

### **ISSUE: XXVIII**

### **OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2015**

Mission Statement

Provide Dallas County Citizens with Excellent Service using Innovative Technology to Ensure Quality Collections.



Hon. John R. Ames, CTA Tax Assessor/Collector

#### In this Issue!

Personal recognitions

#### TAX ASSESSOR / COLLECTOR MESSAGE...

It's time to pay your property taxes again! The Tax Office has assisted thousands of citizens this quarter with their property tax payments. January 31<sup>st</sup> falls on a Sunday this year, so the final day to pay without penalty and interest is February 1, 2016. Remember, Don't stand in line, pay online at <u>www.dallascounty.org/tax</u>. You can use an E-check for no additional fee or use your credit/debit card with a Chase convenience fee.

As always, the staff at the Tax Office have done an amazing job with their artistic, creative and competitive talents. Check out the decorated pumpkins and the gingerbread houses on pages 8 & 10. Congratulations to the *Motor Vehicle Operations Team* for winning the Pumpkin Painting Contest and to the *Taxpayer Relations/ Customer Care Center Team* for winning the Gingerbread House Contest. Remember, both departments have unlimited bragging rights for the next 12 months! Also, don't forget to check out the Costume Contest winners on page 9. The Property Tax "Addmin" Family was almost too spooky for words! Way to go *Norman Kasal, Yvonne Sprague* and *Blanca Nieto*.

I'm proud to recognize the Garland Branch as our featured office this quarter. They are the current "Branch of the Quarter" recipients and you can see why on page 5. I'd like to also "Welcome Aboard" to all our new employees and promoted employees. As you can see, we bulk up on staff this time of year to assist with all the additional citizens we serve. Many of those seasonal employees transition to part-time and/or full-time employees as positions open.

It is with deep regret that we say goodbye to our friend and former Richardson Branch Manager Deb Green. Deb's passing has impacted the entire Tax Office. Thank you to Commissioner Cantrell and the Commissioners Court for honoring Deb recently with a resolution in remembrance of all the hard work she put in at the Tax Office for the citizens of Dallas County. We now have another angel looking over us.

I hope everyone had a Happy New Year! I look forward to leading this amazing team in 2016. I am humbled and proud to be your Dallas County Tax Assessor/Collector.

- John R. Ames, CTA

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The DALLAS COUNTY TAX STATEMENT is an official publication of the Dallas County Tax Office. Editorial Articles are accepted and considered for publication, but do not reflect the opinion of the editor, publisher or the Dallas County Tax Office.

# BIRTHDAYS

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### **OCTOBER**

Donnia Beasley	1
Irene Hernandez	1
Jacob Cortez	1
Melissa Rodriguez	2
Tina Garcia	4
Anintita Netkum	5
Janetta Wilson	6
Jose Delgado	8
Paulina Ramirez	10
Cheryl Smith	14
Tieraney Smith	25
Eric Garcia	26
Eulane Hart	29
Karla Escamilla-Clark	29
Brenda Vasquez	30
Connie Stinson	31

## Sergio Quintero Ana Rodriguez

0	
Ana Rodriguez	8
Morgan McDougal	9
Jessie Bigley	12
Margarita De Leon	16
Richard Heinrich	16
Marilyn Hickman	18
Alejandra Alvarado	21
Christina Benedict	21
Curtanya Bailey	22
Vickie Dykes	29
Tarsha LeSueur	29

#### **NOVEMBER**

	Krystle Curtis	4
	Davette Rodgers	5
	Sonia Carrizal	6
<u>,</u>	Bonnie Mola	8
	Lorie Phillips	8
	Rachelle Dunham	10
	Yesenia Che	11
)	DJ Licon	14
	Zoraida Carrazco	15
	Felicia Fernandez	17

#### **DECEMBER**

	4	Patricia Perez	21
	5	Karla Yates	26
	6	Charette Green	27
	8	Gloria Garcia-Rivera	28
	8	Paul E. Hamilton	28
L	10	Deborah Bloomer	30
	11	Darlene Beck	31
	14	Kelleye Dunn-Richardson	31
	15	Keandra Wright	31
	1.5		

