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## Be safe – cover your nose and mouth

County Health Officers require everyone to cover their nose and mouth when doing the following:

- working at an essential business
- are inside an essential business, such as a grocery store
- visiting a healthcare provider or facility
- waiting in line for or ride public transportation

The order also requires ride share drivers, public transit, and government workers to wear masks when they come close to others, or where the public is likely to be present. Do not be surprised if police officers and firefighters are wearing masks and other personal protective equipment when they respond to an emer-

gency call.

Businesses must take reasonable measures, such as posting signs, to remind visitors about masking, and not serve customers who do not observe the order.

The new order does not extend to people driving in personal vehicles alone or with members of their households. Additionally, children under 12 years old do not have to wear a facial cover and children 2 years old or younger should not wear a cover due to suffocation risks. People who are outside exercising also do not have to wear a cover unless someone is within 6' of them...and they need to carry a face covering or mask. For example, if you are hiking or walking on a trail, you only

need to cover your nose and mouth when you pass someone...and remember to make room so there is space between people.

The Health Department has also opened 4 locations for drive-through testing for people with COVID-19 symptoms. Testing is done in your vehicle. Call 844-421-0804 to be screened by a nurse and make an appointment to be tested. Testing is being done at County Health Department offices in San Pablo, Martinez, Concord, and Pittsburg.

For current information about the COVID-19 situation, go to [www.coronavirus.cchealth.org](http://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org) or call the Health Department information number at 844-729-8410. Source: Moraga Police Department Nixle alert.

## Volunteers across Lamorinda answer call for face masks



Photos provided

... continued from Page A1

Beneficiaries have included Lamorinda Village, Meals on Wheels, Seniors Around Town, White Pony Express and those who work in grocery stores such as Diablo Foods. They are providing masks to those managing critical business for city offices and those supporting clients at Orinda Senior Villages as well as Las Trampas Inc., Monument Crisis Center, Trinity Center, and Loaves and Fishes, Hope Solutions, Chateau Lafayette, Merrill Gardens and Belle Terre senior centers along with Shelter, Inc., and Youth Homes.

With financial assistance forthcoming from the Lafayette Rotary, the Chamber of Commerce, Diablo Foods and the City of Lafayette along with many of the "sewists," within 24 hours Goldie had 40 people signed up to sew. As she developed a high-quality design she brought in three critical new members – local custom tailors Joseph Jamkochian of Creative Alterations and Carlos Gomez of Moises Gomez, and Linda Morris of the Cotton Patch. The core team worked around the clock to pre-cut fabric and create kits of 40 masks each, for "sewists" to complete at home.

Lamorinda Village Op-

erations Manager Kathryn Ishizu is grateful. "These masks will keep our volunteers safe as they work to keep our vulnerable older population safe. This is an incredible community effort and we will all get through this together."

They've been busy in Moraga as well, where Paula Hertel who works in assisted living services says she has seen how hard the caregivers and staff have been working to keep residents safe, engaged and healthy despite all of the obstacles and hardships.

"I knew our Moraga community would rise up and help. My daughter dances at CAPA. I remembered seeing all these women sewing costumes and ballet shoes for the CAPA shows," says Hertel. She reached out to Jen Schnayer, Christy Kutzscher, Laura Finnerty and Christine Curtis, all CAPA "moms," to ask them if they would help. "Christine, a master organizer, made material kits and called on many of the CAPA sewing group to help as well. Our generous community also helped with donating and funding the costs of materials," says Hertel.

In addition, Hertel's daughter Elissa Goldman started a thank you letter campaign for residents and

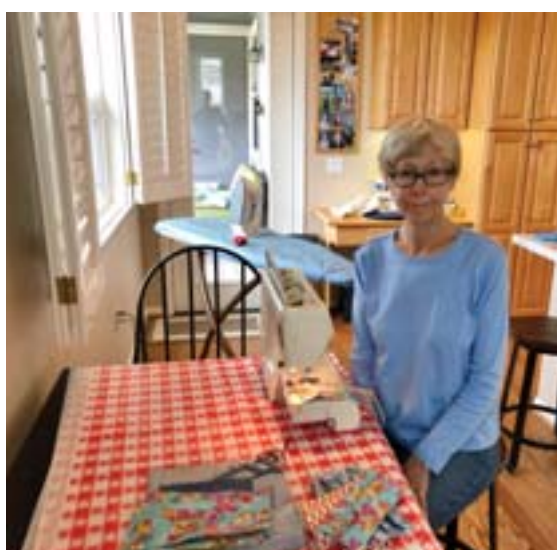
staff at these communities. She raised enough money to send over 150 cards and gift cards to caregivers and hundreds to residents. "The letters they receive remind them that they are valued and not forgotten. The caregivers feel the same way – a cloth mask and a thank you card with a \$5 Target gift card is more than the value of the materials – we see you, we care and we want you to be safe," says Hertel.

Meanwhile in Orinda the community is being led in its efforts by a couple of youngsters - sisters, seventh-grader Audrey, and fourth-grader Grace Kosla, who have so far with the help of friends and family already created over 300 face masks. Close to 20 friends and family members have contributed by making masks, donating materials and giving lessons.

Audrey notes that she has learned the importance of time management and persistence, "It's important to set a deadline and make sure to complete the task at hand."

The Kosla family's masks are going to delivery people, health care workers, numerous charities and other friends and family, they say.

"It's really fun and exciting to help people," says Grace.



Photos provided