

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.





Photo courtesy of Ann Swaney / NMC Archive

Top row (left to right): Todd McMillen, Cathy Burton, Tiffany DeConick, Linda Schubert, Gyneth King, Sue Carlson

Bottom row (left to right): Jill Hinds, Nancy Warner, Ken Marek

Northwestern Michigan College has had many variations of a literary magazine since the 1950s, but none stuck for as long as the *NMC Magazine*, founded in 1981. This photo pictures the magazine's 1985 staff members, editors, and faculty advisors. Over time, the magazine developed a penchant for its creativity, thematic content, and unique design. Nearing its 40th year, the latest edition of the *NMC Magazine*, "In Brief," will soon be distributed on campus and around Traverse City.

NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

WHITE PINE PRESS

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April is National Poetry Month!

Pulled from the NMC Magazine archives, the poem "Flower and the Bee" by James C. Urch appeared in the April 1982 issue.

Flower and the Bee

There is no stronger love.
 Than of a flower and a bee.
 In this world of push and shove.
 There are no two things as free.
 Nowhere will you ever find,
 A perfect balance such as this.
 You will never hear a word unkind,
 You will never see a kiss.
 But romance is still in harmony,
 Every year and day and hour.
 There is no stronger love to me,
 Than of a bee and of a flower.

James C. Urch
 Grawn

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Cover Photo by Eli Watts



Photos courtesy of Alec Nall

The Big Little Hero Race took place on Saturday, April 13, on NMC's main campus. This year, the race's local hero was Ty Schmidt, who kicked off the Fun Run dressed in red tights, a blue cape and an orange Norte puffball hat.

Big Little Heroes

A Labor of Community Love

Emily Slater Staff Writer On Saturday, April 13, the students of Kristy McDonald's Professional Communications (BUS231) class saw the culmination of a semester's worth of work come to fruition. The class, using an experiential learning model that equips students with both the knowledge and hands-on experience needed in the business world, spent their entire semester creating an event to raise money for a local charity.

The Big Little Hero Race is an annual charity event that benefits Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Michigan.

The race included a 5K and 10K course run along Old Mission peninsula, and a Fun Run where kids, adults, and even dogs were encouraged to dress up and walk, jog, or run a mile around the NMC campus.

Over the last few months, the students worked to raise sponsorship for the race, making phone calls and sending out letters to local businesses who donated funds, advertising air time, and food. Locals volunteered to help staff the event, both on campus and along the peninsula route. The class also combined forces with NMC's East Hall Residence Life to

provide a carnival during the event, offering games, a dance party, and face painting.

More than 200 people participated in the 5k and 10k, and the event raised more than \$26,000 for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Michigan. That's one of the great things about the event and the BUS231 class, says project leader Nick Mulvaine. The money raised by the students is given back to the local community.

"That \$26,000 didn't go to another state, it stayed right here in the five-county area."

From Ipanema to Brigadeiro

NMC Students Experience Brazil

Valerie Reeves Staff Writer What do samba, colonial architecture, and Northwestern Michigan College have in common? They are all important aspects of NMC's Brazilian Experience trip!

Thirteen NMC students took a trip to Brazil to learn about the country's history and culture over spring break. The group was accompanied by humanities instructor Jim Bensley and NMC Foundation staffer Katharine Zurek. We visited four important cities in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais: Belo Horizonte, Ouro Preto, Tiradentes, and Rio de Janeiro.

The journey began when the plane skirted to a halt in Rio de Janeiro. Tired from the eight-

hour flight from Atlanta, our group enjoyed a relaxing day on Ipanema Beach. Bus-sized waves crashed against the shore as street vendors wandered the sands, selling everything from beach balls to bathing suits. Clutched in our hands were big, green coconuts—their scent floating in the breeze.

The next day had us exploring Rio de Janeiro. We toured iconic sites such as Pão de Açúcar, Christ the Redeemer, and the Seralon Steps. Our travels took us to one of Rio's "Samba Schools," a place where children of all backgrounds learn valuable life lessons and prepare for the county's famous Carnival festival.

After Rio, the next stop was the small, quaint town of Tiradentes. Named after Joaquim José da Silva Xavier, a revolutionary leader known as Tiradentes in the late 1700s, the town feels like a tropical version of The Shire from J.R.R Tolkien's novel "The Hobbit." Cute little colonial houses line the streets as the whole town is shielded by the enormous São José mountain range. The cozy, welcoming feel of the town was enhanced by the homestay experience we were given during our stay.

The first day in Tiradentes, our group had the opportunity to make traditional "house crosses" that were very important to the people of Minas Gerais state. In the morning of the second day, we participated in a cooking class where we learned how to make traditional Brazilian dishes such as Feijoada (a sort of black bean stew served over rice) and Brigadeiro (a type of chocolate truffle rolled in sprinkles). That afternoon, we helped with a service activity, painting the town's community soccer club, followed by a game of soccer with local children. On the third day, we toured Tiradentes and learned about the historical significance of the town. On the final day we had the opportunity to hike the Serra São José mountains on the same path the slaves took many years before.

Ouro Preto and Belo Horizonte were the shorter of the four stops. We learned about the history and culture of each location. In Ouro Preto, a tour of an old gold mine revealed its tragic history of slavery. While touring Belo Horizonte, we visited a Quilombo community—Afro-Brazilians descended from escaped slaves who continue to practice and preserve the old traditions of Africa.

For the group, the hardest part of the trip was saying goodbye. But the memories created while in Brazil—the mountain hike, staying with host families, and so many other experiences—will live on in the minds of the students and faculty who traveled there.



