

Conversation with the Mayor - February 6, 2012  
Vicky Daly

## **With Apologies to Mr. Alhart**

I have shared with you more than once that my least favorite time in the Village year is Budget Prep. It starts in mid-December and runs through mid-March. That's the actual preparation for the Board vote. In reality, the budget and its implementation and ramification is a constant in the minds of the Board members, department heads and Village Clerk/Treasurer. The discussion of any proposed initiative includes early on 'How much does it cost' and 'How are we going to pay for it?' That's the way it has to be..

So, when the opportunity to identify and, better yet, share a Bright Spot as Mr. Alhart does on his television news program, it's delightful. This week there are two. At the February 6<sup>th</sup> Village Board meeting, we had the pleasure of congratulating Mary Read Courtney on her designation by the Rochester Chapter of the American Chemical Society as '2011 High School Chemistry Teacher of the Year.' Ms. Courtney, a graduate of Pal-Mac and St. Lawrence University, teaches Chemistry and Earth Science at Rochester Early College International High School. She is the first Rochester CSD teacher to be so honored in 15 years.

Just prior to that Board meeting we were notified by Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc. that Danielle Henning, Girl Scout Troop 40729, Palmyra, was the recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout can earn. Danielle will be honored at a Young Women of Distinction Event later in the year. The Village board sends its congratulations to Danielle, her family and Scout leaders with whom she worked. She, like Mary Read Courtney, has made us proud.

If you want to see the budget process in action, join us on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> and/or Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM in the Village Hall, as we sort through all the information we have gathered to prepare the Village's 2012-2013 budget

Another set of dates falls into the Bright Spot category. On Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 AM, Highway Superintendent Mike Boesel and your mayor will lead an informational walk in the area of a proposed Village Canal park. The area under discussion is just west of Division Street and to the north of the trail. Questions to be answered are Where? Why? and, of course, How are we going to pay for this? Meet us in the parking lot adjacent to Muddy Waters at 11:00 AM on the 19<sup>th</sup> and we will answer those questions and any you may have. The following Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be an indoors informational meeting in the Sexton Building at 7:00 PM. If the weather is inclement on the 19<sup>th</sup>, we will reschedule one week later on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

About questions. Here are two with their answers: 1) What is going on at the flagpole? Wiring for wi-fi is being installed. 2) Why is there a panel missing from the kiosk at Canal and Market Streets? The original panel was water damaged and needed replacement. Custom 31 is creating the replacement image. A similar updating is scheduled for the maps in that kiosk and the one at the water's edge. The update is being done by Joan Herendeen who created the original maps.