# **SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES**

### **OCTOBER**

1 year Frank Pena-Perales Elda Rodriguez Juanita Sanchez 3 years **Teresa Cloninger** Disha Wesley 4 years Sharon Coleman-Rankin Imarisha Garrett-Pace 5 years **Carmen Sanchez** 6 years **Cheryl Patterson** 8 years Pam Gibson Yul Jones Brenda Lopez Melissa Matta Celia Salas

9 years Charette Green 10 years Elizabeth Nedd 12 years Glenda Jesttes 16 years Christina Benedict 18 years Willie Mae Nobles 19 years Deb Langford 25 years Alvinia Barge

### **NOVEMBER**

1 year **Destiny Flores** Shermika Bennett 3 years Marie Cota Draopadi Fermin-Mendez Wanda Helm 4 years Erica Goodman Ann Watson 5 years **Ron Williams** 8 years **Toni** Jones 9 years Vickie Dykes 14 years Paulina Ramirez 22 years Rhonda Hadnot





1 year Brenda Vasquez 3 years Mason Gonzalez Sally Stephens 5 years Linda Rowell 6 years Donnia Beasley Sonia Carrizal Wendy Hernandez-Alcala 7 years Felicia Fernandez 8 years Noemi Vazquez 10 years Linda Levy Irma Mendez 14 years Nytosha Houston





# **QUALITY MEASURES**

## **TOP PRODUCERS**

The following branches are this quarter's top producers in these categories.

	остове	OCTOBER NOVEMBER		DECEMBER		
Vehicle Titles	Grand Prairie	8,287	Grand Prairie	5,973	Grand Prairie	6,728
Processed	North Dallas	6,316	North Dallas	5,296	North Dallas	5,738
	Garland	5,531	Garland	4,526	Garland	4,896
Registrations	North Dallas	14,586	North Dallas	12,870	North Dallas	13,822
Processed	Grand Prairie	13,997	Garland	11,167	Grand Prairie	13,154
	Garland	12,765	Grand Prairie	10,542	Garland	12,831
Property Tax	Oak Cliff	802	Oak Cliff	1,293	Oak Cliff	2,829
Transactions	Garland	648	Grand Prairie	798	Garland	2,192
	Mesquite	567	Mesquite	787	Grand Prairie	2,148













REGISTRATIONS PROCESSED 528,819

### CHECKS PROCESSED BY THE REMITTANCE PROCESSING SYSTEM

267,405





## **INCENTIVES**

The following department employees have met and exceeded goals to obtain incentive pay!

JULY		AUGUST	ſ	SEPTEMBER	
Duncanville	100%	Duncanville	100%	Duncanville	100%
Garland	100%	Garland	100%	Garland	100%
Mesquite	100%	Customer Care	94%	Customer Care	75%
Oak Cliff	100%	Mesquite	90%	MV Downtown	75%
Customer Care	100%	Grand Prairie	80%	Mesquite	70%
Grand Prairie	80%	Oak Cliff	80%	Grand Prairie	67%
Richardson	70%	Richardson	70%	North Dallas	62%
North Dallas	69%	North Dallas	69%	Richardson	60%
MV Downtown	67%	MV Downtown	67%	Oak Cliff	50%
MV Operations	33%	MV Operations	33%	MV Operations	33%

\*Published one quarter behind for audit verification.



### **NEW EMPLOYEES ON BOARD**

### Alberto Garcia Anakaren Arzola Angela Medrano Brittani Hamilton Catina Diggs-Thibodeaux **Charles Taylor** Ellen Hays Francisco Piedra **Gaylon Harris** Gerardo Blanco John Curry Katrina Ross Keandra Wright Lorena Hernandez Maldonado Louis Wright Margaret Ruiz Maria Ferrer Mary Fuller **Osmar** Lopez Perla Rebolloso **Richard Heinrich Robert Wilson** Shionna Brown Wendolyn Phillips Yesenia Che Zataria Pirtle

Full Time Representative Part Time Representative Motor Vehicle Director Full Time Representative Part Time Representative Part Time Representative Full Time Representative Part Time Representative Part Time Representative Part Time Representative Full Time Representative Part Time Representative

