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Community Input Sought on May 14 Collecting Initiative

Creation of Collection Will Memorialize Tragedy for Current and Future Generations

Buffalo, NY – Sept. 23, 2022 –The Buffalo History Museum and the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library are seeking community input on a plan to collect and preserve mementos and oral histories related to the May 14th mass shooting.

A public information session will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m. at the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library, 1324 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo to share details about the *May 14 Community Collecting Initiative*. At that meeting, the Museum and Library will describe the purpose and process for gathering stories and mementos based on the events of the May 14 mass shooting in Buffalo. The hope is to engage the community in a conversation about preserving and documenting memorials left at the front of the Jefferson Avenue Tops Market, including, cards, photos, statues, and candles, etc. for future generations to understand the historical impact on the community of that tragic day. A subsequent Zoom informational session will also be held on Wednesday, October 12, at 6 p.m., at the link found here: <https://tinyurl.com/ZoomBfloMtg>.

The collecting initiative, which is contingent upon community feedback and approval, would begin before the winter to ensure the weather does not damage items left outside the Tops site. The initiative seeks to collect items that are representative of the tragedy, and not the entire collection left at Jefferson Avenue.

Similar efforts by local history museums have taken place following tragedies in other cities, like the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando, Florida, and September 11 in New York City. This initiative will help Buffalo forever honor the lives and stories of the 10 victims who lost their lives and of those who suffered injuries that day, and of the community's continued response to the tragedy.


**STOP HATE.
END RACISM.
CHOOSE LOVE.**

Your stories & mementos can help to preserve the tragic events of the May 14 mass shooting in Buffalo and create a historical record for current & future generations.

Informational community meetings about the *May 14 Community Collecting Initiative* will be held onsite & virtually:

Tues., October 11 at 6:00 p.m.
Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Branch Library
1324 Jefferson Avenue, Buffalo
or virtually via Zoom on Wed., October 12 at 6:00 p.m.
<https://tinyurl.com/ZoomBfloMtg>

Everyone is welcome



Buffalo & Erie County Public
LIBRARY
www.BuffaloLib.org



THE
BUFFALO
HISTORY
MUSEUM