

Positively Greene



COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



GreeneGovernment.com

GreatNorthernCatskills.com

InvestInGreene.com

FilmInGreene.com

May 2019

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Upstater.com cites Greene County's Low Property Taxes

A recent listing for a property in the town of Catskill surprised the writers at Upstater.com as they found Greene County's median property taxes paid on homes is \$2,411 – just 1.29% of the median home value of \$187,600. An [Interactive Map](#) comparing taxes paid in all NY counties shows Greene County homeowners pay lower taxes as a percent of home value than those in any surrounding county, and significantly lower than downstate (Rockland's median property taxes paid on homes is over \$8,000).

Local, Handmade, Small Batch Ice Cream comes to Catskill

Just in time for the warmer weather, [BITTERSWEET](#) has joined the Downstreet Catskill community at 374 Main, right next to the entrance of the public parking lot. The neon sign above the door says it all: ICE CREAM SOLVES EVERYTHING. Focusing on All Natural ingredients and providing vegan, gluten-free, and keto options, this new business is sure to be a hit with specialty cone-topping combinations like their 'Rip Van Sprinkle'.



C-GCC's AutoTech Program Named Best in the Northeast



A combination of high graduation rates, low tuition fees & student debt, plus good salaries offered to graduates of Columbia Greene Community College's Automotive Technology program put it on the list of the 5 Best Automotive Schools in the Northeast (published by Trade School Future). C-GCC offers multiple options for students seeking careers or advancement in automotive technology, taught by instructors who are Master Technicians certified by the National Institute of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). Find out more at <https://www.sunycgcc.edu/academics/programs-of-study/automotive-technology/>

Round IX of Regional Economic Development Funding Competition Begins

The Consolidated Funding Application will open to applicants on May 1, enabling businesses, municipalities, not-for-profits and the public to begin applying for assistance from dozens of state programs, through a single application, for job-creation and community development projects. The deadline for applications is Friday, July 26 at 4 p.m. for applicants, the application is available at <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>. If you are interested in submitting a project for funding under the Consolidated Funding Application, contact our offices at business@discovergreene.com or by calling [518-719-3290](tel:518-719-3290) during normal business hours.

TOURISM

Boutique Getaway Destinations on the Rise

Three new projects are capitalizing on the increasing popularity of rustic-chic



vacations in spectacular natural surroundings: THINK BIG! a Tiny House Resort in South Cairo is [expanding with additional sites and amenities](#); Tiny Tines (an RV camping experience where the RVs are provided) received approval to build up to 60 sites just off Cairo

TOURISM continued

Junction Road near Bethel Ridge, and; [The Long Neck Inn](#), a luxury renovation of the Giraffe House at the former Catskill Game Farm, will open July 1st. This trend among millennial vacationers is creating a whole new generation of Greene County tourists.

The results are in...

The Great Northern Catskills of Greene County continues to drive web traffic year over year. In 2018, www.greatnortherncatskills.com increased traffic flow by 11% pushing content subjects like resorts-lodging, events, outdoor, dining, attractions and art and culture. Traffic search results from Google, Yahoo, and Bing generated over 391,000 visits; a 30% increase from prior year. To see the full report, visit https://www.greenegovernment.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Greene_County_2018_Year-End_Report_TAC.pdf



On Wednesday, April 17th over 50 people attended the Annual Orville Slutzky Spring Tourism Seminar at Lumberyard in Catskill.

Guest speakers included Matt Wall and Sheldon Davis from TripAdvisor, Maureen Sager from Upstate Alliance for the Creative Economy, and Thomas Buchan Associate at Jackson Lewis P.C. in the Albany representing the New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association. Topics discussed were how to enhance your listing on TripAdvisor, cultural tourism, and legislation being discussed in Albany that has an impact on tourism.



Great Northern Catskills Partners with I Love New York

The I Love New York PR agency, Finn Partners, and the Great Northern Catskills pitched the Eastwind Hotel as a new design-forward property to a writer for Dezen, Paul Jebera. As a result, he wrote a story featuring bunkhouse and glamping pods describing the design and accommodation offerings in detail. <https://www.dezeen.com/2019/03/09/eastwind-hotel-catskills-new-york/>

PLANNING



Pocket Park Construction to Begin in Tannersville

With NYS funding in place, the first stage of the Gooseberry Revitalization Project (a joint effort of the Village of Tannersville, Place Alliance and River Street Planning and Development) will begin construction of the "Creekside Pocket Park" along the Sawkill. A terraced entrance, glass pavilion (reflecting the greens of the Catskill Mountains), and landscaped sitting areas will encourage visitors and residents alike to come, sit, and contemplate the beauty of Tannersville. Read more at <https://www.swca.com/news/2017/01/gooseberry-creek-revitalization-strategy>

RFP for New Hotel at Exit 21 Catskill

The Greene County Industrial Development Authority is releasing a Request for Proposal



to hotel developers to build on the site of the former Quality Inn adjacent to NYS Thruway Exit 21. The goal is to bring easily accessible hotel rooms and meeting space to the site, including a restaurant and possible retail space. More information can be found at <https://www.greeneida.com/10-projects/30-exit21qi-rfp>



A recent ribbon cutting took place at the Ricky Cramer Memorial Field to celebrate the completion of a brand new playground, funded by the Fortnightly Club of Catskill.

Attending were Assemblyman Chris Tague, Greene County Legislators: Matt Luvera; Michael Bulich; Jack Keller; and Greene County Chamber President Jeff Friedman. Thanks to everyone who came out to support this special event!

Congratulations!!

Greene County Department
of Economic Development,
Tourism & Planning

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Great Northern Catskills
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