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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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October 14, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS 152 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 23 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 152.

Overall, 123 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, eight were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, eight 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 101 total cases; 84 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 946 tests, 91 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has nine active cases.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases 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 152 – A male teen, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 151 – A woman in her 30s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 150 cases, 125 have recovered, 19 are self-isolating, two are hospitalized, and four have died; Humboldt County has 23 active cases.

Since the beginning of October, Humboldt County has confirmed 23 new cases, going from case 130 on October 1, to case 152 on October 14. The Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation is also reporting 10 new cases since the beginning of the month.

And Humboldt County isn't alone. Nevada is also seeing an increase in cases along with the entire country, where over 30 states have reported more Covid-19 cases this past week than in the previous week, according to data from Johns Hopkins University.

"When we begin to see a surge in cases, it's easy to feel panicked," said Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD. "That is a very normal reaction."

Dr. Stringham continued, "We feel worried for our health, for our family and friends, our jobs, the economy and even what upcoming holidays will look like; it's a lot to take in."

Still, the doctor encouraged residents not to allow feelings of hopelessness to take charge.

"We already know how to fight this virus," he said. "We have the power and the know-how to put it down. We just have to do the right things."

Dr. Stringham said it's more important than ever for residents to consistently wear masks while in public, maintain an appropriate social distance and wash their hands frequently.

He also encouraged those who have COVID-like symptoms or who have had a known exposure to be tested as soon as possible

"Prevention is our number one defense strategy," said Dr. Stringham. "Let's let this rise in cases motivate us to take these precautions seriously. We are in control."

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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