



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### IN THE NEWS



Photo courtesy of Petoskey News-Review

In the Wednesday, July 29 edition of the Petoskey News-Review on page A10, mediator Dell Weitzel (on the right) was pictured with Cross Village Township supervisor Gene Reck. Dell was examining a map of county roads that have been exempted for off road vehicles (ORVs) in Emmet County.

It is interesting to note that most NCMmediators are involved in numerous volunteer efforts in our community and in the affairs of the community as a whole.

### CLARIFICATION

In last month's issue of Bridges, we encouraged you to have participants in mediation use the mediator-caucus rooms for private meetings rather than the break room. If, however, one or more of the parties are merely waiting, feel free to have the participants relax in the break room. It has more comfortable chairs and access to the coffee. What we are trying to avoid is having people in the break room when they need privacy, which then means that others cannot get into the break room.

### ADVANCED MEDIATION TRAINING

Presently, there are fifteen people signed up for the Advanced Mediation Training scheduled from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday, September 25. Earlene Baggett-Hayes is the trainer. The morning session will address

- Mediating under the shadow of recession, i.e.
  - Debt
  - Bankruptcy

Topics for the afternoon session are

- Impact of diversity & cultural backgrounds
- Interpersonal relationships of participants

To register for the training, go to the NCM website [www.northernmediation.org](http://www.northernmediation.org) and then to Services & Programs or Upcoming Events, and then to Local Workshops & Trainings.

### WE DO NOT MEAN TO BE RUDE

Unfortunately, there are times when you come into one of our offices and we are on the phone. This is particularly true for Bert and Cheryl. If they happen to be doing an intake, it can often mean that they will be tied up for a while. Please, understand that none of us means to be rude by not being able to get off the phone right away. In fact, in all probability, you would be more fun to talk with.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

The concept of confidentiality includes not divulging information off the record to anyone other than NCM staff.. Additionally, if no agreement is reached, it is inappropriate to say that progress was made and what that progress constituted.

### WAY TO GO CHERYL

Ask Cheryl why she has a copy of the Michigan State/Illinois basketball game.