Photo by Valerie Reeves

NMC students and staff dress in traditional Carnival costumes at the Samba School in Rio de Janeiro

World Press Freedom Day

Annie Hindle On April 30, the International Affairs Forum will host journalist Rami Khouri for its celebration of World Press Freedom Day. Khouri will speak at 6pm at the State Theatre on the importance of journalism and how it has changed, and pay tribute to journalists who have died seeking the truth.

Khouri, age 70, is a dual Palestinian-Jordanian and U.S. citizen whose acclaimed work is comprised of both books and political columns including recent articles for *Agence Global*, a syndication agency. He has worked for news organizations such as *The Daily Star* and the *Jordan Times*, and is a fellow at the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs.



Khouri believes that the “fake news” epidemic in the United States is destroying journalism. The core of this issue comes from corporate interests that run operations to make money off of fake news—and social media is disregarding the basic tenets of journalism, according to Khouri. “When

people put something up on Facebook or Twitter you cannot think of it as fact,” Khouri says. “You have to think of it more as entertainment.” To fix this issue, Khouri pushes for journalists to state the facts and make sure they have well-researched articles.

Khouri originally went to college at Syracuse University in New York to study biochemistry, but found himself writing often. He noticed his natural curiosity for life and people, and craved to satisfy it. Once he turned to journalism, he didn’t look back. “I was just interested in different things and constantly asking about what people are doing,” Khouri says. “I am just curious to learn about things and [it] gives me great satisfaction to be able to get knowledge first hand.”

Following his dreams introduced Khouri to a variety of places, experiences, and people. “It’s the ability to learn about our world through first hand reporting,” he explains.

Khouri says that there is a polarization of journalism that needs to end. People no longer look at the media as a way of knowing what’s going on in our world. “For the majority, they either see themselves as right wing or liberal progressive left wing,” Khouri says of journalists across mediums such as television, talk radio, and newspaper. “They present the world and news as they see it, and that generates negative reactions among people who think differently from them.”

Journalism has changed during Khouri’s life. He notes that the media has broken up “into a bazillion small little outfits,” a sharp contrast to the smaller scale of journalism in the 1960s. “There were only a few news outlets, and the radio was perceived to be much more trusting. It’s very different,” he says. “This is why trust in the media has gone down.”

“Trust is the central issue in the journalism profession. Getting people to trust you is part of your job as a journalist. You need to show them you are serious about what you are doing. It’s the trust—because then they will open up to you.”

Join Khouri in honoring World Press Freedom Day at 6pm on April 30 at the State Theatre in downtown Traverse City. Tickets are \$5 at the State Theatre box office or can be purchased online at stateandbijou.org. Admission is free to students, educators, and journalists.

White Pine Press editor-in-chief Ann Hosler contributed to this story.

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Alumni Spotlight: Adrian Norris



Adrian Norris and his family relax at the Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park in Northern California during a cross country road trip last summer.

Emily Slater Staff Writer The well-traveled path has never quite appealed to NMC alumnus Adrian Norris. He put down roots early, marrying at age 19 and starting a family at 21. When he became a co-owner of Flood Fighters, a local water damage restoration company, he was just 23 years old. His colleagues were decades older than him with more time and experience under their belts.

While it was a lonely experience at times, Norris chose to make the best of the situation. He began seeking out insight and mentorship, both from people in his line of work and those outside of it. “I meet with different people, because I don’t know what I don’t know,” he said. “I love talking to other business owners and finding out what has worked for them and what hasn’t. It’s good to have those other perspectives, otherwise you get stuck in a bubble.”

He worked hard to grow the business, eventually becoming the sole owner of Flood Fighters, and also acquiring Grand Traverse Timber Frame as a silent owner. He put in long hours, sometimes working late into the evening multiple days a week for Flood Fighters.

So when an opportunity arose in the summer of 2018 for Norris to take a break from the grind of work, he jumped at the chance. With a pop-up camper and a vague plan to drive west, he and his wife embarked on a five week cross-country road trip with their four kids. Being away from the daily aspects of work gave Norris and his wife the chance to evaluate the bigger picture. “It brought a surprising amount of clarity to remove myself from the business for five weeks. It gave me this 30,000-foot view of the business, and myself in the company. I didn’t like some of the things I saw.”

Norris was able to identify things he needed to do, and some that he needed to stop doing, in order for not only the business to thrive, but his family as well. “It helps to have a wife who is very smart, and who knows me, knows what I’m good at, and who knows the company and what makes it tick,” he said.

The trip also gave them hours of uninterrupted time to talk about their priorities and what they wanted out of their life. At the top of that list? More intentional time with each other and their kids. “Time is the one thing I don’t get back. Especially having kids, that makes that time factor even more potent. My kids will only be this age for so long and then they’ll be adults and I’m going to be wishing I did more,” he explained. “So realizing that time is really the one non-renewable resource, my focus has been on creating more free time where I can.”

Norris immediately jumped into action upon returning home from the trip. He began going into work early each morning, fitting five days of work into four, giving him a three-day weekend to spend with his family. Though he was working one day less, his productivity increased. “When I decided that I was only going to work so many hours and days, it’s amazing how much more efficient I became. I can work harder and smarter, but not longer. I realize it might not work for everyone, but it worked for me.” The focus and drive at work was great, but more important to Norris was what it meant for his family. “It’s way different. Now my kids feel that when their dad is home, he is present with them. He’s not thinking about the business.”

Norris is proof that there’s more than one way to achieve success in your career, and that ultimately success is defined differently for everyone. He encourages students to make their education work for them, and to explore all of their options when it comes to school. He took advantage of NMC’s dual-enrollment program when he was a high school senior, and appreciated the opportunity to narrow down what worked for him and what didn’t, when it came to education and finding a career. Real world experience is vital, he says. “Go shadow, go work in different trades, go talk to the owners. Figure out if that’s the life you want. College will equip you in a lot of ways, but so much of it is just going out and doing something about it.”

