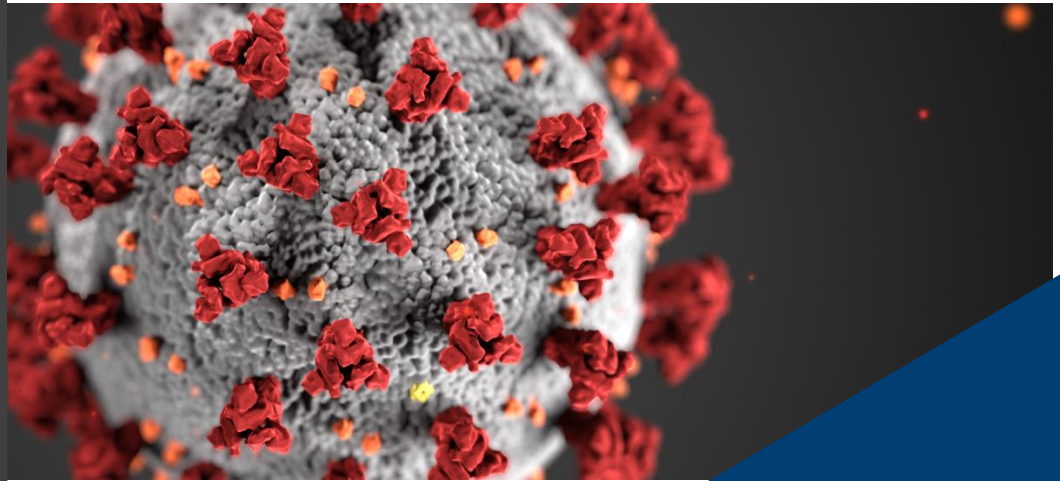


IN THE  
TIME  
OF  
COVID-19



Things have grown since the pandemic began - my hydrangea, Gracie, and me. Just call me Santa.

**MARTY CHARNS**



Writing in the ICU can be surprisingly therapeutic. Ben and I planned our next submission to JAMA's *A Piece of My Mind* based on his latest admission.

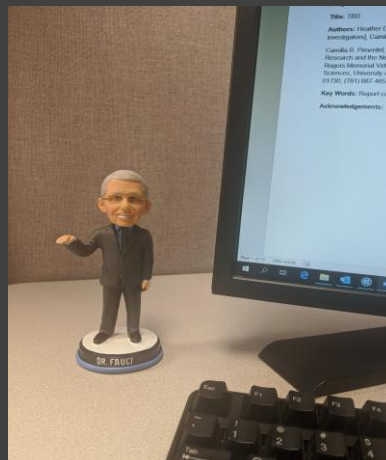
**RANI ELWY**



**WWAFD?**

Dr. Anthony Fauci was my consistent, no-nonsense writing buddy during CHOIR Writers' Week. He asks that we continue to do good science, communicate a clear message, remain steady despite the chaos, and do our part to flatten the curve.

**CAMI PIMENTEL**



**WELCOME**

This is CHOIR's collective effort for expressing and documenting our extraordinary, lived experiences in the time of COVID-19.

**#COVIDCREATIVITY  
@VA\_CHOIR on Twitter**

Editorial Team: Rani Elwy, Gemmae Fix, Keith McInnes  
Designer: Elizabeth Maguire



**SEND YOUR  
SUBMISSIONS TO:  
RANI.ELWY@VA.GOV**

**NOTE:** New summer schedule! Our next monthly issue will be out **August 26**. Please send your submissions by August 24. Keep your submissions coming for these summer issues!



A coronavirus - looking  
plant found by

**ALEXANDRA  
HOWARD**

during one of her walks  
during this COVID-19  
pandemic.

I haven't been baking  
bread BUT I transformed  
my outdoor electric grill  
into a pizza oven using a  
pizza stone. Now I can  
make pizza in the middle of  
a heat wave – woo hoo!

**ANNA MARIA  
VALENTINE**



[VA disclaimer](#)

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 16: July 22, 2020