

Quarterly Issues & Program List

April 1 – June 30, 2018
Placed in the Public File – July 10, 2020

Section I. Issues.

The station has identified the following as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. **Arts & Culture**
- B. **Business & Economy**
- C. **Education**
- D. **Health & Wellness**
- E. **Mental Health**
- F. **Older Adults**
- G. **Racial Equity**
- H. **Women**

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Section II. Responsive Programs.

The station has broadcast programming dealing with each of the above-referenced issues. Programming dealing with each issue is set out below.

A. Arts & Culture:

[Buffalo's home to B-boy culture waiting out COVID-19 closure](#)

Broadcast on 4/2/20 06:45 AM Duration 13:41
Feature Verve Dance Studio, one of the few places anywhere in the world dedicated to teaching b-boy's dance and philosophy of self-expression, has kept the tradition strong for 15 years --and is one of many schools on hold because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

[Local piper gives special performance for Akron 'wish kid'](#)

Broadcast on 4/14/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:27
Feature A Buffalo man is making headlines by playing bagpipes for the public during the COVID-19 shutdown, and last weekend, Dan Ryan and friends gave a special performance for a young woman living with a critical heart defect.

[Newly-arrived Afghan seamstress sparks Stitch Buffalo face mask project to benefit refugee women](#)

Broadcast on 4/28/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:26
Feature With Western New York still in the grasp of the coronavirus pandemic, a newly-resettled refugee family is getting into the spirit of the City of Good Neighbors. For Buffalo Toronto Public Media's Making Buffalo Home initiative, WBFO's Kyle Mackie reports on how an Afghan couple sparked a business venture that's making face masks and generating income for refugee women.

[Torn Space adjusts to new realities with a "personal-performance piece"](#)

Broadcast on 5/18/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:25
Interview Torn Space Theater is adjusting to the COVID-19 pandemic. "We can't have the same large-scale performances that we're used to," said Artistic Director Dan Shanahan. Starting this Friday and running through May 31, Torn Space presents an online "personal-performance piece" called "Passage."

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Assembled by sound designer Justin Rowland, the production is intended for solitary listening.

[Press Pass: Film industry submits plan to begin new WNY movie Aug. 1](#)

Broadcast on 6/9/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:00
Interview As the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic continue to affect all in Western New York, the news regarding flattening of the curve, the number of hospitalizations and fatalities has been hopeful and given us reason to be cautiously optimistic. That optimism extends to the film industry in Western New York, as Buffalo Niagara Film Commissioner Tim Clark explains to WBFO's Pat Feldballe.

[Press Pass: Protests, Phase 3 and virtual arts experiences](#)

Broadcast on 6/16/20 06:45 AM Duration 9:43
Interview After a one month absence because of coronavirus, Buffalo Spree returned with a June print edition. The magazine arrived in subscribers mailboxes just as daily protests against police brutality began in Buffalo. In this week's Press Pass with WBFO's Mark Scott, Spree Editor Elizabeth Licata says she expects the upcoming July issue will profile some of the activists pushing for police reforms.

B. Business & Economy:

[Bike shops in WNY, for a few hours, were not deemed an essential service](#)

Broadcast on 4/3/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:30
Feature On March 20, bike shops across Western New York were told they would have to close down because they were not an essential service. Less than a day later, after most of those stores came together to plead their case, they were told they could remain open.

[Will the CARES Act help keep companies afloat?](#)

Broadcast on 4/16/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:02
Feature It goes without saying that many local businesses have been suffering since the novel coronavirus hit. Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economy Security (CARES) Act to help. It includes low-interest loans and tax credits for small companies. But will it be enough for those who need it?

[Business survey results a 'stark indicator' of hard times](#)

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Broadcast on 5/6/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:06
Interview Most local businesses say they are taking a financial hit due to the pandemic. A new survey of more than 1,800 companies across Western New York finds 93% of respondents are experiencing a decline in revenue.

['I don't think this is sustainable': Small businesses describe struggles at NYS legislative hearing](#)

Broadcast on 5/13/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:45
Feature The New York State legislature on Wednesday took one of its first official actions since passing a state budget over a month ago. They held a public hearing — remotely — on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on small businesses, and how the federal government has responded.

