



Dressed for the part: Workers for Chemical Waste Management handle material during the annual Hazardous Waste Collection Day.

Hazardous waste collection attracts 500 from 2 cities

For a change, the sun was shining on the hazardous waste collection day at the 47th District Court grounds on Saturday, May 1.

And with the sun came more than 500 Farmington and Farmington Hills residents carrying more than 2,780 gallons of toxic material. Waste materials included 50 gallons of batteries, 30 gallons of asbestos, five gallons of mercury, 990 gallons of oil based paint, antifreeze and gasoline, 445 gallons of aerosols, 922 gallons of pesticides, fertilizers, acids and cleaners, 340 gallons of motor oil and 55 car batteries.

Farmington Hills officials were pleased with the high turnout.

"I don't know why we had such a nice turnout," said Tom Binsell, director of public services. "I'm sure that some of it is that people are much more aware of the environment and the part they can play in helping to preserve it."

As with all previous hazardous waste collection days, the cars

lined up early. Before the 9 a.m. starting time, as many as 20 cars were lined up, with drivers having their driver's licenses in hand, as proof of residency.

When asked why he was there so early, one resident said that he had to get an early start because his next stop was Pace Warehouse, on Haggerty and Grand River, where he was going to recycle his phone books. Pace is collecting and recycling old telephone books throughout the month of May.

Despite the large turnout, most people did not have more than a five minute wait. People did not even have to get out of their cars. Technicians from Chemical Waste Management were on hand to empty trunks and provide assistance.

The material dropped off by residents is packaged at the site by Chemical Waste Management. The waste is then taken to facilities approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environmental Protection Agency for proper disposal.

WEIGHT CONTROL

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Memories result in abuse suit

By BILL COULTANT
STAFF WRITER

The outcome of a lawsuit charging a father with sexually abusing his daughter when she was a child could hinge on the validity of memories she said repressed for years and only recalled with the aid of a therapist in 1989.

Just selection will begin today in Oakland County Circuit Court before Judge Barry Howard in a civil case charging that Charles Hall, 61, and a former resident of Farmington Hills, sexually abused his daughter Kathryn, 37, when she was a child.

Kathryn is seeking unspecified damages from Charles Hall, who is no longer married to her mother.

The statute of limitations prohibits criminal charges. Libiang said her client, who lives in California, began to suspect child abuse while taking a self-defense class that included several women who had been abused. While in therapy in

1989, she remembered "bits and pieces" of memories that led her to believe she had been sexually abused, Libiang said. Kathryn sued in August 1990.

Charles Hall's attorney, Renee Siegan, said Kathryn has been led into believing she was sexually abused by people whom she has an interest in seeing it that way.

Establishing a case for abuse will likely involve more than testimony by psychologists, Libiang said.

"I think it's very important to establish some kind of outside corroboration on events related to the abuse," Libiang said.

Marc Hirsch, a Farmington Hills clinical psychologist who specializes in family and childhood problems, said sexual abuse of children is not new but often was unrecognized until recently.

"People are more inclined to talk about it and acknowledge it," he said. "Part of that is a function of the media, such as Oprah (Winfrey), where one per-

son talks about it and others become aware."

Hirsch, who teaches medical interns at Botsford Hospital, said therapy is often a legitimate way to discover if those repressed memories are real. But he cautions that people, especially children, sometimes think they remember something as real that did not occur.

"Children have a different view of the world," he said. "They haven't developed the same kind of awareness or thinking process that adults have."

"People could create, either consciously or unconsciously, memories," he said. "I've had patients show signs where I suspected abuse. But I didn't try to guide them. They will reveal that themselves."

And according to Siegan, guiding is just what Kathryn Hall's therapist did when she counseled her.

Siegan said Susan Miller, a registered nurse, was not qualified to counsel Kathryn Hall.

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