

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 REPORTS 215 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 33 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 215.

Overall, 163 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, 13 were identified through the Golden Valley Medical Center, 19 were identified through testing at the Ridley's Pharmacy, and 19 were confirmed out of area.

In addition, the Office of the Humboldt County Community Health Nurse has completed 65 tests. 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 123 positive cases; 107 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, eight were tested out of area, and eight were tested through the National Guard community-based testing on July 26. In all, Fort McDermitt has completed 1,516 tests, 112 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has 10 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 215 – A woman in her 30s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 214 cases, 178 have recovered, 32 are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has 33 active cases.

With news of various vaccines now nearing the final stages of approval, the general Humboldt County population may have the opportunity to be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus by early 2021.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said the virus's days are numbered as vaccine options become available.

“But we’re not there yet,” said Dr. Stringham. “With a major uptick happening in the community and in the state, we can’t sit back and wait for vaccination to save the day—at least not yet.”

Dr. Stringham said the pandemic has seemed to divide the community between those who have embraced precautionary measures such as wearing masks and practicing social distancing, and those who have determined that guidance is not valid.

“But I’m am asking every resident of Humboldt County to put aside their personal views for the good of this community,” he said. “We know masks work: we know they slow the spread of the virus, and that’s what we need now until we have a vaccine in place.”

Not only that, but Dr. Stringham said all indications point that December and January will be riskiest months yet for the virus, “so it is vital that everyone engage.”

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 5 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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