

Boone Census Office Opened with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Written by Adam Hicks

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The new United States Census Office regional headquarters in Boone was officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony this morning.

Members of the Appalachian ROTC presented the colors, while members of the Watauga High Honors Chorus and students from Parkway Elementary School provided music to open the festivities.

Several local elected officials were on hand at the event including State Senator Steve Goss, State Representative Cullie Tarleton, Boone Mayor Loretta Clawson, and Watauga County Commissioner Winston Kinsey.

The Boone office is one of 15 local census offices across the state and will bring several new jobs to the area. Census officials said nine residents were hired today at the census office. Officials expect to hire around 1,100 temporary workers who will help the office collect returns.

Ceylon Barclay, the director of the local office, was urging residents to fill out the census information form that will be mailed out. Officials said the form is 10 questions long and will take about 10 minutes to fill out.

The new census office is located in the Boone Pointe plaza at the corner of East King Street and the Highway 105 Extension.

In the spirit of the 2010 Census, there were exactly 54 residents at the census ribbon-cutting ceremony. No demographic breakdown information was available on those in attendance.

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