Road to council began with community service

RITER QueCoe.box

Like so many other local women, Shirley Richardson's road to politics began with community service.

would, billies began with community service.

I never setted to go into it never setted to go into it never setted to go into city government, said kichardson, who was a Farmington City Council when she was appointed to complete a three-and-a-helf-year term of outgoing council-hean Alton Bennett in 1986. She subsequently ran for a four-year term and was elected.

"I was involved with my three kids in the schools, first at Longuere Elementary, said Richardson, whose husband, John, had served on the Farmington City Council a decade prior to Shirley's tenure there.

"I was very involved with the PTA, with various projects, and serving as president. And I've been active with Keep Michigan Beautiful for over 30 years."

When Bennett, who had been elected just six months earlier to

the Farmington council, announced he was moving out of announced he was moving out of town, friends, co-workers and those the had spentid with the Richardson on various commit-tees urged her to consider finish-ing his term.

At that time, people thought

ing his torm.

At that time, people thought it was time for a woman to serve at the control of the control asked if I would consider running for office after this torm expired. I said, why not? One now the three-and-a-half-years go, she recalled.

"It wont well and I did run down the road." Richardson drew on her long-time community involvement and leadership skills to run her campaign, which she described as "low key." I did mail letters out to voters a land a team working for the control of the

WOMEN IN POLITICS tried to show a woman could be just as offective as a man. I enloyed the experience a great deal." In addition to Keep Michigan Beautiful and school volunteerism, Richardson was involved for many years with Farmington Goodfellows, including being a member of its board of directors. She was also active with the City of Farmington Beautification Committee. The Richardsons moved to Waterford five years ago. Their three children are grown. They're both still active with Farmington friends, and Shirley admits "(Farmington) is still very close to my heart." She continues to be active with Keep Michigan Beautiful. For the past several years, she has served as chairman of the group's annual conference. She is also involved with the Lotus Lake Association and the Water-

de," she said. "We had regular

"He," she said. "We had regular meetings."
An interesting twist: as a long-time member of the state beautification organization, Richardson was oppesed to campaign signs. She refused to have any. Instead, the team devised a scheme of tying green ribbons to trees—less intrusive.

"The green ribbons became an identity logo for me," she said.
Being a pioneer as the first female city councilwoman wasn't always in the forefront of hermind.

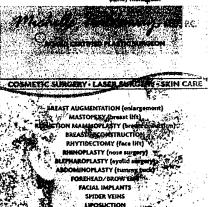
mixed when I was appointed think tonsider myself as the First Woman. I just considered myself civic minded. It was tromendous working with the four other council members. Three of them I knew well and one not at all. That fourth one I got to know well. It was a wonderful experience.

"I did my job the best I could. I

ford Township Accessible Com-munity Project.

The also very active with my church, Trinity United Mothodist in Waterford, said Richardson, who plays in the handbell choir, sings with the choir and works with the church's administrative board.





LASER HAIR REMONE

CLUB CIRCUIT

FARMINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon Monday, April will meet at noon Monday, April
3, at the Longacre House in
Farmington Hills. A representative from the Eleanor and Edsel
Ford Estate Gardens will present "Experience a virtual tour
of the breathaking 67 acres of
Eardens and grounds."

gardens and grounds."

NORTH FARMINGTON GARDEN CLUB

The North Farmington Garden
Club will meet at noon Tueeday,
April 11, at the Farmington Hills
Public Library, Guest speaker
Bonnie Bowlie will discuss "The
Basics of Bonsni." Call Lutie at
153-2368.

EMBROWERERS GUILD

The Farmington Hills Embroiderers Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 5, at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills. Call 926-0899.

ington Hills. Call 928-0898.

Hill & Dale Garden Club will
meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, April
13, at the Farmington Hills
Library. The program wil be
"Container Gardening for Your
Home" Call Barb for details at
890,2933 626-2233

626-2233.
CS:3IdTIA!! WOMEN
The Farmington Hills Christian
Women will sponsor a "Get Aquilted" breakfast 9:30-11 a.m.
Thursday, April 13, at the
Maples Country Club in Novi.
The cost is \$10.50 per person
and includes on-site child care.
Call 788-2168.

BNI
Business Network International
Farmington Hills chapter will
inect 7-8:30 a.m. Wednesday,
April 6, at the Grand Cafe in
deventown Farmington. The
Greater Farmington Hills chapter will meet 7-8:30 a.m. Thurrday, April 6, at the Comfort Inn,
397, April 6, at the Comfort Inn,
118.

Hills.

OPTIMIST CLUB
The Optimist Club meets at 7:30 a.m. every Wednesday at the American Legion Hall at 31775 Grand River, Call 474-9680 or 442-9796.

442-9786.

KWAMIS CLIB

The Kiwania Club of Farmington
Hills meets at 12:15 p.m. every
second and fourth Tussday at
Steak & Ale Restaurant, 27590
Orchard Lake Rosd in Farmington Hills. Prespective members
are welcome. Call 661-8463.

TOASTMASTERS

The Windbaggers/Toastmasters
Club meets 6:30-8:30 p.m. every
Thursday, except the first Thursday of the month, at Kerby's
Koney Island, 21:200 Haggerty,
in Farmington Hills.
To have your club listed in the
calendar, submit the information
no later than Monday for Thursday publication to Club Circuit,
Farmington Observer, 3:3411
Grand River, Farmington MI
8335.

Photographer is FAC speaker

IS FAC SPEAKET

Balthazar Korab, a photographer of architecture, will speatto the Farmington Artists Club
in Wednesday, April 12.

The club meets at 7 p.m. at the
Farmington Community Library
on 12 Mile.

Korab was design editor for
Metropolitan Detroit magazine.

Korab was design editor for
Metropolitan Detroit magazine
this education in architecture
was obtained in Hungary and
Paris. He studied art history in
Paris. He studied art history in
Paris. He has written many
books about architecture and
inhotography.





nomasvii

42000 Seven Mile Rd., Northville, MI Affliated residences in Livonia, Farmington Hills, Birmingham, Royal Oak, B Pontiac, Starling Heights, Clinton Township, UncolnPark Westland, Dearborn

* One & two bedro apartments * Meals included

* Housekeeping

* Laundry serv * Recreational activ

All utilities * Scheduled tran

Beauty & barber sho

* 24-hr emergency res



m \$2850 Sole .\$169.5