Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Governor Releases Executive Order for COVID Protocols

(The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Concho, Oklahoma) Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Governor Reggie Wassana has chosen to rescind Executive Order 20-01 on mitigation protocols. The order was released on August 11, 2021, to prevent the conditional spread of COVID-19 and resume tribal operations.

Governor Wassana made the announcement in a public address to tribal employees and citizens.

Wassana said, “This decision has been made in the best interest of tribal citizens and employees. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes are committed to the health and safety of our communities. This order is in line with the guidance from the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the State of Oklahoma.

“The executive order has been effective in reducing the spread of COVID-19 and allowing for the safe return of tribal operations. We recognize that there is a need for ongoing adaptation of our protocols to align with changing public health conditions.

“The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes thank all employees and citizens who have participated in this process and supported our efforts. We will continue to monitor the situation and make necessary adjustments as needed.”

The order states all employees must be vaccinated or have an approved medical or religious exemption. The order took effect immediately.

For more information, visit the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ website at cheyenneandarapaho-nsn.gov.
Tribal citizens who look forward every year to national holidays and other festive gatherings are facing disappointment once again.

Leaders across the state have posted messages on tribal websites announcing that due to the COVID-19 uptick, events planned for Labor Day weekend and beyond will be canceled, in most cases for the second consecutive year.

Unlike the hands-off approach of the Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt, the state’s tribes are taking steps to protect their citizens.

“Our top priority is the health and safety of our tribal members, associates and the communities we serve,” said Choctaw Chief Gary Batton in announcing the cancelation of the Labor Day Festival and other large gatherings. “We realize this is a huge disappointment to our tribal members and those who have celebrated with us.”

“We must be at the core of every decision we make,” Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. said. “Today, unfortunately, the W.W. Hastings Hospital Intensive Care Unit remains full due to the COVID-19 Delta variant, hospitalizations are on the rise, and we grieve over the loss of Cherokee speakers and elders who fell at the hands of this virus.”

“Positive cases have rapidly increased across the reservation, causing our health system, and others, to feel overwhelming stress including a lack of available in-patient beds.” Hoskin said new cases have been on an upward trend since June. About 95 percent of new COVID cases in the tribe’s health system are among unvaccinated patients, and about 90 percent of new cases are from the highly contagious Delta variant.

The Osage Nation has “strongly recommended” all tribal employees be fully vaccinated.

“As an incentive to those employees who have taken the extra step in helping protect themselves and others in the fight against COVID-19, by becoming fully vaccinated, an extra day off will be granted to those employees who have completed” their vaccinations, Standing Bear wrote in a memo to employees.

“I must make a decision based on science and data to determine it is safe for unvaccinated employees to return to the workplace. Gaylord News is a reporting project of the University of Oklahoma Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

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Twentieth-Seventh Special Session Approves Funding for Cheyenne and Arapaho Business Corporation and CARES Act Funds for Vaccination Incentives for Tribal Citizens

Latoya Lowndes, Staff Reporter

2021 SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST/OK CHAPTER MEDIA AWARD WINNER

On Aug. 19, 2021, the 8th Legislature met in Oklahoma City. Following opening prayers, Governor Wassana called upon the Legislative Commissioners to report on special sessions.

2021 SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST/OK CHAPTER MEDIA AWARD WINNER

Resolution one was tabled with a to allow legislators more time to talk about the budget.

Resolution two, passed, authorized Governor Wassana to execute Citizen Energy III, LLC Oil & Gas Lease – Section 24-13N-08W, Canadian County, Oklahoma.

Resolution three, passed, authorized Governor Wassana to execute Citizen Energy III, LLC Oil & Gas Lease – Section 7-13N-07W, Canadian County, Oklahoma.

Resolution four, passed, authorized Governor Wassana to execute Citizen Energy III, LLC Oil & Gas Lease – Section 24-13N-08W, Canadian County, Oklahoma.

Resolution five, passed, authorized Governor Wassana to execute Citizen Energy III, LLC Oil & Gas Lease – Section 24-13N-08W, Canadian County, Oklahoma.

Resolution six, passed, dissolved oil and gas leases with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes. Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe of Oklahoma. Regina Wassana, Governor. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the oil production has gone down.

The issue is there’s not a lot of leases being leased out right now, I think a lot of companies sit for funds and a lot of times, with this slow season, a lot of companies that they offered us, I think that’s why the higher total amount of 25% opposed to 20% royalty rate is being offered in the lease, Wassana said.

A lot of companies are requesting the mask to be worn, hand sanitizer social distancing as much as possible.

