



California Casino News

May 26- 31, 2020

Agua Caliente blackjack dealer: 'There's no job worth my life'

When Sandra Burdette was called back to work dealing blackjack at Agua Caliente's Rancho Mirage casino last week, her first thought was 'too soon.' "I know one thing: I'm keeping my mom and me safe, no matter what," Burdette said. Speaking exclusively to News Channel 3, Burdette said in her mind, it's a matter of life or death – and despite the tribal chairman saying otherwise last week, she claims she was told to come back to work or get fired.

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Cahuilla Casino Hotel moves past coronavirus setback, gets ready to open

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After roughly year and a half of work, the Cahuilla Band of Indians thought they would be ready to celebrate the opening of their new resort property, the Cahuilla Casino Hotel, on April 2, but the spread of the novel coronavirus forced them to make other plans instead. To protect the safety of their guests and employees they closed their original casino property on March 18 still hoping they could open the new replacement property in just a couple weeks.

Elk Grove Wilton Resort Casino on hold due to COVID-19

As tribal casinos across Northern California began to reopen with COVID-19 public health modifications, a resort casino in Elk Grove is putting construction on hold. Wilton Resort Casino Spa was scheduled to break ground in June and bring with it some 1,600 construction jobs for the 18- to 24-month build.

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Asserting Sovereignty, Indian Casinos Defy California's Governor and Reopen

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It was a high-stakes gamble: a chance to win big at the slot machines but risk getting infected with the coronavirus. Braving a cold drizzle last week, hundreds placed their bet, lining up for hours in front of the Viejas Casino and Resort, a glass-and-stone Indian casino east of San Diego that was reopening despite pleas from California's governor, Gavin Newsom.

Casino Insider: Some casinos have reopened, here's what it's like now

A number of Southern California's tribal casinos have reopened at this point, and things look a lot different than the pre-COVID times. We're going to give you a glimpse of what that looks like in this week's newsletter, but first, we have another poll for you.

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California lawmakers propose allowing legal sports betting to help with budget shortfall

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Two California lawmakers on Thursday pitched legalized sports betting as a way to help prop up a state budget devastated by the economic shutdown designed to slow the spread of the coronavirus, though their revised proposal immediately reignited a turf battle between powerful gambling interests.