

# Press Release

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## **BARAGA BOOSTERS GALA SUCCESS**

CHEBOYGAN, MI: The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Baraga Boosters Gala, "Wild, Wild West," was held September 28, 2007 at the Cheboygan Knights of Columbus Hall. Mike Grisdale, Baraga Boosters President, noted a significant milestone was reached with this year's Gala - the Boosters raised their one-millionth dollar for the support of Bishop Baraga Catholic School.

This year's event raised over \$160,000 for the operation of the School. That amount included almost \$18,000 raised in a first-time scholarship auction instituted by Father Paul Megge, Cheboygan Catholic Community pastor. Eight-six Eagle Club Patrons also contributed over \$76,000 to the total.

The highlight of the evening was the drawing for the Gala's \$35,000 Grand Prize raffle winner. Caroline Dukes of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario was the lucky ticket holder. Five \$1,000 prize winners were also drawn during the festivities: Tim Pelton of

Cheboygan, Joe & Phyllis Bedra of Lincoln Park, Barbara Fairbrother of Pontiac, Paul & Tammy Granger of Cheboygan, and Walt Poirer of Cheboygan.

The Baraga Boosters also awarded four \$1,000 early bird prizes. The first went to Mary Friday of Cheboygan on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Other winners were Paul and Tammy Granger of Cheboygan on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Charlie Veneros of Cheboygan on August 1<sup>st</sup>, and William and Lois Burmeister of Cheboygan on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

"The Baraga Boosters would like to thank the hundreds of volunteers, donors and sponsors that made this such a successful event," said Grisdale at the conclusion of the event. "The support from our parish and the Cheboygan community is truly amazing." Kitty LaBlance, first-year Bishop Baraga Catholic School principal, also expressed gratitude on behalf of the students and staff of the School.

The 8th Annual Gala will be held on September 27, 2008.