

# Powder House News

### **COA** Mission

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of seniors in the community by providing services, which include nutrition, health screening, education, and other programs to meet their needs.

### **COA Board Meetings**

Board meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m., May 30 and June 27.

### **Office Location**

The Council on Aging office is located at the Town Offices, 23 Linden St., bottom floor, Room 118.

### **COA Members**

Bob Blair, Co-Chair Pat Wheeler, Co-Chair Kate Bliss Rachel Boyer Wes Durant Lori Fearebay Karen Schultz

### Phone

978-838-2750

### **Medical Equipment**

The COA has a supply of medical equipment available. We accept donations of thoroughly clean equipment in good condition. Please consider donating your clean, used equipment so we can pass it on to someone in need. Contact Victoria Flynn at coadirector@townofberlin.com, or the COA phone 978-838-2750.

### **Transportation Services**

Transportation is available Monday through Friday. Rider information forms are available on the Berlin town website under Boards & Committees / Council on Aging / Bus Services. Call 978-838-2750 for assistance.

# From COA/Social Services Director Victoria Flynn

### Van Services

Hello all. The COA van has had some interesting hours for the past two months. We would like to let you know that the van services are fully operational. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any medical appointments, shopping needs or other ride requests that you may have at 978-838-2750. We still ask for a 48-72 hours mandatory notice for rides.

### **Annual Spring Town Meeting**

The Berlin Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday May 1st 2023 at 7:30 p.m. at the South Commons. We hope to see you there. Please check out the townofberlin.com website to see if there are any additional updates closer to the meeting.

### **Berlin History Makers**

We have a new segment in the Powder House called Berlin's History Makers. For those newer to town, we want to give an opportunity to highlight those who have made an insurmountable impact on Berlin. As of now, we are focusing on those who have passed away, whether recently or years ago. We are open to suggestions and ask that if you have anyone that you think should be recognized, please reach out to us at coadirector@townofberlin.com and coa@townofberlin.com.

### **MassHealth Redetermination Process**

Heads up for those of you who have MassHealth (Massachusetts Medicaid). During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was auto-renewing any member's health insurance to prevent anyone having a lapse of coverage. Starting April 2023 through April 2024, members will be going through a re-determination process to see if members are still eligible for coverage.

MassHealth will be sending you a packet in a blue envelope for you to review and return. If you already have another public benefit, such as section 8 housing, SSI or SSDI, Food Stamps or DTA Cash Assistance, you will most likely be auto-renewed without needing to do anything on your end. If you do receive a redetermination notice, please respond to it quickly, DO NOT hold off.

For those under 65, it is possible to create an online account to get quicker access to your benefits and to update your information. Those over 65, it is advised to reach out to (800) 841-2900 for more support. If you have moved, changed phone numbers, or any other information has changed, please reach out to MassHealth.

MassHealth is the name for the Massachusetts Medicaid. As of now, non-citizens may be eligible for coverage. For one person, the senior income cutoff for full MassHealth coverage is \$1,235 a month and the non-senior adult income cutoff is \$1,676. If you are over this, you are still encouraged to apply because there are several plan options and you still may qualify for health insurance coverage.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the COA at 978-838-2750. We are posting some website links for your convenience at townofberlin.com/council-aging.



# **Progress at Nashoba Neighbors**

The work to establish the non-profit Nashoba Neighbors as a valued partner with other local agencies in the provision of services to seniors in Bolton, Berlin, and Lancaster has been demanding but gratifying for the group's founders and early volunteers. Feedback from our first members inspires us to continue our work to bring on many more members and volunteers.

One member thanked Nashoba Neighbors for his volunteer's "promptness and efficiency" in removing his window air conditioner. Another who attended a local theater production enthused, "The volunteer who drove us was so nice to talk with before the show." Still another observed, "My first volunteer visit has been worth the membership already!" And yet another wrote that she really appreciated her volunteer's "wisdom and willingness to truly help." If you have been wondering whether membership in Nashoba Neighbors is a good fit for you or might be a good gift for a loved one, you can learn more by emailing us at: info@nashobaneighbors.org or just give us a call at (978) 226-8844.

