

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors Pledges Funds to Northport Promise; Commitment to Total Nearly \$250,000

NORTHPORT, Mich. – Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors, an 80 year-old real estate firm with roots in Leelanau County, has pledged nearly \$250,000 to the Northport Promise. Coldwell Banker Schmidt officials and officials of the Northport Promise announced the commitment today.

Coldwell Banker Schmidt, based in Traverse City, Michigan, and the team of Bill, Gwen and Andy Stireman have been selected as the marketing real estate broker for the Timber Shores development near Northport, is pledging \$500 for each unit sold in Timber Shores. This pledge will result in \$247,000 donated when the resort is fully sold. Their contribution matches that of Timber Shores Developer NM Investment Company LLC, which made the first major commitment to the Northport Promise in July.

“My grandfather Harold, who started this firm, began doing business in Leelanau County in 1937, so we have long-time roots in the area and a real attachment to Leelanau County. We continue to have three offices in the county. The Northport Promise has been very successful in supporting the school and we’re impressed with the new energy and excitement we see in Northport,” said Coldwell Banker Schmidt CEO Ken Schmidt. “We’re really pleased to be affiliated with a development like Timber Shores. It’s unusual to see a development of such high quality and one that is so carefully designed to enhance the beauty of the land on which it’s built.”

The Northport Promise program is modeled after the successful Kalamazoo Promise announced in 2005. Students who attend Northport Public Schools throughout their primary and secondary education may receive full tuition to the Michigan public college, university or vocational school of their choice.

“We are so excited to receive this commitment from Coldwell Banker Schmidt,” said Sally Viskochil, Northport Promise chair. “It’s wonderful to have businesses that understand that one of the keys to a healthy community is the school. This pledge from Coldwell Banker Schmidt, along with that of NM Investment Company, have gotten our fundraising efforts off to an excellent start and given us great momentum for our ongoing efforts on behalf of the Northport Promise.”

To date the Northport Promise has received the Coldwell Banker Schmidt pledge and the NM Investment Company pledges, which total nearly half a million dollars, held a

successful silent auction and picnic that raised over \$10,000, received a \$2,100 gift from Omena Club 21 and has received numerous financial donations and gifts from a number of community supporters. Donations to the Northport Promise can be made to the Leelanau Township Community Foundation. Direct contributions should be payable to the foundation and sent to: Leelanau Township Community Foundation, P.O. Box 818, Northport, MI 49670. Please specify that the donation be for the Northport Promise.

Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors, established in 1927, has 40 offices in West and Northern Michigan and in the Upper Peninsula. With 800 sales associates, Schmidt agents recorded over one billion dollars in sales in 2006, including 222 sales of homes valued at over half a million dollars and 41 valued at over one million dollars. The company is a member of the Coldwell Banker Chairman's Circle representing the top 100 affiliates of 1,800 companies and has representatives serving on the Board of Directors of Commercial Board of Realtors in Michigan, the National Advisory Board of Coldwell Bankers Commercial and local, state and national Boards of Realtors.