



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

February 2015

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### ANNUAL MEETING



Pictured from left to right: Terri Sevener, Ed Engstrom, Steve Tresidder, Paula Welmers, Julie Kuchnicki, Kate Scollin

On Thursday, January 22, Northern Community Mediation held its Annual Meeting at noon at City Park Grill in Petoskey. President John Marshall opened the meeting by having everyone introduce himself/herself. This was followed by approval of the minutes from the 2013 annual meeting, acceptance of the year-end financials, and presentation of the annual report. In summary, Executive Director stated that NCM opened 728 cases and closed 702 cases in 2014. NCM was evaluated as the most efficient Citizen Dispute Resolution Program center in the state, and the Small Claims Program and the School Attendance Mediation Program are thriving. In summary, the year 2014 was an excellent one for NCM.

### PRESERVING NATIVE FAMILIES

On Friday, February 27 at 11:30 am at North Central Michigan College, board member Chief Judge Allie Greenleaf Maldonado will conduct a lecture relating to the new tribal laws protecting native children and their families. Reservations are required.

### GLAD NEWS

Bruce Herbert has returned to being able to mediate for NCM following a long recuperation period due to falling off a ladder and crushing his heel.

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Loyalty and friendship, which is to me the same, created all the wealth that I’ve ever thought I’d have.” ` Ernie Banks

### USELESS FACT

The baseball team that is now known as the Cubs was nicknamed the Orphans from 1898 – 1902.

### BIG EVENT OF THE YEAR

Monday, March 9 is the date of NCM’s eleventh **Theatre Party**, which will be held at the Petoskey Cinema. As in the past, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm, an array of appetizers (sufficient for dinner) along with non-alcoholic wine and beer will be served. There will also be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. At 7:00pm, everyone will be able to go to the movie of his or her choice. All of this is for the low price of \$25 per person. As in the past, the following sponsorships are available:

- \$25 Your name will be listed in the program.
- \$100 You will receive 2 tickets and an 1/8 page ad in the program.
- \$250 You will receive 4 tickets and a 1/4 page ad in the program.
- \$500 You will receive 6 tickets and a 1/2 page ad in the program.
- \$1,000 You will receive 10 tickets and a full-page ad in the program.

### SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ROUNDTABLE

On Tuesday, **February 10**, NCM will hold its first Mediator Roundtable of the year. The focus will be the School Attendance Mediation Program. Since this program is rapidly expanding, mediators are definitely needed. Of all of the types of mediations, school attendance could be one of the most rewarding.

### BOARD RETREAT

On Monday, February 23, NCM will hold its annual Board retreat from 4:00pm to 7:00pm at the Weathervane in Charlevoix. Two representatives from SCORE will facilitate the workshop. The focus will be to review the strategic plan and evaluate what has been accomplished and what still needs to be done. Coupled with this approach will be an evaluation of NCM’s core capacities that were identified during last year’s retreat.

### THANK YOU

Ron Moore has donated a single-cup, coffee maker that we will be using in the Charlevoix office. If you desire a specific type of coffee, you should BYOB—bring your own pod.

### SAD NEWS

Mediator Tom North’s father died. His father, Walt North, was an outstanding legislator in the state of Michigan for many years. Mediator Karen Cole lost her brother this past week.