



The Berlin Community Services Division
Recreation & Parks Department

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March, 2021

Honorable Mayor, City Manager and Members of the City Council:

The major budget change I hope you seriously consider is changing Account 01-450-115-4500 - Assistant to a full time position. Currently the Assistant position is only part time with limited benefits. The person in this position, while learning the financial/organizational aspect of the department, is also, if qualified, expected to oversee the sports programming. Currently we have such an individual that is as comfortable on the ice rink and basketball court as he is on the ball field. The Assistant's position calls for the person to have direct interaction with the participants and their families which is just as crucial to the success of the Recreation Department as the person overseeing the budget and should be treated equally. My belief is we will not be able to maintain or continue to hire such capable people if we only offer part-time opportunities.

Please remember for a very long time this department had three full time positions handling the financial, programming, and sports aspect of Berlin Recreation. Those positions averaged a total of 105 hours per week. Although maintenance is no longer directly under Recreation's budget, this change did not reduce 45 hours of the work load. Continuing to maintain a high level of programming may not be sustainable with only one full time and one part time averaging a total of 60 hours. I predict a high turn-over which is never conducive to offering quality services. My retirement goal is for the Mayor and Council to see the value in this department and take advantage of the current opportunity we have to increase the vitality of the Berlin Recreation Department and take it to the next level. I implore you to give this serious thought.

The only other minor increase to consider is 01-450-434-6500 - Special Olympics from \$400 to \$1,000. In the past few years, Gorham has given \$2,000 to the local organization. Gorham's participation of developmentally disabled residents is approximately 25% to Berlin's 75%. While Berlin offers many in-kind services, I believe we should be more in line with Gorham's monetary contribution considering many more Berlin residents benefit from the sports offered through the Androscoggin River Athletes.

It is my hope you agree the Berlin Recreation Department is spending tax dollars frugally while providing worthwhile services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry Letarte, Recreation Program Director

MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS

Since last budget meeting with Mayor and Council, the Recreation Department has benefitted from the generosity of many.
Here is the list of additional monies and items the Recreation received since March of 2020.

<u>Vendor/Donor</u>	<u>Program Benefitted</u>	<u>Donation</u>
Kristy True & Berlin High Backers	Easter (aka Spring) Eggstravaganza, 2020	Loan of two canopies
Misc. Donors	Easter (aka Spring) Eggstravaganza, 2020	\$11.00 Day of donations
Wireless Zone/David Poulin (Bethany & George)	Easter Eggstravaganza, 2020	Four large baskets to raffle + reimburse \$199.99 purchase at Oriental Traders
Wireless Zone/David Poulin (Bethany & George)	Easter Eggstravaganza, 2021	Four large baskets to raffle + \$200 reimbursement for candy purchase
Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce	Recreation Center	PPE products (masks, sanitizers)
Library/Ann Brungot	Recreation Center	Typewriter & cartridges
Badger Realty	Sports Program - Hockey	\$125.00
Rob Nadeau	Sports Program - Hockey	7 Hockey sticks
Dan Veazey	Sports Program - Hockey	Bag of hockey equipment (pads, helmets, etc.)
Michael Bump	Sports Program - Ski & Snowboard	\$50 Refund due him back to program
CJ & Scott Valliere	Sports Program - Ski & Snowboard	\$50 Refund due them back to program
Todd Ramsey	Summer Playgrounds	Tie Dying Kit - \$13.47 value

Summer Playgrounds were limited to the Berlin Recreation Center/Gilbert Street Field sites to maintain strict sanitizing guidelines. Playground Leaders (left to right) Ashley Landers, Lauren Frenette, Makenna Balderrama, Kelly McCormick, and Jace Arsenault arrived an hour and one half earlier than the children to thoroughly clean and prepare for the day's activities.



BERLIN
RECREATION
SUMMER
PLAYGROUND

KIDS

GONE WILD!!!

