



# TOWN OF BERNE COURIER

Vol. 36

News From Your Town Government

Summer 2015

## GAME FARM ROAD PROJECT



The Town Board was very impressed with the pool of experienced, highly skilled, and energetic candidates for the Board of the Game Farm Road project. Interviews with these candidates are now complete. Next, the Town Board must select the Board from this diverse and talented pool.

The first task of the newly selected Board will be naming the property from suggestions offered by Berne residents. It is our hope that the names submitted reflect the nature of the property, a source of quiet, peaceful reflection, recreation, and beauty. The Game Farm Road Board will review the submissions, select one name that best represents the land, and present it to the Town Board for approval.

We would love to hear from you! The Game Farm Road property belongs to the residents of Berne, and we want your ideas for its name. Please send your suggestions to the Town Clerk at [bernenyclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bernenyclerk@gmail.com), mail them to Berne Town Clerk, PO Box 57, Berne, NY 12023, or drop them off at Town Hall. Please don't hesitate to stop any one of the Town Board members and give them your ideas.

Suggestions must be submitted by June 10, 2015.

## FROM THE SUPERVISOR

I've always said two of our strongest assets in Berne are its rich natural resources and the residents that live here. This could not be more evident, as seen through the outpouring of support and interest in the Game Farm Road Project. The Town had a record eighteen applicants apply for our Game Farm Road Board. In addition, many residents called and asked how they might participate going forward.



The Town Board and Highway Superintendent Bashwinger, have started preliminary plans for the construction of a new salt-storage shed. As you may have noticed, clearing of the west end of the highway department has begun in preparation for the new salt shed.

Also, our highway garage is in need of upgrading and expansion so planning for that is also in the works. While the Town has made purchases of approximately \$480,000 in needed highway equipment, the Town's General and Highway Funds remain debt free - all without raising your property taxes. The Town Board will continue to find creative ways to provide services to our residents without increasing property taxes.

Please stop by Town Hall and share your thoughts for Berne's future. Have a wonderful and safe summer!

~~Kevin Crosier~~

## DID YOU KNOW??

The Town of Berne owns the boat launch at Thompson's Lake, just down from the old Thompson's Lake Hotel. An agreement with the Town and the New York State Department of Conservation (DEC) allows use of the boat launch to the public. In return, DEC maintains the launch and has slated improvements for this year such as additional parking and black top for easier access. Also, in return for the agreement, DEC stocks the lake with fish every year. This year, 550 brown trout and 1,700 rainbows were released into the lake. So grab your fishing poles & kids, and head over to Thompson's Lake for a fun day of fishing.





## 250 YEARS OF WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP



The Helderberg Lutheran Church and the First Reformed Church of Berne cordially invite the Berne community to join them in celebrating 250 years of ministry and witness in Berne. A number of events, activities and services are planned to which everyone is invited. They include:

May 15 -7 PM Storytelling for all ages at Helderberg Lutheran Church with Nancy Payne and Clare Nolan. Admission is \$2.50 per person.

May 25 – look for our float in the Memorial Day Parade.

June 19 – 7 PM --Community Dance at the Berne Town Park; square, line and contra dance taught by Dan Sahlstrom of St. Paul, MN. NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED! Adm. is \$2.50 per person.

July 18 – 11 AM– 4 PM Anniversary Picnic at the Berne Town Park.

August 22 – Berne Summerfest booth at Berne Town Park

October 4 – 9:30 AM—worship including ecumenical choirs at the Berne Reformed Church.

One of the major highlights of this celebration will be an **Anniversary Picnic on July 18** at the **Berne Town Park** between 11AM and 4 PM. The community is invited to be a guest at this joyful event filled with fun, fellowship, games, music and a cook-out lunch all **free of charge**.

Please feel free to contact Pastor Wendy Cook (872-1443) or Pastor Bob Hoffman (872-1553) if you have any questions or would like more information. We hope you will join this great celebration!

## THIRD ANNUAL BERNE SUMMERFEST



The Third Annual Berne Summerfest Celebration will take place on Saturday August 22, 2015.

