



# Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

## BRIDGES

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### SUMMER FUN



Pictured is a Thursday concert by the Crooked Tree Arts Center (CTAC) Jazz Band at the Bidwell Plaza. CTAC is located at the corner of Mitchell & Division. Throughout the summer on Thursdays at noon, a different group performs. What a delightful way to spend a lunch hour! In fact, throughout northern Michigan there are numerous concerts, shows, and activities to enjoy. It is important that we all take the time to “smell the roses” and capitalize upon our northern Michigan summers.

### NEW WORK STATION

In last month’s newsletter, it was mentioned that the Emmet-Charlevoix Bar Association had approved \$2,000 to go towards the purchase of the equipment for a work station for a part-time employee. NCM was hoping that the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation would approve the additional funding. Both foundations have approved that funding, and the work station will be completely in place this coming Friday, July 10.

### USELESS FACT

The most played song on American radio during the twentieth century was “You’ve Lost That Loving Feeling.”

### ADVANCED TRAINING

Although a specific date has not yet been set in the fall, there will be a four-hour, advanced-mediator training. The topic will be Agreement Writing. Before saying to yourself “I know how to write agreements,” be aware of the fact that recent court rulings have set aside agreements made in mediation due to the fact that the agreements were not well written. They were vague and not specific enough. Therefore, it has been highly encouraged that the Citizen Dispute Resolution Program centers provide advanced training specifically addressing the issue of agreement writing. Although we do not want to require that all mediators take this training, we are highly encouraging everyone to do so.

### MOVIE STARS

Thanks to funding from the Revenue Sharing Board of Emmet County and United Way, NCM has been able to produce a video explaining the School Attendance Mediation Program. A student from the Boyne City Video Imaging class under the supervision of Randy Calcaterra did the shoot and editing of the video. The big news, however, is that two of our mediators are the stars of the video. Jamie Winters did the opening remarks, and Jeff Higgs gave the explanation of the program. Once all editing is completed, it will be available on the NCM website. Perhaps, we should have a red-carpet, grand-opening event.

### PART-TIME EMPLOYEE

Between the years of 2003 and 2014, the NCM caseload has grown from 114 to 702. Between the years 2003 and 2014, the number of staff members has remained the same. Now that NCM has a work station for a new employee, it is working with PMP to find a part-time employee who would work 16 hours per week.

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“The Beatles save the world from boredom.” ` George Harrison