

2010 Census

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February - March 2010

Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

April 1, 2010

Census Day

April - July 2010

Census takers will visit households that did not return questionnaire by mail.

December 2010

By law, Census Bureau delivers population count to the President.

March 2011

By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting to states.

It is essential that every household in the United States respond to the 2010 Census. Census data facilitates the awarding of federal funds to states and communities and also guides local decision-makers in important community planning efforts, including where to build new roads, hospitals and schools; and census data affects your voice in Congress by determining how many seats each state will have in the United States House of Representatives.

Stand Up and Be Counted!!

"Making it Easier For Seniors To Choose Services"

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www.co.ocean.nj.us

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Joseph H. Vicari, Freeholder

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The One-Stop Center

Ocean County Office of Senior Services-NJ EASE Access Site



Ocean County



Office of Senior Services

February - March
2010 Update

Joseph H. Vicari,
Freeholder Chairman

D. Jane Maloney, Director

Census 2010

Stand Up
and Be Counted

Be Counted
Where It Counts

The One-Stop Center
1027 Hooper Ave.,
Bldg. 2, First Floor

(732) 929-2091

1-877-222-3737

or 1-800-668-4899



**A Message From Joe Vicari:
Freeholder Chairman**

FREEHOLDER ADVOCATES AGAINST SOCIAL SECURITY TAX

As Chairman of the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, I continue to reach out to our legislators on the challenges facing our seniors. I am concerned that since 1984 senior citizens who meet certain earning requirements are taxed on 50 percent or more of their Social Security benefits. This tax is on top of the state and federal income taxes paid on our Social Security contributions in every paycheck. We are literally taxed when the money goes in and taxed when the money comes out.

As Freeholder, I have repeatedly heard the outcry from our seniors that this tax is a further erosion on their savings at a time when low interest rates and a dwindling economy are already forcing more and more retirees to return to work. A rethinking of the formula that taxes low-income seniors would be a true economic stimulus. This would assist not only older adults, but the entire national economy. Retirees with more money in their pockets will spend more, strengthen businesses, and help the nation climb out of its economic slump. Such a move would do far more good in the long run than a simple one-time token check, as is now being discussed.

With the economy still in turmoil and the Social Security cost-of-living increase cancelled this year, there is no better time to enact this important change to help bring real economic relief to our seniors and our nation.

“NOTCH BABY” LEGISLATION

Freeholder Vicari isn't giving up the fight. He began in the early 1990s to help the so-called Notch Babies, who as senior citizens today may see less Social Security money than other older adults.

This problem first came to my attention while serving as mayor of Dover (now Toms River) Township nearly 20 years ago. People born between 1917 and 1926, because of a flaw in the way Congress computed Social Security benefits, may be receiving less money every month than seniors born in other years.

I strongly support the legislation co-sponsored by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) that would provide either a lump sum payment of \$5,000 paid in four annual payments or an improved benefit formula for Notch Babies.

Congress must do what is fair for all of our seniors. While I was mayor we circulated a petition and gathered thousands of signatures asking Washington to repeal this mistake.

As Chairman of the Ocean County Office of Senior Services, I still receive calls from Notch Babies and their children asking about their benefits.

I'm not going to stop fighting until Congress passes this important legislation. Our Notch Baby seniors have worked hard all of their lives and deserve to receive the same benefits as everyone else.

I am warning seniors to be wary if you receive mailings or phone calls from groups claiming that they are fighting for Notch Babies and asking for a donation.

Be very careful of anyone asking for money. The best thing our seniors can do is write to the leaders in Washington and ask that they support the Notch Baby Legislation.



SAVE THE DATE



Freeholder Vicari will “Walk the Walk” on Sunday April 25th to Promote Good Health

Freeholder Joseph Vicari will lead walkers on Sunday, April 25th during the 39th Annual March of Dimes March for Babies Walk-America at Seaside Heights Boardwalk, Boardwalk & Hierarchy Ave. Kick off at 8:00 a.m. To register or for more information, please call 1-800-BIG-WALK, or visit: www.marchofdimes.com.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR A PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT?

You may be eligible for a reimbursement of the difference between the amount of property taxes you paid in the base year (year you first became eligible) and the amount paid in the year for which you are applying for a reimbursement if:

- ✓ You are age 65 or older, or receiving Federal Social Security disability benefits as of 12/31/08; **and**
- ✓ You have lived in New Jersey continuously for the last 10 years; since before 01/01/99; **and**
- ✓ You have owned and lived in your current home for the last 3 years; since before 01/01/06; **and**
- ✓ Your total income for 2008 was less than \$70,000 for all applicants whether single or married/in a civil union; **and**
- ✓ Your total income for 2009 was less than \$80,000 for all applicants whether single or married/in a civil union; **and**
- ✓ You have paid the full amount of your property taxes due (or site fee if you are a mobile home owner) on your principle residence for 2008 by June 1, 2009, and for 2009 by June 1, 2010.

For further information and assistance you can call the Property Tax Hotline at 1-800-882-6597, or you can go online and visit the Division of Taxation website at www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation.

The Office of Senior Services has a list of volunteer income tax counseling sites in Ocean County. Trained volunteers will assist low and moderate-income seniors with Federal and State Income Tax forms. Please call the **Office of Senior Services at 732-929-2091, 1-800-668-4899 or 1-877-222-3737** for a site near you or visit our website at www.co.ocean.nj.us; Senior Services is featured on the Ocean County Home Page, click on “**Read More**”, and you will reach our Senior Services webpage that contains a variety of information and links to important services such as “**Tax site list**”.

2010 UNITED STATES CENSUS

People all across America will stand up and be counted during the 2010 United States Census! The Census will define who we are as a nation! Taken every 10 years, the census affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding. The 2010 Census questionnaire asks only a few questions of each person – name, relationship, gender, age, date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his/her home. The Census 2010 timeline is continued on back page.