



By MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

The family of Farmington Councilman John Richardson loves camping and all kinds of outdoor activity.

That's the best reason that Shirley Richardson, wife and mother of the clan, can think of for being interested in civic beautification work.

And because she doesn't do things half way, she now is president of the Beautification Council of Southeast Michigan.

Former head of the city of Farmington Beautification Committee, Mrs. Richardson views her new task of pushing and inspiring civic pride in seven counties as being done from scratch, but very exciting.

"It's a tremendous challenge," said this mother of three guided her home city in the planning of several hundred trees during her two years as head of its beautification committee.

It was eight years ago that Shirley Richardson joined the local committee. She and her husband, a doctor of veterinary medicine, and their children had moved to Farmington several years earlier.

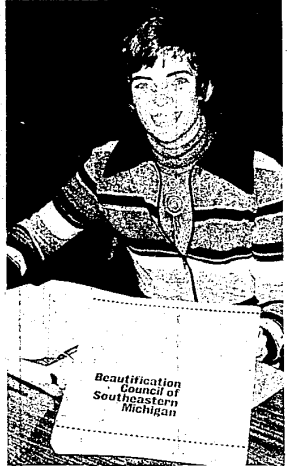
"My commitment to beautification in Farmington was a little matter," she says now, looking back at that move.

"I knew we would be living here a long time and our children would grow up here. I wanted the community as clean and beautiful as possible."

The committee was not an active group when she took over as chairman in 1968. One of her first moves was to work with John Dinan, then city manager, on the

Women on the Go

Beautification begins at home -- and spreads



SHIRLEY RICHARDSON, president of the Beautification Council of Southeast Michigan. (Evert photo)

tree - planting project. It involved procuring hardy young trees for city residents to purchase at a low price and plant in their yards.

"We planted 350 trees that first year," she remembers. "That's quite a few for a small area."

Also under Mrs. Richardson's guidance, the committee started an awards program for groups and businesses, and began sending out commendatory letters for beautification well done.

"We felt that by commending businesses that had done a good job, they would try to do more and others would see the need," she said.

Then there are plans to be completed for the council's 10th anniversary celebration, planned for April 24 at Meadowbrook Hall on the Oakland University campus in Rochester.

"I'm really excited about that," the president said. "It should do a lot to focus attention on our work and our aims."

Mainly, though, Shirley Richardson wants to see her corner of her state as clean and beautiful as she can make it.

"As campers," she said, "we know what it's like to go to an area where people take pride in their surroundings. That's how I want southeast Michigan to be."

Dr. William Mercer, pastor of Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills, will speak on "Builders of Place" for the Livonia Church Women United service, scheduled at 1 p.m. in St. Andrew Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard.

Plymouth members of the organization will gather at 9:30 a.m. in the First Baptist Church, 4500 N. Territorial. Their speaker will be Mrs. Larry Flora, mother of four and Bible class teacher.

Wayne - Westland Church Women United will meet at 1 p.m. in the First Congregational Church of Wayne, 3510E Main.

The Rev. John O'Callaghan of St. Richard Catholic Church in Westland will be the speaker. Also part of the program, planned by Mrs. Miriam Mason of First Presbyterian Church of Wayne, will be special music by an ecumenical choir under the direction of Mrs. Ortha Hutty.

Redford women will be participating in services in Lent beginning Friday, March 1.

There will be table service or take - out meals from noon to 7 p.m. at \$2.25 for fish and \$2.50 for shrimp. Children's portions are 50 cents less.

Greek bread, French fries and homemade cole slaw or apple sauce will be included.

The Women's Association for the Oakway Symphony will meet Thursday, Feb. 28, at 8 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Daniel Plesko, 31921 Nottingham, Farmington Hills. New members are welcome.

St. Gerald's Catholic Church, 21300 Farmington Road, Farmington, will offer fish and shrimp dinners during Lent beginning Friday, March 1.

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Church Women United

mark world prayer day

World Day of Prayer services Friday, March 1, will draw members of Church Women United from all over the Observer area.

Local services are planned by Livonia, Plymouth and Wayne - Westland Church Women United groups. Redford and Southfield members will be joining in two of the many services set in the Detroit area.

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Writers to speak at OU conference

Writers from several different fields will be featured at Oakland University's job market for writers conference on March 12.

The program was designed to provide time and space for students to explore the problem of career choice, job opportunities in writing - related fields and to have conversations with working writers, teachers of writing and employers of writers.

Gail Morris Braverman of Michigan State University Placement Services, will explore career opportunities in writing - related fields. She is a former newspaper reporter, editor and feature writer.

The conference will also feature Elmore Leonard, Birmingham author of 11 screen plays and 11 novels and Royal Oak's Vera Henry, a novelist, short story writer, and associate editor of Writer's Digest and membership chairman of Detroit Women Writers, a group of professional writers.

Other featured speakers include Nanci Long Madgett, professor of English and writing at Eastern Michigan University; Barbara Gram, professor of humanities at Lawrence Institute of Technology; Wilfred J. McConkey, employee information manager of Michigan Bell; Mike Brogan, creative copy supervisor for D'Arcy McManus and Masius; and Mike Marcellino, Oakland County editor of the newly merged Observer - Eccentric Newspapers.

The sessions are every Sunday afternoon, from 3 - 5 p.m.

A new young adult program, offering gameroom, swimming, volleyball, paddleball, basketball, coffee and conversation, has begun in the Jewish Community Center, 18100 Meyers Rd., Detroit.

The sessions are every Sunday afternoon, from 3 - 5 p.m.

A champagne preview will begin at 7:30 p.m. as auctioning of original oils, graphics, etchings and watercolors will begin at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2 and will be sold at the door.

The Livonia branch of the American Association of University Women will raise funds for the national AAUW fellowship fund with an art auction and exhibit Friday, March 1, in the Hines Park Motel, 3665 Plymouth, Livonia.

The show is coordinated by Fred Grossman of the Gallery Art Center in Berkley and features the work of artists including Hibel, Mercier, Rockwell, Dali, Nieman, Lebadang, Boulanger and Li and Barrymore.

Mrs. Barbara Wozniak is in charge of the event for the AAUW and Mrs. Ellen Marsh is in charge of tickets.

The AAUW fellowships are awarded to American and foreign women students to continue work at the graduate level and beyond.

The first of two book review luncheons will follow the March 5 study session at noon. "In the Days of Simon Stern" by Arthur Golden, will be reviewed by Mrs. Philip Feak.

There is a \$1.50 charge for the luncheon for members and \$2 for guests. For reservations contact Mrs. Sylvan Falter, 18910 Adrian, Southfield, or Mrs. Marvin Katz, 27156 Sutherland, Southfield, by March 1.

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