



Friday, January 18, 2013

Kasich's State of the State headed for Lima

By HEATHER RUTZ 419-993-2094 hrutz@limanews.com

LIMA — Gov. John Kasich has formally asked the General Assembly to hold the annual State of the State address Feb. 19 at Veterans Memorial Civic Center in downtown Lima, the governor's office said today.

Kasich must ask the Legislature to convene a special joint session in Lima. Kasich hopes to make it an evening event, with a 6:30 p.m. start time.

Kasich's office said he wanted to make a tradition of something he did last year: moving the annual address out of the capital city to highlight a community's success. Last year, Kasich went to Steubenville's Wells Academy, the top-ranked public school in the state. It was the first time an Ohio governor moved the speech out of Columbus.

Lima Mayor David Berger was so pleased with the announcement, he was moved to speak with an acronym for his town.

"This is a great surprise! A unique opportunity to showcase Lima and Allen County as a community where Life Is More Abundant," Berger said. "We look forward to welcoming the governor, the cabinet and Legislature to our community."

Kasich's decision to deliver the State of the State outside the capital again is rooted in his desire to make state government more accessible to Ohioans and shine a light on communities across Ohio making contributions to the state's success, according to a news release from his office.

Since January 2011, Allen County has experienced strong economic improvement, including an increase of 2,000 jobs in the Lima Metropolitan Area. Over the same amount of time, Allen County has gone from 10.8 percent unemployment down to 6.7 percent, reflecting Ohio's strong economic resurgence and the importance of an improved environment for job creation via low taxes, streamlined regulations and a structurally balanced budget, the news release said.

Article continued here: http://www.limaohio.com/news/local_news/article_916e9f72-6194-11e2-aaf6-001a4bcf6878.html

###