

LeMieux's photo takes 1st place

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers captured 25 awards in the Suburban Newspapers of America's 1996 Editorial Contest. The O&E's Oakland County editions took 13 of the awards.

Locally, Farmington Observer photographer Sharon LeMieux captured

first place for Best Feature Photo in our circulation category for her "Just kidding" photograph.

"Observer readers know that Sharon is among the best at photographing people in special moments and this award confirms that," said Dave Varga, editor.

As a newspaper group, the O&E earned the second highest number of awards among the 804 suburban newspaper publishing companies from throughout North America that competed.

"Simply put, we're dedicated to being your hometown newspaper," said Bob Sklar, managing editor of the O&E's Oakland County editions. "Day in and day out, we're here, in your community, packaging news and information that's relevant and important to you. Our goal is to meet your needs and expectations as a reader."

The contest provides national recognition for editorial achievement.



Just kidding: Photographer Sharon LeMieux captured a first-place award for this photograph, taken during the Founders Festival.

Farmington Observer

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Go west to recycle paper, plastic, more

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington area residents will heed Horatio Alger's advice when recycling: Head west.

Residents will be instructed to use the Resource Recovery Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County's drop-off site at the City of Novi, Dewal Drive, north of 11 Mile and west of Meadowbrook.

The new regional site — that opened Dec. 2 — will serve Farmington Hills as well as Novi, Wixom and South Lyon. As a result, Farmington intends to close its drop-off site Jan. 1.

Farmington Hills residents have been using the Farmington site since the Hills drop-off spot was closed due to remodeling of the city's Department of Public Works area.

"We think it's a good opportunity for Farmington and Farmington Hills residents as well as these communities on the outskirts," RRRASOC Director Michael Caspo said. "They were using it surreptitiously. Now they can use it on the up and up."

"We think we'll get a lot of Farmington and Farmington Hills residents because, quite frankly, it's easier to get to."

More items can be recycled at the new facility. Cardboard, paperboard, white office paper,

household batteries, aerosol cans and scrap metal are among those materials that can be dropped off at the Novi site.

Only newspaper, plastics, glass, tin cans and oil were accepted at the Farmington drop-off spot.

Residents will be given maps to the new site and notified on cable Channel 15 and through the city's newsletter, City Manager Frank Lauhoff said.

"In some ways, it's probably going to be less convenient for some people," Lauhoff said. "If you live on the west side, it's probably not going to matter as much. It depends on where you live really."

The trade-off is the new site accepts more materials, which allows cities to receive more money from the contractor through the sale of recyclables, Lauhoff said. Also, the Novi site will be open Monday through Saturday, making it more accessible for residents.

RRRASOC is also considering a permanent hazardous waste drop-off site, which would be open regularly.

Farmington and Farmington Hills residents currently dispose those items — such as oil-based paints, chemicals, paint thinners, and pesticides — during a one-day Household Hazardous Waste Day.

READER SERVICE

HOW TO REACH US

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The Farmington Observer

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