Your Internet Addiction Can Plant Trees

Lili Clendinen Staff Writer Following recent tree cuttings near Cherry Capital Airport, Traverse City commissioners have been discussing a possible tree ordinance to increase forest protection in the area. According to the *Traverse City Record-Eagle*, under current law, unpermitted tree-cutting of more than 8,000 square feet of land can be penalized with a fine of \$400. Commissioner Brian McGillivray theorized that increasing fines on a per-tree basis could potentially decrease unpermitted tree-cutting significantly. However, there has been much debate surrounding the tree ordinance, as some commissioners fear that stricter environmental regulations could hinder development in Traverse City. Others anticipate that development could quickly shrink available canopy, putting our air quality and property value in danger—not to mention the threat of increased flooding and runoff posed by deforestation.

Issues like this are not unique to Traverse City. With the rise of globalized industrialization, deforestation has become a worldwide problem. Luckily, we have the opportunity to plant trees simply by browsing the internet with Ecosia.

Ecosia is a search engine whose mission is to plant one billion trees by the year 2020. As of April 2019, Ecosia has managed to plant more than 50 million trees and their numbers are rising rapidly. Ecosia makes its incomes through advertising revenue, but unlike other search giants like Google and Microsoft Bing, Ecosia commits 80% of its profits to planting trees across the globe. (Ecosia search results are provided by Bing, but use Ecosia’s algorithms.)

Currently, Ecosia has 20 tree-planting projects in 15 countries, mainly in Latin America, Africa, and Indonesia. Some projects are located in areas suffering from land degradation, while others are centered in diversity hotspots where species are vulnerable to expanding agricultural corporations. Ecosia teams up with local farmers to restore forests and generate profitable farmland using agroforestry—a farming practice that plants crops among shrubs and trees. Income from agroforestry gives farmers the option to keep their land instead of selling it

to corporations, while simultaneously creating a safe zone for threatened species.

Ecosia’s team is taking care of the hard work, all we need to do on our end is search, search, search. Who said internet addiction couldn’t be a good thing? To start planting trees, add Ecosia’s extension to your browser, or download the app—either way, it’s free.



Cherry Capital Comic Con Returns

Andrew Veith *Comic Con only happens in San Diego, right? Wrong!*
 Staff Writer Running now into its 11th year, the Cherry Capital Comic Con (C4) is coming to the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa from May 24–26. As the largest comic convention in Northern Michigan, it continues to grow each year—this year supported by 15 local sponsors.

“It gets easier and easier to get local business owners involved with this great family event,” says Mike Akerly, co-founder and executive director of C4. “Our sponsor list grows every year and we are very thankful for their support.”

The annual convention features something for everyone. Comic books fans will find a strong emphasis on the “comic” part of C4, with vendors, panels, and creators showing up en masse. The cosplay scene is strong as well, and provides an awesome opportunity to dress up as your favorite characters or to show off original creations. The renowned 501st Legion “Star Wars” costuming group, famous within the cosplay community and “Star Wars” fandom for their screen-accurate costumes centering around clone troopers, stormtroopers, Darth Vader, and other iconic characters will be in attendance and posing for photos. Besides being a great place to show off your work, attending a convention is a great way to network and share tips and tricks with fellow cosplayers.

The convention will feature child and adult costume contests, and game rooms with a myriad of tabletop games. The convention will open with a preview night on Friday, and two full days of an open floor, Saturday and Sunday.

“We will continue to grow the show floor and game room presence,” says Akerly. “We strive every year to streamline the flow of the convention. We will continue to showcase local Michigan and Midwest talent. Eleven years in, we are still trying to figure out ways to appease

our many fans!”

C4 draws a number of talented guests, writers, and artists such as Darryl Banks and James O’Barr, Seth Damoose, Jay Fosgitt, Dirk Manning, Scoot McMahon, and K Lynn Smith. Camille and Kennerly Kitt, well-known as the Harp Twins, will be in concert Saturday and Sunday. The convention is shaping up to be an explosive weekend of arts, entertainment, and just plain fun.

Akerly says his favorite part of the convention is to spend time with the C4 family. “We have many returning writers, artists, and vendors each year. We have developed close relationships with most and I look forward to seeing everyone. What started out as a way to get local artists and writers together has turned into something that is very close to the heart of many people.”

Comic cons are a great way for people to come together and to enjoy shared interest and passion. No matter your interest or area of expertise (gaming, cosplay, or art) attendees are bound to find something they enjoy. C4 aims to provide a welcoming, enthusiastic Comic Con experience so that everyone, newcomers and convention veterans alike, will be able to fully enjoy the event.

“I can’t thank the volunteers, sponsors and fans enough,” Akerly says. “This is everyone’s con—the way we always wanted it to be!”

Tickets will be available in the first week of May at Top Comics in Traverse City, or can be purchased at the door on opening day. A three-day pass is \$25; tickets can also be purchased for single-day entry (Friday: \$5, Saturday: \$15, Sunday: \$10). Admission for kids 10 and under and military personnel is free. More information can be found at cherrycapitalcon.com and or on Facebook at facebook.com/cherrycapitalcon.



Photo courtesy of Kristie Johnson



Photo by Ann Hosler



Photo courtesy of Kristie Johnson

Cosplaying, comics, artwork, and more draws out the crowds for the annual Cherry Capital Comic Con. This year, the convention takes place at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa from May 24-26.



Photo courtesy of Kristie Johnson

Summer in Northern Michigan

The 40-degree weather will eventually be a memory (no, really!) and before we know it, summer in northern Michigan will arrive. Looking for something fun to do? Here's just some of the festivals and events happening around the region between May and August.

Ann Hosler
Editor in Chief

Traverse City Bike Month

elgruponorte.org
When: May
Where: Traverse City
Cost: Free!

