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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 125 TOTAL CONFIRMATIONS, 11 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 125.

Overall, 108 of Humboldt County's cases were identified through Humboldt General Hospital, one was identified through community-based screening, four were identified at the Golden Valley Medical Center, 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 will be reported as part of Humboldt County's total number of cases.

The Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe reports 90 total cases; 76 were confirmed through the Fort McDermitt Wellness Center, five 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 775 tests, 89 people have recovered, one person has died, and the tribe has no 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 125 – A man in his 40s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.
- Case 124 – A woman in her 20s, whose case remains under investigation. She is self-isolating at home.
- Case 123 – A man in his 40s, whose case remains under investigation. He is self-isolating at home.

Of the previous 122 cases, 110 have recovered, eight are self-isolating and four have died; Humboldt County has 11 active cases.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, continues to remind Humboldt County residents that any person who has been in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 should be tested.

Dr. Stringham said “close contact” means:

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

“People who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 have a responsibility to treat themselves as if they, too, are infected until that is confirmed through a laboratory result,” said the doctor.

If the exposed person receives a positive result, they must continue to self-isolate for 12 days from the date of testing; those who test negative for COVID-19 or who feel healthy, still must quarantine for 12 days from the date of testing as symptoms may still appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

Those with a weakened immune system due to a health condition or medication may need to self-isolate or quarantine for longer.

“Our goal is two-fold,” said Dr. Stringham. “We want to get sick people well, and we want to prevent new people from getting sick.”

Dr. Stringham said it is very important for people to follow the instructions they are given to test, to separate themselves from others, to monitor their health, and to follow any continuing direction from their health professionals and authorities, including the Humboldt County Fast Team.

“If we all try to do the right things by wearing a mask, staying 6 feet from others and washing our hands frequently, then we have a much greater chance of protecting ourselves and others,” he said.

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](#).

Beginning Monday, September 28, the Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic will move to the HGH West Campus, located at 51 E. Haskell Street. From 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, the clinic will offer drive-thru screening for asymptomatic persons with a doctor’s order only. Those who are experiencing COVID-like symptoms should call their doctor and quarantine at home, or visit the HGH

Emergency Department in the case of severe symptoms.

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.