

# Motor Vehicle News & Views

A publication of the Hillsborough County Tax Collector's Office - Volume 3, Issue 1 - January 2004

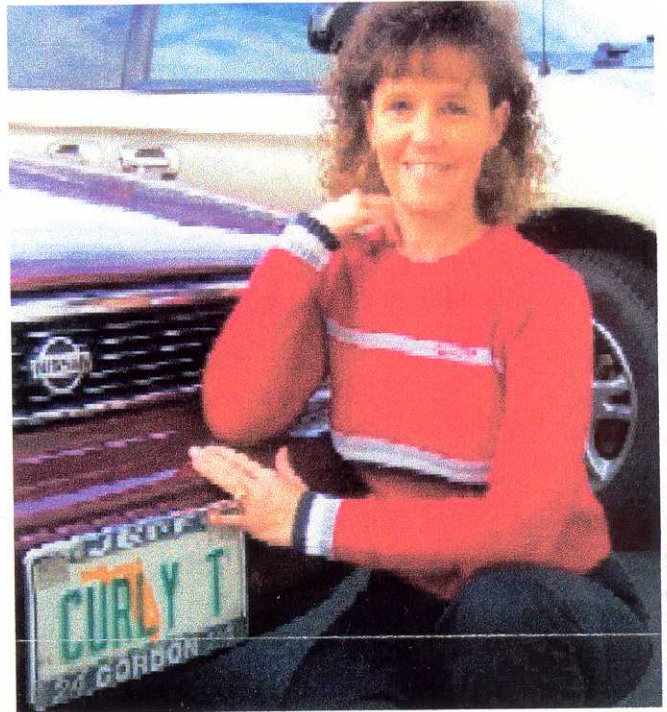
## Strict rules govern replacing personal plates

By Ann Murray

Replacement for a personalized plate can often be a confusing procedure. If the plate was stolen, the exact same plate can only be ordered if law enforcement removes the plate from the FCIC file and proof is provided. Otherwise, a new choice must be selected on an application for a new personalized plate. A lost or damaged personalized plate may be replaced with the exact same characters. The customer must complete form HSMV 83146, Application for Replacement License Plate. If a new choice of characters is selected, form HSMV 83043, Application for a Personalized License Plate, must be completed. A copy of the current registration certificate must accompany the application.

If a personalized plate is lost and vehicle traded for another, the replacement plate can still be used on the new vehicle. When the Application for Replacement License Plate is presented with the title application, a 90 day temporary plate will be issued to the customer and a reservation will be made for the replacement plate. The replacement fee is \$18.10 providing the registration is current and not in the renewal period.

**Please see PLATE on back page**



Theresa Harvill, a supervisor in the Tax Collector's Plant City office, displays her personalized tag. Proper steps need to be taken when a personalized plate is lost or stolen.

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## DMV offering free online lookup

By Dawn Antinori

Did you know there is another option for online motor vehicle checks? On the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle website anyone can use "Motor Vehicle Check" to view vehicle or vessel records free of charge.

Just go to [www.hsmv.state.fl.us](http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us) and click on [Motor Vehicle Check](#). Inquiries can be completed by keying in the title or vehicle identification number to find the following key information:

- \* Complete vehicle description.
- \* Title issue date.
- \* Last recorded odometer reading/date read.
- \* Lienholder information.
- \* Registration expiration date.

Please note that ownership information is not available through this resource.

Check out the Tax Collector's Office on the web at [www.hillstax.org](http://www.hillstax.org)

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## DMV's recent rule changes affect ASPT and Rebuilt titles

By Dawn Antinori

The heart of the DMV Bureau of Field Operations, Region VI beats behind these unmarked doors. The region moved to their current location, 5701 East Hillsborough Ave, Suite 2228, in Tampa in August of 2001.

I spoke with Herb Atwood, a compliance officer, regarding recent changes that involve the bureau. These changes mainly affect assembled from parts (ASPT) and rebuilt titles.