People of all ages and abilities are welcome to take part in the numerous events of Traverse City Bike Month, hosted by the Grand Traverse bike-centric organization Norte. Build bicycle awareness and have fun doing it. Events include the Bikes to School Day, Lids for Kids, Ride of Silence, Bike at the NMC BBQ, and many more. A full list is available at elgruponorte.org/traversecity/bikemonth.

Mud Sweat & Beers Fat Tire Fest

mudsweatandbeers.com
When: May 4, 9am–2pm
Where: Mt. Holiday
Registration: children \$10/\$15

Enjoy spring bike racing by attending the 10th annual Mud Sweat & Beers at Mt. Holiday in Traverse City. Adults will race on either the Stout or Pale Ale courses, while children can enjoy the Ginger Ale and Root Beer loops. Registration for the adult courses is already full, but there's still space for kids to sign up. Come cheer on the racers and stick around for the after-party! All proceeds from the event support Mt. Holiday.

Asparagus Festival

empirechamber.com
When: May 17–19 (times vary)
Where: Empire
Cost: varies

Celebrate your spring greens at the 16th annual Asparagus Festival in Empire. Events include a dance and pig roast, a 5K "Kick Yer Ass-paragus" Fun Run/Walk, recipe and poetry contests, live music, and more.

Blossom Day

wineriesofomp.com
When: May 18, 10am–5pm
Where: Old Mission Peninsula
Cost: \$30 in advance; \$35 same day
Designated driver tickets: \$25

Celebrate a new season of cherry trees blossoming at the Wineries of Old Mission Peninsula. Visit ten wineries, enjoy spring-inspired food tastings, sample wine (or non-alcoholic beverages for DDs), and chat with winemakers. Attendees receive a souvenir wine glass that will await you at your starting location (chosen upon purchase of ticket).

NMC Barbecue

nmc.edu/barbecue
When: May 19, 11am–5pm
Where: Northwestern Michigan College (main campus)
Cost: \$6 in advance; \$8 same day

Come enjoy food and events at the 64th annual NMC Barbecue! The 10:45am opening ceremony, in front of the flag poles between the Osterlin and Tanis buildings, will include a presentation of Colors by the U.S. Coast Guard and the playing of the National Anthem. Food is served starting at 11am, and live entertainment, children's activities, demonstrations, and more continue throughout the day. Advance tickets are available in Founder's Hall at NMC, at Oleson's Food Stores or online (with a \$1.25 processing fee) at mynorthtickets.com/events/nmc-bbq-2019.

Fairy Fest 2019 - Believe

fairytrailstc.com
When: June 2, Noon - 2:30pm
Where: The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park
Cost: Free!

Join Life and Whim for an afternoon of fun. Explore the fairy trails and enjoy the magical fairy houses created by local artists and enthusiasts. Fairy houses will embrace this year's theme of "Believe" with designs inspired by books, poems, movies, songs, or art. Live music, kids crafts, food trucks, and more make this a family-friendly event. (Don't have kids? It's an enchanting experience even for adults!)

Concerts on the Lawn

gtpavilions.org
When: Thursdays at 7pm between June 6–Aug. 29
Where: Grand Traverse Pavilions in Traverse City
Cost: Free!

Enjoy free live music with your family and friends on Thursdays during the 2019 Concerts on the Lawn series. Food, ice cream, and beverages are available between 5:30–7:30pm, but concert-goers are welcome to bring their own food. Concerts are subject to change due to weather. Donations support the Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation.

Don't let festival traffic bum you out. Take advantage of BATA's festival shuttles (typically during Cherry Festival and the Film Festival) and its free Bayline route to get around town. More information, including maps and schedules, is available online at bata.net.

Up North Pride Week

upnorthpride.com
When: June 17–23 (times vary)
Where: Traverse City

Join Up North Pride in its sixth annual celebration. Events include Here:Say Storytelling at The Workshop Brewing Company, LGBT+ Shorts at the State Theatre, the Pride Ride, Drag Night at The Little Fleet, the Visibility March, and more. Full details, additional events, and volunteer opportunities can be found on Up North Pride's website.

Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair

When: June 23, 10am–5pm
Where: Union Street in Traverse City

More than 90 artists and crafters will set up shop in the Old Town district of Traverse City. Check out their work and find something handmade to treasure!

National Cherry Festival

cherryfestival.org
When: June 29–July 6
Where: Traverse City
Cost: varies

No list is complete without mentioning the Cherry Festival. Whether you want to know what dates to avoid town, or plan on catching a show, a multitude of events, concerts, and more await.

Blissfest Folk & Roots Music Festival

blissfest.org
When: July 12–14
Where: Harbor Springs
Cost: Adults: \$175; Teens: \$60; Kids (12 & under): Free
Price includes 3-day weekend entry plus camping.

The 39th annual Blissfest music festival returns in July. Attendees can enjoy three days of camping and music at the Blissfest Festival Farm in Harbor Springs. Music styles include bluegrass, celtic, folk, jazz, and much more.

Dunesville Music Festival

dunesvillemusicfestival.com
When: July 26–28
Where: Lake Ann
Cost: \$70 (\$85 at the gate)
Sale pricing on select dates; family pricing available; kids 12 and under free.
Price includes entry; camping available for an additional fee at the gate.

If you can't get enough music, also check out the Dunesville Music Festival at The Harm Farm in Lake Ann. The three-day event lineup hasn't been announced yet; previous musicians included Uprooted, Blue Water Ramblers, Ultraviolet Hippopotamus, Grove of Trees, and Act Casual.

Traverse City Film Festival

traversecityfilmfest.org
When: July 30–August 4
Where: Traverse City
General Admission: \$15
Other costs vary.

