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## DAILY BRIEFS

— Briefs, from 1

development community. After the business forums in 2010, summits were included in the economic development strategic plan to keep the development community engaged and updated with current services available.

Life cycle of an entrepreneur special guests include: Kent & Laken Gooch, Lick Your Lips Donuts (food truck vendor); Shane Hood, Bison & Bears (pop-up shop retailer), and Lee Brennan, Rusty Crane (local entrepreneur).

TGEW is a week dedicated to engaging people across Tulsa to join a growing movement of entrepreneurs and small business owners. Events being held during the week include entrepreneurial workshops and panels, as well as networking, pitching and coaching opportunities.

The Synergy -N-Tulsa Summit is free to attend. Participants can register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8745910253>.

RUTHIE BLALOCK JONES

# City's MRO invited to share story

BY TB&LN STAFF  
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The Alliance for Innovation has selected the City of Tulsa's Management Review Office (MRO) to share their success story to government leaders at the Transforming Local Government Conference in Denver, CO in April 2014.

The Alliance for Innovation is an international network that works to transform local government and advance community excellence through the discovery and application of leading ideas and practices. Municipalities around the country will be attending the conference in April to hear firsthand how Tulsa is

positively impacting city government.

"This is a great honor for Tulsa to be chosen as a leader in helping transform local government and I'm very proud of the cost-savings measures and efficiencies we are implementing that have a direct impact to our budget," Mayor Dewey Bartlett said. "When I created the MRO, the sole intent was to seek new ways to spend taxpayer dollars more wisely and I am proud to say that we are accomplishing this goal."

To date, the MRO has saved the city \$4 million through various cost-savings and gain sharing measures working with employees in fleet management, the customer care center and building maintenance and operations. The MRO

was created by Mayor Dewey Bartlett in 2010 to help City departments improve their daily operations by finding efficiencies and cost-savings. The MRO is responsible for reviewing and implementing KPMG recommendations and to identify opportunities for alternative service delivery methods and revenue generation/cost recovery initiatives throughout the city.

The Alliance for Innovation partners with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and Arizona State University to seek out the most innovative practices in governments around the world and hosts the prestigious Transforming Local Government Conference each year. «

## Tulsa city sales, use tax revenues up

tend. Participants can register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/event/8745910253>.

## RUTHE BLALOCK JONES TO BE HONORED

Tulsa City-County Library's American Indian Resource Center will induct Ruthe Blalock Jones into the Circle of Honor during a special presentation March 1, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. at Hardesty Regional Library's Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St.

Jones' award presentation begins the month-long American Indian Festival of Words celebration honoring the achievements and accomplishments of Native Americans.

Programs will be held throughout TCCL locations during March.

Jones, of Shawnee-Delaware-Peoria descent, was born in Claremore. Her work as an artist began at age 10 under the tutelage of Charles Banks Wilson.

At age 13, she entered the Phillbrook Indian Annual show and earned an honorable mention. She attended Bacone College and earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts from the University of Tulsa in 1972.

In 2011, she was appointed Commissioner of Indian arts and Crafts Board (IACB) by Department of the Interior Secretary Kenneth Salazar. She is director emeritus and associate professor of Art at Bacone College.

Her works focus on the traditional American Indian ceremonial and social events.

They are recorded in paintings, drawings, limited edition prints in linoleum block, woodcut and serigraphs. In recent years, her works have been published by Gilcrease Museum, The University of Oklahoma Press, The Museum of Natural History, Time-Life Books, and the United States Department of Justice Annual Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. «

# Tulsa city sales, use tax revenues up

BY TB&LN STAFF  
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The City of Tulsa's November sales tax revenue for mid-September to mid-October as reported by the Oklahoma Tax Commission, totaled \$18,744,231 up 1.8 percent from November 2012.

Year-to-date sales tax collections are up 1.3 percent for this fiscal year compared to last fiscal year.

Use tax revenues totaled \$2,129,908, up 22.1 percent from the same period in 2012, and 18.5 percent above budget esti-

mates for the month. Year-to-date use tax collections are up 9.3 percent for this fiscal year compared to last fiscal year, and 3 percent above the year-to-date budget estimate.

"We know that sales tax collections fluctuate from month to month and that is why we continue to implement cost-savings measures and efficiencies throughout the city to positively impact the general fund," Mayor Dewey Bartlett said. "The City of Tulsa is in good condition and we are pleased to see revenues are up for the month."

Although sales tax receipts for the month were slightly below budget predictions, use tax sales were greater than anticipated, which puts the city up \$100,000 in the general fund for the month.

Bartlett added, "We will continue to work closely with the Finance Department to monitor our revenue intake and control our spending so that we continue to live within our means. I am also pleased to report that we have entered this year with \$16 million in reserves, combining the Rainy Day Fund and operating reserve." «

## Aeromet, from 1

Now Aeromet has grown the 50,000 square feet of space it occupied at Jones-Riverside to two hangars of about 22,000 square feet each and 45,000 square feet of administrative space at Tulsa International.

Gary Ball, vice president and general manager of Aeromet, said little about Aeromet's operations but that its customer base is the U.S. government and its contractors.

Its four planes operate mainly in the U.S. and "in the Pacific some."

Missions include data collection and expertise in technology integration, the

company said. Ball said about 50 of Aeromet's 130 employees are engineers, 30 are mission aircrew and 12 make up the ground crew.

The ground crew is multi-talented, Ball said, able to make some modifications or one-of-a-kind items to meet a specific need.

In its news release the company said its modifications and flights support military, scientific and special missions using electro-optical and infrared technology. A mission aircrew may include equipment operators and analysts in addition to pilots, Ball indicated.

Besides giving the company more workspace it will enable to its planes to use the

longer Tulsa International runways with a full fuel load.

Smith said the company's employees are among the highest paid aerospace workers in the state.

Ball said he did not know if that was true, but declined to state the Aeromet's annual payroll or how much it has invested in the new facilities.

Aeromet is a unit of L-3 communications Holdings, Inc. of New York City, which has 51,000 employees throughout the work and reported sales of \$13.1 billion in 2012.

Aeromet is one of eight divisions within one of the company's four business segments. «

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