A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Together, in solidarity, we shall overcome

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I am writing to you in an environment of fear and uncertainty. Many of our members in the U.S. and Canada have already been impacted by the fallout from the coronavirus, or COVID-19, pandemic. Undoubtedly, more effects will be felt by our membership, by our two countries and globally as this crisis unfolds.

I want to first assure you that the IAM — at every level — is fighting to ensure that employers respond to this pandemic in a way that provides for the safety and health of their employees and the communities in which our members live and work.

I also recognize that the pandemic poses a significant threat to our economy and to the economic security and livelihood of our membership. On this front we are working with employers to ensure that they are not using this national emergency to advance their economic interests. I am pleased to report that, at least anecdotally, many employers are responding in a reasonable and thoughtful matter.

We are also working on Capitol Hill and on Parliament Hill to ensure that all economic relief packages afford appropriate protections for our members who actually do the work. We are closely monitoring legislative activity in Washington, D.C. and in Ottawa to ensure that working people are protected both financially as well as with appropriate safety and health provisions.

I am also writing to you as a husband, father and grandfather. I share the deep concern you have for your families. In this time of uncertainty, taking care of our loved ones is of the utmost importance. I encourage you to follow guidelines and recommendations from public health officials at the federal, state, provincial and local levels.

We can, by our collective actions, reduce the risk of transmission and infection of the coronavirus.

I also recognize that this current emergency is a source of additional stress for our members and their families. Fortunately, we have within the IAM our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and Addiction Services Programs ready to assist and support members and their families struggling to cope with this situation. I encourage you to use these resources should you experience stress that is overwhelming or paralyzing.

In closing, I want to reiterate that the IAM is working very hard every day to address the economic, financial and public health impacts of this crisis. We are listening to you and will be providing updates and resources on a daily basis until we are through this pandemic.

There has and will be changes to the way our union operates as we move forward, and we pledge to keep you informed throughout this entire process.

Please check the IAM Coronavirus Resource Center frequently for updates and announcements. Members should also subscribe to our email newsletter, iMail, and follow the Machinists Union on Facebook and Twitter for continuous information.

Our two countries, our union and our families have confronted and overcome many difficult and challenging times. I am confident that we will get through the challenge that is now before us. I would ask that you take care of yourself, your coworkers, your family, and your community. Together, in solidarity, we shall overcome.

Fraternally,

Robert Martinez Jr.
IAM International President

COVID-19: Stay informed!

This issue of the 142 Observer includes information that was current as we went to press. For up-to-the-minute information on the COVID-19 pandemic, visit www.cdc.gov. For current information on the IAM's response, visit IAMDL142.org.
Stimulus bill includes vital protections for workers in the airline industry

If not for unions, this legislation would not be centered on workers as it is.

In his column on page 3, District 142 President Dave Supplee covers the broader outlines of the package and explains its potential beneficial effects on the economy at large. In this column, I’ll address the parts that have specific relevance to the airline industry.

• First off, the legislation provides $25 billion in grants and $25 billion in loans or loan guarantees to our industry. Before Labor’s input in writing the law, it was only a loan program.

• The grant funds are exclusively for continuation of payment of employee wages, salaries and benefits. Before Labor’s input, this provision did not exist.

• The law contains no provisions for opening collective bargaining agreements for concessionary negotiations as a condition for receiving grant funds, loans or loan guarantees. Before Labor’s input, the treasury secretary had the power to demand unlimited conditions on receiving federal funds.

• As a condition to receive federal grant funds, a carrier must refrain from conducting involuntary furloughs until Sept. 30, 2020. Before Labor’s input, this important provision did not exist.

• The law prohibits stock buybacks and dividend payments until Sept. 30, 2021. It also imposes limits on executive compensation and “golden parachutes.” Before Labor’s input, these provisions did not exist.

“I 't for unions, this legislation would not be centered on workers as it is,” says Sito Pantoja, the IAM’s international vice president for the transportation industry.

“It would have been a giveaway to corporations and Wall Street.”

He continued: “What we accomplished was substantial, but now is not the time to celebrate. Workers are unemployed, businesses are closed and people are dying every day in our communities from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We still have an unprecedented crisis in front of us, so our work is far from being done.”

Hopefully, in three or four years we will return to where we were before the COVID-19 crisis, when our airlines made record profits.

