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# BUSINESS

## BANKING

### Community Bank reports higher profits

Profit at Community Bank System Inc. rose 1.7 percent in the third quarter to \$22.4 million.

The results included a \$2.8 million charge related to settling a class action lawsuit. The bank said the lawsuit related to certain consumer notice requirements and was similar to legal actions taken against a number of financial institutions over the last four years.

Community said it fought the allegations, but decided to settle to reduce the risk and cost of moving forward in court.

Community Bank is headquartered in DeWitt and has more than 190 branches in Upstate New York and Pennsylvania.

The bank is currently building a new branch office in DeWitt.

— Kevin Tampone



Syracuse Glass Co. employees Ryan Sheley, left, and Justin Bex move a large plate of glass to be cut into smaller pieces at the company's factory at the Salina Industrial Powerpark. (Photos by Rick Moriarty / rmoriarty@syracuse.com)



About 450 people work at Salina Industrial Powerpark which was created from the former General Motors Inland Fisher Guide factory.



Roth Global Plastics, a maker of plastic septic tanks, employs 22 people at park.

## FOOD AND DRINK

### Tilted Kilt now plans November opening

Work on Syracuse's first Tilted Kilt is still coming along and the restaurant now plans to open in November.

The Celtic-themed sports pub originally planned to open in May, but the date was pushed back several times.

The 7,000-square-foot building is under construction near the Hampton Inn visible from Interstate 690 East by the Thompson Road exits.

The Syracuse location is aiming to open the week of Nov. 10 or Nov. 17, said Sam Pascarella, general manager.

The chain got its start about six years ago and already has 96 locations, including one in Watertown. The company has plans to open restaurants in Utica and Ithaca.

Tilted Kilt is known for dishes like Irish nachos, Gaelic chicken, steaks, burgers and Irish stew. It also has plenty of TVs for watching sports.

The pubs also focus on craft beer. The Syracuse restaurant will have 30 beers on tap, including several from local breweries.

— Kevin Tampone

# From 1, many

Instead of abandoning Salina parts plant, GM turned it into an industrial park



The former Inland Fisher Guide plant employed 1,300 people before it closed in 1993. (Dick Blume / dblume@syracuse.com, file)

By Rick Moriarty  
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**T**wenty-one years after General Motors shocked the region by closing its Inland Fisher Guide plant and laying off 1,300 people, the former auto parts factory is providing jobs for Central New Yorkers again.

Approximately 450 people work at the facility off Military Circle — formerly named GM Circle — in Salina.

They don't make auto parts. That hasn't happened at the huge factory since GM pulled out in 1993.

But they are making a lot of other things. The workers are employed by nine business tenants at the plant, which is now an industrial park named Salina Industrial Powerpark.

At the park's biggest tenant, 95 workers fabricate glass for commercial customers at Syracuse Glass Co. The 105-year-old company moved to the park 12 years ago because of its proximity to the state Thruway, abundance of expansion space, high ceilings, heavy-duty power supply and skylights, which bring in lots of natural light that makes it easy to inspect glass for defects, said President and owner John Dwyer.

"We've expanded a couple of times here," Dwyer said. "It's great that way. We can just knock a wall down and take more space. It's really set up for industrial use."

At Stone Central, 90 employees cut and polish granite and other stones and solid-service materials for countertops. Owner David Motyl said the factory produces custom-made countertops for kitchen and bathroom dealers, building contractors and major home-improvement store chains.



Manufacturing space is available at the park. The site owners and managers will have an open house Oct. 30 to help market the space.

## TENANTS

Here are the companies leasing space in the former General Motors plant in Salina and the amount of space each occupies. Two of the companies are listed as confidential because they make security products and didn't want to be identified, said leasing agent Pyramid Brokerage Co. The names do not appear on the building or on the directory.

