

# Farmington staff members earn national recognition

The Farmington Observer captured three first place awards in the Suburban Newspapers of American 1998 Editorial Contest. Judged against newspapers of similar circulation from across North America, the Observer took first-place honors for Best Coverage of Aging Issues/Senior Citizens Lifestyles and Best Coverage of Local School District Issues.

"To be recognized at the national level is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of the Farmington Observer staff," said

Susan Rusiek, managing editor of the Observer Newspapers. "We intend to continue to pursue that level of excellence that has been recognized by the Suburban Newspapers of America."

The Farmington Observer staff is led by Community Editor Joanne Maliszewski. Staff members are reporters Larry O'Connor and Tim Smith, photographer Bill Bresler, Community Life Editor Mary Rodrigue and receptionist Katie McManus.

Staff writer Tim Smith's stories on the Farmington School District took first place for Best

Coverage of Local School District Issues. He was recognized for providing consistent information about issues related to local education and/or the local school district. Judging was based on how well information is blended with stories and statistics which assist readers in understanding issues related to local education and/or the local school district. Critical judging factors included knowledge of subject, thoroughness, quality of writing, and content selection which reflects balanced coverage.

Smith's award stemmed from coverage in three consecutive issues in June 1998. Among stories were those on MEAP, high school commencement exercises and controversy about Harrison High schools proposal to implement four-by-four block scheduling.

Community Life Editor Mary Rodrigue was recognized with a first place award for coverage of aging issues/senior citizen lifestyles. Judges based their decision on how well information was blended with stories and statistics which assist readers in understanding issues related to aging and senior citizen lifestyles. Critical judging factors included knowledge of subject, thoroughness, quality of writing, and content selection which reflects balanced coverage.

The Best Graphic Artwork honor went to graphics coordinator Helen Furcoan for her work which was published in the Observer's Real Estate Section.

The Observer Newspaper



Farmington Observer reporter Tim Smith



Farmington Observer Community Life Editor Mary Rodrigue

Group which includes the editions of Farmington/Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Westland and Garden City, received 12 awards in the national competition.

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## New Hospice Care stamp debuts Feb. 9

Hospice supporters and stamp collectors will have something in common when the U.S. Postal Service issues the Hospice Care stamp nationwide on Feb. 9.

In honor of the nationwide issuance of the first-ever hospice stamp, Hospice of Michigan will

be working with the U.S. Post Office to create awareness for the work of hospices while promoting the sale of the stamp. The stamp will be available to the public on Feb. 9 and a special commemorative postmark will be applied for the first day issue

at the Farmington, Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield Post Offices.

In addition cachets have been designed for the launch and will be given with the purchase of the Hospice Care stamp. Hospice of Michigan will staff booths at the

post offices during the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., Feb. 9-12, to discuss the power of comfort care and provide information to customers about the services hospices provide to terminally ill patients.

### 6 Mistakes to Avoid When Moving to a Larger Home

FARMINGTON—A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and costly mistakes that homebuyers make when moving to a larger home.

Unlike the experience of buying a first home, when you're looking to move-up, and already own a home, there are certain factors that can complicate the situation. It's very important for you to understand these issues before you list your home for sale.

Not only is there the issue of financing to consider, but you also have to sell your present home at exactly the right time in order to avoid either the financial burden of owning two homes or just as bad, the dilemma of having no place to live during the gap between closings.

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In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "6 Mistakes to Avoid When Moving Up to a Larger Home".

The information contained in this report will help you make informed choices before you put your home on the market in anticipation of moving to a larger home.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your copy of this FREE report, call 1-888-973-4209 and enter talking # 925222. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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