In the meantime, our union will never stop fighting for the people like you — people who work hard every day to serve the public and put food on their families’ tables.

We stand with you and for you.
President’s Report
By Dave Supplee

In these turbulent times, your union stands strong for you and your loved ones

Everything seems to be up in the air in this time of crisis — except for the airplanes. The companies change policies and then change them again. Meanwhile, our members and the general public are doing their best to keep up.

It’s fortunate that the federal government is stepping forward to bring some calm to the turbulence. Time will tell whether it will be enough to do the trick, but our union is prepared to respond to whatever comes our way.

In the meantime, all negotiations with the employers are on hold until we better understand the economic conditions in the air transportation industry.

Help from Congress
As I write this message, Congress is approving an unprecedented $2 trillion relief package that includes desperately needed support for our industry, as well as guarantees and direct support for working Americans of all stripes.

It’s too early to tell exactly how this bill will affect our union’s membership, but we do know it includes these provisions:

- A $500 billion fund to help shore up companies that are hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic — including those in the transportation industry.
- More than $377 billion to help small businesses survive the crisis.

We will continue to represent your interests — and only your interests — whether it’s in the workplace, at the corporate level, or in the halls of power in Washington, D.C.

Our business of fighting for union members continues

By Sito Pantoja
General Vice President, IAMAW

Every threat to our industry. Transportation workers have unparalleled resilience, and we only need to compare our collective bargaining agreements today to what they looked like in the aftermath of 9/11 and subsequent industry restructuring as proof of our enduring strength.

The business of the Machinists Union fighting for and protecting our members will continue.

It is the job of management to ensure we have a healthy industry. It is your union’s job to make sure that any temporary impact to a carrier does not result in permanent negative changes for our members.

Jointly, union and management have a responsibility to make sure our members, their employees, and the health of the industry cannot come at the expense of your and your family’s health.

I urge everyone to follow the guidelines and pass on to you as much information as possible. Please visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index for more information.

If you have concerns about potential exposure in the workplace, contact your District Lodge Chair with your concerns.

The COVID-19 virus is extremely contagious and is especially dangerous, even potentially life-threatening, for people over 60 years old and/or those individuals with underlying health conditions, particularly heart and lung conditions, diabetes and immunity-suppressing conditions.

Please be safe and use common sense at work and at home so we can put this latest threat behind us.

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Please be safe and use common sense at work and at home so we can put this latest threat behind us.
By now, you have heard the news about the flu-like disease called COVID-19, caused by the novel coronavirus. This dangerous virus originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019 and since then has affected more than 100,000 and killed more than 3,500 people around the world.

As workers in the airline industry, we have a front-row view of how dangerous exposure to this virus has been. Flights are being canceled or postponed to limit exposure, and yet the virus continues to spread.

Protecting yourself

It is completely normal to be fearful of the coronavirus, but just because you or someone you know may come in contact with it, it does not mean it will be deadly. Taking a few precautions can go a long way toward defeating the virus.

First and foremost, if you feel sick, do yourself and others a favor and stay home. This includes symptoms of the common cold and/or flu. If you have a persistent cough, a fever or a sinus infection, call your doctor to see if you should be tested. Do not go to your doctor unless you are called in, because you may put others at risk of exposure.

If you are not sick, encourage others around you to practice good hygiene by coughing or sneezing into the bend of the elbow. Wash hands frequently for at least 20 seconds under warm water or use hand sanitizer after each time you cough, sneeze or blow your nose into a tissue.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

If you are on a layover in a country or state with a known coronavirus outbreak, you are advised to remain in your hotel room as much as possible and practice the hygiene recommendations above.

Protecting passengers

If you notice a passenger exhibiting symptoms of illness, ask the passenger where he or she has traveled in the past 21 days and, if possible, try to isolate the ill traveler. Provide ill passengers with tissues and hand sanitizers and encourage them to cough or sneeze into the bends of their elbows. If your airline has a designated lavatory for ill passengers, be sure to let passengers know this and do not allow healthy passengers to use it.

All soiled items (tissues, masks, blankets, etc.) should be stored in a biohazard bag, if available, and sealed.

If you are unsure about how to handle situations with ill travelers or co-workers, contact your GC or steward for more information.

