



## The Board's Corner:

The Annual meeting in January launched the Village into 2018 with energy and fun and with a new vision for the Board of Directors. The Village is now in our fourth year. The founders of the Village, under the leadership of Katie Tyler, did everything at once, establishing the Village as a legal entity, writing by-laws, creating committees, overseeing programs and activities. With this solid foundation and with the growing maturity of the Village we move into a year of transition by restructuring the Board. The Board now will focus on policy and procedures and meet quarterly. The activities and programs will be coordinated by the Committee of Committees (COC) made up of the seven Village committee chairs. The COC will meet monthly.

The Board currently has twelve members – we are pleased to welcome four new members, Laura Breeden, Eileen Coffey, Bill Emmet, and Nancy Mills. The Board members are elected by the Village members. Our by-laws require we have a minimum of three Board members and a maximum of fifteen. The Governance Committee nominates Board candidates. Board Officers are appointed by the Board members. A list of Board members, Officers, and Committee Chairs is provided on page 5.

The Village is an all-volunteer organization of neighbors coming together to care for each other and to participate in social, cultural and wellness activities. With some 200 members and a list of programs and activities, it makes a great contribution to our community and to those of us facing the challenges of our older years. Together, we are the Village.

## Upcoming Events

### **La Esquina Photo Exhibit**

March 3 & 14 (details on page 2)

### **LGBTQI Multigenerational Dialogue & Brunch, March 4 (details on page 2)**

### **Capital Irish Film Festival**

Sunday, March 4, 2:00 pm (details on page 3)

### **Meet-the-Street: Clinica Del Pueblo and Dos Gringos**

Thursday, March 8, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm (details on page 3)

### **Cancer Self-Advocacy in the LGBTQI Community, March 10 (details on page 3)**

### **National Museum of Women in the Arts** Wednesday, March 14 (details on page 3)

## Village Regulars

### **Walk with the Walking Group**

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

### **Mah Jong**

Mondays, 5:00 pm, 1735 Lamont Street, NW

### **Mindful Meditation**

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

### **Coffee at Dos Gringos**

Thursdays, 9:30-11:00 am

### **Seniors Yoga at PastTense**

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am

### **Happy Hour and Game Night**

Tuesdays 5:00-7:00 pm

at [Marx Café](#)

March 6 & 20

at [Purple Patch's Habit Café](#)

March 13 & 27

## Meet the Villagers: Mazie Green Holland



Mazie Green Holland has had a distinguished career on two continents. She has been the U.S. Representative for the Diaspora Forum Mission, headquartered in Accra, Ghana. This international organization supports the African Union and member states by serving as a bridge between persons of African descent living across the globe and the countries on the African continent through education, research, and travel. Mazie has conducted seminars and workshops to prepare students, and has accompanied groups of all ages on their first African journeys. She is the co-founder and former Director of Public Relations for Micro Credit in Africa (MICA), a group committed to helping African women gain economic autonomy and, thereby, improving their health, nutrition and education. Mazie has been recognized for her humanitarian work by numerous business and religious groups.

Mazie has been equally involved on the home-front. She has served as the campaign manager for several local politicians and for D.C. Board of Education campaigns, and served as co-chair of D.C. Women in Politics and Women's Political Campaign School. Mazie was the regional event coordinator for the two Obama campaigns and that of Hillary Clinton. At Howard University she was a co-founder of the university's Parents Advisory Committee and was chair of the Paul Anthony Dillard, Jr. Memorial Foundation Library Scholarship Fund. She remains very active in her church.

Born in Arlington, VA, Mazie has always resided in the metropolitan area. She is a graduate of Howard University. Mazie and her husband, the late John S. Holland, moved to Mount Pleasant in 1965. She has three adult daughters, three grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

## Upcoming Events: La Esquina – A Photo Exhibit by Rick Reinhard



The La Esquina exhibit is the culmination of a year-long process by Villager Rick Reinhard of talking to, recording interviews with, and photographing "Los Esquineros," the men and women who hang out in front of the 7-Eleven on Mount Pleasant Street. The aim of the project has been to provide a space for the Latino community of Mount Pleasant to tell its own story.

