



"One Day in May"

(May 15, 2020)

Use this form if you would like to complete your submission by hand. Feel free to use extra sheets, and photos and doodles are also welcome. Mail your completed form to Duggan Library Archives, Hanover College, Hanover, IN 47243. Or scan it and email the scan to archives@hanover.edu.

Name:

Barbara (Kiser) Bayer

Class year:

1966

Connection to the College (student? faculty? alum? friend of the College?):

Describe your day on May 15, 2020.

(Tell us whatever you'd like at whatever length you'd like. We think future students will especially appreciate hearing about concrete details -- Did you go out today? What did you do for fun? Did you cook or eat anything special? Did you work or do chores? Who did you spend time with? What can you see and hear from where you are right now?)

See attached

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May 15, 2020

Friday, May 15, 2020 – the end of the ninth week since Indiana's governor issued the "Stay-At-Home" Order due to the coronavirus – Covid-19. Who am I? I am a 76 year old retired widow who lives alone, and I have spent the past nine weeks alone. I am in one of the groups (over 65) considered to be highly vulnerable to the virus, and therefore, it is very important to limit my contact with the outside world. This has been a huge change to my life because I was the proverbial "social butterfly". Whether I was playing in a bridge group, participating in senior activities at church, meeting others for lunch or dinner, going to the gym to work out, doing volunteer activities, or getting ready for the golf season to begin, I rarely spent a whole day at home. Now everything has been cancelled.

So, what about today? After a much colder than usual start to the month of May, for the second day in a row, the weather has finally been warm enough to have the front and back doors of my condo open. As I sit here at the computer, I can hear birds chirping. It has been raining off and on, and I have listened to the sound. I have seen squirrels and chipmunks frolicking on my deck. I have heard no voices – no one is out walking today. I have neither received nor made any telephone calls. I have already made my bi-weekly trip to the grocery and drug store. My car hasn't needed any gasoline for the past ten weeks. After doing some household chores, I did some online ordering, and then spent several hours doing genealogical research.

I'm so bored with my own cooking! This week the Carmel, Indiana, Lions Club held a Smoked Meat fundraiser. After ordering online, a drive through pick up service was provided, and I have dined for several meals on smoked chicken breasts, classic cole slaw from Woody's, and wonderful breadsticks from Greek Tony's. What a delightful change! And the proceeds from the fundraiser help support Lions Club charities and local food banks.