**Richardson Tax Office Richardson Tax Office Property Tax Division** Grand Prairie Tax Office Motor Vehicle Division Motor Vehicle Division Motor Vehicle Admin **Richardson Tax Office Property Tax Division** North Dallas Tax Office North Dallas Tax Office **Property Tax Division** Motor Vehicle Operations Duncanville Tax Office **Richardson Tax Office Richardson Tax Office** Customer Care Center Motor Vehicle Operations Accounting - RPS Motor Vehicle Division North Dallas Tax Office Customer Care Center **Property Tax Division** Garland Tax Office **Richardson Tax Office Property Tax Division** 

## **EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS**

Diana Guerrero Donnia Beasley Gabrielle Peters Jacob Cortez Jessica Rubin Jose Delgado Karla Yates Kendra Winn Toni Jones

Lead Representative Lead Representative Full Time Representative Full Time Representative Assistant Manager Assistant Manager Full Time Representative Lead Representative

Full Time Representative

Motor Vehicle Division Property Tax Division North Dallas Tax Office Motor Vehicle Operations Mesquite Tax Office Motor Vehicle Division Motor Vehicle Operations Mesquite Tax Office Richardson Tax Office

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## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR



Jason Ortiz , Quality Control Specialist, receives the 2015 Employee of the Year Award from John R. Ames, Tax Assessor/Collector.

Congratulations!



The Dallas County Tax Office has expanded its horizons for wearing jeans during weekdays by introducing "Jean Wearing Wednesdays"! It is a great way for the staff to enjoy wearing blue jeans while supporting a great cause. Funds are collected each month and donated to a special cause or charity selected by the Tax Office Cabinet members. The following is a list of special causes or charities and the amount of funds raised for this quarter:

> October: Susan G. Komen - **\$692**

November: Dallas CASA - **\$514** 

December: Salvation Army - \$762



## AROUND THE TAX OFFICE... GARLAND BRANCH OFFICE



Amber White



Lorie Phillips



Linda Rowell



Raven Contreras



Kristen Smith



Hassan Javaid



Eric Garcia

The daily goal of the Garland Tax Office is to provide taxpayers with a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere, while gladly processing their Motor Vehicle and Property Tax transactions. As a team, Garland branch hopes to change the negative perception people often have of government workers, by presenting welcoming faces and providing excellent customer service. Their dedication to customer service and hard work has earned them the current title of "Branch of the Quarter." This office is composed of 16 team members with over 74 years of combined experience. The office team includes:

Amber Yeager (13 years of service) Cheryl Smith (11 years of service) Lorie Phillips (7 years of service) Bridget Hernandez (1 year of service) Linda Rowell (4 years of service) Sonia Carrizal (5 years of service) Raven Contreras (6 years of service), Viridiana Lopez (7 years of service) Kristen Smith (10 years of service) Jessie Bigley (5 years of service) Hassan Javaid (1 year of service) Nickcole Jeffery (3 months of service) Eric Garcia (3 years of service) Ashli Bennett (1 year of service) Kendra Winn (3 months of service) and Karla Escamilla-Clark (2 months of service).

The Garland Branch Office is pleased to be of service to the citizens of Dallas County and believe that... "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each individual member is the team." – Phil Jackson



Cheryl Smith



Bridget Hernandez



Sonia Carrizal



Viridiana Lopez



Jessie Bigley



Nickcole Jeffery



Karla Escamilla-Clark





Kendra Winn

# **EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

### **OCTOBER**

ason Ortiz is the Quality Control Specialist at the Tax Office. He clearly lives up to his title on a regular basis in both the quality of work he produces and the level of service he provides to the taxpayers. He has an inquisitive mind and possesses the unique ability to spot inconsistencies and irregularities with Motor Vehicle title and registration paperwork. He is thorough and fair in his reviews and demonstrates professionalism and respect when dealing with the Tax Office staff. He does everything to the best of his ability and without the expectation of anything in return. He makes his coworkers day brighter and more entertaining simply by being present at work. The Tax Office would not be same without his skills, humor and his kind heart.



