COVID Cases Increasing Among Children

From STAFF REPORTS

WHEELING — As the weekly number of new COVID-19 cases in Ohio County jumped again Monday, hospitals around West Virginia are straining against that rise in cases at crisis levels.

The Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department announced Monday that, between Sept. 12 and Monday, there have been 249 new cases reported in the county. That’s a significant increase from the 194 announced in the previous weekly report. COVID cases also are going up among children. Ohio County had 98 new positives among children under 18 years old.

That’s up from the 75 new cases among children in the previous weekly report. The department also reported one new COVID-related death.

In the latest weekly report, WOCHD announced that there are 64 cases of the delta variant in the county, along with 86 cases of the alpha variant and two cases of the gamma variant. According to the Department of Health and Human Resources’ COVID-19 dashboard, there have been 3,979 confirmed cases, 1,454 probable cases and 93 related deaths in Ohio County since the pandemic began.

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Barbers Donate Time, Talents In Teen’s Memory

By JOSELYN KING

WHEELING — Local hair stylists offered their time and supplies and provided free haircuts Monday in memory of a Wheeling youth who died tragically.

About 50 people were scheduled to turn out for the trims, which took place throughout the afternoon Monday at the Youth Services System offices at the Hazel-Atlas Building in East Wheeling.

The haircuts were a public service program organized by America-corps-VISTA volunteer Shelby Fluharty for YSS.

She was inspired by the story of Caleb Small, a 19-year-old who was murdered in January 2019 during a robbery. Monday would have been Small’s 22nd birthday.

“My initial thought was to do a free haircutting for the community,” Fluharty explained. “We ended up tying the haircutting with Jen Stricklin, who is Caleb Small’s girlfriend’s mother.”

The haircut project then partnered with the Caleb Small Kindness Project.

Stricklin, a beautician at the Posh salon, was among those donating their time and talent Monday. She was joined by Chad Stradwick of Stradwick’s Fade Cave, Lake Stedel of Stallion Cutz, Mandy Ware of Posh, and Sandi Bemiskey of Classic Coute Hair and Nails.

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