Movie-lovers, rejoice: the 15th annual Traverse City Film Festival returns at the end of July. This year's film schedule will be released on June 28; tickets can be purchased starting July 13 (July 7 if you're a "Friend of the Festival"). Catch a show, volunteer, and dodge traffic during this late summer event!

Friday Night Live

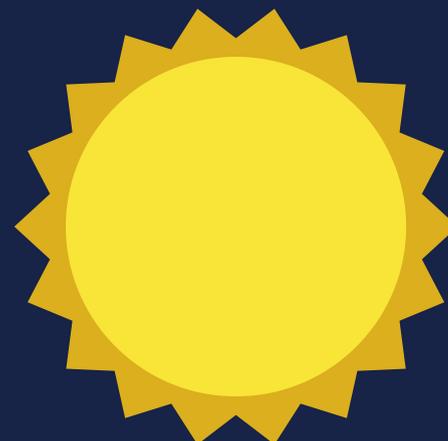
downtowntc.com
When: August 2, 9, 16, & 23, 5:30–9:30pm
Where: downtown Traverse City
Cost: Free!

Stroll down Front Street in downtown Traverse City and enjoy its annual August block party: Friday Night Live! Food, live music, games, and family fun fill the streets and are a great kickstart to your summer weekend.



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Cabs, Bikes, and Hot Air Balloons

Getting Around the Grand Traverse Region

Randi Upton
Staff Writer

As the semester comes to a close, we shift from thinking about final exams and projects to summer break. There is no shortage of fun events in Traverse City, but some local businesses are less widely known. The town has plenty of companies that offer transportation beyond using Uber or Lyft.

Car Trek - the Karaoke Cab
cartrektc.com

If you plan ahead, you can reserve the only karaoke cab service in Traverse City. Car Trek offers limo and car service with karaoke and an LED laser light show inside the vehicle. Galaxy and space based, they also offer tours of wineries and rides for special events. It's like having a designated driver who is actually fun.

TC Cycle Pub
tccyclepub.com

Anyone who has spent a summer in Traverse City has seen the cycle pub rolling around downtown. Enjoy a pub crawl on a bike with the safety of adult supervision. They offer several options, with groups that range from either 4-6 or 7-14 persons. The stops on this rolling pub crawl are perfect for experiencing the best of downtown TC's pub culture: Rare Bird Brewery, Taproot Cider House, 7 Monks, Little Fleet, The Workshop, and more.

Kayak Brewery Tours
kayakbrewerytours.com

For those who are more inclined toward water activities, there is the Kayak Brewery Tour. In this tour, you ride bikes to Right Brain and then to the Filling Station to Hull Park, then get on a kayak and float down the Boardman River, stopping at breweries as you go. Then a walk to The Workshop Brewin Co., the finale of your beer triathlon.

Wine and Beer Tours of Traverse City
wineandbeertours.com

Feeling classy? Try a wine and beer tour. Wine and Beer Tours of Traverse City offers private tours for small gatherings, and they will pick you up and drop you off. Tours can be four hours long with either what you have planned or they can plan your excursion for you. Want to be picked up in an Escalade? They got you. Have an urge to be old fashioned in a trolley for your tour? They got that, too.

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Book *Shady Lady* Review

“Kingdom of Exiles”

Ann Hosler Editor in Chief “Kingdom of Exiles” by Maxym Martineau is a unique, action-packed fantasy romance. The strong start to this series promises that great things will follow.

Leena Edenfrell is a Charmer, a person who can tame magical beasts of varying classes. “Taming” sounds simpler than it is, too —sometimes the act requires self-sacrifice or willingness to endanger oneself. An unfortunate circumstance led to Leena being exiled from her homeland and she seeks a way to return home.

(My only sadness was that my brain decided to think “Pokemon?” the first time that Leena commented about taming beasts, and I couldn’t shake the thought the remainder of the book.)

Noc is an “undead” assassin with a catastrophic curse. Someone has put in a contract to kill Leena, and as the guild master, Noc takes on the responsibility to fulfill that contract after his first assassin fails. But first, Leena needs to meet the terms of a deal they strike, and Noc needs to get rid of a curse and avoid falling in love.

(Undead in “Kingdom of Exiles” isn’t what you typically consider undead. The reason this book wasn’t a 5-star read for me was because it took 15 chapters before it was explained why the assassins are undead yet still breathe/eat/etc—info that didn’t need to be withheld so long.)

Both Leena and Noc are strong characters with their own motivations. They’re the stars of their own tales, and I enjoyed reading both points of view. The magic system is unique, and the world and the beasts that inhabit it are vivid and fun to read about. Each beast has its own terms and provide different benefits (or drawbacks), and it was fun to discover them alongside the members of the Assassin’s guild.

The fantasy story was strong enough that I nearly forgot this was also a romance book until I hit the first sex scene. The sex in it is graphic but non-gratuitous, and if that’s not your thing, you can easily skip both scenes. I enjoyed it all, but when there’s a powerful fantasy plot, I’d rather it be the star, and the plot shines in “Kingdom of Exiles.”

Over the years, I’ve given fewer and fewer books 4+ star ratings. “Kingdom of Exiles” is a strong example of excellent writing. If you love adventurous fantasy, I highly recommend checking this book out when it releases in June.

In the meantime, I’ll be impatiently awaiting book two.

I received an advanced reading copy of this book via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

Rating: 4.5 stars

Release Date: June 25

“The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian”

Tamara Wiget Staff Writer Sherman Alexie’s “The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian” has been assigned reading for two of my classes now, and with good reason: it just rocks.

The protagonist, Junior, is a super awkward Indian teenager trying to figure out his life. In addition to being just another broke Indian on a poor reservation, this kid has a lot of crap to deal with: medical problems, regularly getting his ass kicked, having a mouth with too many teeth, and an inability to reach his full potential thanks to the rez’s underfunded school system. It’s this last one that makes Junior realize that he has to get off the rez. Becoming a student at predominantly white Reardan High School is surprisingly easy; finding a way to fit into both his “white world” while holding onto his Indian roots is quite another.

