

CENSUS CounterParts

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Photo by Robert Crockett

Former NFL star Otis Wilson and Director Bob Groves show off efforts to promote the census in the Midwest.

Doin' the 2010 Shuffle

BY MONTY WOOD
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

He's not trying to cause no trouble, he's just doin' the Census Shuffle!

Well, it's been 25 years since Otis Wilson became a well-known linebacker for the Chicago Bears and recorded the famous "Super Bowl Shuffle" video. Maybe his dance moves aren't what they used to be, and his days on the gridiron have passed, but Wilson is keeping himself in the public eye.

The former NFL star is working with the Chicago Regional Office and many other

former football stars to increase awareness of the 2010 Census in the Midwest. They are part of a program called Sports Collaborative, with the goal of reaching everyone in the hard-to-count areas of Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.

"We have standouts from the Chicago Bears, Indianapolis Colts, Seattle Seahawks and Buffalo Bills teaming up as partnership specialists to tackle the challenge of building awareness in hard-to-count areas," said Ellisa Johnson, a national partner coordinator and head of the Sports Collaborative project. "They're visiting schools, public housing,

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Shahryar Places Second in D.C. Funniest Fed Contest

Two years ago, Shahryar Rizvi entered the first D.C. Funniest Fed stand-up comedy contest and made it as far as the semifinals.

This year, armed with a more polished delivery and a fresh set of jokes based on government-worker stereotypes, the Technologies Management Office employee was one of the favorites to win the competition.

However, Jeff Maurer of the Environmental Protection Agency earned the most votes at sold-out Arlington (Va.) Cinema & Drafthouse to win the contest Oct. 23. Shahryar, an IT specialist, placed second.

Shahryar has been doing stand-up comedy since 2002. He earned a spot in the finals with a solid performance in the semifinals, held Oct. 7 in Arlington. He had the highest score from the judges as well as the most votes from the audience.



Census Bureau employee Shahryar Rizvi placed second in the Funniest Fed finals Oct. 23.

One of his jokes:

"... They asked him if he needed a BlackBerry. He said, 'Why? I don't even read your e-mails now. Why would I read them on the go?'"

The stand-up comedy contest started Sept. 16 with 34 federal government employees.

"I'm just glad I had another opportunity to perform on the Funniest Fed stage," said Shahryar, who is also working on his master's degree at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business. "A lot of my act revolves around my workplace and being a federal employee, and I get an amazing response from this crowd."

JR Wycinsky of CLMSO's Partnership Nerve Center made his first appearance as a stand-up comic by entering this year's contest. He got through the first round but did not get past the semifinals.

More information is at <http://www.funniestfed.com/>.

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Newsletter Flashback

Some of the top stories in past Census Bureau employee newsletters:

65 years ago

Dancing Cheap: The Capital Rhythm Orchestra will play at a winter dance for employees at Lincoln Colonnade in Northwest D.C. Cost is 40 cents, says the Jan. 16, 1945, Census News.

60 years ago

Remembering Heroes: The second Armistice Day observance honors Census Bureau employees killed in WWII, reports the Jan. 20, 1950, Census News.



55 years ago

Staying on Course: Cliff Jordan (Foreign Trade) was named the bureau's top golfer with a 5 and 3 victory over Bob Rountree (Field) at East Potomac Park in D.C., says the Jan. 28, 1955, Census Bulletin.

50 years ago

Counting Geigers: Thirty-nine men are trained to be radiological defense monitors to ensure continuity of operations after a nuclear attack, as seen in the Jan. 22, 1960, Census Bulletin.

40 years ago

Training Day: Administrative supervisors from the 12 regional offices (plus the San Francisco area office) come to headquarters to learn about 1970 Census payroll operations says the Jan. 23, 1970, Census Bulletin.



35 years ago

Getting a Facelift: Building 3 undergoes renovations through May 1975, as seen in the January 1975 SESA Inquirer.

