

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.

Poll Challengers Prepare for Election Day

Kathryn DePauw
Editor in Chief

With the Nov. 3 presidential election fast approaching, some voters fear that people with guns and intimidating demeanors plan to flood the polls. Images of militarized men lining up to intimidate voters inundate our newsfeeds. But this might not be the most disruptive partisan action that could impact the election's outcome.

On Oct. 16, Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson and Attorney General Dana Nessel tried to assuage the concerns over intimidating poll watchers by limiting the open carry ability of people at the polls. Many polling locations, such as schools and churches, already have strict prohibitions against firearms. Part of this predicted surge in poll watchers reflects President Trump's call to conservatives during the first debate. However, there has been little discussion of who will be behind the scenes watching and engaging in the process — that is, the poll challengers.

Here in Northern Michigan, some conservatives have decided to work at polling stations in this election, albeit not in their own counties. One of the most prominent voices is that of "Trucker" Randy Bishop, an outspoken open-carry advocate, convicted felon, and Trump supporter in Antrim County. Bishop is well-known for his conservative radio program, "Your Defending Fathers," as well as his connections with far-right fringe groups, though he claims to have no official affiliation with them.

"I've spoken to and I've educated various militia groups, Proud Boys, other types of groups — pro-second amendment groups. I'm a very strong supporter of the second amendment," Bishop told the *White Pine Press* on Oct. 15. Bishop plans to work at a polling station, traveling to Detroit on election day to monitor voters and poll workers.

On Oct. 9, Bishop was removed from Facebook for a controversial post. His personal page, and numerous others that he was owner/administrator of, were taken down a half hour after his radio program aired that day. Bishop believes that his show that day triggered Facebook's actions. The program described the plot to kidnap Governor Whitmer as a staged Democratic ploy designed to make the Democrats look sympathetic and elevate Whitmer's position in the party. "It's being done by Governor Gretchen Whitmer and working with, in concert with, the Deep-State, 'never Trump' FBI that don't want Donald Trump to win reelection on Nov. 3," Bishop claimed.

Facebook told Michigan Radio that it banned Bishop's pages for being a "militarized social movement," a claim he calls a lie. Bishop insists that his personal page and the groups he's part of, including the "Michigan 2A for Sanctuary Counties" page (with more than 98,000 verified Michigan citizens), are groups based on constitutional rights.

Bishop plans to file federal lawsuits against Facebook and Mark Zuckerberg for deleting pages based on what he alleges are the violation of his rights to freedom of speech, press, and religion. He believes he has been discriminated against due to what he calls his Christian beliefs and support of the second amendment.

Bishop is currently working with the Michigan Republican Party and the Election Integrity Fund to coordinate poll challengers across the state and focus on democratic strongholds, like Detroit. Although Bishop describes the Election Integrity Fund as non-partisan, the organization is considered conservative and has been involved in litigation against some of the Democratic administration's election decisions. The group sued Lansing and Flint over the use of private grant funds, which focused on progressive cities, to help pay for election staffing, training, and equipment costs. It also filed a legal challenge against Benson for allowing people to apply electronically for absentee ballots.

These groups have been hosting training events to organize and certify poll challengers for Nov. 3. Bishop recently became certified in Traverse City at a local church, with other poll challenger trainings planned for Oct. 28 and 29 in TC and Gaylord.

"Our plan is to get over 2,000 people trained to be poll challengers," stated Bishop, adding, "What a poll challenger is is somebody who can actually go into the counting areas of where ballots will be counted, especially in Wayne County."

The poll challengers have more leeway and responsibility than poll watchers. They can challenge a person's eligibility to vote, challenge the actions of election inspectors, can look at the pollbook, and serve on an absent voter ballot counting board to monitor the ballot counting process. They are not able to campaign or touch election materials, nor approach or speak to voters. There are also limitations on how and when they can challenge a voter's eligibility.



Continued on Page 3.

NMC Cancels Spring Break Amid COVID-19 Concerns

Emily Slater
Editor-in-Chief

In a continued effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the novel coronavirus that has killed more than 220,000 Americans, and infected more than 8 million more including President Donald Trump, NMC has once more pivoted from traditional school year plans. The latest changes take aim at holiday and vacation travel.

In an email sent Sept. 29, the school informed staff and students that classes would be held March 28–April 1, the week originally scheduled for spring break. NMC's spring semester will instead conclude on April 26, a full week earlier than normal.

While NMC switched a majority of its classes online for the fall semester, some courses that required more hands-on learning have been meeting in-person with safety precautions strictly enforced. However, starting Nov. 26, all classes including those currently meeting in-person will switch to virtual learning for the remainder of the semester.

