

March 19, 2020  
2:00 PM  
Big Horn County  
COVID-19 Update/Response

### For Immediate Release

We celebrated St. Patrick's Day this week, I hope you had a wee bit of fun. Legend remembers St. Patrick for chasing all the snakes from Ireland. Now while it is true that there are no snakes in Ireland, the Ice Age may have had more to do with it than St. Patrick. But that is how history remembers it.

So, who is going to chase Coronavirus from our Nation? Hopefully all of us, as we pull together to stay at home, avoid gatherings of 10 or more, wash our hands, cover our coughs and limit discretionary travel. And while we probably won't be elevated to sainthood, perhaps we will save the lives of our seniors in our communities. I hope that is the legend we will be telling as we find the pot of gold at the end of this rainbow once the storm clears.

Remember with uncertainty there is two paths to take: We can be paralyzed by our fear or mobilized by our hope. "Let's take the high road."

We have much to hope about:

New cases in China have slowed, so perhaps the virus will only have a short course in our country.

In our Nation's history we have never had the sanitary conditions we have now.

We have testing that is developing faster than ever in history.

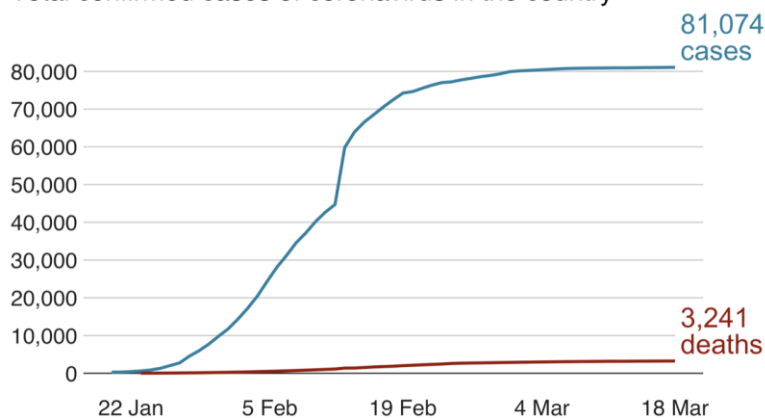
We have taken measures for containment faster than ever in history.

We know more about this pandemic disease at this point than any other ever in history.

Our businesses and have made great sacrifices to promote safe distancing and better hygiene.

### New cases in China have slowed

Total confirmed cases of coronavirus in the country



Source: China National Health Commission, WHO, Updated: 18 Mar 18:00 GMT **BBC**

We need your cooperation to make it work.

We need time, distance and shielding to protect us:

- Fifteen days, social distancing, and personal hygiene.

Please read the President's recommendations and follow them.

Expect more to come out this week from me and the State Epidemiologist as we monitor the best course for our county's citizens.

Thanks for your hope and hygiene.

Respectfully,

David Weston, Fairbanks, MD, FAAFP  
Big Horn County Health Officer



For Sources of Information on COVID-19:

1. Big Horn County Public Health Website:  
<https://www.bighorncountywy.gov/departments/public-health>
2. Park County Public Health Coronavirus Information Line: 754-1870 or 527-1870  
**(Updated regularly). Big Horn County may use this.**
3. Up to date announcements from Wyoming Department of Health as they are released Wyoming Department of Health  
Website: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/infectious-disease-epidemiology-unit/disease/novel-coronavirus>.
4. CDC Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>