

## 2020 CENSUS LOCAL UPDATE OF CENSUS ADDRESSES (LUCA)

NEGRC is assisting the U.S. Census Bureau and Georgia DCA in overseeing the 2020 LUCA for the Northeast Georgia Region. It is important to have 100% participation: LUCA reviews directly impact the decennial census, which affects the number of Georgia seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and distribution of federal funds. Highest elected officials should have already received materials from the Census Bureau; the deadline to register is **December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

If you have already identified NEGRC as the liaison or a reviewer for your community's LUCA or if you have questions or would like NEGRC assistance with LUCA reviews for your county or municipality, please contact NEGRC's **Eva Kennedy of the Planning & Government Services Division at [ekennedy@negrc.org](mailto:ekennedy@negrc.org)**.

### What is LUCA?

LUCA is the only opportunity offered to tribal, state, and local governments to review and comment on the Census Bureau's residential address list for their jurisdiction prior to the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau relies on a complete and accurate address list to reach every living quarters and associated population for inclusion in the census.

### Why participate in LUCA?

- To help ensure an accurate decennial census count in your community.
- To help the federal government distribute more than \$400 billion in funds annually for infrastructure, programs, and services.
- To help your community plan for future needs.

### Who can participate in LUCA?

Active, functioning, legal governments can participate in LUCA. These include: Federally recognized tribes with a reservation and/or off-reservation trust lands, States, Counties, Cities (incorporated places), and Townships (minor civil divisions). If you are unable to participate in LUCA, you may designate your county or NEGRC as an alternate reviewer for your government.

### LUCA Materials Available.

The Geographic Update Partnership Software (GUPS) is new for LUCA. The GUPS is a self-contained Geographic Information System (GIS) update and processing package. In addition to the software, you will receive the Census Bureau's address list, address count list by census block, and Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing (TIGER) partnership shapefiles. The Census Bureau offers its address list in digital or paper formats. The digital format requires the use of spreadsheet or database software. The paper format is available only to governments with 6,000 or fewer addresses. Maps are offered in digital (TIGER partnership shapefiles that require GIS software) or paper (large format maps are 42 X 36 inches and include a DVD of small format [8.5 X 14 inches] block maps in Adobe PDF) formats. The Census Bureau and NEGRC will offer in-person local government training using LUCA materials. Self-training aids and Webinars will also be available online at the LUCA Web Site. The NEGRC LUCA Coordinator will notify local governments of training opportunities once the schedule has been finalized.

For further information or questions about LUCA, please contact Ms. Kennedy.

## WORKSOURCE NORTHEAST GEORGIA YOUTH SHOWCASE

Out-of-School Youth Participant **Tamara Pilcher** earned her GED in four weeks through Paxen Learning Center in Athens, a WIOA funded GED program. Tamara recently received a job offer to work as a receptionist at a medical clinic. Here is Tamara's story in her own words:

"My name is Tamara Pilcher; I am a student at the Paxen Learning Center in Athens. I am 20 years old and have a one year old daughter. I faced a lot of obstacles that kept me from finishing school; I got pregnant as a senior in high school, my family moved around a lot and my credits got messed up. Trying to balance the stress of not having all my credits, having to take additional classes, and carrying a child is what drew me to the conclusion that it was all too much for me to handle and I dropped out of school. After having my daughter, I finally decided it was time to go back to school. I can admit I procrastinated a whole year before finally signing up for the classes. You may ask, what really gave me the push I needed to get my GED? My beautiful daughter would be the answer. I came from a line of women who did not receive their High School Diploma. I did not want my daughter to grow up and think that it's a cycle and she should drop out as well. I broke the cycle to prove to my daughter that all things are possible and you can change your life."



