

Conversation with the Mayor October 1, 2007

Vicky Daly

That Time Again

I know that Halloween is still ahead of us, to say nothing of Thanksgiving, but I find myself thinking Christmas. There are several reasons for that. One of our kids spent an extended time in Japan and for his Christmas box to reach him by December 25th, it had to be en route months ahead. Then, too, I am a knitter so holiday gifts and donations to church and Historic Palmyra Christmas bazaars have to be in process months in advance. And then there is one's personal budget. Most people plan ahead to spread out the costs of annual gift giving. Very specifically, though, the arrival of the L.L.Bean Christmas catalog and the sign at the drive through at a local bank announcing that Christmas Club monies would be distributed September 30th, made me think Christmas. And when I think Christmas, I think Palmyra. I hope you do too.

When you shop in Palmyra, you give yourself a gift as well. Buying locally keeps 80% of the money you spend in our community, recycling through as rent or tax money, for the purchase of food, fuel or supplies. That recycling impacts us in other ways, keeping the business section, the backbone of Palmyra, alive and vibrant. That in turn brings people in from other areas for the specialty shops we have here. Everything that is true about local retail shops and services is also true of local restaurants - and don't we have a wonderful array of them? Support the local economy and save time and gas by having your holiday outings here. Take Grandma and Grandpa, Aunt Susie and Uncle Charlie to lunch or dinner in one of our restaurants.

But here and now there are good things happening. The regular fourth Sunday of the month Pancake Breakfasts at the Fire Hall have started as have the American Legion's first Saturday steak dinners. A limited number of steaks are grilled so be sure to get your tickets early. You don't want to be turned away. And don't forget the monthly Library Luncheons at Kings Daughters Library. A tasty lunch, good conversation with your tablemates and a thought provoking book review make for a nice outing. Call the library for specifics and reservations.

A new tradition has taken hold in Palmyra, Historic Palmyra's Cemetery Walks. Scheduled for Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, this is the third year for this delightful fund raiser for Historic Palmyra and it becomes more and more popular. Each year local people take on the identity of one of the many residents of our award winning cemetery. Dressed in period garb, the resident tells his or her own story - some tragic, some inspiring, some comic, all interesting. The guided tour of the cemetery ends with donuts and cider, and all for \$6.00. It is the easiest and most entertaining lesson in local history ever. Check Main Street kiosks for details and, again, reserve your tickets in advance. PS - Volunteers for subsequent performances are welcome. Talk to Bonnie Hays and get your name on the list.

A very special event occurred in the Village Park on Saturday, September 29th. The Reverend Thomas Montgomery, former pastor of First United Methodist Church, presided at the wedding of Tarah Sullivan and Ian Guest, son of Ann and Dean Guest. More than 150 guests witnessed the lovely ceremony in the decorated bandstand and stayed for the reception. It is good to see the park used for such a happy event. We wish the young couple well.