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Dr. Charles Stringham

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Mike Bell, County Commissioner

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Humboldt County Health Board

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 145 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 16 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of two more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 145.

Overall, 118 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, seven were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, seven 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 880 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 cases follows:

- Case 145 – A woman in her 60s, whose case remains under investigation. She is hospitalized.
- Case 144 – A man in his 30s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 143 cases, 125 have recovered, 14 are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has 16 active cases.

Last June, Governor Steve Sisolak asked Nevada residents and visitors to wear a facial covering while in public.

“I think that single act, combined with recommended social distancing, has helped our state more than any other thing,” said Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD.

Dr. Stringham said research continues to show that facial coverings are one of the most effective ways to slow transmission of COVID-19.

“In a nutshell, wearing a mask can help prevent people who are infected from spreading the virus to others—especially those who don’t yet have symptoms,” said Dr. Stringham.

Still, the doctor acknowledged that for some, wearing a mask has evolved over the past months into a political debate.

“The real fight should be focused on this virus,” said Dr. Stringham, “and masks are, without question, one of our most effective tools.”

Dr. Stringham said just a few months ago, Humboldt County had one of the highest concentrations of COVID-19 cases in the state and dedicated mask wearing helped reverse that trend.

“Now we are potentially ramping up again and I want to encourage county residents to take those same basic precautions: dedicated mask wearing and social distancing will help us lower our case rate once again.”

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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