Atwood says in the past the bureau was responsible to complete a physical inspection of the vehicle and the paperwork involved in all ASPT and rebuilt transactions. The paperwork was then taken by the applicant to the Tax Collectors' offices to be processed. At

that time a title and registration could be issued.

The goal is for the bureau to become a complete processing center. "With FRVIS access we will have a one stop shop which makes life better" Atwood said.

As of Aug. 11, all ASPT and rebuilt applications must be submitted to the regional office for inspection. When the paperwork is approved, appointment times will be scheduled and the vehicle will be inspected at the region facility. The title and registration will be issued immediately at the region's office.

Until the program is fully operational, compliance officers will continue to be out in the field inspecting vehicles and issuing rebuilt decals for placement.

Hillsborough County is the first county in our region to comply with these new procedures. The Region VI Bureau of Field Operations is headquartered in the Tampa office. Region VI has jurisdiction over Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sumter counties.

Atwood discussed the bureau's mission to educate, serve and protect motor vehicle and mobile home owners and to proactively collect revenue in the most efficient and effective manner. Herb Atwood has 15 years of experience with the bureau and serves approximately 200 dealers. His service area is south of Hillsborough including Downtown and Davis Islands. You can reach the DMV's Bureau of Field Operations Region VI at (813) 740-4288.

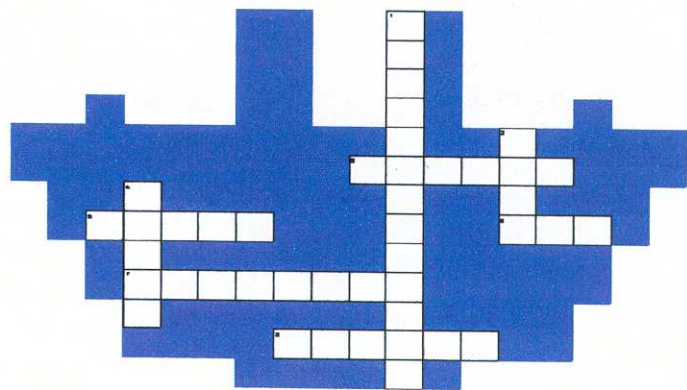
### Across

3. STEERING DEVICE OF THE VESSEL
5. LIGHT NARROW VESSEL WITH CURVED SIDES AND POINTED ENDS
6. MANUFACTURERS IDENTIFICATION CODE
7. LINES (ROPES) USED TO RAISE AND LOWER THE SAILS
8. LINES (ROPES) USED TO CONTROL THE ANGLE OF THE SAILS

### Down

1. 30 YEAR OLD VESSEL USED FOR NON-COMMERCIAL USE
2. WHERE THE STEERING WHEEL IS LOCATED ON THE VESSEL
4. VESSEL WHICH IS PROPELLED BY SAIL OR MACHINERY OVER 32 FT LONG

News & Views Vessel Crossword



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## Downtown Tax Collector's Office is also available to dealerships

By Durelle Freid

This Hillsborough County Tax Collector's Office is located in the heart of downtown at 601 E Kennedy Blvd. on the 14th floor of the County Center building. In March of 2002 the customer service area was remodeled to include the Q-matic numbering system.

A full service office with 18 employees in our customer service area, process motor vehicle transactions, collect property taxes, and issue hunting, fishing, and occupational licenses. Our dealer express employees are ready to assist you from 8 am to 4 pm for walk-in

**Please see OFFICE, Next Page**



Those who oversee the Downtown and AAA offices of the Hillsborough County Tax Collector include, from left, Lois Densmore, Dawn Antinori and Durelle Freid.

## Dealers now required to show identification when picking up temporary tags

By Kim Lambdin

### Temp tag rules

Dealers' or other businesses' personnel authorized to purchase temporary plates are now required to show their Driver License or State ID card when picking up the plates.

### Mobile homes

The 2003 Legislature passed Senate Bill 1944, also known as FS 320.08015. provides for a \$1.00 surcharge for each mobile home located in a mobile home rental park with 10 or more lots. The funds collected will be deposited into the Florida Mobile Home Relocation Trust Fund and will be used to pay claims to mobile home owners that are forced to relocate due to a change in the use of the land.

