

**Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter** 

Volume 1, Issue 11 · April 1, 2016

www.mountpleasantvillage.org

# City Officials Newland, Nadeau and Donaldson Speak at Annual Meeting

Mount Pleasant Village members heard about DC government senior programs and the Village's year-one accomplishments at the annual meeting Sunday, March 20. President Katie Tyler described the Village's first year, with growth to 150 members, ongoing member activities, establishment of several interest groups, partnerships with other organizations, and our sound financing.



President Katie Tyler addresses annual meeting.

The approximately 50 members in attendance re-elected board members to 2-year terms.

City Councilmember Brianne Nadeau praised the Village on its accomplishments and pledged her support for our ongoing success.

Laura Newland, Acting Executive Director, DC Office on Aging, affirmed her support for the 14 Villages in the District and her commitment to providing services and housing to older citizens.

Director Newland described the "Safe at Home" program that can provide home accessibility modifications to allow lower income older residents, and those with disability, to help reduce falls and barriers to mobility. She was introduced by Polly Donaldson, Director of the DC Department of Housing and Community Development, and a Village member.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Discussion: White Historian and Slavery** Sunday, April 10, 3:00-5:00 pm, 1910 Park Rd

**Urban Farming Interest Group** Wednesday, April 13, 1819 Newton St.

Mah Jong Interest Group Thursday, April 14, 1735 Lamont St.

Neapolitan Quartet Book Discussion Sunday, April 17, 4:00-6:00 pm, 1753 Lamont St

**Mount Vernon Tour** Thursday, May 5, Time and Logistics TBD

**Solas Nua Wild Sky Performances** May 5-8 on Hobart Street (see below)

Mount Pleasant Village Alley Sale Saturday, June 11, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

# **Village Regulars**

Walk with the Walking Group Meet M-W-F, 8:30 am, Lamont Park

Mindful Meditation Group Wednesdays, 4:30 – 5:30 pm, 1820 Kenyon St.

> **Coffee at Dos Gringos** Thursdays 9:30—11:00 am

Happy Hour and Game Night, Tuesdays, 5-7 at Marx Café Tuesdays, April 5 and 19 at Habit Café

Tuesdays, April 12 and 26

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#### Speakers at the Annual Meeting



*Laura Newland, Acting Executive Director, Office on Aging, and Polly Donaldson, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development; Ward 1 Councilmember Brianne Nadeau.* 

#### **Village Board Announces Its Vision Statement**

The Board has adopted a vision/mission statement: Mount Pleasant Village is a nonprofit, all-volunteer membership organization that enables members to celebrate the opportunities and meet the challenges of aging in community. We support each other through:

- Social, Cultural and Wellness activities
- Neighbor-to-Neighbor services
- Information and Resources to help us age and live well.



Directors Bonnie Cain and Susan Rees discuss events at the Annual Meeting

We strive to be inclusive and diverse by outreach to our neighbors, and through partnerships with other organizations in Mt. Pleasant and throughout the city.

#### Mount Pleasant Villagers Visit the Smithsonian American Art Museum



A group of Mt. Pleasant Villagers visited the Smithsonian American Art Museum March 11 for a docent-led tour organized by Village member David Alfuth. The group's first stop was at the Luce Foundation Center for American Art, housed on the third and fourth floors of the museum. It is the first public art study and storage center in Washington, DC. The group also visited the Lunder Conservation Center, a series of glass-enclosed rooms that allows the public a

behind-the scenes view of art conservationists working to examine, treat and preserve works of art and frames. A conservationist met with the group to explain his recent work restoring and creating frames for paintings in the museum's collection. The group included Tim Tyler, Barbara Case, Linda Low and David Alfuth, shown here with a conservationist.

# Upcoming Event: "A White Historian Confronts Slavery" April 10, 3-5 pm



On Sunday, April 10, from 3-5 pm, Judy Byron and Rick Reinhard will host a presentation and conversation with historian Susan Strasser in their home at 1910 Park Rd. Dr. Strasser is the Richards Professor of American History Emerita at the University of Delaware and a prize-winning historian of American consumer culture. Her writing considers current issues of race and racism by looking at our shared history and contemporary struggles. With her illustrated talk, she combines the most recent historical scholarship on slavery

with personal recognition and solidarity. Please RSVP: judy@judybyron.com.

