

Eight things you need to know on topics related to Saratoga County's economy.

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8 @ 8 is a newsletter filled with eight things you need to know on topics related to the economy in Saratoga County, New York. You can expect to see **8 @ 8** in your inbox twice a month. If you have content you'd like us to share or have a topic you'd like to see more of, let us know and we'll work to include it in a future edition! -The Partnership Team



**BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
SARATOGA COUNTY PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP**

1. Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership Announces New Leadership on Board of Directors

The Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership, the county's designated economic development agency, announced new leadership atop its board of directors that reinforces the importance of strong collaboration between the public and private sectors. Kevin M. Hedley, MS, CPA, PFS, founder and partner of Hedley & Co. Certified Public Accountants, will serve as Chairman; Brendan Chudy, director of the legal department at GLOBALFOUNDRIES, as Vice Chairman; and Rita Cox, founder of Cox Marketing Solutions, as secretary. Arthur Johnson, supervisor of the town of Wilton, will continue to serve as treasurer. [Click here to read more.](#)

2. Millenials are leaving their desk jobs for the agrarian lifestyle

According to the latest Census of Agriculture in 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that 69 percent of farmers today have a college degree, a number that suggests more millennials are leaving traditional desk jobs to pursue this very different life. The number of farmers aged 25 to 34 grew 2.2 percent between 2007 and 2012, and in some states like California and Nebraska the number of new farmers has grown by 20 percent or more. While agriculture gained 2,384 young farmers between 2007 and 2012, it lost nearly 100,000 farmers from older demographics. [Read More Here.](#) Interested in the farm to table movement? Give us a call 518.871.1887 to see how we can help you!

3. Saratoga County Man Tapped for U.S. Small Business Administration Post

It was recently announced that Clifton Park resident and former GOP chairman for Saratoga County has been appointed U.S. Small Business Administration regional administrator for Region II, an area that encompasses New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The announcement from the SBA that Steve Bulger, a Troy native and longtime Clifton Park resident, had been appointed to the post

government relations budget, and will be responsible for managing and overseeing the agency's funding, economic development and procurement programs for five district and six branch offices.

4. H1-B Visas - What are they and why do they matter to our economy?

H1-B visa program is intended to allow employers to selectively hire the best and brightest engineers and scientists, and employ the best global talent in the U.S. The [demand for H1-B visas is expected to heat up](#) this year because of factors such as skills shortages, a strong economy and low unemployment, despite efforts to overhaul the program. Most tech regions, including Albany Region and the Silicon Valley, would be impacted without foreign-born technology workers. [The Times Union reports](#) that in 2012 Brookings Institution found the Albany region ranked 39th in overall demand for H-1B visas out of 106 metros and second among the state's metros behind New York City. [According to Mercury News](#) foreign born tech workers make up about three quarters of Silicon Valley's workforce.

5. SUNY Adirondack to offer Agriculture Business Degree

SUNY ADK recently announced that they will be offering an associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Agricultural Business. Agriculture is one of the leading industries in New York, contributing more than \$46 billion dollars to our economy. As our farms and farmers mature, a new and creative workforce is urgently needed to support traditional agriculture and our emerging farm-to-table business sector. This degree program prepares students for leadership roles in the field of farm and food systems. Students will study a combination of business and science topics to support their success in the rapidly expanding economies of small farms, niche growers and specialty producers. [Click here to learn more.](#)

6. Energy Efficiency Resources for NYS Manufacturers

New York State has an abundance of programs to help companies become more energy efficient and save money. You may not see the energy you use, or where it comes from, but you see the costs associated with using that energy. To help manufacturers in New York more efficiently manage their energy consumption FuzeHub has found the [best energy efficiency resources for New York State Manufacturers.](#)

7. CDRPC adopts new, regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

The [Capital District Regional Planning Commission \(CDRPC\)](#) approved a new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the four-county Capital District, including Saratoga County. CDRPC is responsible for developing and maintaining a continuing planning process for Regional economic development pursuant to federal guidelines set forth by the Economic Development Administration. (CEDS) is designed to bring together public and private sectors in the creation of a plan to strengthen and diversify a regional economy. The [CEDS for the Capital District: 2018-2022](#) serves as a guide for establishing regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources. The Saratoga Partnership was proud to contribute to the study.

General Manager, Fab 8, GlobalFoundries, will discuss how the last 50 years of semiconductor innovation have set the stage for unprecedented business transformation through connected intelligence. Hear what's next for the organization and how the Capital Region's Tech Valley is a model for public-private partnerships in the US. [Click here to register.](#)

The [Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership](#) is the County's designated Economic Development organization leading the public and private sectors to achieve economic success for our businesses and residents.

The Saratoga Partnership is the first point of contact for business retention, expansion, and attraction. We provide a seamless delivery of economic development and workforce development assistance for businesses seeking to expand in Saratoga County, New York.



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