Both the cancellation of spring break and the decision to go virtual for the last few weeks of the fall semester center on one goal: keep the campus clear of students who may choose to travel for the holidays or vacation. "If people travel and return there's a greater risk of someone contracting and then spreading the virus to others. We want to be proactive in our efforts to mitigate that spread to keep our students and employees safe," says NMC's executive director of public relations, Diana Fairbanks.

In the seven months since COVID-19 first arrived in Michigan, more than 150,000 cases have been reported in the state. Over the recent weeks, Michigan has seen a rise in positive testing rates, a 22% increase in hospitalizations, and the highest recorded day of cases since April.

NMC has had one presumed positive COVID-19 case and four confirmed cases, the latest coming at the end of September from an NMC employee who works on the main

campus. Risk of exposure was said to be low for the NMC community in all five cases. NMC is currently in Stage 2 of its four-stage reopening plan.

In a video released on Oct. 15, NMC President Dr. Nick Nissley reinforced the school's commitment to COVID-19 safety precautions. "We will continue to monitor the coronavirus throughout our region and we will make any needed adjustments to our plan, based on good science," he explained.

Nissley, a proponent of the importance of teamwork and community effort, commended students, staff, and faculty for their participation in adhering to safety guidelines. "It'll continue to take each of us sharing the responsibility to limit the spread of the virus on our campuses and within our community."



This fall, Northwestern Michigan College is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), or drones, project. In this 2012 photo, former Director of Aviation, Aaron Cook, and UAS program manager Tony Sauerbrey, are joined by a student as they pose beside NMC's drone fleet. "Drones are not a novelty anymore and have cemented themselves as an invaluable tool in many industries and will continue to do so," Sauerbrey stated in a Sept. 2020 press release.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear students:

Do you know who your governor is? How about your state legislator, or your representative in the U.S. Congress?

Over the past few years, random surveys have been done with many of the same questions put to ordinary people on the streets of our cities. It is hard to believe that many of those questioned, mostly younger people, didn't know who represents them at any level.

If you don't know your rights or where to check on them, would you know what to do if those rights were taken away?

What's left of our democracy has been under attack for 50 years, and for us to retain what we have and expand it, we all need to be engaged. Self-educate. Learn your rights. Trust respected sources such as qualified historians and scientists. Do your own research. Don't believe all you see in Facebook or other media. Question and verify. And don't forget to VOTE as if our democracy depends on it, because it does!

Sincerely,
Ann Rogers

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The Changing Gig Economy

Chelsea Cooper
Contributing Writer

Those chaotic early weeks of March found me glued to the endless barrage of COVID coverage. As the world shut down around me, it was being documented in real-time: on my TV, on every app on my phone, and in every promotional email (who knew a pandemic could produce so much spam?). The air was tense with anxiety and vulnerability—a reality I know has been shared by many throughout these uncertain times. In

the looming presence of this, financial security felt more important and urgent than ever.

Yet my primary source of income was through an already unstable and shifting field—that of the gig economy. Gig workers are essentially independent contractors hired by on-demand companies to perform anything from food delivery to pet sitting to creating online content. The relationship between these gig workers and the companies they are hired by is one that operates all online.

For the past two years I had slowly grown my

reach in a variety of company platforms, including Quora and Rover. I was drawn to the flexibility gig work offered; I could make my own schedule and take the clients I wanted, all without having to leave my house. However, as the pandemic hit, my trusted client base I had spent years building up slowly started to cancel appointments, and I was left with little, if any, support from these companies I was working for.

While gig work is not a new concept, gig work via instant service apps have become part of our new normal. Uber and Lyft are now synonymous with “taking a cab” and food delivery apps such as GrubHub and DoorDash or grocery shopping apps like Instacart have seen a huge surge in the past few months.

As the pandemic surged on and some of the initial panic subsided, my clients started to return. Yet I found myself making the same amount while taking a huge risk to my own health, and I know many of my gig “co-workers” in the area found themselves in the same situation.

The gig economy is designed to fluctuate, and some of that is certainly to the benefit of the workers that make their living with it. It has given me an outlet to explore my various interests without any formal contracts or timelines. Currently, I hold Rover’s top-rated dog sitter designation in Traverse City, a job that has gifted me with an entirely new posse of canine pals.

Yet, in the midst of all of this, is a sinking realization that the gig economy workforce is not protected. There is no union for the gig economy, and as such, many workers are taken advantage of. The rise of these services is directly related to the risk that a simple grocery store run poses now—yet who shoulders the true cost? It is your Uber driver, your Instacart shopper, your DoorDash deliverer, possibly exposing themselves to the virus so that you don’t have to.

