

Positively Greene

COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



GreeneGovernment.com

GreatNorthernCatskills.com

GreeneCountyEDC.com

InvestInGreene.com

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February 2023

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



New York Times Article Touts Cossackie Businesses

The January 18th edition of the New York Times featured an extensive article by Karen Angel citing the revitalization and businesses in the

Village of Cossackie. In her story **Cossackie, N.Y.: 'A Special Place on the Hudson'** Angel states "Natives and newcomers are transforming this Greene County town, with an eye toward preservation. (And they want you to know it's pronounced 'cook-SAH-kie.')." She went on to state "Just a few years ago, Cossackie's historic downtown was pocked with boarded-up buildings. Now the Reed Street Historic District has boutique businesses like the Reed Street Bottle Shop and the antiques store UnQuiet." Aaron Flach's 13,000 sq.ft. event space - The Wire, newly renovated Patrick Henry's and soon to open James Newbury Hotel were cited as destinations that will drive business to the critical mass of boutique shops including Shipwrecked News, Books & Café, Pilothouse Paper, and Mansion+Reed General Store. She ends with a quote from business owner Susan Baledaserini that is has resulted in an increase in retail traffic: "A lot of people travel up and down 9W without ever knowing Reed Street exists, but if you get the hot tip to turn off 9W and onto Reed Street, it's truly charming and idyllic."

Read the full story at <https://web.archive.org/web/20230118102049/https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/18/realestate/coxsackie-ny-greene-county.html>

Greene County Labor Outperforms State and Fed Rates

The New York State Department of Labor released preliminary December 2022 employment figures, outlining gains in specific fields, industry losses, and labor force participation rates. Overall, State and nationwide figures are showing continued job gains in the private sector, outperforming nationwide figures for the second consecutive month. Statewide private sector job growth also increased 3.4% compared to December 2021.

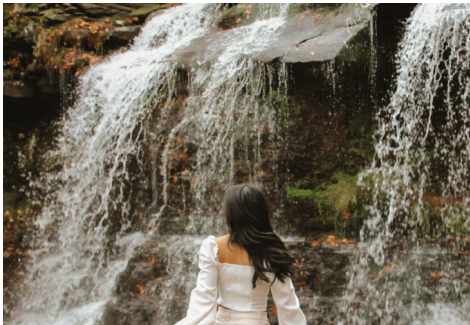
In Greene County, unemployment figures continue to outperform NYS and the national average. Greene's December 2022 unemployment rate landed at 3.0%, lower than the State's 3.7%, and the nation's 3.3%. Overall, Greene County's total unemployed figures remained unchanged since December 2021, while there was a .1% growth in total employed.

For the full report, click here: <https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2023/01/nys-economy-added-22100-private-sector-jobs-in-december-2022.pdf>

Survey Responses Help Establish Goals for New Grant Program

The Greene County Economic Development Corporation is proactively assessing the needs of our small businesses and exploring opportunities to build a new grant program. To date, over 50 local businesses responded to an online survey, provided valuable information about their business, and described how they would invest a \$25,000 grant if available. The responses are compiled into a database and reviewed to determine what local businesses need and the best available sources to provide funding. If you have not already done so, please take the survey: <https://greenecountyedc.com/how-would-you-invest-25000-in-your-business>

TOURISM



Travel Influencer Visits Greene County

This fall, New York City based travel influencer Christina Lau spent a weekend in the Great Northern Catskills of Greene County. Christina visited all three regions of the county, posting photos and stories documenting the “Chill vs. Thrill” experience during her trip. Tens of thousands of Millennials and Zillennials viewed and interacted with her on social media, exposing Greene County to new visitors. Her trip will also be featured in the 2023 Great Northern Catskills of Greene County Travel Guide, coming out this March. <https://www.greatnortherncatskills.com/group-trip-planning>



Erin Dennin Joins Greene County Tourism

A resident of New Baltimore, Erin loves spending time boating on the beautiful Hudson River, skiing in the breathtaking Catskill Mountains and traveling the world with her family. Her background in video production and journalism and experience as a Communication Director in the NYS Senate will be an asset to the office. She will be managing special events, festivals, weddings and dockage at the Historic Catskill Point. In addition, she will be assisting in logistics for Film Production in the Great Northern Catskills of Greene County.



Greene County Tourism Welcomes Kieran Coleman to the Team

Kieran Coleman is another new hire on the Greene County Tourism team, taking the Senior Tourism Sales and Marketing Coordinator role. In addition to helping visitors, he will work with groups looking to visit Greene County, marketing campaigns, and work closely with local tourism businesses. Kieran stated, “I am eager to start with Greene County Tourism. Selling the county as a tourism destination is a passion of mine, so I am excited to do it for a career!” Kieran grew up in Coxsackie and lived in Greene County for most of his life. He is an avid hiker and snowboarder and spends his summers on the river and lakes in the county, making him an excellent fit for the role. Kieran graduated from SUNY Oswego with a Bachelor’s Degree in broadcasting and mass communication. Kieran currently lives in Athens with his wife and dog.

PLANNING



Catskill Strategic Planning Advisory Group (CAG) Submits Final Report to DEC

Comprised of stakeholders with expertise in local government, recreation, natural resource protection, business and tourism, and other priority areas, the CAG was tasked in October 2020 with providing recommendations to DEC on how to address critical issues associated with increased public use of Catskill Park resources in order to protect these areas in the short term, as well as for future generations. The report contains recommendations to the DEC on promoting sustainable recreation while protecting natural resources – Read the report at https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/cagfinalreport.pdf

Greene County Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Planning

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