For an in-person exploration of Nashoba Neighbors offerings, we invite you to attend one of our upcoming information sessions at these locations:

- SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2–3:30 p.m. at the Northbrook Village I Community Building, 135 Pleasant St., Berlin, MA
- SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2–4 p.m. at XIX Carter, 19 Carter Street, Berlin, MA

# **Fall Prevention**

In January, we were able to have Maragal Medical come to do a presentation on senior fall prevention. Maragal Medical is a Leominster based doctor21 office that was founded by Dr. Timothy Gallagher in 2000. Dr. Michael Marciello is the Medical Director and together they have helped to bring cutting edge technology for physiotherapy treatment.

Falls and fall risk remain huge business in the medical world. There is an average of falls every 10 minutes in the United States. Because of this, the out-of-pocket bill for a fall is about 8,000 dollars. There are a myriad of reasons why someone may be at an increased fall risk. This includes poor muscle strength, various medical issues, vision issues, and medication issues. With Maragal Medical, they state that they will take a whole body and holistic approach to try and address this.

Maragal Medical is able to use modern technology to help assess and treat those for physical therapy. Their Hunova machine allows the team at Maragal Medical to get an in-depth assessment on any potential weaknesses that their patients may have. This allows them to provide unique, individualized care and allows the patient to receive a printout of their assessment to share with other medical providers.

Maragal Medical takes majority of health insurances, including Medicare and MassHealth. The staff will work with you if you have any questions about services and costs. Maragal Medical is located in Leominster (978-537-0555) and is within the Berlin COA Van ridership area in case you are in need of a ride. Their full presentation can be seen on Cable Access and on the Town of Berlin YouTube channel.

If you have any questions about Maragal Medical, you can reach out to the COA at 978-838-2750.

# Electric Bill Rate Conversion

The Town of Berlin did sign a contract with National Grid to have a set rate option for residents. If you have not already done so but are interested in converting, there are two ways to do so.

- 1. Visit colonialpowergroup.com/ berlin and click the OPT-IN button, then fill out and submit the Opt-In Form.
- 2. Call NextEra at (855) 310-3445 and ask to join the Town of Berlin's Program.

For both of the above options, you should have your National Grid bill handy in order to provide some required information. Enrollments can only be processed on meter reads so it may take one or two billing cycles before taking effect. If you are currently contracted with your own competitive supplier, you should confirm with them that you will not incur any early termination fees or penalties for leaving their supply.

# The Five W's: BERLIN'S SHOEMAKERS

Before XIX Carter occupied its present home, the building served as a site for E. Guy Sawyer's popular auctions. Guy

had acquired it from a congregation of Methodists who had built it and held services there. And prior to the church, the site was occupied by a four story, 30 foot by 100 foot shoe manufacturing shop, built in 1868 by a group of Berlin citizens. By far the largest structure in town built for the trades, it was occupied first by Bickford, Klenart & Company, then by the Charles F. Parker Company and finally by John H. Parker. It burned down on February 18, 1822.

It was not the only place in town plying the trade of shoemaking. Indeed, between 1840

and 1867, no fewer than eleven Berlin concerns employed town and area residents in the making of shoes. Additionally, as Houghton's "History of the Town of Berlin" notes, prior to the Civil War, Berlin "was dotted with small shops for bottoming shoes; in fact, nearly every other house had a room or shop in which shoes were made." This writer can



personally attest to that fact. When we bought our house, built in 1860, from the Jones family, a small workshop at the

> end of an unheated ell had a number of articles used in shoemaking sitting on a bench there. The value of all shoemaking work done in 1875 was \$150,000.

Of course, all well-kept shoes have to shine, don't they? The town had that covered, too. Frank Boyd manufactured shoe polish in his home on Central Street from 1912 to 1927. Another resident, John Sallinger, of Pleasant Street, made shoe polish in his home, starting in 1956.

The next time you're sitting at an outdoor summer concert at Nineteen Carter,

tapping your feet to the music, look around you and try to imagine the four story, 30 foot by 100 foot factory building that once stood there, its 300 employees producing thousands of pairs of shoes and boots every year that were sold both in our area and across the United States, including Alaska, and in Europe.



Big Parker Shoe Shop.

