



REGIONAL REVIEW

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Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson
Metropolitan Planning Commission

Winter 2010



2010 CENSUS: **IT'S IN OUR HANDS**

The 2010 Census and the American Community Survey *America is Changing, and so is the Census*

One of the most significant changes in modern census history will occur in 2010 — for the first time since 1930, all addresses in the U.S. will receive a census short form.

In recent censuses, most addresses received one of two forms: either the short form, which focused on the population count and demographics; or the long form, which included additional questions on socioeconomic and housing characteristics. Nationwide, about one-in-six addresses in 2000 received the long form. Together, the two parts of the decennial census showed not only the number of people living in America but also the way we live: education, housing, jobs and more. This information will still be part of the decennial census, but it will be collected on a continuing basis as part of the American Community Survey.

Although the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program provides estimates of population and housing in the years between censuses, there were no updates on the estimates for the long form's characteristics data. Our nation is not static, however, and communities need current data to make informed decisions.

After a decade of testing and development, the Census Bureau launched the American Community Survey (ACS) in January 2005. The ACS is officially part of the decennial census and includes essentially the same questions as the long form. But rather than once a decade, the ACS is sent to a rolling sample of

addresses every month, every year, throughout the nation. By 2010, the new survey will yield current annual data for all geographic areas of the country in the form of single- or multiyear estimates.

For more information about the American Community Survey, please visit the Census Bureau Web page at <http://www.census.gov/acs>.

TOPICS IN THE 2010 CENSUS:

Demographic Characteristics: Age | Sex | Hispanic Origin | Race | Relationship | Home: Owned or Rented?

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

According to the Nielsen Group, users spend **51 seconds** reading the average newsletter. For our customers, this reading time is an important one minute sprint through key issues. So, start the one minute clock and be prepared to exhale following your review of the following topics.

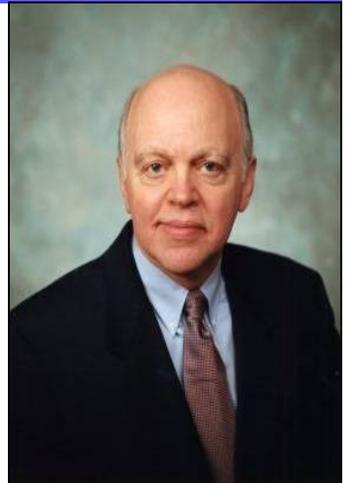
2010 Census. Stand-Up and Be Counted. The Census is the highest risk game played. Check the numbers. For every person not counted, \$1,200 per year is lost in regional investment.

Trails. Wheeling, Brooke County, Columbus, and Columbus all have extensive trail programs for biking, walking and running. With a population of 72,000 and a land area of 410 square miles, Jefferson County, Ohio, does not have a trail program. A local group plans to fill this void.

Access Improvement to Veterans Bridge at Steubenville. For years, the closure of upstream bridges, the projected increase in interstate traffic, the importance of delivery on time and a high accident rate have pointed toward access improvements at Veterans Bridge. With a design in hand, the Ohio Department of Transportation wants to resolve these issues.

Yorkville. a town of 1,230 people split between Belmont and Jefferson counties, is a town rich in history. Check out its local heroes and community footprint.

John C. Brown, AICP
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2010 CENSUS: IT'S IN OUR HANDS

ADDITIONAL TOPICS IN THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY

Social Characteristics: Marital Status | Marital History | Fertility | Grandparents as Caregivers | Ancestry | Place of Birth, U.S. Citizenship and Year of Entry | Language Spoken at Home | Educational Attainment and School Enrollment | Residence 1-Year Ago | Veteran Status: Disability Rating and Period of Service

Economic Characteristics: Income | Food Stamps

Benefit | Labor Force Status | Industry, Occupation, and Class of Worker | Place of Work and Journey to Work | Work Status Last Year | Vehicles Available | Health Insurance Coverage

Housing Characteristics: Year Structure Built | Units in Structure | Year Moved into Unit | Rooms | Bedrooms | Plumbing | Kitchen Facilities | House Heating Fuel | Telephone Service Available | Home Value | Rent | Mortgage Status | Selected Monthly Owner Costs

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

United States[™]
**Census
2010**

THE CENSUS AFFECTS ME—HOW?

