



Over The Fence

MARCH 2007

HARRISON, ARKANSAS

TAX-AIDE PROGRAM

Located in Room 200, Federal Building at 402 North Walnut in Harrison



“Background”

The program known as “AARP Tax-Aide” is the nation’s largest free volunteer-managed tax counseling and preparation service. Primarily designed to help elderly and low-income wage earners prepare their taxes, taxpayers do not have to be AARP members or wage earners of low income to use the service. They do not have to reside in Arkansas or Boone County.

The service to the taxpayer is limited only by the complexity of the return. By charter the program does not permit preparation of tax returns if there are depreciation schedules or if sales are made from inventories.

There are no age or income restrictions. Assuming the average tax preparation fee is \$100, local taxpayers saved well over \$100,000 in preparation fees in 2006 by using the free service.

In 2006, 25 volunteers expended 2,400 hours preparing and filing over 2,000 federal and state returns for 1,000 families. Most returns were electronically filed. Additionally, more than 500 inquiries were fielded and answered by telephone or in person by the program office.

The local program has received outstanding support from 30 businesses that provided all supplies and lunches for volunteers. Last year the Community First Bank donated nine Pentium 3 computers and monitors, and Mac’s PC provided the hard drives.

Volunteers receive many hours of extensive hands-on training and are certified as tax preparers upon completion of their training. New volunteers are always needed to participate in the program. Details for participating will be provided by calling 870-741-6856.

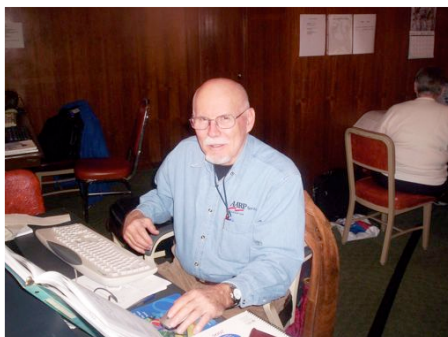
The 2007 tax-aide program began January 29th and will conclude April 12th with taxpayers being interviewed in Room 200, second floor of the Federal Building at 402 North Walnut. Hours are 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M Monday through Wednesday. Taxpayers are accommodated at the Boone County Library from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. Thursday afternoons.

2007 will conclude over 30 years the service has been provided in Harrison.

“Top Management“

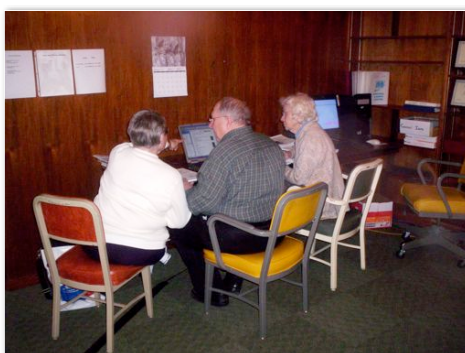


This is Mrs Mary Lou Bradley of Harrison, the Local and Northwest Arkansas Coordinator for the program.



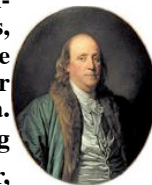
This is Arlon Hickman of Harrison, the State Training Specialist responsible for determining all volunteer tax preparers are certified.

“Volunteers In Training”



“Benjamin Franklin”

One off the most well-known Founding Fathers, born in Boston in 1701, he learned printing and later moved to Philadelphia. Franklin was a leading author, politician, printer, scientist, philosopher, publisher, inventor, civic activist and diplomat.



As Minister to France during the Revolution, he more than anyone defined the new nation in the minds of Europe. His success in securing French financial and military aid was the turning point for American victory over Britain.

Franklin was Postmaster General from 1775 to 1776. He was interested in science and technology and carried out his famous electricity experiments. In addition to his very important inventions, the lightning rod, Franklin Stove, swim fins, glass harmonica and bifocals, Franklin played a major role in establishing the University of Pennsylvania and Franklin and Marshall College. He was a noted linguist, fluent in five languages.

“Franklin Bargaining Tips”

“Be clear, in your own mind, about exactly what you are after.”

“Do your homework, so that you are fully prepared to discuss every aspect and respond to every question and comment.”

“Be persistent. Don’t expect to win the first time. Your first job is to start the other person to thinking.”