As a result, all mobile home transactions will now require answers to

the following questions in order to process the registration:

- \* What is the physical address?
- \* Is the mobile home located in a rental park with 10 or more lots?

This information can easily be added to your instruction sheet that is currently being submitted with your drop-off. If the transaction is being processed in your presence, please be sure that you are prepared to answer these questions.

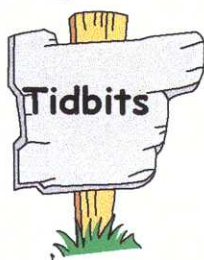
### New forms for TOP

The Bureau of Motor Carrier Services has designed a "Welcome to the International Registration Plan" check sheet that lists all the supporting documents as well as some basic information for motor carrier customers applying to the International Registration Plan.

To make it more convenient, a booklet, "Instructions for completing the IRP Application" (HSMV 85901), was revised to include a blank IRP

application (HSMV 85900 revised 1/03).

Motor Carriers will no longer accept IRP applications with a revision date prior to 1/03. You may pick up the new checklist and booklet at any of our tax collector offices for your convenience.



### 2004 Training Schedule

"How to Prepare the Paperwork for Title and Registration"

- \* Location: North Tampa Tax Collector's Office, 9309 N. Florida Ave., Suite 111, Tampa, FL, 33612.
- \* Time: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- \* Dates: Once a month, including Jan. 15; Feb. 12; March 18; April 15; May 13; June 17, 2004.

For more information, please contact Rosemary Johnson in the Motor Vehicle Training Department at 813-612-6703 or [johnsonr@hillstax.org](mailto:johnsonr@hillstax.org).

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## State DMV announces three new university license plates



**License Plate:** University of Tampa

**Date Enacted:** October 1, 2002

**Special Fee:** \$25 annual fee, \$2 processing fee, and registration fees

**Distribution of Special Fee:** Distributed to the University of Tampa



**License Plate:** Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

**Date Enacted:** October 1, 2002

**Special Fee:** \$25 annual fee, \$2 processing fee, and registration fees

**Distribution of Special Fee:** Distributed to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University



**License Plate:** Jacksonville University

**Date Enacted:** October 1, 2002

**Special Fee:** \$25 annual fee, \$2 processing fee, and registration fees

**Distribution of Special Fee:** Distributed to Jacksonville University

## Office

From previous page

transactions. We will process five "wait on" transactions or you may drop off as many as you like and our goal is to have them ready the next day.

You can leave a maximum of five titles before 10:00 am and request that they be ready for pick up the same day using our express drop off service.

We are also excited to announce the future opening of a parking garage directly across the street at 501 E Kennedy Blvd.

The office is managed by Assistant Director, Dawn Antinori with 18 years of experience with the

Tax Collector's office. The office is lead by Assistant Manager, Durelle Freid with 16 years of experience and Assistant Manager, Lois Densmore with 26 years of experience.

The staff is supported by three supervisors, Mary Wicker, Juanita Bauer and Carla Brown. You can e-mail Dawn Antinori, Durelle Freid and Lois Densmore at [antinori@hillstax.org](mailto:antinori@hillstax.org), [freid@hillstax.org](mailto:freid@hillstax.org) and [Densmore@hillstax.org](mailto:Densmore@hillstax.org). Our top priority is to give complete, professional service to all who pass through our doors.

## We've got your number

### DMV Help Desk

(850) 922-9000

### Local MV Info

(813) 635-5200

### Local DMV

813-740-4288

### MH Construction

813-740-4296

### MH Complaints

813-740-4298

### Local Motor Carrier Services

813-740-4300

### Tax Collector

813-635-5200

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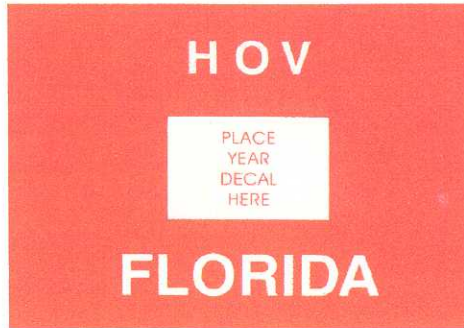
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## High Occupancy vehicle decals now available at local offices