The past few months have shown us that the gig economy is resilient and possibly more important than we had originally thought. However, with this new perspective, we must seriously consider how we compensate and protect gig workers. Until that happens on a large scale, remember to tip and thank all the gig workers in your life.



Photo courtesy of Chelsea Cooper.

Poll Challengers Prepare for Election Day (cont. from page 1)

The focus on Wayne County, which includes Detroit, is likely intentional. Not only does the county have the largest population of any county in Michigan and is a reliable Democratic stronghold, it also has the highest percentage of Black voters in the state. With Trump only winning 29% of the vote in Wayne County in 2016, this is the best place to impact a Biden stronghold.

Wayne County looks particularly vulnerable. During the Aug. 4 primary, 72% of precincts had ballot balance errors. Michigan has one of the strictest recount requirements in the nation, and any discrepancy between ballot tallies disqualifies a precinct from a recount. In the 2016 presidential election, almost 60% of Detroit’s precincts did not qualify for the recount. These discrepancies are typically attributed to human error (not being able to start counting ballots before election day led to workers pulling 20-hour shifts) and are not due to voter fraud. Logistical issues related to volunteer enlisting, retention, training, and communication seem to be the reason for August’s failures. Officials are hoping to address these issues in time for the general election. If the count is close and a recount is needed, Wayne County could play a critical role in determining who wins Michigan’s crucial 16 electoral votes.

With so much on the line on Nov. 3, the integrity of the election process in Wayne County may hinge on the community finding logistical support. It stands in contrast to the money, manpower, and state-wide organization spent on the politically affiliated poll challengers. And citizens have no way of knowing who these poll challengers are without contacting the groups they are associated with.

On election day, Bishop plans to host his radio show until noon and then drive from his home in Antrim County to the TCF Convention Center in Detroit. He intends to stay until all the votes are counted, all night if he has to.

“We want to monitor and watch what they are doing to make sure that the ballots are handled properly, and that every ballot is counted only once and then properly secured and stored in the security canvas bags,” explained Bishop. The threat of ballots being counted more than once was a concern raised multiple times by Bishop, despite no evidence of widespread issues, even from the Trump administration’s own recent investigation into voter fraud.

Bishop seems confident in the election process and suggests we all “get a big bowl of popcorn” and wait it out on election night. While many may worry over President Trump’s

inconsistent stance on accepting election results, Bishop has no concerns about the aftermath of this contentious election.

“I think it will be very loud and clear on election night,” Bishop said. “The victory by Donald Trump will be large enough that the outcome won’t matter because I don’t think there will be any peaceful transition. I believe he will remain in office another four years.”



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What the Tech?! Election Security Challenges

David Hosler On Nov. 3, the nation will decide who will run the country for the next four years. At the forefront of this, as well as the last general election, is the security of our votes. In the era of cloud computing, distance learning, and many things having a presence on the Internet, what kind of security measures are in place to ensure that our votes are not altered?

In the months (or years) leading up to our general election there is an insurmountable amount of information that we see. One finding that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) indicates in its August 2020 report is that foreign actors directly seek to influence our election by spreading misinformation through social media sites.

Michigan was one of the places targeted heavily by this misinformation during the last election cycle. The National Counterintelligence and Security Center found clear evidence in 2018 that threat actors from other nations were distributing false information regarding polling locations and ballot measures. These threat actors even went as far as calling households claiming that when they go to vote their criminal record would be reviewed and they could be arrested for outstanding warrants. None of the information they provided was true.

Blatant misinformation is only one of the hazards we face

in this election—there is growing evidence that some states will face challenges with the voting process itself.

During the 2016 election, there were nine states that solely used electronic voting systems. Despite reports from DHS, the voting machines were not secured from infiltration. While no explicit intrusions were reported, the potential of a compromised election led many states to change their voting systems. Now, 18 states, including Michigan, use paper ballots with the addition of direct recording equipment.

Paper ballots are more secure than electronic voting. The ballot is filled out by the voter, and then scanned into an optical scanning machine that will record the votes and store it in internal memory for later delivery to county election officials. The optical machines are not connected to the internet and would require direct tampering to modify the stored votes. This even holds true for mail-in ballots.

Oregon, Colorado, and Washington all use exclusive mail-in voting since 2000, 2006, and 2014 respectively. In 2018, Michigan voters opted to allow for no-reason absentee ballots and mail-in ballots. With the pandemic still ravaging the nation, states have addressed the difficulties for the election differently.

