September 2016

Dear Friend,

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for my re-election as Constitutional Tax Collector in Palm Beach County. I am very thankful to be given this opportunity to serve the residents and businesses of our great county for the next four years. You have my pledge that I will do whatever is in my power to continue to provide you with efficient, personalized and outstanding customer service with the strict adherence to our ethics policy. Thank you for your trust.

Constitution Celebration

Did you know the U.S. Constitution was signed September 17, 1787? The Constitution splits power among the three branches of government. The Florida Constitution does the same. It defines the separation of power between the branches of state and local government. These separations limit power because each branch of government "checks and balances" the powers of the others.

Florida's Constitution also established five Constitutional Officers of Sheriff, Tax Collector, Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections and Clerk of the Circuit Court. Locally, this means that the powers of the Board of County Commissioners are separate from county wide Constitutional Officers. For example, taxation powers are split between County Commission that sets the tax rate, the Property Appraiser that sets property values and the Tax Collector who collects the taxes. Without this separation, one government branch would have all the taxation powers.

Since 1885, 13 people have been elected Tax Collector in Palm Beach County. Anne M. Gannon is the first woman elected to this position.

Hurricane Planning

September marks the peak of hurricane season. Is your family emergency plan complete? If not, we have the perfect tool to help. Being prepared makes for safer neighbors, families and communities.

Get our free Hurricane Preparedness Guide for your 2016 storm planning. The guide contains practical guidelines, key phone numbers, tips to prepare for a storm and useful stock items. Organize your home and stay safe by preparing for the unexpected. To request guides for your community group or HOA, email ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com.

Business Deadline

Local Business Taxes are due September 30. Taxes are delinquent October 1 and subject to a 10% penalty. We understand your time is valuable and our offices are busier around deadlines. Pay taxes online from your office. Visit our website at http://pbctax.manatron.com/Tabs/BusinessTax.aspx

Installment Payment Due

Many Palm Beach County residents participate in the 2016 Property Tax Installment Payment Plan. The second quarterly installment payment is due September 30. We recommend online payment for all taxes at https://www.pbctax.com/pay-online

Taxpayers in the Installment Payment Plan receive a discount slightly over 3.5% when paid by the date due. If you would like to enroll in the 2017 Property Tax Installment Payment Plan, visit our website beginning November 2016 for more information.

It's a Wrap!

We are excited to share the grand prize winning photo from our social media contest *Picture It… Who Rides with You?* The photo was submitted by Marie of West Palm Beach and features her grandmother Dorrisile who is 114 years old. Marie moved her grandmother to Palm Beach County in August from Turks and Caicos. The grand prize winner receives emergency roadside safety gear, a universal smart phone charger and their entry is published in our agency's publications and social media. Congratulations Marie!

The contest was launched to share information and connect with our community about services, tax requirements and driver safety through social media. County residents submitted over 100 creative and fun entries. Follow @TAXPBC on Twitter and Instagram for agency alerts, tax reminders, Florida driver information, service news and more.

Join us in celebration of the 135th Labor Day as we recognize the contributions workers make to our country and economy. As a reminder our offices will be closed September 5, 2016. Have a wonderful and safe Labor Day.

Best regards,

Anne M. Gannon