"After enrolling at Paxen, I received my GED before the expected time. The faculty at Paxen treated me like I was one of their children and properly helped me gain the knowledge it took to pass the GED test. Mrs. Daisy helped me plan out my goals and establish what I needed to accomplish in order to do so. She took me under her wing and started me as an intern working as an office assistant. Mrs. Fyffe was my GED instructor, who made sure I got all the required information it took to pass the GED Exam. I had the honor of being her student and would like to thank her for believing in me, not only while I was enrolled in the program but also in my life situation. Mr. James, the operational assistant, helps the students find jobs that they have a passion for. He helps the students further their education and is a mentor to them. The faculty gave me all the material and counseling that I needed to prepare myself to take the tests and move into my future. If I had to give a message to another student taking the GED it would be STUDY, STUDY, and STUDY. The books and Paxen's Online Academy made my experience go a lot smoother. If it was not for the staff at Paxen, none of this would be possible. I give all credit to GOD first and then to the faculty at Paxen Learning Center."

For information on Paxen and other WIOA funded programs in Northeast Georgia, please contact WorkSource Northeast Georgia programs administered by the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission's Workforce Development Division at **(706) 369-5703**.

## NEW CENTENNIAL FARMS ANNOUNCED

Each year, Georgia recognizes its historic farms through the state's Centennial Farm Program. Recognized farms have been in continuous operation for 100 years and listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The program began in 1993 and, since that time, over 500 farms have been awarded Centennial Farm status statewide.

Owners of farms apply for this designation, with applications due in May of each year. This year, two farms in the NEGRC region

received Centennial Farm recognition and are located in Morgan and Jackson Counties. These two farms were among 12 other awarded farms this year at the Georgia National Fair in Perry. The list of recipients is below, and the two farms from the NEGRC region are highlighted.

- Lanier Farm, Bulloch County
- Olde Homeplace, Bulloch County
- Mary and Ben Newsome Family Farm, Crisp County
- Sandy Acres Ranch, Dade County
- Swicord Thomas Farm, Decatur County
- Rey-Brin Farm, Hall County
- **Freeman Family Farm, Jackson County**
- Aldred-Stevens-Smith Farm, Jefferson County
- Liberty Hill Ranch, LLC, Lamar County
- **Bryans Family Farm, Morgan County**
- McLain/Hood Farms of Orndorff Place, Terrell County
- Gibbs - Crumley Family Farm, Tift County
- James Paul Smith Family Farm, Turner County
- Alvin Pierce Henderson Farm, Ware County

For further information on nominating a farm, contact **Allison Asbrock**, Centennial Farm Awards Committee, at **(770) 389-7868** or [allison.asbrock@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:allison.asbrock@dnr.ga.gov). and visit [www.georgiacentennialfarms.org](http://www.georgiacentennialfarms.org) to download an application. For information about this and other historic preservation programs, contact **Jordan Shoemaker**, NEGRC Project Specialist, at **(706) 369-5650** or email: [jshoemaker@negrc.org](mailto:jshoemaker@negrc.org).

## NEGA CARE-NET HONORS REGIONAL CAREGIVERS OF THE YEAR

When someone falls ill or is disabled in some way, that individual may come to rely on the assistance of others in a variety of ways. Those who provide that assistance are called caregivers. There are family caregivers who assume this responsibility out of a sense of love or duty. There are individuals who have made their career in caregiving. Then there are the volunteers who generously give of their time through acts of kindness and support to others in their community. Each year NEGA CARE-NET receives nominations of individuals in three categories: Family Caregiver, Para-Professional Caregiver and Volunteer Caregiver.

The following nominations were received: **Jenny Pair**, nominated by **J'Dawn Elliott** with NEGA AAA; **Ray Jefferson** nominated by **Rebecca Stephens** with Elbert County Senior Center; **Joan Barden** nominated by **Peggy Liston** and **Loleeta Jones**; **Stephany Brown** nominated by **Loleeta Jones**; and **Linda Morris** nominated by **Trippe Ross** with Athens Community Council on Aging. The NEGA CARE-NET is proud to announce the 2017 NEGA Regional Caregivers of the Year winners:

- Family Caregiver: Joan Barden**
- Para-Professional Caregiver: Stephany Brown**
- Volunteer Caregiver: Linda Morris**

All local caregiver nominees and winners will be recognized during the **NEGA CARE-NET's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Caregiver Celebration** that will be held in the Green Acres Baptist Church located at 2085 Barnett Shoals Road in Athens on **November 2<sup>nd</sup>** from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** The **FREE** event will include caregiver resources, interesting speakers, lunch and door prizes. Local winners will also be honored during an awards ceremony that will be held just after lunch.

