



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

February  
Vol. 8 No. 2



### 2011 BOARD



Pictured seated from left to right: Vice-President Lisa Hoyt, Mary Faculak, Jim Raber, President Ted Teller, Treasurer John Marshall, Secretary Joel Wurster. Pictured standing from left to right: Roger Postmus, David Leusink, Barry Anderson. Not pictured: Toni Arthur, Michelle Cortright, Pat Seagmen, Paula Welmers.

### ANNUAL MEETING & BOARD MEETING

On January 13, Northern Community Mediation held its Annual Meeting during the lunch hour at City Park Grill in Petoskey. Executive Director Jane Millar reviewed the Annual Report, stating that 2010 was a good year for NCM. It is financially stable and continues to offer quality services to the citizens of Charlevoix and Emmet Counties. For your reading pleasure, a copy of the Annual Report is available at NCM or on the NCM website at <http://www.northernmediation.org/annual-reports-18/>

### THEATRE PARTY

In the January newsletter, a typo occurred. Rather than Monday, March 14, it was stated that the Theatre Party was on Monday, March 24. There is no Monday, March 24. The Theatre Party is on Monday, March 14. Take note of this date because rather than a Tuesday, the Theatre Party will be on a Monday this year.

### MEDIATOR ROUNDTABLE

Remember that we have a Mediator Roundtable scheduled from 4:00 to 5:00pm on Tuesday, March 22.

### CHARLEVOIX EXPO

On Thursday, March 24 from 10:00am to 7:00pm, Northern Community Mediation will participate in the first Charlevoix Expo. It will be held at Castle Farm. The purpose of the Expo is to give businesses and organizations in the area an opportunity to display their products and services. If you would be willing to spend an hour or two helping to be at the NCM booth and answer questions people might have, contact Jane Millar. Your help would be greatly appreciated because for the three staff members to cover the nine hours plus set-up and breakdown time makes it difficult for coverage of regular office work.

### BAY HARBOR FOUNDATION

Northern Community Mediation received \$3,663.00 from the Bay Harbor Foundation to help defray expenses relating to the Parenting Time Mediation Program, also referred to as Access & Visitation. Be certain to say thank you to anyone you know who is affiliated with Bay Harbor and/or the Foundation. They have been very supportive of NCM over the years.

### AGREEMENT WRITING REMINDERS

1. When drafting the mediation agreements, remember to avoid using abbreviations.
2. The parties should be in the room while the agreement is being drafted. They should not be asked to leave the room.
3. Even if one of the parties or the mediator is an attorney, legal terms should be avoided. If a legal term is used, it should be followed by an explanation of what that term means. For example, you could say "with prejudice, which bars future action."

### OUR MEDIATORS

In case you missed the picture in the paper of mediator Ed Engstrom when he was a little boy, you missed a picture of a cute kid. His sister put the picture in the paper in honor of Ed's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. Happy belated birthday wishes from Northern Community Mediation.

Mediator Jamie Winters had her picture in the paper as well. As the Safe Home Coordinator with the Women's Resource Center, she was drawing attention to the need for donated items, such as food, clothing and personal hygiene products.

Our sympathy to mediator Kendal Taylor on the death of his brother.