

May 2019

Dear Friends,

Many clients contact our agency asking for help on behalf of a loved one or friend. This month I offer several suggestions to help you keep your loved one organized and ensure bills are paid on time.

Are you planning to head north for the summer? If so, I hope you will read my tips for properly securing your property before you leave.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12. My sincere thanks to mothers everywhere. You have the most important job in the world – raising good, kind, ethical, responsible human beings. You are appreciated!

A friendly reminder our offices will be closed Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day. On this solemn holiday, let us take time to remember and honor the men and women who lost their lives in service to our country.

Best regards,

Anne Gannon Constitutional Tax Collector, Serving Palm Beach County

## Our Top Suggestions for Helping a Loved One Stay Organized

We receive many calls from caregivers who assist an aging parent or loved one with household finances, doctor appointments and other important tasks. Here are a few suggestions to help you and your loved one stay organized and informed:

- Get our 2019 Tax Planner & Service Guide
   This comprehensive guide provides an overview of all tax collector services. It also
   includes a handy planning calendar that lists tax deadlines and other important
   reminders such as registration and driver license renewals. Download a copy at
   <u>www.pbctax.com/publications</u> or email <u>ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com</u>.
- Subscribe to Tax Talk

Subscribe to our monthly electronic newsletter *Tax Talk* to receive timely agency updates and news along with important dates and reminders. Sign up or read the latest issue at <u>www.pbctax.com/taxtalk</u>.



## • Verify the Property Owner's Mailing Address

Remember to verify the property owner's mailing address is up-to-date with the Property Appraiser's Office. This one simple check ensures proper delivery of notices and tax bills. Call the Property Appraiser's Office at 561-355-3230 or visit <u>https://www.pbcgov.org/papa/</u>.

## Tips to Help Close Your Winter Home

Are you ready to close your home for the summer? The hot summer months bring humidity and the possibility of strong storms and hurricanes. Follow these tips to secure and protect your property.

- Make sure your insurance policy offers adequate protection from wind and hurricane damage.
- Check your landscaping and trim or remove any trees or vegetation that could damage your property.
- Install your hurricane shutters if you will be gone during hurricane season which begins June 1 and ends November 30.
- If your community does not allow you to install your hurricane shutters in advance, make arrangements for someone to install them for you should a storm threaten our area.
- Protect against moisture. Make sure your windows and doors are tightly sealed and set your air conditioning to run at 80 degrees while you are away. If you live in a condominium or apartment, set your air conditioning at 77 degrees.

## In the Community

Spring is a busy time of year for our civic engagement team. Our liaisons Amy Murphy and Gabriella Ferraro have traveled all over Palm Beach County meeting clients, learning about your communities and asking for feedback on how we can improve our service to you and your neighbors.

This past March we participated in the Driver Education Conference, an annual event presented by Dori Saves Lives. The conference focuses on the problems and solutions of distracted driving. We proudly shared information about our newly redesigned study app called "In the Driver's Seat." This free app guides teen drivers and their parents/guardians through the entire driver licensing process. The app is available for iOS and Android devices.

We were also proud to support the LGBTQ community by participating in Palm Beach Pride in late March. Hundreds of people stopped by our booth where we answered questions about taxes, motor vehicle and driver license services and REAL ID. This was Tax Collector Anne Gannon's 11<sup>th</sup> year participating in the event.

