



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

December 2019  
Vol. 16 No. 12

### ONE YEAR AGO



It is hard to believe that Case Manager Caroline Smith (pictured above) was celebrating the holidays with us last year. This year she is celebrating with her classmates at Kent College of Law in Chicago. She did share with us that in her tort class, most of the students were having difficulty in understanding the concept of joint and several. Having worked with the Victim-Offender, Reconciliation Program while at Northern Community Mediation, Caroline said she was able to share her experiences in dealing with joint and several. Way to go, Caroline.

### OBSERVATION GRADUATES

We have already told you that Connie Foss, Hob Ingleson and Steve Hall have completed their observations and are mediating for us. We now have additional members from the 40-Hour Training Class of 2019 who have done so. Congratulations to Emily Hoffman, Chuck McKone, Sue Metzger, Katie Mott, Fred Mulhauser, Mark Muniak, and Cyndy Tonkavich.

### WAY TO GO

Congratulations to Mediator and Board Member Hugh Conklin on being re-elected as a Boyne City commissioner.

### HOLIDAY PARTY

Do not forget. Tuesday, December 10 from 5:00 to 6:30 at NCM. Appetizers, adult beverages, and comradery.

### A NICE E-MAIL

NCM received the following e-mail from Joelle Drader, counselor at Shay and Blackbird Elementary Schools in Harbor Springs.

Dear Jane,

On behalf of Blackbird and Shay Elementary schools in Harbor Springs I want to thank Northern Michigan Community Mediation and our local Kiwanis groups for developing and sharing the resource "Bullying Hurts Everyone". We incorporated it into our school wide "No Bullies Allowed" month and classroom lessons to review and discuss the information in the booklet.

We are so fortunate to have a caring community that supports our students' education about important lessons such as learning to be an up stander. We received positive feedback from the children and I believe the information will be impactful. Along with the booklet you provided we also used the following short video to reinforce the concepts:

<https://youtu.be/eeqQCyQOCPg> that I thought you might want to pass along to other schools.

Thank you again and I hope to see you soon!

### A NICE EVALUATION

From one of the participants in a recent mediation came the following remark on the evaluation. It really applies to all of our mediators.

Once again. Thank you!!! NCM and its staff and volunteers are all angels doing important and sensational work for our community! You are highly valued and appreciated!!!

### A NICE SURPRISE

Following a presentation on Conflict in the Workplace by Executive Director Jane Millar, NCM received a \$200 donation from the Leadership Charlevoix County Alumni Lunch & Learn group.

### TWO NEW NAMES

Thank you Tom North for introducing us to Scott Helmholz, who is a retired attorney and has had the 40-hour general civil, as well as the divorce/domestic mediator training. As soon as he has the opportunity to observe some mediations, he will be added to our mediator list. And, thank you to Connie Foss who brought Bill Killoran to our attention. Bill also is a retired attorney who worked all over the world for General Electric. As soon as he has the opportunity to take the 40-hour training, he too will become one of our mediators.