



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

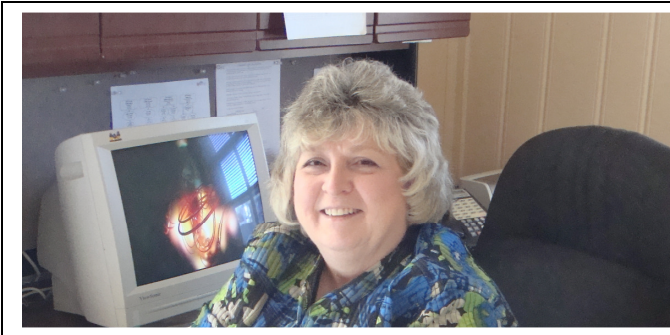
Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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NEW STAFF MEMBER



Even though she is the newest employee at Northern Community Mediation (NCM), Terri brings a wealth of experience to NCM. Terri graduated from Petoskey High School and attended Central Michigan University.

Although she has worked in the banking as well as the insurance world, her primary focus has been with abstract and title companies. In fact, Terri has been the co-owner of Petoskey Title Agency, Inc. Because of this background, she is familiar with the legal system and knows many of the people in the courts.

Since Terri is a fifth generation Petoskey resident, she is well known around the community. Terri, her husband and their daughter own custom wood-working business.

Terri will be handling the following types of cases: general civil, divorce, domestic relations and small claims.

HE WILL BE MISSED

Although Wayne Tri will no longer be a staff member for Northern Community Mediation, we are fortunate that he will still be able to be one of our more active mediators. Wayne had to resign from NCM because his workload at the UPS office has become very busy. If you did not know it, Wayne owns the UPS franchise on Mitchell Street in Petoskey. So, you can always stop in and see him.

STATE OF COMMUNITY MEDIATION

The National Association for Community Mediation (NAFCM) has released its latest finding on the state of community mediation. You may find the information interesting. Go to <http://go.nafcm.org/TheState> to read the information.

APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Last month I had to bring you the sad news that Judge May was retiring. This month I bring you the good news that Judge May will be the guest speaker at our annual Appreciation Luncheon. The reason Judge May is retiring is so that his wife Janet and he can spend more time devoted to humanitarian work. That will be the topic of his talk.

The luncheon is being held at City Park Grill in Petoskey. It will begin at noon. Everyone will be able to order off the menu. At the luncheon, we will be presenting four awards. In addition to the Rookie Mediator of the Year, Veteran Mediator of the Year, and Advocate of the Year, we will also honor someone with the Leah Award. Leah Green was an outstanding mediator and trainer for NCM. Prior to her death, we created the Leah Award and bestowed it upon her prior to her death. This award is not necessarily presented on an annual basis. It is saved for the recognition of someone who has contributed to the mediation process and been an advocate of mediation over the years.

IN THE NEWS

Hypothesis: People who mediate for Northern Community Mediation do not restrict their volunteer efforts to mediation. They are active in their communities in many areas.

Proof: On April 11, mediator Hugh Conklin's picture was on the front page of the *Petoskey News-Review*. Hugh is the Boyne City Main Street program manager. He is a spokesperson for the citizen committee about the ongoing efforts to address noise concerns surrounding the new wood pellet plant in the city's industrial park.

INTERESTING STATISTICS

On a statewide basis, general civil court filings have increased, whereas small claims court filings have significantly decreased. The table below depicts those figures.

State Totals	Case Type	2004	2011
	General Civil	277,032	283,470
	Small Claims	93,935	58,147

The table below shows the comparison for our two counties.

County	Case Type	2004	2011
Charlevoix	General Civil	643	690
	Small Claims	436	198
Emmet	General Civil	846	818
	Small Claims	802	317