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## Mount Pleasant Village Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1 - February 2021

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

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### Reliable Sources for COVID-19 Information

The following are valuable resources for information on the COVID-19 pandemic:

- [Centers for Disease Control](#)
- [National Institutes of Health \(NIH\)](#)
- [District Government](#)
- [Mount Pleasant Village Website](#)

### To Request Assistance

The Village/Neighbors Helping Neighbors initiative provides volunteers to help with shopping, pharmacy pick-ups, and other tasks, as well as masks and food aid. To request assistance, call **202-573-7548** (please leave a voice message) or email [request@anc-volunteering.org](mailto:request@anc-volunteering.org).

## Getting the Shot

This month's conversation-opener is "did you get the shot?", and there is reason for celebration in that many Village members report that they have been successful. Finding an available slot and making the appointment have been challenging because of limited vaccine supply, web glitches (which DC is working to repair), and the inherent difficulties in rolling out a complex system. As always, we will keep you updated with news about availability and how to obtain appointments. If you haven't [registered for updates from DC Health](#) we urge you to do that. They provide regular news about the vaccine. If you would like help navigating the online (or phone) systems, please let us know and we will pair you with a tech buddy. Email your cluster coordinator or [president@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:president@mountpleasantvillage.org) for more information.

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## Mount Pleasant in The Washington Post

Our neighborhood was featured in the Post Magazine on January 25 in an article by Jefferson Morley. "The Mount Pleasant Miracle" focuses on community responses to gentrification over the past 40 years, through affordable housing development and other actions to save the character of the neighborhood. Also included are many examples of the diversity of Mount Pleasant residents and shopkeepers, and some wonderful photos of cultural activities. Enjoy!

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/magazine/2021/01/25/mount-pleasant-washington-dc-gentrification/?arc404=true>

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## February is Black History Month

The shocking images of an angry white man parading a Confederate flag through the Capitol during the January 6 insurrection have reminded all of us that there is much work left to be done to end white supremacy in our country. Black History month offers a chance to learn, reflect and act, in the words of the Village Diversity Committee. Chaired by Rick Reinhard and Judy Byron, the committee is responsible for developing the strategies and activities that foster a Village membership as racially, culturally, economically and ethnically diverse

You can tune in on **February 2 (TODAY!)** at 7 pm to an exciting event at the [Smithsonian](#), featuring acclaimed authors Ibram X. Kendi (*How to Be an Antiracist*) and Keisha N. Blain (*Set the World on Fire*) in a moderated conversation about their new anthology, ***Four Hundred Souls***. The book tells the story of African Americans in five-year increments, with contributions from 90 authors. [Click here](#) to register.



Recommended by a Diversity Committee member, ***Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*** is about revealing the truth and coming to terms with our bias and our history. Both a book and a video series, *Uncomfortable Conversations* takes on white parents raising black children, conversations with the police, seeing color, and interracial relationships. Author **Emmanuel Acho** has been a professional football player, sports broadcaster and now video podcast host, and his conversations are powerful.

Find him on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXAptcMQLoM6jeadgiA4YZZbgW4BDovTB>

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## Hello Neighbor: Blank Cards Available

By now you will have received at your doorstep a Hello Neighbor card to welcome in the new year. We have ordered blank cards for your use, and these are free while supplies last. You can order in packs of five, or singly. Contact Judy Byron, [judy@judybyron.com](mailto:judy@judybyron.com) or 202-422-2307 (TEXT or PHONE).

Hello Neighbor is a new initiative of the Diversity Committee, designed to help overcome the isolation and division caused by the pandemic and other events of the past year. In spite of masks, distancing, threats of violence, and the loss

“hello” or waving a greeting, bumping elbows or miming hugs can remind us that we are a community and that our artificial barriers will not last. Watch for more Hello Neighbor materials coming this spring, and give a wave or a nod to your neighbors when you’re out and about.

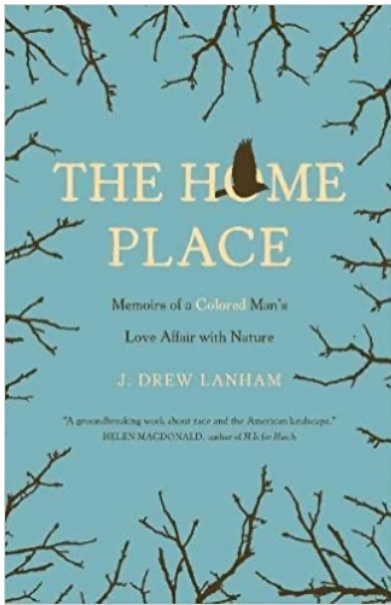


## Backyard Birding

It's February, the days are getting longer, and migrating birds will soon start to join the birds that winter with us. Would you like to know more about the birds in your backyard (front yard, side yard, lone oak tree)? Mary Rojas and Laura Breeden will host a casual conversation on Zoom about what you're seeing. If there is interest, we can create a listserv to share our questions and observations. **If you're interested, write to Mary ([m.h.rojas@verizon.net](mailto:m.h.rojas@verizon.net)) or Laura ([llbreeden@icloud.com](mailto:llbreeden@icloud.com)).**

And in the spirit of Black History Month, we recommend the amazing Black birder, author, and ornithologist Drew Lanham, whose latest book is [\*The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man's Love Affair with Nature\*](#). He's also the author of a forthcoming collection of poetry and meditations, [\*Sparrow Envy: Field Guide to Birds and Lesser Beasts\*](#). **J. Drew Lanham** is an Alumni Distinguished Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Master Teacher, and Certified Wildlife Biologist at Clemson University in South Carolina, his home state. In

<https://onbeing.org/programs/drew-lanham-i-worship-every-bird-that-i-see/>.



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## Mazie Holland



We are saddened by the loss of Village member Mazie Holland, who died in December. Mazie was a member of the Village Diversity Committee and a long-time advocate in DC for racial justice. A leader in DC Women in Politics, she also was active in international development as the U.S. Representative for Diaspora Forum Mission in Accra, Ghana and the Director of Public Relations

be remembered for “her lovely and gracious manner” as well as her activism, says Elinor Hart. You can visit her web site at [www.maziegreenholland.com](http://www.maziegreenholland.com)

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## Board Officers Elected at First Meeting of New Board on January 9

The newly elected Board of MPV met on January 9 to elect officers. We are pleased to announce that they are:

**Bill Emmet, President**

**Judy Fisher, Vice President**

**Larry Rickards, Secretary**

**Ross Hamory, Treasurer**

The next meeting of the Board is April 17.

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## Welcome New Members!

**Iris Rothman** - 19th Street NW

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## Coming in March

The Roots of the Village - Notes from the Founding Board Members

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## JOIN MOUNT PLEASANT VILLAGE!

**Membership Fee:** \$50 annually per individual. For more information, contact Michael Burke at [membership@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:membership@mountpleasantvillage.org).

**Donate:** Make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to Mount Pleasant Village at 1735 Lamont Street NW, Washington, DC 20010 or clicking the “Donate Now” button on our home page ([mountpleasantvillage.org](http://mountpleasantvillage.org)).

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The newsletter is a cooperative effort! If you have questions, comments,  
or news to share, contact: [info@mountpleasantvillage.org](mailto:info@mountpleasantvillage.org)

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