Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Governor Declares State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' Lucky Star Casino enterprises are temporarily closed to help stop the spread of COVID-19. The Tribes' operate casinos in Concho, Canton, Watonga and Hammon, Okla., as well as two travel centers, through Friday.

Programs available by telephone are:
- Tribal Security – 405-422-7864
- Emergency Management – 405-422-7547
- Eldar Care – 405-422-7411
- Burial Program 405-422-7601

EMS – 580-323-7087
Indian Child Welfare 405-422-7537

Social Services – 405-422-7406
Adult Child Protective Services 405-422-7992

Deputy Attorney General 405-549-6022

As Gov. Wassana’s task force, the governor and district legislators continue to stay in contact with health officials, both through the state of Oklahoma and the Indian Health Services, they are providing up-to-date information to tribal citizens through Social Media.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune P.O. Box 38
Concho, OK 73022

Cheyenne and Arapaho-nsn.gov
Follow us on Twitter #CATribalTribune

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President Donald Trump has signed a bipartisan $2 trillion economic relief package that includes stimulus checks to Americans, coronavirus testing, hospital aid and a variety of programs to help those who are out of work because of the pandemic. Its components include stimulus payments to individuals, expanded unemployment benefits, measures changing, different retirement account rules and more. Let’s answer some questions about what the checks mean.

**Stimulus Payments**

- How large will the payments be?
- What will the payments look like?
- How will the payments be delivered?
- When will the payments arrive?
- Will I have to apply to get the payment?
- Will my payment be garnished?
- Can my payment be used to pay child support?
- Can my payment be used to pay back child support?
- Can I file for child support to receive the payment?
- Can the payment be offset to repay a federal tax debt?
- Will I have to report the payment on my tax return?
- Can I use the payment to pay state and local taxes?
- Will I have to pay income tax on the payment?
- Will I have to pay Social Security tax on the payment?
- Will I have to pay self-employment tax on the payment?
- Will the payment be taxable?
- Will the payment affect my benefits?
- Will I have to pay back the payment?
- Will the payment affect my dependents?
- Will the payment affect my children?
- Will the payment affect my Social Security benefits?
- Will the payment affect my Medicare benefits?
- Will the payment affect my unemployment benefits?
- Will the payment affect my retirement benefits?
- Will the payment affect my student loan payments?
- Will the payment affect my health insurance?
- Will the payment affect my medicaid?
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Native Connections Brings ASIST Training to Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes

The two-day workshop provided individuals with the tools to help identify and prevent the risk of suicide. In conjunction with Native Connections and Sara's Project, training, where many of the participants were tribal employees and students in programs and services within the Cheyenne and Arapaho community.

Certified through Living Works Inc., Wichita and Affiliated Tribal Nations, the training began with the focus on suicide prevention specialists.

The need for training came about when Sullivan was aware of this issue. “It’s very important that people knew about Native Connections and suicide prevention.”

-Native American youth and people in general have a real problem with suicide within the community. It’s been going on for years and years old, depression affects all ages and within all capacities of employment, whether that’s education, finance, administration, work, school work, it doesn’t matter where you are,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan said that anyone could help someone if they knew how to approach that person. “What that ASIST training does, it trains anyone who knows to recognize the signs, what to say and it’s just a really hardcore two-day training,” said Sullivan.

Donnell Cox, Sara’s Project crisis education specialist, and Don Ramos, Wichita and Affiliated National Connections project director as facilitators. Participants were encouraged to actively participate in the many activities planned throughout the two-day training.

“This is a two-day training that gets really into depth of how you, as a person, how to approach someone, how to approach them, how to recognize the signs, what to say and exactly what a two-day training that they really want people to attend on both days, because of how the information comes from this type of training,” Kati Sullivan, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Native Connections Prevention specialist.

The use of telehealth and care coordination work, school work, it doesn’t matter where you are,” Sullivan said.

“My goal is that everyone will have a plan to give this adjustment to hard-working educators in the school year,” said Superintendent Joy Hofmeister.

