

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. The Verdict is in...

The Verdict is in: The Saratoga County economy is doing well. All indicators presented by the Saratoga Partnership at our Saratoga Economic Index luncheon show growth. What are the reasons for this and how can we continue to be successful? In case you missed it, here is a link to our [Times Union Blog](#) post recapping the event along with a [link to the presentation](#). This Saratoga Economic Index is part of a series of four quarterly economic index luncheons that the Saratoga Partnership is hosting with **the next index is set for June 13**. Stay tuned for details. Special Thanks to our presenting sponsor, [Adirondack Trust Company](#) and Silver sponsor, [the Janack Group](#).

MEDIA COVERAGE

[Diversity is key to Saratoga County's economy, panel says](#), **Times Union, 3.29.18**

[County Economic Index Released](#), **Saratoga Today, 3.29.18**

[Look TV News Headlines](#), **LookTV, 3.29.18**

[Business Leaders Discuss Strong Saratoga County Economy](#), **WAMC News, 3.29.18**

[Economic index for Saratoga County shows it continues to do well](#), **The Saratogian, 3.29.18**

2. Starting a new business and need support? We've got you covered with Innovate518

Starting a business is never easy, but access to the right tools can make a world of difference. Innovate 518 is a collaborative effort of incubators, accelerators, and entrepreneurial service providers from the Capital Region and [Saratoga County Prosperity Partnership is an affiliated partner](#). The [program offers](#) best practices, networking and mentoring, as well as educational and financial resources to better assist start-up companies. Innovate 518 is designated as the Capital Region [Innovation Hot Spot](#), a NYSTAR initiative enabling funding and a unique set of tax incentives for companies in their earliest

[START-UP NY](#) to help them be successful. Give us a call at 518.871.1887 to learn more!

3. Region besting nation in rate of awarding STEM degrees to women

Technology companies interested in eliminating the gender gap among technical workers will find an unmatched talent pipeline in the Capital Region, the [Center for Economic Growth](#) reported for a recent [Times Union article](#). During the past three years, area colleges and universities have awarded undergraduate and graduate science, technology, engineering and math degrees to women at a higher rate than the nation, according to NCES Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System statistics. The [Saratoga Partnership](#) is a proud supporter of Girls in STEM, an event organized by [CEG](#), [HVCC TEC SMART](#), [Ballston Spa Central School District](#), [WMHT](#), and [AT&T](#). The free educational event, featuring hands-on workshops designed to illustrate the fun side of science and technology, was attended by over 300 girls grades 4-8. [Click here for the photo gallery](#), (Photo credit [Megan Mumford Photography](#))

4. Saratoga and Albany counties team up on Waste to Energy project

Saratoga and Albany counties [unveiled plans](#) for a jointly-owned and funded \$45 million waste-to-energy plant in Menands. The anaerobic digester facility will primarily take in sewage sludge, but may also be used for food waste along with fats, oils and grease that would act as a catalyst for processing. Both counties expect to save \$1 million annually in biosolids disposal costs and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority provided half the funding for a project feasibility study last year. The facility is the first of its kind in the Capital Region, and it's hoped that municipalities elsewhere will pursue similar joint efforts.

5. Restore NY Grants announced - Universal Preservation Hall wins \$750K Award

Universal Preservation Hall will receive \$750,000 to redevelop the vacant structure into a performing arts center for Proctors through the [Restore NY Program](#). It will include an 800-seat theatre and community event space, administrative offices and an elevator for increased accessibility. Earlier in 2017, The Saratoga Partnership helped UPH through the IDA process to receive historic tax credits to help fund the \$8.7 million renovation. The project will have a significant economic impact on Saratoga Springs and the County. Saratoga Partnership President Marty Vanags said "assets like creative arts, performance and restaurants, all of that fabric is very important to the attraction part of economic development."

6. Saratoga-Warren-Washington County Workforce Development Board Seeking Executive Director

The Executive Director for the Saratoga-Warren-Washington Workforce Development Board (SWW WDB) serves as the primary staff support for the WDB committees. The purpose of the WDB is to identify local workforce needs of business, develop resources and services to address identified needs and to coordinate a system of local services for both business and jobseeker customers. Duties include employer engagement/outreach, workforce planning, representing the WDB at the State and County level,

7. Want to learn more about Community and Economic Development?

The Capital District Regional Planning Commission will be putting on their annual spring workshop on April 26 at HVCC TEC SMART, with a spotlight on Community and Economic Development. Topics include: Unpacking Amazon: Why the Capital Region had a compelling case for HQ2 and what we've learned. The remainder of the day will include two concurrent sessions with a variety of topics for elected officials, planning board and zoning board of appeals members, community and economic development professionals, and grant writers/administrators. Seating is limited to 150 total so please [register in advance to secure your seat!](#)

8. Next Wave Ideas: How AI is impacting small + medium sized businesses

The Saratoga Partnership is inviting innovative local businesses to share their insights about how technology is changing how we live and work in a series of blog posts called "**Next Wave Ideas.**" Our inaugural post comes from Anthony Lombardo, President and founder of Expex Inc. Expex is a SaaS application that automates accounting and bookkeeping tasks, improves cash flow, lowers business expenses, and reduces the time required to review financial data and transactions. Lombardo explores "[How AI is impacting small + medium sized businesses](#)"

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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