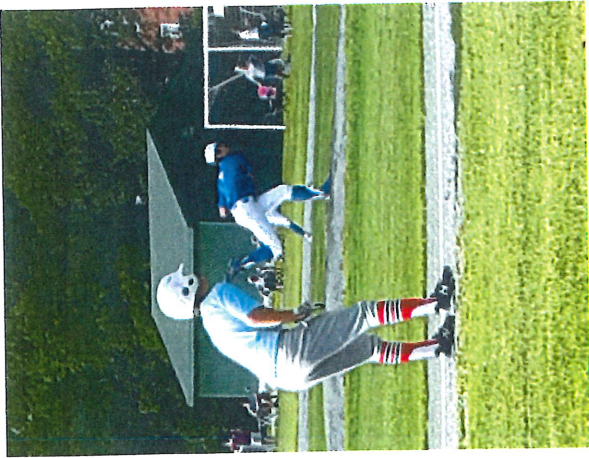


Fish & Game Conservation Officer Bob Mancini and his K-9 Assistant Ruger demonstrate the many services they provide protecting the woods and wildlife of the North Country.



Berlin Police
Officer Dennis
Gale and K-9
Partner Kodiak
performed a
demonstration
about police
dogs to the
delight of the
attending
playground
children.





Babe Ruth Baseball under the direction of Duane "DJ" Johnson and Kindergarten - 8th Grade Soccer led by Tony Valliere were the two summer sports programs that did take place in 2020.



BERLIN BABE RUTH

Dedicated in memory of
PAT FORESTALL

Special Thanks:
CCB Construction inc,
Berlin City Council
and all other donators

baberuthbaseball.org

Berlin Recreation was awarded three N.H. Empower Youth Grants in the fall of 2020.

Kaleb Roy posing with a shirt given to the participants of the grant programs.

Shirts were created/produced by local Berlin business Seventh Street Graphics.



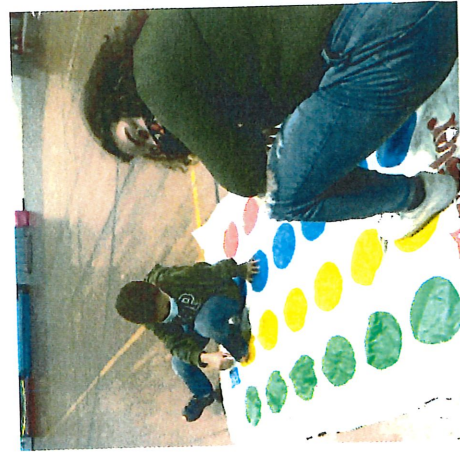
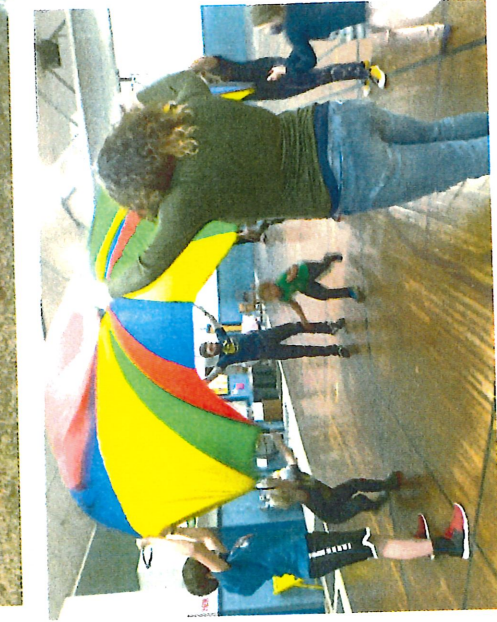
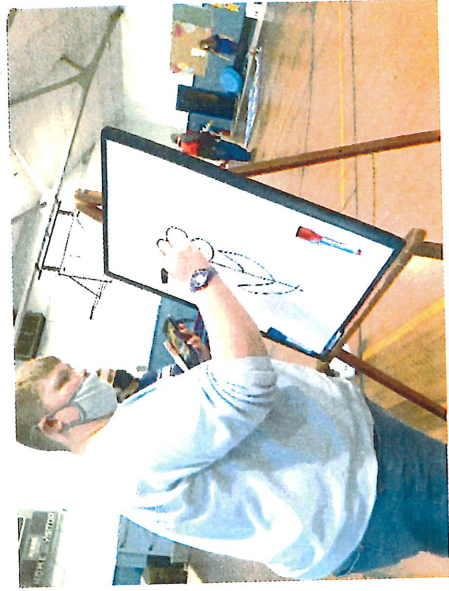
Bring on the F.U.N. staff (left to right) Owen McDonough, Atticus Hammill, Recreation Assistant "DJ" Johnson, Ashlynn Henderson, Emma Peters, and adult supervisor Tammy Howry