The exhibit will take place in two venues: the Sidewalk exhibit (weather permitting), in front of the Mount Pleasant 7-Eleven on March 3, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm; and the Gallery exhibit opening at Gala Hispanic Theatre on March 14, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The Gallery exhibit will include a reception, with performances and community testimonies beginning at 8:00, including guest performances by Lilo Gonzales and Son La Lucha. Free to the public.

## Upcoming Event: LGBTQI Multigenerational Dialogue and Brunch

Human Rights Campaign of Greater Washington D.C. Presents a SAGE Table Event: *Looking Back, Living Forward* — Multigenerational Dialogue and Brunch, on Sunday, March 4, 10:30 am to 2:00 pm, at Social Tables, 1325 G Street NW, 3d Floor, Washington, D.C. SAGE is an advocacy organization which addresses issues affecting older LGBTQI people. Last year, SAGE developed a framework for multi-generational events called SAGE Table, where people of different generations could get together in small groups over a meal and talk. This promises to be a lively social event. (One block from the Metro Center stop. Social Tables, which develops software to assist in event planning, has offered their space for the event.) [RSVP for this event online.](#)

## **Village Meetup at the Capital Irish Film Festival**

Join fellow Villagers and view one or both of the festival's most acclaimed films, the feature ***A Date for Mad Mary***, the winner of two film awards, and ***The Farthest***, a documentary about NASA's Voyager mission. Villagers should meet at the AFI Silver Theatre in downtown Silver Spring on Sunday March 4, at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$13 for each film and can be purchased online. Those interested in the going to the entire festival, which runs from March 1-4, can also buy a \$100 pass online. To join the Village group, contact Darlene Meskell ([dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com), [202-797-8117](tel:202-797-8117)). To purchase tickets or a film festival pass, click [here](#) for the AFI website, or Darlene can get them for you.

## **Upcoming Event: Meet-the-Street – Thursday, March 8, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm**

Meet and get acquainted with the newest organization on the street and enjoy lunch and a fun community gathering. The morning will begin with a tour of Clinica Del Pueblo, led by Clinica Health Promotion Manager Rodrigo Stein. The clinic recently opened in the La Casa building, 3166 Mount Pleasant Street, and has already become known as a dependable source of integrated health care for women and children. Following the tour, the group will gather and have lunch at Dos Gringos and meet owner and Village member Alex Kramer.

## **Upcoming Event: Let's Love Longer – Cancer Self-Advocacy in the LGBTQI Community**

Join SAGE for a community discussion on preventing cancer in the LGBTQI community (lesbian, bisexual, queer women and individuals of trans experience are invited, welcome, and wanted), on Saturday, March 10, Noon to 1:30 pm, at the D.C. Center for the LGBT Community, 2000 14th Street NW, Suite 105, Washington, DC (1st floor). A light brunch will be served and there will be a raffle with prizes. Bring a friend! This event is sponsored by Iona Senior Services, the GW Cancer Institute, and the D.C. Center for the LGBT Community. [RSVP for this event online.](#)

## **Village Tour of Womenhouse at the National Museum of Women in the Arts**

Mount Pleasant Village will conduct a docent-led tour of the new Womenhouse Exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts on Wednesday, March 14, 11:00 am. To sign up for a tour, please contact Darlene Meskell at [dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com) or 202-797-8117, as soon as possible, but at least one week prior to the event. Please provide the following information: your name and email address, whether you are a museum member (to reduce the cost), and the number of tickets you want. We'll plan for transportation when we have a better idea how many people are interested.

## **New Interest Groups Being Explored**

**Canasta.** Ilene Citrin of Brown Street NW would love to find a Canasta group for beginners. She states, "I don't know how to play but would love to find others interested in learning." Contact: [ilene.citrin@gmail.com](mailto:ilene.citrin@gmail.com).

**Ethnic Cooking.** Looking for more members. This is a new group that imagines beginning by picking a particular menu and preparing dishes for a group supper of pleasure and discussion, Contact: [nancy.rivera@opic.gov](mailto:nancy.rivera@opic.gov).

## Villagers Come Out for Annual Meeting

A lively crowd of Villagers attended the recent annual meeting. As a warmup act, Bob (Hoff) Hoffman played harmonica, accompanied by Mara Cherkasky on accordion, leading the audience in song. During the business meeting several important changes to the Village were presented: Katie Tyler stepped down as president, to continue her Village work on the Membership Committee; Mary Rojas became the new president to lead the Village through its period of restructuring and transition; and four new members were elected to the Board of Directors – William Emmet, Nancy Mills, Laura Breeden, and Eileen Coffey.