“Make friends with the person with whom you are bargaining. Put your bargain in terms of his or her needs, advantages and benefits.”

“Keep your sense of humor.”

“Short and Funny”

“My wife and I had words. But I didn’t get to use mine”

This community newsletter is published monthly and distributed gratis by Jim Keel, P.O. Box 763, Harrison, AR 72601, 870-741-6067, e-mail galaxy9@alltel.net. The objective is to highlight public service agencies and people of Harrison, Arkansas who serve. Comments are welcome.

“Sir Winston Churchill”



English statesman, soldier, and author best known as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during the second World War.

Well known as an orator, strategist and politician, Churchill was one of the most important leaders in modern British and world history.

He won the 1953 Nobel prize in Literature for his many books on English and world history

Sir Winston Churchill was voted the greatest-ever Briton in the 2002 BBC poll the 100 greatest Britons.

“Churchill Quotes”

“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”

“Never in the field of human conflict has so much been owed, by so many, to so few.”

“Lady Astor: If I were your wife, I’d put poison in your coffee. Churchill: Nancy, if I were your husband I would drink it.”

“The Americans will always do the right thing...after they’ve exhausted all the alternatives.”

“Bessie Braddock: Sir, you are drunk. Churchill: And you Madame, are ugly. But in the morning I shall be sober.”



“Snoopy Grams”

“For fast acting relief try slowing down.”

“A penny saved is not nearly enough.”

“If you can count your money, you don’t have a billion dollars.”

“Happiness is found along the way, not at the end of the journey.”

“The best way to forget all your troubles is to wear tight shoes.”

“If you think no one cares about you, try missing a few payments.”

“Success always occurs in private, and failure in full view.”

“Church Gossip”

How do you stop church gossip? Ask Ol’ George.

Mildred, the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of the congregation’s morals, kept sticking her nose into other people’s business. Several members did not approve of her extra curricular activities but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

Mildred made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a new member of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town’s only bar one afternoon. She emphatically told George and several others that everyone seeing the pickup there would know what he was doing.

George, a man of few words, stared at Mildred for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn’t explain, defend, or deny. He said nothing.

Later that evening, George quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred’s house....walked home....and left it there all night.

Don’t you just love Ol’ George?

“Put Downs”

“Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it?” Mark Twain.

“His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork.” Mae West.

“Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go.” Oscar Wilde.

“He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts...for support rather than illumination.” Andrew Lang.

“He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up.” Paul Keating.

“There’s nothing wrong with you that reincarnation won’t cure.” Jack Leonard.

“He loves nature in spite of what it did to him.” Forrest Tucker.

“A modest little person, with much to be modest about.” Winston Churchill.

**PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY
PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS
PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY
PRAY FOR OUR TOWN
PRAY FOR YOURSELF**

“Dwight David Eisenhower”

Fondly known as “Ike”, Dwight Eisenhower served as thirty-fourth President of the United States.

During World War II he was Supreme Commander of the allied forces in Europe with responsibility for planning and supervising the successful invasion of France and Germany in 1944-45.

In 1949 Eisenhower became the first supreme commander of NATO.

“Ike” served two terms as President during which he ended the Korean War, kept up the pressure on the Soviet Union during the Cold War, re-orientated the defense budget toward nuclear weapons, launched the space race, enlarged the Social Security program and began building the Interstate Highway System.



“Eisenhower Quotes”

“An atheist is a man who watches a Notre Dame - SMU football game and doesn’t care who wins.”

“An intellectual is a man who takes more words than necessary to tell more than he knows.”

“Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil and you are a thousand miles from the corn field.”

“History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid.”

“If you want total security, go to prison. There you are fed, clothed, given medical aid and so on. The only thing lacking...is freedom.”

“May we never confuse honest dissent with disloyal subversion.”

“Only Americans can hurt America.”

“Pessimism never won any battle.”

“The best morale exists when you never hear the word mentioned. When you hear a lot of talk about it, it’s usually lousy.”

“There is no glory in battle worth the blood it costs.”

“Pull the string and it will follow wherever you wish. Push it and it will go nowhere at all.”

“Who Dat?”

A middle-aged woman had a heart attack and was taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she had a near-death experience. Seeing God she asked, “Is my time up?”

God said, “No, you have another 43 years, 2 months and 8 days to live.