It is estimated that with each person not counted in the 2010 Census, many states including Ohio and West Virginia will lose **\$1,200 per person** per year within the Census period—or **\$12,000** overall. If only 100 people do not respond in one of the three counties in our region, it is equivalent to **\$1,200,000** in lost revenue. How will that affect you?

As stated on the Census website, when you fill out the census form, you're making a statement about what resources your community needs going forward. Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are crucial in apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and deciding how more than \$400 billion per year is allocated for projects like new hospitals and schools. That's more than **\$4 trillion over a 10-year period** for things like new roads and schools, and services like job training centers.

In addition, the State of Ohio is in danger of losing at least one seat in the House of Representatives through redistricting. The U.S. Constitution requires that electoral districts be periodically adjusted or redrawn to account for population shifts. While the census does provide information to the U.S. states on population in order for the states to redistrict appropriately, the census is not actually responsible for the act of redistricting. State legislatures or independent bi-partisan commissions (depending on the state) are the bodies that actually redraw district lines.

Decreased steel production and other closed business has caused the tri-county region to lose more than its share of revenue and jobs. Municipalities have had to cut services and perhaps delay projects. We can't afford to lose any of the dollars allocated to us. Returning the Census form is not only a requirement by law—but also a responsibility.

WANTED: A TRAIL FOR BIKING, WALKING AND RUNNING

A group of people in Jefferson County have a vision of building a trail where we can enjoy a safe and inviting place to ride bikes, walk and run. The following information on a proposed trail that will link communities throughout Jefferson County is provided by Irene Moore director of the Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation District and member of the Trails and Greenways Committee

Plans are moving forward to access the feasibility of developing and/or connecting trails throughout Jefferson County and beyond.

The Trails and Greenways Committee was formed in June to implement a long-range goal of the Jefferson County Community Investment Plan, which is to "Enhance the Quality of Community and Family Life." An outcome to reach this goal involves creating bike, walking and running trails linking communities.

Susan L. Hershey, president of the Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Trails and Greenways Committee recently announced that "members of the CIP Implementation Team have been meeting monthly to initiate progress on the plan and its goals. They have acknowledged that this is an effort worth pursuing. Improvements to the quality of life in our county are essential as we work to fulfill the goal of making our county a great place to live, work and play."

Hershey noted the Trails and Greenways Vision Working Group currently reports to a general steering committee. Representatives from the Chamber, Jefferson Soil and Water Conservation district, the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission, the Steubenville Convention and Visitors Bureau and Crossroads RC&D are part of the working group.

The Trails and Greenways Committee has been successful in securing the assistance of the national Park Service to facilitate the process.

The committee will be seeking public input to help guide the vision of trails and greenways in Jefferson County by conducting open meetings throughout the



The Trails and Greenways Committee hope to develop a trail for Jefferson County such as the Pioneer Trail located in Weirton at Harmon Creek

county in early March of 2010. All meetings will be held from 6:00 to 8:00, with dates and locations as follows:

- ◆ Tuesday, March 9, 2010
Eastern Gateway Community College
Sunset Blvd., Steubenville
Quiet Lounge—Main Campus
- ◆ Wednesday, March 10, 2010
Toronto Municipal Building
416 Clark Street, Toronto
- ◆ Thursday, March 11, 2010
Wayne Elementary School Cafeteria
State Route 22A, Bloomingdale
- ◆ Tuesday, March 16, 2010
Buckeye Local High School Cafeteria
State Route 151, Rayland
- ◆ Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Bergholz Fire Hall
State Route 164, Bergholz
- ◆ Thursday, March 18, 2010
Adena Community Center, Adena

In addition to the public meetings, the group plans to distribute surveys that will take just a few moments to fill out. The surveys will help determine interest, what type of trail is desired (asphalt/hard surface, dirt, packed/crushed limestone, etc.), length of trail and location preferred, and other pertinent information to make the trail a success.

