



TAX HELP FOR SENIOR CITIZENS-Charles R. Walker, left, offers tax help to Warren H. Huffstetler as a part of a special program conducted by the AARP Chapter at Kings Mountain Depot for senior citizens.

Plenty Of Tax Filing Help Available For Area Citizens

Tax offices are the busiest places in town this week as citizens try to beat the April income tax deadline.

Charlie Walker, who helps out in the tax-aid department at the local Senior Center at the Depot, said that 20 senior citizens took advantage of the Tax Aide program for senior citizens sponsored by AARP last week and that many more are scheduling appointments for April 6 between 2 and 4 p.m. at the Depot Center. Through the Tax-Aide program, volunteers provide free personal income tax assistance to older people. Each year, according to Walker, who is an officer in the local AARP chapter, volunteers help more than a million taxpayers nationwide. Currently, there are more than 10,000 Tax-Aide sites nationwide, located in senior centers, libraries, community centers and other convenient locations.

Who is eligible for the Tax-Aide program? The Tax-Aide program helps low and moderate income older taxpayers prepare their personal income taxes. The volunteer counselors are trained, in cooperation with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, to complete basic tax forms. People with complex tax returns will be advised to seek professional tax assistance.

What papers should you bring? Walker says a copy of last year's income tax returns, any W-2 forms you have received showing your income from working or all pensions paid to you; form SSA-1099 which shows the Social Security paid you; all 1099 forms you have received, which show the interest and/or dividends that your investments have earned; records of any other income you have received; and receipts or canceled checks for any of your medical/dental expenses and any contributions you have made to charities.

Since April 15 falls on a Saturday, Vera Becker of the local office of H&R Block reminds taxpayers that deadline for filing 1988 taxes is April 17. Tax-preparers in the local office located in The Herald building on Canterbury Road said that 65% of their clients use the rapid refund electronic filing method to receive their refunds within 10 days. This year the IRS restrictions require that a client seeking a rapid refund should furnish a 1988 IRS mailer label or copy of last year's taxes, a 1987 tax return, a picture for identification plus original social security card or major credit card and a telephone number. A husband and wife filing a joint return for rapid refund must come into the office together to file for the instant refund. Mrs. Becker, who has prepared taxes for five years with H&R Block, said that only one client has had to use a passport picture for identification, which is also permissible.

Long lines have been eliminated at the local H&R Block office this year due to scheduling of clients by appointment. Mrs. Becker said that some taxpayers have their tax returns prepared at other offices and bring them to H&R Block for the instant return. "We

run a check tape and then must have full identification of the client to process the request," she said. Depending on the complexity of tax returns, Mrs. Becker said the staff can accommodate the client quickly since appointments are scheduled. Other members of the local H&R Block staff are Ralph Young, office manager; Jeanette Adams, Danny Sparkman, Gladys Price and Sherry Voris.

Mrs. Becker said that IRS restrictions are much more strict this year as far as rapid refund applications are concerned. "About 65% of our customers use this method especially if they are expecting a refund. Many of our customers wait until the last minute if they don't expect a refund on their returns," she said.

Betty Hullender, who has operated her own tax service from her home on Cleveland Avenue since 1970, said people built her business when she started working as a tax preparer for Evelyn and Fred Drewes in 1960. Her goal is to be able to prepare the returns while the customer waits even though she is a one-woman office. Mrs. Hullender is installing computers and she anticipates by next year at taxtime to be able to save the taxpayers money and herself time. Business has been brisk at the Hullender home but Betty expects many customers to line up near the April deadline. With the option of electronic filing, some of her customers came to have returns filled out in late January. Mrs. Hullender said she has kept the costs down for customers even with the addition of computers.

Local tax preparers say it may be too late for taxpayers to simplify the process this year. However, if you start now to set up a good method of record-keeping, next year will be easier. Here are a few important tips from the Tax-Aide Program Department of the AARP:

Keep records as they do in a business office. Use a compact file or envelopes in a drawer. It takes less time than scrounging in pockets and through closets to find your receipts. Mark the files simply as "income" and "deductions." Or divide your deductions into "charity," "taxes," "medical expenses," etc.

When you balance your monthly bank statement and pay your bills, take an extra couple minutes to file away those important checks and receipts into appropriate tax categories.

A canceled check to your local pharmacy is not adequate to prove a medical deduction. Many pharmacies sell toothpaste, cigarettes, and face powder. More and more pharmacies will keep a running tab for you of what you spend on prescription medicine during the year. Check with your pharmacy to find out if they offer this service. Keep a notebook in the glove department of your car. Write down the mileage to and from the doctor's office, doing charity work or keeping business appointments.

Girl Scouts Are Re-Cycling

Girl Scouts are at it again - recycling, that is. Since the beginning of Girl Scouting, one of the program elements has been to improve the environment. For the younger Girl Scouts, this translates to "leave a place better than you found it" and "don't litter." Back in the early '60s an Eco Action patch was designed and given to Girl Scouts who completed the environmental actions requirements necessary to earn the patch.

In 1987 Girl Scouts joined forces with Gastonia's Clean City Committee and for two years has taken part in the Great Girl Scout Bag-A-Thon. This effort was so successful that it was recognized by the Gastonia City Council and the Pioneer Girl Scout Council received a commendation by the national Keep America Beautiful Committee.