The element that makes this story so great is Junior’s voice. Written from his first-person perspective, Alexie does not hold back when it comes to all the gross thoughts and behaviors in which most typical teenage guys engage. Junior speaks candidly of how much he loves masturbation, but his weird thoughts are balanced with an honest look at the complexities of familial love and close friendships. Alexie uses Junior’s experiences to dig deeper into the issue of racism—something that, considering the current climate of our country, can’t be talked about enough.

Although Alexie himself has become a bit of a controversial figure (allegations against him have come forth in the wake of the #MeToo movement), his stories are still an important addition to the ongoing conversation of what it is to be a minority in a predominantly white world.

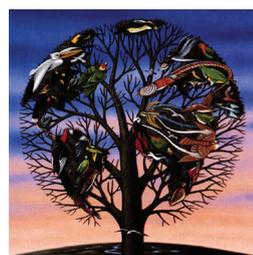
Music that is Sometimes Good and also Sometimes Not Good

Liam Strong Staff Writer When I think of spring, I don’t feel warmth immediately. Instead, I imagine a rebirth from the cold, the sun returning closer to the Earth. It’s like starting a fire in a home that hasn’t seen light in years. Here are some songs that embody the sounds of spring for me.



GAS - “Pop” (2000)

Some of the best ambient music captivates me in a way that I have to remind myself that what I’m listening to is both song and soundscape. “Pop 1” by GAS flourishes with glimmer the way I would stare at mountain ash trees dripping with rain. I can hear the world without having to hear the world when I listen to this song.



Talk Talk - “Laughing Stock” (1991)

When I listen to Talk Talk, I see budding flowers turn into birds, birds into leaves falling. There’s something subtly spiritual about “New Grass” that makes the mysticism in me turn an open eye to the mystery Mark Hollis is singing in tongues about. The ambient jazz mix of this song makes me stare out windows longingly. But what am I longing for?



Pianos Become the Teeth - “Wait For Love” (2018)

I get a sense of burgeoning adoration when I hear “Charisma,” by post-rock band Pianos Become the Teeth. The feeling of something blossoming within the self, like love is a kind of season. Days will slip away, and cold will come, but the warmth of another might just stay and make you believe otherwise.



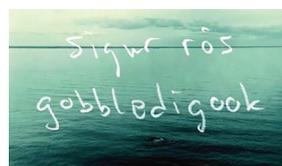
Los Campesinos! - “Hold On Now, Youngster...” (2008)

If any song epitomizes the end of spring as credits rolling by, “You! Me! Dancing!” captures that feeling perfectly. Plus, indie rock that uses a bell set (I immediately think of Vampire Weekend’s “Horchata”) instantly gets me pumped up. I feed off the energetic tone of this song, and it makes me feel like I should be excited about something, even if there isn’t anything to be excited about.



Chairlift - “Something” (2012)

Moments of April are reminiscent of autumn, at times, which “Frigid Spring,” by Chairlift embodies. The same tensile breezes, the sky like a healing wound. I can just wear a hoodie and be comfortable. Maybe it’s this time of the season where you just see the bones of nature that make me feel most like myself. The world is declodded, frail, waiting to sing again.



Sigur Rós - “með suð i eyrum við spilum endalaust” (2008)

I’ve heard many times the analogy that the transition from winter to spring is like the earth waking up from a dream, resuming where it left off. “Gobbledigook,” by Sigur Rós is a song that jumps, bounds, and spins. The world breathes movement back into its extremities, like a child relieved of sickness, and the pallor of snow is gone from their face. Everything around you smiles.



Yes - “Close to the Edge” (1972)

There isn’t a song that makes me feel warmer than “And You And I,” by progressive rock band Yes. Tonally, the introductory folk section moves from being bleak and sad to overwhelmingly happy and joyful. I imagine flying through clouds, falling asleep, and waking up in the arms of somewhere I love. Unabashedly, I use this song to make myself feel better if I’m having a bad morning.

EVENTS CALENDAR

April 26 to May 15

Rachel Lynn Moore
Staff Writer

Friday, April 26

7:30pm: The 2019 TC Rotary Show will be held at the State Theatre in Traverse City, featuring humor and music acts by local Rotarians. Show proceeds will be donated to local organizations working in arts, culture, basic human needs, environmental issues, and more. Tickets are \$15.

7:30pm: The Interlochen Arts Academy Jazz Ensemble will perform with trumpeter and composer Sean Jones in the Corson Auditorium. Tickets range from \$11 to \$29. See tickets.interlochen.org/events for purchase.

Saturday, April 27

9am: The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan is holding a Stroll for Epilepsy benefit event. Registration is \$15 to \$25. See epilepsymichigan.org for more information.

9am: Entry at the Michigan Legacy Art Park in Thompsonville is free during the International Sculpture Day Tour & Mixer. Visitors can enjoy guided tours of the 50+ sculptures in the park, and a mixer afterward at the nearby Iron Fish Distillery.

9:30am: GT Bay YMCA is holding a Healthy Kids Day, beginning with a 5k race in the morning then featuring local vendors, games, and activities from 10am to 12pm. The event is free. See gtbayymca.org/health-kids-day for more information.

10am: At Twisted Fish Art Gallery in Elk Rapids, "Mesdag & the Masters of the Sea" will feature life sized prints of 30 historic seascape paintings. Resident painter and former NMC Art Department chair Paul Welch will speak to the artist's techniques from 1-3pm. See twistedfishgallery.com for more information.

10am-12pm: It's Dirt Day at the Great Lakes Children's Museum in Traverse City. Sensory activities focus on earth, seeds, worms, and more. See greatlakeskids.org for more.

