



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

## THE NEWS

Vol 1 No. 1

### RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS

For those of you who missed the annual meeting and did not hear, appreciation was expressed to all of our mediators for their hard work and dedication. Lou Fantini and Bruce Herbert were given special recognition for their commitment above and beyond the call of duty, and Richard Hendrian was honored as Volunteer of the Year. A special acknowledgement was made for Kathy Lane's leadership as the PMP Program Director.

### IN NEED OF A NAME

Let's face it, NCM News is not a particularly exciting name for a monthly newsletter. Mediators News also leaves a lot to be desired. Once upon a time, our newsletter was called Bridges. What are your thoughts? What should the name of our newsletter be? Call the office with your ideas: 487-1771.

### RELOCATION COMPLETE

What a joy it is to be in our new location. If you have not yet had a chance to visit us, you must do so. All of us on the staff love giving tours.

Thanks to all of you who brought gifts of supplies, donated pictures, and made financial contributions to help defray our moving expenses. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### REMINDER

After a mediation, remember to have the participants complete the evaluation forms. We need this information for the State. Also, when you mediate a divorce case, do not forget to hand the envelopes for payment to the participants, and collect them if at all possible. This is important because those revenues have been built into the budget.

### CONGRATULATIONS

On May 28, 2003, five-year-old Austin became the big brother of a little sister, Brooke Cochran. They are the children of our very own mediator Kirsten and her husband Scott. Although Scott was not sure on Brooke's size, he did say that she was "just right."

Another new mediator in training is Liam Nolan, born on September 26, 2003 to Maartje and Bryan. Maartje resigned as Executive Director of NCM so that she could spend more time with her family. Fortunately for us, she will continue to serve as a mediator.

Congratulations are also in order for Kathy Lane. No, she did not have a baby, but she was asked to serve on the Board of Directors for the Women's Resource Center. What a wonderful asset she will be!

### SYMPATHY

Our thoughts of kindness go out to Fran Pletz on the loss of her husband Harold. We also extend our sympathy to Connie Saltonstall on the loss of her son.

### FYI

A forty-hour training has been scheduled for June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12. Pass on this information to anyone who might be interested in becoming a mediator. Call the office for details.

### FEELING BETTER

After several shoulder surgeries, Ron Fornshell is on his way to recovery. He will be back with us in the spring.

Mary Sciamanna is feeling a lot peppier since her back surgery. Walking the dog is once again a pleasant exercise.