FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Big Horn County Announces 53rd Death from COVID-19
Decedent is a man in his 80's

HARDIN, MONTANA (December 9, 2020) – Big Horn County today announced the 53rd death of a County resident due to complications from the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The decedent is a man in his 80's who was hospitalized prior to his death this morning, Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

The Big Horn County COVID-19 Response Unified Coalition sends our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and the community of Big Horn County for his tragic loss.

This is the 5th death recorded in December. The County's fatality rate is 2.6% (53 deaths out of 2,011 total 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 (*12/09/2020 to date*)	108	5
Total since Pandemic Began	**2,011**	**53**

With the holidays upon us, 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.