According to an Aug. 14 *New York Times* article, nine states directly mailed ballots to all voters, 34 states are allowing

absentee ballots for any voter that opts for it, and only seven states require that voters prove the need for absentee ballots this year. With the increased number of mail-in ballots, it poses difficulties for city and county clerks dealing with the process.

Traverse City clerk Benjamin Marentette addressed the increased workload in an interview with *The Ticker* on Oct. 7, stating, “We already have sent 300 percent more absentee ballots than four years ago.” The city clerk’s office has also hired three more full-time employees to help offset the increased workload. Marentette notes the integrity of elections from a system and IT standpoint. “Leading up to the election we do a test deck,” he said, referring to the tabulators and software used in their office, “a series of 75 ballots from each polling location... According to the Department of State regulations, we have to have 100 percent accuracy.”

In our nation, there is no de facto standard for what constitutes election security. Each state must come up with its own security plan for election day. And sometimes, there is comfort in the security of a low-tech solution. Remember to vote on Nov. 3.

David Hosler is an instructor in the CIT Infrastructure program at NMC.

WindowSwap: Through a Stranger’s Window

Micah Mabey We’re left to ponder on our own whether or not John Glenn ever got tired of looking at Earth from his spaceship window.

I know that I’ve looked out the bedroom window, with its cat nose prints and outdoor spiderwebs, and been sick of that. What makes the window being in space any different? If you only had the same thing to look at for seven months of space quarantine, I think you’d come to the same conclusion.

It seems that Sonali Ranjit and her husband, Vaishnav Balasubramaniam, two advertising executives in Singapore, created their website WindowSwap (window-swap.com) with that very thought in mind. On entering WindowSwap, you’ll be met with a simple direction: “Open a new window somewhere in the world.”

Of course, your curiosity wins. You click on that button and the world opens up before you, through a window.

Siew Kiang’s Window, Singapore: the sun is setting and clouds are rolling in. Saad’s Window, Cairo, Egypt: the sun is bouncing off the water and the window is bigger than yours. No Name’s Window, Brooklyn Heights, NY: through the reflection you can see someone dancing alone in the kitchen.

You can go anywhere. See everywhere. Or at least visit 6,000 locations or so from more than 100 different countries—all through your computer screen and a stranger’s camera. You can explore the planet from your couch, or desk, or wherever-the-hell-else you decide to plop down for a moment of escape.

WindowSwap took the fact that so many of us have been stuck at home for the last half a year and the whole “not being able to go anywhere because of COVID-19” thing, and gave us an escape. It’s a moment away from the political noise and roar of our homes and home countries. A place where maybe we don’t know what’s going on, where all we have to know is that we’re looking at something beautiful. Something that someone else, on the other side of the world, is bored of looking at. Someone nothing like you, but just like you.

The world seems a little less massive, a little less terrifying, when you can go anywhere with only a load screen holding you back from seeing it all. Just one click, and you could be gone.



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Game Review: *Nordlicht*

Ann Hosler
Copy Editor

Nordlicht is a point-and-click adventure game developed by illius, a two-person team of students who created the game as their final thesis project in Saarbrücken, Germany. In a story told across several acts, you play as the child Aurora (who is accompanied by her guinea pig, Peter) and her father, Rupert, as they venture north across a winter sea to visit Aurora's mother.

The interface of *Nordlicht* is simple and intuitive: use the mouse button to navigate to a spot or interact with an object, and then use objects in the inventory to solve tasks that progress each act. Objects are utilized by dragging-and-dropping, sometimes requiring the player to figure out what objects combine to make a usable item. When a task is completed, a star lights up in the sky, forming a completed constellation to celebrate the end of the current act.

Nordlicht's focus is on its story of a father and daughter braving the cold journey and the dangers of nature to be reunited with the woman they love and miss. Its heart-warming atmosphere excels through its hand-drawn imagery, paper-cutout characters, calming music, and new environments.

The drawback to such a story-driven focus is that the player is left with essentially no agency. There is only one solution to each task throughout the acts, there are no dialogue choices, nor is there much control over how far you can explore within an environment. The only randomness to vary what occurs is during the boat scenes, which are momentary blips of interaction between acts.

On the boat, the player must try to keep the vessel from being damaged as much as possible by dragging waves beneath the surface, breaking apart icebergs, and dispersing lightning-charged clouds, all while trying to use the normal clouds to boost their speed. I'm not sure if it's possible to come out of these scenes unscathed, nor do I know whether or not the boat can sink. I do know that my reaction times were terrible, with too many simultaneous choices warring against each other as my quickly-battered boat struggled along.

