

How I Travel Through The Pandemic

By Diane Parker

I grocery shop for three elderly, home bound Windsor Garden seniors each week. Therefore, I not only have to shop for myself, but I am scanning the various stores (Target, Wal-Mart, Kings, etc.), for what is available for them on the shelves ... mainly disinfectant and paper products ... which are the hardest to find.

Being out there in the public allows me to get a grand view and intake on what the American public is or is not doing. This means wearing the masks especially in the public ... and hand washing.

Okay now most of us know about the rules of health and safe-guarding ourselves against this deadly, worldly disease. Colorado's governor and Denver's mayor are day-by-day informing its citizens.

I want to share with you the interesting, personalized and various masks people in Denver have come up with. I am amazed every day I am out there in the public by the ingenuity and imaginations the human being can come up with!

The one single style of homemade mask is the bandana. I never get used to it when I see someone's lower face draped in one. The first thought is ... masked bandit ... ready to rob a bank. Silly but a funny and good positive thought for the moment.

When doing my power walks along the Highland into the Fairmont Cemetery, I marvel at how the bicyclists can pedal and manage to breathe through the various masks they are wearing. I would have to give up the sport because my less-than-two-lungs would not cooperate at all trying to take in Colorado's high altitude thin oxygen.

I came across what I feel is the most interesting handmade mask a couple of weeks ago. I was shopping in Kings and met up with an elderly lady in the produce section. I noticed her mask and couldn't help but stare at it. Finally I asked her, at a six-foot distance, if her mask was part of a bra. She smiled and said yes. Her daughter had taken one of her Victoria Secret bras and cut one of the cups off and made her mother a mask. It was a luscious black satin with ecru lace. I was envious!

A small crowd soon stood around us and we all had a good laugh over her short story about the making of a mask from a Victoria Secrets bra. I know I walked away with a smile on my face.

I have two reusable masks with filters made by my daughter's friend who made them out of cotton. She made masks and gave the proceeds to her favorite charity.

Wearing a mask is not something I am thrilled to have to do. It's cumbersome, hot and makes my lungs work harder than ever for every breath I take. I am not looking forward to how uncomfortable it will be once summer has arrived and the temperatures escalate into the 80's and 90's. It's bad enough to have my glasses fog over for every breath I take ... not to mention the ear straps cause my bifocals to be off and I can't read anything!

Oh Covid-19 ... go away ... and never come back! Let's be patient allowing the time needed for our scientists and medical field to hopefully discover a vaccine that will be able to eradicate this terrible disease.