

The Post-Standard

Progress '05



TOP EMPLOYERS TAKE STOCK

Our biggest companies and institutions look at the year just past and reveal their outlooks for 2005. Which plan to expand? Who will be hiring? **Page L-8**



Dennis Nett / Staff photographer

JESSE KLINE, 35, AUBURN: "I missed having a driveway, a yard, beautiful lakes and countryside, and honest people with a good sense of humor." **Story: Page L-2**

PROGRESS 2005

'People with a good sense of humor'

Jesse Kline**1969:** Born in Cortland**1974:** Moved to Auburn**1987:** Moved to Fredonia (to attend State University College at Fredonia, where she studied art history and museum studies)**1990:** Moved to Europe (Spent six months studying Italian Renaissance art in Florence, Italy; then spent three months working in retail on Mykonos island in Greece)**1990:** Moved to Fredonia (to complete her studies)**1993:** Moved to Richmond, Va. (to pursue a master's degree in art history and museum studies at Virginia Commonwealth University)**1996:** Moved to Auburn

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Name

Jesse Kline

Age

35

Hometown

Auburn

What is your job?

I am the communications specialist for the Cayuga County Office of Tourism, and I also work on my own as an interior decorator.

What was your connection to Central New York before you left?

I had grown up here and had a good experience, with many family and friends still living in the area.

When and why did you move away?

I last moved away in 1993 to pursue a master's in both art history and museum studies at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Before that, I moved to Fredonia in western New York in 1987 to attend State University of New York at Fredonia, where I studied art history and museum studies.

In 1990, I spent six months studying Italian Renaissance art

in Florence, Italy, then spent the summer working in retail on Mykonos, a Greek island. I returned to Fredonia in the fall.

In 1993, I moved to Richmond, Va., to pursue a master's degree in both art history and museum studies at Virginia Commonwealth University.

What did you miss the most about Central New York?

I missed having a backyard, beautiful lakes and countryside, and honest people with a good sense of humor.

What did you miss the least?

The prejudice and small-mindedness.

When and why did you move back?

I returned in 1996 after graduating from Virginia Commonwealth University. I own the house I grew up in in Auburn. That was one of the reasons I returned to Auburn. My father gave me the house. How could I turn that down?

What do you miss most about the other places?

Cultural diversity, lots of live entertainment options, places to dance, better shopping venues.

Has Central New York changed since you left?

Dennis Nett / Staff photographer

JESSE KLINE is communications specialist for the Cayuga County Office of Tourism and a self-employed interior decorator. She's standing in her home, in Auburn.

Yes, I think it has progressed. Now manufacturing is no longer the driving force of our Central New York economy. Tourism, small businesses and the service industry have filled that role.

Are you glad you came back?

Of course! I have been amazed at the professional opportunities that have opened up to me here. I have also been able to grow my network of friends

and connections much easier. I appreciate the resources that we have here much more, since being back. Now, I promote the region and convince others to come and visit or stay.

Do you expect to move away again?

In a dream world, I'd love to live the winter months somewhere warm . . . Surprise, surprise!