The keynote speaker for the annual meeting was Arthur Mola, Principal of Bancroft Elementary School (a Village partner). He provided an update on the renovation and “state of the art” modernization of the school, which has been underway for more than a year and is close to completion. Classes are scheduled to return to Bancroft in August 2018. Mr. Mola is looking forward to inviting Villagers to an open house and tour of the new school.

Mr. Mola discussed several ways Villagers can be involved with the school, such as becoming a community volunteer for activities at the school (e.g. the reading mentors program) and participating in the upcoming “Tile Project,” a fundraiser where individuals buy a tile designed and created by a student, which will then become part of the wall structure. More information on the “Tile Project” will be forthcoming. In closing, Mr. Mola stated that Bancroft remains dedicated to high-quality level bilingual education, high academic achievement for all students, and celebrating multiculturalism. Bancroft would like a more enhanced relationship with Village when they return to neighborhood.



Hoff, Mara Cherkasky & Mary Rojas warm up before the meeting



Susan Rees, Nancy Mills & Polly Donaldson catching up



Incoming President Mary Rojas, Hoff & Principal Arthur Mola

Photos by Rick Reinhard



Outgoing President Katie Tyler



Tom Conway explains new Village structure



Diversity Committee Chair Judy Byron describes the committee



Attentive Meeting Participants

## Current Leadership of Mount Pleasant Village

The following are the members of the 2018 Board of Directors, Officers, and Committee Chairs:

### Board of Directors

Mary Rojas

Bonnie Cain

Laura Breeden

Eileen Coffey

William Emmet

Rob Fleming

Sharon Hart

Robert Hoffman

Nancy Mills

Lawrence Rickards

Rebecca Shannon

Katie Tyler

### Offices and Committees

President

Vice President and Chair, Programs

Treasurer and Chair, Finance

Deputy Secretary

Secretary

Chair, Communications

Co-Chair, Membership

### Committee Chairs

Judy Byron

Chair, Diversity

Tom Conway

Chair, Governance & Committee of Committees

Elinor Hart

Chair, Volunteer

Cecile Srodes

Co-Chair, Membership

## Voice Assistant Group

The IT Committee of the Washington Area Village Exchange is starting a project to collect information and resources on the use of the new Voice-controlled Digital Assistants such as Alexa, Siri, and Google Home and also such specialized voice-operated gadgets as the Comcast and FIOS TV remotes. If you would like to join in this effort (mostly teleconferences and the occasional meeting in Bethesda), please contact Rob Fleming at [RHFDC@comcast.net](mailto:RHFDC@comcast.net). Rob has also agreed to serve on the D.C. Government's Age-Friendly DC Communications & Information Task Force.

## 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](mailto:helpinghands@mountpleasantvillage.org), describing what you need; or
- **Online:** Login to the Village website at [www.mountpleasantvillage.org](http://www.mountpleasantvillage.org), and click on the blue "Get Help" button on the home page.

## Help Wanted for the Village Board's Committees

Mount Pleasant Village is operated on an all-volunteer model. This means that all Village programs and administration are managed by board members. Now that we have grown to serve some 200 members, we need your help to keep up the pace. Working on a Village committee provides an opportunity to meet and make new friends, share your experiences and help build our vibrant organization. Please contact someone listed below to help keep the Village running smoothly:

- The **Communications Committee** needs help with the monthly newsletter. Contact Larry Rickards at [communications@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:communications@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Governance Committee** would like help with writing policies and procedures and in developing the Village governance structure. The committee has also begun work to form a **Development Committee** to raise the Village's visibility/funding, and is looking for those with non-profit experience. Contact Tom Conway at [thomasbconway@gmail.com](mailto:thomasbconway@gmail.com).
- The **Membership Committee** is looking for help with programs to increase and maintain Village membership. Contact Cecile Srodes or Katie Tyler at [membership@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:membership@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Program Committee** is looking for leadership with cultural and social programs. Contact Bonnie Cain at [events@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:events@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Volunteer Committee**: is seeking help with volunteer management for the Village *Helping Hands*. Contact Elinor Hart at [volunteer@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:volunteer@mountpleasantvillage.org).

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:news@mountpleasantvillage.org).