DR. BROWN PRESENTS TESTIMONY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

At the request of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), Dr. Brown traveled to Washington, D.C. on February 3 to submit testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies. The hearing was specific to the U.S. Economic Development Administration of which West Virginia Congressman Alan Mollohan is the chairman.

Dr. Brown reported, "Through the testimony I have obtained a significant insight into grant programs, appropriate local match percentages, better advisement through the assigned state economic development representative and reporting.

Following the testimony, Dr. Brown was given the opportunity for a one-on-one discussion with Congressman Mollohan.



From left to right—John Brown Executive Director, Brooke-Hancock Regional Planning and Development Council; Mike King, Executive Director, North Country Council of New Hampshire; Matt Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations; David Bradford, Mayor, Muscle Shoals, Alabama; and Bob Culver, Executive Director, Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments all participated in the hearing.

STATE ROUTE 7/UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD STUDY FIELD REVIEW

On January 14, 2010 representatives from the engineering consulting firm WE Stilson Consulting Group including several of their sub-consultants, ODOT District Eleven, ODOT Central Office, City of Steubenville and BHJ Metro Planning gathered to discuss access issues with the Veterans Memorial Bridge.

It was an initial meeting of all interested agencies and the consultant to meet face-to-face, to establish lines of communication and to identify issues involved with the five active alternatives. A field visit was included to allow those not familiar with the project area to view it up close and to raise any questions associated with their area of expertise.

All attendees were to fill out an ODOT form known as a "Red Flag Summary" which seeks to identify and list any issues which need to be included and addressed as the engineering consultant develops the five active alternatives in more detail. ODOT's formal definition of "Red Flag" refers to locations of concern, including environmental and engineering issues, within the study area. Red Flags do not necessarily identify locations that must be avoided, but



(l-r) Rod Wilson, ODOT; W.E. Stilson, Stilson Consulting and Dave Snelting, BHJ

rather identify locations that will entail additional study coordination, creative management or design approaches, or increased right-of-way or construction costs.

Eventually, the consultant will prepare exhibits which will be presented to the general public for comment. The public input will be used to refine the alternatives and the process may result in one or more additional presentations to the general public. The

final outcome from the study will be a preferred alternative with socio-economic and environmental concerns identified. At that point, funding for the construction of the preferred alternative will be sought and final design will commence.

2010 REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The BHI Technical Advisory Committee and Full Commission held the election of officers for 2010 on January 27. Robert Laukert, representative for the Village of Wintersville, was re-elected as the TAC chairman. Mike Dolak, city engineer for the City of Steubenville was elected to another term as vice-chairman.



Bob Laukert—TAC Chairman

The Full Commission elected Gary Folden, Jefferson County representative, was elected to his fourth term as chairman. Bernie Kazienko, Brooke County commissioner, was elected vice-chair. Art Miser, City of Weirton representative, was re-elected secretary and Harry Thomas, mayor of the Village of Richmond, was elected treasurer.

Two special speakers attended the meeting. Lisa Kay Schweyer, program developer for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission's CommuteInfo Program, explained the partnership between BHI's Rideshare program and her agency. She discussed the benefits of the program to both commuter and employer and said there has been an increase in ridesharing interest through the efforts of the BHI-sponsored advertising campaign. In the past six months, there have been 33 new registrations for the program.

Ms. Schweyer said that most of the rideshare activity goes to downtown Pittsburgh and Oakland. Although there is a significant number of area workers commuting to the Robinson Township area, it is difficult to get vanpools started due to a majority of the jobs available there are shift work and/or part time. Carpooling is the better option but changing people's behavior in their thinking about ridesharing and how to continue getting the message out are major challenges.



2009 Chairman Chuck Svokas (right) passes the gavel to Gary Folden, newly elected chairman.



Lisa Kay Schweyer—Commute Info

Ms. Cynthia King Southern Ohio Partnership Specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau/Detroit Region, spoke about the 2010 Census and the importance of having 100% participation. Accompanying Ms. King were Susan Kaulstat, recruiter and Don Jordan, office manager, both of the local Census office in Toronto.

