is lit so the deceased may find their family. Candles or lanterns are set adrift on the ocean or rivers. It is a somber



Brian B. Sorensen/flickr

A traditional Day of the Dead (Dia de la Muertos) costume from The Mission District in San Francisco, 2010.

time of reflection and honoring ancestors.

## Others

In Czechoslovakia, a chair for each living and deceased family member is placed by the fireside at night.

Germans hide sharp objects around the house so that visiting family members from the spirit world won't accidentally hurt themselves in the night.

Honoring the dead is a tradition that spans many cultures. Although the given name may be different, it is customary to take time to remember those who came before.

While countries such as Austria, Belgium, and Korea, light candles in remembrance, and leave out food in the home or at the gravesite, to provide their deceased loved one's spirit comfort.

Most holidays around the world comparable to Halloween are more about appeasing the spirits of those who have passed. Lit jack-o-lanterns in fact began long ago as bonfires, alight from sunset to sunrise, tended by the Celts to ward off evil spirits. Similarly, costumes began as disguises, so visiting spirits who wished ill-will would not be able to recognize their living quarry.

Halloween is a time for fun, but perhaps we can take these traditions to heart and see the value in honoring the dead. Whether or not one believes in an afterlife, it is not so difficult to see how participating in small cultural acts of remembrance can improve the quality of life and bring the living closer together.

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RM 101 HEALTH AND SCIENCE BUILDING



Comic by Kenna Marar

Did you find all the hidden words?  
 Can you guess the theme of this issue's word search?  
 Go to [whitepinepresstc.com](http://whitepinepresstc.com) to see  
 if you got them all!

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# Snowden Leaked

**Issac Vanderwal**  
Staff Writer

I no longer want a cell phone or the luxuries it provides. I don't want the interconnection with communities around the globe because this it can be used against myself and other innocent civilians. *Snowden* serves as a reawakening to the privacy concerns many expressed when *The Guardian* reported on the global surveillance leaks from the former NSA contractor in 2013.

The film is a dramatization of Edward Snowden's life during 2004 through 2013, from his Army Reserve discharge to his escape to Moscow. Though minor character jabs can be found throughout, Oliver Stone's film takes a clear side in idolizing Snowden.

There are criticisms of *Snowden's* accuracy and narrative quality—members of national security and intelligence communities fault it for neglecting to mention stolen files relating to military operations in the Middle East—but I believe the movie should be seen by anyone with an internet connection. In contrast to other movies centered on computer technology, Stone uses accurate jargon and methodology for portraying how people use computers. Because there isn't a character who slaps their hands randomly on a keyboard it feels authentic.

Lead actor Joseph Gordon-Levitt, who plays the part of Snowden, gives a convincing performance. The voice may not be perfect, but combined with Snowden's mannerisms and idiosyncrasies, his depiction becomes uncanny. Though the trailer made me uncomfortable, with Gordon-Levitt seemingly

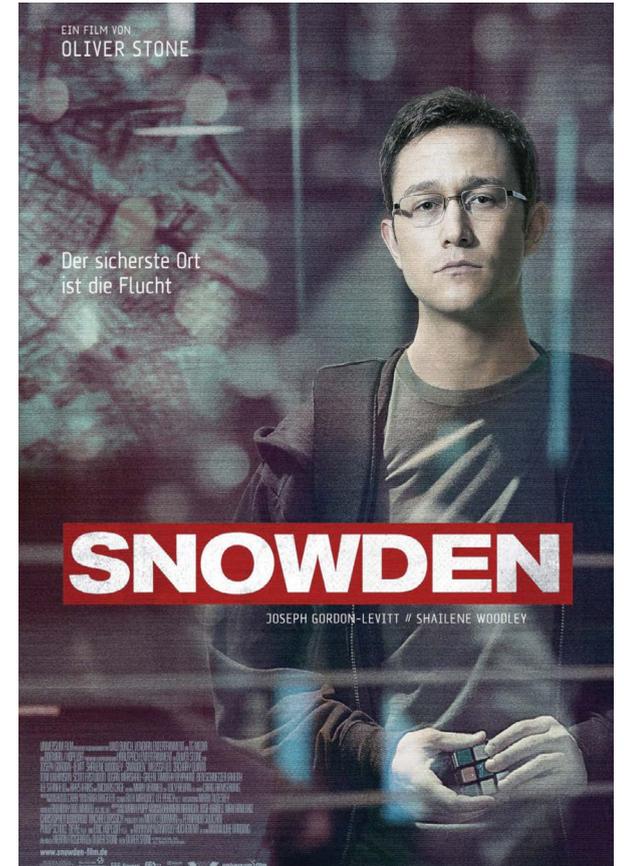
out of place in contrast to previous roles, by the end of the first act I was at ease with his impersonation.

