



Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 9 • February 2018

www.mountpleasantvillage.org

Message from the President:

Mount Pleasant Village has just completed its third successful year, and now has a membership that includes 196 of our neighbors. This is an accomplishment that can make us all proud. I want to encourage you all to attend the Village Annual Meeting for a full report on the progress we have made and to hear from Arthur Mola, our guest speaker. Please see the announcement below.

I want to thank all of you who made donations to the Village in 2017. We received over \$4000 in contributions, which will be used to support programs and operations.

I want to let you know that I will be stepping down as the president of the Village at the annual meeting. I will continue as a Board member, chairing and devoting my energies to the Membership Committee. Mary Rojas has agreed to act as interim president for the year remaining of my term of office. Mary has been a dedicated member of the Board of Directors from the inception of the Village, and assumes her new responsibilities with the full support of the Board.

It has been a privilege to serve as president, and I delight in the success of the Village. I look forward to continuing to support its growth and wellbeing.

Katherine Tiller

President, Mount Pleasant Village

Village's Annual Meeting

Please plan to attend the Mount Pleasant Village Annual Meeting at the Mount Pleasant Library, Sunday, February 18, 1:30 to 3:30 pm. There will be a brief business meeting to elect new and continuing Board members, review Village programs and accomplishments during 2017, and highlight program and events for the coming year. Arthur Mola, Principal of Bancroft, our local elementary school, will address the meeting to provide an update on the renovations taking place at Bancroft, other issues related to the school, and the valued partnership between Bancroft and the Village.

Upcoming Events

Mount Pleasant Village Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 18, 1:30-3:30 pm

Mount Pleasant Library

Museum of Women in the Arts Tour

Tuesday, February 13, 2:00 pm

Helping Hands New Program Series

Wednesday, February 28, 7:00-8:30 pm

Mount Pleasant Library

Village Regulars

Walk with the Walking Group

Meet M-W-F, 8:30 am, Lamont Park

Mindful Meditation

Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30 pm, tba

Coffee at Dos Gringos

Thursdays, 9:30-11:00 am

Seniors Yoga at Past Tense

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am

Happy Hour and Game Night

Tuesdays 5:00-7:00 pm

at Marx Café

February 6 & 20

at Purple Patch's Habit Café

February 13 & 27

Nominees for the Board of Directors

The Governance Committee has nominated four individuals for open positions on the Village Board of Directors, and three current members are standing for re-election, all to be voted upon at the February 18 Annual Meeting. New candidate photos and brief biographies are as follows:

William Emmet has lived in Mount Pleasant since 2000. He has more than twenty years of experience



in mental health policy at the state and national levels. Bill earned a B.A. in history from Beloit College. In his early career, Bill worked in television, journalism, as a writer, and as a teacher. Since 1990, he has held a variety of positions addressing health care and mental health reform. Bill currently is a principal with Emmet Consulting and a senior advisor with M3 Information. On behalf of the Village, Bill has served on the Governance Committee.

Nancy Mills has lived in Mount Pleasant for more than ten years. She graduated from Antioch College



with a focus on history and the Far East. Nancy joined the labor movement in 1976, and has held a variety of positions with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the AFL-CIO, and two labor-sponsored non-profit organizations. In retirement, Nancy has put her organizing skills to use as a volunteer for community organizations. For the Village, Nancy has served on the Membership and Volunteer committees, and organized the Medical Note-Taking training that was held in November.

Laura Breeden lived in DC in the 90s for two years when she worked for the Clinton Administration,



then returned in 2009 for another stint at the Department of Commerce. Her professional work has focused on the public-sector application of new communication technologies, in areas including education, libraries, state and local governments, and workforce development. In 2011, Laura's husband retired and they moved to Mount Pleasant. Their son and daughter-in-law live on Monroe Street, and they are the proud grandparents of twin girls. Laura enjoys qi gong classes, attends All Souls Unitarian Church, and tries to garden on her tiny deck. She has also been a member of the Village's Diversity Committee.

Eileen Coffey and her husband have lived in Mount Pleasant since 2005. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, she came to DC to attend Trinity College, graduating with B.A. in sociology.



Eileen earned an M.A. in sociology from the New School for Social Research, in New York, and is ABD in sociology. She has taught at Hostos College, City University of New York, and has held social planning positions in the executive branch of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Eileen has also held real estate development and management positions, and is currently a consultant in real estate management in her own company, CPR Management Services. She has worked with the Village's Membership and Diversity committees.

