

City of New Berlin, Wisconsin

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the New Berlin Public Library opened to the public on June 30, 1969, at 14750 W Cleveland Avenue, with Paul Sotirin serving as Director until his retirement in 1993; and

**WHEREAS**, upon opening, the library had about 2,400 volumes in its collection and a staff of about five; by 1970 there were 14,000 volumes in the collection and a circulation of 67,000 items per year, with a yearly budget of \$90,700; and

**WHEREAS**, there was an addition to the southern end of the Library/Community Center building in 1983; this was followed about eight years later with an addition to the western side of the library; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Berlin Public Library joined the Waukesha Federated Library System (now the Bridges Library System) when it was formed in 1981; and

**WHEREAS**, the current 55,117 square foot library opened at 15105 Library Lane on February 13, 2005, offering not only additional space for the library collection but also study rooms and five meeting rooms; and

**WHEREAS**, there are now over 143,000 items in the library and close to 200,000 electronic books, audiobooks and videos available through the Wisconsin Public Library Consortium; the Library now operates on a yearly budget of approximately \$1.5 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Directors contributing to the success of the New Berlin Public Library throughout its 50 years also include Katie Schulz (1993-2010), Dennis Sampson (2010-2014) and now Barbara Draeger (2014 to present), in cooperation with many dedicated staff throughout the decades;

**WHEREAS**, The City of New Berlin recognizes the outstanding contribution of our beloved New Berlin Public Library, and wishes to express our sincerest congratulations on this **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. Through your efforts, New Berlin has been truly enriched - inspiring all to *'explore, achieve and dream.'*

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, David Ament, Mayor of the fine City of New Berlin, do hereby proclaim:

**FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST, 2019**

  
New Berlin  
Public Library  
Day

  
The Honorable Mayor David Ament

