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Dr. Charles Stringham

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Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

Humboldt County Health Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 132 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 10 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of one more positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 132.

Overall, 111 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, five were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, three were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 12 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 58 tests, with 57 negative and one result pending. Any positives through the Community Health Nurse are reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 95 total cases; 78 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, while eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 845 tests, 90 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has five active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County case are being identified or have been notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest case follows:

- Case 132 – A man in his 20s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 131 cases, 118 have recovered, seven are self-isolating, two are hospitalized and four have died; Humboldt County has 10 active cases.

Over the past several weeks, Humboldt County has seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases. Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said contact tracers have diligently searched for any trends they can identify in the accumulating cases; just one stands out: travel.

"Prior to this latest uptick, we had not experienced very many cases," said Dr. Stringham, "but we have

seen quite a few now that seem related to travel: either one of our residents traveling out of area, or others traveling to Humboldt County and bringing the virus with them.”

Dr. Stringham said staying home is the best way for residents to protect themselves and others from COVID-19. For those who must travel, the doctor advises the same precautions that keep people safe at home, including wearing a mask, avoiding close contact with those not of the same household, and washing hands frequently.

Dr. Stringham also reminded that those who feel well and don't have any symptoms can still spread COVID-19 to other people, including family, friends, and the community, for 14 days after they are exposed to the virus.

“I would advise anyone with travel arrangements to be extraordinarily cautious,” said Dr. Stringham. “Travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. The more you travel, the higher the risk that you will eventually be exposed.”

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a facial covering if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid visiting sick people or those who are self-isolating.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Self-isolate if they have had a known exposure, or if they are awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

The Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic has moved to the HGH West Campus, located at 51 E. Haskell Street. From 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, the clinic offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons with a doctor's order only. Those who are experiencing severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department.

The Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse also is offering testing to asymptomatic persons with no known exposure. For more information or to make an appointment, residents may call the clinic at (775) 623-6575.

Free cloth masks are available to community members at the Olsen's and Ridley's pharmacies, courtesy of the Mucca Mask Makers, or by messaging the group on Facebook @Mucca Mask Makers.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish @CovidEspanol. Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at @HumboldtCountyNV and @StopHumboldtCoronavirus.

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