



**Village Board of Directors Elects Officers**

At its January meeting, the Board of Directors elected a new slate of officers. William (Bill) Emmet was elected President. A Mount Pleasant resident since 2000, Bill is in his second term on the Board, having previously served as the Governance Committee Co-Chair. Bill brings to the position experience in management and advocacy gained from his work on health care and mental health reform at the state and national levels. He and wife Elizabeth Prewitt live on Park Road.



Katie Tyler was elected as Vice President. A resident of Mount Pleasant for more than 30 years, Katie is a former director of Historic Mount Pleasant. She is a founding Board Member of the Village and its first president, serving in that position for three years. Katie is currently the Village Membership Committee Co-Chair

Rob Fleming was elected as Secretary. A resident of Mount Pleasant for more than 40 years, Rob served three terms as an ANC Commissioner. He is a founding Board Member of the Village, and has served on both the Communications and Volunteer committees.

Ross Hamory was elected as Treasurer. A new member of the board, Ross brings considerable experience in management and with community-based organizations.

**Judy Byron’s Art Reinstalled in the District’s John A. Wilson Building**

Mount Pleasant artist and Village Board member Judy Byron was recently featured in John Kelly’s *The Washington Post* (column Jan. 22, 2020) about her piece, “The 9 to 5 Group” being reinstalled in the John A. Wilson Building. Judy



**Village’s Potluck Winter Party**

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**

(More information below)

**For More Activities and Events**

see the calendar on the Village website

[www.mountpleasantvillage.org](http://www.mountpleasantvillage.org),

the Monday **Village Announcements** or

the Wednesday **FYI About Town**

used photographs of people emerging from a



District Building elevator to create life-size woodcut rubbings of four individuals standing inside an elevator. Created in the 1980s

as the part of series that captured everyday city experiences, “The 9 to 5 Group” hung in the District Building (now the John A. Wilson Building) for two decades before being placed into storage during the building’s renovation. There it languished for years until a city council staff member worked with council chairman Phil Mendelson to have it reinstalled, appropriately, on the fourth floor, across from the elevator. (Photo by John Kelly, *The Washington Post*)

**Village Hosts Annual Potluck Winter Party**

Village members and guests are invited to the Village’s Potluck Winter Party on Saturday, February 8, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm, at The Tyler’s, 1735 Lamont Street NW. For details on dishes to bring, rides, or other questions, see the Monday **Weekly Announcements**.

## Meet-the-Street Visits the New *Taqueria Nacional*: A Report by Jan Fenty

*Taqueria Nacional* owners Ann Cashion and John Fulchino recently welcomed Villagers to their new restaurant at 3213 Mount Pleasant Street. Ann has been a long-time resident of Mount Pleasant and is very happy to have her newest restaurant located in our neighborhood. Ann and Johnny served us complimentary drinks and appetizers as we enjoyed the lovely new Mexican themed interior and chatting with our neighbors.



Before we ordered our yummy dinner, we heard from the owners about their restaurant business history in DC. They met in 1988 at the original *Austin Grill*, where Ann was executive chef and John the bar manager. They opened the first *Jaleo* restaurant in Penn Quarter in 1993. They opened *Cashion's Eat Place* in Adams Morgan in 1995, where Ann became a James Beard award winner. They also operate *Johnny's Half Shell* on Columbia Road. Ann talked about the quality of the food that she serves; she is particular about making sure her customers have the best food available which is then "cooked with love."

Photos by Katie Tyler



Farzin Illich and Martha Sipple



Elizabeth Prewitt, Jill Eden,  
Bill Emmet and Courtney Arnold



David Arnold, Jan Fenty  
and Tim Tyler



Jean Charles Crochet  
and Kathy Mikitin

The Villagers had a grand time enjoying their tacos and many other Mexican dishes, and we look forward to returning.



After dinner many of us walked to *El West*, at 3167 Mount Pleasant Street, where we met the sister and brother owners Veronica and Charlie Hernandez. They have been operating their retail store for over 20 years. They told us how much they love the neighborhood and helping the community when they can. They have a well-stocked store of both men's and women's shoes, clothing, western-themed accessories, and more.

The Village is beginning its third year of Meet-the-Street events, where we eat at different restaurants along Mount Pleasant Street or visit other non-food businesses. If you have never attended one of our events, please join us next time. We would love to get acquainted.

