

May 18, 2020

Press Release

FROM: Russellville Mayor Richard Harris

Pope County Judge Ben Cross

TO: The Citizens of Pope County,

The number of active positive cases of COVID-19 has increased dramatically over the last few days. Some of this increase is due to a cluster at an in-patient rehabilitation center in Russellville. The remainder of the increase in active positive cases is not purported to be a community spread but is based on potential localized clusters. Additional information will be forthcoming as the Arkansas Department of Health continues its investigation.

As our community continues to open up our parks, businesses, etc., there is a tendency to relax standards of social distancing and maintain the same level of hygiene that may have been practiced early on in this pandemic. Out of respect for the health of others in our community, we encourage all citizens to adhere to the standards outlined by health officials and medical providers.

If you are in an at-risk population for health reasons, then we encourage you to continue practicing self-isolation and limit your exposure to crowded areas. If you must get out, then use the appropriate social distancing measures, use a face mask, and be sure to wash your hands frequently.