The Summerfest Committee has already begun planning for a fun-filled day of activities for all ages.



Featured again this year will be the ever popular Car Show, the Climbing Wall and All-day Music Event, expanded children's activities and will end with a fabulous fireworks display.



New events this year will include “Juggling Dangerously” by the famous Magician Mike McCrea and an amazing reptile exhibit.

*Elegant Touch* will be providing a dinner time Chicken Barbeque; and many other food vendors will be offering delightful treats throughout the day.

All civic, religious and community organizations are invited to participate as well as area artisan and crafters. Registration forms are available at the Berne Town Clerk's office or can be accessed at the town's website @ [www.berneny.org](http://www.berneny.org).



## COMING EVENTS

**TOWN OF BERNE  
SUMMER RECREATION  
JULY 20 — JULY 24  
@BERNE TOWN PARK**

**THE FOX CREEK 5K RACE  
BERNE TOWN PARK  
Sat. AUGUST 8 @ 9 am  
Call 225-4925 To Volunteer  
Sponsored by  
L.E.A.P**

**BERNE SUMMERFEST  
AUGUST 22, 2015  
12 noon TO 10 pm  
BERNE TOWN PARK  
RAIN DATE AUGUST 23**

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS  
WASTE DAY  
AUGUST 29, 2015  
8 am TO 1 pm  
BERNE HIGHWAY GARAGE**





## **HELDERBERG SENIOR LUNCH**

It's Summer, so why waste time cooking? For seniors over 60, Helderberg Senior Services has the solution! Albany County Department for Aging and the aspiring chefs of the Peter Young Housing Industries and Treatment Culinary Program offer lunch three days a week at the Hilltown Senior Center.

Lunch is served at noon every Monday, Tuesday, and Friday for seniors and guests at the Center, located at 1360 Helderberg Trail in Berne. Reservations are requested 24 hours in advance, so there will always be enough for everyone. Come one day, two days, or all three. Visit with your neighbors, catch up on the news, and stay for cards, games, and bingo afterwards.

There will also be gardening classes, acrylic painting, basket making, chair yoga, birdhouse construction, and other activities on the schedule, so sign up early!

Doors open at 11 A.M., and lunch is served promptly at 12 noon. Menus are published every week in the *Altamont Enterprise* newspaper. Reservations can be made by calling 872-9400, or email [plightbody@nycap.rr.com](mailto:plightbody@nycap.rr.com) and provide your name, phone number, and the number of people who will be having lunch. Volunteers should call Mary Moller at 861-6253, or email at [helderbergseniormeals@aol.com](mailto:helderbergseniormeals@aol.com), and put "volunteer" in the subject line.

It is not the length of life

But depth of life.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## **NEW LOOK AT THE BERNE TOWN PARK**

Summer will soon be upon us. With it comes Little League, ice cream after a dusty game, and children playing in the park. Plans are underway to make it a safer, happier place to play.



Resurfacing of the swing sets in both Town parks is scheduled to take place early this summer. A carpet of 12" deep engineered wood fiber will be installed under each swing set, with wear mats anchored firmly under each belt swing. Two full bucket seats will be added at each park so our littlest ones can enjoy swinging with older friends & family.

In the meantime, keep your eyes peeled for the NHPA regulation horseshoe courts that will soon be built. Available for anyone interested in playing a game or two, the courts will be the site of a Horseshoe Tournament at Summerfest, on August 22. The tournament will benefit LEAP.....Life Enrichment through Activities and Programs...a nonprofit organization, located in East Berne, which provides scholarships to children, young adults, and veterans with special needs. The scholarships support participation in programs such as equine assisted therapies, and recreational and educational activities. If you're an avid horseshoe enthusiast, you are welcome to participate in the tournament. For more information, visit the LEAP website or watch for the posters that will soon be visible around Town.

