



MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN ANNOUNCES IMPORTANT UPDATES TO BUFFALO'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Mayor Brown launches UNCUT, a series of videos offering tips and guidance for City services

Buffalo, NY – Mayor Byron W. Brown today announced the debut of “City of Buffalo Behind the Scenes Uncut Videos,” a collection of videos shot by City employees on their cellphones, providing residents with tips and insight on a variety of different City services and ways to stay safe during the COVID-19 emergency. With more City residents spending time at home and online in search of information, these short and informative self-shot videos communicate creative reminders, highlight some of the good work that continues remotely in City government or is coming up, provide an essential community awareness update, offer public safety tips or inspirational messages of hope.

Mayor Brown stated, “These videos are yet another resource for residents interested in learning a little bit more about our community and how to play a role in improving our neighborhoods. I thank members of my Administration for participating in this innovative way to keep residents plugged in on the inner workings of City Hall as we run government remotely.”

The videos will be posted on Mayor Brown’s Facebook page on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The launch video, released today, features Office of New Americans Director Jessica Lazarin who speaks about the importance of responding to the 2020 Census. Mayor Brown continues to urge residents to complete their 2020 Census questionnaires. The City’s census response rate, as of May 5th, has grown to 43.4%. Failure to achieve an accurate count will result in the City of Buffalo losing hundreds of millions of dollars in Federal aid that can be used for community programming, education, infrastructure and much more. Ms. Lazarin is urging everyone to complete their questionnaire today by visiting 2020Census.gov.

Other soon-to-be released videos include tips on what residents can do to help keep our water clean, proper recycling tote placement, dos and don’ts on garbage collection day and how to make a face covering to protect yourself from Coronavirus. There are also educational pieces including how to apply for a Love Your Block Grant, what happens to your garbage once it has been collected and much more.

For more information, “Like” @MayorByronBrown on Facebook, follow him on Instagram via @MayorByronBrown716, and on Twitter @MayorByronBrown.

Giving Tuesday: Support the Buffalo Police Athletic League of Buffalo

Giving Tuesday normally takes place on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving in cities across the country. But with COVID-19, a special ‘Giving Tuesday’ is happening today. Mayor Brown is asking residents to support the Police Athletic League of Buffalo’s Mission to help thousands of youth from the City of Buffalo who are living in neighborhoods where the highest concentration of COVID-19 cases have been reported, ensuring they receive the essential services they need to thrive and survive while they are being educated at home.

Donations that are made to the 2020 Annual PAL Giving Campaign are being invested into providing PAL youth with essential services they need, including snacks, meals, books, academic supplies, technology that can be utilized for online

learning, and virtual fitness programming for kids and teens who are living at or below poverty level in some of the City of Buffalo's most impoverished neighborhoods.

Online donations can be received at: buffalopal.com/fundraising.

Mayor Brown provides update on the Fire and Police Departments

Mayor Brown announced today that the number of COVID-19 infection recoveries at the Buffalo Fire and Police Departments continue to improve.

- 3 Firefighters are currently positive for the virus, and 14 others are on administrative leave as a precaution, 38 firefighters have recovered and returned to work;
- 3 Police Officers are currently positive for the virus while 18 officers are out on administrative leave. 62 officers have recovered and returned to work.

The emergency response services provided by both Buffalo Police and Fire remain operational without any interruption in services. The Administration continues to take precautions, including deep cleanings of Police Stations, Firehouses and vehicles, to help protect our first responders.

Visit covid19.buffalony.gov for the latest important information on COVID-19

Mayor Brown reminds residents to visit covid19.buffalony.gov, a one-stop destination with the latest COVID-19 related news, policies and resources in the City of Buffalo. The website includes information for small businesses, where to find free food distribution and meal sites, how to access support for older residents, help for those seeking employment, health and mental health guidance, ways people can help others through volunteering and donating. The page also features data and dashboards that show the impact of coronavirus.

Celebrating teachers on National Teacher Appreciation Day

Today is National Teacher Appreciation Day, a time for us to recognize the positive impact our amazing educators have on the lives of our children. Tonight, Buffalo City Hall will be lit RED, WHITE and BLUE in recognition of National Teacher Appreciation Day as a special thank you to the men and women who shape the minds of our children.

Additionally, Mayor Brown's Instagram challenge, #BuffaloPAUSE – Powered by AT&T, is paying tribute to educators as part of Teacher Appreciation Week. As part of this week's theme, Mayor Brown is challenging young residents to show their appreciation for their teachers on Instagram and use the hashtag #BuffaloPAUSE for a chance to win a \$20 Amazon gift card.

To enter the #BuffaloPAUSE challenge, participants must be between the ages of 13 and 18, reside in the City of Buffalo, and have a public profile on Instagram. All entries must take place at home indoors or outdoors following proper physical distancing guidelines. Only one submission per person or from a social media account can win each week. Tag your post with #BuffaloPAUSE on Instagram. Selected winners will be notified via Direct Message (DM) with a link to fill out a form so we can process your gift card. All prizes and awards are funded by AT&T.

Mother's Day Brunch Baskets available at the Broadway Market

The Friends of the Broadway Market District, Inc. are offering a \$40.00 Mother's Day Brunch Basket filled with Broadway Market goodies. Included in the basket are bacon and breakfast sausage from Lupas Meats and Camellia Meats, one dozen eggs, braided bread and coffee cake from White Eagle Bakery, strawberries and red and green peppers from Lewandowski Produce and a 1/2 dozen pierogi from Babcia's Pierogi. Baskets including 4 steaks and a pound of cooked shrimp with cocktail sauce are also available for \$60.00. Orders must be placed no later than Friday, May 8, at noon. To place and pay for your order, call 716-896-7163. Basket pick up is Saturday, May 9, only from 1-4 pm.

Free groceries for families in need

On Friday, May 8th, the Belle Center will be giving away bags of free groceries to families in need at 104 Maryland Street. The distribution runs from 9 am to 1 pm.

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