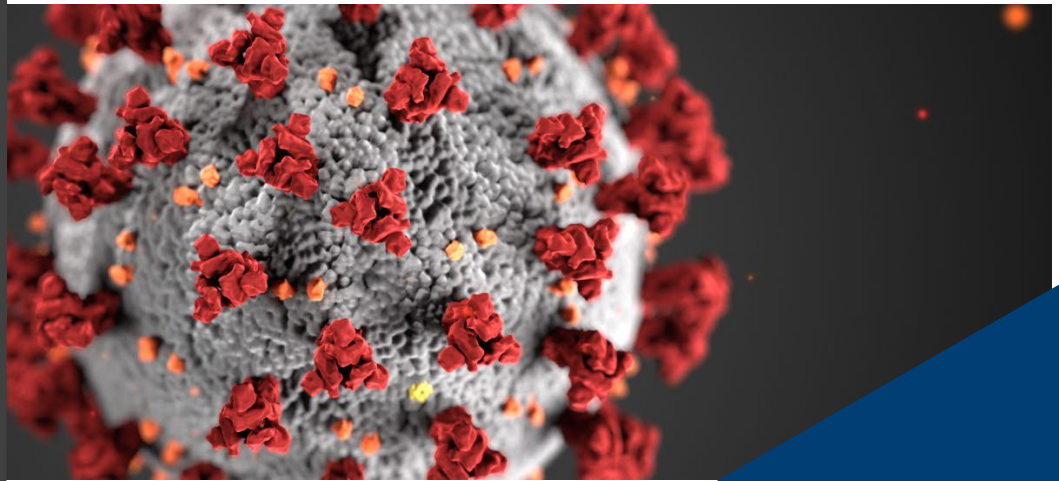


IN THE TIME OF COVID-19



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

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SEND YOUR
SUBMISSIONS TO:

RANI.ELWY@VA.GOV



Lovely view at the Gardner
Museum and so nice to finally visit!

**ANNA MARIA
VALENTINE**

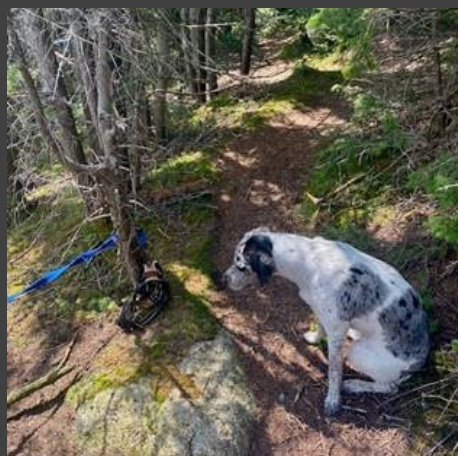


Life routines stopped in March;
haircuts haven't happened

As I worked last week, Meyer flew
past; the bath started

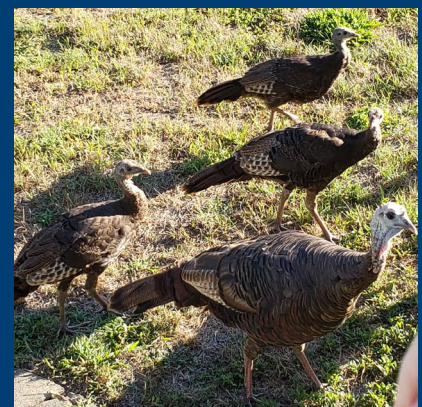
Eric walked down the stairs: "I
think Meyer cut his hair"

GEMMAE FIX



A photo of my dog Koa learning a
new and frustrating trick—how to
wiggle out of her harness at the
top of a mountain!

MADISEN BROWN



While we haven't had too much
excitement around here during the
summer, we do get regular visits
from turkeys. Some quick facts and
observations are:

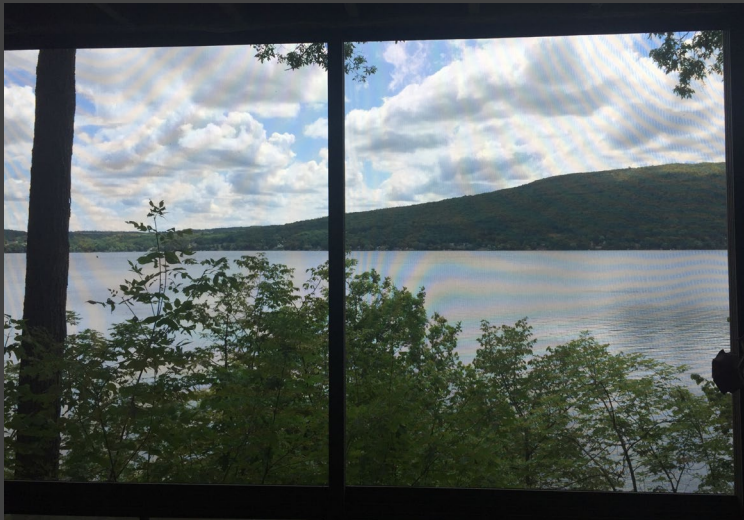
- 2/5ths of the family has indicated interest in adopting at least one turkey and naming him or her Feathers.
- Turkeys have a good memory for which houses offer them food.
- Turkey likes: blueberries
- Turkey dislikes: neighborhood dogs

TERRI POGODA



Each year our town auctions off upcycled old chairs to benefit the Arlington Arts Foundation. This year my daughters and I decided to decoupage an Ikea table and chair set they've long outgrown. We gathered magazine donations from all around town by posting on the town listserv, and then cut and Mod Podged pieces of paper to the lightly-sanded table and chairs. My younger daughter (9) did the table; my older one (12) did the chairs. I helped a little with each.

VARSHA VIMALANANDA



On the one hand, I have everything I need as I write at my in-law's house in upstate New York (including my Diet Coke and Cheetos 😊). On the other hand, this view of Lake Canandaigua and my kids splashing with joy in the water is a bit distracting! Realistically, though, working from home with grandparents around has upped my productivity by a million.

HILLARY MULL



A silver lining to the COVID travel restrictions has been the impetus to explore more of Massachusetts. My recommendations for socially distanced fun: Hammond Castle in Gloucester, the deCordova Sculpture Park in Lincoln, and Wahconah Falls out in the Berkshires.

VANESSA MERKER



Some people have “COVID-19 jackets” which make them look ready to go no matter what is happening in their home when their next video conference beckons. I have COVID-19 scarves. These scarves save me on a daily basis, turning my ordinary into fun and exciting. The next time you see me scarved, you’ll know it’s all for show!

RANI ELWY