10:30am: The Dennon Museum Center celebrates International Sculpture Day with a free tour of their sculpture collection, both indoor and outdoor. See dennosmuseum.org for more.

11am-3pm: GT County Parks & Recreation presents the 3rd Annual Recycle Smart Earth Day Event at the Traverse City Civic Center. The free event will teach attendees about recycling, composting, energy conservation, water protection, and more.

3-5pm: Author Heather Shumaker will run a writing workshop, World of Writing Children's Books, in the McGuire Room at the Traverse Area District Library. The workshop is free but attendees need to register through Eventbrite.com.

7:30pm: The State Theatre hosts another night of the 2019 TC Rotary Show. Tickets are \$15. Proceeds benefit local organizations.

8pm: Hannah Pinegrove and The Jon Timm Band will perform at the Workshop Brewing Co. for an Autism Awareness concert. The Workshop will donate \$1 of every drink purchased to the Autism Alliance of Michigan.

8pm: Tonight's Sips & Giggles features Russ Williamson and local Leelanau Peninsula wines, ciders, and brews. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. See mynorthtickets.com for purchase and more information.

Sunday, April 28

4pm: Cabin Fever String Band performs in the first-floor Scholar's Hall theatre (SH117). Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Get your tickets at Oryana, Brilliant Books, or by contacting WNMC at 995-1090.

Monday, April 29

3:10-5:10pm: The Cross-the-Campus Dance Event at NMC will feature NMC Dance students and guest dancers across campus performing improvisational dance, and live music by Dede Alder. For more information email deisenstein@nmc.edu.

6pm: "Sheets of Sand," a movie written by a Northern Michigan woman with muscular dystrophy, premieres at the State Theatre in Traverse City. Proceeds from the premier will be shared between the Disability Network of Northern MI, Project Cinema MI, and the State Theatre.

Tuesday, April 30

6pm: Join Harm Reduction Michigan for their free monthly Overdose Recognition & Response workshop. Attendees will learn how to recognize and respond to an overdose, as well as receive naloxone for such use. See harmreductionmi.org for more.

Wednesday, May 1

6pm: Amira Hamzar, a certified bellydance instructor, will teach a free Beginner's Bellydance Class at the Traverse Wellness Center in Traverse City. Reserve your spot by calling or emailing: 231-313-5577 or AmiraHamzar@gmail.com.

6:30pm: Parenting and Mr. Rogers at the Presbyterian Church in Traverse City will feature a showing of the "Won't You Be My Neighbor" documentary and a panel of community parents. Visit tcpresby.org for more.

Friday, May 3

5-9pm: The annual Downtown Traverse City Art Walk showcases art exhibits in Downtown TC, with participating locations serving drinks, snacks, and some featuring music. Walking maps for the self guided tour are available at the

Downtown Traverse City office and participating locations. See downtowntc.com/events-attractions/event-calendar for more.

7pm: Michael's Place 'A Night at the Movies' Benefit will be held at the AMC Classic Cherry Blossom theater in Traverse City and feature "Avengers: Endgame." Tickets cost \$25 and all proceeds will directly fund the free grief support services offered to children, teens, and adults through Michael's Place. Call 231-947-6453 for more information.

Saturday, May 4

9-11am: The Interlochen Run for the Arts is a 5k to support student scholarships at the Interlochen Center of the Arts, and will feature student art throughout the race. Pre-registration is \$25 (otherwise, \$30). See run.interlochen.org for more.

10am-12pm: Today is Star Wars Day at the Old Mission Peninsula Community Library. The free event features DIY crafts, a raffle to win a LEGO Star Wars set, and more. See peninsulacommunitylibrary.org for more.

4:30-8pm: The Derby Party at The Corner Loft in Traverse City costs \$100 to attend and benefits Food Rescue of Northwest Michigan. Derby attire is encouraged, but not required. See goodwillnmi.org for more.

8pm: See comedian Paul Reiser perform at the City Opera House for \$45. See cityoperahouse.org/paul-reiser for tickets and more information.

Sunday, May 5

7pm: The NMC Dance Department presents Dance Mix 2019 in the Milliken Auditorium. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, and can be purchased through mynorthtickets.com or at the door.

Saturday, May 11

10am-12pm: Lids for Kids in Traverse City's F&M Park is a bike helmet fitting and free helmet giveaway event for children from 4-12 and their families. Other featured activities include a Norte bicycle obstacle course, meeting police officers and firefighters, touring a fire engine, and more. See lidsforkidsmi.org/traverse-city for more.

Wednesday, May 15

9am: TEDxTraverseCity 2019 will this year focus on the concept of Resilience. The event features multiple speakers giving short, TED-style speeches on the topic. Tickets can be reserved through Eventbrite. They are \$99 to attend in person at the Dennon Milliken Auditorium, or free (but still need to be reserved) to watch the live simulcast at the State Theatre.

What You Should Know About Line 5

Mary Vande Kieft, Samantha Mosley, and Max Arvidson
Contributing Writers

The Line 5 pipelines are two 20" in diameter pipelines, located 1/4 mile west of the Mackinac Bridge. They are 1,000 feet apart, ranging in depths of 100 to 270 feet. The pipeline runs from Superior, Wisconsin to Sarnia, Ontario by way of Michigan. 23 million gallons of oil are transported through daily, almost 90 percent of this goes directly to Canada. Built in 1953, Line 5 is owned by the private Canadian company, Enbridge.

To build this pipeline, an easement was made in 1953 between the state of Michigan and Enbridge. According to Liz Kirkwood, an attorney for the nonprofit organization For Love of Water (FLOW), this easement was incredibly vague. The primary concern with this agreement is that there is no clear expiration date. Enbridge can remain operating the pipeline infinitely, according to the 1953 easement.