Jason Ortiz Administration



**Donnia Beasley** Property Tax Division

## NOVEMBER

onnia Beasley is the ultimate team player. She can frequently be found offering personal and specialized care to taxpayers who present very unique situations. She takes each customer's concerns personally and often spends considerable time with them to explain the intricacies of their unique situations, such as their rights to pursue property tax exemptions, tax ceilings and the like. After meeting with Donnia, property owners often leave the Tax Office with a better and clear understanding of their accounts. Thus, they are able to make better decisions in regards to their property tax obligations. All her work is customer-focused. She's definitely an asset to the Property Tax team!

### DECEMBER

ina Jackson is an exemplary employee. She arrives to work at least 30 minutes early each day and spends time preparing her workstation. She consistently exceeds the daily productivity goals. Her transfer from a different branch office was easy and smooth. She has great people skills and on more than one occasion, customers have commented on her calm and soothing demeanor. She has taken instructions well regarding the new system assigned to her and increased her production immensely. She helps mentor new employees and is always willing to assist management when required. Nina goes above and beyond her normal duties. She's an ideal Tax Office employee.



Nina Jackson North Dallas Tax Office

# **PERSONAL RECOGNITIONS**

• Congratulations to the following employees for celebrating their 5th anniversary with Dallas County.



**Ron Williams** Motor Vehicle Operations





*Keriann Pringle* Property Tax Division



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*Linda Rowell* Garland Tax Office

• Congratulations to *Linda Levy* of Property Tax Division for celebrating her *10th anniversary* with Dallas County.





IN MEMORIAM











The Dallas County Tax Office honors the memory and career of our beloved Deb Green, former Branch Manager at the Richardson Tax Office. Deb retired from the Tax Office on October 30, 2015, due to sudden illness after 18 years of service. Just a few days after her official retirement, Deb unfortunately passed away. Deb leaves a loving family, and many close friends and colleagues to mourn her passing. The Tax Office is forever grateful and appreciative for the life and service of Deb Green.



# **2015 PUMPKIN PAINTING CONTEST**



# HALLOWEEN 2015

DALLAS COUNTY TAX OFFICE HALLOWEEN COSTUME WINNERS



Addmin Family

AN

TAIN



2nd place: **Zombie Bride** Taxpayer Relations **Gaby Morales** 



AN

**3rd place: Star Wars** Motor Vehicle Admin LaTara Daniels, Cynthia Herrera, Reina Reyna











## **2015 GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST**



# **CITIZEN APPRECIATION**

## The following Tax Office Employees and Departments have received Dallas County citizen's Appreciation this Quarter.

Alejandra Alvarado Amber White Ana Rodriguez Ashley Delgado **Beng** Talley **Bonnie** Mola Bridget Hernandez **Carmen Yarborough Charette Green** Chelsea Moore Debra Davis **DJ** Licon Eulane Hart Evelvn Rivera Frank Garcia Frank Pena Perales Gail Wortham Garland Tax Office **Glenda** Jesttes **Grand Prairie Tax Office** Hassan Javaid

Ianetta Wilson Jessica Rubin Jessie Bigley **Juanita** Sanchez Kelleye Dunn-Richardson **Kristen Smith** Leonardo Romero Leticia Dominguez Linda Rowell Mariana Colunga **Mesquite Tax Office** Motor Vehicle Division Myrtle Johnson Nickcole Jeffery North Dallas Tax Office Oak Cliff Tax Office Ofelia Escalona Pam Gibson Phyllis Jones Priscilla Cook **Property Tax Division** 

**Raven Contreras Renisha** Franklin Rhonda Hadnot **Ricardo Salas Richardson Tax Office** Rita Cathey-Akinlabi **Robin Porter** Rochelle Clavborn Sandra Bowie Sergio Quintero Sharon Coleman-Rankin Shermika Bennett Sherwanna Milam Sonia Carrizal Tarsha LeSueur **Teresa Cloninger** Tina Garcia Vanessa Rodriguez Veronica Alvarez Virginia Mendez Flores Wilean Blair

I shall pass through this life but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness I can show, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it. For I shall never pass this way again. -Etienne de Grellet

## Just a note

"I'm writing to express my gratitude for the outstanding job your two employees did today helping me pay my property taxes. Bonnie Mola, Representative & Sherwanna Milam, Asst. Manager at the Richardson Tax Office. We are in good hands with such wonderful ladies able to take care of things so quickly."

- Ann Latrobe (Dallas County Citizen)

## Way to go Tax Office staff!!!