

---

# Dealer Connection

---



Volume 3, Issue 1

June 2003

## New Specialty Plates Approved by Legislature

**Laurel Swim**

Several new specialty plates were authorized during the 2003 legislative session and have been sent to the Governor for approval. If signed off by Governor Bush, the following plates will become available within the next several months:



### Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention Plate

\$27.00 (plus registration fees)

Revenue generated from this plate will be distributed to the Children's Home Society of Florida and the Florida Network of Children's Advocacy Centers.



### Protect Our Reefs Plate

\$27.00 (plus registration fees)

Annual use fees go to Mote Marine Laboratory Inc, to

*Please see New Specialty Plates on page 2*

## Tax Collector Announces New Vessel Dealer Class

**Steve Colburn**

The Tax Collector's Office is offering a new training class for Vessel Dealers and their representatives on July 24, 2003, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM, at our North County office. Since vessel dealers are not licensed or regulated by DMV, no training has previously been available. This new class is designed to fulfill that need.

Among the topics scheduled for inclusion in the Vessel Dealer Class are: business and professional licensing requirements; accessing resources and reference tools; vessel terminology; tax rates for vessel registrations and titles; registration and title requirements; sample forms and ownership documents; dealer and broker sales and reassignments; Yacht and Ship Broker requirements; and

*Please see Vessel Dealer Class on page 3*

---

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 New specialty tags
- 1 Tax Collector announces new vessel dealer class
- 2 Tax Collector raises record total for Prevent Blindness
- 3 Tax Collector offers mobile home dealer class
- 3 Dealer resources from the Department of Revenue
- 3 Towing & storage lien class a huge success
- 4 Driver license requirements for larger trucks

### **New Specialty Plates**

fund Florida reef research, conservation and education programs.

### **Military Services Plate**

\$17.00 (plus registration fees)

In addition to the existing Marine Corps license plate, DHSMV will produce plates for the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. Annual use fees will be deposited into the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund to construct, operate and maintain domiciliary and nursing homes for veterans.

### **Stop Heart Disease Plate**

\$27.00 (plus registration fees)

Annual use fees will be distributed to the Florida Heart Research Foundation, Inc. to fund cardiovascular disease research, education and prevention programs.

### **Hospice Plate**

\$27.00 (plus registration fees)

Fees will benefit Florida Hospices and Palliative Care, Inc., helping to fund hospice care for special groups such as children and veterans, and education, outreach, and other programs.



### **Fish Florida Plate**

\$24.00 (plus registration fees)

Annual use fees will be distributed to the Florida Foundation for Responsible Angling, Inc. to fund aquatic education, marine resource stewardship and ethical angling practices.

### **Specialty Motorcycle Plate**

\$17.00 (plus registration fees)

*Continued on next column*

The first motorcycle specialty plate will incorporate a red, white and blue color scheme, and fees will go to the Able Trust Fund, for equal distribution to:

- The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program Trust Fund
- Prevent Blindness Florida
- Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation
- Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living

### **U.S Paratroopers Plate**

\$22.00 (plus registration fees)

Qualifying paratroopers who submit proof of decoration as a parachutist or completion of the U.S. Army Jump School can purchase this special plate. Fees go to the State Homes for Veterans Trust Fund.

In addition, the name of the Challenger plate will change to Challenger/Columbia plate, to commemorate the seven astronauts who died on the Columbia space shuttle. 🚀

## **Prevent Blindness Campaign a Rousing Success in Pinellas**

### **Cherice Bravieri**

Diane Nelson is proud to announce that Pinellas County Tax Collector employees participated in Prevent Blindness Florida's "Sight-Saver Contest" this past April. Diane's staff collected the most donations among participating counties, with total contributions reaching a whopping \$14,550.00!!

Fundraising activities included bake and rummage sales and a "name that baby" contest, among other events. Many thanks to those of you who contributed to this worthy cause and helped the Tax Collector's Office exceed its goals.

For more information on Prevent Blindness, visit <http://www.preventblindness.org/florida/>.



