



In this series, Sweet Auburn Works celebrates neighborhood heroes.

Rarely has there been a time where every individual in every neighborhood, city, and country had a greater responsibility to their neighbors.



Going where help is needed



As we all do our part to ensure that we quickly recover from the difficult times, we find ourselves in, and anyone can be a hero to a neighbor.

In the case of the Sweet Auburn community, we have many heroes who are working every day to help make life a little better for our neighborhood.

In the shadow of Wheat Street Baptist Church, once pastored by Rev. William Holmes Borders, a visionary leader whose stewardship over Sweet Auburn served well beyond the congregation he pastored, another leader is leaving his unique mark.

Benjamin Graham, or as we all know him, Big Mouth Ben, has realized that during this crisis, very few are helping those who are most in need. So around 11:30 a.m., you will see Ben and his crew load up and depart to “help out where he can.”

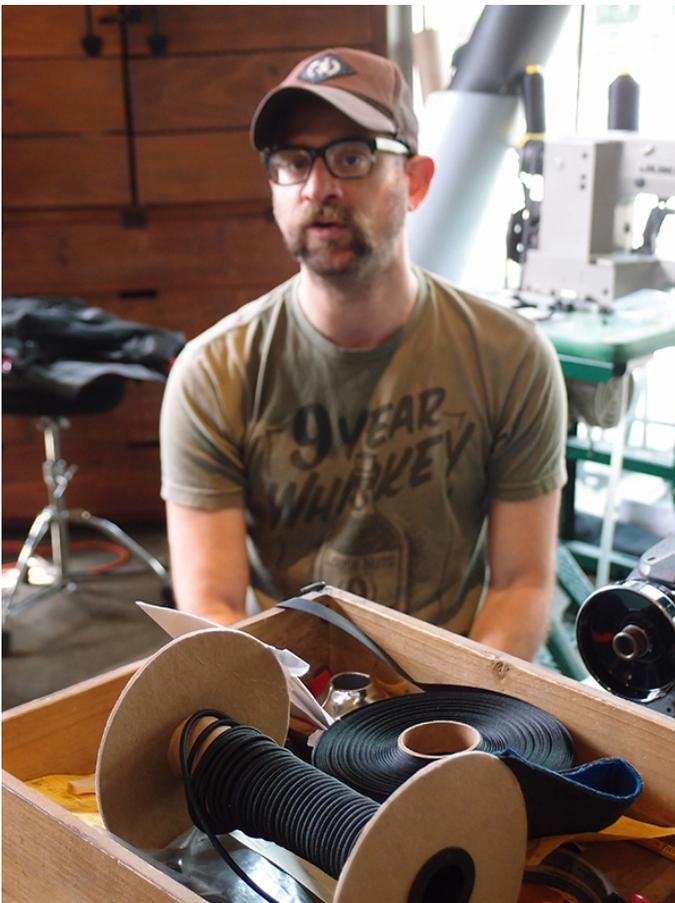




Often, that's at the John Wesley Dobbs 75/85 underpass. Ben's team load water, snacks, and comfort items that help in uncomfortable times. Ben, we always appreciate you, and if you want to know about

inspiring story here. If you'd like to contribute to Ben's effort to support those our neighborhood who are finding it hard to help themselves, please call 404-951-1062 and donate what you can.

A thread of support



Most days at The Spindle, located in Studioplex on the eastern end of Auburn Avenue, you'll find Ezz-Eldin (just Ezz) Hassan helping bike commuters navigate the most comfortable apparel and accessories to continue to help make Sweet Auburn the most biked community in Atlanta.

That's right, Ezz creates bespoke, hand-crafted,

cycling bags, and gear right in the showroom.

Unfortunately, this is no environment for this level of hyperpersonal retail experience.

As a result, Ezz busies himself these days, creating masks for use during the crisis.



I bought one for \$20, and \$7 of that went toward a mask for a healthcare provider. As you can imagine, Ezz current environment, worries about paying rent in the next few months.



He obviously isn't doing this for the profit.

You can find Ezz, and his masks, at [The Spindle](#) at 659 Auburn Avenue, Unit 506.

UPDATE: Just after this writing, Ezz, unfortunately, chose to suspend operations at his physical location, and move all of his retail online to weather this storm.

If you haven't already, please take a few minutes to fill out this [COVID-19 Impact Survey](#). We need to ensure your voices get heard as the City begins to help chart a path to recovery for our businesses.