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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Third Portage County COVID Related Death Reported

Portage County Division of Public Health is confirming the county's third death associated with the novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19).

"We are saddened by the loss of another community member," says Gary Garske, Health Officer and Division of Public Health Manager at Portage County Health and Human Services. "Our thoughts are with the family and loved ones."

To date, 824 people in Portage County have been diagnosed with COVID-19, and there have been 1,193 deaths in Wisconsin.

COVID-19 can cause serious health complications and death, especially among older adults and people with chronic health conditions. That's why it's important that we all work together to prevent the spread of illness by practicing preventive measures, such as wearing a face covering in public, practicing social distancing, washing hands often, and keeping social circles small. It is also important to remember that COVID-19 can be spread by those who are not experiencing symptoms.

"As we continue to see cases rising in our county and throughout the state, it is a reminder of how important COVID-19 prevention efforts are in protecting all of our community members," says Garske. "By practicing preventive measures, you're not only helping protect yourself, but also your family, friends, neighbors, and fellow community members."

For more Portage County data, visit the dashboard at this link: <https://bit.ly/3bmQOjD>

If you have questions or would like additional guidance, please call or email our department at (715) 345-5907 or PCPublicHealth@co.portage.wi.us

If you have general COVID-19 questions, call 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898211 Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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