# **COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR**

For a complete listing of the meeting times and places of all Berlin town boards, commissions and committees, go to the "<u>mytowngovernment.org</u>" and click on "berlin, ma"

### COA

Tuesdays from 1-2 p.m. Tai Chi with Jeff Cote in COA room 118. Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/81287909508 Meeting ID: 812 8790 9508

Saturdays from 9-11 a.m. Senior Yoga COA Room 118. Zoom Meeting Web Link: https://us02web.zoom. us/j/89963068074 Meeting ID: 899 6306 8074)

Tuesday, May 16 at 2 p.m. Talking Books (virtual and inperson Room 118 Town Offices)

Saturday, June 24 at 1 p.m. Senior Fraud Prevention with Worcester County DA Office (Room 112 Town Offices)

### **BERLIN CHURCHES**

#### **First Parish Church**

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m. Meetinghouse and Zoom Pizza Night Second Friday of each month 5-7 p.m. Meetinghouse (5/12 and 6/9)

### St. Joseph The Good Provider Catholic Church

Daily mass: Mon.- Fri. at 7:30 a.m.

Weekend masses: Sat., 4 p.m., Sun., 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

### **XIX CARTER**

**Open:** Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. / Saturday 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

MON: TeaTime 1-3 p.m.

TUES: Soup 12-1 p.m. Occasionally History Matters 1:30-3:30 p.m.

WEDS: Community Coffee 9 a.m.- Noon 2nd & 4th Wed. of the month Old Time Music Jam 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. Irish Session 7-9:30 p.m.

**THURS: Afternoon Games** 1:30–3:30 p.m. 1st Thurs. of the month Intermittent Fasting Support Group 3-4 p.m.

FRI: Community Coffee 9 a.m.- Noon Fiber Arts 2-4 p.m.

**SAT: Scones** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 1st Saturday of the month Veg Group 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Old Time Music Jam: 2nd and 4th Wed.** All acoustic string players are welcome to join us for a round-robin 'Old Time' session of historic tunes and songs from 18th C to early 20th C Appalachia and New England. Come to play or to listen — bring your lunch if you wish. All are welcome. Suggested donation of \$5.

**Intermittent Fasting Support Group: 1st Thurs from 3-4 p.m.** We are focused on weight loss and the health benefits of fasting. Come for support and education. We take one step at a time to be 1% better. We do require a medical disclaimer and privacy policy to be signed by everyone who would like to participate. This is a lifestyle, not a diet! For questions, please email Sheryl at sherylcrowley@hotmail.com.

**Veg Group** Want to explore the dietary world of plants? Plants are wonderful sources of nutrition and protein. Join us for a discussion and to taste some delectable samples. Led by Michele Ricard MD with a certificate in Plant-based nutrition.

Sound Healing: Tues. May 9, 7-8 p.m. Relax, revive and renew as you join Reiki Master and Certified Sound Healer Gina Cranford for this Reiki infused Sound Healing event. Reiki (universal life force) energy will flow through you and around you during the entire session. Following a brief meditation, Gina will play each of seven crystal singing bowls, one at a time. Tickets \$20

**Movie Night: Legend of Bagger Vance, Thurs. May 11, 6 p.m.** Sponsored by Cordelia's Farm, The Legend of Bagger Vance is a 2000 American sports film directed by Robert Redford, and starring Will Smith, Matt Damon and Charlize Theron. Damon plays a disillusioned young war veteran and down-and-out golfer as he attempts to recover his game and his life with help from a mystical caddy, played by Smith. Tickets \$15

#### Open Mic: Fri. May 12, & Fri. June 9, 7-9 p.m.

All types of music and all ages are celebrated at our supportive, welcoming, and inclusive open mic. Sign up in advance with Host Lori Diamond at LoriDiamondMusic@gmail.com. She and co-host, Fred Abatelli, will support you with a professional sound, and encouragement. Piano available. Suggested donation of \$5. BYOB. Some food and drink are available — or bring your own.

Going Native "Birds, Bees & Butterflies": Mon. May 15, 7-8 p.m. Creating habitat for native pollinators with a focus on gardening for at-risk bumblebees. A program presented by Sam Corbin of Sudbury Valley Trustees and the Friends of the Berlin Public Library. See https://www.svtweb.org/mca/bumble-bee-project for more info. Free!

**Book Club: Tues. May 16, 1:30–2:30 p.m.** At our May meeting we will discuss *The Invisible Library* by Genevieve Cogman. We welcome anyone who has read the book to join us for the discussion. Please contact Ann Ribbens with any questions at annri1951@yahoo.com.