“Oklahoma has tremendous educators – strong, dedicated, passionate, caring teachers and parents. I have faith and confidence that our schools to provide the best education possible in a traditional, in-person instructional daytime programming for the state’s Pre-K-12 students.”

While education will resume on April 6 with distance learning, there will not be traditional, in-person instruction or extracurricular activities. Districts will be required to follow critical safety guidelines, including how federal assistance could help digital connectivity for some districts. OETA, Oklahoma’s educational public television network, will also provide distance learning for the state’s Pre-K-12 students. OETA will broadcast instructional daytime programming for the state’s Pre-K-12 students.

For the graduating class of 2020, each district will adopt a plan that establishes the assessment or assessments those students are required to take in order to graduate. The State Board took action on multiple waivers – ranging from school calendars to loosening current restrictions on funds – aimed at giving districts greater flexibility to respond to the needs of their students and communities.
Will this income disqualify me from other programs? The additional $600 benefit counts as “adjusted gross income” for the programs listed below:

- Employment and training programs
- Student loans
- Child care subsidies
- Medicaid
- SNAP
- Food Stamps
- WIC

How long will I need to wait for benefits? The $600 stipend is intended to waive the one-week waiting period, so you should be able to use your benefits right away. Even if your employer provides health insurance, you can also use the $600 stipend to pay for health insurance. If you need to pay something, such as $100, you will receive $900.

Will my loan servicer review the six-month suspension? Yes. The bill states that during the six-month suspension, your loan will be in a “restoration period.” Your loan servicer will review your loan to ensure that you meet the six-month suspension requirements. Your loan servicer may send you a letter to explain the restoration period and what you need to do to keep your loan in the suspension period.

Will my loan servicer review the suspension plan? Yes. The bill states that when you submit a suspension plan, your loan servicer will review the plan to ensure that you meet the requirements for the suspension plan. Your loan servicer may ask you to provide additional information or documentation to support your suspension plan.

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The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are committed to doing our part in containing this virus and realize the need to continue social distancing in an effort to keep tribal members, employees and patrons healthy and safe. Gov. Wassana

Our ancestors faced this same challenge when they were displaced to small plots... but we survived, ... and we will again, if we take simple precautions: Stay at home — only go out for groceries, medicine and bank. Wash your hands — for a minimum of 20 seconds. Clean surfaces in your home with bleach water or another antibacterial cleaner — including doorknobs and doorways. If you must go out protect yourself by wearing gloves. Use a cloth or paper towel to open public doors, gas pump handles, any hard surface you may have to touch while out. Sanitize your hands as you re-turn home, and if you have access to hand sanitizer — use that immediately after touching surfaces. These things may sound simple, but they are what is go-ing to "flatten the curve" so many scientists and doctors are praying for. They work to spread of this deadly virus and hopefully keep it from attacking our communities.

I am aware there are many who have been let go from their jobs and are very worried about how to pay the bills. As your Governor, I want you to know I am praying for all of us. Your Lt. Governor Gail Milks, many others, and myself are monitoring this health epidemic and we are making decisions based on the overall welfare of our tribal citizens.

As many of you know, we closed our casinos and are oper-ating only on emergency funds.
Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune

Message From Your District Legislator

Dear Cheyenne Dis- trict 3: Darrell Flyingman

Last Friday (March 20) I re- cently applied for work/jobs. The common reasons people are turned down are lack of education, no work experience, and military looking for help. I grew up in Colony, many men of our people, the military, they pride themselves to serve their country. Now- adays, we have many White people working for our people, for one reason or another many reason. There is some truth here. Here is the hard truth is that many people cannot get hired: no de- gree, lack of skills, no work experience, and a job arrest, on probation, no work experience, or no in their indicated reasons. When I was Governor 12 years ago and was thinking about how to help our people, I thought of our tribal members. It’s our people. It’s us. This is our people. Our people, are not able to help us. I believe the only job that gives us some hope is for our people, for our young MEN. Nowadays some parents, grandparents and guardians do not make our young look for work, the common reasons people are turned down are lack of education, no work experience, and military looking for help.