Overall, *Nordlicht* is appealing to the player who desires a casual gaming experience with a moderate challenge level. Its family-centric story will draw you in, keeping you engaged throughout Aurora and Rupert's journey.

Theatre From Your Car

Micah Mabey
Staff Writer

It's a solid guess that none of you reading have been guests at a theatre any time in the past few months. Maybe you've seen a marquee asking you to donate to a cause, or a tent or two in parking lots around town. The theatre world has been upended, and stages have been empty since March.

Suddenly, however, there's been an upheaval of form—stages be damned!

We sit in the spookiest month as the weather begins its slow chill. To quote the Bard: all the world's a stage.

Local theatre troupe Mash-Up Rock and Roll Musical isn't taking those words lightly. It has turned the world into its stage all around the Old Town district in Traverse City for their new work: "Scooby Doo-Wop." Part Scooby-Doo, part drive-in theatre, part clue-solving scavenger hunt, and 100% unique to Northern Michigan.



Written by Lesley Tye, founder of the Mash-Up troupe, "Scooby Doo-Wop" is a never-before-seen original piece of theatre with characters that we all know and love from the Scooby Doo movies and cartoons. If you don't know them? Well, you can't blame those so-called rotten kids. You can only blame yourself. And I mean that as a personal attack.

The show takes place in three different spots around town and it's up to you, the viewer, to solve the puzzles and figure out where the scenes all are! Don't worry though, there is a text messaging guide to lead you if you go astray. You'll probably find yourself asking "Scooby Doo, where are you!?" more than once over the course of the hour-long show.

"Doo-Wop" includes pre-recorded music from Tony Bero as well as the Mash-Up band and troupe. You'll listen to it from your own Mystery Machine stereo as the action takes place in front of you, and as you drive from place to place. You may recognize some familiar tunes in the rotation—they're all takes and parodies on beloved doo-wop tunes!

This show has limited spots per show (six cars at a time), and tickets are sold out. With this being the first live show that Mash-Up is putting on since attaining 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and with the recent success restaging its first-ever original work "Grinchy," it's no wonder that this one is getting its word out so quickly.

"Scooby Doo-Wop" had its first run on Saturday, Oct. 18. Addition shows are on Oct. 24 and Oct. 25 at 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. Tickets are donation-based by vehicle, and you can bring as many people as you feel comfortable with in your car. Find more info at mashuprockandrollmusical.com/scooby-doo-wop.

Explore 100 Years of Michigan Art and Architecture

Craig Hadley

Dennos Museum Center

While it's difficult to travel anywhere these days, that doesn't mean you can't continue to explore from the comfort and safety of Traverse City. Journey through time and explore over 100 years of Michigan landscape, portraits, and building architecture this fall in two new exhibitions at the Dennos Museum Center. These exhibits are free for all NMC students when you present your student ID at the museum lobby desk.

Open through Jan. 31, 2021, Michigan Modern will highlight our state's unique history of stunning mid-20th century modernist architecture—from one-of-a-kind homes to civic centers and office buildings, I'm sure you'll be as awe-struck as I was when we first unpacked these

photographs by James Haefener. It's a truly magnificent survey of the unique buildings that dot our landscape.

That brings us to our second exhibition, also open through Jan. 31, 2021, which features lush Michigan landscapes, portraiture, and seascape paintings from as far away as Spain. Enter Mathias Alten: An American Artist at the Turn of the Century, on loan to the Dennos Museum Center from Grand Valley State University. Alten (1871-1938) is regarded by many to be one of the most influential Michigan painters of the 20th century—don't miss this special opportunity to see this stunning collection!



Photo courtesy of Dennos Museum Center.

BBQ Meatloaf with Sweet Potato Topping

Mikayla Brady Staff Writer Let's hop into fall with this quick and easy but oh-so-delicious recipe! Love meatloaf and sweet potatoes but need to feed a crowd? Make this super cute yet simple dish for a quick dinner on-the-go or at home. It's also customizable for your liking: change ground beef to ground chicken or turkey, and even change BBQ sauce to ketchup for something that fits your crowd.