[A quieter gathering but the same message: reopen New York fully and now](#)

Broadcast on 5/21/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:57
Feature It lacked the large parade of vehicles circling Niagara Square while horns were blaring, but those showing up in downtown Buffalo this time sent the same message as one month ago: all businesses are essential and need reopening now.

[Cuomo issues 'no mask, no service' order for NY businesses](#)

Broadcast on 5/28/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:01
Feature Gov. Andrew Cuomo has issued an executive order that allows businesses to deny entry to customers who aren't wearing a mask, saying it's intended to improve public health and reduce fights.

C. Education:

[Buffalo Public Schools grapple with city's digital divide: 'It's just a big equity issue.'](#)

Broadcast on 4/7/20 06:45 AM Duration 5:11
Feature It's now the fourth week of school closures in Buffalo, and remote or distance learning is supposed to be in full swing. But not all students have the same access to technology to help them keep learning.

[Buffalo Public Schools releases new grading policy for remainder of school year](#)

Broadcast on 4/29/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:20

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Interview Seven weeks into remote learning necessitated by the coronavirus pandemic, Buffalo Public Schools is rolling out a new grading policy. WBFO's education reporter Kyle Mackie spoke to district officials to learn more.

[State educators wary of Gates Foundation, but some Buffalo parents ready to 'reimagine education'](#)

Broadcast on 5/13/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:13
Feature Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced a new partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation last week to "reimagine education" in New York State. That move has been criticized by teachers' unions, administrators and some parents, but some Buffalo families are ready for change.

[One of Buffalo's highest-performing public schools faces closure. Here's why.](#)

Broadcast on 5/22/20 06:45 AM Duration 8:03
Feature One of Buffalo's highest-performing public schools faces closure following a vote by the New York State Board of Regents last week. WBFO's education reporter Kyle Mackie reports on how Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School got caught in pandemic politics and the great debate about charter schools.

[How do you talk to your children about race? Buffalo parents weigh in](#)

Broadcast on 6/3/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:43
Feature As protests and riots sparked by the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis on Memorial Day continue to sweep the country, Buffalo parents are weighing in about how they're talking to their children about disturbing events in the news—and race.

[Facial recognition in Lockport schools: 'Best technology in the world' or 'not proven to work?'](#)

Broadcast on 6/24/20 06:45 AM Duration 9:02
Feature The New York Civil Liberties Union filed a lawsuit Monday against the state education department over the new security system in Lockport schools, which recognizes two things: guns and faces. WBFO's Kyle Mackie reports on how the system works and how the same technology used by Scotland Yard and INTERPOL ended up in a school district in Niagara County.

D. Health & Wellness:

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[Hochul offers assurance on local ventilators: 'There is surplus supply'](#)

Broadcast on 4/6/20 06:45 AM Duration 8:19
Interview Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul dismissed as "fearmongering" the concerns raised by local officials regarding the possible transfer of ventilators from local hospitals to New York City.

[Detainees at Batavia ICE facility say they are sick and haven't been tested for COVID-19](#)

Broadcast on 4/8/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:23
Feature Immigrant advocates are concerned not enough is being done to prevent COVID-19 from entering and spreading within the ICE detention facility in Batavia. ICE was in federal court Monday and provided steps they are taking to meet CDC standards. The same day, accounts from multiple detainees said there is a lack of testing, social distancing and medical care for those showing symptoms.

[Cuomo orders mask-wearing in public as COVID-19 takes another 752 New Yorkers](#)

Broadcast on 4/15/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:22
Feature Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Wednesday that he's issuing an executive order to require every New Yorker to wear masks in public when it's not possible to practice social distancing, beginning Friday.

['At least if I get sick...my children will be OK': Buffalo nursing home workers demand hazard pay](#)

Broadcast on 5/15/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:40
Feature Employees of Center Health Care's two Buffalo nursing homes protested over a lack of hazard pay Thursday, saying they are putting themselves and their families at risk without being fairly compensated.

