



## Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter

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

### Message from Katie:

I continue to be amazed at the broad range of activities taking place within the Village on any given week. It is heartening to see how our community has come together to offer help to one another and to gather for health and social functions.

Although National Volunteer Month has just passed, I want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the many volunteers who have so generously given their time and energy to the *Helping Hands* program and have made this neighbor-to-neighbor initiative so successful. Likewise, to those who helped organize Village special events and activities. Thank you all.

I want to draw your participation in the upcoming Village's Annual Alley Sale, to take place on Saturday, June 3. This is an important fundraising effort for the Village, as well as a fun opportunity for villagers to mix and meet others from across our community. As always, we will depend on volunteers to help organize, collect donated items, and for set up/take down on the day of the event. More information will be forthcoming in the weekly email updates.

Although there are currently no upcoming events with associated costs or fees (for tickets or transportation), I want to remind Villagers that our annual budget has a set aside for scholarships funds for those who might not otherwise be able to participate in Village activities. These funds can be accessed through the organizer of any of the costed events.

I hope you are all enjoying this lovely spring,

Katie Tyler, President  
Mount Pleasant Village

### Upcoming Events

#### **PBS Filming at the Purple Patch**

Thursday, May 11, 5:00 pm

#### **Jefferson Morley Discussion of *Snow-Storm in August***

Monday, May 15, 6:00-8:00 pm  
Mount Pleasant Library

#### **Adapting Your Home for Aging in Place**

Tuesday, May 16, 1:00-3:00  
Mount Pleasant Library

#### **Mount Pleasant Village Annual Alley Sale**

Saturday, June 3

### Village Regulars

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

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

#### **Mindful Meditation**

Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30, tba

#### **Mah Jong**

Mondays, 5:00 pm, 1735 Lamont St.

#### **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, 5-7 at Marx Café**

Tuesdays, May 2, 16 and 29

#### **at Purple Patch's Habit Café**

Tuesdays, May 9 and 22



## Meet the Villagers: Cynthia (Tia) Pratt, Village Volunteer



Tia Pratt was born in Providence and grew up in rural Rhode Island in a pre-Revolutionary War house. Her closest playmates were the landlord's horses and the butterflies in the meadows. She moved to the District in 1963 to attend George Washington University, graduating with a degree in art, and purchased her Hobart Street home in 1975. Obtaining a home loan was challenging as banks, at the time, were reluctant to lend to single women and had illegally red-lined the neighborhood.

She worked for several years as a graphic artist for Hahn shoes (at 7<sup>th</sup> & K Streets), and was in the thick of the 1968 riots. In 1972, she began work in association management – with the National Association of Social Workers and American Consulting Engineers Council, among others. Long before retirement, Tia was a community volunteer, first with efforts to save the Old Post Office, then with Mt. Pleasant Main Street and Historic Mt. Pleasant. For several years, she was Main Street's one-woman graffiti-removal force and organized the planting and maintenance of liriopse in the Mt. Pleasant Street tree-boxes. Tia currently volunteers with the Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, and delivers meals for Food and Friends.

Tia and husband Lawrence Rickards are avid travelers, having visited Cuba and numerous countries in Europe, Africa, and South America. This fall they will visit China, Tibet and Cambodia.

## Mount Pleasant Village Joins the Social Isolation Project: Seeks Volunteers

Social isolation is a prevalent health concern for older adults living in the community, negatively impacting their health, well-being, and quality of life. The Village has joined with the Foggy Bottom West End Village and the DC Office on Aging to conduct interviews to explore the causes of social isolation in our community and to develop strategies to address the issue. The Village is recruiting volunteer interviewers, and will provide an Interview Guide and training session (on either May 8 or 10) for those interested. Contact Katie Tyler at 202-468-0364 or [Katharine.e.tyler@gmail.com](mailto:Katharine.e.tyler@gmail.com).

## Weekly Coffee Klatch at Dos Gringos Villagers Welcomes All



The weekly gathering of Villagers at Dos Gringos has become a focal point for conversation for regulars and newcomers. While there are a few stalwarts to the Thursday morning (9:30-11:00 am) klatch, there is an ever-changing array of drop-ins and local leaders. It has become the hub where residents across the Village can socialize.

