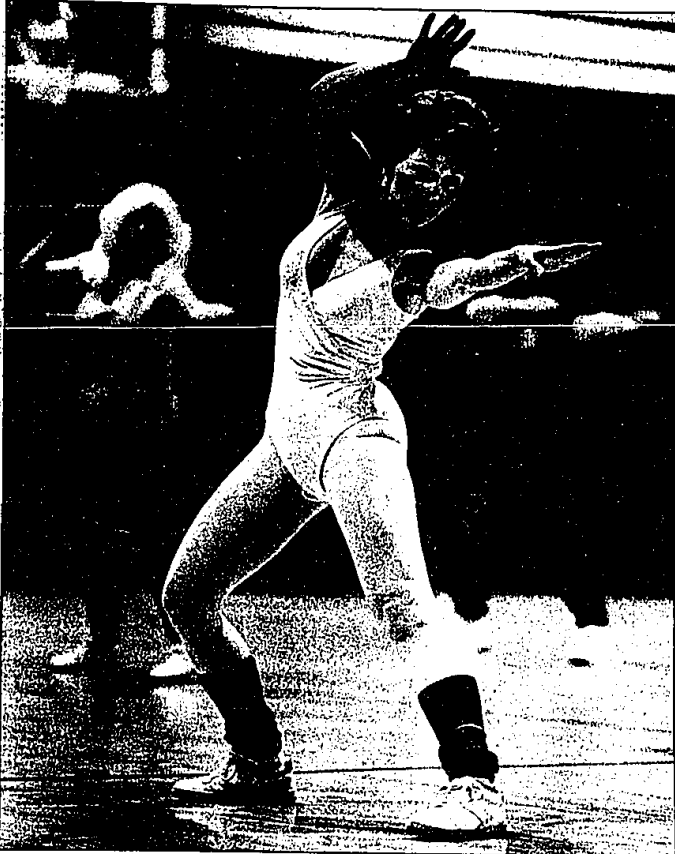


Y launches drive to expand facilities



Ina Stevens, an aerobics instructor at the YMCA, leads one of her classes through a routine.

Noting an upsurge in both commercial and residential growth, the Farmington Area YMCA has launched a major fund-raising campaign to expand its facilities.

With a goal of \$400,000, the Y contemplates a 5,400-square-foot addition. To be included in the addition are:

- A drop-in child care center.
- Community meeting rooms.
- A 1,800-square-foot weight training and fitness planning center.
- Activity rooms for sports skills and aerobic activities.

The Y is located in a 38,000-square-foot facility that opened in 1980 on Farmington Road, north of 12 Mile. The fund drive also will allow for the acquisition of 1.5 acres of land for parking facilities and play areas for children.

Vernon Lunn, vice president for Alexander Hamilton Life, is chairing the fund-raising effort.

Y executive director Kevin Bush stressed the need for expansion is related to both the business and residential growth in the area.

"The YMCA must stay ahead of this growth by providing programs which satisfy the Farmington area's recreational, educational and spiritual needs, particularly with respect to youth and the handicapped," he said. Originally, the Y was located in a single A-frame building on its present site. And while a \$900,000 fund-raising campaign, combined with matching funds, was enough to build the present facilities, this year's Y budget was \$922,108, according to YMCA statistics.

An "urgent" need exists to expand the physical plant, according to a recent study by the YMCA. "Membership and programs have increased to the point where overcrowded conditions have developed. The population of the service area has

increased dramatically and expectations for 1980 signal continued growth," the study said.

An influx of young families with preschool, elementary and secondary schools age children also has created a greater need, according to the study.

The general campaign was kicked off yesterday with a major gift section, composed of business persons who will be responsible for raising \$300,000 of the funds.

The major gift participants will contact persons who are able to contribute at least \$5,000 to the fund.

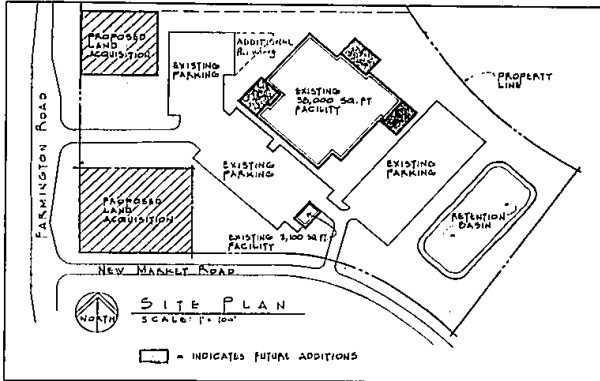
A special gifts campaign will be responsible for raising another \$75,000 from persons who are able to contribute from \$1,500 to \$4,999. The general teams section will be responsible for collecting the remainder of donations.

Other persons involved in the campaign are Robert Denmore, chief financial officer for Manufacturers Hanover; Floyd Calma, former Farmington Hills city clerk; and 47th District Court Judge Michael Hand.

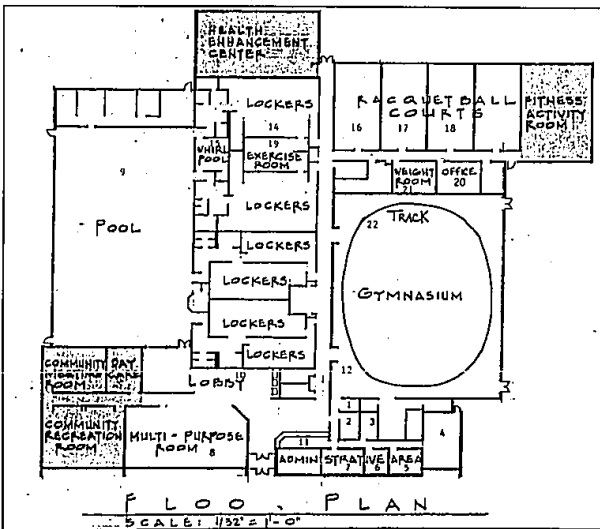


Teaching kids to swim at an early age has become a popular activity at the YMCA. Here, Mary

Jane Harvey helps Elji Asai make his way across the pool.



The purchase of two parcels of land east of Farmington Road is being planned by the YMCA. The shaded areas attached to the main facility are where the new indoor activity areas will be built.



Additional space, indicated by the shaded areas, will be added to the existing building.



ADRIENNE VITTADINI

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