#### **Upcoming Event: Urban Farming Interest Group to Meet April 13**

Awaiting the onset of Spring, the Urban Farmers viewed raised garden beds, watering systems, a custom compost bin, and a trellising system at their March meeting. Discussion centered on bats and bat houses and the benefits bats provide in controlling mosquitos and other night-flyers without harassing bees, butterflies and other pollinators. To be continued at the April 13 meeting at 1819 Newton. Contact John Carhart, jcarhart@jcarhartarch.com or (202) 812-1951.

#### Upcoming Event: Learn Mah Jong with a New Village Interest Group April 14

Learn to play Mah Jong with Mount Pleasant neighbors. In this fun and interesting table game, similar to gin rummy, four players arrange a series of tiles to match up with a designated "hand" on a standard Mah Jong card. Village Board Member Bob Hoffman (Hoff) will offer free lessons for beginners and all equipment needed to play. The group will gather on April 14, 5:30 pm, at 1735 Lamont St. Contact Hoff at 202-320-6252 or <u>Hoffharmonica@gmail.com</u>.

#### Upcoming Event: Meet the Neighbors in Lamont Park, Saturday April 30, 3–7 pm

The Village will be represented at a Meet-the-Neighbors event sponsored by ANC1D in Lamont Park on Saturday April 30 from 3-7 pm. It will feature live music and other entertainment.

#### Upcoming Event: May 5<sup>th</sup> Tour of George Washington's Mount Vernon



Join Mount Pleasant Village members for a day of touring, learning and enjoyment at George Washington's Mount Vernon on Thursday, May 5. Tour highlights include a private Archaeological Tour and Talk, a private Horticultural Tour and Talk, and Mansion and Distillery Tours. A recent archaeological survey of the estate's 425 acres identified more than 100 separate sites, documenting almost 4,000

years of habitation within the plantation boundaries. For information on the Village tour, contact Brenda Krieger at <u>brendakrieger1@gmail.com</u>. See the flyer <u>here</u>.

# Upcoming Event: Solas Nua Presents Wild Sky in a Mt Pleasant Home – May 5-8

The Irish arts organization <u>Solas Nua</u>, a Village partner, will produce four performances of **Wild** *Sky*, in a Village-member's house on Hobart St. The play explores the complex blend of art, politics, and energy that led up to the events of Ireland's 1916 Easter Rising. *Wild Sky* features traditional Irish music—and more—in an immersive, site-specific production. <u>Click here</u> for tickets at \$35 and to learn the location. Contact: <u>communications@mountpleasantvillage.org</u>.

# Upcoming Event: Mount Pleasant Village Alley Sale Fundraiser – June 11

The annual Mount Pleasant Village Alley Sale fundraiser will be held June 11, 10:00 to 3:00 pm, in the 1700 block alley between Park and Lamont Streets. Start organizing your clutter and what-nots into shining objects of other people's desire. Contact Katie Tyler with questions and to join the Alley Sale Committee at 202-468-0364 or <u>President@mountpleasantvillage.org</u>. Help make this fundraising event a success and top last year's take of \$1,000.

## Upcoming Event: Mount Pleasant Village Picnic at Pierce Mill – June 19

The Village will hold its first picnic celebration on June 19 at the intersection of Beach Drive and



Tilden Street, across from the historic Piece Mill. The picnic area is complete with pavilions, grills, tables, and a large grassy field for fun and games. Help to make it an annual event and join with members to design and organize this old-fashioned potluck. Contact Katie Tyler at 202-468-0364 or President@mountpleasantvillage.org.

## **Partnerships and Opportunities**

#### Volunteers Sought *Now* for Senior Wellness Research Study

The Office of Age-Friendly DC Is requesting volunteers aged 60 and over to participate in a Senior Wellness Research Study currently underway at The George Washington University. The researchers have issued an urgent call for up to 15 seniors willing to be interviewed over one or two sessions for a total of 2-3 hours, by students in the GW Human Services and Social Justice Program. Contact: Jacqueline Groccia at jgroccia@gwmail.gwu.edu.

## JOIN MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE

**Individual Introductory Membership Fee**: \$50 annually. For information, contact Brenda Krieger at <u>mpvillagemembership@gmail.com</u>.

**Donate:** Make a tax-deductible donation to Mount Pleasant Village at 1735 Lamont St. NW, Washington DC 20010.

Contact us. If you have questions, comments or news to share, contact ldrickards@msn.com.