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# The Farmington Observer



## Marathon

## City council sets goals for year 2000

Frant Wartia.

Farmington won't need surgery, just regular check-ups and an occasional prescription.

That seemed to be the giat of the Monday, Nov. 29 marathon goal-setting/strategic plauning session of the Farmington City Council. The goals for 2000, to be drafted by the administration and submitted to council for adoption in early January, virtually mirror last year's list—with mostly only changes in wording.

One key deletion from the list of six major categories is to "continue increasing administrative officiency," including renovations to the Public Safety Department and standardization of computer procedures and software applications at city hall. Those goals were achieved in 1999.

"It's an important stop for us to take each year," said Mayor Bill Hartsock on Tuesday, Nov. 30 about the strategic planning and goal setting. "We look at the things we've done in the previous year, see how well we did,

and set it up for the next year.

"In 1996) we did accomplish a
lot. But we're taking a snapshothere. Our projects don't begin on
January lat and end on December 3 ist."

City Manager Frank Lauhoff
reiterated why the annual planning sessions are necessary. It
helps highlight, those important
things in the community that the
city council will focus on."

One of the biggest things is the
Civic Theatre, which this summer changed ownership from
Greg Hohler to the city.

Hartsock said efforts with
Civic manager M.K.A. Inc. to
renovate the theater will continue well into 2000. And then,
there will be the ongoing issues
of bringing in a variety of programming and ensuring the theator will be fiscally solvent.

For nearly three hours, goals
and objectives were discussed by
the council, along with Lauhoff
and Assistant City Manager Bill
Richards. A variety of other topice – such as city council assignments and a parking-traffic
study – were then talked over for

an additional two hours.
The first portion of the evening was spent combing over a strategic planning guide (locking at various strengths and weaknesses, for example). Initiated in 1996, the exercise precedes actual goal-setting to help define and understand what those goals should be, Lauhoff said. "New for a stable community, medifying the objectives annually is about all that's needed."

During the goal-setting por-

needed."

During the goal-setting portion, it was decided that the remaining five major categories will stay the same, although there will be language changes made to the sub-categories.

The goals will be listed as follows:

lows:

1) Maintain public properties
in good repair and in an aesthetically pleasing manner, and
manage the aging infrastructure
in the city.

2) Maintain a program of community maintenance, beautification and environmental efforts in
areas outside downtown.

3) Continue intergovernmental cooperation efforts.
4) Maintain the economic vitality and pleasing aesthetics of all commercial areas in the city, especially the downtown area, preserving its historical character and charm.
5) Implement the results of the recently completed planning processes.

Meanwhile, Richards asked Meanwhile, Richards asked whether a category should be added to reflect forthcoming recommendations from Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Toward Walkable Communities September audit of the downtown area. The half-day audit was done to determine whether Farmington is "wilkable, bikeable and pedestrian friendly."

"There were lots of good ideas there," Richards said to the council. "(They) can be imple-mented quickly and inexpensive-

But the council opted to wait until the actual report is deliv-ered before adding it to the offi-cial list.

### Mansion to host reception

The Governor Warner Maneion Development Committee is hoeting a reception Sunday for Yelends of the Maneion. The reception, not open to the public, is from 1-8, and 1-80 ft. Sp. m. at the Warner Maneion, located on Committee in the Warner Maneion, located on the Committee in the

### **Elks host Hoop Shoot Saturday**

The Elks National Free Throw The EMB NATIONAL Free Throw
Contest, the "Elks Hoop Shoet,"
will be at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec.
11 at O.E. Dunckel Middle
School in Farmington Hills.
This contest is the largest and
most visible of the many youth
activities spensored by Elks

lodges throughout the country. More than three million boys and girls between the ages of 8-13 will participate this year.

The "Elks Hoop Shoot" has boys from 42 states took part in The "Elka Hoop Shoot" has served to highlight the Elka national commitment to youth. But the program started originally as a local Elk activity in Corvallia, Ore. in 1946.

Out of that local program grew the national program, now in its 28th year. Each of the more than 2.2001odess were encouraged to

28th year. Each of the more than 2,2001odges, were encouringed to establish its own local contest involving boys from ages 8-13. From the local area contestants would advance through district, state, regional, and national competitions.

In the first year, 1971, boys from 19 states participated. Two years later in 1973, over 750,000

boys from 42 states took part in the contest. In the following year girls were added to the competi-tion, and the program has con-tinued to expand ever since. All 50 states and the District of Columbia are represented. From the millions of young-

sters who participate, six cham-pions are named — one boy and one girl — in each of three cate-gories: ages 8-9; 10-11; and 12-13.

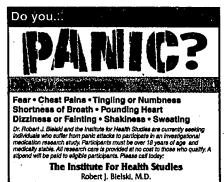
The winners each receive a trophy and their names are inscribed at the Naismith Memo-rial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.





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