The intensity of the film culminates in the final act. Most viewers are aware of how the story ends, but it doesn't diminish the suspense. Never before have I watched a movie and felt anticipation from a progress bar on a computer screen.

Stone is aware the average viewer may not have an in-depth knowledge of how mass surveillance works. It is described in the film like a pyramid scheme of spying, with a sequence of interconnecting lights stringing people together to form an "all seeing eye."

By forcing the audience's viewpoint through lenses, windows, or reflections, *Snowden's* warning that our privacy is being systematically undermined is strengthened. High stake moments are seen through obstructions: the image of a Skype call, a reflection of Edward Snowden while watching cable news coverage of his leaks, and a window being placed between him and the camera as he is copying classified files.

Regardless of its themes, the cinematic quality, or the willful exclusion of certain facts, the film reminds us the dangers of unchecked power. It has me paranoid about my computer's webcam and hyper-aware of my phone's microphone during discrete conversations. *Snowden* comes at a crucial moment in politics, and warns its viewers that with global surveillance systems currently in place, any leader can become a tyrant. It holds the values of American democracy and the Bill of Rights in high regard while urging us to hold our leaders accountable.



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Get where the world is going



Photos by Devon Hains

**Ann Hosler**  
Staff Writer

Traverse City's craft show season has arrived! Our local crafting community offers a wide variety

of items so you're sure to find something new and unique. Through December, shows can be found at various schools or churches across the city and in surrounding areas.

If you're more of a do-it-yourselfer, it's still worth visiting a show or two to get the inspiration flowing. Aside from the big box stores, we're also home to some great local craft shops. Paint pottery at Handz on Art in Downtown TC, knit or crochet in comfort at Knitology on US-31 near Chums Corner, and discover unique beads and other jewelry bits inside Nawbin Beads and Curiosities at their bright blue building on Front Street.

Imagination running wild? Try delving into creative reuse with Scrap TC, a nonprofit member of the Scrap USA network that sprouted its Traverse City roots in 2010, located at 821 S. Garfield Road. The organization holds classes—including a monthly ladies Pinterest night as well as events for children—thrives on community donations, and sells those donated items at low prices.

"Fabric is our number one [item] and we sell a lot of yarn," explained Penny Johnson, Scrap TC's new director. "We have

a large variety: scrapbooking, a bead section, a lot of ribbon... you name it, from metal, to wood, to plastics, the whole gambit."

The nonprofit is working on rolling out an education program, which most of Scrap's other locations have in place. Penny stressed that the organization is dedicated to "educating [children] about the importance of reuse and how that fits into the bigger picture."

Our local crafting community has been great supporters of Scrap TC. "We have a lot of artists that come in, and I'm amazed when someone finds something I had no vision for," Penny said. "That's the beauty of Scrap. It's very much individual."

Penny is excited with Scrap TC's recent growth and hopes that more of the community stops by to experience the joy of creative reuse. "It's not just for kids. You have to allow yourself plenty of time to go through it all!"

