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NORTHEAST OHIO QUARTERLY REGIONAL NEWSLETTER SECOND QUARTER 2011

Dear Friends,

I wanted to share some updates with you from the last few months. Below you will find posts on the following subjects:

1. [A Federal Grant to Preserve Operations at Ashtabula Plant C](#)
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A Federal Grant to Preserve Operations at Ashtabula Plant C

Ashtabula's Plant C—the former First Energy C plant—serves the critical water needs of the local industrial community and helps sustain more than 1,000 jobs. Without intervention, the outdated piping and pumping system will continue to degrade and risk significant economic consequences and job loss.

In April 2011, Sen. Brown announced a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to fund critical electrical and water pipe repairs at Plant C.

Brown also convened a meeting in September 2010 with the Ashtabula County Port Authority, local business leaders, elected officials and other stakeholders to explore strategies to ensure the future viability of the former First Energy C Plant. His office worked closely with local stakeholders to provide guidance as they pursued EDA funds, which will help ensure a dependable source of raw water necessary for future development in Ashtabula.



Sen. Brown hears from the Ashtabula community on Plant C.

The Groundbreaking of \$21 Million Alcoa Facility

An expansion at the Alcoa facility in Barberton will help create 30 new jobs and protect more than 350 existing positions. Sen. Brown attended the groundbreaking

Presenting Overdue or Replacement Medals to Northeast Ohio Veterans

Too many veterans return home and struggle to access the services and honors they earned in combat. Following an *Akron Beacon Journal* news report that spurred

hosted by B&C Research, a division of Alcoa Wheel and Transportation Products. The project involves a \$21 million dollar expansion of an advanced recycling and casting process that will reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

According to Alcoa, the new 35,000-square-foot facility will use innovative technology to produce aluminum billet from remelted scrap aluminum. The billet will be used to produce lightweight wheels. Sen. Brown has worked to bring new jobs to Summit County, and in February 2011, he wrote to Alcoa in support of the company making the new investment in Barberton.



Sen. Brown visits with workers at the Alcoa facility in Barberton.

dozens of phone calls to his office, Sen. Brown presented overdue or replacement military medals that he secured to nearly 30 veterans or their family members in a ceremony at the Summit County Veterans Service Commission in May 2011. The veterans receiving medals hailed from across Northeast Ohio, including Akron, Atwater, Canal Fulton, Cuyahoga Falls, Doylestown, Massillon, Mogadore, Monroe Falls, North Canton, Northfield Center, Norton, Ravenna, Rootstown, Sebring, Streetsboro, and Uniontown.

Brown also recently presented Channel 5 news anchor and Vietnam War veteran Leon Bibb with several medals he had not previously received. Ohio veterans and the family members of deceased veterans may request military records and medals by contacting Sen. Brown's Cleveland office at (216) 522-7272.

Helping Families Facing Foreclosure

Foreclosures continue to plague many Northeast Ohio communities, and lower property values for neighboring homeowners. In June 2011, Sen. Brown announced that \$229,140 has been awarded to the Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland, Inc. to provide foreclosure counseling to local families. The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program funds are awarded on a competitive basis to help prevent foreclosures.

Brown also recently introduced *the Foreclosure Fraud and Homeowner Abuse Prevention Act of 2011* to protect homeowners, by ensuring that servicers work with them to find sustainable mortgages.

Northeast Ohio Farmers Provide Feedback in Advance of 2012 Farm Bill

Agriculture is Ohio's number one industry—with more than one out of every seven jobs tied to this critical sector. Sen. Brown launched his 'Grown in Ohio' listening tour at the Patterson Fruit Farm in Chestertown. Brown will be holding a number of these listening sessions across Ohio in the coming months to get input from Ohio farmers-regarding the new Farm Bill. Growers from Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Columbiana, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, and Wayne Counties were invited to the listening session, along with dairy farmers, sustainable agriculture and conservation representatives, and representatives from the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation and the Ohio Farmers Union.



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Senator Brown's Offices

Cleveland

1301 East Ninth Street
Suite 1710
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
p (216) 522-7272
f (216) 522-2239
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Columbus

200 N High St.
Room 614
Columbus, OH 43215
p (614) 469-2083
f (614) 469-2171
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Washington, D.C.

713 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
p (202) 224-2315
f (202) 228-6321

Cincinnati

425 Walnut Street
Suite 2310
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
p (513) 684-1021
f (513) 684-1029
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

Lorain

205 West 20th St.
Suite M280
Lorain, OH 44052
p (440) 242-4100
f (440) 242-4108
Toll Free
1-888-896-OHIO (6446)

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