FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces 60th Death from COVID-19
Decedent is a woman in her 90's

HARDIN, MONTANA (December 22, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 60th death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a woman in her 90's who was hospitalized prior to her death yesterday, Tuesday, December 22, 2020.

Her family and friends are in the hearts and minds of the Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition and we send our heartfelt condolences on her passing.

This is the 12th death recorded in December. The County's fatality rate is 2.8% (60 deaths out of 2,124 total cases); however, the rate is 19.4% for those age 70 and older (34 deaths out of 174 cases).

Month	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths
April	3	-
May	27	-
June	44	3
July	249	5
August	357	8
September	294	7
October	456	17
November	473	8
December (*12/22/2020 to date*)	221	12
Total since Pandemic Began	**2,124**	**60**

With the holiday season and to protect our elders, it is more important than ever to follow the three W's: Wash your hands; Watch your distance from other people; Wear a mask. The County asks all residents to please continue stay home more often and to avoid events or gatherings. Also, the Board of County Commissioners and Board of Public Health ask everyone to wear a mask and social distance when outside of their homes and in public. Masks are required when engaged in indoor activities, such as shopping. Masks are not necessary in the event that residents are outdoors and unlikely to come within six (6) feet of other people, such as while taking advantage of our beautiful county, to work, recreate, or exercise outside.

Tracking down contacts to a positive case (contact tracing) is one of the best tools public health can use to slow the spread of the virus. If you believe you were in the presence of a recently confirmed COVID-19 case for more than five (5) minutes, please call public health so that a nurse may interview you and determine what level of exposure you have:

- IHS Public Health Nursing: (406) 638-3478
- Big Horn County Public Health: (406) 665-8720

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Big Horn County is the sixth largest county in Montana, at approximately 5,023 square miles, and with a population exceeding 13,000. The local government was established January 13, 1913. Hardin is the County Seat. https://www.bighorncountymt.gov/ For more information about the County's COVID-19 response, please visit our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/BHCMTResponds.