Welcome to The Berne Playmakers, a group of local citizens launching a fundraising campaign to build a new playground at the Town Park. The playground will serve children of all ages and abilities. It will be ADA compliant to allow easy access for all. A benefit concert featuring Black Mountain Symphony will be held September 12 at the Town Park. If you're interested in helping with this project, contact Meghann O'Connell at [cailiesmom613@gmail.com](mailto:cailiesmom613@gmail.com).

*Good things are happening in Berne. It's a great place to live and raise a family.*

## **GAME FARM ROAD—MEET & GREET**

A *Meet and Greet* will be held Friday, June 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Game Farm Road Lodge for the newly appointed Board of the Game Farm Road Property. The gathering is open to the public, and will provide the opportunity to meet the very knowledgeable individuals who have been chosen to lead the project.

A Task Force comprised of individuals with expertise in specific areas of interest will also be on hand. The Task Force will lead the implementation phase of the Game Farm Road project, and will work directly with the Game Farm Road Board to develop the property for citizen use. Please join us as we introduce this talented group of individuals. RSVP to Anita Clayton at [bernenyclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bernenyclerk@gmail.com) or by phone at 872-1448, ext. 101, if you plan to attend.

## **HIGHWAY HAPPENINGS**

Thanks to the generous contribution by Sheriff Apple and his work force, the Highway Department has been able to save funds and spruce up the Highway Garage. This extra work force also helped with clearing brush, sweeping and filling pot holes on town roads. We hope to be able to continue these projects throughout the summer and fall. A parking lot is under construction for a baseball field located on Canady Hill. Solid trees that were removed are being transformed into side boards and deck planking for our trucks and trailers; and for wooden forms to be used for a Town Park project.



A new truck has been purchased and should arrive at the end of this month. Paving of roads will begin soon and funds from CHIPS will be used to pave extra roads as well. The Highway Department will be ditching and looking for places to dump material. If you are interested in having fill dropped at your location please contact me at 573-3002 and feel free to call me with any comments or concerns.

~~Randy Bashwinger~~

## COMMUNITY CAREGIVERS INC. ...

... is a non-profit organization that provides non-medical services at no charge to residents in Guilderland, Bethlehem, Altamont, New Scotland, Berne, Knox, and the City of Albany through a strong volunteer pool of dedicated individuals with a desire to assist their neighbors. Our wonderful volunteers provide transportation to appointments, shopping and errands assistance, caregiver respite, friendly visits, assurance phone calls, help with paperwork and help with chores.

Consider volunteering with us... studies even show that being a good neighbor and volunteering can lead you to living a longer, healthier, happier life! Call to register for an orientation to find out more.

During the summer months ahead there will be several one-hour volunteer orientation sessions scheduled. If you cannot make any of these dates, please call and other arrangements can be made.

<i>Summer 2015 Orientation Schedule</i>		
<b>Thursday</b>	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Noon
<b>Tuesday</b>	July 7 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 p.m.
<b>Thursday</b>	July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 a.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	August 4 <sup>th</sup>	Noon

All scheduled orientations are held at the Community Caregivers office, 2021 Western Ave., Suite 104, Albany, NY 12203

518-456-2898 [www.communitycaregivrs.org](http://www.communitycaregivrs.org)



## Helderberg Haven.....

is an adult day program that emphasizes social and recreational activities for seniors program available to Hilltown Seniors aged 60 and over provided by Senior Services of Albany

County . It is designed to provide a safe and warm environment, stimulating activities, a morning snack, lunch & an afternoon snack. Located at the Helderberg Lutheran Church at 1728 Helderberg Trail, (Route 443), in the hamlet of Berne,

Helderberg Haven has expanded its program to include Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants may come for the whole day, or choose to participate for only part of the day. There is a fee for attending but transportation and funding may be available to Albany County residents.

If you or someone you know would benefit from this program or would like more information please contact Beth Owen at 518-694-3511 or Raphael Revella at 518-320-0316.