In an effort to increase public

awareness for the need for recycling, the Recycle Rosie game was designed and used at the 1988 Fish Camp Jam. The game is simple - put cans through Rosie's mouth and win a prize. The aluminum cans are then recycled. The idea behind the game is that we can help protect the earth by producing less waste.

To further promote the idea that recycling is a program whose time has come, this year, Girl Scouts are being urged to collect enough aluminum cans to send themselves to Girl Scout camp. Recycling centers

in Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln and Rutherford counties are cooperating in this program emphasis. Girl Scouts can collect cans to be used to offset day camp and resident camp fees.

Girl Scouts want to protect our world and they're doing it. You'll see them at the Great Girl Scout Bag-A-Thon, taking part in the Adopt-A-Highway program, and collecting cans for camp. Ultimately, Girl Scouts would like to see each of our counties develop, comprehensive recycling programs. It's good stewardship!

Girls State Names Needed

Wanted: Names of former Girls State citizens who have represented the American Legion Auxiliary at Tar Heel Girls State.

Unit 155 President Myrtle Christenson is looking for the names and addresses of all young women who have attended the Auxiliary Girls State program so the Unit can honor them and so that they can be invited to attend the 50th year celebration during Tar Heel Girls State at UNC-G in June.

"We need to put together a mailing list so these women can be included in the Golden anniversary celebration," said Mrs. Christenson.

To list your Girls State citizens in the anniversary book and take part in the festivities call Mrs. Christenson at 739-3785; Arlene Barrett at 739-8072 or Lib Stewart at 739-7496.

In Kansas

Army Pvt. Steven L. Harris, son of Emory G. and Muriel H. Harris of 1063 Riddle Mill Road, Clover, S.C., has arrived for duty at Fort Riley, Kansas.

Harris is an equipment records and parts specialist with the 701st Support Battalion.

His wife, Diana, is the daughter of James F. and Barbara P. Chaffee of 315 Fulton St., Kings Mountain.

The soldier is a 1985 graduate of Clover High School.



Ladies Panda Ring
replica - 10 K. Gold.
\$69⁹⁵

SAVINGS . . .
On Diamond Earrings
Set In 14 Karat Gold



Ladies Genuine Diamond Earrings
14 Karat Gold
SALE
ONLY \$9⁹⁵

Reg. 19.95 enlarged to show exquisite detail

10K Dome Ring



Ladies Nugget Ring
Diamond Cut **\$24⁹⁵**



\$34⁹⁵

ARNOLD'S Jewelry

226 S. Washington St. **Plenty of FREE** Use MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Choice, Arnold's Charge, Lay-A-Way.
Shelby, N.C. **Parking Beside The Store**
487-4521

Cleveland County Unemployment Rate Increases

Reflecting normal seasonal fluctuations, Cleveland County unemployment rates increased during January from 3.6 to 4.1 percent.

Only four counties in the state experienced unemployment rates of more than 10 percent, down from seven counties in January 1988.

Employment Security Commission of North Carolina figures released today show that 52 counties had January unemployment rates at or below 5 percent, a figure ESC analysts regard as near full-employ-

ment. In January 1988, only 36 counties had rates of 5 percent or less. The county with the lowest rate was Orange at 2.5 percent. The county with the highest rate was Graham at 27.4 percent.

Cleveland County has a civilian labor force of 44,940 with 1,860 unemployed or 4.1 percent. In December 1988 43,340 Clevelanders were employed.

In January, unemployment was up from 2.9 to 3.7 percent in the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, N. C./S. C. area, according to the ESC.

Stock

From Page 12-A

enhance the company's strategic objective of growth by way of acquisitions as well as through internal development.

Messrs. Paul J. Powers, Thomas J. Travers and Don E. Tucker were re-elected members of the Board while John F. Peyton, Senior Vice President and Group Executive of Federal-Mogul Corporation, was elected for his first term, replacing Robert E. Williams who has retired.

Vote Yes Twice April 18

No Tax Increase!



FITNESS IF OUR BUSINESS.
SO DO IT FOR HALF THE PRICE.
Now At
PERFORMANCE FITNESS
We've got an offer for you!

\$99⁰⁰ Buys You 1 Year!

- Co-Ed Center • Free Weights
- Universal Machines
- Aerobics M-W-T, 6 p.m.

GET IN SHAPE NOW!

PERFORMANCE FITNESS
East Main St. • Cherryville, NC
— Offer Good March 16-March 23, 1989. —



AUTO AMERICA

PIONEER BRINGS YOU THE MOST BEAUTIFUL STEREOS EVER DESIGNED FOR THE AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE.

Let's face it. You probably didn't buy your American car because you loved the stereo that came with it.

Which left you with only two choices. Either put up with that dashboard eyesore, or replace it with another unit that stuck out like a sore thumb. It was enough to drive you crazy.

Now Kings Mountain has its own authorized Pioneer Premier Installation Specialist. Selling and Installing the most technological advanced car stereo equipment available.



- SALES & SERVICE
- Authorized Pioneer Premier Dealer

NEW to Kings Mountain
"Pioneer Premier Installation Specialist"

MOBILE VIBRATIONS

East Gold Street (Lower Level of Western Auto Building Facing City Hall)
Contact: Gregg Smith, Manager • 739-7454

- CUSTOM INSTALLATIONS
- Complete Car Stereo Systems

* Full Financing Available Upon Pre-Approved Credit *