## Upcoming Unusual Event: PBS to Film the Purple Patch Restaurant

Public Broadcasting will film a segment of *Neighborhood Eats*, a program that features local eateries, at our local **Purple Patch** restaurant. The filming is on Thursday, May 11, beginning at about 5:00 pm and last for a few hours. They invite "Game Night" and other local residents to view, and perhaps participate in, the filming. We will keep you updated when the broadcast is scheduled.

## Upcoming Village Event: Mount Pleasant Author Jefferson Morley to Discuss *Snow-Storm in August* – Mount Pleasant Library, May 15



This is an event you won't want to miss. Acclaimed journalist and author Jefferson Morley will discuss his book *Snow-Storm in August: The Struggle for American Freedom and Washington's Race Riots of 1835* on Monday, May 15, 6-8 pm, at the Mount Pleasant Library. Mr. Morley has worked as an editor and reporter at The Washington Post, The New Republic, The Nation, and Harper's Magazine. His work has appeared in The Washington Post Book World, the New York Times Book Review, The New York Review of Books, Rolling Stone, and Reader's Digest. He has also authored *Our Man in Mexico:*

*Winston Scott and the Hidden History of the CIA; CIA & JFK: The Secret Assassination Files; Trained to Kill: The Inside Story of CIA Plots Against Castro, Kennedy, and Che; The Ghost: The Secret Life of CIA Spymaster James Jesus Angleton; and with Lawrence A. Stanley, RAP: The Lyrics.*

## Upcoming Village Event: Adapting Your Home for Aging in Place

Most of us want to stay in the home and neighborhood we love. Our changing ability to perform everyday tasks can make it difficult, but adaptations, large and small, may make it work. The Village is sponsoring a two-part program to walk us through design and remodeling options specific to our Mt. Pleasant homes.

- In Part I: Universal Design 101, to be held Tuesday, May 16, 1-3 pm, at the Mt. Pleasant Library, Jeffrey M. Stoiber, from Stoiber & Associates, will discuss design features that can make homes safe and comfortable regardless of age or ability level.
- In Part II: Adaptations for Older Homes, two small group sessions will be held in two different locations, where the presenters will describe home modifications that could be elder friendly.
  - Tuesday, May 23, 1-3 pm, at 1710 Hobart St. NW (a 1927 row house), with aging-in-place specialist Steve Hage.
  - Thursday, May 25, 1-3 pm, at 1753 Lamont St. NW (a 1907 semi-detached house), with Jeffrey M. Stoiber.

**These programs are free but space for small-group sessions may be limited!** For additional program information and to RSVP for this event, please go to [www.mountpleasantvillage.org](http://www.mountpleasantvillage.org) (scroll down to *Upcoming Events* on the left side of the screen) or send an email to [cprattdc@msn.com](mailto:cprattdc@msn.com).

## Upcoming Village Event: Annual Alley Sale Fundraiser Slated for June 3

Now is the time to reorganize closets, spare rooms, attics, and garages, and convert your clutter into other people's treasures. The Village's Annual Alley Sale is a wonderful chance to pass on those books, decorative items, electronics, decorative items, and children's books and toys that have been stacking up. Details on the time and place, and arrangements for donation pickups, will be forthcoming.

## **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, snow-shoveling, or small home repairs, 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 175 members, we need your help to keep up the pace. Volunteering on a Village committee provides an opportunity to meet and make new friends, share your experiences and help build our vibrant organization. For more information on committee needs and opportunities contact:

- The **Volunteer Committee** needs help in managing the increased number of requests for the Village *Helping Hands* Program. Contact Elinor Hart at [volunteer@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:volunteer@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Communications Committee** is looking for writers for publicity brochures and help in managing the Village website. Contact [communications@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:communications@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Membership Committee** is looking for help with programs to increase and maintain membership and in interviewing new members. Contact [membership@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:membership@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- The **Program Committee** is looking for help in developing activities, outings and cultural programs. Contact Bonnie Cain at [events@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:events@mountpleasantvillage.org).
- A **Development Committee** is being formed to raise the Village’s visibility/funding. It is looking for those with nonprofits experience. Contact Katie Tyler at [president@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:president@mountpleasantvillage.org).

### **JOIN MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE**

**Membership Fee:** \$50 annually for an individual; \$100 for a couple. For more information, contact Brenda Krieger 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).