

Observer reporter honored

Farmington Observer reporter Joanne Maliszewski has been named the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers' Journalist of the Year.

Philip Power, chairman of Suburban Communications Corp., O&E's parent organization, presented a plaque to Maliszewski at O&E's annual

holiday party and awards presentation Sunday at the Novi Hilton.

Farmington Observer editor Robert Sklar, who nominated Maliszewski for the award, characterized her as "a self starter and an independent worker."

"A real digger, Joanne isn't afraid

to ask tough questions without compromising her professionalism. At the same time, she's very cooperative and flexible — and she goes out of her way to be a team player," he wrote in his nominating letter.

"She attacks news assignments with fervor. But she doesn't shy away from poking around behind the scenes and coming up with self-conceived stories presenting alternative views," he added.

Calling Maliszewski "one of the outstanding corners in our whole organization," Power said, "The reason our company is growing and vital and alive is because of every person in this room. The Journalist of the Year award is one way of saying how important people are. People make a company. The company doesn't make the people."

AMONG HER accomplishments this year were:

• A Michigan Press Association Award for a series of stories on the continuing Oriental health spa investigation in Farmington Hills.

• Authorship of a six-part series examining Farmington Hills homeowner associations and their impact on the city.

• Research and authorship of a major piece for a special local report on crack cocaine.

• A comprehensive report on key business people who have contributed to the prosperity along the I-275 corridor.

"Her knack for juggling several

work-related projects while maintaining a sense of organization is particularly impressive," Sklar wrote.

Maliszewski joined the Rochester Eccentric in July 1981 as a reporter. She moved to the Farmington Observer in February 1983.



Joanne Maliszewski
Journalist of the Year

Man arrested on drug counts

A 27-year-old man faces felony charges after he allegedly sold 3½ ounces of suspected cocaine to an undercover officer for \$8,300 Dec. 9 in a Farmington Hills parking lot.

A subsequent search of the man's Farmington Hills apartment turned up another third of an ounce of suspected cocaine and 2½ pounds of suspected marijuana, police said.

Arraigned Monday before District Judge Margaret Schaeffer of Farmington, Richard Alan Singer stood mute to three counts:

• one count of delivery of a controlled substance, namely between 50 and 224 grams of suspected cocaine, punishable upon conviction by 10-20 years in prison or life probation.

• one count of delivery of a controlled substance, namely the 2½

pounds of suspected marijuana, punishable upon conviction by up to four years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

• one count of possession of a controlled substance less than 50 grams, namely the third of an ounce of suspected cocaine, punishable upon conviction by up to four years in prison and a \$2,000 fine.

Innocent pleas were entered in Singer's behalf. Bond was set at \$1,000 pending a preliminary examination in 47th District Court.

Both the suspected cocaine and the suspected marijuana are to undergo laboratory testing at the Michigan State Police Crime Laboratory in Northville.

Field testing of each substance proved positive, said detective Sgt. Dennis Rochford of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

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