

PFT COVID Update 9-22-21: Grim Milestone - Safer Masks - New Vax Trials -- PPS Clinic - links

CORONAVIRUS



Updates

A Grim Milestone Passed.

Last week, every major news outlet reported that statistically speaking, **1 in 500 Americans has died of COVID-19 since the pandemic began.**

With the ongoing surge of the Delta variant still gripping America (*a strain of Covid that is now specifically and almost exclusively more dangerous and more deadly to the unvaccinated*), there really is no time like the present to get your vaccination if you haven't—if it is safe for you to do so.

To wear your mask indoors if you're not currently doing so.

To maintain safer social distances whenever possible.

And to avoid large gatherings, particularly indoors, if possible.

[Click here to view Covid-19 statistics nationwide.](#)

[Click here to read the Fox News story](#) about the sobering milestone our nation passed last week.

Better, Safer Masks—What You Need To Know (*And Where To Buy Them*).

If you clicked the statistics link above and saw the ruby red map color indicating high community transmission in virtually every state in the country, then clearly you know that masks are once again an essential part of everyday life with COVID-19.

In this in-depth article and report, WTAE takes a closer look at why your mask is overdue for an upgrade. [Click here to read the story or watch the video.](#)

Vaccine Trial for 5 - 12 Year-olds Demonstrates Promise in Pfizer/BioNTech Study.

The pharmaceutical companies said early results of their trial indicate the vaccine is safe for children and establishes a strong antibody response against the virus.

However the scientific rigor demanded by such a trial likely means approval from the FDA is still several months away. **With pediatric cases up 240% since July** of this year, these developments are worth keeping an eye on.

[Click here for the full NPR story](#) on how the clinical trial has been conducted and more.

UPMC and PPS to Host Vaccine Clinic on the South Side.

This **Saturday, September 25**, UPMC and PPS are teaming up for a free vaccine clinic at [Cupples Stadium](#) near Station Square from 2:00 – 4:30 PM.

[Click here for the whole Post-Gazette story on the event](#), and if you are able—try to bring an eligible someone who has yet to receive their Covid-19 vaccination.

** To find the vaccine, use the [federal government's online tool](#), call [1-800-232-0233](#), or text your ZIP code to 438829 (GETVAX). **

Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[Find a Vaccine Provider Near You](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#)

-- A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#) (*includes login info*)

[Click for Life Skills Solutions Website](#) (*login upper right*)

[AFT Share My Lesson Stress Management Resources](#) (*searchable*)

[Download the PA COVID-Alert Tracking App](#)

[National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)

[CDC Data Tracking Page](#)

[CDC Vaccine Information Landing Page](#)

[PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)

[PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)

[PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)

[Student Debt Relief Resources](#)

[Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)

[Coronavirus Testing Locations \(view interactive map mid page\)](#)



Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

**** PFT Coronavirus Updates Released Periodically As Needed ****

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here.](#)

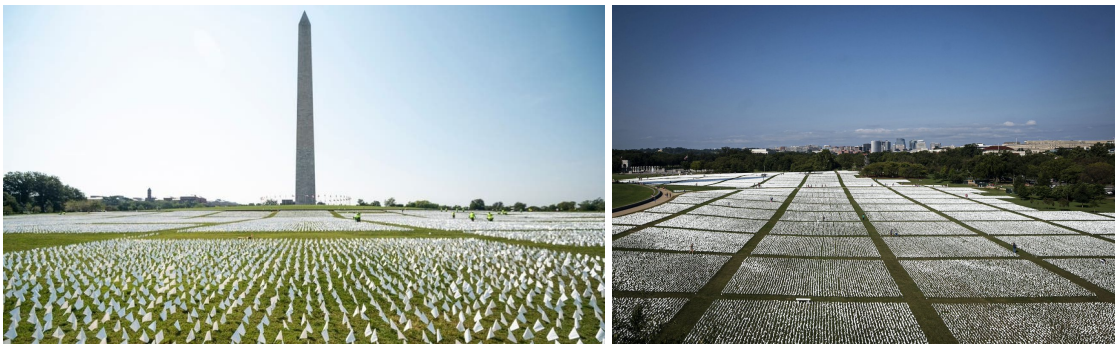
Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.

In solidarity—

Dan Evans

PFT Communications Director

Parting Shots:



650,000 Flags for the COVID-19 Fallen adorn the National Mall in Washington, D.C.