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SOUTHEAST OHIO QUARTERLY REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

FIRST QUARTER 2011

Dear Friends,

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

1. [Brown Works to Accelerate Clean-Up in Piketon and Create Jobs; Urges Energy Department to Approve Loan Guarantee](#)
2. [Brown Leads Fight Against Prescription Drug Abuse](#)
3. [Brown Promotes Business Incubators, like the Tuscarawas County Business Incubator](#)
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Weekly Column



Brown Works to Accelerate Clean-Up in Piketon and Create Jobs; Urges Energy Department to Approve Loan Guarantee

Sen. Brown is fighting to promote economic development in Piketon and has led the fight in Congress to accelerate the Piketon cleanup and create new jobs. He continues to work closely with USEC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to ensure facilitated coordination efforts for the American Centrifuge Project (ACP).



U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown Visits Piketon

USEC applied for a government loan guarantee to help build state of the art uranium enrichment technology at the former DOE Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon. If successful, the project could bring as many as 4,000 construction jobs and 400 long-term, full time jobs to Piketon.

In February, Brown and the Ohio Congressional delegation sent a [letter to Energy Secretary Steven Chu](#) urging DOE to work as quickly as possible to complete its review of USEC's loan guarantee application. In January, Brown and U.S. Sen. Rob Portman met with Sec. Chu to discuss the pending loan guarantee.

Last year, [Brown worked with DOE to reach an agreement](#) that resulted in DOE devoting

\$45 million in new funds to advance the ACP. In Oct. 2010, Brown [visited Piketon](#). A week later, [DOE and USEC reached a framework](#) for further discussions. In December, Brown called on the administration to fully fund the Piketon Cleanup. At the end of 2010, [Brown urged the Obama Administration](#) to move forward in approving the loan guarantee and to fully fund cleanup.

Brown remains committed to fighting for the loan guarantee and creating jobs in Piketon.

Brown Leads Fight Against Prescription Drug Abuse

Along with many community leaders in Southeast Ohio and rural counties across Ohio, Sen. Brown is concerned about prescription drug abuse and is working to combat the growing problem of abuse in Ohio. Prescription pain medications, such as Oxycodone, morphine, and methadone, are largely responsible for increasing numbers of overdoses and deaths in Ohio. In recent years, accidental prescription drug overdoses have killed more Ohioans than auto accidents.

Brown is committed to keeping Ohio families and communities safe by eliminating improper disposal of prescription drugs, pharmacy-shopping, and doctor-hopping. Brown proposed a Medicaid "Lock-In" program that would crack down on the illegal use of Medicaid cards to fill prescriptions for addictive pain medications.

Brown is also fighting to continue Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and shut down illegal drug transfers between Florida and Ohio.

In March, Brown cosponsored legislation to hike sentences and give law enforcement additional tools to combat dangerous prescription drug theft rings and close "pill mills."

Brown will continue to work to protect Ohio families and keep Ohio communities strong by eliminating the drug diversion epidemic in our state.

Brown Promotes Business Incubators, like the Tuscarawas County Business Incubator

Small businesses are engines of economic growth. Business incubators give entrepreneurs the tools to create new small businesses by teaching best practices, minimizing expenses, and sharing resources. Sen. Brown recently authored an [op-ed in the Times-Reporter](#) of Dover-New Philadelphia outlining his efforts to promote business incubators.

In September 2010, Brown announced that more than \$2.3 million was awarded to the Tuscarawas County University Branch District of Kent State and the Community Improvement Corporation of Tuscarawas County to help construct a technology business incubator to support the region's entrepreneurs and its emerging hightech workforce.

Brown Helps Secure New Federal Designation for Genesis Hospital in Zanesville

Brown helped Genesis Hospital in Zanesville secure a new designation that will increase the federal resources available to the hospital. The new classification will allow the hospital to receive increased Medicare reimbursement, resulting in an additional \$6 million per year for the hospital. Genesis earned the status as a rural hospital providing services to an underserved, rural Appalachian area of Southeastern Ohio.

Genesis Hospital employs approximately 3,000 Ohioans. Brown's efforts will help Genesis maintain jobs and continue providing needed health care services to Ohioans in Appalachia.

Brown Takes Southeast Ohio Values to Washington; Fights for Workers and to Save Jobs from Going Overseas

Sen. Brown is working to enforce existing trade agreements and ensure laidoff workers receive the retraining they need.

Brown fought to extend the Trade Adjustment Assistance

(TAA) Program, a critical lifeline for workers who lose their jobs due to foreign trade. TAA provides training and re-employment services designed to help these workers develop skills to find new jobs.

As one of the last acts before the 111th Congress adjourned in December, Brown secured a six-week extension of TAA as well as the Health Care Tax Credit (HCTC), a program that helps tradeaffected workers afford private health insurance.

In December, Brown [fought to extend the programs](#) for 18 months, but the Senate [only cleared a six-week extension](#). In February, Brown [led a group of 14 senators](#) to urge House leadership to pass an extension. Each of Brown's attempts to pass an extension was blocked by Republicans.

According to the Department of Labor, an estimated 32,389 Ohio workers were certified for TAA assistance since May 2009, second only to Michigan. Letting the program expire shuts out workers from the training they need if they lose their jobs to countries other than those with which we have free trade agreements.

Brown is also working to prevent lost jobs overseas by ensuring that our free trade agreements are enforced and that American manufacturers can compete on an even playing field in the global economy.

Unfair trade subsidies mean lost jobs, stagnant wages, and communities struggling without tax revenue needed to support basic services and schools.

Brown has repeatedly urged the Obama Administration to take a stand against unfair and illegal trade practices that undermine American manufacturers. Most recently, [Brown testified](#) before the International Trade Commission on behalf of Ohio aluminum extrusion workers faced with a flood of cheap Chinese imports. Zarbana Industries in Columbiana is one of the affected aluminum extrusion producers.

Sen. Brown's Office is Here to Serve You



U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown presents a medal to an Ohio veteran.

Sen. Brown is committed to assisting Ohioans who have encountered difficulties with federal matters. Ohioans can call Sen. Brown's state offices and work directly with a constituent services representative to obtain information or resolve an issue they are having with a federal agency. Common areas of inquiry include: Social Security and Medicare benefits, veterans' benefits, military service issues, passport or visa problems, housing and foreclosures, and more.

For example, a Southeast Ohio constituent contacted Sen. Brown's office asking for help when her mother's VA pension was stopped. The family needed the monthly payment to cover the mother's assisted living expenses. With the help of Brown's staff, the VA reinstated the pension.

Sen. Brown's office also assists veterans and families of deceased veterans in obtaining copies of military service records, discharges and/or replacement sets of medals and awards. In 2010, Senator Brown helped 142 Ohio veterans or families of deceased veterans obtain copies of military service records, discharges, and/or replacement sets of medals and awards. In the first quarter of 2011, Senator Brown's office



U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown speaks with Barium & Chemicals workers in Steubenville.

has already initiated 77 medals/records cases.



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