Scrap's most wished for donations are constantly changing, with in-demand items including art paint and brushes, fabric (in yards), yarn, cardstock, beads, wrapping paper, silkflowers, mat board, bottle caps, and more. There are certain items they cannot accept, such as clothing and food containers. A full list is available at [scraptc.org](http://scraptc.org).

## Upcoming Craft Shows

Saturday, Oct. 22

- Lake Ann United Methodist Community Center, First Street and Lake Ann Road: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- East Middle School, Three Mile Road: 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 5

- Immaculate Conception Church, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- First Congregational Church, Center Road: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- AC Paw, West Bay Beach Resort, Front Street: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 12

- Traverse City Christian, Emerson Road: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Long Lake Elementary, North Long Lake Road: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 19

- TC West Senior High, North Long Lake Road: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 10

- Bayview Wesleyan Church, Wayne Street: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.



SCRAP TC is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to inspire creative reuse and environmentally sustainable behavior by providing educational programs and affordable materials.

We accept donations of clean and usable art, craft and office supplies, which we sell to the public at low prices. We also teach classes on how to creatively reuse our materials.

Visit our website for information on workshops, tax-deductible donations, a list of items we accept, volunteer opportunities and more!



Scrap TC is located off of Garfield Rd in Traverse.



Inexpensive crafting supplies for the community.

# Fall Treats

**Ann Hosler**  
Staff Writer

Even I'm guilty of using pumpkin spice during the height of the "everything has pumpkin spice!" craze. These treats are 100% worth it!

## Pumpkin Spice Rice Krispie® Treats

Yields 12–16 treats

### Ingredients

- 3 tbsp unsalted butter
- 4–5 cups regular white marshmallows
- 1/2 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 cup canned pumpkin or 1/8 cup fresh pumpkin
- 5–6 cups Rice Krispies® cereal

### Directions

1. In a large frying pan, melt butter over medium low heat
2. Add marshmallows and let them melt
3. Add pumpkin spice and pumpkin to the mix; blend well
4. Add Rice Krispies® to the mix; start with five cups and slowly increase to six if it needs to thicken more
5. If transferring to a pot for easier stirring (recommended), add about half of the cereal, transfer, add the rest, then mix well
6. Pour mixture into a 9×13 baking pan (pre-grease metal pans with butter)
7. Flatten mix using wax or parchment paper
8. Let cool, cut with butter knife, and enjoy your treats



Photo by Ann Hosler

*Recipe adapted from EssentiallyEclectic.com*

My friend in Fairbanks, Alaska got my family hooked on this amazing slow cooker apple butter recipe. Any cooking apple will work, but we like to use one-half Granny Smith and the other half as either Red Delicious or Honeycrisp.

## All Day Apple Butter

Yields 4 pints

### Ingredients

- 5 1/2 lbs apples
- 3 cups sugar
- 2–3 tsp cinnamon
- 1/4 tsp cloves
- 1/4 tsp salt

### Directions

1. Peel, core, and chop the apples. Place in slow cooker.
2. Combine other ingredients and pour over apples; mix well
3. Close lid and cook on high for one hour
4. Cook on low for 9–11 hours, or until thickened
5. Stir with a whisk until smooth
6. Cook one hour uncovered if additional thickening is needed
7. Spoon into freezer containers leaving 1/2 inch head space
8. Refrigerate up to one month; store excess in freezer



