



"One Day in May"

(May 15, 2021)

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Class Year: 2003

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

Describe your day on May 15, 2021. Tell us whatever you'd like at whatever length you'd like. We think future students will especially appreciate hearing about concrete details -- What can you see and hear from where you are right now? What did you do for fun today? Did you cook or eat anything special? Did you work or do chores? Who did you spend time with? What did you learn?

On May 15, 2021, my family started the day trying out some donuts from a new bakery in town. I have three children- ages 8, 5, and 18 months. I spent much of the rest of the day cleaning while my husband watched the kids. Because of the pandemic, I've been homeschooling my children this year. That leaves very little time for cleaning and other chores during the week.

In the afternoon, I attended a virtual baby shower for a family member. That is one thing that has really changed this year- so many virtual events! This was the second baby shower I attended virtually this year. We all sent gifts in advance, played online shower games, and then watched the mama to be open gifts.

That evening, we grilled out and had my dad over to eat. The kids spent the evening playing outside- riding bikes, swinging, blowing bubbles, and using sidewalk chalk.

What do you think you'll remember most about surviving the pandemic? Tell us what whatever you'd like at whatever length you'd like. We think future students will especially appreciate memories that help them picture your life and relationships -- Have you taken up any new leisure activities in the last year, or have you changed how you eat, or cook? If you're on campus, what was it like in classrooms or dining spaces or locker rooms or offices? Have you been able to stay in touch with family or friends (including classmates and other Hanoverians)? How? What have you missed the most in the past year?

I will remember how divided people were on how to approach the pandemic. It strained relationships with friends and family. I will remember the initial anxiety and fear over this new virus- especially at first before we knew much about it.

I will remember how intentional we all became about making fun memories for our children- special art projects, zoom family and friend gatherings, cooking together in the kitchen, family movie nights, family parties, etc. We had to get very creative with all this extra time together. I will remember getting to have a family dinner every evening for a year.

There's a lot I have missed - dinners out, experiencing the arts with others, church in person. But I think there will be a lot about the pandemic I will miss once we are out of it- a slower pace, lots of family time, time to read, time to cook, time to rest.

This is my contribution to the "One Day in May" project, which preserves the everyday experiences of Hanoverians on an ordinary spring day (in this case, May 15, 2021). I consent to its being made available to library users, and I grant Hanover College a nonexclusive, perpetual, royalty free license to use, duplicate and distribute it.

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