

Crop Walk begins May 4

The Farmington/Farmington Hills West Bloomfield 18th annual Crop Walk will take place Sunday, May 4, starting at First United Methodist Church in downtown Farmington.

Money raised through pledges from sponsors will bring hope for a brighter tomorrow, as well as relief from hunger and disaster, to more than 70 countries around the world and local hunger relief programs.

Twenty-five percent of the funds raised will be equally distributed to the St. Alexander Food Pantry, the Salvation Army, Neighborhood House of Farmington, and the Baldwin Center in Pontiac.

Walkers can choose from a 10 m (6 1/2 mile) walk or a two mile mini-walk.

Registration begins at 1 p.m. and the walk starts at 1:30 p.m.

Walk pledge forms can be obtained by calling Mary Bledrou, Associate Minister at (248) 848-1750.

Benefit raises over \$8,000 for MI-COPS

More than 350 people attended a grand opening and benefit event Wednesday at the new John Cowley & Sons pub in downtown Farmington, which raised over \$8,000 for an organization that benefits the families of slain police officers.

MI-COPS (Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors) provides a wide variety of support and assistance to parents, spouses and children. Organized in 1987 after the line-of-duty deaths of two officers in Inkster, MI-COPS is one of 43 COPS chapters across the country.

Chapter President Diane Philpot, whose husband, Jerry, was killed in the line of duty as a Detroit Police officer in 1995, had high praise for the event. It featured music by Cowley's regulars Blackthorn, as well as presentations on behalf of family members.

Cowley's opened their new facility last month, after demolishing their 30-year-old family bar and replacing it with a two-story Irish pub. Formal dining is offered in the smoke-free first floor; the upper level houses the bar and performance areas.

Philpot said the event was a terrific success, thanks to the Cowley family's work. MI-COPS benefited because the family has ties to two officers who were killed in the line of duty.



Family members gave their parents gifts during Wednesday night's celebration. Father John Cowley received a shadow box of memorabilia from his youth.

"For them, it's a personal thing," Philpot said.

"They did a great job."

Funds will go toward on-going counseling services, scholarships and legislative lobbying.

Philpot said MI-COPS was instrumental in drafting legislation that provides health insurance for officers' families after their deaths.

"Families would be cut off," she said, "while the guy who shot (the officer) gets health coverage through the state."

The organization also works with law enforcement agencies to provide education and support in dealing with the loss of a fellow officer.

"It's not cheap to keep all this going," Philpot said, expressing gratitude to the Cowley family and especially son Greg and his wife, Maureen, for organizing the event, which may be done on a yearly basis.

Speakers included Joyce Cornwell, on behalf of the Downtown Development Authority, Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell and State Rep. Aldo Vagnozzi, who presented the family with a commemorative proclamation.

Along with MI-COPS, the event gave a boost to the downtown Pavilion Fund, which received 25 percent of the proceeds from a cash bar.

Started last year with a large donation from local businessman Walter Sundquist, the Pavilion is slated for construction this summer in the Downtown Farmington Business Center parking lot, after the Founder's Festival in July.

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Guest Speaker Dr. Keith Tobin

Tuesday, April 8, 2003

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

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Arden Courts
Alzheimer's Assisted Living
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Livonia, MI 48152

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'Let My People Go' shown at Hills library

A special pre-Passover screening of "Let My People Go - From Oppression to Freedom: The Story of Israel" will be held Monday, April 14, 7:15-8:45 p.m., at the Farmington Community Library 32737 W. 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

The film recounts the epic human story of the struggle to establish the modern State of Israel.

This award-winning film, nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 1965, is comprised of original footage of the early

Zionist pioneers, the Holocaust, Jewish refugees and the establishment of the Jewish State.

There is no charge, and the public is invited to attend. Parental discretion is advised, as the film contains intense Holocaust footage.

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