All meetings will be held 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., Sept. 7-9, Sept. 14-16, Sept. 21-23, Sept. 28-30.

A lot of people are hesitant for whatever reason that they may be vaccinated for the vaccine incentive awards.

In a private corporation, Cardwell said, “for me, you sell your way out and you work your way out and just for the right, you will have 100 problems.”

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and startup costs, Carter said, “we’re not to be involved in the day-to-day operations, we’re going to be there overseeing management.”

Cardwell said, “we’re not to be involved in the day-to-day operations, the tribe is doing just a management role in a corporation as well,” Carter said.

The Oil Office of Tribal Council will be hosting community meetings to discuss upcoming resolutions for the annual Tribal Council Community Meetings.

The Public Hearing was called to order at 10:10 a.m., with an invocation given by C3 Legislator Darrell Flyingman.

Resolution seven passed with a vote of seven yes. Resolution seven was to appropriate CARES Act funds to pay for the vaccine incentive awards. Governor Wassana said the administration discussed trying to get essential work force groups vaccinated but left that decision to the state.
Hi my name is George Woods and I am running for re-election this year.

I am a State Senator for the State of Virginia and Robert Sr. My paternal grandparents are are Seeger Wilt Williams & Wood and my maternal grandparents are the late Charles & Allen Ruthland Sr. I am a single parent raising four teenage girls, I have lived in the Kingfisher area of Oklahoma since I was 15 years old and my grandparents are the late Virginia and Robert Sr. My great-grandparents are the late Nellie & Bobbie.

I am a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a degree in Criminal Justice.

My name is Dale Hamilton Sr. I carry the title of Great Great Grand Chief of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Election Commission and I am running for Arapaho District 2 Legislator, I believe the people of our district are our future. I humbly ask for your support

As the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Council Meeting.

Cheyenne District 2 Legislator, Candidate, Incumbent George Woods

As of today, it is still affecting us in many ways. My staff and I went about to serve our constituents during this pandemic, while putting ourselves at risk while fulfilling our duties to our tribal citizens that live in and out of our district. We also served our constituents that were affected by the pandemic. I will continue to serve you all in that same capacity, should you voted me back into office.

I will continue to stay on the platforms that I stated when I ran four years ago. I believe I accomplished what I said and I have lived in the Kingfisher area of Oklahoma since I was 15 years old. I am in the process of adopting my foster children. I have also assisted tribal citizens obtain employment by either helping them with the recommendation or personally calling the HR of those places to highly recommend them for employment.

As for our Elders, I have recently hired a crew to mow and clean their yards. As we take a look at the what we, in Cheyenne District 2, have done for our tribal citizens, we can see our programs are working.

All of the legislators and I am working very well with each other, and we were able to pass many laws that will benefit our tribes for years to come. The true to the platforms that I stated when I ran four years ago, I was able to accomplish a lot. I would like to mention a couple of achievements that I am most proud of. With the support of AZ Legislator and Speaker, Kendricks Slepper, the Emergence Response Center was erected in Kingfisher.

This was a long time coming for that community. I would like to thank my supporter, Kendricks for all of his help working on this project together. The other accomplishment was passing a resolution to put more funding into our Language Program’s community zoom classes.

Once again, I would have your vote and together we will continue to make things happen for the betterment of our Tsistsistas and Hinono’ei languages. Our Tsistsistas and Hinono’ei languages are one of our main concerns and I would like to assure all of our citizens to participate in the Language Program’s communication zoom classes.

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Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Citizen Becomes First CASA Rep in Western Oklahoma.

CASA volunteers report directly to the overseeing judge and will stand in court on behalf of the child. The CASA volunteer will maintain an ongoing relationship with the child throughout the entire court process.

Sara Whiteshield is sworn in as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for Western Oklahoma. (Courtesy photo)

Standing up and being an advocate for a child within state custody takes strength, dedication and compassion. Those who choose to volunteer their time and devotion to children to ensure what’s best for the child is what makes Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) special.

CASA advocates are community volunteers who advocate for the best interest of children who are wards of the state. After being screened and trained, a CASA is appointed to a child or sibling group and through their court order, the CASA researchers the case, talks to the child, involved parties and professionals, advocates for needed services and submits written recommendations to the court.

CASA volunteers report directly to the overseeing judge and will stand in court on behalf of the child. The CASA volunteer must maintain an ongoing relationship with the child throughout the entire court process.

Sara Whiteshield holds up her right hand on Aug. 11, and takes on the role of CASA, an advocate for children in need of a CASA to advocate for the best interests of the child.
The 2021 Campaign of Wilma Blackbear, Governor, and Roberta Hamilton, Lt. Governor encourages our Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizens to become involved in our 2021 election. Your voice counts! WE WOULD LIKE TO BE YOUR VOICE!