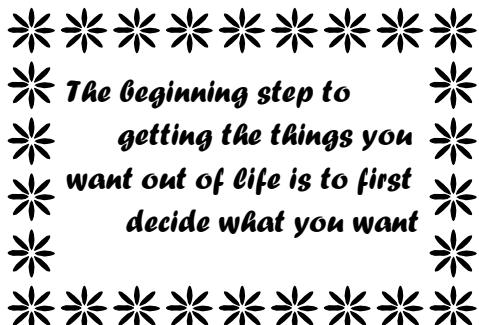
## LIFESAVING DEFIBRULATORS INSTALLED



Every year in the United States over 350 thousand people die from cardiac arrest outside a hospital setting. Most of these heart attacks are caused by ventricular fibrillation. In many cases, this irregular type of heart rhythm can be converted back to normal by an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

The Town purchased four AED's and has installed them in the Town Hall, Town Highway Garage, the Berne Senior Center and the Berne Library.

Town Highway Department and Town Hall employees received proper training in the use of the AED's. This training was provided by the Albany County Sheriff's Department and was conducted by Paramedic Supervisor Nancy Montesanto. Many thanks to Nancy and Commander Brian Wood, both from the Sheriff's Department.



**NEWS FROM THE TRANSFER STATION****HOUSHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE  
COLLECTION DAY****for****TOWN OF BERNE RESIDENTS****August 29, 2015 ----- 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

At Town of Berne Highway Garage, 1811 Helderberg Trail

**Special permit from Berne Town Clerk will be  
issued beginning August 3.**

- \*\* Keep wastes in their original labeled containers. Tighten lids and pack securely in a cardboard box. Never mix chemicals.
- \*\* Wrap leaking containers in newspaper and place in plastic bag or container.
- \*\* DO NOT smoke near chemicals or leave product in a hot, unventilated vehicle for an extended period of time.
- \*\* For your SAFETY, please stay in your car. Workers will unload the material.

**ACCEPTABLE WASTES**

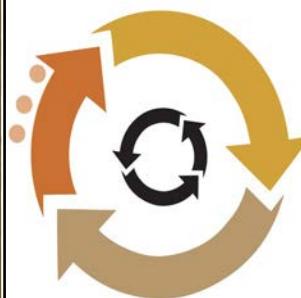
Pesticides/Herbicides/Insecticides  
Paints (Oil Base, Latex)  
Wood Preservatives and Stain  
Thinner and Solvents  
Drain Cleaners  
Swimming Pool Chemicals  
Automotive Fluids/Batteries  
Cleaning Products  
Gasoline/Kerosene  
Acids and Bases  
Asbestos (Wet and Double Bagged)  
Fluorescent Light Bulbs

**UNACCEPTABLE WASTES**

Explosives/Ammunition  
Fireworks  
Radioactive Material  
Controlled Substances  
Known Dioxins  
Compressed Gases (aerosols are okay)  
Commercial Wastes  
Empty Paint Cans  
Empty aerosols  
Industrial Wastes  
Medical Wastes

**TRANSFER STATION  
ELECTRONICS POLICY**

Residents are advised that any and all electronics that are dropped off at the Transfer Station become the property of the Town at that time and shall not be removed.

**TRANSFER STATION  
HOURS OF  
OPERATION**

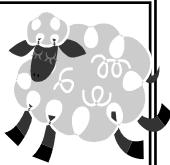
Monday.....4 PM to 8 PM  
Wednesday....Noon to 8 PM  
Saturday..... 8 AM to 4 PM

\*\*Closed Holidays\*\*

Obtain permit from Town Clerk

**BAA.....**

Berne Arts Association



BAA has a new project! If enough people express interest, the "Welcome to Town of Berne" signs that greet people driving into town will be spruced up. These signs appear on many different roads. Some are cared for by nearby residents, but others are in disrepair. BAA sees these signs as a plum opportunity to put pizzazz into our Town image!

More accurately, art will be applied to the posts and the outline of the sign. A mosaic technique will be used and the public is invited to participate in this project.

The two stages of this project are:

*A gathering on the lawn of Helderberg Lutheran Church, 1728 Helderberg Trail, next to BKW, on Memorial Day to make mosaic tiles to be used in the final artwork.*

*A meeting at the Berne Town Hall on Saturday, June 13, at 9 a.m. to go to the sign location and cement in the mosaic. All supplies will be provided.*

If there is sufficient interest, more signs will be transformed. The first signs to be considered are on Warner's Lake Road and Cole Hill Road. Suggestions to improve other signs are most welcome!

