

## THEWEEK

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 6

**The big story:** The Ohio Senate passed **Senate Bill 5**, the bill limiting collective bargaining rights for public-sector employees, by a 17-16 vote. It's expected to pass the Republican-controlled House and be signed by Gov. **John Kasich**. The bill allows bargaining for wages but not other parts of the financial compensation package, such as health care benefits, nor for work force levels or the pickup by school districts of pension payments. *See more, Page 3.*

**Time for a change:** Forest City Enterprises Inc. announced that **Charles Ratner**, its president and CEO, will become chairman and **David J. LaRue** will succeed him as president and CEO in June. Also, Forest City co-chairmen **Albert Ratner** and **Sam Miller** will become co-chairmen emeritus and no longer will serve on Forest City's board. Mr. LaRue, currently executive vice president and chief operating officer, will become the first non-member of Forest City's founding family to head the Cleveland-based real estate concern in its 50 years as a public company and its entire 90-year history. *See more, Page 3.*

**They shoot, they chlor:** Specialized polymer company **PolyOne Corp.** said it sold its 50% ownership interest in the **SunBelt Chlor Alkali Partnership** to **Olin Corp.** of Clayton, Mo., for \$175 million. SunBelt, a chlor alkali manufacturer, is a 50/50 joint venture that PolyOne and Olin formed in 1996. The SunBelt chlor alkali plant is located within Olin's plant in McIntosh, Ala. PolyOne said Olin paid \$132 million cash and has assumed \$43 million of SunBelt debt in the deal. The companies also agreed to a three-year earn-out "if certain performance metrics are achieved."

**On a growth schedule:** TOA Technologies Inc. in Beachwood acquired **Aboutime**, a small British company that will distribute TOA's appointment management software. Aboutime employs fewer than 10 people, all of

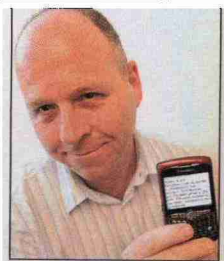
whom will join the company's TOA Europe team. The acquisition furthers TOA's efforts to expand internationally. The company already had several offices in Europe, in addition to locations in the United States, Canada and Argentina. TOA employs roughly

230 people worldwide, including about 25 at its Beachwood headquarters.

**Now that's a gift:** Case Western Reserve University received a \$7 million gift from the **Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation** to help finance construction of a \$50 million student center at the intersection of East Boulevard and Bellflower Road near Severance Hall. A timetable for the project hasn't been announced. The foundation is named for **A. Kelvin Smith**, who co-founded **Lubrizol Corp.** The foundation has supported the university in the past, including support for the **Kelvin Smith Library**, which was dedicated in 1996.

**Heading the geek squad:** Cuyahoga County has its first chief information officer. County Executive **Ed FitzGerald** named **Jeff B. Mowry**, currently CIO of Broward County, Fla., to the new job, which will pay \$178,058 a year. A Mansfield native and Ashland University graduate, Mr. Mowry spent nearly 20 years as an IT executive for **Chrysler Corp.** A county news release credited Mr. Mowry with reducing IT costs in Broward County by 16%.

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TOA Technologies  
CEO Yuval Brisker