Our goal is to become the voice of the people. For the people, By the people … OUR PEOPLE! We are here to listen to your concerns about various issues in our tribe.

With our traditional culture, strong values, and support of tribal citizens, we can move our tribes forward during this time of COVID uncertainty. Join us in investing in our future generations, our elders, our veterans, and all our tribal citizens. We will honor our ancestors, protect our culture and language, and prosper together as Cheyenne People and Arapaho People. As we move forward, tribal citizens will be our advisors. We will be the voice of the people, out of service area, in-district, veterans, infants, parents, elders, college students, high school students, elementary students, trade school students, professionals, teachers … all our citizens!

Wilma and Roberta are strong women who believe in our traditional beliefs and culture. We are the grassroots people.

We Are About:

**Access all aspects of our tribal government financials, budgets, programs, resources, assets, liabilities, casinos, personnel**

**Ensure the four branches of government – tribal council, executive, legislative, judicial – abide by the constitution**

**Ensure transparency – sharing of information to the tribal citizens, financials, programs, minors trust funds, casino revenues**

**Ensure out of district tribal citizens are included in information sharing and receiving benefits**

**Ensure college students are receiving necessary assistance**

**Ensure veterans are receiving maximum assistance and their needs are being met**

**Ensure children are receiving the care and benefits they need from ICW and more youth outreach in all communities**

**Ensure accountability from each program**

**Ensure open communication with communities with needs and providing assistance and benefits**

**Ensure excellent customer service by tribal employees**

**Promote Cheyenne and Arapaho culture and language starting with our children, adults, and elders**

**Maximize casino operations in all areas**

**Becoming a voice for each tribal citizen by listening and meeting their needs**

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ Dept. of Health is set to launch the first Mobile Medical Unit, bringing much needed health care to tribal citizens in rural communities. The artwork is by Cheyenne and Arapaho artists Brent Learned and George Learned. A ribbon cutting will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 1 to mark the official launch of the Mobile Medical Unit.

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For The People

By The People

Our People
This year 40 youth were selected to participate in pre-employment training through the DREAMS Summer Youth Work Experience Program to build job and career focused life skills to market their skills to success. However, there was some unknown terrain to navigate with having to adapt to the status of the coronavirus pandemic and designing a work experience curriculum that is engaging for youth.

The DREAMS staff stepped up as facilitators of the Summer Youth Program, and as acting mentors, guiding each and every youth through the journey. Each of the youth participants exhibited a strong sense of adaptability, teamwork, and made a shining example for the power of perseverance — qualities any employer should wish to have in their employees.

“The importance of teaching our youth life skills is giving them the opportunity to learn a lot of personal responsibility,” Katherine Blackwolf, the Concho Summer Youth counselor said. “I feel that it is important to teach them how to behave and how to be more responsible for what they want to be on their own. It’s one thing to teach our youth the importance of employment and work ethic but what else can we do?”

Blackwolf said life skills are very necessary for them to learn how to manage certain things, know how to communicate and also how to respect others in the world. “I took it upon myself to teach the youth that they could shop at the Goodwill thrift store in Yukon and explained that they don’t always have to shop at the mall to get nice clothes for a job or even an interview. I took them there for the experience to simply share that people sometimes do not have the funds to shop high dollar. Sometimes you have to start from square one and be economical,” Blackwolf said.

The DREAMS Program currently occupies offices in Concho, Clinton and Watonga. In an effort to accommodate youth from several different towns within the tribal service areas, the DREAMS offices served as regional hubs for the youth. Each group from Concho, Clinton and Watonga received CPR, AED and First Aid training provided by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program before beginning work on other life skills. As a tribal program there was the unique opportunity to encourage cultural enrichment into the life skills curriculum.

The importance of gardening and nutritional education was taught by the Greenhouse Garden Project. Each group would alternate shifts to volunteer at different work sites. The youth were taught about the value of the work performed at the Food and Resource Center. The youth quickly learned just how much work was necessary in order for the Food and Resource Center to serve as a valuable asset to the community. Not matter the job, whether at a big industry or small business, the value of the work performed.

The volunteer work performed at Old Caldwell Trail and Stables was far more hands-on and labor intensive, but nonetheless rewarding. The youth were assigned various roles at Old Caldwell Trail and Stables, working from the removal of trash from the fields, to clearing brush from the creek beds.

The youth were taught about various types of work and trades, it is also important to see the effort and patience through the DREAMS Program.

