

Chair & County Health Officer,

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 CONFIRMS ONE NEW COVID-19 CASE, RAISING TOTAL TO 87

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of one more positive case of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), bringing the county's total to 87.

In all, Humboldt General Hospital has completed 1,131 tests; 39 results are pending.

Seventy-nine of the cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, and seven were confirmed out of area.

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

Brief summary information follows:

- Case 87 – A man in his 40s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 86 cases, 76 have recovered, six are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has seven active cases.

Per Governor Steve Sisolak's June 26 Directive 024, facial coverings are now mandatory for all Nevada residents and visitors.

According to Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, the directive is an opportunity to limit local residents' risk for exposure and infection and to keep businesses open and the economy moving.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has indicated that facial coverings are one of the most effective ways to slow the transmission of the coronavirus; still, Dr. Stringham said there are some misconceptions about masks that he would like to clarify.

"Probably the most prevalent misconception is that masks don't provide real protection from COVID-19," said the doctor.

He reminded residents that some people infected with the virus might never experience symptoms;

others have a period of time before their symptoms appear. “This means there is a potential to spread the illness without even knowing you have it,” he said.

Masks also serve as a physical barrier to minimize infective droplets produced by coughing, sneezing or talking. For this reason, Dr. Stringham said it’s very important that masks cover both the mouth and the nose.

Dr. Stringham said another misconception is that people who wear masks don’t have to physically distance. “Wearing a mask does not take the place of social distancing, or vice versa,” he said. “The combined efforts of wearing masks, distancing socially, practicing good hand hygiene and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces absolutely reduces transmission risk.”

In fact, the doctor said wearing facial coverings in public settings that involve non-household members is especially important, particularly when other physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

To help fight COVID-19, please:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a mask 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.
- 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](#).

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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