['Horrific,' 'gut-wrenching' conditions found in Toronto's long-term care homes](#)

Broadcast on 5/27/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:05
Feature There was shock and anger in Ontario Tuesday after a Canadian military report threw a spotlight on deplorable conditions at five long-term care homes in the province during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[As New York trends lower, COVID hot spots emerge elsewhere](#)

Broadcast on 6/11/20 06:45 AM Duration 6:53

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Interview As Western New York reopens its economy from the shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some areas of the country are reporting spikes in the disease. "New York has done so well. We're one of 24 states where the numbers are really massively trending down," said Dr. Nancy Nielsen during her weekly appearance on WBFO. "What we can't do is get complacent and let it go back up like it has in 19 states."

E. Mental Health:

[Maintaining your mental health during COVID-19](#)

Broadcast on 4/6/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:01

Interview A quarantine may pose an additional challenge in successfully maintaining one's mental health. WBFO's Nick Lippa spoke with Jill Dunstan-- Program Director of OnTrack, which is a behavioral health clinic with BestSelf, on what to keep in mind while self-isolating.

[Increased social media consumption during pandemic can negatively impact mental health](#)

Broadcast on 5/4/20 06:45 AM Duration 21:35

Interview Diverse communities across the globe face many of the same challenges when battling COVID-19. But for refugee and immigrant populations who are adapting to Western New York, a language barrier can make a pandemic that much harder to deal with. WBFO's Nick Lippa spoke with Ali Kadhum, Chair of the Iraqi American Society, about how he and other community leaders are stepping up to keep everyone informed and safe.

[Immigrants tackle COVID, mental health concerns while overcoming language barriers](#)

Broadcast on 5/7/20 06:45 AM Duration 15:20

Interview With the continuation of quarantine and isolation, it's not uncommon to rely more on social media for news and entertainment. Dr. Roger McIntyre, professor of psychiatry and pharmacology at the University of Toronto and CEO of AltMed Capital, recently conducted a study of Chinese healthcare workers that links increased social media consumption during

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COVID-19 to a worsened mental health state. He shared further details with WBFO's Nick Lippa.

F. Older Adults:

['It seems a bit reckless': Advocates demand nursing homes stop involuntary discharges amid pandemic](#)

Broadcast on 4/10/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:13
Feature Advocates are calling on New York state nursing homes to suspend involuntary discharges and transfers during the COVID-19 pandemic, saying it puts residents at increased risk of exposure and hurts their due process rights.

[Nursing home residents account for almost half of Western New York's COVID-19 deaths](#)

Broadcast on 4/14/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:42
Feature Nearly half of Western New Yorkers dead of COVID-19 are nursing home residents, according to data released by the New York State Department of Health Monday.

[COVID-19 shutdown is especially hard on those with Alzheimer's disease — and their family caregivers](#)

Broadcast on 4/23/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:58
Feature Most Americans are struggling to adapt to stay-at-home orders, business shutdowns and social distancing guidelines under COVID-19, but such radical changes can be especially difficult for families dealing with Alzheimer's disease, who rely heavily on routine. WBFO's Older Adults Reporter Tom Dinki takes a look at their struggles — and what resources are available to help.

[COVID-19 death toll at nursing homes grows as NY counts those presumed to have succumbed to disease](#)

Broadcast on 5/5/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:29
Feature The number of COVID-19 deaths in New York is steadily going down, and 230 were reported on Monday. But New York state is now adding 1,700 more deaths at nursing homes in the past few weeks that are believed to be from the disease.

[Death Cafes offer chance to discuss, confront death — something all the more important in a pandemic](#)

Broadcast on 5/14/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:13

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Feature The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed death and dying to the forefront of many Americans' lives, but for almost a decade thousands across the world have met to talk about death at what's known as a Death Cafe. Before the pandemic shut down large gatherings, WBFO's Tom Dinki attended the most recent Buffalo Death Cafe, and heard why some are longing to openly discuss their own mortality.

[WNY nonprofits helping older adults eat well without leaving home](#)

Broadcast on 5/26/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:14

Feature Older adults are most vulnerable to become seriously ill from COVID-19, so even as Western New York and other areas of the country begin to reopen, public health officials warn those over 65 should continue to limit their exposure. WBFO's Older Adults Reporter Tom Dinki explores what local nonprofit organizations are doing to help seniors get their essentials without risking their health.