For additional information on the NEGA CARE-NET, please contact **Michele Kelley** with the Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging at **(706) 583-2546, Ext. 102** or by e-mail at **mkelley@negrc.org**.

As a side note, with the number of family caregivers growing every year – tens of millions strong – the Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging (AAA), the Northeast Georgia CARE-Net, and the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving recognize the importance of the role that family caregivers play; **now more than ever!** For further information on resources for caregivers, please go to the Caregiver Action Network website at **www.caregiveraction.org** or contact Ms. Kelley.

## REMINDER

The next meeting of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council will be held on **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at Noon at the Athens Holiday Inn**. Information on the meeting will be forthcoming.

## SPOTLIGHT ON OXFORD

*This is the first in a series highlighting municipalities in the region. A similar effort devoted to counties appeared in the past.*

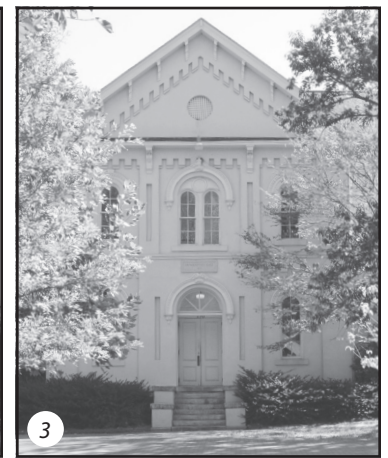
The City of Oxford is located 35 miles east of Atlanta in Newton County, and is home to approximately 2,260 persons. It has a very active and progressive government, led by Mayor **Jerry Roseberry**, current NEGR Council Chairman. Known as "A City of History, Community, Education, and Trees", leadership is especially proud of its modern City Hall, opened in 2010.

In 1834, the Georgia Methodist Conference Manual Labor School was established near Covington. Two years later the school was expanded, and Emory College was chartered, named in honor of Bishop **John Emory**. Early in 1837, more than 1,450 acres were purchased two miles from the school, and 330 acres were set aside for the college town later named Oxford to honor the alma mater of the College's founders. It was the first Methodist collegiate community of its kind in American Methodism.

All of Oxford's streets were named for notable Methodists, and each of the main streets converged on the site of the College's central building. More than 20 nineteenth century buildings and sites related to Methodism are still standing. The oldest house in

the City, Alexander Means' House, was built in the 1820's before the town was laid out. Emory College moved to Atlanta in 1919 to become the College of Arts and Sciences at Emory University. A junior college was founded in Oxford in 1929. Today it is known as Oxford College of Emory University.

Much of the City is part of a district listed in the National Register of Historic Places. In 2014, Oxford celebrated its 175<sup>th</sup> year since incorporation. Today, the City is recognized for its outstanding plan and ordinances, opportunities for input and service provided to residents, and excellent utilities.



#1: Oxford City Hall  
#2 & #3: Campus Buildings  
#4: Old Church

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council and Staff Wish You a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!





305 Research Drive  
Athens, GA 30605

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT. STD.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ATHENS, GA  
PERMIT NO. 502

# Update

## REGIONAL MEETINGS NOVEMBER

8	9:00 a.m.	Joint Development Authority of NEGA	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
15	9:30 a.m.	Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
16	8:30 a.m.	Athens-Clarke Literacy Council	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
16	Noon	NEGRC Council	Athens Holiday Inn
16	3:00 p.m.	Firefly Trail Advocacy Group	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room



*Sincerely & Respectfully,*