



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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SO LONG! FAREWELL!

Those were the words that the staff said to NCM board member Ken Winter when he walked out the door of the *Petoskey News-Review* on Friday, March 31. After 35 years of service, Ken retired—but only from the newspaper business. He is busier than ever. He has completed his student teaching in the Petoskey School System as the final requirements for his Master's Degree, continues to teach at North Central Michigan College, and serves as a consultant. In addition to all of this, Ken remains active in our community by serving on numerous boards and committees. How fortunate we are that Ken is willing to be one of our board members!

SPEAKING OF SO LONG

Nancy Sherman, one of our mediators and big supporter of our Theatre Party, will be leaving us. Good luck to you, Nancy. Keep in touch.

Fran Pletz, another one of our mediators who has been involved with NCM for many years, has decided to retire from mediation. She did promise, however, to remain a cheerleader on behalf of the process of mediation and of the center itself.

HOW FORTUNATE WE ARE

The Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation awarded us a \$950 grant for the purpose of developing a shoplifting program for first-time offenders. We will be working with the court system through the prosecuting attorneys Jim Linderman and John Jarema, court administrators David Rauch and Lisa Muneio, and the Honorable Fred Mulhauser. Since this will become an extension of the VORP, Pat Dull will be the most impacted by the program.

GUARDIAN ANGEL

That is how our board member Ray Kiogima was described. A guardian angel of the Odawa language. For more than 20 years, Ray has “painstakingly created a written record of Odawa words and phrases using the English alphabet.” In his new book *Odawa Language and Legends*, Ray writes the Odawa legends by combining translations of Odawa words and phrases. Ray said that he wrote the book to remember those who spoke the language before him and to help those he hopes will speak it in the future. This accomplishment by Ray is truly an act of devotion.

IN CELEBRATION

Leah Green: wife, mother, educator, mediator, wonderful human being.

Beginning at 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 17, we will have the opportunity to join together in celebrating the contributions made by Leah during her life. Her husband Nelson invites all of us to join him in food, music and fellowship to honor this outstanding woman. The event will be held at the Hayes Township Hall.

I will send out an e-mail to all of you with an attachment of a map to the Hayes Township Hall. Call NCM 487.1771 if you have any questions

OH, SO GOOD!

Both Gayle Miller and Jamie Winters have completed their 10-hour internship. Welcome to the team.

NEW INTERN

For the next eight weeks, we have an intern by the name of Nadine Gibson. After only one week with us, she already fits right in.