Photo by allrecipes.com

*Recipe adapted from allrecipes.com*

# Gotta Geocache Them All

**Jamie Robinson**  
Staff Writer

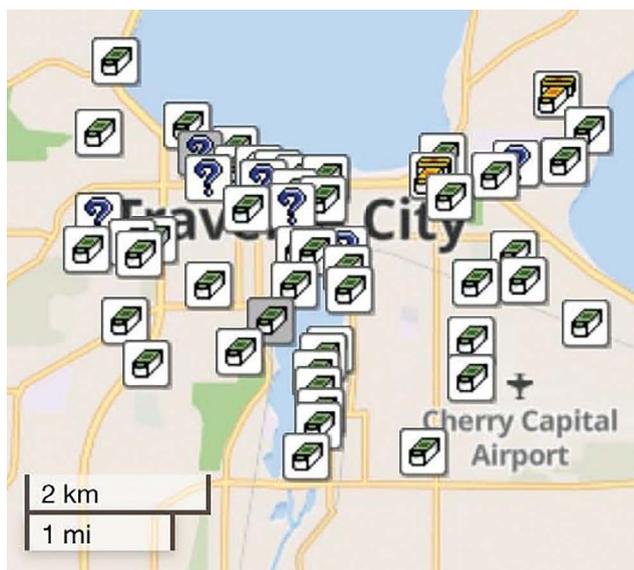
For the past few months, NMC's main campus has been buzzing with the commotion of Pokémon

GO players, strolling across campus in search of elusive pocket monsters. For some folks, this interactive, digital phenomenon has lost its appeal. However, there is a similar, and much more fun way, to get out and explore the real world — Geocaching!

Technology enthusiast David Ulmer created this game by hiding a black bucket in the woods near Beaver Creek, Oregon, and recording its coordinates with his GPS receiver. Inside the container, he placed a logbook, a pencil, and various prizes. He then shared the coordinates and a short description in a blog post, inviting others to use their GPS receivers to locate the “stash”. With nearly 2.8 million geocaches in 180 countries, and three million geocachers worldwide, Ulmer's re-invented treasure hunt has exploded into a popular pastime.

## Starting your adventure

Only two things are required in order to go geocaching: a GPS receiver (or the Geocaching app) and a geocaching membership. Never geocached before? Not a problem! The first thing to do is navigate to [geocaching.com](http://geocaching.com) and register for a free basic membership. After creating your account, login and navigate to the “Find a Cache” page and enter your address or current location which will show you a list of nearby geocaches. Choose any from the list and click its name to reveal the coordinates and a short description. Once you've entered the coordinates in your GPS receiver (or selected them in the app) the adventure begins!



A map of Traverse City geocaches.

## Rules and etiquette

Every outdoor activity has a set of rules or guidelines and geocaching is no exception. Geocachers are expected to limit their impact on the environment they are exploring by practicing the Leave No Trace principles. These help keep the experience enjoyable for all participants.

When traveling to a cache location, use established roads and trails. Most geocaches are hidden within a few feet of these major features and do not require excessive bushwhacking. Always practice the “lift, look, replace” technique when searching for one. Never move or bury a cache!

Upon locating a geocache, you may notice there are many trinkets inside the container. If you take something, leave something of equal or greater value. Food or heavily scented items are not allowed as they will attract wild animals. It is also polite to sign the logbook inside to let the owner know who found their geocache.

## Room for creativity

Geocaches come in all shapes and sizes, which makes for a unique adventure. They can be as large as a five gallon bucket or as small as a film canister. The most common type is the traditional cache which has one set of coordinates that leads to a hidden container. Multi-caches involve navigating to two or more locations before finding a physical container. Mystery or puzzle caches involve solving complicated puzzles to determine the correct coordinates for a cache.

Not all geocaches are physical; some are specific places or events. Earthcaches lead geocachers to special geological locations to learn about the unique features of the Earth. Typically, to log an Earthcache you must provide answers to questions by observing the geological location. Event caches specify a time for an event and provide coordinates to its location. CITO (Cache In Trash Out) is a special type of event that aims to clean up and preserve the natural areas that we enjoy while geocaching. They focus on litter cleanup, removal of invasive species, planting trees and vegetation and trail building.

Ready to go geocaching? There are 51 geocaches of various types hidden within two miles of Northwestern Michigan College's main campus. Geocaching reveals a world with endless adventure and countless new discoveries. No Pokéballs required!



Photos courtesy of Jamie Robinson

Left: Jamie Robinson's Aunt was super excited to join his Geocaching adventure. Right: Micro-cache found near Wilderness State Park in Carp Lake, MI.