- Syracuse Glass Co. . . . . 110,600 square feet
- Roth Global Plastics . . . . . 103,200
- Confidential . . . . . 79,760
- Confidential . . . . . 35,700
- Stone Central . . . . . 32,800
- Site maintenance shop . . . . . 25,000
- Carpenter Industries . . . . . 23,560
- Klein Steel . . . . . 19,200
- Site manager . . . . . 19,800
- R&D Aluminum . . . . . 12,000
- Thermal Products . . . . . 7,200



The former auto parts plant also has office space for lease.

"We're the largest fabricator of stone countertops in Upstate New York," he said.

At Roth Global Plastics, 22 workers make plastic septic tanks. Fralo Plastech Manufacturing started the business at the park in 2003 and was acquired by Roth in 2007.

Roth President and CEO Joe Brown said the plant's ability to accommodate the company's 345-ton blow molding machine makes it an ideal location.

"It's an old industrial plant, so it's built to some pretty stringent standards," he said.

"It's an old industrial plant, so it's built to some pretty stringent standards," he said.

The industrial park also has served as a business incubator. Bitzer Scroll Inc., a German-owned manufacturer of air condition-

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Freddy Jerez, of Hollywood, Fla., fills out a job application during a job fair in Sunrise, Fla., in August. (AP Photo / Alan Diaz, File)

## SURVEY

### Wage gains weak despite strong hiring

U.S. businesses were much less likely to boost pay in the third quarter than in previous months, even as hiring remained healthy, a sign that wage gains may remain weak in the coming months.

A quarterly survey by the National Association for Business Economics found that only 24 percent of companies increased wages and salaries in the July-September quarter. That's down from 43 percent in the April-June quarter and the first drop after three straight increases.

Yet the firms still added jobs at a healthy pace, which usually pushes wages higher as employers compete for workers. A measure of hiring in the survey dipped in the third quarter but remained near a three-year high. The figures suggest that the number of people out of work remains high enough that companies aren't under any pressure to raise pay.

— Associated Press

# State awards \$3.6M for Loguen Crossing

By Rick Moriarty  
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New York's economic development arm has approved a \$3.6 million grant for the transformation of the former Kennedy Square public housing complex into a commercial and residential center.

Empire State Development Corp.'s board of directors voted Thursday in New York City to provide the grant to Fayetteville-based COR Development Co., the private real estate developer that is working with the site's owner, Upstate Medical University, to redevelop the former housing project.

COR has completed the first phase of a \$300 million plan to redevelop the site, now called Loguen Crossing, at the northeast corner of East Fayette and East Forman streets. Phase 1 work included the removal of asbestos, environmental cleanup and

demolition of 15 apartment buildings, including two eight-story towers, two four-story buildings and eleven two-story buildings.

Empire State Development

previously said it would provide the \$3.6 million grant for the project as part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's regional economic development council initiative. The vote

on Thursday was the formal approval needed for COR to get the money. Such grants often are delivered only after the work for which it is targeted has been completed.

The state said the money will help turn a formerly blighted property into an urban development connecting educational, entrepreneurial, residential and commercial interests.

The Central New York Biotech Accelerator, a center designed to help biotech and biomedical for-profit companies commercialize their products, is the only building to be built at Loguen Crossing. It was completed in early 2013.

On the drawing board are a mixed-use neighborhood that is to include 140,000 square feet of restaurant and retail space, 230,000 square feet of office space and 280 one- to three-bedroom apartments and townhouses. COR also had drawn up conceptual plans for

a \$500 million sports arena for Syracuse University at the site.

COR is the same company that is redeveloping the Syracuse Inner Harbor into a residential and commercial center. Empire State Development has given the company \$3 million for the first phase of that project.

COR began construction this summer on its first building at the harbor, a 134-room Aloft Hotel. It has also announced plans to build a 123-room Element Hotel at the harbor, a former Barge Canal terminal south of Onondaga Lake.

Empire State Development said the \$3 million grant for the harbor development has been fully disbursed to COR and that the company is in compliance with all the terms and conditions of its grant agreement.

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The Central New York Biotech Accelerator, above, is the first building to go up at Loguen Crossing, the mixed-use neighborhood that is replacing the former Kennedy Square public housing project in Syracuse. (Rick Moriarty / rmoriarty@syracuse.com)