Pastiche Concert: Sat. May 20, 7-9 p.m. One of 19 Carter's favorite groups, *Pastiche* will close out our indoor concert series with an ode to — you guessed it, Spring! Featuring Lydia Fortune and Hatrack Gallagher, backed by Roland Ochsenbein, Tim Fiehler, and Keith Jacques. With special surprise guests. Don't miss this one! Tickets \$15

Jazz Jam: Sun. May, 21, & Sun. June 18, 6–8 p.m. Join Ken Parrish and the house band for an evening of Jazz. All instruments and musicians are welcome. Vocalists, please bring your charts. For questions, please email Ken Parrish at ken@parrishworks.net. Suggested donation of \$5.

**Our Summer Music Series starts June 10!** Tickets \$15 or \$125 for all 10 concerts in the series!

Sat. June 10, 7-9 p.m. — Lori Diamond and Fred Abatelli Sat. June 17, 7-9 p.m. — Davis Brass Quintet Sat. June 24, 7-9 p.m. — Carlos Odria Trio

Juneteenth - Sat. June 17, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Open to support the Berlin MA Social Justice Network's celebration of Juneteenth.



# SOAR Senior Outreach And Reading Program

Thank you for joining our Senior Reading program. We look forward to working with you to help provide the children with another positive influence and an opportunity to practice their reading.



Here's a little bit about our program. The SOAR, Senior Outreach And Reading program, started in the early 2000s. Seniors having been coming to school on a regular basis to listen to



kids read and discuss the reading with each child. Each classroom teacher provides the book. The teacher will either give you a specific book to read or the child will bring the book to read.

Here are some things to keep in mind when reading with a child.

- Children should be reading the words aloud to you.
- After the child has read for a few pages, feel free to discuss a little of the book then read some more.
- After you discuss the book, the child should read a bit more. The conversation provides a break and check for understanding for the child.
- You will typically take each child for 15 minutes then take another child for 15 minutes. Different classroom teachers may want different times, so please check directly with them.

If a child is stuck on a word, here are some good strategies.

• Have the child look at the letters from left to right to sound out the word.



- If they can only sound out part of the word, help them sound out the rest of the word or read the word for them.
- If the word is too difficult, you can just read the word for them.
- If a child reads a word incorrectly, please ask them to try that one again.
- Have fun! The kids love going with the SOAR readers.

Thank you for joining us at Berlin Memorial. We are glad to have you be part of our school community. Please contact Stephanie Woodward at swoodward@bbrsd.org for more information.

# Upcoming Events Presented by the Berlin Seniors and the COA

The Berlin Senior Citizens Association and Berlin Council on Aging continue their collaboration on the presentation of free events for the enjoyment of all Berlin residents in 2023. Through grants awarded by the Massachusetts and Berlin Cultural Councils, they are excited to be able to present the following shows and productions.

**SUNDAY, MAY 21.** In a 2 p.m. performance at the 1870 Town Hall, Lynne Kenney Lydick, who portrayed Abby Kelley Foster here last year, returns as Clara Barton. She brings to life the amazing story of this Massachusetts native and medical hero who served as a nurse in the Civil War and subsequently founded the American Red Cross.

Barton is noteworthy for doing humanitarian work and civil rights advocacy at a time before women had won the right to vote. The story of her determination to provide meaningful help to those in need of education, psychological and medical support, sometimes in the face of disrespect by male peers in the roles she fulfilled, makes for an inspiring lesson in the power of persistence in the face of unjustified opposition . In recognition of her immense contributions to the wellness of others - from the many children she taught, to severely-wounded soldiers she tended to on the front lines of a grisly civil war - she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1973. Her portrait may be seen on the walls of the Great Hall in Mechanics Hall in Worcester.

**On SUNDAY, JUNE 11, at 2 p.m.,** artists of all ages are invited to showcase their talents for the public to enjoy in a **Berlin's Got Talent** production to be held at Berlin Memorial School. Stay tuned for more information in the "Berlin Neighbors Connect" Facebook site. Performer applications may be obtained at XIX Carter and at the Berlin General Store.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 will find Honky Tonk Piano Man Gary Landgren returning to town for a 2 p.m. performance at the 1870 Town Hall. Last seen here at a pre-Covid Berlin Seniors luncheon at First Parish Church, Gary's rollicking work on the keyboard gets feet tapping and fingers snapping throughout his performance. He is in such demand as a performer that we had to book him eight months in advance of his performance date.

Need a mood lifter? This is it.

### **RECIPES FOR HAPPINESS**

Here are some recipes to brighten your day from the 2012 Berlin BiCentennial Cookbook. If you'd like to share favorites of your own, send them to the COA office at 23 Linden Street, Berlin, or to Bob Blair at 28 Summer Road, Berlin and we'll make a place for them in upcoming editions of the "Powder House News".