### Vessel Dealer Class

Documented Vessel requirements.

I will be teaching the class, and hope to include a guest speaker from a local documentation service to speak about the documentation process. Please let us know what your interests are for this training class, or any specific questions that you may have, so that we may design this class to meet your needs! Please contact Cherice Bravieri (727-464-8635) with questions or suggestions, for further information, or to register for the class. 📧



## Dealer Resources from the Department of Revenue

**Larry Fast**

**Department of Revenue**

A wealth of information is available at the official web site for the Florida Department of Revenue, [www.myflorida.com/dor](http://www.myflorida.com/dor). Forms, Brochures, and the Tax Law Library (for tax law research) are just a part of the information accessible to help the dealers and citizens of Florida. Alternatively, the local revenue Service Center in Clearwater offers sales tax classes for new (and not so new) dealers. These workshops are free and take place every Monday at 10:00AM (except Holidays) and the first Tuesday night of each month at 5:30PM. The classes generally run two hours. The location is the Clearwater Service Center at 19337 US Hwy 19 North, Suite 200, and the contact phone number is 727-538-7155, Larry A. Fast. Classes cover basic sales tax rules and focus on filling out the DR15 forms, with time for questions. Mr. Fast is also available to speak to businesses and groups upon request. 📧

## Tax Collector Offers Another Mobile Home Dealer Class



**Laurel Swim**

The Tax Collector's Office is offering another training class for mobile home dealers on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Surveys indicate this class is well received, with many attendees recommending that dealers attend it on a regular basis as a refresher for staying up to date on title processing.

As always, there is no charge for the class, which will include training on mobile home registrations, titles, and "death cases." It will be held on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm at the North County Tax Collector Office, 29399 US Highway 19 North, Suite 260, Clearwater.

Anyone interested in attending the class should register with Cherice Bravieri at (727) 464-8635, since seating is limited and the class fills up quickly. 📧

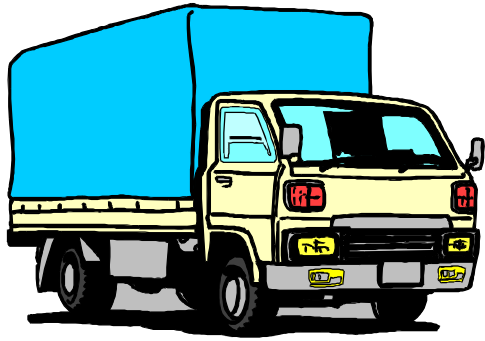
## Towing and Storage Lien Class a Huge Success!



**Cherice Bravieri**

The Pinellas County Tax Collector's Office is proud to announce that our first Towing & Storage Lien (TL-26) class, with DMV trainer Sherry Allen, proved be an enormous success for our wrecker companies!

If any of you perform wrecker services as part of your business and you want additional training on this procedure, please contact Cherice Bravieri at (727)464-8635. 📧



## Driver License Requirements for Larger Trucks

Laurel Swim

*Did you know . . . ?*

With vehicles seeming to get bigger every year, you may want to consider advising your customers to upgrade to a class D driver license when they purchase a truck that weighs 8,000 lbs. or more empty, has a gross vehicle weight of 8,000 lbs. or more (but less than 26,001 lbs.) or has a width of more than 80 inches.

In most instances, drivers are required to obtain a Commercial Driver License if they operate vehicles that have a declared weight or actual weight of 26,001 lbs. or more, are designed to transport 16 or more persons including the driver, or transport hazardous materials requiring placards. Information on the specific requirements for these licenses can be obtained at your local state driver license office or at the Tax Collector's Tarpon Springs, North County, McMullen Booth, Gulf to Bay or South County offices, or at the Driver Licenses website, <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/dlnew.html>. ☎

### UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| July 4      | Closed for Independence Day  |
| July 9      | Title and Registration Class |
| July 23     | Mobile Home Dealer Class     |
| July 24     | Vessel Dealer Class          |
| September 1 | Closed for Labor Day         |



P.O. Box 749  
Clearwater FL 33757-0749