## Covid reopening: Thanks, now I'm a genius!

Now that Massachusetts has made it into phase 3 of the covid reopening, I'm pleased that our new cases are remaining low and that, perhaps in light of what's happening elsewhere in the country, more folks seem to be wearing masks, outdoors.



Anita Harris & pool noodle at Henrietta's cafe, Cambridge, MA. I'm also pleased that, of late, no one has cursed me out (and vice versa) and that those who do call me names now use positive terms. Yesterday, someone actually called out "genius" and the day before, "creative! " Sometimes, I hear people chuckling as they pass by.

That's been true for a few weeks, now—ever since the Christmas Tree Shop reopened and I was able to buy a pool noodle which I sport to maintain social distance of almost six feet when running on Fresh Pond or the Charles.

It wasn't really my idea (a friend told me he'd seen people doing that in New York's Central Park) but, hey, I'm willing to take credit if this becomes a Cambridge fashion trend. (And

I hope it does).

I'd also like to thank some folks and organizations for helping me through the pandemic—in what has not been an easy time:



Ranger Jean, of Fresh Pond, who listened and commiserated when I told her about the maskless covidiot who called me a motherFxxxr when I told him masks were required; she told me not to interact, that people should feel happy on Fresh Pond.



That's not Heidi; I'll replace asap.

Heidi M. of Evolve Fitness of Cambridge and Framingham, whose Zoom Zumba class, smile and joy lifted my spirits on Saturday mornings before the covid reopening.



Jennifer Miles

Jennifer Miles, whose City of Cambridge online yoga classes continue to provide me with peace, calm and a regular schedule. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/huronvillageyoga">https://www.facebook.com/huronvillageyoga</a>



Heather Cox Richardson on Facebook

Heather Cox Richardson, whose biweekly lectures on political history have taught me ever-so- much about the situations we are facing today .

-The good-natured helpful people at Trader Joe's and CVS, and the nice older Star Market checkout clerk (I don't know his name) who offered that he went to Boston College, not BU; and the Starbucks barista who wished me a good day as I walked out the door with my half -caf .



-Virginia and Maya (in the photo below) and Sheldon at the newly reopened Henrietta's Cafe, at the Charles Hotel in Cambridge, whose spirit, joy, encouragement and coffee (!) give me great energy to complete my book-in progress.



Sarah, Henrietta's, New Cambridge Observer

And Sarah, for taking the <u>photo of me with the pool noodle</u>, and for adding that cinnamon to my coffee!

## -Anita Harris

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