Protecting yourself from coronavirus exposure

Symptoms of COVID-19/coronavirus

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

It may take 2-14 days after exposure to feel any of these symptoms. Some people may carry the virus and could infect others while having no symptoms at all, so hygiene should always be a priority.
EAP can help you through the COVID-19 crisis

When you hear, read or watch news about an outbreak of an infectious disease such as Ebola, you may feel anxious and show signs of stress — even when the outbreak affects people far from where you live and you are at low or no risk of getting sick. These signs of stress are normal and may be more likely or pronounced in people with loved ones in parts of the world affected by the outbreak. In the wake of an infectious disease outbreak, monitor your own physical and mental health.

Know the signs of stress in yourself and your loved ones. Know how to relieve stress and know when to get help.

Know the signs of stress
What follows are behavioral, physical, emotional, and cognitive responses that are all common signs of anxiety and stress. You may notice some of them after you learn about an infectious disease outbreak.

Your behavior:
• An increase or decrease in your energy and activity levels
• An increase in your use of alcohol or tobacco, or use of illegal drugs
• An increase in irritability, with outbursts of anger and frequent arguing
• Having trouble relaxing or sleeping
• Crying frequently
• Worrying excessively
• Wanting to be alone most of the time
• Blaming other people for everything
• Having difficulty communicating or listening
• Having difficulty giving or accepting help
• Inability to feel pleasure or have fun social media and friends and family. It all can be confusing and overwhelming.

Your IAM Employee Assistance Professional (EAP) team can help. We are available to you and your family to provide resources and support, even if you just need someone to speak with. You do not have to go through this alone!

We recommend several strategies to help you get through the next few weeks:
• Depend on reliable sources of information. Limit your sources to alerts from District Lodge 142, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC.gov), your state and county health departments, and well-established journalism outlets.
• Adhere to the “social distancing” mandate. You don’t need to completely isolate, but it is important to maintain a six-foot distance from others. When necessary, communicate with loved ones and friends by phone, text, video chats and social media.
• Monitor alcohol and prescription drug use. You’re indoors more and it can be easy to consume more alcohol or prescription drugs to curb feelings of anxiety or depression. These can actually make your mental health worse, so limit your consumption. Speak with your EAP team and/or a loved one or friend to talk through your feelings.
• Take good care of yourself. Reach out to your IAM EAP representative when you feel stressed, fearful or overwhelmed. We can help work through whatever issue you may be experiencing and find resources specific to your situation. We will stay with you throughout any issue until you feel it is resolved.

Our members are resilient and strong. We can weather these difficult circumstances when we rely on each other.

For assistance, you can contact one of your 17 Local Lodge Coordinators who are there to help you, or contact me at (704) 907-3563 (cell) or pm.shultz@att.net.

I want to thank District Lodge 141’s Bryan Hutchinson and District Lodge 19’s Daniel Tavares in formulating this article. We’re all in this together.

Sources for credible information
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (800) 232-4636 www.cdc.gov
• World Health Organization (202) 974-3000 www.who.int/en

Know how to relieve stress
You can manage and alleviate your stress by taking time to take care of yourself.

Keep things in perspective:
Set limits on how much time you spend reading or watching news about the outbreak. You want to stay up to date on news of the outbreak, particularly if you have loved ones in places where many people have gotten sick. But make sure to take time away from the news to focus on things in your life that are going well and that you can control.

Get the facts:
Find people and resources you can depend on for accurate health information. Learn from them about the outbreak and how you can protect yourself against illness. You may turn to your family doctor, a state or local health department, U.S. government agencies, or an international organization. Find reliable links to good sources of information about infectious disease outbreaks.

Take good care of yourself to be able to take care of others
Keep yourself healthy:
• Eat healthy foods, and drink water.
• Avoid excessive amounts of caffeine and alcohol.
• Do not use tobacco or illegal drugs.
• Get enough sleep and rest.
• Get physical exercise.

Use practical ways to relax:
• Relax your body often by doing things that work for you—take deep breaths, stretch, meditate, wash your face and hands, or engage in pleasurable hobbies.
• Pace yourself between stressful activities and do a fun thing after a hard task.
• Use time off to relax—eat a good meal, read, listen to music, take a bath, or talk to family.
• Talk about your feelings to loved ones and friends often.