Darrell Flyingman, our tribal leaders are these same people, so have mercy on us. For our children, our grandchildren, our tribal members with a greater need. Maybe you can assist them in some way. What has happened to our way of life, if we took care of each other, we would not be in the state we are in. No work, no work was below what we deserved, no work and I think it was our job to earn money for our families. Nowadays some parents, grandparents and guardians do not make our young look for work. The common reasons people are turned down are lack of education, no work experience, and military looking for help.

On March 13, 2020, Julia was born on Oct., 23, 1927 to Charles Bright and Georgia Little Thunder Sr. and sister Ger- trude Little Thunder. She attended the Arapahoe Tribal College and where she graduated from. She married Flis- ter Bright and they had two children, Mattie Bright and Norman Bright. She attended the University of Oklahoma where she graduated from. She married Jerry Little Thunder Sr. and they had four children, Jerry Little Thunder Jr., nieces, Janet Little Thunder, Sarah Little Thunder, and Mark Little Thunder. She is survived by her parents, patriarchal Ethel Pick- ing; her sister, Darlene Pickering; her brother, Robert Littleman, sisters, Bet- tina Coston, Mary Black, and Kevin Littleman. She is also survived by her five grandchildren, Damion Crowder, Antelope, Ca-

TRIBE DISESTABLISHED

The current draft of the bill is leaning to de- lineal descendancy. It is too early to tell if we should amend our tribal constitution. The tribe does and will have a special election on the matter this fall. It is up to our tribal members to decide this issue. It is up to the state to decide whether the tribe is in favor of their Blood Quantum restrictions or not. I have not read the bill to see what the implications will be. Again, feel free to call me anytime at my cell phone: 405-904-7030. I am a strong supporter of our tribe to survive. If the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe wins, our tribe will be left with nothing.

Josephine Walking Night was born in 1927, 1944 in Holyoke, MA, and married on March 23, 1946 in Holyoke, MA. She taught for 27 years then re- signed her position. She is survived by her parents, patriarchal Ethel Pick- ing; her sister, Darlene Pickering; her brother, Robert Littleman, sisters, Bet- tina Coston, Mary Black, and Kevin Littleman. She is also survived by her five grandchildren, Damion Crowder, Antelope, Ca- ntonment, Okla., and Georgia Little Thunder Sr., George Little Thunder Sr. and Grace Little Thunder. She is survived by her parents, patriarchal Ethel Pick- ing; her sister, Darlene Pickering; her brother, Robert Littleman, sisters, Bet- tina Coston, Mary Black, and Kevin Littleman. She is also survived by her five grandchildren, Damion Crowder, Antelope, Ca-

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CLASSIFIEDS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

To apply please submit a tribal application, resume, diploma(s), transcripts, valid copy of driver's license and a copy of CDIB (if applicable) to the Personnel Department, PO Box 38, Concho, OK 73022 or call 405-422-7498 or email atisdale@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov. Or download application by visiting http://cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov.

Sexual Assault Advocate
Domestic Violence Program
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:
- Prefer a master's level/ LPC or at least four years of experience working with victims of sexual assault. Ability to work flexible hours and outside normal work hours including after 5 p.m.
- Be willing to attend training relevant to position. Must possess a current Oklahoma driver's license, OSBI and criminal background check required. Prefer knowledge of Cheyenne and Arapaho/Native American cultures and values. Cheyenne and Arapaho Preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Substitute Teacher Aide
Canton Head Start
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:
- Must have a valid Oklahoma driver's license and be willing to obtain a CDE and bus driver's certificate within 90 days of hire. Must be in good physical health and possess a valid OKlahoma driver's license and pass a pre-hire drug/alcohol drug screen and OSBI and bus driver's certificate check. One year of experience working with children is preferred and must have high school diploma or G.E.D. certification. Must be willing to obtain a CDL license and possess a current Oklahoma driver's license, OSBI and pass a pre-hire drug/alcohol drug screen. Must be willing to attend training relevant to position. Must be familiar with Cheyenne and Arapaho/Indian communities. Oklahoma driver's license required. Cheyenne and Arapaho Preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Environmental Specialist II
EPA
Closing Date: Until Filled

Qualifications:
- Must have valid Oklahoma driver's license in order to operate government vehicles.
- Have high school diploma and G.E.D. certification. Must be willing to pass a background check. One year of experience in secretarial, para-professional, administrative assistant or relevant field. Cheyenne and Arapaho preference.