Yields: 12 muffins

INGREDIENTS

Meatloaf:

- 1 ½ lbs ground beef
- 2 tsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion (minced)
- 3 garlic cloves, peeled and minced
- ½ cup of BBQ sauce of choice (sweet, spicy, or honey)
- 1 tsp dried thyme
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper

Topping:

- 2 medium sweet potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 1 tbsp butter

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Place ground beef in a medium bowl and set aside.
3. Heat oil in a small pan over medium heat. Add onions and saute, stirring occasionally until they start to soften.
4. Add garlic and cook for 30 seconds or until fragrant.
5. Add the onion and garlic back to the ground beef. Add BBQ sauce, salt, pepper and dried thyme. Combine and mix together well.
6. Spray muffin tin with cooking spray.
7. Divide meat mixture between 12 spots of a muffin pan.
8. Bake for 20 minutes or until meat is no longer pink in the center.
9. While meat muffins are baking, steam sweet potatoes until tender, about 10-12 minutes, or microwave sweet potatoes until tender then puree sweet potatoes and butter in a food processor.
10. Scoop topping into a plastic bag and cut off one tip of the plastic bag. Pipe topping onto the meatloaves. Drizzle top with BBQ sauce and salt.
11. Let cool for a few minutes, then top with parsley if desired and it's ready to serve!



ENJOY!

- * Can be refrigerated up to seven days in an air-tight container.
- * Individual meatloafs may be frozen, but sweet potato topping will not hold in the freezer.

The Poor Person's Perfect Bar

Randi Upton Staff Writer Over the summer, my health went into a deep decline. I struggled to eat and had discovered these delicious meal replacement bars. Refrigerated and mostly peanut butter (and some other flavors available), they were perfect to eat when I needed a few more calories that day. Perfect Bars are awesome, but they are also heavy on the wallet at nearly \$4 a bar (\$2 if you find them at Aldi's, but every time I got those they were a tad stale).

So I scoured the internet. There had to be a mommy blogger who had figured out a homemade dupe. I found a few, but many ingredients were expensive or hard to find (ugh, health food stores). I ended up collecting a few recipes and tweaking ingredients here and there. This is what I came up with.

INGREDIENTS

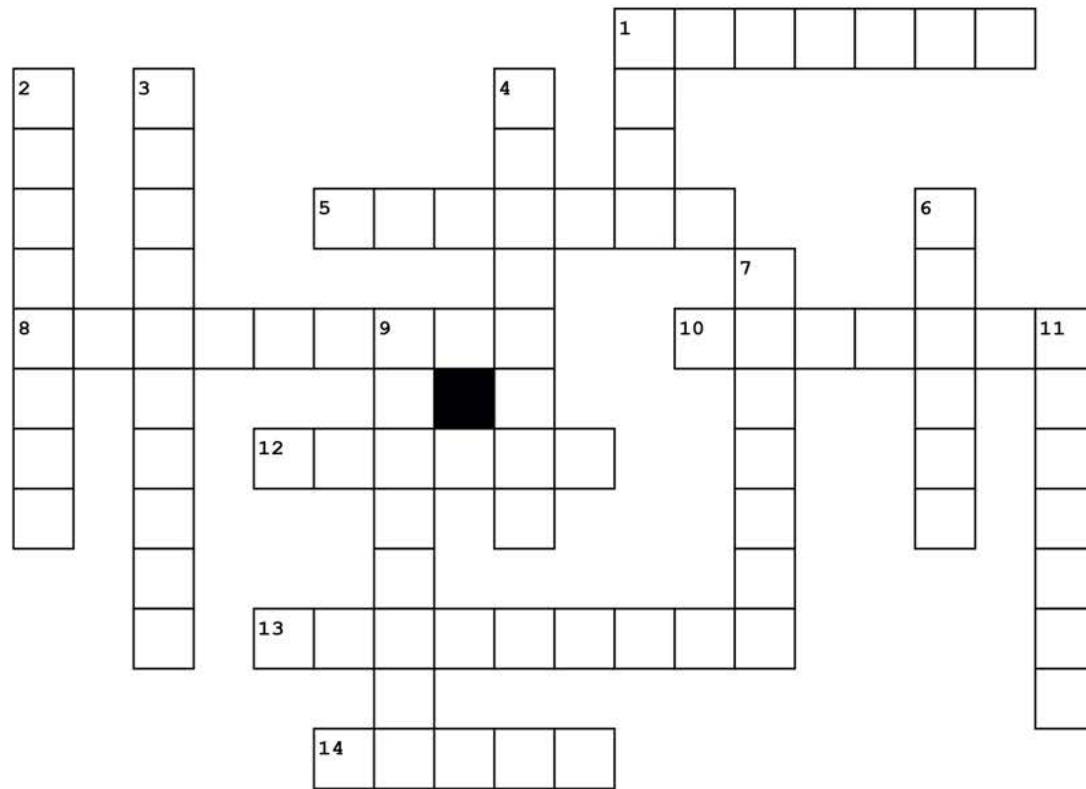
- 1 cup flour (many recipes called for a finer flour like oat or almond, if you have that around use it. Or spend an hour blending oatmeal into flour with a blender—it's not like you have anything else to do in a pan demic.)
- ½ cup protein powder (I have used vanilla, use whatever you have around. Go crazy.)
- ½ tsp salt (I use unsalted peanut butter, decrease if you use the sodium laced stuff)
- ¾ cup peanut butter (I have used creamy and chunky for this, both are great. All hail peanut butter.)
- 1 tsp vanilla extract (If you don't have time to travel to Madagascar and pick your own vanilla beans, store bought is fine.)
- ½ tbsp coconut oil

