



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### WHO IS THIS PERSON



This person is none other than our ex-Intake Coordinator Cheryl Bauman, who is now living in Alaska. She is holding a King (Chrome) Salmon that she dip netted in Chitina. Her comment about her catch was “I understand the thrill of fishing now! HOLY COW the excitement of catching one of these big guys in your net is Awesome! I’m hooked! I used all my might to pull him in!”

### VERY IMPORTANT PERSON

Mediator Paul Schemanski has been nominated for a position on the Board of Directors for Great Lakes Energy. Without bias, I think we can safely say that Paul would be an excellent board member. To learn more about Paul’s campaign go to [www.facebook.com/VotePaulSchemanski](http://www.facebook.com/VotePaulSchemanski) . You do not need to have a membership in facebook to view the information.

### GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS

Congratulations are in order for David Pizzuti who is now working at the Michigan Nature Association in Lansing. The bad news, however, is obvious. Being in Lansing means that David will not be able to mediate for us. Yet, there may be a silver lining because after about six months, he is hoping to be able to work from his home up north. In the meantime, the Lansing mediation center gets to benefit from his talents and expertise.

### ADVANCED TRAINING

Remember to set aside Tuesday, October 11 for advanced mediator training, facilitated by Steve Tresidder.

### MEDIATOR ROUNDTABLE

On Tuesday, June 14, Cindy Viles, Deputy Clerk with the 90<sup>th</sup> District Court in Emmet County, spoke with our mediators about certain court documents. She specifically focused on small claims and wage assignments. It was very eye-opening and worthwhile information. She stressed the importance of completing the documents correctly. If you are not certain, the best thing is to ask Cindy. For example, if you are not certain is a case is being dismissed with or without prejudice, do not check either box. As Cindy which one should be checked.

### ANOTHER ROUNDTABLE

On Tuesday, September 14, NCM will hold its third mediator roundtable of the year. This will be an important workshop because it will address some changes in mediation standards and requirements.

- The domestic standards and the general mediation standards are being combined into one document.
- New confidentiality standards are being introduced.
- The process for mediators if subpoenaed is changing.
- Requirements relating to advanced training and number of hours of mediation in order to stay on the court roster are being upgraded.

As you can see, this is a mediator roundtable you will not want to miss. It will have a direct impact upon all of us.

### CHANGES

We have made changes on two of our forms. In statement four on the participant evaluation forms, the words “by the mediators” have been added. This affects child protection, divorce, first-time offender, general, parenting time, and VORP participant evaluation forms.

In the general consent to mediate form, a #10 statement has been added. It reads, “ If an agreement is reached and the case was court ordered/referred, NCM will provide a copy of that agreement to the court.”

If you maintain copies of these forms on your computer, please contact NCM to get the updated templates.

### YOUR OPINIONS

NCM is considering staging mock mediations using actors as the participants. The sessions would be videotaped so that the mediators could privately observe their techniques. This would not be mandatory. What are your thoughts?