

**Berlin Economic Development Commission Small Business of the Year Award**  
**Presented on April 2, 2014** by Mayor Rachel Rochette

The Small Business of the Year Award is intended to acknowledge the hard work and accomplishments of a Berlin small business. We know that small businesses are the primary job generators in our economy and they also provide goods and services that make the Town a better place to live in. This year's recipient is Connecticut Cabaret Theater and its owner Kris McMurray.

Kris has deep roots in Berlin and in the world of music and theater. Kris grew up in Berlin and was the first Berlin student to study at the Educational Center for the Arts in New Haven. Subsequently Kris studied his craft in New York City and other venues but he returned to Berlin and established the Connecticut Cabaret Theater in Berlin in 1997.

Connecticut Cabaret Theater on Webster Square Road presents Broadway style musicals and shows with live musical accompaniment in a cabaret style setting on Friday and Saturday nights 52 weeks a year. Each show runs for 6 weeks. The current show is Boeing, Boeing a comedy that will run through April 26. There are still seats available so talk to Kris or check it out on their web site.

The great thing about Connecticut Cabaret Theater is that it enlivens that community and provides a consistent high quality theater experience for residents of the Town and the region. Subscribers and patrons come from around the State and from Massachusetts providing an infusion into the Berlin economy. Kris is also proud to boast that authors from New York City come to see their works produced here and the performers that have worked with him in Berlin have moved on to work on Broadway and in movies.

For all his contributions to the Berlin community, I am pleased to present this year's Small Business of the Year Award to Kris McMurray and the Connecticut Cabaret Theater.