

# Marion County Tax Collector Newsletter



George Albright, Marion County Tax Collector

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## **Registration Fee Reduction**

The Florida Legislature has recently passed a bill that will lower the cost of motor vehicle registrations by up to \$25.00 per year. The legislative change is scheduled to take effect September 1, 2014.

In an effort to save you money, the Marion County Tax Collector recommends renewing your motor vehicle registration for one year versus two years. There is no cost advantage with two-year registration renewals. If this legislation is passed, refunds will not be given for current registrations.

As we receive more information regarding the upcoming changes, we will update our website for your convenience.

#### **Online Services**

Did you know that you can go online and check your drivers license status at any time? Parents, did you know you can access your minor's driving record online? Do you need your title to the vehicle that you just paid off? Did your medical card expire and you need to update your medical certification online for your CDL?

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles offers many of these services online in addition to others. These services are found under Virtual Office and are designed to give you easier access to your record as well as expedite certain requests. Simply go to *www.flhsmv.gov* and click on the red tab labeled "Online Services".

#### **Tax Collector Services**

To better serve all residents of Marion County, we offer road testing at multiple branches in addition to our Ocala office. Road testing is available at our Belleview and Dunnellon branches. We strongly urge you to call our office at 352-368-8200 to make an appointment for any road testing prior to coming into one of our offices. Medical testing is performed only with appointments. Please have all of your information ready when calling to schedule an appointment.

In addition to road testing , our Dunnellon branch also offers all necessary testing, fingerprinting and background checks for the Hazmat application.



## 4th Annual Tax Collector Car Show

Thank you to everyone who supported our 4th Annual Tax Collector Car Show! We were able to present Interfaith Emergency Services with a \$5000 check from the proceeds of the Car Show.



To view more pictures of the 4th Annual Tax Collector Car Show or pictures from past car shows and fundraiser events, go to *www.mariontax.com* and click on 'Other'. Choose 'Charities' from the drop down menu.

You will also find a list of various organizations that have benefitted from our past fundraisers.

# **Drivers Handbooks**

Please visit **www.floridadmvbooklet.com** to download or view the latest version of the Florida Drivers License handbooks as well as the CDL and motorcycle handbooks. They are available in English and Spanish.

Check this website out for helpful links, helpful resources and other links that may interest you.

#### www.mariontax.com

Do you want to view any previous newsletters? Do you need to print out a receipt for taxes that you paid? Do you want to receive your tax bill notice electronically? Not sure what you need for your drivers license renewal? Have questions about your tag renewal? Do you need more information about your hunting and fishing license?

These are all items that can be found on our website...and so much more! Go to *www.mariontax.com* and browse our website for helpful tips and lots of good information!

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### Kids Tag Art

Meet "Marion the Mare", our official mascot for the Marion County Tax Collector Kids Tag Art program. This program inspires fifth grade art students to design their own specialty plate while at the same time learning about the practical application of license plate art and how Florida's 100+ specialty license plates support worthy causes. Each school earns 100% of the proceeds and a share of over \$15,000. Our major sponsor this year again was Jenkins Auto, donating \$10,000. Fine Arts for Ocala, Inc. donated \$1,000 and we received in kind sponsorship from Appleton Museum of Art, College of Central Florida and Woods Printing.

All of the tags on our website are Award of Distinction winners. Purchasing their tag will provide funding to the elementary school each student attends. Please visit our website at **www.mariontax.com** to view and purchase the available vanity plates.

For more information, please call our office at 352-368-8200.