



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

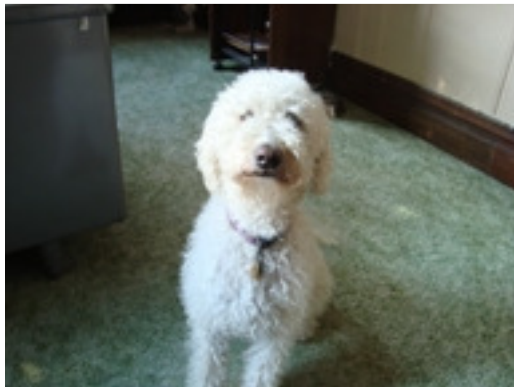
Serving Emmet &  
Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### INTRODUCING LACEY



Northern Community Mediation now has its own mascot. Lacey is Wayne Tri's dog, and what a delightful dog she is. Next time you are at the Center, be certain to go into Wayne's office and introduce yourself to Lacy. And, while you are here, do not forget to ask for a fly swatter.

### DIVORCE/DOMESTIC MEDIATION TRAINING

There are two possibilities for divorce/domestic training available this fall. The first is being offered in Lansing in October, and is the full training that is required by the State Court Administrative Office. Further information is available on the NCM website at <http://www.northernmediation.org/state-12/>

The second opportunity will be held at the library in Charlevoix. It will consist of four, two-hour sessions from 4:00pm – 7:00pm on Tuesdays: September 14 & 28 and October 19 & 26. Further information is available on our website at <http://www.northernmediation.org/local-11/>

### ADVANCED MEDIATION TRAINING

Anne Bachle Fifer will conduct advanced mediation training from 8:00am to 5:00pm on Friday, September 10. The morning session will address questions relating to the changes in the standards of conduct and the distinction between legal and ethical. The afternoon session will focus on the mediation process and the interaction of mediators, participants and attorneys. For further information and registration forms, go to the NCM website at <http://www.northernmediation.org/local-83/>

### CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION TRAINING

Just a reminder that the Child Protection Mediation training is scheduled from 8:00am to 5:30pm for Thursday, September 30 and Friday, October 1. If you are interested in taking this training and have not already done so, please let the center know by Tuesday, July 13. For further information, go to the NCM website at <http://www.northernmediation.org/local-11/>

### MEDIATOR ROUNDTABLE

Fourteen people attended the Mediator Roundtable held on July 27. Jane Nelson led an informative discussion relating to the role of attorneys in mediation. One thing that was stressed during the roundtable is that during the mediators' opening remarks, it is not necessary to expound upon the qualifications of the mediators themselves. In fact, stating that the mediator is trained by the state or that the mediator is an attorney should be avoided unless there are some highly unusual circumstances to do so.

Another roundtable is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9. Details will be available in the early fall. If you have any specific issues you would like to have discussed, let Jane know.

### SUGGESTION

Often, the intake notes are shared with the mediators. It is probably not a good idea to bring these notes to the mediation table since they could be seen by the participants involved in the mediation.

### ONE ACTIVE MEDIATOR

Lee Hornberger was recently elected to the Representative Assembly of the State Bar of Michigan. The Assembly is the final policy-making body of the State Bar. Lee is also a past president of the Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Association.

### OF INTEREST

Divorces with no lawyers will be the subject of a three-year test in Gratiot and Clinton counties. The Michigan Supreme Court says the goal is to see how an informal docket works in certain domestic relations cases. The process will include the parties meeting with a judge in a conference-style setting where he/she will look at what has been recommended for child custody, parenting time and child support. The parties will be allowed to question each other, although the judge may reject certain questions.