



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### HAPPY PARADE



As board members of the Petoskey Public Library, Lou and Sue Fantini along with Frank and Noreen Tarquini served as grand marshals of the Petoskey Holiday Parade. They all looked nice and toasty wrapped up in blankets in the carriage that took them down the parade route. Lou is a mediator for NCM, as well as a past president of the Board of Directors.

### CONFUSION

Obviously, if an agreement is reached during mediation, the mediators write up an agreement form and the parties sign it. If there is no agreement, there is nothing to write up. If there is a partial agreement, however, an agreement form should be written to include those issue on which there is agreement, and the parties should sign that form.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Two of our judges were up for re-election, and both of them won. So, congratulations to the Honorable Richard Pajtas and the Honorable Richard May.

### ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting for the 2008 year will be held at noon on Thursday, January 29, 2009. This will be followed by a brief board meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will meet at City Park Grill.

**HAPPY HANUKKAH! MERRY CHRISTMAS!**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

### HOLIDAY PARTY

By now you all should have received your invitations to NCM's annual holiday party. We hope to see all of you at the office from 4:30 to 6:00 pm on Tuesday, December 16. This year, we will be adding to new traditions to the party. First, the annual awards will be presented around 5:15. And, we will give you the answers to the following trivia questions for 2008:

- What has been the longest mediation?
- What mediation has had the most people in attendance?
- What has been the shortest mediation?
- What mediation reconvened the most number of times?

### UPDATE TRAINING

Mediators are required to do eight hours of update training every two years. On Friday, February 27, a SCAO-approved, update training will be held in the Reycraft Room at the Perry Hotel in Petoskey. There will be no charge for NCM mediators. For those who do not mediate for NCM, the fee is \$100 for half a day and \$200 for the full day. This includes all supplies, snacks and lunch. Details of the topics to be discussed and registration forms will be sent out later this month.

### THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE

As of December 31, 2008, the terms of four of our board members will expire: Lisa Blanchard, The Honorable Richard Pajtas, Keith Williams our treasurer, and Jill Ryan our president. They have contributed significantly to the growth of NCM and will be missed.

The good news is that we have seven new board members who will begin their tenures in January: Toni Arthur, Mary Faculak, Julie Hall, Lisa Hoyt, Roger Postmus, Pat Seagmen, and Joel Wurster. Their varied backgrounds and areas of expertise will be great resources for the Board.

### FORTY-HOUR TRAINING

NCM will offer the SCAO-approved, general civil, forty-hour training in April.

Wednesday, April 22	1:00pm – 5:00pm
Thursday, April 23	8:00am – 5:00pm
Friday, April 24	8:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday, April 29	1:00pm – 5:00pm
Thursday, April 30	8:00am – 5:00pm
Friday, May 1	8:00am – 5:00pm

Details will follow after the first of the year.