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# The Comp times

**Darlene Green  
Comptroller**

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO AUDIT

*"The Airport Business Diversity Conference is the primary vehicle for the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and the Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (ACDBE) community to informatively engage with the airport business environment".*

## AMAC: Airport Business Diversity Conference

The Airport Minority Advisory Council (AMAC) held their annual conference in St. Louis, June 9<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>, at the America's Convention Center. More than 1,200 participants attended this year.

The AMAC conference is designed for the airport industry to educate and provide business networking. It's known around the country as the Airport Business Diversity Conference.

The Airport Business Diversity Conference is the primary vehicle for the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) and the Airport Concessions Disadvantage Business Enterprise (ACDBE) community to informatively engage with the airport business environment. The conference provides participants with policy issues impacting the entire aviation industry; providing immeasurable benefit to all conference participants.



This year's conference kicked off with the 2012 Bill Walker Memorial Golf Tournament held at Pevely Farms. Proceeds from this event went to the AMAC Education and Scholarship Program and Kenneth L. Below Memorial Scholarship Fund. Comptroller Office employees were asked to volunteer and the response was tremendous!



Comptroller Office employees described their experience with AMAC below.

**Ron Hicks:** "I volunteered and worked the liquor giveaway on the 8th hole. I thoroughly enjoyed the entire experience, and feel that St. Louis really set a high bar for next years host, San Diego, CA."

**Carlotta Blair:** "It was a very interesting convention. I had the opportunity to volunteer and was glad for the experience. Especially, since I got to sit in on a few of the workshops. They had very interesting topics that led me to listen to the speakers and to really listen in on the answers to the participants' questions."



**Ryan Coleman:** "One of the highlights for me was just seeing the Pevely Farms Golf Club for the first time, which is located on the grounds of a former dairy show farm. The club's location in the Meramec River Valley makes for a picturesque setting. I work at 1520 Market (City Hall West), so it was also nice meeting some of my St. Louis City Employee counterparts normally stationed out at Lambert or City Hall and being able to interact with them on a less-formal basis."

**Michele Graham:** "It really was a good experience and I was surprised by how many of the guests that thanked us for volunteering. We met people from all over, such as a lady that works for the City of Detroit who asked us how the Airport got us to volunteer. We told her that the call went out to City workers and that we were offered comp time for the weekend, regular pay during the week, \$15 meal vouchers and free parking. She was quite impressed



and said she was taking those ideas back with her because they would be hosting soon. I also met a gentleman who worked in the legal department for the City of Boston. He gave me his business card and told me to call him before I got married because he offered marriage counseling, lol."

**Dr. Kenneth Stone:** "It was a great experience meeting so many people from different cities, all of which had a positive experience in St. Louis and had nothing but good things to say about our city and the conference. As a whole, the conference went well and St. Louis put on an excellent event. My personal involvement was helping with the logistics and moving the conference along. This we hope added to the positive experiences of our guests. I'm glad I was able to help."

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# Project Lift: AMAC Inspire Youth to Fly

*HOK a global architectural firm that specializes in planning, design and delivery solutions for communities hosted Aviation Career Day: Project Lift, presenting a panel discussion of leading Airport contractors.*

This year during the 2012 AMAC annual conference some thirty high school and college students got a chance to learn more about airports, how they are built and the opportunities for entrepreneurs.

HOK, a global architectural firm that specializes in planning, design and delivery solutions for communities, hosted Aviation Career Day: Project Lift. The students sat in on panel discussions from some of the leading airport contractors, architects and planning firms from all over the country.



Architect, Owner of ERM Technologies; Jack Thomas, DBE/Community Development, Jackson Municipal Airport Authority and Cedric Curtis, Reynolds, Smith & Hill, Inc., AMAC Board member.

Director of St. Louis Lambert International Airport Rhonda Hahm-Niebruegge welcomed the students discussing her career with them and how she got interested in working for airports all over the country.

The AMAC Project Lift day consisted of a tour of Lambert Field where the students got a chance to meet Cornell Mays, AIA, and Deputy Director of St. Louis Lambert International Airport.

When the group started their session at the Airport they were greeted with a history lesson and

viewing of the Tuskegee Airmen mural. They also got a chance to meet one of the artists who painted the massive mural, Solomon Thurman and the General Contractor for the mural, Vernon Wellington.



While riding around the landing field on a bus, the students learned from Harry Moore, Airfield Engineering Supervisor for Lambert, how planes land and take off. Also how concrete is laid in and how it is taken away to be recycled.



Once back in the airport the tour took the students to the Joanne Wayne Board Room where they got a chance to learn more about how the Airport makes money for the City of St. Louis. They met Henrietta Brown, Assistant Airport Director of Finance & Accounting; Duane Fant, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Control Tower, Lambert Field and Darryl Jones D&D Concessions.