By Mary Anne Young

Although highways in Hillsborough and the surrounding counties do not have "high occupancy vehicle" (HOV) lanes, commonly referred to as car pool lanes, it is possible that an HOV decal could be issued through one of our offices. HOV lanes are defined as lanes of a public roadway designated for use by vehicles in which there are more than one occupant unless otherwise authorized by federal law.

New legislation allows two other types of vehicles legal access to these lanes. Effective 7/1/03, "inherently low emission vehicles" (ILEV), certified and labeled in accordance with federal regulations, may be driven in an HOV lane at any time regardless of the number of occupants. Please visit



[www.hsmv.state.fl.us](http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us) for a list of qualifying vehicles.

Upon authorization from the proper regulatory agency, a vehicle defined as a hybrid may also be driven in an HOV lane at any time, regardless of its occupancy. Florida statutes defines "hybrid vehicle" as a vehicle that draws propulsion energy from onboard sources of stored energy that have an internal combustion or heat engine using

combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy storage system

Also, a passenger automobile or light truck must have received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act and it must have met or exceeded the equivalent qualifying California standards for a low-emission vehicle.

HOV decals should be affixed to the lower right hand side of the rear window and will expire at the same time as the vehicle registration. If the vehicle is sold, the HOV decal must be removed.

Requirements for an HOV decal issuance include:

- \* Form 83027 accurately completed for each qualifying vehicle.
- \* \$5.00 remittance fee.
- \* A copy of the current registration.

## Florida statutes allow mobile home owners to retire title

By Ivis Cordero and Tempest Brown

Florida Statutes provides a process by which the owner(s) of a mobile home permanently affixed to real property and owned by the same person may permanently retire the title to the mobile home. This "retiring" of the title actually removes it from circulation.

The certificate of title must either be in the name of the owner or completed for transfer to the owner of the real property. An RP (real property) decal does not have to be issued to the mobile home prior to retiring the title.

To retire the title the owner then provides the necessary documents to the Clerk of Court in the county in which the property is located. One of the documents required to be recorded is a completed form 82109 (Application for Retirement of a Mobile Home Certificate of Title).

Keep in mind that if the mobile home is a double or triple wide, the owner must complete a form 82109 for each unit. If the owners' names are joined by "OR" only one signature is required on the form. Whereas if the names are joined by "AND", a signature for each owner is required. In addition to that form, a photocopy of the certificate of title, all satisfactions for any liens and a photocopy of the legal description of the property are required to be submitted.

There is no fee or tax collector's service charge for retiring the certificate of title for a mobile home.

Florida Certificates of Title that have been retired can be re-instated at such time the mobile home is removed from the real property. If the title has not been reinstated, the mobile home shall be conveyed by deed or real estate contract and be transferred together with the property to which it is affixed.

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## Plate

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A personalized license plate may also be relinquished and reissued to a new owner. The owner of the relinquished license plate must furnish a signed statement relinquishing all of his/her rights to the license plate. A new license plate does not have to be issued if the new applicant wants to use the same plate and the former owner furnishes a statement that the actual license plate has been surrendered for use to the new applicant.

Personalized license plates that have already been assigned to someone may be ordered by a new applicant when the original owner fails to apply for renewal or re-issuance for one year following the last year of registration.

## Internet hot links

Tax Collector.....[www.hillstax.org](http://www.hillstax.org)  
State of Florida.....[www.myflorida.com](http://www.myflorida.com)  
State DHSMV office.....<http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/>  
Dept of Revenue.....<http://sun6.dms.state.fl.us/dor/>  
Links to other agencies.....<http://www/links.asp>  
Hillsborough County.....[www.hillsboroughcounty.org](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org)  
Notaries.....<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/notaries>

[It pays to surf the 'Net!!!](#)