



Darlene Green
COMPTROLLER

CompTimes

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO AUDIT

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Quote of the Month:

**“Cheers to a new
 year and another
 chance for us to
 get it right.”**
Oprah Winfrey

From the comptroller's desk *Building on 2008 successes is a place to start*

The New Year is upon us and I hope you are as excited as I am about what 2009 will bring. I think a good place to start is to build on the successes we had in 2008. Here are a few highlights.



The office began putting its audit reports online in February of last year. Taxpayers can now access audit reports dating back to 2004, making city government more transparent than it has ever been. The site has received more than 2,500 hits since it began service.

In May of last year, the city earned its first A+ credit rating in 35 years. We all know how much this favorable rating means to the taxpayers when we issue debt or refinance old debt. It also confirms our conservative fiscal policies and excellent staff are doing their jobs very well.

Last month, the state auditor released her report on our office. The audit reported no major findings, and during her press conference, State Auditor Susan Montee said the comptroller's office is very well run. I welcome the state auditor's fresh look at how we do business, and while the auditors reported no major findings, I understand the importance of implementing the audit recommendations. That is why our office has already put into action 90 percent of the state's recommendations.

I want to recognize and thank each employee for doing your part to ensure our office is well run. From the online audits, to the A+ credit rating, to the great audit report and quickly implementing the state's recommendations, our success is no accident.

I know we will all keep up the great work and build on our successes to enhance the well-managed, fiscally conservative operations in the comptroller's office.

Wilson's daughter named 'Airman of the Year'

Air Force Senior Airman Lindsey Green, daughter of **Lillie Wilson**, was named the 1st Aerospace Medicine Squadron's "Airman of the Year." Green is stationed at Langley AFB, Va. and serves as a public health technician. She reviews medical records for information that may keep personnel from getting certain security clearances, special duties assignments and other actions.



Green

Office News

Mandatory training to start



The comptroller's office is wasting no time in making good on Ms. Green's commitment to employee training in 2009. This week, managers and supervisors reported to cross-cultural communications training, the first in a series of executive level leadership classes offered by the department of personnel.

"This series of classes will have a positive impact on how employees interact with each other and how we conduct business with the taxpayers and our internal clients," explained Elaine Spearman, chief of staff and legal advisor. "Our office does a good job now, but there is always room for improvement," added Spearman.

The comptroller's office joined managers and supervisors from the health department for the cross-cultural communications class. Everyone enjoyed the training and looks forward to partnering with the health department in future training events.

Kudos to FRS

The CAFR is done! The CAFR is done! Congratulations to **Bev Fitzimmions** and her financial reporting section team for getting the fiscal year 2008 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report out on time. Fitzsimmons, along with **John Zakibe, Diane Bjorklund, Karl Hlavaty** and **Tammy Garret** did another outstanding job working with the KPMG auditors to meet the end of year reporting deadline. The entire office, and the taxpayers, appreciate the long nights and extra hours you put in on the annual report.

Test your knowledge with the Trivia Challenge

This month: Inauguration Trivia



Congratulations to Valerie Clayton for earning one hour comptime for correctly answering the December holiday trivia.

1. What president's inauguration had to compete with Super Bowl Sunday.
2. Who was the only president to be sworn in by a woman?
3. What president's inauguration was the first to be televised?
4. This president was the first to include African-Americans in his parade.
5. Who was the first president to be inaugurated at the Capitol?
6. What president's oath was the only one not sworn in on a Bible.
7. How many inaugurations occurred because of a president's death or resignation?
8. What year were women first allowed to march in an inaugural parade?

Submit your answers to John Farrell at farrellj@stlouiscity.com. The first to reply with the correct answers wins one hour comptime.

2008 Holiday Party



Jeremy Holtzman
Employee of the Year



News & Notes

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As the comptroller's office turns...

Party winners

Internal audit's **Jeremy Holtzman** won 2008 Employee of the Year honors at the Dec. holiday party. Four other employees won comptime: **Michele Graham** 8 hours, **Olaide Hassan** 4 hours, **Sherise Simmons** 4 hours, and **Maria Randazzo** 4 hours. Congratulations to all.

Promotions

None to report this month. Stay tuned for future CompTimes editions for all the latest personnel news.

January Birthdays

Candice Gordon	1
Larry Arnowitz	2
Cynthia Larson	2
Christopher Reed	20
Cyril Oparaji	22
Diane Bjorklund	24
Lillie Wilson	24

Continuous Service Anniversaries

**Lillie Green 20 years
Fred Carslick 10 years**

New to the team

Tonya Rose-Eby joined the internal audit section as an auditor I on Jan. 5. Welcome aboard, Tonya.



Proud papa

Larry Arnowitz and his wife, **Philomena**, are the proud grandparents of their first granddaughter, **Natalie Regan**, who was born on November 7, 2008. Congratulations.

November Trivia Quiz answers

1. Ralph E. Morris
2. Poinsettias
3. Bing Crosby's White Christmas
4. Menorah
5. Eight days and nights
6. First fruits
7. Gift giving