DELAWARE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
NEWSLETTER

Tuesday, **October 1st, 2024**

Freight & Facts- Delaware/Ulster Railroad Full Steam Ahead

The Delaware & Ulster Railroad has been at a standstill since 2019, grappling with a range of infrastructure challenges that have kept its trains from rolling. The Catskill Revitalization Corporation owns both the rail line and the rail trail from Highmount to Bloomville. Executive Director, Todd Pascarella states that the plan is to restore the track between Arkville and Fleishchmanns so that an eight-mile round trip ride can be offered in 2025, even as work is continued all the way up to Highmount and expand the train program to the base of Belleayre Mountain. Prior to the COVID pandemic the D&U ridership was approaching 20,000 per year. By the end of 2023 the Catskill Revitalization Corporation successfully replaced 10,000 deteriorated ties between Arkville and Halcottsville. In all close to $2 million has been invested over the four years in 5 miles of track. Funds from many different sources are making it possible. Economic Development has allocated $250,000 to the Catskill Revitalization Corporation, ensuring that funding gaps are bridged so the Delaware & Ulster Railroad can continue its operational updates and resume service by 2025.

Pepacton Farms Creamery

Pepacton Farms, an organic dairy farm nestled in Bovina is excited to announce the launch of a new value-added product: fresh, flavorful cheese curds! These delightful cheese curds can be sourced at multiple local farm stands and are also featured on the menus of several local restaurants. Economic Development played a crucial role in assisting Pepacton Farm Creamery by developing a comprehensive financial plan and helping to source grants from various agencies.

Local Student Develops Economic Development Strategic Plan

Delaware Academy graduate Tyler Branigan completed an internship with the Economic Development Office. Branigan developed an internal strategic plan which will guide future initiatives. His responsibilities included reaching out to all Delaware County Town Supervisors and Village Mayors to gather feedback on desired implementations and changes in their respective areas. With enhanced insights, the Economic Development Office has a better understanding of how to assist municipalities with future projects.

Ag Grants Open

Farmer Grant Program

Innovation in Dairy Processing

State Funding Opportunities

Restore NY Round 9

Empire State Development

*****Please note: All links are associated with the grant name.***

Upcoming Events

WCCRC Entrepreneurship Bootcamp(Business Workshops, Panel Discussions, Business Plan Review)
Location: MTC Conference Room