Board Members Seeking Re-election and Appreciation to Those Retiring

Three current members of the Village Board of Directors are seeking re-election for an additional term of office: Mary Rojas, Bonnie Cain, and Robert (Hoff) Hoffman. The Board wishes to express its appreciation to retiring Board members Tom Conway, Elinor Hart, Linda Low, and Susan Rees for their dedication and hard work on behalf of the Village.

Upcoming Event: Tour of the National Museum of Women in the Arts

Mount Pleasant Village will sponsor a tour of the collection of the National Museum of Women in the Arts on Tuesday, February 13, at 2:00 pm. This is the only museum in the world dedicated exclusively to recognizing the achievements of women artists. For details of the tour and to sign up, contact Darlene Meskell at dmeskell@gmail.com or 202-797-8117.

Upcoming Event: *Helping Hands* Program to Launch New Program Series

The Village's *Helping Hands* committee will launch the second in its program series *Supporting Older Friends and Neighbors Effectively*. The new four-part series, titled "Accomplishing an Effective 'Check-in,'" starts on Wednesday, February 28, 7:00-8:30 pm, at the Mount Pleasant Library. The first session, "Expectations in Aging," will be presented by Christine Bitza, LICSW, LCSW, Assistant Director of the Care Management Program at Seabury Resources for Aging. Future program sessions will be scheduled at two to three-month intervals.

Creative Interests Meet and Greet Launches Four New Groups

A group of Mount Pleasant Village Members, and potential new members, recently met at the home of Judy Byron and Rick Reinhard to discuss their personal creative interests and the logistics for moving ahead as new interest groups. Four groups are in the process of forming, with each planning outreach to attract additional participants as the groups feel more established. The newly launched Creative Interests Groups are Ethnic Cooking, Sewing/Knitting/Embroidery, Studio Arts, and Singing. Two additional Creative Groups, Writing (memoirs, essays, poems screenwriting) and Clay/Pottery are looking for more interested participants to come together and develop ideas. Are you Interested? For additional information, contact Judy Byron at judy@judybyron.com.

A Festive Village Holiday Party

Katie and Tim Tyler recently hosted a post-season holiday party for Villagers and friends. More than one hundred guests came to hobnob with old friends, meet new one, and the enjoy potluck sampling from our neighbors' kitchens. In addition to the social activities, Julie Byrne organized a raffle of items from supportive Mount Pleasant merchants that netted \$1200 for the Village, and Hoff exhibited a selection of his exotic collection of custom-made harmonica cases.

See photos of the party and exhibit on page 4.



Katie Tyler welcomes party guests



Neighbors catching up
Photos by Rick Reinhard



Enjoying a wonderful buffet



Hoff showed custom harmonica cases, a harmonica with his likeness, and played a few bars
Photos by Lawrence Rickards

Thanks to Local Merchants for Contributing to the Village

Mount Pleasant Village wants to recognize and thank the local merchants who generously contributed to the recent raffle and for their ongoing support of the Village.

Angelico Pizza
3205 Mt. Pleasant St.

Fit360 DC
3058 Mt. Pleasant St.

Purple Patch
3155 Mt. Pleasant St.

Beau Thai
3168 Mt. Pleasant St.

Marx Café
3203 Mt. Pleasant St.

Sportsman's Wine & Liquors
3249 Mt. Pleasant St.

Best World Market
3178 Mt. Pleasant St.

Mola Restaurant
3155 Mt. Pleasant St.

The Well
3220 17th Street

Dos Gringos
3116 Mt. Pleasant St.

Past Tense Yoga
3253 Mt. Pleasant St.

Each Peach Market
3068 Mt. Pleasant St.

Pollo Sabroso
3153 Mt. Pleasant St.

***Helping Hands* Program: Ready for Jobs Large and Small**

Helping Hands volunteers are ready to provide that helpful assistance that can help your life move more smoothly. If you are a Village member and need a ride to medical services, gardening chores, or small home repairs, and so forth, you can request assistance by:

- **Phone:** Call the *Helping Hands* Hotline 202-854-8381 to leave information about the help you need;
- **Email:** Send an email to helpinghands@mountpleasantvillage.org, describing what you need; or
- **Online:** Login to the Village website at www.mountpleasantvillage.org, and click on the blue “Get Help” button on the home page.

JOIN MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE

Membership Fee: \$50 annually for an individual; \$100 for a couple. For more information, contact Cecile Srodes at membership@mountpleasantvillage.org.

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

Contact us. If you have questions, comments or news to share, contact news@mountpleasantvillage.org.