G. Racial Equity:

[A ticking time bomb: COVID-19's impact on Buffalo's Black community](#)

Broadcast on 4/9/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:53

Feature Parts of the United States are showing a disproportionate number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths are of African Americans.

[Advocacy groups say city's revenue projection based on targeted ticketing](#)

Broadcast on 5/20/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:41

Feature Fifteen local and national social justice groups, under the Fair Fines and Fees Coalition moniker, on Monday submitted a letter to the office of Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown, detailing concerns they have with the city's budget proposal for the fiscal year 2020-2021.

[Talking with kids about race, continued: 'I'm tired of hearing it's not an appropriate conversation'](#)

Broadcast on 6/4/20 06:45 AM Duration 5:02

Feature How do you talk to your children about race? That's the topic of a two-part series this week from WBFO education reporter Kyle Mackie as protests against police brutality and racial injustice continue nationwide.

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['Buffalo just showed the whole world it's not bad apples': Protesters react to national spotlight](#)

Broadcast on 6/8/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:12
Feature A video of Buffalo Police Department officers pushing an elderly white protester has been viewed more than 80 million times on Twitter. Mayor Byron Brown appeared on MSNBC. A CNN crew was at Niagara Square.

The city of Buffalo has been thrust into the national spotlight of the police brutality protests, after WBFO captured video Thursday of two officers shoving 75-year-old Martin Gugino to the ground outside City Hall, where he bled from his head.

[One man's story of being Black in Buffalo](#)

Broadcast on 6/12/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:07
Feature Recent protests over the death of George Floyd have pulled back the curtain on issues related to race in Buffalo. WBFO's Madison Ruffo spoke with one city resident about his own experiences with racism.

['Our method of trying to create change': Local filmmakers talk series centered on race in America](#)

Broadcast on 6/22/20 06:45 AM Duration 2:52
Feature The conversation around race, racism, and this country's handling of race relations has been a topic which continues to gain steam. As protests over the murders of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor continue and Confederate statues fall, two local filmmakers continue to move the dialogue forward.

H. Women:

[What to expect when you're expecting during COVID-19](#)

Broadcast on 4/29/20 06:00 AM Duration N/A
Spot Catholic Health is reassuring moms-to-be that the hospital is the safest place to deliver their child in this era of COVID-19.

[Governor accepts recommendations of COVID-19 Maternity Task Force](#)

Broadcast on 4/30/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:30
Feature The COVID-19 Maternity Task Force has issued its recommendations to support pregnant mothers and their newborns during the pandemic. Secretary to

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Andrew Cuomo, Melissa DeRosa, said the governor has accepted the recommendations in full.

[Physician study ranks Buffalo No. 6 in U.S. to suffer from OB/GYN shortage](#)

Broadcast on 5/11/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:00
Feature The latest research shows a growing shortage of obstetricians and gynecologists, and the potential "crisis" this poses for women's health care. The shortage is so critical locally, Buffalo ranks No. 6 among U.S. metropolitan areas.

[Former NWHL players speak out about league lacking resources](#)

Broadcast on 5/11/20 06:45 AM Duration 3:50
Interview The NWHL saw hundreds of players sit out this past year due to concerns the women's hockey league was not providing enough resources. A new report from Victory Press reveals several players who say their basic needs as workers were not being met during the 2018-19 season.

[Help for women-owned businesses facing unprecedented sustainability challenges](#)

Broadcast on 5/15/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:27
Feature Many business owners are relieved to be talking about reopening, after two months of PAUSE due to the coronavirus pandemic. When the doors are unlocked again, entrepreneurs will have to safeguard public safety as well as their bottom line -- and that "new normal" could be especially costly to small businesses, many of which are women-owned. But there is help.

[From 'crisis' to 'decimation': What happens when a pandemic hits child care](#)

Broadcast on 5/26/20 06:45 AM Duration 4:04
Feature The New York State Child Care Availability Task Force was established 18 months ago to dive into what officials call the child care "crisis" afflicting the state. After just a couple of months of pandemic, however, words like "devastation" and "decimation" are being used. Here are their interim findings and recommendations.