DIRECTIONS

1. Whisk dry ingredients together.
2. Add in the rest of the ingredients, mixing well. It becomes a Play Dough consistency and can be difficult to mix. Oiling your hands up like a boxer and kneading it that way will make it come together easier. If it is too wet, add more flour by the tablespoon. Too dry, add a touch of coconut oil or peanut butter. They should be slightly soft, but firm enough to hold a shape.
3. Press into a pan. I use a 9x9 cake pan, but anything would work. Make as even as possible, and refrigerate. Chill for an hour, cut into bars.

This recipe is great because it stands on its own, but can take mix-ins. Chocolate chips, cocoa powder, shredded coconut. My last batch I even mixed in a touch of pumpkin puree and pumpkin spice for the Basic Bar. I'm never paying \$4 a bar again.

Trick-or-Treat Trivia



Across

1. A man from _____ grew the Guinness Book of World Records' heaviest pumpkin (2624.58lbs).
5. Mary _____ published "Frankenstein" in 1818.
8. _____ has the world's largest Halloween parade, called Greenwich Village Halloween Parade.
10. Another name for Halloween is All _____ Eve.
12. According to legend, the original jack-o'-lantern was a carved _____.
13. The S.S. City of _____ is a ferry that is a haunted attraction in Michigan.
14. "Monster Mash" was released in 1962 by Bobby "Boris" Pickett & The _____ Kickers

Down

1. A _____ Moon, the second full moon in a month, will occur on Oct. 31.
2. For the first time since 1944, there will be a _____ on Halloween that is visible in all time zones.
3. The White House was first decorated for Halloween by First Lady Mamie _____.
4. _____ produces the most pumpkins in the United States.
6. Bram _____ published "Dracula" in 1897.
7. A _____ is a mythological female spirit whose cry warns or causes death.
9. The song _____ by Michael Jackson was released in 1982.
11. The Celtic festival of _____ is the tradition that Halloween is derived from.

Compiled by Hannah Krohn

Find the answers online at www.whitepinepresstc.com

Halloween Events

Randi Upton
Staff Writer

This year, many events have been cancelled or have limited space available. Remember to follow all protocols recommended by the CDC when having spooky fun. Social distance and wear a mask, even while outside. This is also a good time to start making new traditions within your home for Halloween.

Traverse City has recommended no trick-or-treating this year. The following are a list of events that, as of right now, are still available.

Apple Fest

Location: Royal Farms and Winery

Hours: Sundays – Thursdays, 9am to 6pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 9am to 7pm

Runs through: Oct. 31

All sorts of fun fall events, like hay rides, corn mazes, pumpkins, and anything that can be done with an apple. Family friendly. Extra measures being taken for safety, with more restrooms and outdoor seating.

Asylum After Dark Experience

Location: Grand Traverse Commons

Hours: Thursdays – Saturday, every 20 minutes starting at 7:30pm until 10:40pm

Runs through: Oct. 31

Take a tour after dark of the old State Hospital, with scenes acted out and lots of history explained, with a bonfire afterwards. 18 and over only. \$45 per person or \$80 for a couple. Not wheelchair accessible. Reserve a spot at thevillageetc.com.

Jacob's Corn Maze

Location: Jacobs Farm

Hours: Sundays – Thursdays, 10am to 6pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 10am to 8pm

Runs through: Nov. 15

Fun family time in one of the biggest local corn mazes, with pumpkin chunkin and apple picking. They have events like "flashlight night" available to families and groups. Kids under 4 are free, children 5-11 are \$8 and adults \$12, with discounts available for groups. Check jacobsfarmtc.com for availability.

Haunted Trail: Feast or Famine

Location: Ghost Farm of Kingsley

Dates: Oct. 23 & 24, Oct. 30 & 31

Times: 7pm to 11pm (9pm to 11pm on Halloween)

Visit the farmer at the Ghost Farm of Kingsley for a walk of terror through his haunted woods. Will you become a feast for the creatures that lurk on the trail, or does a famine await them? All guests are required to wear a mask; children cannot be carried and must be able to walk on their own to attend. Tickets are \$15 per adult/child and can either be purchased at the ticket gate (cash only) or prepaid in advance at ghostfarm.net.