### SHIRLEY M. POTTER'S HONEY GLAZED CHICKEN WINGS

3 lbs. chicken wings
1/2 cup honey
1/3 cup soy sauce
2 Tbsps. vegetable oil
2 Tbsps. chili sauce
2 tsps. salt
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 tsp. ground ginger
In a saucepan, combine hon

In a saucepan, combine honey, soy sauce, oil, chili sauce, salt, garlic powder, Worcestershire sauce and ginger. Cook and stir until blended and heated through. Cool to room temperature.

Place wings in large resealable bag and add honey mixture. Seal bag, turning to coat periodically. Refrigerate 8 hours or overnight.

Drain and discard honey mixture. Place wings on well greased baking pan 15x10". Bake uncovered at 375° F for 30 minutes. Drain and turn. Bake for 20-35 minutes longer or until chicken juices run clear and glaze is set.

### FRAN GILL'S EGG AND SAUSAGE SOUFFLÉ

6 eggs, slightly beaten 2 cups milk 1 tsp. dry mustard 1 cup bisquick ½ tsp. dried oregano 1 lb. pork sausage meat, browned and drained 1 cup shredded Cheddar or other cheese 1 Tbsp. oil 1 onion chopped 2 med stalks of celery chopped 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. pepper 1 tsp. rosemary

Mix all the ingredients together and cover. Place in refrigerator overnight.

Heat oven to 350° F.

Pour mix into a buttered 2 qt. casserole and bake about one hour, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Serves 6.

### MARY ELLEN MATTHEW'S SWEET POTATO CASSEROLE

4 Tbsps. margarine melted in skillet

### Add:

2 cups mashed sweet potato

2/3 cup evaporated milk

 $1/2\ {\rm cup}\ {\rm chopped}\ {\rm dates}\ {\rm and}\ {\rm stir}\ {\rm until}\ {\rm soft}$ 

### Add:

1/2 cup white sugar Mix well and put in baking dish.

**Optional Topping:** 4 Tbsps. melted margarine

### Add:

2/3 cup maple syrup

Pour over potatoes. Sprinkle 1/4 cup chopped pecans over the top. Bake at 350° F for 50 minutes.

### LORRAINE CEDAR'S BLACK FOREST DREAM DESSERT

1 cup flour

- 2 Tbsps. sugar
- 1/2 cup cold butter
- 1/2 cup flaked coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup confectioners sugar
- 1 (8 oz) container Cool Whip, thawed and divided
- 1 can (21 oz.) cherry pie filling
- 1-1/2 cups semisweet chocolate bits
- 2-1/2 cold milk

2 pkgs. (3.4 oz. each) instant vanilla pudding mix

In a bowl combine flour and sugar; cut in butter until crumbly. Stir in coconut and walnuts.

Press into ungreased 9x13" pan. Bake at 350° F for 15 to 18 minutes (until lightly browned). Cool on wire rack.

In a small mixing bowl beat cream cheese until fluffy. Add confectioners sugar; beat until smooth. Fold in 1 cup Cool Whip. Spread over crust. Top with pie filling. Cover and chill.

In a microwave-safe bowl, melt chocolate bits; stir until smooth. In a large bowl, whisk milk and pudding mixes for 2 minutes or until soft set. Whisk a small amount of pudding into melted chocolate. Return all to the pudding, whisking constantly. Pour over cherry filling. Chill for two hours or until set. Just before serving, spread remaining Cool Whip over dessert.

# **Berlin History Makers: Henry and Ruth Wheeler**

Mary Wheeler wrote the following recollection of life with her parents, both of whom were deeply involved with Berlin life and particularly with its police and emergency services for over five decades.

My Dad, Henry, and Mom, Ruth, married on January 31, 1948 in Clinton. Dad worked as a mechanic in Lynch's Garage in Clinton and Mom for the Blake Company. They subsequently moved to Central Street in Berlin, living in a house owned by Charles Codding, a Boston banker, who owned Chedco Farm atop Sawyer Hill Road. Dad was employed there as Chedco's head mechanic. At the same time, he continued volunteering, as he had since his late teens, with the Berlin Police Department, where his father was the Chief, and also with Berlin Fire, EMT and Rescue. Feeling the need to make use of his down time, he also served as a Berlin Selectman.

