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## Working through the Covid-19 pandemic

I first heard about the novel Covid-19 virus in 2019 during Christmas at my Mother's house and thought that the problem would not spread far or become a major phenomenon. However, in March 2020 Federal lockdowns were established and the borders were closed for travel, as the Coronavirus was beginning to spread rapidly. Furthermore, many businesses had to close down, which created an economic frenzy among small businesses with little savings to survive the pandemic. Therefore, congress implemented the "Cares Act,' which was an economic relief bill to help Americans during these mandated lockdown. However, I did not find myself categorized as a "non-essential worker," but as an "essential worker," with a job in hospitality, which was deemed an "essential" business. Therefore, to stay open my job at El Capitan Canyon implemented certain guidelines provided by the CDC, which allowed for business to continue in a safe manner. For example, employees and guests were mandated to wear a mask in public settings, as well as to follow the six foot separation guideline. However, not everyone was willing to follow certain guidelines that helped slow the spread of the disease. Another example is a gentleman coming to use El Capitan Canyons' general store without a mask. In this encounter the gentleman had no regard for the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and continued to the store after being told he would be trespassing on private property, which did not bother him. As a result the man was removed from the property and was not allowed to return because of his behavior and not following policies set in place to stay open. During the pandemic I find people struggling with the concept of wearing a mask in public settings and to stay six feet

away from other people, which some would think is common practice to respect another persons' space. However, during the Covid-19 Pandemic I was able to work in certain conditions with less risk of being infected or possibly infecting others, by following the guidelines, as well as enforcing company policies, which follow CDC guidelines. Furthermore, I have been applying the same guidelines away from work when I am at home or in public with regards to responsible for spreading the disease by not staying at home with little outside activity or if in a public setting, wear a mask and stay six feet apart. Moreover, I was thankful to keep my job during this time where many Americans are out of work due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.