

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Enclosed is a guide to assist you in gathering the Information needed to complete your 2017 tax return. Call us at **952-473-8300** if you have any questions.

This Year's Staff:

Gene Shavlik (gene@shavlikfinancial.com) – Tax Preparer – Financial Planner - CPA, CFP®

Ryan Carruth (ryan@shavlikfinancial.com) – Tax Preparer – Financial Planner – CFP®, EA

Lecia Connors (lecia1@charter.net) – Tax Preparer – EA

Nathan Burnevik (nathan@shavlikfinancial.com) – Tax Preparer

Bobbi Shavlik (bobbi@shavlikfinancial.com) – Office Manager

CPA – Certified Public Accountant CFP - Certified Financial Planner EA – Enrolled Agent

SCHEDULING:

We will again be taking appointments from **8 am to 8 pm Mon-Fri and 8 am to 4 pm on Saturday**. Please schedule your appointment by calling **952-473-8300** as soon as possible to assure that everyone who wants to get in before April 15th can. Also, the earlier you call the better chance you have of finding a time that accommodates your schedule. If you feel you have all the information needed to complete your return, have no new issues to discuss and would rather not attend an appointment, you may drop off your tax information at our office and we will notify you when it is completed.

WHAT TO BRING:

Use the Tax Deduction Finder as a guide on what to bring to your appointment. We like to work off of original documents, but you should complete page 2, which summarizes your deductions. Also, make sure you bring in any official looking documents that you usually get in January.

PROPERTY TAX & RENTERS REFUNDS:

Don't let the lack of a property tax statement delay your income tax appointment; we can complete your return without it. The property tax return is not due until August 15, 2018 and refunds aren't distributed until September. Generally, we can access your new property tax statement from the internet.

MINNESOTA SCHOOL DEDUCTIONS:

(See bottom of page 3 of the 2016 Tax Deduction Finder)

ELECTRONIC FILING:

We are required to file all tax returns electronically whether or not you receive a refund. Don't put off making your appointment for fear of owing money. Your tax return is electronically filed when it is prepared, but your check (which is mailed) is not due until April 15th.

PARKING:

We now share the parking lot with a chiropractor. They have designated 3 spaces up front for their clients but the spaces are also available to you during tax season.

HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNTS:

If you have one, consider your HSA as the best investment available. Do you know of any investment that is tax deductible when you add to it and is tax free when you take it out?

GENE'S NOTES:

We have added a new person to our staff as a tax preparer. His name is Nathan Burnevik. Last year we had my nephew, Shawn with us, but he decided to return back to his home state of Virginia. I am excited to announce that my daughter, Bobbi will be an intern with us during this tax season. She is a junior in college majoring in accounting. Otherwise, it will continue to be myself, Ryan and Lecia.

Ryan and I are both Certified Financial Planners and have been so for quite some time. We both like to think that we are well positioned to help you with important financial decisions that may confront you. All of you have a need for advice and direction whether or not you admit it. For example, if you are in your working years you might have concerns about how much you need to save for retirement. If you have kids or grandkids you need to consider how college will be funded. If you are approaching retirement, at what age should you draw social security? If you are retired, do you have an estate plan? Is there anything you can do to keep your estate from going to the nursing home? If time permits, we can discuss these issues at your tax appointment, but if necessary, Ryan or I can meet with you after April 15. I will work with you on your estate plan and Ryan will work with you on any of the other matters.

Here is a listing of the activities we also specialize in:

1. Gene and his wife, Wendy still do estate planning that is very thorough and is designed to avoid probate and avoid conflicts with your beneficiaries. I have an example manual that I can show you during your tax appointment. If interested, let's get together after tax season.
2. Ryan continues to be teamed up with another Certified Financial Planner, Steven Bullert. They are well positioned to handle any or all of your investment needs.
3. Ryan also continues to be teamed up with his dad, Rich Carruth, who is a mortgage consultant. Their rates are as good as any.
4. Nathan can help if you have a small business and you need to set up an accounting system within QuickBooks. He also can advise or work with you on how to handle payroll filings.

Again, I ask if you know of anyone that can use our services, please give them our business card. It's always a pleasure seeing you.