



Bill Bresler / Staff Photographer

Wally and Ann McMinn are choosing wines for a wedding reception to be held in Texas. The Farmington Hills residents are helped by Linda Jones, of the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry Council.

Glasses raised for charity

Holiday Market Owner John Pardington loftily claimed that no one would go hungry at the annual "Taste to Canton" on May 3. Turns out, that was true. The fifth annual wine, beer and appetizer tasting event at Waltonwood at Cherry Hill raised between \$6,000-88,000 for three local charities.

"No one left hungry - I can guarantee that," Pardington said. "It was fantastic." "We had a great turnout of about 250 people."

Charities benefiting from the fund-raiser include the Leadership Canton Alumni Association Scholarship Fund, the Kiwanis of Plymouth-Canton Breakfast Club and the Canton Exchange Club.

Over the years, Pardington said that he has tried to tweak the offerings at the tasting to meet people's requests. Last year, beer was

Harrison's Brown earns 2nd place at Physics Bowl

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Harrison High School Senior Troy Brown earned second place in the Michigan and Indiana Division of Physics Bowl.

"Last month, 13 advanced placement Physics students took the Physics Bowl exam along with thousands of other students from across the nation," said Steve Dail, a Harrison High science and

physics teacher.

The exam is sponsored by the American Association of Physics Teachers and it consists of 40 multiple choice physics questions.

"It is a tough exam," Dail said. "The median score was a 16.8. Troy's score of 27 was good enough to take second over all other students taking the exam in Michigan and Indiana. Other good scores were obtained by Jordan Steckloff (26) and

Tom Dotson (26)."

The top four students' scores, all seniors, also included Taylor Dotson. The scores were added to create a school score, Dail said.

"Harrison High School missed taking second place by one point," Dail said. "They were 3 points out of first place."

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RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (248) 477-9722 or write: Religion Calendar, Farmington Observer, 3341 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

7 at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene in Northville. Tickets are \$3 in advance or \$4 at the door. Call (248) 346-7500.

Coffee with... Single Point Lighthouse Cafe offers an evening of relaxation and fun while listening to live entertainment provided by other Single Pointers. Cost is \$5. Hot dogs, goodies and coffee provided. Call Single Point Ministries at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road (near Haggerty), Northville, at (248) 374-5920.

Antioch Preschool Antioch Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills offers Christian based preschool for 3-4 year-old children. Class registration is now being taken. The church is located at 13 Mile and Farmington Road. Call (248) 626-7906.

SUMMER SERVICES

First Presbyterian Church of Farmington will begin a summer house for women, meets for dinner and discussion at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Best Western Executive Hotel, 3525 W. 12 Mile in Farmington.

Antioch Lutheran Antioch Evangelical Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills will begin its Sunday and Wednesday summer worship schedule starting on Sunday, May 25 at 9:30 a.m. and throughout the summer until Sunday, August 31. A contemporary service called Praise Forth is held on the fourth Sunday. Wednesday evening services will be held at 7:30 p.m. with Bible study at 6:30 p.m. until Aug. 27.

OPENING

Widow/Widower Support New Hope Center for Relief Support, a Christian-based bereavement outreach center, offers support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. The group meets at 7 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Parish offices, 14951 Haggerty, Plymouth. New Hope for Kids meets at the same time and place and is aimed at ages 4-11. (248) 348-0115.

Aglow Aglow International, a community light-house for women, meets for dinner and discussion at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Best Western Executive Hotel, 3525 W. 12 Mile in Farmington.

Attorney general supports agenda for Michigan children

Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox was delayed getting to his scheduled appearance at the Plymouth Salvation Army's annual dinner Wednesday night.

But once he got there, he delivered a message that drew a standing ovation from the 150 people who came to hear him speak and to salute the Salvation Army.

Cox, a Livonia resident and former prosecutor who succeeded Jennifer Granholm in the attorney general's office, talked for some 20 minutes about the value of volunteering and his ideas to help children in this state get what they deserve from their parents, calling the level of unpaid child support "an epidemic in our state."

"(Some) 650,000 children wake up this morning not knowing if they'll get any child support," said Cox, who is pushing to put pressure on what he called "deadbeat" parents. "Of those, 400,000 will never get a dime in our state of plenty."

In an effort to collect what Cox says is some \$7 billion owed in back child support in this state, the attorney general has opened a child support division

with 10 staffers working with the Family Independence Agency.

"When you have a situation with a deadbeat parent, the parent left behind has to pick up the slack, sometimes get a second job," Cox said. "The pattern shows that kids in that situation turn to drugs or to crime, and then we end up seeing them in a criminal situation."

It was an all-too-frequent scenario when Cox was a prosecutor, he said.

"I encountered young folks who came from backgrounds of drugs and alcohol and no education," Cox said. "As a prosecutor, I got to see life in ways not many people do. In my professional career, I've had a special place for parents and children."

The children he encountered, Cox said, 80 percent of the time came from a home where one parent had disappeared. The youngsters, he said, grew up "poor financially and poor in spirit."

"I can't make a parent a parent," Cox said. "But I can certainly try to make a parent be responsible."

Cox made his appearance at the Plymouth Salvation Army's annual dinner, which was held in conjunction with National Salvation Army Week. Cox said that, as a young Marine, he frequently encountered Salvation Army services overseas.

"I've never been homeless or destitute, but I've been touched by the efforts of the Salvation Army," he said. "In a very real and practical way, the Salvation Army was very helpful to me as a young man."

He lauded the efforts of Salvation Army volunteers, who followed the example of William Booth, who founded the Salvation Army as a way to fill a spiritual need as well as a physical need of people.

He said those volunteers helped expand the awareness of the Salvation Army, which most people think of in terms of its Christmas bell-ringing campaign. But Cox pointed out the Salvation Army's presence at disasters such as the tornadoes that recently struck the Midwest, as well as its presence in Iraq.

"The Salvation Army fills a need for people at their most needy, most vulnerable time," Cox said. "Through your efforts, you help fulfill the purpose set forth by Gen. Booth."

"My mother always told me God's best gift was the gift of time," he added. "By volunteering with the Salvation Army, you give that gift."

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