“The DREAMS Program is designed to teach the youth the power of perseverance, adaptability, teamwork and as acting mentors, guide each and every youth towards job readiness. Each of the youth participants possessed to better understand which areas needed improvement. The youth were taught about the importance of dress code, and other work responsibilities to maintain a professional working environment such as properly addressing envelope.

A class taught by Chris Tall Bear, the DREAMS fiscal assistant, introduced each youth group to financial principles such as opening a bank account and the importance of establishing credit. “There is no better way to learn something and improve that skill than by applying the knowledge to your life and exercising what you’ve learned,” Blackwolf said.

After two separate fry bread cooking classes, taught by Wanda Galaviz and Frankie Williams, the Clinton and Watonga groups hosted an Indian taco sale. The youth were involved in not only the cooking and preparation, but also the sales and delivery of the Indian tacos.

Throughout the program, each group would alternate shifts to volunteer at different work sites. The Weatherford Food and Resource Center was necessary in order for the Food and Resource Center to serve as a valuable asset to the community. Not matter the job, whether at a big industry or small business, the value of the work performed.

Assessments were conducted to assess the base line of employability and life skills each of the youth participants possessed to better understand which areas needed improvement. The youth were taught about the importance of dress code, and other work responsibilities to maintain a professional working environment such as properly addressing envelope.

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One Woman’s Commitment to Advocate for Victims of Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault

By Latoya Lonelodge, Staff Reporter

It is a fact Native American women are being murdered and sexually assaulted at higher rates than any other race, as much as two and a half times more likely to experience realising the need for more legal representation among victims, particularly women of domestic violence and sexual assault. Limpy, Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal citizen Carol Limpy sought an opportunity to become an advocate in the trial courts for tribal women through the Office of Violence Against Women’s Domestic Violence Program with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune.

Limpy, a sexual assault advocate for the Domestic Violence Program with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, began her current position in December 2020 after transferring from the Indian Child Welfare Program. "I had to go through my sexual assault training through the Office of Violence Against Women, it’s a mandatory training," Limpy said. "My supervisor over the course and how we can actually represent our own clients in tribal court. It was a good thing." Limpy said.

Last year, Limpy said she began her courses at the National Tribal Trial Court (NTTC), where the Southwest Center provides legal training and technical assistance to tribal communities, organizations, and agencies that serve Native people across the lower 48 states and Alaska. Training on domestic and sexual violence, stalking, abuse, and more were given throughout the entirety of the program, which is comprised of a free six-month certificate program, totaling 20 weeks of online study and coursework to earn a Certificate in Tribal Court Legal Advocacy. Throughout the course, the course topics included legal representation of Native American victims of sexual violence in tribal courts, civil and criminal jurisdiction, historical and personal trauma.

"Halle Bungar White started this program so that there would be legal representation for a lot of women in tribal court, there’s not a just a lot of legal representation. We’re blessed that we have a legal aid, but for the whole tribe, that’s kind of overwhelming," Limpy said.

Limpy said each week they were given a different module to learn.

"In the beginning it’s just a lot of set of a research, a lot of court procedures, then it goes directly into the Indian Law and how it’s practiced in tribal court, and a lot of how we interact with the state and some reservations. We had a lot of advocates that were maybe Navajo, or that lived on a reservation, whereas a majority of us don’t live on a reservation, but a lot of our clients are Native," Limpy said.

She said what advocates need to emphasise is that protective orders can be given in the majority of us don’t live on a reservation, but for the whole tribe, that’s kind of overwhelming," Limpy said.

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Elder Care Program’s Summer Cooling Assistance

Electric bills accepted beginning Sept. 1 through Oct. 11, 2021

Summer cooling assistance does not affect 90-day assistance.

Elderly electric bill per household will be processed for the summer cooling assistance. Elderly electric bill per household will be processed for the summer cooling assistance.

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For more information on how to become a CASA volunteer visit www.casa-wok.org.

Print Name: __________________________

Always provide your CDIB# 2801A,

Spouse’s Name: __________________________

Date of Birth: __________________________

Physical Address: __________________________

City: __________________________

State: __________________________

Zip Code: __________________________

Phone: __________________________

Message Phone: __________________________

2021 Summer Cooling Assistance Application

Electric bills accepted beginning September 1, 2021-October 11, 2021

No applications/bills will be accepted after October 11, 2021

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 405-422-7411

Tribal Member Signature

MM/DD/YY Date

Concho Office

P.O. Box 233, Concho, OK 73022

405-422-7411, Office Line

1-800-347-4612 ext. 2741

405-422-8230, Fax

Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe

Elder Care Program

eldercare@cheyennearapaho-nsq.com

Clinton Office

P.O. Box 714, Clinton, OK 73661

580-331-2317, Office Phone

405-422-8239, Fax

For more information on how to become a CASA volunteer visit www.casa-wok.org.
Guy Hicks Jr.