When Willard Wheeler and Ed Rugg started a new enterprise called Village Farm Supply, Dad partnered with them, serving as head mechanic.

Upon Dad's father's retirement as Police Chief in 1965, Dad was appointed Chief of the department. He ran his office from our home and used his personal car as his cruiser. The coat room at the 1870 Town Hall was converted to the Police Department office in 1972 and the Town purchased its first real cruiser.

By that time, Dad had taken over his father's other roles as Dog Officer, Fence Viewer, Constable and Tax Collector.

Dad and Mom bought and moved into his grandparents' farm at 39 Sawyer Hill Road to help out when they were experiencing health issues. The farm has been in our family almost continually since 1757. When they moved there, the Town installed the "Red Phone" in our house, so Mom could notify the call firefighters in town as to the location and severity of reported fires. She also organized food for the firefighters if the fire was a long and bad one. She shared dispatcher duties — three days on and three off — with Peggy Ulrich.



Because both our parents were emergency personnel, our family didn't get to go on "normal" vacations, so our folks built an in-ground pool for us and later bought a few horses for us to care for and ride. It was a great way to grow up.

Mom worked as a Dispatcher when the call center was located in the 1870 Town Hall and continued when it was moved to Bolton. She retired from that job and was hired as receptionist at the new offices opened by Digital Equipment Company in Hudson. She served in that capacity for 11 years. Retiring from that work, she served on the Berlin Planning Board, which set conditions for the building of Solomon Pond Mall, on the Berlin Building Needs Study Committee, and worked with the group responsible for the building of the Northbrook Village I senior housing community. As of her death, in 2021, she was still serving on the Berlin Cemetery Commission.

Serving in all these roles for so many years must seem more than a little daunting and incredible for those of us who experience maybe three or four job changes during our "working lives". For my parents, it just seemed the right and normal progression of the lives formed and influenced by their own parents and forebears. As the saying goes: "They paid their dues." And then some.

# Thank you and Well Wishes



Library Director Robert Hodge retired at the end of April after many years with the Berlin Public Library. We want to thank Robert for his service to Berlin and we hope that he has a wonderful and restful retirement.

# **Fire Safety Checks**

The Berlin Fire Department is offering a free home safety check to residents, particularly seniors who may be in need of updated smoke detectors/carbon monoxide detectors.

If you are interested or you have any questions, please reach out to the COA at 978-838-2750 or to the Fire Department at 978-838-2444.

# **1870 Town Function Hall**

is available for your entertaining or event functions. 978-310-5922 or email 1870TownHall@TownofBerlin.com



# Powder House News Town of Berlin, Council on Aging, 23 Linden St., Berlin, MA 01503

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### **UMASS Community Needs Assessment Update**

We would like to thank all Berliners who participated in the UMASS study, whether by paper survey or online. We got an update that just shy of 600 responses were received. We are very appreciative of all who took the time to complete the survey and give the town guidance going forward. When more information is known about the results being published, we will let you know.

### **The Powder House News**

The Powder House News has returned to Clinton Offset for our publishing needs. If you would like a digital copy of the Powder House News, please call us at 978-838-2750.

# Thank you, Thank you!

The Berlin Council on Aging would like to thank its gracious sponsors for helping to keep the Powder House News going:

Kristine Romano, Esq, LLM, PC; Clinton Savings Bank; Golden Skep Farm; Holiday Farm; The Berlin Seniors; Berlin General Store; and Chef Du Jour.

If you or anyone you know would like to sponsor the Powder House News, please reach out to us at 978-838-2750.

### **Gone But Not Forgotten**

Elizabeth Edds	March 2
Stephen Wash	March 2
Robert Smith	March 15
Judith Christensen	April 14

### **Sending Out Love**

As many are aware, on April 14, the Town of Berlin had one of its darkest days when we lost a bright member of the community. We would like to thank the Public Safety departments of Berlin, all the firefighters from the other 10 communities (West Boylston, Bolton, Clinton, Harvard, Hopkinton, Hudson, Marlborough, Northborough, Shirley, Sterling and Stow) and everyone else who stepped up to help out in one way or another. We have seen our residents come together and highlight the compassionate community Berlin truly is — hearts will be heavy for a long time to come.

If you know anyone who needs additional support or will benefit from some check-ins, please reach out to us at 978-838-2750 or contact us at coadirector@townofberlin. com. We are here to listen and to process whatever you are feeling.