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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

Why Support Economic Development?

The [International Economic Development Council](#) (IEDC) recently created the [publication "Why Invest in Economic Development"](#) to highlight federally funded programs which are helping us create a stronger, more resilient, more inclusive economy. The Saratoga Partnership is represented on the IEDC board by our President, Marty Vanags. For a modest investment of taxpayer dollars, Federal economic development programs are an essential part of a broader effort to maximize opportunity for every American and consistently offer a high rate of return. Let us know what Federal economic development programs impact you and how we can help your business remain viable and your community retain key resources that make a difference.

New infrastructure spending is critical for local business growth

[The Saratogian](#) recently interviewed Marty Vanags, Saratoga County's lead economic official about President Donald Trump's pledge to boost infrastructure spending and its impact on local business growth. "Improved water, sewer, roads and highway interchanges are all part of the equation for continued success," said Marty Vanags, Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership president. "We're going to be working with our local congressional delegation to improve what we have here."

State set to hear proposals for Mount McGregor

Empire State Development, New York State's economic development agency, is [seeking proposals](#) to redevelop Mount McGregor, a former medium-security state prison which closed in July 2014. The property encompasses 325 acres and more than 100 buildings in the Town of Wilton. The property includes an overlook with commanding panoramic views stretching from the southern Adirondacks to downtown Albany, and east to Vermont. Possible uses might include a combination of recreation, housing and healthcare. The property faces significant development challenges, which is why Empire State Development has dedicated resources ([2014 Economic Transformation Program](#)) to attract projects that will transform the site. **The deadline for submitting proposals to Empire State Development is March 31.** Learn more about the project in [the Saratogian](#) or [email us](#) if you have a potential project.

Learn how to apply for Federal research dollars at Capital Region SBIR workshop

Did you know that there is \$2 billion available to small businesses for innovation in research and new product development? The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs provide federal funding for your innovation. [FuzeHub](#), in partnership with [CEG](#), [Innovate 518](#) and [UAlbany](#) will be hosting a workshop designed to help link innovative small businesses with federal funding. The event will be held on March 24, 8:30 - noon at University at Albany Life Sciences Research Building. [Click here to register.](#)

Employers Wanted - Help Clean Tech ECHS students gain valuable field experience

The [Clean Technologies and Sustainable Industries Early College High School](#) (Clean Tech ECHS) is seeking employers to host students in their [Field Experience Program](#). The program is designed to prepare students for the daily tasks, requirements and work environment in ways that classroom education cannot. Through an unpaid field experience of 1-3 weeks and a minimum of 40 hours, students will have the opportunity to work on specific tasks and work assignments, and gain valuable work experience in a professional environment. To get involved please complete the [Business Response form](#) and send to program coordinator [Madeleine Petraglia](#).

New survey says that NY manufacturing is expanding at fastest rate since 2014

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York [February survey](#) says that manufacturing firms in NYS reported that business activity expanded at the fastest pace since 2014. The headline general business conditions index rose to its highest level in more than two years. The new orders index climbed, pointing to substantial increases in both orders and shipments. The unfilled orders index rose above zero for the first time in more than five years. Working with strong Saratoga County employers like [GLOBALFOUNDRIES](#), Quad Graphics, Cascades Tissue Group, ESPEY Manufacturing and more, we are not surprised by the results of the survey and will continue to support the growth of Saratoga County businesses.

The regional job market is strong but there is more work to be done

[The Daily Gazette](#) examined the regional job market and the strength of the Capital Region economy. The Capital Region ended 2016 with an unemployment rate of 4.0 percent, and begins 2017 with a good hiring outlook. Andrew Kennedy, president and CEO of the Center for Economic Growth, said the perennial problem for this region is the percentage of its young people who graduate college and leave to start their careers elsewhere, causing the Capital Region workforce to age and shrink. "As a region, we've got to do a better job keeping those graduates, that new talent, here in the region." Kennedy believes that the more effective strategy, will likely be to sell people on all this region has going for it. The Saratoga Partnership will be working with CEG and Saratoga County employers to address workforce attraction challenges.

EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

MARCH 15

- VentureB Innovation Series: [Estimating your market size for Start Ups](#) 12:00 - 1:30 pm
- Upstate Venture Association of New York (UVANY) [Growing Business Through Acquisition - The Etransmedia Story](#) 5:00 - 7:00 pm

MARCH 16

- Saratoga Partnership **Small Business Workshop** [South Glens Falls](#) 5:30 - 7:00 pm

MARCH 22

- Clean Tech ECHS Field Experience speed networking session at [TEC-SMART](#) 8:30 - 9:30 am

MARCH 23

- Saratoga Partnership **Small Business Workshop** [Mechanicville](#) 5:30 - 7:00 pm

MARCH 24

- Capital Region SBIR Workshop: [How to apply for Small Business Innovation Research \(SBIR\) and the Small Business Technology Transfer \(STTR\) Programs](#) 8:00 am - Noon

MARCH 30

- Saratoga Partnership **Small Business Workshop** - Town of Saratoga/ [Schuylerville](#) 5:30 - 7:00 pm
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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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You're receiving this as a valuable member of the greater Saratoga County, New York business community.

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