Ms. King said Census forms will be delivered the week of March 15 and spoke of the importance of building awareness for residents to fill out and return the forms. She provided posters and other information that can be distributed within the local communities.

After the election of officers, Full Commission members listened as Dr. Brown reported on the agency's goals, priorities and challenges for 2010.



COMMUNITY PROFILE: YORKVILLE

With a population of 1,230 (2000 Census) and a land mass of 0.6 square miles, Yorkville has the distinction of being a part of two different counties: Jefferson and Belmont. The community was originally named by settlers from York, PA.

Sitting along the banks of the Ohio River, Yorkville was the perfect setting for the railroad and manufacturing.



There were two train stations in the Village. Torn down in the mid-1970's, the W&LE station shown to the left was located along

4th Street between Garden Avenue and County Road 2 (west2k.com/ohstations/jefferson.shtml). Right across the tracks was another station owned by the C&P Railroad.

The Yorkville works of Wheeling Steel is historically noted as the birthplace of cold reduced black plate for tinning. In 1928, the first tandem mill of its kind was installed there and marked the beginning of a process which revolutionized the entire industry.

The Village can boast of at least a couple of notable names. Dino Gaudio grew up in Yorkville and attended Buckeye South High School. After graduating from Ohio University, he accepted the position of assistant basketball coach at Central Catholic High School in Wheeling in 1981. Today, he is the head basketball coach for Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, South Carolina. The 2008-09 season saw Gaudio lead his team to having one of the most successful seasons in the school's history. Wake Forest



The Village of Yorkville

finished the year 24-7 overall and 11-5 in the ACC to place second in the final conference standings.

Another home-town boy who did quite well in the music world is Ron Bozicevich, a double bassist of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops soloist with the Cincinnati Symphony, graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory, Juilliard School of Music, and Wheeling Symphony Orchestra. The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1895 and is the fifth oldest orchestra in America.

Back in 1931, Yorkville made national headlines when Charles Sugg flying a Buhl Bull Pup plane, crashed into a hillside in the Village



Buhl Flying Bull Pup NC387Y. Charles Sugg crashed in this ship (Photo by S. J. Hudek) (nationalairtour.org)

while competing in the seventh annual National Air Tour. Fifteen planes were competing for the Edsel B. Ford Reliability Trophy. Of the 15 contestants only nine actually finished. Six of the others were forced down in Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee. Pilot Charles Sugg, the first to fly away from Detroit enroute to New Orleans—a 6,000 mile flight—was the only fatality.



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WINTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 8	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	NOON
March 31	TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FULL COMMISSION	10:30 NOON
APRIL 2	GOOD FRIDAY—BHI OFFICE CLOSED	
APRIL 5	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	NOON
MAY 3	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	NOON
MAY 26	TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FULL COMMISSION	10:30 NOON
May 31	MEMORIAL DAY—BHI OFFICE CLOSED	

**THINK
SPRING**

Related Web Sites

Appalachian Regional Commission
www.arc.gov

Brooke County Economic Development Authority
www.brookewv.org

Brooke Pioneer Trail Assoc. Inc
www.brookepioneertrail.org

**Business Development Corporation of the
Northern Panhandle**
www.bhbdc.org

CHANGE, Inc.
www.changeinc.org

City of Steubenville
www.ci.steubenville.oh.us

Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce
www.jeffersoncountychamber.com

Ohio Department of Transportation
www.dot.state.oh.us

Progress Alliance
www.progressalliance.com

State of Ohio Government Information
www.state.oh.us

State of West Virginia Government Info.
www.state.wv.us

State Route 2 & Interstate 68 Authority
www.route2andi68.com

Top of WV Convention and Visitors Bureau
www.topofwv.com

U.S. Census Bureau
www.census.gov

U.S. Department of Transportation
www.dot.gov

U.S. Economic Development Administration
www.commerce.gov

Village of Wintersville
www.wintersville.net

Weirton Chamber of Commerce
www.weirtonchamber.com

West Virginia Department of Transportation
www.transportation.wv.gov

West Virginia Development Office
www.wvdo.org

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