

30% Pledged As YMCA Begins Drive

FARMINGTON — Not many organizations are able to kickoff a fund raising drive with one-third of the goal already pledged.

But this is the booming start enjoyed by the Farmington Area YMCA when it held its kickoff luncheon for its 1971 fund raising drive.

DONORS ARE still much in need but the drive is off to a good start thanks to the generosity of the YMCA's board of directors, reports Dave Comfort, executive director of the Farmington Area YMCA.

The Y's board met Jan. 13 in the Treasurer House to kickoff the campaign and the first big kick was a pledge of \$5,000 made by board members.

The \$5,000 is being donated by the 32 member board or by the businesses the trustees represent.

This leaves \$10,000 to be raised by donations from the community in order to operate the local YMCA programs this year, says Comfort.

THE DRIVE is held each year in January and February so the board will know how much money can be spent for that year on YMCA programs.

The total operating budget for the Farmington Y is \$70,000 but \$15,000 comes from United Community Services and about \$40,000 from fees paid by residents who participate in YMCA programs.

Comfort stresses that the \$15,000 goal represents what is needed from the Farmington community so the total budget can be met to operate the 1971 program.

Should only half of the remaining \$10,000 needed be collected from the community, he adds, the local program would have to be cut by \$5,000.

THE CAMPAIGN will end Feb. 24 and residents as well as merchants are encouraged to contribute.

A check for any amount can be written out to the Farmington Area YMCA and mailed to Box 331, Farmington, Mich. 48821.

Comfort adds that any civic group or organization wishing to view a slide presentation on the YMCA's programs may contact the local office at 474-3222.

AMONG THE major YMCA programs are: Guys and Dolls; Gra-Y clubs; a camp scholarship; and membership scholarships.

Guys and Dolls is the YMCA program for the mentally handicapped young adults of this area and is coordinated with New Horizons Workshop.

The program is of a social recreational nature to provide an outlet for these young adults and their families. The YMCA's cost is \$75 per family, up \$10 from 1970.

There are over 40 young people, each a \$10 member of the YMCA, who participate in Guys and Dolls and enjoy such activities as bowling, softball, monthly special trips and parties.

GRA-Y is an after-school club for boys and girls in grades four, five and six. The clubs provide experiences with peers with the guidance of YMCA leaders and encourages service at home, school and in the community.

Cost to the YMCA is \$4,000 or \$250 for each of the 16 clubs which use the facilities of the following elementary schools: Bond; Eagle; Flanders; Gill; Highmeadow; Larkshire; Shawnee; and Ten Mile School.

There are about 150 boys and 110 girls enrolled in the 16 Gra-Y clubs.

IN 1970, the Farmington Area YMCA spent about \$2,290 to send 38 Farmington boys and girls to day camp and resident camp.

Cost to the YMCA to send one child to the two week resident camp is \$150 and \$50 for the two week day camp. The camps provide an outdoor living experience in citizenship, self-reliance, trust and appreciation of God's creation.



CHESLEY HONORED — Robert G. Chesley (left) receives a "service to youth" plaque from Robert Hall at the Jan. 13 meeting of the Farmington Area YMCA board of directors. Chesley, YMCA board chairman for the past

two years, accepts the honor from Hall, who steps up as chairman after two years as vice-chairman. Both are charter members of the Y board. (Evert photo)

North Debaters Win Acclaim

FARMINGTON — North Farmington High School's debate league captured second place in the regional competition which took place among five schools in Oak Park. Subject for discussion was "Pollution."

There were also three first-place winners on the North team: Charles Harwell, J.P. Zapke and Lee Van Ameyde.

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Vahration On Labor Bureau

Gov. William G. Milliken Thursday announced the appointment of Ervin Vahration, 29, of Farmington, as director of the Department of Labor's bureau of workmen's compensation.

Vahration, currently the bureau's deputy director, is in the Detroit office. He succeeds Burke L. Dailey, of Redford Township, for the remainder of a term expiring Jan. 31, 1973. Senate confirmation is required.

Last May, the governor appointed John P. Miron as acting director when Dailey accepted a position as director of administrative services for the Department of Labor.

Vahration has been the bureau's deputy director since September 1968. Before entering public service, he spent several years with an insurance company as a claims manager.

He is past president of the Michigan Claim Managers Association and a member of the National Inter-Company Arbitration Panel.

He is a 1951 graduate of Wayne State University.

Flanders Hears Detroit Symphony

FARMINGTON — Flanders Elementary PTA made it possible for the student body to hear a concert by the string quartet from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The presentation was part of the "Excursions in Music" emphasis for school children of the metropolitan area.

Cost of each program is \$75 and schools may choose from representatives of the strings, woodwinds, brass, harps or percussionists.

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