Line 5 then faded from Michigan's awareness for almost 60 years. In 2010, after a disastrous spill of 1,000,000 gallons of crude oil into the Kalamazoo river, attention was brought back. Only because Line 5 is under operation by the same company. For many Michiganders it was the first realization that there is a pipeline hidden within the Great Lakes.

Legal or political?

In order for Michigan's public land or natural resources to be used by a private company, the company has to fulfill certain requirements. These requirements are as follows—use cannot harm the natural resources, and must be the only feasible solution.

Native American tribes also have rights within the waters, primarily for fishing, from a federal treaty signed in 1836. There is now a political argument on whether to find an alternative route for oil transportation or decommission the pipeline all together.

Prior to Governor Rick Snyder leaving office, he approved a proposal for a tunnel as a solution to the exposed pipeline. This tunnel would be 100 feet below the lakebed rather than exposed in the water. It would allow for the tunnel to remain working under our lakes for the next 100 years. It would take approximately 10 years for this alternative to be constructed and would be paid for by private investors.

As of March 31, Governor Whitmer has officially halted the construction of this tunnel alternative. She has done this in order to start the process of decommissioning Line 5. There has already been backlash and many legal battles are on the horizon. In April, Whitmer reopened talks with Enbridge about the tunnel.

Efforts to reach Enbridge for comment on this issue were unsuccessful.

Primary Concerns

- An oil spill into the Great Lakes would be a monumental disaster that would damage the environment that drives the tourist economy of "Pure Michigan."
- An emergency plan from the company in response to a spill has not been made public. Federal resources (Coast Guard and EPA) would be responsible.
- 1.13 million gallons of oil have been spilled through 29 different incidents since 1968. There is also evidence of heavy corrosion from support systems put around the pipeline in 2016. Due to the strength of the currents on the lake bed, the support systems scrape against the pipeline coating.
- Line 5 is the Upper Peninsula's primary source for propane. While there are potential options, there is not a set alternative plan to get propane to the Upper Peninsula.
- Michigan benefits economically from Line 5. In 2015, \$38.51 million was paid by Enbridge in property taxes for its pipelines, storage facilities, and pump stations.

What can the average person do?

The more we learned, the more we became discouraged. So we continued to ask, "What can the average person do?" The simplest answer, given by program director Jim Lively of the Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, was to make your voice heard. Call your local representative and talk to your peers about the issue. Oil & Water Don't Mix has more information on how to take action: oilandwaterdontmix.org

Mary Vande Kieft, Samantha Mosley, and Max Arvidson are students at Grand Valley State University. This exploration of Line 5 was completed for their Wicked Problems of Sustainability course and contributed to the White Pine Press to raise awareness within the community.

Creative Writing Insight from AWP

Liam Strong Over Spring Break, members of the NMC Magazine literary staff visited Staff Writer Portland, Oregon, for the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP) Conference. With more than 12,000 attendees, 800 exhibitors at the conference book fair, and 2,000 presenters across 550 panels and readings, AWP created a diverse selection of spaces for writers to learn how to advance their work. For both emerging and established writers, panels offered a vast variety of topics ranging from fiction, poetry, podcasts, travel writing, and everything in between.

Stories in Stereo: Writing About and Around Music

Music writing is a form of reflection and critique that extends to the highly analytical and deeply personal. In fact, we don't usually put the two together: music and writing. The panelists discussed how writing has music built within it, and how we can understand the culture and connections we've made between people and groups—all through music.

Hanif Abdurraqib, panelist and author of "Go Ahead in the Rain," suggested how music scenes explore and shed light on social issues. His writing about Merry Clayton and The Rolling Stones explores how an otherwise biographical essay can become deeply personal in its narrative. Brian Oliu, another panelist, pondered how just one record can bring people together, friends, communities, and regions. Oliu illuminated that the nostalgic music we grew up with showcases much of who we are.

The Heart is a Muscle: Poetry of Protest

Rarely do people think of poetry as political or even worthy of protest. This reading reminded attendees that poetry and verse, at its core, is, and should be, political. Five poets read on a variety of topics that deserved passionate attention, such as immigration, climate change, Donald Trump, black lives, women's rights, sexual freedom, and LGBTQ+ visibility.

The panelists gave a vision for how to protest with something as small as a poem. Kendra DeColo, panelist and author of "Thieves in the Afterlife," demonstrated with ironically tender "love" poems how the imagery of pain elicits emotions in everyone.

How to Eat Your Watermelon in Mixed Company (and Enjoy It)

The publishing world has been dominated by the gaze of white authors and editors for as long as its business model has existed. This panel's aim was to probe the intersections of sexuality and gender with race, and intently examining the non-black gaze. We often forget that to create works that are truly universal, we must not be vague; ie. "trying to be relatable." The panel delved into marginalization and tokenism in the literary world, as well as how writers contend with audience, voice, and identity.

Final Takeaways

Although AWP is one of the most overwhelming events for emerging writers like myself, I felt comfortable with the accessibility and diversity of topics and lectures available. For every live reading I saw, I bought an equal amount of books for me to explore up-and-coming writers at the book fair. If anything, I left with an annoying amount of regret that I wasn't able to see more than the 15 or so events I was able to attend in my time there, considering just how much was offered.

AWP's biggest takeaway was how inclusivity is more important to the literary world than writing. If we do not take care of and acknowledge our fellow writers, then we have done a disservice to the writing community. AWP created a safe place for writers of all demographics to break the narrative of who and what a writer is.

NMC Magazine Release Party

Join the *NMC Magazine* staff on Wednesday, May 1 from 7:30–9:30pm in Fine Arts 115 to celebrate our creative community at the "In Brief" magazine release party. Come meet the staff and enjoy short readings, visual art, and light refreshments.