SALARY: Negotiable

Legal Notices

Summons / Notice to Appear
Please contact the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes Court Clerk's office regarding the Notice to Appear documents posted below PRIOR to your scheduled court date. Call 405-422-7498 or 405-422-7092. For email send to courtclerk@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov or plvi@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov.

Rita Price
Bonita Cruz
Anita Gouge
Georgia McGee
Christopher Tall Bear
Miranda Comteseh
Daneicia Wandrie
Summer Klinekole

Closing Date: April 30, 2020. If an update form is not received by this date, their name will be removed from the Mutual Help waiting list for failure to update. NO EXCEPTIONS! For questions or more information contact Eileen Salcido at 580-531-0400 or email esalcido@cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov.

HOPE Program
Waiting List Report
The following applicants must need to complete a 2020 Summer Klinekole

Update Form by April 30, 2020. If an update form is not received by this date, their name will be removed from the Mutual-Help waiting list for failure to update. If you do not receive an update form by this date, their name will be removed from the Mutual-Help waiting list for failure to update.

Mutual-Help waiting list

HAPPY 11TH BIRTHDAY!
Jada Renee. You’re very special and dear to me. You being my daughter is the greatest blessing I could ever know. I know you’re destined to be a person who carries both sides of your families as well as the culture of the tribe. I know throughout life you’ll put your intelligence to good use. Whatever nonsense life throws at you, I know you’ll rise above it. I know you’ll easily accomplish any achievement that you choose to. Hard work is not in our nature, you just have to decide what’s worth spending time on. The entire family is behind you in your pursuit of greatness. Leave and come back to the values that’s what you become great. Just some of the last things your grandfather told me while I was your age.

Daddy loves you more than the world itself. Love dad, Hector Shawnee.

Change Your Thoughts and You Change The World.
Norman Vincent Peale
State sends new gaming compact offer to smaller tribes

Through Gov. Kevin Stitt’s legal team, the state of Oklahoma has sent a new gaming compact proposal to at least six tribes with smaller gaming operations in the state. Attorneys representing the state of Oklahoma have sent a new 15-year gaming compact proposal to at least six tribes in the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Peoria Nation of Oklahoma, the Seminole-Cayuga Nation and the Wyandotte Nation.

Other tribes with modest casino operations are also believed to have received the new gaming compact proposal.

The tribes with the largest gaming operations in Oklahoma, the Chickasaw, Choctaw and Cherokee Nations who filed a lawsuit against Gov. Stitt arguing that the existing Model Tribal Gaming Compact automatically renewed Jan. 1, do not appear to have received the same compact offers, although ongoing mediation between the state and tribes involves the trading of proposals.

Dated March 24 and delivered by the law firm Lycke, Sisley & Fielty, the new gaming compact offered to smaller tribes would feature either 4 percent or 6 percent of annual revenue from table games and slot machines to pay for advertising and table games, a new definition relating to vendor fees, a new arbitration clause and one line that would prohibit the opening of a new tribal gaming facility by a tribe with a population of less than 10,000.

OIGA asks ‘that no tribe take any action’ without group discussion.

In his March 26 email to other OIGA members, Morgan said: "We are disappointed in the action taken by Gov. Stitt through one of his attorneys to take advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nothing is more important than saving our Native American health professionals, the tribal government and citizens during this pandemic," Morgan wrote. "Again, we do ask that no tribe take any action without group discussion.

The plaintiffs currently involved in the lawsuit against Stitt regarding renewal of the original Oklahoma Model Tribal Gaming Compact are now proceeding with an emergency.

Judge Timothy DeFazio of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma has already extended that date to May 31 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The mediation process has been ongoing and was initially ordered to be continued or substantially completed by March 24. Depending on the COVID-19 pandemic, the mediator extended that date to May 31 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.