Grant #13 Bring on the F.U.N. (Friends Understanding Needs) - \$2,750.00. 11 weeks. 09/22 - 12/15/2020. This grant allowed us to hire four youth and one adult to assist Director Terry Letarte and Assistant Duane "DJ" Johnson in providing activities for special needs and general population citizens. This enabled the hired youth to take on leadership roles as they created and oversaw activities for diverse capabilities and age range.

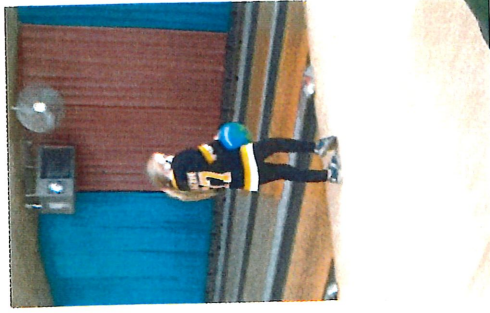
Grant #22 Learn to Bowl - \$2,850.00. 7 weeks. 10/19 - 11/30/2020. This grant provided 25 area youth a chance to learn 10-pin bowling ending the season with a party and their own personal bag and ball. Recreation also gave each participant a thermos with City and NHEYP logos. Limiting the number to 25 honored social distancing guidelines while giving youth a physical sport considering so many of their activities were canceled.

Grant #25 Weekend Workout for Body, Mind, & Soul - \$2,443.75. 10 weeks. 09/26 - 12/19/2020. This grant's goal was to provide physical activities for area youth and special needs citizens of any age. In addition, time was given each week to have open, honest, and non-judgmental discussions covering topics such as bullying, peer pressure, and "What Would You Do" scenarios.

BRING ON THE F.U.N. (FRIENDS UNDERSTANDING NEEDS) YOUTH LEADERS BRINGING ACTIVITIES TO A DIVERSE POPULATION AND AGE RANGE.



LEARN TO BOWL PROVIDED LESSONS, BALL, BAG, END OF SEASON PARTY AND WATER BOTTLES WHILE ALSO PROVIDING BUSINESS FOR THE LOCAL BERLIN BOWLING CENTER.



WEEKEND WORKOUT FOR BODY, MIND, & SOUL STARTED SLOW DUE TO CONFLICTS WITH HOMECOMING SCHEDULES BUT ONCE WE CHANGED TO NIGHT TIME AND OPENED UP TO ALL AGES, GREAT PARTICIPATION. GAMES, CHALLENGES, AND SPEAKERS ENGAGING THE GROUP IN HONEST DISCUSSIONS RELATING TO PEER PRESSURE, BULLYING, FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, AND TRUSTING YOUR INTUITION TO DO THE RIGHT THING TO LEAD YOUR BEST LIFE!



While limited, Berlin Recreation is offering winter activities.



25 children ranging in ages 6 - 15 participated in Recreation's Hockey Development program.



DJ Johnson is offering a six-week Baseball Training program for ages 5 - 13.



2nd - 4th Grade Basketball Clinic during February school vacation.



Fun, Fitness, & Life Lessons is a weekly two hour program of crafts, games, sports and free- wheeling discussions on every- day challenges. All ages & abilities welcomed.