Upon recovery the woman decided to stay in the hospital and have a face lift, brow lift, lip enhancement, boob job, liposuction and a tummy tuck. After the last procedure she was released from the hospital. While crossing the street on her way home she was hit and killed by a car.

Arriving in front of God she demanded, “I thought you said I had another forty years? Why didn’t you pull me out of the path of the car?”

God replied, “Giiirriiilll, I didn’t even recognize you!”

“Bumper Stickers”

“EARTH FIRST! We’ll strip mine the other planets later.”

“He who laughs last thinks slowest.”

“A flashlight is a case for holding dead batteries.”

“A Dog’s Purpose”

(Author Unknown)

“Being a veterinarian I had been called to examine a ten-year old Irish Wolfhound named Belker. The dog’s owners, Ron and his wife Lisa and their little boy, Shane, were all very attached to Belker. They were hoping for a miracle.

“I examined Belker and found he was dying of cancer. I told the family we couldn’t do anything for Belker, and offered to perform the euthanasia procedure for the old dog in their home. As we made arrangements, Ron and Lisa told me they thought it would be good for the four-year old Shane to observe the procedure. They felt Shane might learn something from the experience.

“The next day I felt the familiar catch in my throat as Belker’s family surrounded him. Shane seemed so calm,

petting the old dog for the last time, that I wondered if he understood what was going on. Within a few minutes Belker slipped peacefully away. The little boy seemed to accept Belker’s transition without any difficulty or confusion.

“We sat together for a while after Belker’s death, wondering aloud about the sad fact that animal lives are shorter than human lives. Shane who had been listening quietly piped up, ‘I know why’

“Startled, we all turned to him. What came out of his mouth next stunned me. I’d never heard a more comforting explanation.

“Shane said, ‘People are born so that they can learn how to live a good life - like loving everybody all the time and being nice, right?’ The four-year old continued, ‘Well, dogs already know how to do that, so they don’t have to stay as long’

“Live simply, Love generously, Care deeply, Speak kindly and leave the rest to God!”

“Common Sense” by



PAUL JACOBS

“Education Right”

Education is a good thing, a very good thing. But it isn’t a right.

Perhaps we need some education about rights. As human beings we have rights to speak, to worship, to trade, to associate, to move throughout the country unimpeded and so on. There are all things that we do for ourselves. No one had to provide anything for us, but simply permit our freedom.

But an education...or, say, health care - cannot be obtained by right in the same way. Yes, we have a right to educate ourselves and we certainly have a right to care for ourselves and to freely make use of medical services, but we cannot have a right to the services of others. Teachers and doctors and nurses aren’t our slaves.

I bring this up because the Washington, DC city council declined to pass a measure called the DC Education Rights Charter Amendment. It would have added to the city’s essential governing charter the requirement that

DC provide a “free, high-quality education” to all citizens.

Sounds like a good thing, you know, “a free high-quality education.”

But what would politicians really do by passing a mandate that the same public schools which today are failing shall, by their decree, hereby instantly provide a free, high-quality education?

Well, it would certainly launch a million lawsuits. Today’s lack of quality schooling would be actionable. But lawsuits forcing even higher taxes won’t solve a problem more basic than school budgets.

Educations is an opportunity, Not a right!

“Baked Politician”

A cannibal was walking through the jungle and came upon a restaurant opened by a fellow cannibal.

Feeling hungry he sat down and looked over the menu.

Broiled Missionary. \$10.00

Fried Explorer. \$15.00

Baked Politician. \$100.00

The cannibal called the waiter over and asked, “Why such a price difference for the politician?”

The cook replied, “Have you ever tried to clean one?”

“Arkie Home Security”

1. Go to a second-hand store and buy a pair of men’s used size 14-16 work boots.

2. Place the boots on your front porch along with a copy of Guns & Ammo magazine and your NRA magazines.

3. Put a few giant dog dishes next to the boots and magazines.

4. Leave a note on your door that reads:

“Hey Bubba, Big Jim, Duke and Slim, I went for more ammunition. Back in an hour. Don’t mess with the pit bulls. They attacked the mailman this morning and messed him up real good. I don’t think killer took part in it, but it was hard to tell from all the blood. Anyways, I locked all four of ‘em in the house. Better wait outside.”