Moomer's Halloween Wagon Rides

Location: Moomer's in Traverse City

Dates: Oct. 18, 20–22, 25, 27–29

Times: Wednesdays & Fridays, 5pm; Saturday & Sunday, 1pm

Take a wagon ride around the new gazebo on Moomer's property, checking out the view and the cows. Keep a look out for ghosts, goblins, and zombies on the ride. \$5 per person, kids ride free. Reservations are required! Call 231-941-4122 for availability.

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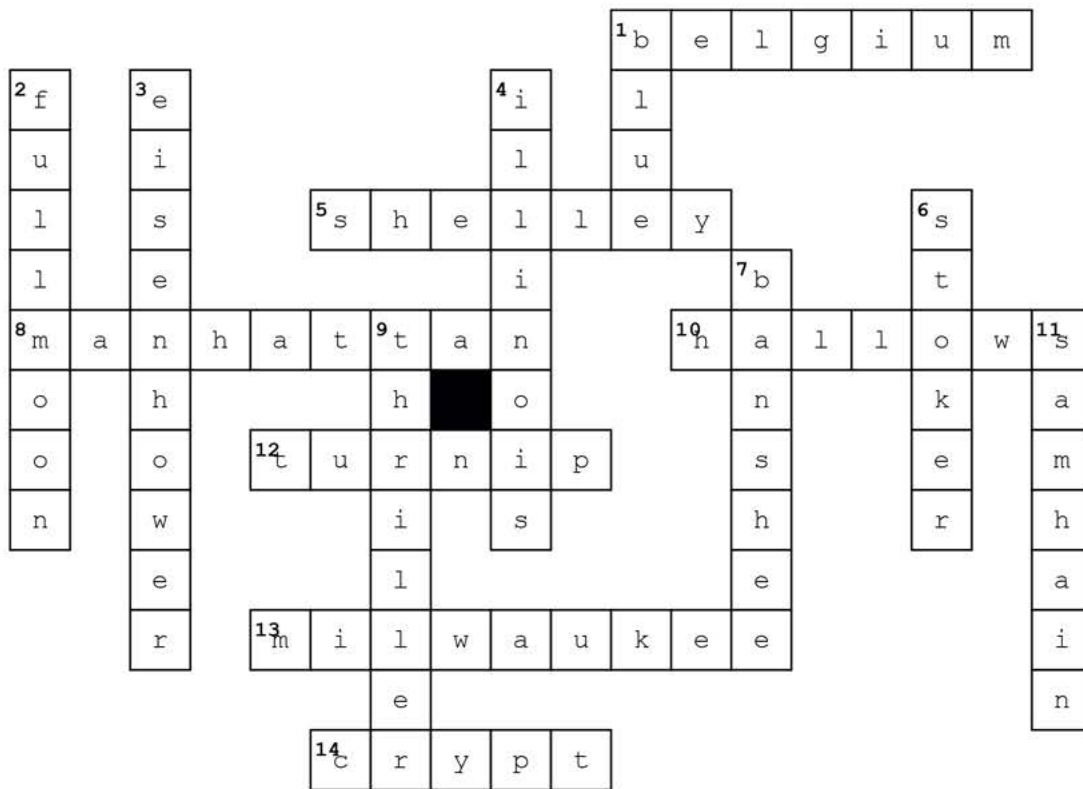
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Trick-or-Treat Trivia



Across

1. A man from _____ grew the Guinness Book of World Records' heaviest pumpkin (2624.58lbs).
5. Mary _____ published "Frankenstein" in 1818.
8. _____ has the world's largest Halloween parade, called Greenwich Village Halloween Parade.
10. Another name for Halloween is All _____ Eve.
12. According to legend, the original jack-o'-lantern was a carved _____.
13. The S.S. City of _____ is a ferry that is a haunted attraction in Michigan.
14. "Monster Mash" was released in 1962 by Bobby "Boris" Pickett & The _____ Kickers

Down

1. A _____ Moon, the second full moon in a month, will occur on Oct. 31.
2. For the first time since 1944, there will be a _____ on Halloween that is visible in all time zones.
3. The White House was first decorated for Halloween by First Lady Mamie _____.
4. _____ produces the most pumpkins in the United States.
6. Bram _____ published "Dracula" in 1897.
7. A _____ is a mythological female spirit whose cry warns or causes death.
9. The song _____ by Michael Jackson was released in 1982.
11. The Celtic festival of _____ is the tradition that Halloween is derived from.