The public is invited and encouraged to join in this project! Questions can be addressed to Wendy Cook @ 872-1443.

**FYI...**

Girl Scout Troop #1492  
is conducting a shoe drive.  
Shoes of any type may be  
dropped off at Berne Town Hall.

**HEALTH,  
HORSES  
HAPPINESS!**

Now that you have survived the winter of 2015, it's time to LIVE the summer of 2015! Join EBC Therapy Center beginning Monday, June 22, at 6 pm for a unique and innovative "Barn To 5k" program. The program will take place Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 pm for an eight week wellness program, ending with the Fox Creek 5k on August 8 at 9 am at the Berne Town Park. Membership fee will include entry fee for the Fox Creek 5k club T-shirt.

How is this program unique you ask? Taking advantage our



barn setting (horses included) and our trails will make this a fun experience Only 30 spots are available, and will probably fill up fast! Call 872-1870 for more information.

**BERNE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Historical Society Museum celebrates 45 years in November. A peek at our upcoming activities include:

June 22 - Guest speaker, Jack McEneny: Building of the South Mall. Berne Library, 7 pm.

July 19 - Ice cream social & Museum tours, 2 pm-4pm.

August at the Altamont Fair: Display in the Farm House Museum.

All programs are free and open to the public.

**The Friends  
of the Berne Library**

Thanks to the generosity of the community, the Friends have installed Storywalks in the town parks of Knox and Berne. In the Knox Town Park pages of a children's picture books have been laminated and placed on posts in a short loop around the park. In the Berne Town Park laminated pages of a picture book have been hung on the Little League fence. Visit both parks with your favorite young readers, and enjoy the books, the parks, and time together!

The Friends will again be sponsoring "Music in the Park" on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in July and August. Enjoy good music performed by local groups and enjoy food sold by the Friends.

The schedule is as follows:

July 15 -

Wood Chuck Wood

July 22 -

Just a Bunch of Guys

July 29 -

Two's Company

Aug. 5 -

The Bluestones

Aug. 12 -

Slim Pick'ins



The Friends provide support for the Berne Library. This past year the Friends purchased shades and a laminator for the Library and provided funds for the Summer Reading Program and for the Storywalk Program. Your support of our fundraisers and membership in the organization will enable the Friends to continue to improve the Berne Library. Please consider becoming a member of the Friends at the following levels:

**Bookmark (Individual \$15/yr.)**  
**Bookworm (Family \$25/yr.)**  
**Bookend (Family \$50/yr.)**  
**First Folio (\$100/yr.)**

## News from The Library

This summer will be SUPER at the library with our programs based on the HEROES theme. Performer Rose Stuart will kick off this season of adventure with an interactive family program, "Heroic Hijinks".

Join us at the Hilltown Senior Center on Mon. June 29 at 6:30 p.m.

**Summer Programs (June 27- August 10)** Investigate super heroes, animal heroes, storybook heroes, community heroes and discover the hero within you.

"Wee Readers", ages 1-5 Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

"Every Hero Has a Story" ages 5-12 Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

"Unmask" ages 13-18 Friday July 10 & Aug 14 @ 6:30

"Escape the Ordinary" for adults TBA.

The library is promoting reading over the summer by offering special gifts for youth ages 1 to 18 who read (or are read to) for at least 500 minutes (about 12 minutes a day). In order to keep track of reading minutes, register online at the library website or at the library between June 27 and July 15. Adults are encouraged to read books on the biweekly theme and submit book reviews for a chance at prizes. It's fun to see what others think about a book.

### Monthly Events throughout the Year

- Tuesdays- Storytime for preschoolers at 11 a.m.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Friday - Family Movie Night at 6:30 p.m.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Book Club for Adults at 7 p.m.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday - Teen Advisory Group (TAG) at 6:30 p.m.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Game Night for Adults at 7 p.m.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday- Lego League for ages 5-12 at 11 a.m.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Knit Wits at 7 p.m.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – Memoir Writing at 2 p.m.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday - Paper Crafting Club at 7 p.m.

