



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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BOARD RETREAT



Pictured left to right: Bottom Row: Chelsea Platte, Kate Scollin; Middle Row: Stuart Fenton, Bob Banner, Jane Millar, Liisa Morley, Hugh Conklin, Christian Smith; Back Row: Ed Engstrom, Brian Kasiborski, Kirstyn Horan, Bill Meengs, Mark Fralick

On Tuesday, February 27, Northern Community Mediation held its annual Board Retreat from 4:30pm to 8:00pm at the Boyne City Tap Room. After ordering dinner and some time for socializing, President Bob Banner called the meeting to order. He summarized results from the 2017 board retreat and then thanked Chelsea Platte, Kate Scollin and Christian Smith for serving on the Strategic Planning Committee. During the past year, they worked on consolidating the ideas generated from the 2017 retreat.

In that all of the program ideas from the 2017 retreat were dependent upon funding, their recommendation for the 2018 retreat was to focus on increasing revenue producing resources. This resulted in the creation of four committees: fundraising, state lobbying efforts, county/local funding efforts and other programming. Since the staff of NCM was in the best position to address the revenue producing program, the board focused on the first three initiatives.

As each of the committee members worked on their respective charges (part of the time eating dinner while doing so), exciting, tangible goals were established along with appropriate action plans. Throughout 2018, the Board will continue to implement its plan of action.

Kudos also needs to be given to DJ Jones, Executive Director of the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation. His leadership as the facilitator of the workshop created an atmosphere of open exchange of ideas that led to productive results.

ANNUAL PETOSKEY THEATRE PARTY

MONDAY, MARCH 12. That is the date of our 14th, annual theatre party in Petoskey. In celebration of NCM's 25th anniversary, tickets are still only \$25. From 5:30 to 7:00, eight different vendors will provide delicious food. As always, there will be door prizes (16 in all) and at 7:00, everyone can go to the movie of his/her choice. So, get your tickets now. It is a fun event that you will not want to miss. And, you can always buy tickets at the door.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

It is hard to imagine that October 1, the date of the Route 91 Concert in Las Vegas, was five months ago. For those who were there, the horror will be forever imbedded in their minds. Vicky and Mark Greyerbiehl were two of those individuals. More than being the owners of Charlevoix Ace Hardware, they are active community volunteers who go out of their way to make a difference.

Vicky writes, "At the time the shooting began, Mark and I were not together. By the second or third volley of shots we were able to find each other and began to literally run for our lives. By the grace of God, we made it out with only minor scrapes and bruises—some were not so lucky. 58 people were killed that night and 500 more injured.

As part of his healing process, Mark has decided to "Scale the Strat" in memory of the 58 angels on February 25th." He is taking on this challenge to help raise funds for the American Lung Association. If you are so inclined, go to [Facebook.com/CharlevoixAceHardware](https://www.facebook.com/CharlevoixAceHardware), then click on the link to make a donation.

CONGRATULATIONS

At the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan winter conference, NCM board member and assistant prosecuting attorney for Emmet County, was recognized for his 30 years of service.

USELESS FACT

When you sneeze, air and particles travel through the nostrils at speeds over 100 mph. During this time, all bodily functions stop, including your heart, contributing to the impossibility of keeping one's eyes open during a sneeze.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I've never had a better karate instructor than a spider web."