

May 1, 2020

News from Mayor Mark Kaczynski

As always, I hope this letter finds you in good health. The following are updates related to **COVID-19** and some other Town news that you may find useful. Since my Newsletter last week, the number of Berlin residents who have been tested positive for the COVID-19 virus has gone up to 101 and sadly 6 have passed away.

For additional information on the State's as well as the Town's COVID-19 cases, please click on the link below that will take you to the Town's webpage <https://www.town.berlin.ct.us> and then click on Breaking News to access the State of CT COVID-19 updates, Central CT Health District COVID-19 Resource Hub and the UConn Department of Geography – CT Dashboard on COVID-19.

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MOM! The Town of Berlin is kicking off this campaign on Friday, May 1st. With Mother's Day likely being held in our own homes, we will be offering all of our residents & those businesses in Berlin a whole month to celebrate MOM instead of just one Sunday.

A number of Berlin businesses (even some that are now closed but that sell products, services and gift cards online) will be offering 2 special deals each for the entire month of May. Much like the Eat Local - Win Local program, if you spend \$15.00 at each of 2 businesses in Berlin, you can scan the receipts, email them to edcoffice@town.berlin.ct.us and be entered into a raffle for one of ten \$25.00 gift cards. This month, show Mom how much you appreciate her by "pre-buying" her something she wants, needs or deserves to be treated with - from a BERLIN BUSINESS!

If you are a business who is interested in being involved or getting more details, please email Chris Edge at cedge@town.berlin.ct.us. More details and the online locations for these specials are available on the Town's website "**in the Spotlight**" section.

Memorial Day Parade that was scheduled for Saturday, May 23rd is cancelled. Instead, the Veterans Commission is considering a smaller ceremony on Memorial Day.

Berlin Peck Library remains closed to the general public until further notice. The Library is scheduled to open the book-drop on May 11th for two days a week. The due dates for all materials have been changed to June 5th. By opening the book-drop on May 11th, the residents will be able to stagger their return items, which will need to be quarantined for 48-72 hours before they can be safely handled.

Berlin Social and Youth Services and the Berlin Senior Center would like to thank all of our community members for their outpouring of support during these unprecedented times. If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can do so to Berlin Social Services, 240 Kensington Rd., Berlin, CT 06037. If you would like to make a food/provision donation to our Food Pantry, we will be accepting donations on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be a bin at the front door of Town Hall to drop-off your donations. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Berlin Social and Youth Services will begin taking applications for the Renter's Rebate Program in June 2020. Details regarding how applications will be processed will be stated in June's Senior Center Newsletter. If you have questions, please call Jaymee Miller at 860-828-7007.

It's not too late to respond to the **2020 Census** while being safe and practicing social distancing at home. Once you have responded, please encourage your family, friends and loved ones to complete the census, too.

As always, the Town Manager and the Town staff are available to answer any questions you may have.

If you have any questions for me, please feel free to email me at mkaczynski@town.berlin.ct.us