



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

January 2019

Vol. 16 No. 1

A BEAUTIFUL BABY



Pictured: Bruce Emmet Platte

Past board member Chelsea Platte and her husband Pete gave birth to a healthy baby boy on November 30, 2018—just in time for his first Christmas.

CONGRATULATIONS

Attorney Lee Hornberger, who is an advocate of Northern Community Mediation and sometimes mediates for us, has received a First Tier ranking in Northern Michigan for Arbitration by *U.S. News – Best Lawyers “Best Law Firms”* in 2019. The rankings are based on a rigorous evaluation process that includes the collection of client and lawyers evaluations, a peer review and a review of additional information provided by law firms.

REMINDER

For those of you who are mediators for Northern Community Mediation and have not yet sent in the forms for background checks, do so as soon as you can. Our Policies and Procedures Manual calls for all mediators and staff to have background checks run every two years.

PETOSKEY THEATRE PARTY

It is hard to believe that in less than three months, Northern Community Mediation will be hosting its 15th annual theatre party in Petoskey. Be sure to set aside Monday, March 11 on your calendar. And, if anyone is interested in being a sponsor, just call the NCM office at 231.487.1771.

USELESS FACT

The lint that collects in the bottom of your pockets has a name — gnurr.

ANNUAL MEETING

Northern Community Mediation will hold its annual meeting at noon on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at City Park Grill. Everyone is invited. We will order off the menu. We wish we could afford to cover the cost of everyone’s lunch, but the budget just cannot handle that.

During the annual meeting, we will recognize outgoing board members Mark Fralick, Christian Smith and The Honorable Valerie Snyder. Following that, we will introduce the incoming board members, Izabela Babinska and Nikki Devitt. Izabela is the Foundation Relations Officer for McLaren Northern Michigan, and Nikki is the Events & Communications Director for the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce.

Following the election of the officers (Bob Banner for president, Brian Kasiborski for vice-president, Bill Meengs for treasurer, and Stuart Fenton for secretary), Executive Director Jane Millar will present the annual report. This report will be available on the NCM website by Tuesday, January 14.

FORTY-HOUR TRAINING

Northern Community Mediation will be offering the 40-hour, 2.411 general civil mediation training this spring. The dates and times are as follows:

- Wednesday, May 29 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Thursday, May 30 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday, May 31 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Wednesday, June 5 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- Thursday, June 6 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday, June 7 8:00am – 5:00pm

No, these dates are not impacted by Memorial Day, which is on Monday, May 27.

There is a \$100 partially refundable fee for those individuals who will be mediating exclusively for a Citizen Dispute Resolution Center. Upon completion of the training and the internship program, \$50 will be refunded. The other \$50 will help to defray expenses. For all others, there is a \$750 charge.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“A cookie store is a bad idea. Besides, the market research reports say America likes crispy cookies, not soft and chewy cookies like you make.” ` Response to the idea of starting Mrs. Fields’ Cookies.