

St. John Fisher College

Fisher Digital Publications

Cardinal COVID Journal: Prose

Cardinal COVID Journal

12-1-2020

Village Scenes in the Time of Covid

Katie Ammann

St. John Fisher College, kma04617@sjfc.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose>

[How has open access to Fisher Digital Publications benefited you?](https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/20)

Recommended Citation

Ammann, Katie, "Village Scenes in the Time of Covid" (2020). *Cardinal COVID Journal: Prose*. 20.
<https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/20>

This document is posted at <https://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/covid-journal-prose/20> and is brought to you for free and open access by Fisher Digital Publications at St. John Fisher College. For more information, please contact fisherpub@sjfc.edu.

Village Scenes in the Time of Covid

By: Katie Ammann

Take-Out

So much for dining in at a restaurant, during these uncertain times of COVID-19. Something so many people enjoyed; taken so quickly. The new normal is driving to the waiting patiently in your car for the food to be delivered to you. Looking back on those good times of going to a restaurant to see family and friends all enjoying themselves fills us with longing. Now, no one experiences that.

Everything is touchless—centered around driving your car to a curb, or parking lot, and immediately driving back home. Think of everything that went on at a restaurant. Music and bands, birthday parties, family gatherings, etc. so where is everything going to take place now? Good news? Now we were allowed to enter restaurants with a limited capacity, but hey, at least that's a step closer to normal. Picture that local diner in your village with its open ice cream window as a safe place to pick up your order.

Window for Ordering Food and Beverages at the Bar Not

only is the take-out aspect unusual for most, but some restaurants have gone above and beyond, and created a pick-up area. In my experience, take-out was placed at the bar. This gives customers an option to order food and beverages at the same time; but the most essential piece is customers must stay six feet apart from one another. Leading up to this window-like spot, is the measure of green tape on the ground, which assures that all customers keep their distance. However, this wasn't the only place to take orders, this was just one option to try and space people out as much as possible. Here's my mom's restaurant, Stingers Pizza Pub, and it just represents how they have proceeded to adapt to the many rules given to them by the health officials.

Stingers Wearing Masks

This global pandemic has affected everyone of all ages. I think the biggest change to most people is the constant mask wearing. This is what I mean. Wherever you enter now, whether it is a grocery store, retail store, salon, etc. you must be wearing a mask. For some, it feels as if it is a hassle, but others just agree and abide

by the rules presented to them. I can't even remember the last time I wasn't wearing a mask. Now, I have gotten used to what people look like when they are wearing masks. Masks have now become the new piece of clothing that is the new normal. I think everyone knows that the faster everyone follows the rules and regulations put into place, the quicker things will start to fall back to normal again. Here is a photo of the entire staff at my mom's restaurant, Stingers Pizza Pub, all wearing their masks and obeying the rules as they should. I am sure, this is something no one would have ever thought would happen.

Limited Traveling

Given the situation we are living in, especially in the beginning of Shelter in Place, there were less and less cars on the roads. This is because we were in a quarantine. Basically, it was recommended that you only travel to places if it was an absolute emergency. For many, they didn't know how long this was going to last. But as time went on, everyone got used to just staying home and finding things to do around the house. Whether that be cleaning, visiting with family, or simply watching a movie—everyone was as content as they could possibly be. It's weird because our society revolves around people driving to places for things to do, and when that privilege was taken from us, let's just say things turned different really quick. Here's a photo of Route 20 in my village of Cazenovia. This main street is usually quite busy, but I captured it during a moment when there was little to no traffic. Which just shows how seriously people are taking the situation we are living in at the moment.

Empty Parking lot

Along the same lines of limited travel, I thought that the empty parking lot was a good representation of the pandemic as well. At least in my village, parking lots have been emptied for the most part. It is just devastating, because you have to think of the businesses as well. Not only are we as customers not traveling, but we are not supporting the businesses that need us to stay in business. So, if the travel is down, that means that less people are actually entering those buildings. This photo is of The Hampton Inn & Suites hotel in Cazenovia. This hotel is usually very busy because it attracts people from all over. Given the situation that we are living in, this is not a place where people want to be in.

Dots 5 Feet Apart

This is something that has become the new normal in a lot of places. The rule that everyone tries to abide by is to try to stay six feet apart from each other. This is also

implemented in restaurants, when the tables have to be spaced out that distance. I thought this picture was a good representation, because we are all attending school right now. Although this is my elementary school, you still get the point. Kids are asked to stand on a blue circle while they wait for the bus. This eliminates too many kids in one area and enforces them to make sure they are six feet apart.

Empty Shelves

This scenario was one of the most surprising things to me. Whenever I enter a store, whether it be a grocery store or clothing store, I expect the shelves to be well stocked. However, given the time that we are living in, it's not always the case. When people were first aware of the situation at stake, they all panicked and rushed to the various stores to stock up on nearly everything. This led to empty shelves really quick. It was scary, and it honestly still is. Imagine not being able to pick up toilet paper, bread, or milk. These things are necessities to us humans, and if that privilege is not allotted to us, then we are out of luck. Here's the local pharmacy in our village. This was just one of many aisles that were picked over, sad.

Sign with Rules

We, as humans, revolve around rules. However, the rules on this sign that I captured are different from most. I have seen a lot of signs with COVID-19 rules written all over them. For me, I have made myself aware of signs that are placed in restaurants. Although they are all nearly the same, they still portray the same message. It is scary though, if one person doesn't follow what is written on the board, and someone doesn't agree with their behavior, that could ruin the restaurant's reputation and even business as a whole. This sign was at my mom's restaurant, Stingers Pizza Pub. These are rules that each and every person must obey the moment they step in the door.

Separators from People

This has been a big change for many all over the board. These separators are put into place, in order to keep people's germs from infecting you, and to keep your

distance. Believe it or not, this makes communication with other people so challenging. I have found the hardest thing has been to hear the other person. Since these separators are nearly everywhere in businesses, you can just imagine how hard it really is to communicate anywhere. This photo was taken at our local pharmacy in our village at the Kiosk station. I remember the day when these separators weren't there and me talking with the person next to me. But now since these are present, it is almost perceived as being strange to talk to your neighbor.

