



## Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter

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MPVillageinfo@gmail.com

### Meet the Villagers: Katie Tyler President, Mount Pleasant Village

With this issue, we are introducing a new feature for the Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter, to help us get to know each other. Each month, we'll include a short profile of one of our members, starting with Katie Tyler, Mount Pleasant Village's co-founder and



President. Raised in England, Katie is a 30-year Mt. Pleasant resident. A former member of the Mt.

Pleasant Historic Society Board, she has been involved in serving the community much of her life. As a sociology student in the late 1960s, she was president of the college social services organization, serving poor families in a high-unemployment part of the UK. After graduate work at the

London School of Economics, she volunteered full-time, providing hands-on services to help families cope with daily life. Katie came to Washington in 1982 to work in Human Resources at the World Bank, and stayed there 27 years. Her husband, Tim Tyler, is retired from a career in the Navy and Office of the Secretary of Defense. Their daughter Melissa lives in London and is about to start an MA in Decorative Arts and their son Sam is working on a PhD in political science at Davis, California. Katie retired in 2009 to help care for her parents and in-laws. Last year, she turned her prodigious energy to creating a Village to help Mount Pleasant residents remain independent at home as we age. Under her leadership, the Village has become a new force in the community. Less than a year old, it now has 100 members, a board of 12 dedicated neighbors, and a huge potential to enrich many lives. As this goes to press, she is in Montana for a well-earned break from Village-building.

**Hang out with the Cool Kids:** in lieu of a clubhouse, the Village plans to sponsor hangout times in local establishments on different days of the week. Beginning July 29 (right) we'll be on hand for coffee at Dos Gringos from 9:30 to 11 a.m. every Wednesday. Please join us!



**Mayor Invited to Ribbon-Cutting in Lamont Park September 20:** Mayor Muriel Bowser and Councilmember Brianne Nadeau are invited to kick off the Village's ribbon-cutting ceremony and festivities in Lamont Park on Sunday September 20, from 1-3 pm. **Volunteers and ideas are needed to make our launch a success.** Contact: [dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com).

**Village Members Get Complimentary Baseball Tickets:** Ward 1 Councilmember Brianne Nadeau provided the Village with 10 complimentary tickets for members only to the July 7<sup>th</sup> Washington Nationals-Cincinnati Reds baseball game. Although the home team lost, 0-5, a great time was had by all.

### Upcoming Events

**Solas Nua's Irish Popcorn: "Yank"**

Monday, August 17, 7 pm, Free Film

Kelly's Irish Times, 14 F St. NW

**Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony**

Sunday September 20, 1 pm Lamont Park

**Walk with the Walking Group**

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

**Village Hangout: Coffee at Dos Gringos**

Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 am

***It Takes a Village ... and we have one!*** The Village Board met July 11 to clarify our vision for building the Village as a vibrant advocate for aging well in Mount Pleasant. Facilitator Ellen Harvey generously facilitated the day-long session. **Highest aspirations for the Village:** to become a pillar of the community, enriching members' lives and building a circle of friends who care and can be relied on; to provide reciprocal caring, and opportunities to be useful; to be a reliable source of information and help members stay integrated in the overall community; and to reflect our values in everything we do. **Our values:** the Village is inclusive and welcoming, and responsive to our members. We provide fun and friendship, mutual support and community. **Our goals:** to make it possible for members to stay in our homes as we age, with greater mental, physical and emotional health, a clear understanding of available options, and a supportive inter-generational community. **Our slogan: *It takes a Village...and we have one!***



*Facilitator Ellen Harvey (l); and Board members Rebecca Shannon, Brenda Krieger, Susan Rees (c); Elinor Hart and Rob Fleming (r) helped build a shared vision for Mount Pleasant Village.*

### **Board News.** Highlights of the July 25<sup>th</sup> Mount Pleasant Village Board Meeting:

- **Annual Meeting:** The Board will hold its annual meetings in January, to report on the past year's activities and elect a Board of Directors to guide Village activities in the calendar year.
- **Membership:** With membership over 100 now, the Village aims to increase its ranks to 150 by the end of 2015. Contact: Brenda Krieger [mpvillagemembership@gmail.com](mailto:mpvillagemembership@gmail.com).
- **Volunteers:** The Board will contract with Verified Volunteers to conduct background checks on all volunteers, beginning with Board members. Background checks are required before anyone can provide services for Village members. Contact: Elinor Hart [hart1651@juno.com](mailto:hart1651@juno.com)
- **Mount Pleasant Village Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Set for September 20th:** Planning is underway for the festive ribbon-cutting ceremony in Lamont Park at 1 pm, Sunday Sep. 20. We welcome your ideas and help. Contact: Darlene Meskell [dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com).
- **Fundraising and Finance:** The Board agreed to investigate use of an online accounting system to keep its books. The Village will also develop a fundraising plan to help fund Village activities. Contact: Rebecca Shannon [shannonrl20010@gmail.com](mailto:shannonrl20010@gmail.com).
- **Partnerships:** The Board is seeking mutually beneficial relationships with local merchants, restaurants and entertainment venues, and local and city-wide community groups and organizations. Contact: Susan Rees [susan.e.rees@verizon.net](mailto:susan.e.rees@verizon.net).

**Contact us.** If you have questions, comments or news to share, please, contact Darlene Meskell , [dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com).