

**From:** Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Rpcvsf@wildapricot.org  
**Subject:** Marvin, the RPCVSF newsletter is here!  
**Date:** July 4, 2020 at 10:15 AM  
**To:** Marvin Hancock tmhr@me.com

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Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida is *your* group—please join us for fun get-togethers, community service activities, job/life networking, great events, stimulating conversation, and much more.  
Read on and get involved!



# *Tropical Currents*

**The RPCVSF Newsletter**

**July 2020**

**Happy Independence Day!**



Where can I watch fireworks?

**Your vote counts.**

Are you registered?  
Register, update, or check your information.

Register to Vote

Need to request a mail-in ballot?  
Select your county and follow the instructions.

Request a Mail-in Ballot



## Taking a Stand for Racial Justice

What can we do?  
RPCVSF is part of the ongoing conversation with [NPCA](#) about how affiliate groups can take action.

Here are some resources to contact Congress, represent RPCVSF in solidarity with the [RPCV/W](#) task force, and learn more about [Campaign Zero](#).

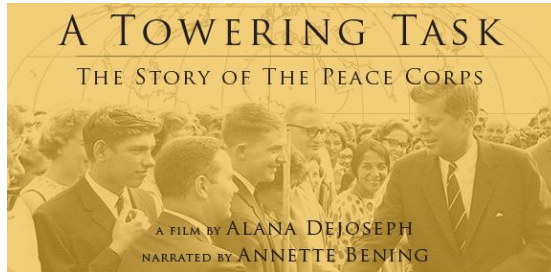
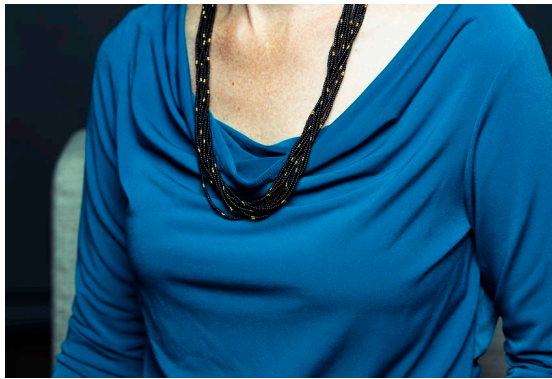
If you have other ideas or suggestions, please email [president@rpcvsf.org](mailto:president@rpcvsf.org).

Email Your Representatives

Join the Task Force

Learn More about Campaign Zero





### **A Towering Task: Q&A with the Director**

[\*A Towering Task\*](#) tells the remarkable story of the Peace Corps and takes viewers on a journey of what it means to be a global citizen.

Alana deJoseph will join us for a post-watch discussion and Q&A. Stream the film through [Coral Gables Art Cinema](#)'s [Virtual Screening Room](#) before the event. Then join us on **Sunday, July 26 at 4:30pm** on Zoom.

RSVP





NPCA is hosting [town halls](#) from July 8–16, leading up to their [ideas summit July 18](#) to ask some crucial questions about the Peace Corps community in a changed world. The town halls take on big issues — systemic racism, climate change, and more. The aim is to start answering the question: **What are the big ideas for the Peace Corps going forward?**

Join members of the Peace Corps community to talk about this questions and consider next steps for the future.

[Learn More & RSVP](#)

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## **FAIR TRADE MARKET NEWS**

Linda Whitmyre

[Email Fair Trade Market](#)

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## **Virtual Backgrounds on Zoom, an Easy DIY Guide**

Wendy Stein





Per request from the Zoom Storytelling event, here is a way to use real movie magic to zest up your Zoom meetings. Through the use of virtual backgrounds, you can display nearly any image behind yourself that you can imagine — be it a photo from your host country, scenery, or even the Mona Lisa. It is affordable and easy to set up.

### **STEP 1: GATHER YOUR MATERIALS**

For less than \$10, you will be set up. First, you will need a “Green Screen” a.k.a. “Chroma Key” in your background. Let’s **approach it like a PCV** and tack 2 sq. yards of cheap green construction or other firm paper or fabric to your wall (or hang it from a movable laundry rack, as I do).

Any green will do, and for most people, **a brighter green works best** — a green that you would be unlikely to wear as clothing. Look for a green that is smooth and dull, absent of texture, and avoid highly reflective greens.

### **STEP 2: SETTING IT UP ON ZOOM**

Log in to Zoom and **open the settings**. Set up your camera where you would normally sit. Hang your two yards of “green screen” so that the green color fills the entire camera frame. Set up your lighting to be as uniform as possible.

Next, look at your zoom “settings,” for the option “Virtual Backgrounds”. You can also choose this option by clicking on the ^ to the right of the “Stop video” button on the lower left side of your screen when in a zoom meeting.

“Click” on the button “I have a green screen.” Then you can select one of the pre-loaded images, by clicking on it and *voila*, like magic, you will be sitting in front of the Golden Gate Bridge, in a meadow, or in outer space. Not your cup of tea? You can upload your own JPEG or PNG image.

### **STEP 3: UPLOADING YOUR OWN BACKGROUND IMAGES**

Once you find your image, you can upload any JPEG or PNG image to the Zoom virtual backgrounds library by clicking on the small **+** above the picture library on the right (in the virtual backgrounds tab). Choose the option “Add image.” It will take you to your hard drive, where you can choose an image to upload.

### **STEP 4: OPTIMIZATION**

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If your background is not working well, check your lighting to make it consistent.

Also, you can “click” on the button next to “Manually pick the color of the background if the detected color is not accurate.” Then, click on a green part of the image in your camera view. Did that improve it for you? For further troubleshooting, [check out the support on Zoom's website](#).

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## Book Review

**Deborah Paris**

*So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo is a New York Times bestseller. A no nonsense book for those who want a frank and open discussion about a subject so much in the news, in our history and in our lives. Ms. Oluo is an African American writer and speaker serious about heightening White America’s awareness and understanding of the Black experience. She expounds on the meaning of White privilege, discusses the concept of intersectionality from the perspective of a black queer woman, explores the use of the “N” word and opens our eyes to the painful impact of microaggressions. She ends by suggesting “small steps you can take right now to help create real change in the fight against racial oppression, if you are looking for your little piece of the system you can dismantle. It’s an easy read on a difficult subject that has been a challenge throughout our history.