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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 178 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 28 ACTIVE CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of three more positive cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), raising the county's total to 178.

Overall, 142 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, 10 were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 17 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 60 tests, with 58 negative and two results 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 is reporting 108 total cases; 91 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 1,265 tests, 102 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 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 178 – A woman in her 40s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 177 – A woman in her 50s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 176 – A man in his 60s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 175 cases, 146 have recovered, 21 are self-isolating, four are hospitalized, and four have died; Humboldt County has 28 active cases.

Wednesday, October 27, Governor Steve Sisolak held a press conference to provide an update on Nevada's COVID-19 current situation.

At this time, the governor said Nevada has identified approximately 25 percent of its COVID-19 cases through contact tracing. This means the bulk of the state's cases are not being found through contact tracing, which is an indicator of community spread.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said once contract tracers become aware of a case, they trace that person's contacts to ensure testing and quarantine where needed.

"For all others who have a suspected exposure, or who are experiencing symptoms, we are counting on them to do the right things: to be tested and to mitigate the potential spread of the virus, even before they receive results."

The doctor said preventing community spread is a critical responsibility he hopes all county residents will assume.

"Nevada is seeing an infection rate above 1, which means the virus will continue to spread unless there are changes in our behavior," said Dr. Stringham, "so it's incumbent on all of us to do what we need to not spread this disease."

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. 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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