



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to Board Member Ray Kiogima. His sister Mary Ann Schofield, fondly known as MASch, died recently.

ON THE BRIGHTER SIDE

At the Odawa homecoming this past month, Ray Kiogima offered the prayer at the opening ceremony. He did so in his native tongue. It was most impressive. In fact, if you have never had the enjoyment of going to the pow-wow, you have missed a wonderful time. Make a point of going next year.

A GREAT LOSS

Board member John Rohe has been asked to serve as the Program Director for a charitable foundation involved in land conservation, watershed protection, environmental protection and community development. As happy as we are for John for this opportunity, it means that he will be moving to Pittsburgh, which also means that he has to resign from our Board of Directors. As an avid advocate for mediation and a past president of our Board, his absence will leave more than just a physical vacancy on our Board. His knowledge, expertise and background in mediation have contributed significantly to the success of NCM.

WOW!

Adolph Cwik has been appointed by Governor Jennifer Granholm to be on the Michigan Rehabilitation Advisory Council. Now, that's impressive!

YOU WILL NOT BELIEVE THIS

Two attorneys in Florida could not agree on a location for a deposition. Therefore, the federal judge involved in the case ordered that the attorneys meet on the steps of the federal Courthouse in Tampa at 4:00 pm on June 30, 2006. "At that time and location, counsel shall engage in one (1) game of 'rock, paper, scissors.' The winner of this engagement shall be entitled to select the location for the deposition."

DO NOT FORGET

Our update training is scheduled for Friday, November 3 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. at the Perry Hotel. A continental breakfast will begin at 7:30, lunch will be served at noon, and snacks will be provided in the afternoon. This workshop is free to NCM mediators. So far, 29 people have signed-up; so, do not tarry. Get your registration turned in.

REQUEST

For those of you who do mediations at city hall in Charlevoix, please, do not ask the staff at city hall to unlock the door to the NCM office. This comes as a request from the city hall staff. We understand that you want access to the office. That is why we are doing everything we can to ensure that the key is in the packet.

NEW MEDIATORS

As a Katrina victim, John Berndt has ultimately landed in Petoskey. Along with all of his training in mediation, he also has a Master's Degree in Dispute Resolution, and he has mediated for the Oakland center. How fortunate we are to have him on board.

Additionally, attorney Mary Catherine Hannah is joining our team. She received her training through the Center for Conflict Resolution in Chicago, and is qualified as a GAL through the state of Wisconsin. How can we be so lucky to have her on board as well!

THANK YOU

On the bulletin board in the hallway at the center, there is a lovely thank-you note from Kathy Lame. She more than appreciated the party in her honor and the necklace we gave her.

CHECKLLIST FOR OBSERVERS

Thanks to Elizabeth Most, we have updated our observer checklist. I think you will find it more useful and helpful. Let me know what you think. This checklist can also be used by the mediators for self-evaluation purposes.