



TAX *Talk*

— WITH ANNE M. GANNON —
CONSTITUTIONAL TAX COLLECTOR
Serving Palm Beach County

February 2024 Tax Talk
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Dear Friends,

February is quite an exciting month around the tax collector's office. We have passed the halfway mark of this year's tax season and 86% of taxpayers have paid their property taxes. For those who have not yet paid, February offers a 1% discount if paid by February 29. Keep in mind that there is no discount offered in March so now is your last chance to save some money on your taxes.

February also marks the opening of the newest service center in Palm Beach Gardens where we will begin servicing our clients in a beautiful, spacious, and modern facility. After several years of planning and construction, we are thrilled to bring this newest facility to our clients in northern Palm Beach County. Look for next month's issue of **Tax Talk** when I will share some of the photos and details of the grand opening!

Anne M. Gannon
Constitutional Tax Collector, Serving Palm Beach County

Introducing Pocketalk!

Serving you, is our commitment and goal with every interaction with our clients. And with that, we are pleased to announce an exciting new service is now available in all of our service centers – introducing Pocketalk.

The Pocketalk device is simple to use and is capable of translating more than 80 different languages. All you do is speak into the Pocketalk device and it converts the words into a text and audio translation in the desired language. Now our Client Service Specialists and clients can have 2-way conversations in the client's preferred language and the device will translate the message into English, and vice versa.



This new device has been a game changer for our teams in the service centers and during road tests. Now, during road tests, it allows us to provide the driver with the necessary commands in English that they will hear in their preferred language. Prior to Pocketalk, we had to rely on either an employee to translate, or the services of a translator when and if available. We are happy to say goodbye to those days and hello, bonjour, and hola to the introduction of this new technology. This is just another way we are delivering on our commitment to *'Serving You'... regardless of the language the client speaks.*

Origami in the Garden

A beautiful new exhibit has unfolded at Mounts Botanical Garden. Origami in the Garden, created by Santa Fe artists Jennifer and Kevin Box, is an outdoor sculpture exhibition. It features 20 metal sculptures inspired by the Japanese art of paper folding. What better time to enjoy the beautiful grounds at Mounts than during the cooler winter weather? I hope you get a chance to stroll through the exhibit. Origami in the Garden is open now through May 12, during regular Mounts Botanical Garden hours.



Visit <https://www.mounts.org/origami-in-the-garden/> to purchase tickets: \$20 general admission; \$18 seniors 65 years +, college students, and military with ID; \$13 kids 6 – 17; free for children under 6. Admission is free for Mounts members and RAP (reciprocal program) members; must present membership card. Annual membership is \$60 for an individual or \$95 for a family. Visit <https://www.mounts.org/membership/> for more information. Admission is by credit/debit card ONLY.

Dispose Safely....the Hazards of Lithium Batteries

They are found in everything from electric toothbrushes, musical greeting cards, and even Tesla electric vehicles, but do you know the dangers of lithium batteries if they are not disposed of properly? Lithium batteries are easily damaged once thrown out. When they are dropped, scraped, crushed, or punctured, the lithium inside can become exposed and create a fire hazard. When lithium combines with water, it produces highly flammable hydrogen and lithium hydroxide that produces a spark. If this happens inside a garbage/recycling truck or a solid waste facility, that spark can cause a fire. These fires can spread quickly and burn for weeks.



Lithium batteries can be properly disposed of at one of the seven Solid Waste Authority Home Chemical and Recycling Centers located throughout Palm Beach County. Many major retailers also offer free disposal of these batteries. For more information and examples of products containing lithium batteries, visit the Solid Waste Authority website, www.swa.org/lib.

 **February**

IMPORTANT DATES & HOLIDAYS

1	1% Property Tax Discount Begins
1	Tourist Development Tax Due
19	Presidents' Day - Tax Collector Offices Closed
29	Last Day to Receive 1% Property Tax Discount

**GET YOUR
PROPERTY TAX** **1%**

**FEBRUARY
DISCOUNT**