In addition to monthly events, the library holds special programs. For current information visit [www.bernepubliclibrary.org](http://www.bernepubliclibrary.org), check out the library column in the Altamont Enterprise, or sign up for the Friends e-newsletter.

Our next special event is on Monday, June 6 at 7 p.m. Laurie Searl, Senior Production Manager at SUNY Press, will discuss the production and content of *An Irrepressible Conflict* by Robert Weible, Jennifer Lemak and Aaron Noble. This book documents the pivotal role New York State played in our nation's bloodiest and most enduring conflict, the Civil War.

Remember that you can browse our book collection, look for a movie on DVD, or use the computers and Wi-Fi. E-audiobooks, e-magazines, and e-books are also available to download on your device. There is no fee for obtaining a library card or borrowing items. A printer is available for copies, scans, and faxes for a minimal fee. Hope to see you at the library this summer.



### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday:	4 to 8 p.m.
Tuesday:	10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday:	4 to 8 p.m.
Thursday:	2 to 8 p.m. <i>(July &amp; August—Noon to 8 PM)</i>
Saturday:	10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

### **TOWN OF BERNE SUMMER YOUTH RECREATION**

Newly appointed Town of Berne Youth Recreation Director, Kathy Wank has announced that the Town of Berne Youth Council will host its annual Summer Recreation Program July 20 thru July 24, 2015 at the Berne Town Park.



Program flyers and signup forms will be distributed through BKW school and will also be available at Town Hall beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### \*VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED\*

Anyone age 15 and over is welcome to volunteer and help make this community event a success.

Have a question, comment, or program idea? Please contact Kathy Wank, Youth Recreation Director@ 281-6880.





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Permit #220

Town of Berne  
PO Box 57  
Berne, NY 12023

Visit our website at  
[www.berneny.org](http://www.berneny.org)

#### DIRECTORY OF TOWN OFFICIALS

**TOWN of BERNE—ALL DEPARTMENTS** PHONE.....872-1448  
**TOWN HALL FAX**.....872-9303  
**TOWN OF BERNE LIBRARY—** PHONE .....872-1246  
FAX.....872-9024  
**HIGHWAY GARAGE** PHONE 872-1448..EXT 108  
FAX... 872-9563  
**SUPERVISOR** Kevin Crosier  
**TOWN BOARD MEMBERS** Joe Golden  
Wayne Emory  
Dawn Jordan  
Karen Schimmer  
Anita Clayton  
Randy Bashwinger  
Albert E. Raymond  
Alan P. Zuk  
Stacy Loucks  
Alan Rockmore  
Ron Jordan  
Kathleen Moore  
Brian Crawford  
Tim Lippert 339-6030  
Cheryl Baitholts 728-8082  
Gerald O'Malley 872-0331  
Ralph Miller 872-0212  
872-0424  
872-1244  
[www.BerneNY.org](http://www.BerneNY.org)

#### TOWN CLERK

Monday-Wednesday 8 AM-3 PM  
Thursday 9 AM-2 PM  
Saturday -Sept. Thru June 9 AM-noon  
Evenings by appointment

#### BUILDING INSPECTOR

Thursday 7-9 PM  
Saturday 9AM to noon  
(except July & August)

#### TOWN BOARD

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:30 PM

#### PLANNING BOARD

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 7:00 PM

#### TOWN COURT CLERK HOURS

Tuesday 9 AM TO 1 PM

#### TOWN COURT

Tuesday 5 PM

#### ASSESSOR

Wednesday 5:30 to 7 PM  
(January through May)

Located at 1763 Helderberg Trail

#### TRANSFER STATION

Monday 4 PM to 8 PM  
Wednesday Noon to 8 PM  
Saturday 8 AM to 4 PM  
\*\*\*Closed Holidays\*\*\*  
Permit required-Obtain from Town Clerk