

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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Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers September 16-22, 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.

News From Around Ohio

[Akron moves to Merge Building Department with County's](#) (Akron Beacon Journal, Sept. 16, 2008)

Legislation was presented to Akron City Council that would allow the city to transfer its building inspection, plan review, permit issuance and code enforcement operations to Summit County.

[County Part of Team NEO Marketing Efforts](#)

(Ashtabula Star Beacon, Sept. 16, 2008) Ashtabula County is part of a 16-county alliance aimed at marketing the Northeast Ohio region to employers and business investors, many of have never heard of Ashtabula, let alone Mentor, Akron or Youngstown.

[First Solar Gets Tax Cut](#) (Sentinel-Tribune, Sept. 16, 2008) A leading solar energy company is getting some government assistance to help with a planned \$123 million expansion in northern Wood County.

[GM Plant Could Close Sooner Than 2010](#) (Dayton Daily News, Sept. 16, 2008) In June, the automaker said it will close the assembly plant by 2010. But it may be far sooner - perhaps early 2009.

[Cleveland's JumpStart invests \\$380,000 in new](#) (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 16, 2008) Northeast Ohio venture developer JumpStart Inc. has committed to invest \$380,000 in Freedom Meditech Inc., which makes a non-invasive device that measures blood

glucose levels in diabetic patients.

[Editorial: Sun Shining on Toledo's Bright Future](#)

(Toledo Blade, Sept. 18, 2008) Toledo was recently described by CNN as "the Silicon Valley of solar energy," and the recent successes of local solar energy companies Xunlight Corporation and First Solar are sure indicators that this region is leading the nation in solar energy production.

[150 Community Development Pros Share Ideas](#)

(Toledo Blade, Sept. 18, 2008) Ohioans who want to learn more about affordable housing, working with vacant properties, commercial development, and building sustainable neighborhoods are meeting in Toledo.

[Canton CIC Gives Web Marketer Loan](#) (Canton Repository, Sept. 18, 2008) An economic development fund loan has been approved for a company moving its Internet-related business from Beach City to downtown Canton.

[Port Authority Official Praises Plan](#) (Youngstown Vindicator, Sept. 18, 2008) The chairman of the Western Reserve Port Authority hailed the plan to create a separate economic development arm of the port authority as "one of the first times we've seen both counties and a city in both counties come together and work cooperatively."

[Ruling May Slow Foreclosure Rate](#) (Cincinnati Enquirer, Sept. 18, 2008) The recent ruling by the Ohio First District Court of Appeals could make it more difficult for banks to foreclose in Ohio.

[Editorial: Ohio Budget and Tax Collection Point to Lean Times Ahead](#) (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 18, 2008) Ohio's budget is in a world of hurt. Gov. Ted Strickland is administering first aid, but major surgery, with or without a transfusion of new taxes, is becoming more likely.

[Ohio Launches into 21st Century with Virtual Manufacturing Center](#) (MCADCafe, Sept. 18, 2008) The opening of a state-of-the-art virtual manufacturing center will launch the state of Ohio into the 21st century and drive innovation in the aerospace industry, according to the Ohio Business Development Coalition.

[Pitching a New State Plan](#) (Zanesville Times Recorder, Sept. 18, 2008) State officials are working

toward reshaping Ohio's business climate to compete in the Midwest and U.S., and on the global stage for business development and jobs in the coming years.

Casino: Economic Tonic of Illusion (Columbus Dispatch, Sept. 20, 2008) A proposed casino in southwestern Ohio would bring 5,000 jobs to the state and pump \$240 million a year into county budgets, the sponsors of a Nov. 4 ballot initiative said yesterday. Opponents said those rosy predictions are puffery without any guarantees in the ballot language.

Delegation Has Message for Texas: Come to Dayton (Dayton Daily News, Sept. 22, 2008) Officials from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, business, education and local governments head to San Antonio this week to try to persuade researchers there to relocate to Dayton when their jobs move to Wright-Patterson in 2010 and 2011.

Brook Park: City wants to join with others to seek state money (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 22, 2008) The city is partnering with 10 other First Suburbs Consortium communities to study the possibility of becoming a sub-region for the sole purpose of bargaining for state dollars.

German Company Sees Manufacturing Promise in Cleveland (The Plain Dealer, Sept. 22, 2008) A little-known U.S. subsidiary of a German industrial giant is refocusing its North American mission. And that's good news for Cleveland.

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