



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

June 2007

Vol. 4 No. 1

PRETTY AS A PICTURE



Hugh Conklin, Karen Cole and Dell Weitzel were three of sixteen mediators who participated in the second session of Divorce Training, which focused on Domestic Violence. Chris Krajewski from The Women's Resource Center was the keynote presenter.

The first session entitled *Divorce Law & Process* featured the Honorable Richard Pajtas. Jim Raber from Friend of the Court in Charlevoix will be the guest speaker for the third session scheduled from 4:00 to 7:00 on June 14. It will be held in the meeting room of the Charlevoix City Hall. If you have not yet signed-up, you can still do so.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

If you are observing a mediation, your role is that of a fly on the wall. It should almost be as if you are not in the room. If there is a caucus, you should remain with the mediators. You should not leave the room during mediation, nor should you talk with the parties involved during a break.

We do encourage you to listen to the debriefing after mediation has occurred, and if you have any questions of the mediators, ask them at that time. Remember, you are observing the process, not the case.

MORE FRIENDLY REMINDERS

1. Arrive half an hour prior to the scheduled mediation time.
2. When asked to mediate a case, decline doing so if you know any one of the parties involved.

IN THE NEWS

It is not surprising that we would see a picture of Lou Fantini in the *Petoskey News-Review* for his work relating to Camp Quality. Camp Quality, which provides camping experiences and ongoing support to children with cancer, received \$2,000 from the Eagles.

As part of the Big Read event, the Honorable Fred Mulhauser was pictured in the newspaper reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He looked to be the epitome of a gentleman and a scholar.

On the subject of judges, Judge Johnson, Judge Pajtas and Judge Mulhauser were pictured along with those honored with Liberty Bell awards from the Emmet-Charlevoix Bar Association. Kathy Bruehl received the award for her efforts in the art program at Lakeview Academy, and Murray Kilgour was recognized for his volunteer work in various aspects of the justice system, "especially for his work with ... Northern Community Mediation."

And, for those of you who read the letters to the editor, Ron Moore voiced his opinion by entitling his article "The day the music died."

SOME REFLECTIONS ON MEDIATION

In an article in the ADR Newsletter, Lee Hornberger stated, "mediation might be one of the most important stages of the litigation, regardless of whether or not settlement is reached." Even though an agreement is not reached, the process of mediation often paves the way for an agreement later on in the process.

WELCOME SUMMER!
WELCOME WARM WEATHER!