The heart and soul of the District 141 Employee Assistance Program is the local lodge EAP peer coordinators. These dedicated men and women volunteer their personal time to assist other union members and their families who are experiencing personal difficulties.

EAP peer coordinators do not make clinical diagnoses or clinical evaluations, however, they are trained to make a basic assessment of your situation and refer you to an appropriate resource for a more detailed evaluation. EAP peer coordinators will follow up to ensure you have been able to access services that addressed the difficulty you were experiencing.

Sources for credible information
• Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (800) 232-4636 www.cdc.gov
• World Health Organization (202) 974-3000 www.who.int/en

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Protecting our ExpressJet Flight Attendants

By Debby Tucker
IAM FSC-Coordinator/ERJ-ERC Primary Rep/IAM Fatigue Rep

The courage of our Flight Attendants shines through in these dark times for our industry. Every day, they show who they really are as a group and as individuals.

To protect them as best we can, we urge all crew members to follow the guidelines issued by the CDC and our respective companies as we fight through the COVID-19 pandemic. These brave and dedicated individuals can be assured their union stands with them to address their very real concerns about their safety, health and well-being.

With these concerns in mind, we insist that the crew rooms are stocked with supplies to help our members do their jobs safely.

ExpressJet has implemented “turn cleans” of our fleet at hubs, including disinfecting. Management is looking to have all outstations perform sterilization cleans after every flight in the near future (there are challenges with resources). A more thorough clean is being done on RON aircraft at the hubs.

Your union values all of your concerns. Please use all of your resources and reach out to your Safety, EAP and Grievance representatives. Other resources include your General Chair and Special Rep.

You can also reference the CDC, World Health Organization and IAM websites, as well as the company’s XJT “My Messages” and Local Lodge 2339’s website, IAM2339n.org.

- Safety: iamdebbytucker@gmail.com/iamkarilhuebert@gmail.com
- EAP: espetonmiddlebrooks@gmail.com
- Grievance Reps: iam2339n.org/grievance
- General Chair: SGonzales@iamdl142.org
- Special Rep: M Johnson-cooper@iamDL142.org
- CDC: cdc.gov
- World Health Organization (WHO): www.who.int

Two incidents involve Flight Attendants at CommutAir

By Lisa B. Ferm
Grievance Representative/Recording Secretary, CommutAir

Two incidents involving Flight Attendants at CommutAir (dba United Express).

The first incident was on a recent flight departing from Columbus, Ohio. The Flight Attendant took the FA jump seat when notified by the flight deck after push-back. Prior to takeoff, he sheared off the top of his ring finger while simultaneously sitting and reaching for the harness restraint and seatbelt buckle.

The aircraft this occurred on is an Embraer 145. Since its inception, this aircraft has had more than 28 million hours of service with no other known incidents of this nature at any other carrier.

OSHA and Embraer were notified of the incident and a full investigation took place. Corrective actions included an augmentation of the training content delivered to all Flight Attendants, both new-hire and current.

These changes included video footage showing the factors that resulted in the injury, with focus on the area now identified as the “pinch point.” Sequential steps were disseminated on how to occupy the Flight Attendant crew jump seat while remaining clear of the pinch point.

In addition, a departmental memo was distributed immediately to all Flight Attendants notifying them of the incident. It included instruction on how to safely deploy the Flight Attendant jump seat, along with a graphic depiction of the pinch point.

The second incident occurred when a passenger assaulted a Flight Attendant in flight and attempted to breach the flight deck.

The Flight Attendant did exactly what she was trained to do almost 13 years ago and every year since in FAA-mandated Recurrent Training. In this training, we learn there are four stages of escalating behavior: disruptive, physically abusive, life threatening, and the actual act of breaching the flight deck. This passenger exhibited all four stages.

The Flight Attendant said her main concern was “not to get other passengers injured.” Although she sustained some physical injury, she handled herself as she was taught. A passenger and a union brother from another carrier stepped in to assist.

This incident ended with far less physical injury than could have occurred because the Flight Attendant acted swiftly and was not complacent in her job.

Each time an event of this caliber occurs, it reminds us why Recurrent Training is just as important as Initial Training.

