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sister had little children at the time - we needed a no-hunting law for safety."

The only way to make that happen was to form a committee and lobby the state Legislature for change. It was Schaeffer's first community effort and her first of many political successes.

"Eventually, I served on the township board of trustees, then the city council when Farmington Hills became a city, but not for long."

A new judgeship opened up, and Schaeffer, an attorney in general civil practice, ran for the office and was elected in November 1974.

"My father was an attorney and I never thought I'd want to be one," she reminisced. "All that worrying about other people's problems."

But when she took the bench in January 1975, it was a good

match. She presided over the docket for the next 18 years, until state law prohibited her from running for re-election because of her age (70). Then for several years, she acted as a visiting judge. She gave that up just a year ago to spend more time with her two grandchildren and enjoy pursuits such as gardening.

Making Michigan history

Schaeffer's brother-in-law, Charles Kennedy, an advertising executive, ran political campaigns for her and her sister, Cornelia Kennedy. The pair were the first sisters to be judges in Michigan. Cornelia Kennedy sits on the bench of the U.S. Court of Appeals to this day.

"She was my mentor, even though she was younger," Schaeffer said.

"When I ran for township board, it was a do-it-yourself campaign," she noted. "I don't remember making speeches. I may have put ads in the paper."

When she ran for judge, Kennedy ran the campaign - sending out mailers to voters, going door-to-door.

"Charles was always supportive of Cornelia and me," she said of her late brother-in-law.

Schaeffer thinks things are getting better for women in politics.

"It's an advantage," she said. In fact, she was followed by another woman in 47th District Court, Marla Parker.

When Schaeffer first ran for judge in 1974, she was one in a field of a dozen candidates. She and the second highest vote-getter were the only female candidates.



Test your pets for heartworm

pulmonary arteries. Heart failure and severe lung damage occur in heavily infested dogs. Affected dogs tire easily, cough and lose weight. Heartworm disease is usually detected by observing the microscopic larvae in a blood sample.

Treatment is possible, but it is not without risk. All dogs should take preventive medication regularly to avoid infestation. Marbles is on a 12-month program just to be sure he does not get infested with heartworm.

In your cat lives in an area where heartworm infection is seen in dogs, a mosquito that was infected by a dog could bite your cat.

Heartworm in cats

In cats, heartworms live for 1 or 2 years and it is uncommon for cats to have more than 2 or 3 adult heartworms. Small numbers of heartworms, however, may cause serious disease in cats. Clinical signs of heartworm disease in cats vary considerably. Some cats do not show any signs and may appear normal. Other cats develop chronic (long lasting) disease. Vomiting or respiratory signs (coughing and difficult breathing) are commonly seen chronic signs of heartworm disease in cats.

Cats may have severe, acute disease with signs of respiratory collapse and, in some cases, sudden death. In acute cases, death may be so rapid that there is insufficient time to make a diag-

nosis or offer treatment. Cats that die from heartworm disease can appear clinically normal an hour before death.

Many other diseases can cause similar signs so it is almost impossible to diagnose feline heartworm disease based on clinical signs alone.

Please check with your vet especially if you have an outdoor cat. Cats that remain indoors are at a lower risk of becoming infected than are cats that go outdoors because of the reduced exposure to mosquitoes.

I have been watching the most interesting bird in our park around the corner from our home in Arizona. It is called a Loggerhead Shrike. It is the only songbird that acts like a hawk. It is big-headed, slim-tailed; gray, black, and white, with a black mask. Sits quickly on wires or bush tops; taking off, flies low with flickering flight showing white patches on its wings, then swoops upward to its perch with its prey. Because this bird does not have talons like a hawk it uses barbed wire or trees with thorns to hold its prey so the Shrike can eat his kill. It is a very pretty bird. Sometimes this bird is called the Butcher Bird. It will eat mice, insects and other birds. This bird is seen in many states.

E-mail Bev Cornell at bristol_dog@man.com She is a retired veterinary assistant and former wildlife rehabilitator licensed by the Department of Natural Resources.

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homeowners association. She also was getting active in an umbrella organization, the Council of Homeowners Associations, which represented the city's subdivisions. "I became active in that as a representative of my subdivision."

At the urging of friends and colleagues, Soronen decided to run for the city council. That was in 1977. She took office in 1978 and served for three, four-year terms. She also was appointed more than a year ago to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of former Councilman Terry Sever, who was elected to the Oakland County Commission. Her appointment ended with last year's November election.

By the time Soronen ran for the city council in the late 1970s,

her name was already out there. She had served on the beautification commission, and the Council of Homeowners Association brought her in contact not only with the public, but other city officials.

"You have to be seen by people," Soronen said.

In her initial campaigning, Soronen did not go door-to-door, though she did have a few political mailings.

"I didn't raise money the first time," she said. "But then it only cost me \$300. The city wasn't as big, mailings then weren't as costly. You depended a lot on friends. And you worked the polls on election day."

She also believes it didn't make a difference that she was a woman. When Soronen was

'In terms of local elections, we've always elected women.'

Jody Soronen
—former councilwoman

seeking election, former councilwoman Jan Dolan and Joan Dudley were already on board.

"In terms of local elections, we've always elected women."

Once on the city council, Soronen branched out with her career and served with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and the Southeast Michigan Transportation Association, the latter as vice chair.



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