

Conversation with the Mayor - May 4, 2009

Vicky Daly

So, what's happening in Palmyra?

That question comes up a lot and I am happy to say that we always have a long and interesting response. Sometimes the person asking gets a lot more information than he really wanted or needed. It is quite possible that he was just making idle conversation to pass the time, but questions should be answered when asked. You can never know where a conversation may take you.

There is a fullness to our undertakings in the village. Right now we have two construction projects underway – the northern half of Hyde Parkway and the parking lot at the marina. The rest of Hyde Parkway will be addressed when the legal process to determine responsibility for the damage done during the Main Street project is decided. The village was not responsible, but we are caught in the middle of the legal dispute. The marina parking lot expansion is moving along nicely, primarily through the efforts of village crews. When it is completed and sealed, construction will begin on the comfort station project itself. Again, it will be Gary Hopkins' and Mike Boesel's crews doing it. When hired services are needed, they will be from local businesses. We are aiming at summer 2010 completion.

At the same time, engineering drawings are being completed for the reconstruction of Canandaigua Street (stimulus money). Rolled into that is the sidewalk project funded by the Safer Routes to School project. The Board is also gathering information on our options for the village water plant.

On the lighter side, the First Annual Palmyra Bird Fest on April 25th was an unquestioned success. 400 or so people of all ages and of all degrees of birding experience came to the Village Park to enjoy a beautiful summer day to learn about birds, their habitats, and habits. There was something for everyone. It is on the schedule for next year by popular demand. The Farmers' Market in the Village Park will be opening soon on a new day and at a new time, Tuesdays from 4:00 to 8:00 PM. If you want to be part of the market, call the office, 597-4849, and sign up. The fee is modest, \$10.00, and no additional insurance is required.

The summer park activities sponsored by the village begin on Friday, June 19 with the showing of Kung Fu Panda at dusk. The next morning, Saturday, June 20th, is the Palmyra Community Garage Sale. For more information about being part of that sale, call Irene at 597-0011. Cost? \$5.00! Official Palmyra Pirate Kazoos will be available at both events for \$2.00, as will bed race application forms.

Pirates Weekend, August 7 – 9, is not that far off. Be sure you are part of it as a vendor, sponsor, member of the kazoo band, window painter or bed race competitor. The official website, www.eriecanalpirates.com is up and new information is being on a regular basis. You can also call the Village Office for details, 597-4849.

So, that's what's happening in Palmyra thanks to our staff, crews and volunteers. Why do they do so much? They do it because they believe that this place matters – and they are right. Stop in the Village Hall during business hours and get your 'This Place Matters' button and let the world know that you think so also.