

## Conversation with the Mayor November 3, 2008

Vicky Daly

### One Hundred and Eighty Plus Columns Later

One of the very smart things I have done as your mayor was to approach the Palmyra Courier Journal about writing a column to help keep the residents of the village informed about their government and how it interacts with them and the business community. Fortunately, the editor was receptive to the idea and so "Conversation with the Mayor" was born. I have been providing you with the 'back stories' about village government and our efforts ever since. The reporters do a fine job keeping you up to date about Board meetings, the discussions and the decisions made there. The Conversations deal with the rest of the story, illustrating our depth and breadth of interest and collaboration.

An example: in late October, I attended, as mayor, a forum on membership growth in the Wayne County Farm Bureau (WCFB). The forum was facilitated by Adrienne Cavallaro from the Ad Council of Rochester. Knowledgeable volunteers from a variety of relevant fields - marketing, communication, nonprofits - asked questions, brainstormed ideas, and provided the Farm Bureau leadership with ideas which they could investigate for possible implementation. Why was I invited? My husband and I are associate members, i.e. non-farming, of WCFB, but more importantly, there is a symbiotic relationship between the village, its government and business sector and our farming neighbors. The relationship is there but it needs to be pointed out and considered as we move forward together for our mutual benefit.

A note about the Ad Council of Rochester: The program and the assistance that grew out of it were free to the Wayne County Farm Bureau. Funding from the Rochester Area Community Foundation's Bullis Fund, provides this service to nonprofit organizations in Wayne County. If you work with a nonprofit and want to learn more about this possibility, contact Adrienne at 585-442-0200. So, by my calculations, this is column number 182, the last one in year seven of my tenure as mayor. We have conversed recently about barking dogs, development along the canal, shopping locally year round (repeatedly), volunteering, the curfew, the beauty of our village, the goodness of our people, and now the Farm Bureau and the Ad Council. I am pleased to be able to continue this conversation for the next four years. Thank you for the opportunity to do so.