Recurrent Training is the best way to fight against job complacency, which ultimately is the gateway to occurrences that not only lead to on-the-job injury, but also unwarranted social exposure and even termination if the employee is found to be at fault.

The IAMAW immediately reached out to provide the resources needed to provide guidance and care to our brother and sister through EAP and other services.

In addition, the ASAP/Incident Program enhanced the proper measures that take place when such events occur.

A report is either submitted as a voluntary ASAP report or as an Incident Report. In an ASAP report, the focus is on protecting the crew member who unwillingly may have broken a CFR and on shielding him or her from potential discipline. An Incident Report involves an event that has no bearing on the crew member in regards to not abiding by the CFR.

In the airline industry, the ASAP program is our way of detecting problems occurring in flight operations before they cause an accident that might lead to an employee’s personal injury, the injury of passengers or, in a worst-case scenario, an air disaster.

Both crew members are recuperating.

If you have an immediate safety concern, contact your ERC/ASAP representatives (myself and Kari Hebert). We will guide you through the process of filing an ASAP.

Washing of the hands often will be one of our best defenses as we navigate through the weeks to come.

If you are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms, please do not come to work! Also, if you are on a layover and display symptoms of COVID-19, contact MedAire, the company’s medical care provider while traveling: (480) 333-3885 or (877) 967-2286 (U.S.A. or Canada); 01-800-681-9221 (Mexico).

Fly safe. These are trying times for us all, but we will prevail!
While our world has changed, some things stay the same. As we practice social distancing and do our best to get through this COVID-19 pandemic, we also need to keep our core protocols in mind.

Protecting against COVID-19 and other infectious diseases

Follow CDC guidelines while performing maintenance. Wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds, try not to touch your face and eyes, cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and then throw the tissue away.

Follow the aircraft maintenance manuals and company safety procedures. Use gloves and face masks, especially when working on aircraft air conditioning systems or replacing air filters.

This virus is primarily transferred by droplets, usually from coughing or sneezing. These droplets can last up to three hours in the air. The virus on hard surfaces like metal or plastic in the cabin interiors can last up to nine days untreated. Keep a six-feet distance between yourself and others and avoid touching surfaces in public.

Use gloves whenever doing cabin work. Over the years the IAM has negotiated and fought for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for our members. The airplanes have paid for this and other safety equipment and they expect you to use them. Work smart and stay safe!

FAA license updates

Over the last couple of years there has been a huge hiring spree of mechanics in the industry. That means there has been a lot of movement between the regional and mainline airlines. What often gets overlooked is keeping the FAA notified of your current mailing address.

The FAA knows this, and during ramp inspections it will ask to see your license. You are required to have your license with you at work. It does not have to be on your person but it has to be readily available, such as in your locker. It must also be up to date and have your current address on file.

To get a change of address, go to www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/. Under “Airmen,” select “Update Your Address” and you can fill out the form online. This will only change your address with the FAA. If you want your license to have your current address, select “Replace an Airmen Certificate (License).” This can also be filled out online, but it will cost you $2 for a new one.

American maintenance ASAP

There has been a significant increase in logbook entry errors. The FAA considers Non-Essential Furnishings (NEFs) as part of the Minimum Equipment List (MEL) program. You MUST enter all NEF clearances in the logbook. Again, ALL NEF entries must be documented in the logbook. If in doubt, you need to refer to the General Procedures Manual, Chapter 5, for specifics on required logbook entries.

Below are some examples of missed or incorrect logbook required entries that have been reported:

- MELs, including initial, updates, follow-up actions and closures
- CDLs (Configuration Deviation List), including initial, updates, follow-up actions and closures
- NEFs, opening AND closings
- Required Inspection Items (RII) and Confirmation Checks
- Maintenance Checks, including Pre-Departure, Daily, Transit and higher

Henry Ford is quoted as saying: “When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it.”

Through hard work and positive attitudes, especially under these extreme circumstances, this, too, shall pass.

Reach out to your Flight Safety Committee representative or shop steward if you have any safety concerns. Use your company’s ASAP to report safety issues. Update your address with the FAA, and by all means, if you see something, say something! Work smart and stay safe.

Stay safe, stay healthy and stay united

Brothers and sisters, I don’t have to tell you what a difficult time this is.