## Welcome New Village Members

The Village is delighted to welcome the following new members:

- Tom Burkhardt, Hobart Street
- Pat Case, Oak Street
- James Dew, 16<sup>th</sup> Street
- Kendall Dorman, Lamont Street
- Arturo Griffiths, Kenyon Street
- Barbara Hansen, 19<sup>th</sup> Street
- Wayne Kahn, 18<sup>th</sup> Street
- Vivian Ling, 16<sup>th</sup> Street
- JT Roy, Lamont Street
- Lee Smith, Park Road
- Deborah Sokolove Yukushiji, Monroe Street
- Tanya Surawicz, Ingleside Terrace
- Laverne Taylor-Saleh, Park Road

## Village Advocates for Seniors and the Mount Pleasant Community

At the October and January Board of Directors meetings resolutions were proposed and passed to support community initiatives that were deemed important for Village members. The October resolution supported, in principle, efforts by Mayor Bowser and others to convert the property at the corner of Kenyon and Mount Pleasant streets, next to the 7-Eleven store, into “Amigos Park,” an area with places for people to sit, enjoy the shade, and with tables (some of which could serve as game-boards). Although the designs for the park have not been finalized, it was felt this community space could be a place for people to meet, relax, and enjoy fresh air. The January resolution supported the proposal, drafted by the Village’s Waste Management Interest Group, to designate the Mount Pleasant Farmers’ Market as a year-round location for food waste drop-offs. The Board felt a central, permanent drop-off site would encourage Village members to participate in the city-wide *Zero Waste DC* program designed to reduce food waste and provide compost for trees and gardens. More information about this program will be in the March newsletter.

## Upcoming Event: Author to Discuss His Novel *A Particular Kind of Black Man*

Tope Folarin, the renowned Nigerian-American author, will talk about his recent book, *A Particular Kind of Black Man*, at the Mount Pleasant Library, on Saturday, February 29, at 2:00 pm. In 2013, he won the Caine Prize for African Writing for his short story “Miracle,” and, in 2014, was named to the Hay Festival’s “Africa39” list of the most promising African writers under 40. His short story “Genesis” was nominated for the 2016 Caine Prize.



Mr. Folarin serves as Vice President of Content and Storytelling at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation. He was educated at Morehouse College and the University of Oxford, where he earned two Masters degrees as a Rhodes Scholar. His debut novel, *A Particular Kind of Black Man*, was published by Simon & Schuster in August 2019, and was read and greatly enjoyed by the Village Ad Hoc Book Club. Mr. Folarin is a resident of the District.

## Village and All Souls Church to Co-Sponsor Lecture Series in March

The Village and the Silver Souls seniors’ group at All Souls Church Unitarian, will co-sponsor a lecture series on ***Preparing to Grow Older Successfully*** on the first three Sundays in March. Each session will address issues that we all need to address as we age, with a presentation by experts in the area, followed by Q&A.

The sessions will be held at All Souls Church Unitarian, 1500 Harvard Street NW, from 1:00 to 2:30 pm, following Sunday services. The cost to attend is \$15 per session; \$40 for all three. Tickets can be purchased online; some will be available at the door. The following sessions are scheduled:

**On Sunday March 1: *Getting Your Affairs in Order*** will feature Timothy McDonough, Director of Financial Planning and Team Lead Planner for Garrison Advisors, LLC. He will address the issues needed for planning your life in retirement: What experts should you consult in planning for your future in retirement? What decisions and documents do you need to protect your interests as you grow older? Can you afford to remain retired and what do you need to do to be financially secure?

**On Sunday, March 8: *Paying for Elder Care***, Chris DeYoung, an experienced consultant on senior healthcare issues with the DC Department of Aging and Community Life (DAACL) and former director of the Health Insurance Consulting Project at GW Law School, will address the various healthcare insurance programs available to seniors. These include Medicare, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid, long-term care insurance, and the DAACL programs and services for seniors.

**On Sunday, March 15**, Dixcy Bosley-Smith, a case manager at Iona Senior Services, will discuss the wide variety of housing options for seniors in ***Housing Options: More Choices than You Think***. Along with Elizabeth Fox, a founder of Iona, she will discuss some of the options available for aging in your home, co-housing, cooperative living, multigenerational living, independent and assisted living and nursing homes. Village members with experience in alternative housing arrangements are encouraged to come and talk about their experience, ideas and advice.

The sponsors hope this series will be as successful as the hugely popular series the Village, All Souls, and Iona co-sponsored in Fall 2016. If you have questions, please contact Darlene Meskell at [dmeskell@gmail.com](mailto:dmeskell@gmail.com).

### Helping Hands Program

The Village's *Helping Hands* program continues to be a pillar of support for Villagers, providing a wide range of assistance, from transportation to medical appointments and shopping, to help with household issues, such as decluttering, setting up electronics, simple home repairs, changing lightbulbs, and errands. Keep in mind that requests for *Helping Hands* services are now being handled by our website manager. Contact Claire Thompson at [volunteer.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com) or by phone on 703-635-5114.

### Mount Pleasant Village T-Shirts are Available

Village t-shirts, decorated with the Mount Pleasant Street cityscape designed by local artist David



Greenfieldboyce, are available in a variety of styles: women's and men's short-sleeve t-shirts, as well as long-sleeve, heavier weight t-shirts for cooler weather. Shirts are available from Judy Byron, [judy@judybyron.com](mailto:judy@judybyron.com) or 202-422-2307. Your \$10.00 donation is appreciated.

### JOIN MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE

**Membership Fee:** \$50 annually per individual. For more information, contact Claire Thompson at [volunteer.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com).

**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: [info.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com](mailto:info.mountpleasantvillage@gmail.com).