

Area museums

Benzie Area Historical Museum, admission \$2; 6941 River Road, Benzonia; 882-5539.
Bottle House Museum, noon-4 p.m. Labor Day-Christmas; Wuoksi and Kauko streets, Kaleva; 362-3793.
Charlevoix Depot, open 1-4 p.m. Fri. and Sat., admission by donation; Dixon Avenue near Depot Beach, Charlevoix; 547-0373.
Charlevoix Historical Society's Harsha House Museum, 103 State Street, Charlevoix; 547-0373.
Cheboygan County Historical

Museum, three-building complex open 1-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; admission for guided tours \$2 adults, free through high school age; Cheboygan; 627-9597 or 627-5448.

Dennos Museum Center, "Calder for Kids" on view through Oct. 19; on view through Nov. 30 — "1953-2003: 50 Years of Inuit Art in the United States," Woven Stories: Tapestries from Pangnirtung" and "Dolls of the Arctic: An Exhibition of Inuit and Alaskan Native Dolls" (doll exhibit closes Nov. 9); Miserere Series 1914-1927: Selected Prints by

French painter Georges Rouault; through Feb. 29 — "Heavens Above: Photographs of the Universe From the Hubble Space Telescope"; also Cape Dorset Print Collection exhibit Oct. 17-Nov. 30, with sale on Oct. 17; admission \$4 adults, \$2 children; 10-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 1-5 p.m. Sun.; Dennos Museum Center, NMC, E. Front St., TC; 995-1055.

Empire Museum, 1-4 p.m. week-ends through Oct. 11; groups by appointment; donations accepted; Empire; call 326-5568 or 326-5181.

Grand Traverse Heritage Center,

admission \$3 adults, \$1.50 students, free for ages 5/younger; open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat.; 322 Sixth St., TC; 995-0313.

Great Lakes Children's Museum, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat., 1-5 p.m. Sun.; \$4, free for children under 2; 336 West Front St., TC; (231) 932-4526.

Guntzville's Spirit of the Woods, Native American artifacts and Wildlife Museum; 11060 U.S. 31, Elk Rapids; 264-5597.

Hartwick Pines State Park, "Archaeology of Hartwick Pines" exhibit of artifacts found at the park, on view through Oct. 31 at

the Michigan Forest Visitor Center, open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Sat.; also Logging Museum open 9 a.m.-7 p.m. daily through Oct. 31; Hartwick Pines State Park, Ranger Road, Grayling; (989) 348-2537.

Leelanau Historical Museum, Fall hours Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., or by appointment; Leland; 256-7475.

Music House Museum, 90-minute guided tours, open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Tues., noon-4 p.m. Sun. through October; \$8 adults, \$2.50 ages 6-16, free 5 and younger; 7377 U.S. 31 North, Acme; 938-9300.

Tradition

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signature collection of the college, which is why we played to our strength and gave it its own space," said Jenneman. "Not only did it deserve that kind of presence, but it was so unique that we could claim the ownership we did when practically no other institution was doing so with this art form. That's one of the reasons this 50th anniversary celebration is incredibly special to us."

The history of Inuit art is long and fascinating. It changed for the Inuit people around 1950, when their semi-nomadic way of life was restructured by the Canadian government, who took responsibility for their health, education and welfare and encouraged them to relocate to permanent settlements where food, clothing and shelter would be provided. Once relocation was achieved, the Inuit faced the imposed challenge of cultural adaption to a life of Western world values.

The person largely responsible for guiding the Inuit toward adjustment and economic stability was artist James Houston, who first visited the Arctic in 1948. He became enamored with the art, and began importing pieces and organizing exhibitions. Houston received assistance from Traverse City native Eugene Power to help with the importation of Inuit art in the early 1950s.

That led Power to form the non-profit Eskimo Art Inc. that became the Ann Arbor gallery for the exhibition and

sale of Inuit art. In 1953, Power was able to get the Cranbrook Institute of Science to present an exhibition of Inuit Art.

In Traverse City, the history of the Dennos collection began in 1960, when Wilbur C. Munnecke, a Chicago publishing executive who summered in Leland and was on the board of Eskimo Art Inc., gave NMC a collection of sculpture and prints to sell as a benefit for the library. NMC Librarian Bernie Rink used the proceeds from the sale to invest in more Inuit art and a year-round exhibition program. By 1964, the Inuit Art Exhibit and Sale was noted as an annual event and the NMC Library was designated as one of the new Inuit art outlets in the United States authorized by the Canadian government.

The collection now holds around 1000 objects, including original stonecut, stencil and lithograph prints, drawings, whalebone and stone sculptures, textiles and artifacts that are on permanent exhibition in the museum's Inuit Gallery. Thanks to a significant gift from Eugene Power's son, Philip, the collection doubled and resulted in naming the gallery after the Power family.

The Dennos Museum's is one of the most historically complete collections of Inuit art in the U.S. NMC's library holds a major collection of Inuit books, publications and research materials related to Inuit life and culture as well.

Jenneman said that the "50 Years" exhibit will be notable in that it will feature selected sculptures on loan from the Cranbrook Institute of Science, the site of that first

1953 presentation. Also included will be some of the earliest examples of Inuit art brought into the U.S., selections from regional private collections acquired via the annual art sale at NMC, and 25 Inuit sculptures donated for the event.

In addition, there will be two other exhibits. "Woven Stories: Tapestries from Pangnirtung" contains tapestries with imagery based on Inuit drawings and reflecting their life and culture. "Dolls of the Arctic," which closes Nov. 9, will feature Inuit and Alaskan Native dolls from a private collection showing the traditional clothing styles of the Arctic people. The display will be combined with Inuit prints and clothing from the museum's collection reflecting similar imagery.

The annual Cape Dorset Print Collection will take place from Oct. 17-Nov. 30. On Oct. 17 and 18, the recently formed Inuit Art Society and Inuit Collectors will be in Traverse City for two days of Inuit education and support of its culture, art forms and artists. Members come from throughout the United States.

Jenneman believes that part of the growing appeal and awareness of Inuit art is its accessibility in the presentation of its traditional subject matter, which takes on greater dimension the more it is studied, and in the fact that relative to many other art forms, the cost of Inuit art is nominal and its value continues to increase. That the Dennos Museum is the keeper of the evolving collection is a point of great pride, he said, for both the college and the community.

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