Coronavirus has entered every part of our lives. Our EAP Committee is out there working hard on the mental aspects of this pandemic, our IAM leadership is working hard on the economic aspects, and your Safety Committee is working hard on the health aspects.

I, along with District 142 President Dave Supplee and your GCs, have been working with governmental authorities and your respective companies to ensure that CDC guidelines are being met.

Enhanced aircraft disinfection, break/work area disinfection, and hygiene are among the many subjects we are involved with.

None of that will matter if we don’t follow the CDC guidelines together. Please visit CDC.gov, WHO.int, NIH.gov and Coronavirus.gov for updates and info.

It is imperative that we depend on each other now more than ever to stay healthy for the sake of our loved ones, our brothers and sisters, and our communities. If you are not headed to, or from essential shopping or work, please stay home. Please maintain a proper distance and don’t crowd together.

Unless your job requires it, don’t wait on the jetways while the aircraft is boarding or passengers are leaving. Try not to eat in the terminal. Please be mindful of items you are sharing such as pens, phones and computer keyboards. Practice social distancing where possible. Visit the websites mentioned above for more info.

I couldn’t be more proud of the hard work your local Safety Committee members are doing. I wish I had the space in this article to name them all.

I know there is much uncertainty, but I am certain of one thing: We will get through this together. I have seen some incredible examples of solidarity during many crises we have been through.

I am proud to be your brother, and in this most trying of times I know we will come out of this together.

Stay safe, stay healthy and stay a safe distance from others. Practice good hygiene and above all take care of each other.
A moment of silence on Workers’ Memorial Day

Memorial Day means many things to different people. For many school-children it marks the beginning of summer vacation. For most workers, it is a welcome day off to travel or spend with family. And for everyone, it is a time for solemn reflection in memory of men and women who gave their lives in defense of the United States.

But many people don’t know there are two memorial days in America. There is the national holiday for our war dead that is observed on May 25 this year and another day set aside for working people who have lost their lives on the job.

April 28 was first recognized as International Workers’ Memorial Day by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) as a time to remember those of all nationalities who gave their lives in the pursuit of better industrial working conditions, as well as and those who died in preventable workplace incidents.

On that day in 1914, Canada’s parliament passed the country’s Workers’ Compensation Act.

The official slogan of Workers Memorial Day comes from Mary Harris “Mother” Jones: “Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living.”

In this spirit, the day has become a day of demonstrations for labor organizations worldwide.

Workers’ Memorial Day is recognized by the International Labor Organization and is observed by 16 nations in North America, Central and South America, Europe and Asia. Organizations in nine other nations are pursuing national recognition of the holiday.

The United Nations recognizes April 28 as the World Day for Safety and Health at Work.

Common questions your child might ask about COVID-19 and suggested responses

Before you start talking about what’s going on in the world with the pandemic, ask what your child knows so far in case you need to clarify anything, and find out what questions your child has. Below are common questions your child might ask and suggested responses.

WHAT IS THE NEW CORONAVIRUS?

The new coronavirus is a kind of germ that can make people feel sick. Remember how the flu made (you/your classmate/anyone your child knows) feel? It can be a lot like getting the flu. Some people feel just a little bit sick. Some people get a fever and a cough. Sometimes, the cough can make it hard to breathe easily.

HOW DO YOU CATCH THIS CORONAVIRUS?

The virus spreads like the flu, or a cold or cough. If a person who has the coronavirus sneezes or coughs, germs that are inside the body come outside of the body. That’s because sneezes and coughs can send tiny drops carrying germs into the air. A healthy person would need to touch those germs that came out of the sneezes and coughs, and then touch their mouth, eyes, or inside their nose.

WHY ARE SOME PEOPLE WEARING MASKS?

Masks are for people who are sick to wear so that they don’t share germs. The masks also are for medical staff, like doctors and nurses, to wear so they can help people who have the virus. You do not need to wear a mask.

CAN YOU DIE FROM THE NEW CORONAVIRUS?

Most people who have caught the virus have not died, just like with the flu. Doctors are working really hard to keep an eye on anyone who is feeling sick. They want to make sure everyone gets the help they need and to keep the virus from spreading.

What is important is to not let worries about the virus boss you around. If you’re practicing healthy behaviors like sneezing into your elbow and washing your hands after you go to the bathroom, then you’re showing the virus and the worries who is boss instead!