

STATE SENATOR SCOTT P. BROWN

THE BROWN BULLETIN

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 3 – SUMMER 2008
- SPECIAL FRANKLIN EDITION -



ATTLEBORO • FRANKLIN • MILLIS • NATICK • NEEDHAM • NORFOLK
NORTH ATTLEBORO • PLAINVILLE • SHERBORN • WAYLAND • WELLESLEY • WRENTHAM



Sen. Brown, Rep. Valle and Congressman John McGovern at the Foster-Miller Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Franklin.

SUMMER DISTRICT HOURS

District hours provide constituents an opportunity to stop in and voice any concerns they may have to Senator Brown's District Aide, Austin Lord. No appointment is necessary.

1st and 3rd Thursday of the month:
Franklin 10:00am - 10:45am
Council on Aging (10 Daniel Cahill St)

SENATOR BROWN'S CABLE SHOW "THE BEACON HILL REPORT"

Be sure to check out Senator Brown's cable show. This month's episode features Rob Garrity, Executive Director of MA Climate Action Network and the discussion will focus on environmental issues in MA.

Franklin & Plainville Channel 96
Wed @ 5:00 pm
Sun @ 7:30 pm

CHILDREN'S HEALTH HANDBOOKS

Sen. Brown will provide booklet copies of "Tipping the Scales in Favor of Our Children" to all families, and other interested parties, effective immediately. The book is a comprehensive report that offers an environmental scan of childhood obesity and the situation regarding healthy nutrition and physical activity for children ages 6 – 12.

To have a booklet mailed to you, contact Senator Brown's Office at 617-722-1555 or e-mail Senator Brown directly at Scott.P.Brown@state.ma.us.

STATE FUNDING FOR DEAN COLLEGE

Dean College of Franklin has been awarded a tax-exempt bond, through the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency in the amount of \$28,400,000 to finance various campus improvement projects and refund bonds previously issued by MassDevelopment.

MassDevelopment renders the necessary financial tools and real estate expertise to prompt economic growth throughout Massachusetts.

BROWN APPOINTED TO VETERANS COMMISSION

Sen. Brown was recently appointed to serve as a member of the Special Commission to Study the Effects of War on Returning Massachusetts Service Members. This is the first time the state has established such a commission since the one formed in 1981 to examine the needs of Vietnam War veterans.

Specifically, the 15-member Commission is tasked to examine three initiatives: 1) the establishment of a mandatory mental health treatment program for national guard members, 2) a state military family leave policy for primary caregivers of returning service members, and 3) a statewide education training program to assist law enforcement, and other first responders in recognizing the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

HIGH GRADES FROM ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

Sen. Brown has earned an "A" rating from the Massachusetts League of Environmental Voters (MLEV) for his proven voting record of protecting the nature of Massachusetts. Brown scored 100% on the 2007 Mid-Term Environmental Progress Report. This report presents the progress of the General Court mid-way through the legislative session on environmental issues.

Recently, Sen. Brown received a 100% rating from the Massachusetts Audubon Society in their 2007 Legislative Report Card.

LOTTERY FUNDING FOR FRANKLIN

Delivering on a commitment to fully fund local aid, Sen. Brown has co-sponsored a local aid resolution that would provide a one-time, supplemental state payment of \$493,347.91 for Franklin in direct lottery aid in FY09.

The one-time supplemental aid package of \$150 million statewide will be funded by the Commonwealth's Stabilization Fund, also known as the Rainy Day Fund.

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COUNCIL ON AGING GRANT

The Franklin Council on Aging will receive a \$21,210 grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to underwrite fitness instruction and provide for computer equipment, service fees, printing/copying, postage, dues, conference/in-service training and volunteer recognition to enhance the work and programs of the Senior Center.

The grant is based on a formula calculated by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, where the town's population, age 60 and over, is multiplied by \$6.50.

EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS IN MA

A new "Extended Benefits" program will provide unemployed citizens of Massachusetts with an extension of unemployment benefits. The Division of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) will notify potentially eligible citizens by mail.

Massachusetts has offered 30 weeks of unemployment insurance assistance, while most of the nation has offered only 26 weeks. This extension will grant up to nine additional weeks of unemployment assistance to most workers in the state, for a potential maximum of 39 weeks.

Greater than 95% of those included in the unemployment benefits program will be eligible for the Extended Benefits program if they are unable to find a job after 26 weeks. Jobholders who have already expended their benefits throughout the past year may qualify for additional weeks of extended unemployment benefits.

The Extended Benefits program is now effective and will continue to operate through March 31, 2009.

A special toll free number, 888-998-8418 has been established specifically for filing Extended Benefit claims. For additional information about the Extended Benefits program, visit www.mass.gov/dua.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Booklet copies of the report, "Marine and Freshwater Beach Testing in Massachusetts: 2007 Season," are now available to the public. The report summarizes data reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) on beach testing results conducted at marine and freshwater bathing beaches throughout the state.

For a copy of the report please contact Senator Brown's office at (617) 722-1555 or scott.p.brown@state.ma.us.



Sen. Brown at Jefferson Elementary School in Franklin for their reading celebration and ice cream social.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES HOTLINE

The Commonwealth is now offering a toll-free, easy-to-remember phone number that offers callers important information about critical health and human services available in their community. The implementation of 2-1-1 is being lead by the United Way and specialized information and referral agencies on the state and local levels.

While services that are offered through 2-1-1 vary by community, it provides callers with information about and referrals to human services for everyday needs and in times of crisis. Available 24 hours a day in more than 150 languages, 2-1-1 is also an integral component of disaster-response infrastructure.

PLEASE VISIT SENATOR BROWN'S WEBSITE AT:
WWW.SCOTTBROWN.COM

CONTACT SENATOR SCOTT BROWN

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Website: www.scottbrown.com

Tear Off This Survey and Mail to Senator Brown!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hold the line on taxes & spending | <input type="checkbox"/> Increasing local aid to our towns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addressing illegal immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> Protecting children from sexual predators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making sure veterans get the benefits they deserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Reforming state government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting the public school system | <input type="checkbox"/> Preserving the environment/Conservation |

Scott, Keep up the good work!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

E-MAIL _____

COMMENTS _____