

Media Information:

For immediate release:

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Three Yellowstone County residents die of COVID-19 illness

Billings, MT – RiverStone Health, Yellowstone County's public health department, reports the death of three Yellowstone County residents from COVID-19 related illness.

On December 30, woman in her 80s died at a Billings hospital.

On December 31, a woman in her 70s died at a Billings hospital.

On December 31, a man in his 80s died at a local long-term care facility.

Since the pandemic arrived here, 165 Yellowstone County people have died of COVID-related illness, according to RiverStone Health records. Thirty of those deaths have occurred during the month of December.

"I hope that the families of these three latest victims of the pandemic will be comforted by compassionate friends and neighbors," said John Felton, Yellowstone County public health officer and RiverStone Health CEO. "Our community needs to pull together to slow the spread of this virus. While we await the arrival of safe, effective vaccines for everyone, let's resolve to take care of each other by continuing the precautions proven to reduce risk of illness."

- Wear a mask in public and whenever you are with a person who doesn't live with you.
- Keep your distance of at least 6 feet from others who don't live with you.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently.
- Stay home if you are ill.

At least 14,060 Yellowstone County residents have been infected with COVID-19 to date, according to RiverStone Health records.

More information on the pandemic, including updated Yellowstone County statistics, is online at covid.riverstonehealth.org.

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