## Future All-Star in the Making!!!

Judy Armstrong's nephew, Andre Armstrong was selected to play for the CYC Baseball Spirit of St. Louis Games which is the All Star Games for Catholic Schools. Andre was the pitcher for De La Salle Middle School.

On Saturday, June 23th, the St. Louis City team played South County and South Central and won both games. Andre graduated from the 8th grade on Friday, June 15, 2012 and plans to play for De Smet Jesuit High School next year where he will be a freshman.



**HAPPY BIRTH DAY!**  
For those born in  
**June**



- 1 Olena Opachevsky
- 8 Chana Morton
- 9 Lolia Versey
- 15 Karl Hlavaty
- 20 Charles Franz



## Comptroller's Office 1<sup>st</sup> Place Going Google!



Monday, June 25, 2012 the City of St. Louis employees' email system went Google! The new change was celebrated with decorations around City Hall utilizing the Google primary colors of blue, green, red and yellow.

Google Captains were appointed for each department. Taking on those duties for the Comptroller's Office were Sean Hadley, Beth Seright, and Scott King. They were awarded by the City Hall Google Team first place for having the best decorations!

"In the beginning there were 250 employees volunteered to take the plunge into the new e-mail system. We had to function between two e-mail systems for several weeks. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the entire city migrated over to Google. The transition has been rather smooth, even for those who came kicking and screaming," said Hadley

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## AMAC: Airport Business Diversity Conference

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**Eunetter Steele:** "I had a fantastic time! The weather was perfect. My co-worker, Denise Peebles, and I teamed up to work the ninth hole or "longest drive" hole. Even though it was hot, we had a constant cool breeze. When the golfers reached our hole, we greeted them by welcoming them to the "longest drive" and offered them a cool beverage. They were all so pleasant and asked us who we worked for. Denise and I replied, "The Comptroller's Office" very proudly. Some of them stated that they knew Ms. Green and enjoyed working with her. They kidded around with us, but when it came down to them hitting the golf ball, there was total silence. The balls went everywhere, in the tree, across the street (from Joyce Meyers mansion), and in the bushes. We just had a relaxing fun time all-in-all."

**Denise Peebles:** "I really enjoyed my experience at the golf tournament. First of all I learned quite a bit about golf from the many golfers that I came in contact with while I volunteered at the ninth hole. It was an enjoyable day, the weather was perfect, the people were pleasant and everyone had a really nice time. A fun time was had by all."



### Employee of the Month: A Word From Keith Vernell



Since we had no nominations for Employee of the Month for the month of June, we'd like it to be formally stated that we are a little disappointed that we didn't receive any entries. We are hoping that we will do better for July.

The EOM Committee would like to thank everyone who contributes to our program. Let's continue to support each other.

**Go to  
Youtube/stlcompoffice  
for the latest from the  
Comptroller's Office**

### Spearman Special Chair NAACP Dinner A Success!



This year's Annual NAACP Freedom Fund dinner was a great success with the civil right organization handing out over 11 awards to local and national recipients.

Elaine Harris Spearman, Legal Advisor & Chief Staffing Officer chaired the celebration.

"The 2012 dinner was more moving and spectacular than 2011, which I also chaired. I am grateful for the many compliments received and that unexpected, unintended events did not reflect negatively on the overall program!"

Some of the awards presented at the annual dinner, included the Margaret Bush Wilson Lifetime Achievement Award to Bob Love, Chicago Bulls director of community development, and the NAACP Special Chair Elaine Harris Spearman Recognition Award to George Muhammad Mitchell, supervisor at the VA Medical Center.

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## INC Yourself

Turn your dream or passion into a business.  
 Come explore the best ways to make the most of emerging business opportunities in the St. Louis region. INC Yourself is a free workshop offered by St. Louis area business leaders and designed to teach people about starting or expanding a business.



Comptroller Darlene Green presents the Annual Charles Drew Blood Drive  
 Friday, August 17, 2012.  
 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.



### INC Yourself 2012 Will Add One More Free Workshop!

INC Yourself maybe for you! The second workshop was held Thursday, June 21 to a room full of would be entrepreneurs at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park.

Originally one more session was to be held July 19 at the Harrison Education Center. The Continuing Education Director Christy Jaeger was so impressed with the response and what she got to experience at the June session that she asked the Comptroller's Office to offer one more free session in September.

After each session, courses will be offered September through November.

Classes are filling up. Reserve your sitting now and ask for the Fall catalog on the course offered this fall. Sign up today to get in on this opportunity.

To register for these free workshops, go to [STLCCONED@STLCC.EDU](mailto:STLCCONED@STLCC.EDU) or call 314-984-7777.