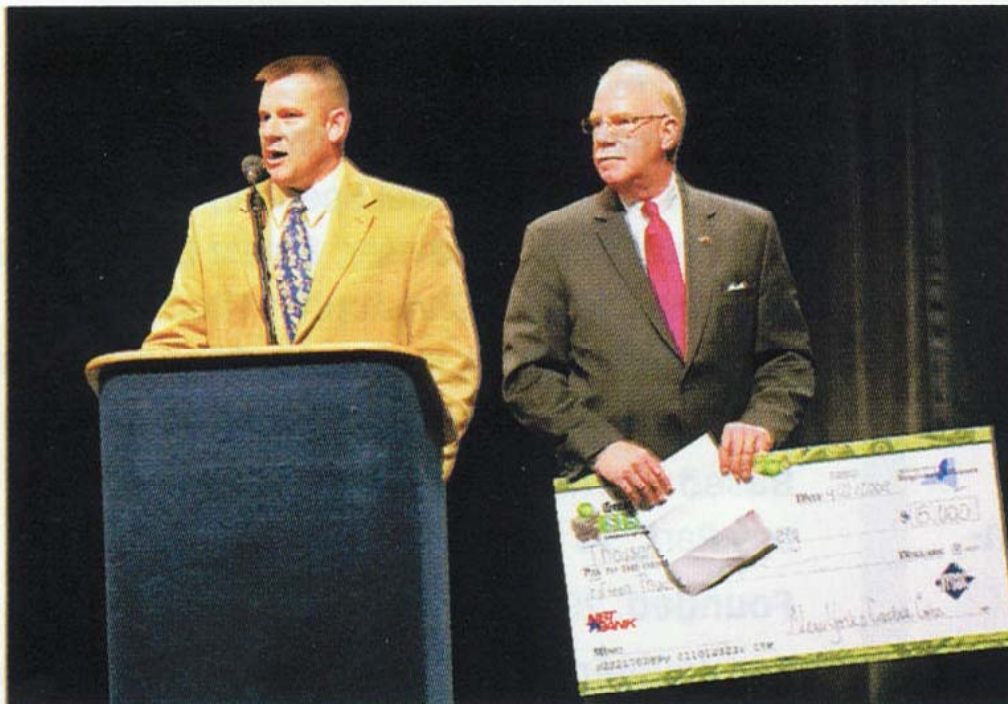




Other Winners:

PHOTO BY DICK BLUME



Stephen Conaway, president of Thousand Islands Winery, accepts the \$15,000 award for best agribusiness innovation from Pat MacKrell at the Metropolitan Development Association's annual luncheon.

Best agribusiness innovation

Stephen Conaway, owner of Thousand Islands Winery of Alexandria Bay, took home the \$15,000 prize. Conaway developed a method to cold stabilize his wines using natural cold storage that requires no energy use, rather than traditional refrigeration. He also engineered a jacketed heating system that uses a small hot water tank to heat outside wine tanks.

Best student business idea

Caleb Earl, of Homer High School, won the \$5,000 first prize for his idea of creating biodegradable fishing lures.