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Dr. Charles Stringham

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Humboldt County Health Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 133 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 11 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 133.

Overall, 112 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 133 – A woman in her 30s, who is a close contact of a previously reported case. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 132 cases, 118 have recovered, eight are self-isolating, two are hospitalized and four have died; Humboldt County has 11 active cases.

Flu season has officially begun and officials are asking all state residents to be flu immunized by Nevada Day, on Friday, October 30.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham said it takes about two weeks after vaccination for

antibodies to develop against influenza virus infection, “so I am urging local residents to get vaccinated sooner rather than later.”

While flu vaccines will not protect against non-influenza viruses, Dr. Stringham said it makes sense to protect against the flu, and free up resources to fight against COVID-19, which does not have a vaccine yet.

Dr. Stringham said anyone can get the flu—including healthy people—but the following groups are especially advised to get flu immunized:

- Children younger than 5, especially under 2 years
- Adults 65 years of age and older
- Pregnant women (and women up to 2 weeks postpartum)
- Residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People with chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease)
- People with weak immune systems from disease or medication (such as those having chemotherapy for cancer)
- American Indians and Alaskan Natives

“This is perhaps the most important year, since the flu vaccine was created, to get the flu shot,” said the doctor. “The vaccine is widely available in our community and I am hopeful local residents will use these next weeks to ensure their own protection and that of their loved ones.”

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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