



Berne Working Together

2021 DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE TOWN OF
BERNE, NY

The 2021 Berne NY Democratic Platform

We believe in, and will promote:

Principled Leadership:

- Adhere to the rule of law,
- Protect the values of inclusion and tolerance,
- Ensure open, transparent, and accountable governance,
- Lead with purpose to strengthen and grow our community,
- Respect the right of all citizens to be heard, and
- Treat all 2800 residents with dignity and respect

Comprehensive Land Use Planning:

- Protect and preserve our open spaces and rural beauty,
- Protect and preserve our agricultural resources,
- Develop policies that protect and enhance the environment, public health, and landowners' rights,
- Foster collaborative stewardship of our natural resources,
- Increase access to our parks,
- Seek active citizen participation when developing land-use policies, and
- Adhere to the current Comprehensive Plan

A Stronger Rural and Agricultural Economy:

- Foster programs that protect and enhance family farms,
- Create and expand local food markets,
- Encourage home businesses,
- Promote environmentally sustainable agriculture,
- Support broadband infrastructure to make businesses more competitive,
- Support entrepreneurship and small business growth,
- Harness the economic and social potential of our public parks, and
- Develop Switzkill Farm to foster economic development through eco-tourism

Sound Fiscal Management:

- Actively solicit investment to increase the tax base of the town,
- Engage in the prudent and wise expenditure of taxpayer monies,
- Ensure new spending and taxes are offset,
- Solicit grants to fund programs, projects, and improvements,
- Ensure use of public funds is transparent and available to public scrutiny, and
- Establish the position of Economic Development Officer to seek and advance opportunities for economic advancement

Community Strength and Cohesion:

- Respect, acknowledge, and consider differences of perspective and opinion,
- Pledge to work together for the greater good,
- Honor citizens' service to the town,
- Commit to programs serving the disadvantaged and the elderly,
- Expand recreational opportunities for our residents,
- Support efforts to provide income appropriate senior housing,
- Support and increase services for our senior citizens,
- Inventory and solicit residents' expertise for programs and projects,
- Support, encourage, and strengthen volunteer involvement, and
- Support all of our local businesses

We are the 2021 Democratic Candidates for the town of Berne, NY:

Peggy Christman - Candidate for Town Supervisor

Tim Lippert - Candidate for Town Board Councilman

Jennifer Merrill-Fuller - Candidate for Town Board Councilwoman

Patrick Martin - Candidate for Town Board Councilman

Jean Guarino - Candidate for Town Clerk

Melanie Bunzey - Candidate for Assessor

Debra Flagler - Candidate for Tax Collector

Barbara Kennedy - Candidate for Highway Superintendent

Hon. Albert E. Raymond - Candidate for Town Judge

Hon. Alan Zuk - Candidate for Town Judge