



# Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### FRIEND OF THE COURT

Both the Friend of the Court (FOC) and our Center are excited about the possibilities relating to the post-judgment, pilot project. Nine of us went to Oakland for the training, which was definitely worthwhile. Upon our return, we had a meeting with our local FOC. All of us think this will be a win-win situation for everyone concerned, particularly the parents and children who will be affected by the program.

### CANCELLATIONS

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the picnic scheduled for Saturday, October 9. This does not mean, however, that we are giving up. NCM will host a holiday, open house. Details will appear in the November newsletter.

We also had to cancel the forty-hour training. It seems that the fall is not the best time of the year for that type of commitment. Therefore, we have re-scheduled the training to take place after the first of the year. Specifically, the dates and times will be as follows:

January 13 & 20: 5:00 pm – 9:00

January 14, 15, 21 & 22: 8:30 – 5:30 pm

### THANK YOU

Dick Arlen donated a lap top computer to NCM. What a great gift. Among other things, we will be able to use it for mediations that take place off site, as well as for those times that staff members have to go out of town on business. Your gift is greatly appreciated, Dick.

### HERE COME THE JUDGE

The Honorable Ned Fenlon that is. For those of you who do not know Ned, he served as a judge in Charlevoix and Emmet counties for many years. He was also a major force in lobbying before the United States legislators back in the 1930s for the Mackinaw Bridge. He will be 101 years old this month. I ran into him at the NCMC cookout. He gave me one of his old, campaign banners. So, when you come into the center and see that promotion on our bulletin board, you will know why it is there. I think I will vote for Ned for president.

### NEWS ABOUT OUR MEDIATORS

On behalf of the Jordan River Arts Council, Fran Pletz, who was the first president of the organization, accepted the Arts & Cultural Organization Award at the eddi Awards at the Crooked Tree Arts Center on September 17.

Connie Saltonstall will be heading to California so that she can attend her son's wedding along with all of the other festivities.

Bob Drebenstedt attended the Republican convention. It must be quite an experience to participate in such an event. It is also our understanding that Bob has a son in Iraq.

Congratulations are in order to Kirsten Cochran's husband Scott. He is the new middle school principal in Harbor Springs.

### NEED YOUR HELP

Relating to the evaluation forms, be certain that your name and the participants' names are on the forms. If that information is not on the form, Pat has no idea where the evaluation should be filed.

We could also use your help in knowing what is going on in your lives so that we can share that information with everyone else. Just give us a call.

### CELL PHONE POLICY

"It is the policy of NCM that employees use hand-free cell phones and pagers when operating a moving vehicle when they are on NCM business and time. Employees are encouraged to follow this practice on their own time as well. Mediators are also encouraged to use only hand-free devices."

### ANNUAL MEETING

In order to have our annual meeting after the end of our fiscal year, it will no longer be held in November. Our by-laws have been changed so that it will take place in February or March.