

FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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OMENA CLUB 21 DONATES \$2500  
TO NORTHPORT PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Members of Omena Club 21 have donated \$2500 to the Northport Promise scholarship fund to help fund college tuition for students who graduate from Northport High School.

The donation is of funds that Club 21 previously used to fund individual scholarships for Northport Graduates. Club Treasurer Bea Kimmerly, a founding member of Club 21, presented the check to Northport Promise fundraising chairs Dave and Beth Dickinson, Northport Promise chair Sally Viskochil and Merry Hawley of the Leelanau Township Foundation.

“Club 21 is delighted to support the Northport Promise,” said Mrs. Kimmerly. “When fully funded the Northport Promise will deliver on a large scale what we have been working to do over the years. We’re proud to be a part of this effort and see the Northport school reap the benefits of such a wonderful program.”

Club 21 is a women’s service club established in 1952. Club 21 has given scholarships to Northport students for over 20 years. Its activities include a highly popular bake sale and sponsorship of the community picnic. Club 21 is the second organization to announce a donation to the Northport Promise. On July 31, NM Investment Company, LLC, the developer of the Timber Shores project near Northport, announced their pledge of nearly \$250,000 to the Northport Promise.

The Northport Promise program, which was announced in February 2007, is modeled after the successful Kalamazoo Promise announced in 2005. The Kalamazoo Promise, in just two years, has begun revitalizing the city’s school district. It is credited with increasing enrollments by 1,000 students this year after several years of losing 250 students per year. Ninety percent of Kalamazoo’s 2006 graduating class went on to college, up from 78% of the previous year’s graduates.

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Photo ID: Left to right, Dave Dickinson, Northport Promise fundraising committee co-chair; Bea Kimmerly, treasurer Omena Club 21; Merry Hawley, Leelanau Township Foundation; and Beth Dickinson, Northport Promise fundraising committee co-chair.