

**THE DATE HAS BEEN SET!**



Pictured from left to right: Kirstyn Horan, Ben Slocum, Steve DeCarteret, & Ashley DeCarteret

On Thursday, June 22, Northern Community Mediation hosted Mediation Celebration. And, what a celebration it was. Although it was a fundraiser, everyone there referred to the event as a party. And, people are still calling it a party. So, open up your calendars, and save the date of Thursday, June 20 and the time from 6:00 to 9:00 for another outstanding party. Mediation Celebration will have bands, dancing, food galore, adult and non-adult beverages, gift certificate raffles and oodles of fun! Same location: Community Center at the Emmet County Fairgrounds.

**BEST WISHES**

Thank you Case Manager Karen Cole for your years of service to Northern Community Mediation. We wish you the best in your retirement.

**INTERESTING FACTS**

According to an article in *Focus*, which is the publication published by the Small Business Association of Michigan, arbitration has distinct advantages over litigation: time efficiency, cost-effectiveness, confidentiality, flexibility, control, enforceability, and finality. For example, the median time from filing a lawsuit to trial is 33.2 months, whereas the median time from filing to mediation agreement was only 13.2 months. Mediation reflects similar data.

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**

“One must maintain a little bit of summer even in the middle of winter.” ~ Henry David Thoreau

**REMINDER**

For those of you who are attorneys and/or judges, you need to remember to announce that when you are functioning as a mediator. Some suggested wording is “I do need to let you know that I am an attorney. In my capacity as a mediator, however, I am not here to give you legal advice. In fact, to the contrary, it is my obligation by law not to do so.” If you have any questions about this, please call me.

**JOB POSTING**

Wanted: Case Manager for small non-profit. Desired qualifications: Understand importance of confidentiality, be self-motivated, tolerant, non-judgmental, a team player, analytical, and have good communication skills and a professional demeanor. Bachelor’s Degree preferred. Reply by August 18. Send resume and cover letter to [jane@northernmediation.org](mailto:jane@northernmediation.org)

**IT SURE WOULD BE NICE**

A television! A television! My kingdom for a television! What is this all about? It would be convenient to have a television in our main mediation room so that as an agreement is being written out, it could be projected onto the television screen so that everyone could observe what was being written. Additionally, NCM has a 360 degree camera that can be placed in the center of the mediation table. This allows us to have one of the parties participate remotely so that everyone in the room can see him/her and the remote participant can see everyone just as they are seated at the mediation table. In order to take advantage of this technology, however, we need a TV.

So, if you have a 40” or larger television (or know of someone who does) that you are planning on replacing and would be willing to donate your used TV to NCM, call Jane Millar. We can make arrangements to transport the TV.

**USELESS FACT**

During the spring, there are cherry blossom-viewing picnics in Japan. And in Argentina, it is tradition to picnic for Christmas. However, if you prefer to dine outside in the summer, then you will be thrilled to find out that there is a picnic-related holiday in August, thanks to Australia.

A tradition that has been around the Northern Territory in Australia since at least the late 1800s, according to *National Today*, Picnic Day takes place on the first Monday of the month. Granted, August isn’t summer in Australia, but you can celebrate the holiday wherever you are. So, gather your food into a basket and head on out for a picnic on Monday, August 7.