Guy Hicks Jr. was born on Oct. 17, 1948, in Clinton, Okla. He is the son of Guy Hicks Sr. and Dorothy (Bearshield) Hicks. He was born in Watonga, Okla., to a loving couple who raised him with a strong sense of community and tradition.

Guy graduated from Watonga High School in 1967 and married Betty Lou Sharp on Oct. 2, 1966. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and returned to Oklahoma to start a family.

Guy was married to Betty Lou Sharp on Oct. 2, 1966, and they had four children: James, Margaret, Susan and John. He was a dedicated husband, father and community member.

Guy passed away on July 30, 2021, in Oklahoma City. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Lou Sharp.

Guy is survived by his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

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**Cynthia Wassana**

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**SPECIAL SESSION**

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**Billie Sutton**

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**Message From District A1 Legislators**

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**Cindy Limsay**

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**Facts To Know About Folate**

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**John Evans**

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**Tsistsistas & Hinonoei Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal Tribune**

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**Jenifer Drayton**

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**Shari L. Brey**

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Happy 6th Birthday Harmony
Aug. 14
We love you with all our hearts
Your family

Happy 10th Birthday Silas (Apar'pak) Woods!
Our little sunshine, we are proud of the young man you are becoming
We love you sweetie!
Mom & Dad

Happy 20th Birthday MaKayla
Praying for an awesome year at college. So proud of you! Love always, mommy and family

Happy 6th Birthday to Cerone
Sept. 14
We love you so much & hope you have a wonderful day!
Love mom and dad

Happy 4th Birthday Harmony
Aug. 27
We love you with all our hearts.
Your family

Happy 10th Birthday Silas (Apar'pak) Woods!
Our little sunshine, we are proud of the young man you are becoming.
We love you sweetie!
Mom & Dad

Happy 20th Birthday MaKayla
Praying for an awesome year at college. So proud of you! Love always, mommy and family

From the family of Jerry L. Surveyor, we want to extend our deep appreciation to everyone who helped provide for his final ceremony. Your efforts will be remembered by those he left behind. Thank you for helping us send him on in a way he would have been happy with.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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that is required to complete a job,” Silvia Gaines, DREAMS office manager, said.

Gaines also chaperoned and worked alongside the youth at Old Caldwell.

“In the current job environment, it is important for a young person to be exposed to a variety of trades because the job market demands that people be adaptable, and able to learn new things. Studies have shown that workers change their profession over their lifetimes more often than in the past. Exposure to new fields not only provides familiarity with the wider world of work, but it also prepares young people for the changes in their lives and careers to come,” Gaines said.

The further one may get in their career, the fewer opportunities there are to receive praise for the effort put into work. As a program built around the foundation of developing marketable individuals to enter the workforce, the DREAMS Program hosted a banquet as a means to express appreciation to their Summer Youth participants for a job well done. Several youth participants were awarded various incentives for their efforts during the two-month program, such as the Perfect Attendance award, the Keen Scribbles award for penmanship, the Initiative award, and some for their focus on collaboration and teamwork.

The DREAMS Staff selected two individuals for their performance and success in the program. Receiving Most Outstanding employees was Kaydence Thunderbull and Noah Scraper. Also in attendance was guest speaker Christian Wassana who shared his experiences with the youth, and related how he, too, wants his fellow tribal citizens to strive for self-sufficiency and self-motivation.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Vocational Rehabilitation program, and Johnson O’Malley program were also in attendance to give program presentations.

In another time, summer break was a time to relax and vacation from responsibility and worry. In contrast, providing work over the summer has given the DREAMS Program the privilege of gaining insight into tribal youth’s aspirations. Even in these times where there may be no clear path forward, they are still building their futures.
131 people died in Oklahoma over the past month. All but 2 were unvaccinated.

**AVAILABLE NOW FOR IMMUNOCOMPROMISED INDIVIDUALS**

**AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE ELSE BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 20TH**

**8 MONTHS AFTER YOUR SECOND OR ONLY DOSE**

**BOOSTERS AVAILABLE THROUGH IHS OR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER**

**AVOID THE THREE Cs**

1. Closed Spaces
2. Crowds
3. Close Contact

The risk of getting COVID is really high when the 3 Cs overlap!