

## YORK AND ADAMS

# Littlestown YMCA open for business

by DAVID PERLIS  
Evening Sun Reporter

LITTLESTOWN — After months of preparation, the new Littlestown Area YMCA opened its offices Monday in the former Edlie's Cleaners building on North Queen Street.

Along with the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new office, the new YMCA also unveiled the winning entry in its logo contest, submitted by Robyn Jacobs.

Jacobs received a family membership for the winning entry, which was among 19 designs submitted by area school children and adults.

The winning logo will be used on all YMCA stationery, publications and T-shirts.

The new office is just the beginning for the fledgling organization, which plans to increase its program offerings to the community even as it works on a fund-raising campaign to help get established.

"At this point we're just in the tail end of our Founders Campaign. Our charter membership campaign will start Aug. 17," said Ronald Gladhill, treasurer for the YMCA board.

"We're very happy so far," said James Gilpin, executive director of the Hanover Area YMCA.

"In a very short time we have been able to organize a board of directors and six standing committees. We have three major programs getting under way this summer and six additional programs in the fall. And all this since last September."

The goal of the Founders Campaign is to raise \$150,000 over the next three years. The money will be used to cover administrative costs, office operations and program development.

The new organization is contact-

ing about 150 community leaders and members the board has identified as likely to support such an effort, Gilpin said.

"We have only heard from about 40 percent of those people so far. And we're up to \$96,000," Gilpin said.

The next step in establishing a permanent YMCA in Littlestown is to conduct a charter membership campaign, Gilpin said.

Charter members will receive a quarterly newsletter and special priority in signing up for programs.

People contributing less than \$100 will qualify as regular charter members, while those donating \$100 or more will qualify for the group's Century Club.

The Littlestown YMCA is an affiliate of the Hanover chapter, which is helping the new group get established, Gilpin said.

The proposed service area for the affiliate Y is southern Adams County and the northern Maryland area.

The move to form a local YMCA branch began at the September board meeting of the Littlestown Area Chamber of Commerce.

In February, the group formed a 24-member board of directors. In March, the board met with officials from the Hanover Y and the national organization to plan a course to firmly establish the new chapter.

Once the new Y has built a membership base and established itself as a viable presence in the community, the board can apply to the national office for its own charter.

In the meantime, the new two-room headquarters will serve as an office and fitness center, Leese said.

It will serve as a central sign-up location for programs that will be held in other locations throughout



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Mayor E. Burnell Warner cuts the ribbon Monday as the newly-formed Littlestown Area YMCA opened for business on North Queen Street, Littlestown. From left are Borough Manager Richard E. Selby,

YMCA staff representative Laura Boyd, YMCA president Laverne Leese, Warner, Ray Muller of the Littlestown Area Chamber of Commerce, and James Gilpin of the Hanover Area YMCA.

the community, until the organization can raise the funds to construct a permanent facility.

Summer office hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Current programs include a summer swimming lessons program and a bus trip Sunday,

August 13, to see the Baltimore Orioles play the Boston Red Sox.

The bus trip to the Orioles game will leave the Littlestown Super Thrift at 11:30 a.m.

The fee includes the charter bus and reserve seats in the lower grandstand. Registration began Monday at the new YMCA office.

The Littlestown YMCA is also sponsoring a day camp program which will hold two two-week sessions next month at the St. John Lutheran Church picnic area and pavilion.

For more information on the Littlestown Area YMCA or its programs, call 359-9733.