

Economic News from Ohio's Regions

Brought to you by The Ohio Urban University Program
The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University

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Email the Editor

Send to:

m.s.schnoke@csuohio.edu

Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers June 3 - 9, 2008

Greetings!

Welcome to the latest issue of *Economic News from Ohio's Regions*, a new weekly newsletter from the [Ohio Urban University Program](#) and the [Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University](#). We'll search Ohio's papers to bring you economic news and key happenings that impact Ohio's regions.

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News From Around Ohio

[Governor Sees Creativity in Akron Business Accelerator](#) (Akron Beacon Journal, June 3, 2008) Governor Strickland recently got a first hand look at Akron's Canal Place, which he and many others hope can develop fledgling technologies and businesses into Ohio-based economic powerhouses.

[Bridgestone Firestone Delays Decision on Technical Center](#) (Akron Beacon Journal, June 3, 2008) Bridgestone Firestone is still in the process of deciding whether to keep its technical center in Akron or relocate it and 600 jobs to the Nashville area.

[Editorial: Stark's Challenge to Fingerhut](#) (Canton Repository, June 3, 2008) When chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, came to Stark State College he heard an outburst of local passion about the Ohio Graduation Test to measure Ohio's academic content standards.

[Green Technologies Could Benefit a Half Million Ohio Workers, Study Says](#) (The Plain Dealer, June 3,

2008) Making efficient and lower-polluting equipment, fuels and products to help reduce America's wasteful power use could boost Ohio's and other states' economies, a national study says.

[Ohioans Gloomy About the Economy](#) (Dayton Daily News, June 4, 2008) Although Gov. Ted Strickland's approval rating remain high, Ohio voters overwhelmingly believe the state's economy has continued to deteriorate since Strickland took over state government in 2007 with a plan to "turn around" Ohio.

[New Demands are Reshaping Agriculture](#) (The Plain Dealer, June 4, 2008) A three-day conference hosted by Ohio State University is focusing on understanding global forces that are changing the state's largest industry - agriculture.

[Ohio Looks to Boost Polymer Sector](#) (Youngstown Vindicator, June 4, 2008) The state is looking for ways to merge its agriculture and polymer sectors. In going so, Ohio is trying to marry its No. 1 industry, agriculture at \$93 billion, to its runner-up, a \$49 billion polymer sector.

[Job Training Becomes More Responsive to Business' Needs](#) (WCPN, June 9, 2008) For years Ohio employers have complained that job training programs funded by the government are not tied closely enough to the needs of business. In March the Governor revamped the way those programs are run and some say the overhaul is a major sea change.

[Editorial: Lethargy is Costing Cleveland its Fight Against Blight](#) (The Plain Dealer, June 8, 2008) Too often, Cleveland ignores owners of abandoned or neglected houses that lure crime and kill nearby home values.

[1 in 10 Home Loans in Crisis](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer, June 6, 2008) Foreclosures spiked almost 11 percent in Southwest Ohio during the first three months of the year, and they continue to climb, new local data show.

[Mortgage Crisis Hits Home](#) (Ashland Times-Gazette, June 6, 2008) Foreclosures are on the rise in Ashland County and not just in total numbers, but in the price of the homes that are winding up in foreclosure.

[Editorial: Gas Prices Make One Wish for Light Rail](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer, June 9, 2008) With gasoline at \$4

per gallon and destined certainly to head further north, I would like all those who voted against a light rail system for Ohio to please raise their hands.

City Officials Keen on Master Plans; Residents Not Sold (Columbus Dispatch, June 9, 2008) Most of Ohio's 251 cities have master plans. City planners see them as essential tools. But some residents see them as chisels city officials use to shape the future to their visions.

Cleveland Ambassador to the World (The Plain Dealer, June 9, 2008) A little over a year ago, The Cleveland Foundation hired a multilingual and culturally savvy representative to lead a venture considered unprecedented for a philanthropy, a strategy to boost the regional economy by recruiting international talent, products and jobs.

Edited and compiled by: Molly Schnoke, Center for Civic Education, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University

CSU Levin College Forum | Cleveland State University | Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs | 1717 Euclid Avenue | Cleveland | OH | 44115