



Darlene Green
COMPTROLLER

CompTimes

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO AUDIT

March 2009
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**Quote of
the Month:**

"I've been on a
calendar but I have
never been on time"
Marilyn Monroe

From the chief staffing officer

You must know and follow the civil service rules

Every employee in the comptroller's office is a member of the city's civil service system and enjoy all of the rights and protections that come with this designation. It is our responsibility to know and follow these rules to the letter, or risk facing disciplinary action and possible termination.



During new employee orientation, each of us learned about the civil service rules and were given a written copy of them. There is no excuse for any comptroller's office employee to not know what is allowed and what is not related to political activity under the civil service rules.

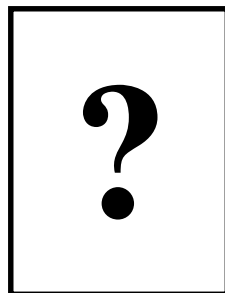
The rules are simple and state clearly

what we can and cannot do.

Each and every one of you are a vital part of the comptroller's office. Both the comptroller and myself value your knowledge, expertise and contributions you make that keep the office functioning at a high level. It pains us deeply when employees do not follow the rules and have to be disciplined, but the department of personnel has clear procedures that must be followed.

You may find a complete list of all the civil service rules by visiting the department of personnel Web site at stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/personnel. Please, take a moment to read them again, paying particular attention to the section on political activity. I do not ever want to take action against another employee for failure to follow the civil service rules.

Comptroller's February Employee of the Month



The CompTimes Employee of the Month Committee reported there were no nominations for the February award. The CompTimes encourages all employees to nominate a co-worker for the March EOM award.

Office News

Telecom readies for change

Congratulations to **Sharon Caldwell, Fred Carslick, John DiLiberto, Ray Gant** and **Ben Helton** of the telecommunications team for recently completing an online course certification entitled "Understanding VOIP Networking Fundamentals." VOIP is short for Voice Over Internet Protocol. This course gives them a strong foundation of basic VOIP concepts that they will utilize at the Abram Building on Market St. The entire phone system at the Abram Building will be VOIP, a first for a St. Louis City government building.

Helton, Carslick and Gant are also working on a second course to prepare them to work with and troubleshoot Cisco switches. This course gives them additional training on Cisco hardware, commands, switching and routing that will prepare them to handle maintenance on the new phone system. Good job everyone.



Thirty years

Congratulations to **Gail Boyce** for 30 years of employment with the city of St. Louis. **Jim Garavaglia** (left) and **Larry Arnowitz** presented Boyce with her commemorative pin recently at the Municipal Garage. The entire staff celebrated with a banana split ice cream cake, Gail's favorite.



Test your knowledge with the Trivia Challenge

This month: Daylight Savings Time



*Congratulations to
Ken Stone
for earning one hour
comptime for correctly
answering the February
inauguration trivia.*

1. Who conceived the idea of Daylight Savings Time?
2. As of March 2008, how many states do not observe Daylight Savings Time?
3. What date do we turn our clocks back in 2009?
4. In some parts of the world, Daylight Savings Time is known by what other name?
5. What is the biggest reason that we observe Daylight Savings Time?
6. When was the Uniform Time Act signed into law?
7. Which states must observe Daylight Savings Time?
8. What phrase helps people remember how the time change affects their clocks?

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

News & Notes

As the comptroller's office turns...

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Degree earned



Anissa Blalock finished her MBA coursework at Fontbonne University recently, her official graduation is scheduled for May 16. She is taking her children to Disney World to celebrate. Congratulations, Anissa.

Saving time

Time to spring forward with daylight savings time beginning on March 8. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead an hour Saturday night.

March Birthdays

Roland Comfort	20
Catherine Smith	22
Antionette Thomas	23
Eileen Gassel	29
Doris Hamilton	30
Lisa Harmon	30

Continuous Service Anniversaries

Gail Boyce	30 years
Antionette Thomas	10 years
Cyril Oparaji	10 years

A great loss



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mr. Robert F. (Bob) Beckman. Mr. Beckman has served the city and the comptroller's office for over 40 years as the city's representative at Columbia Bottoms. His tenure represents the longest contract employment service on record, having been hired by the then Comptroller John Poelker in the mid 1960's.

Bob was an avid storyteller, gardener and card player who was devoted to spending time with family, friends and enjoying the land he loved. He is survived by his wife Sally, five daughters, one stepdaughter and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends.

February Trivia Quiz answers

1. Beverly Johnson
2. Gas mask
3. Boston Bruins
4. South Carolina
5. Lyndon B. Johnson
6. Ralph Bunche
7. Sgt. William H. Carney