

Winterville at Work!

Tips for Seniors in Preparing their Taxes

- ⇒ Current research indicates that individuals are likely to make errors when preparing their tax returns. The following tax tips were developed to help you avoid some of the common errors dealing with the standard deduction for seniors, the taxable amount of Social Security benefits, and the Credit for the Elderly and Disabled. In addition, you'll find links below to helpful publications as well as information on how to obtain free tax assistance.
- ⇒ **Standard Deduction for Seniors** - If you do not itemize your deductions, you can get a *higher* standard deduction amount if you and/or your spouse are 65 years old or older. You can get an even higher standard deduction amount if either you or your spouse is blind. (See Form 1040 and Form 1040A instructions.)
- ⇒ **Taxable Amount of Social Security Benefits** -When preparing your return, be especially careful when you calculate the *taxable amount* of your Social Security. Use the Social Security benefits worksheet found in the instructions for IRS Form 1040 and Form 1040A, and then double-check it before you fill out your tax return. See [Publication 915, Social Security and Equivalent Railroad Retirement Benefits](#).
- ⇒ **Credit for the Elderly or Disabled** - You must file using Form 1040 or Form 1040A to receive the Credit for the Elderly or Disabled. You *cannot* get the Credit for the Elderly or Disabled if you file using Form 1040EZ. Be sure to apply for the Credit if you qualify; please read below for details. See [Publication 554, Tax Guide for Seniors](#).

Who Can Take the Credit: The Credit is based on your age, filing status and income. You may be able to take the Credit if:

- ⇒ **Age:** You and/or your spouse are either 65 years or older; **or** under age 65 years old at the end of 2016 and retired on permanent and total disability before the end of 2017 **AND**
- ⇒ **Filing Status:** Your income on Form 1040 line 38 is *less* than \$17,500 (single, head of household, or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child), \$20,000 (married filing jointly and only one spouse qualifies), \$25,000 (married filing jointly and both qualify), or \$12,500 (married filing separately and lived apart from your spouse for the entire year).
- ⇒ And, the non-taxable part of your Social Security or other nontaxable pensions, annuities or disability income is *less* than \$5,000 (single, head of household, or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child); \$5,000 (married filing jointly and only one spouse qualifies); \$7,500 (married filing jointly and both qualify); or \$3,750 (married filing separately and lived apart from your spouse the entire year).
- ⇒ **Free IRS Tax Return Preparation** - IRS-sponsored [volunteer tax assistance programs](#) offer free tax help to seniors and to low- to moderate-income people who cannot prepare their own tax returns.

For More Information visit the IRS website : www.irs.gov



“Mother of the Civil Rights Movement” ROSA PARKS

On December 1, 1955, during a typical evening rush hour in Montgomery, Alabama, a 42-year-old woman took a seat on the bus on her way home from the Montgomery Fair department store where she worked as a seamstress. Before she reached her destination, she quietly set off a social revolution when the bus driver instructed her to move back, and she refused. Rosa Parks, an African American, was arrested that day for violating a city law requiring racial segregation of public buses.

On the city buses of Montgomery, Alabama, the front 10 seats were permanently reserved for white passengers. The diagram shows that Mrs. Parks was seated in the first row behind those 10 seats. When the bus became crowded, the bus driver instructed Mrs. Parks and the other three passengers seated in that row, all African Americans, to vacate their seats for the white passengers boarding. Eventually, three of the passengers moved, while Mrs. Parks remained seated, arguing that she was not in a seat reserved for whites. James Blake, the driver, believed he had the discretion to move the line separating black and white passengers. The law was actually somewhat murky on that point, but when Mrs. Parks defied his order, he called the police. Officers Day and Mixon came and promptly arrested her.

Mrs. Parks was not the first person to be prosecuted for violating the segregation laws on the city buses in Montgomery. She was, however, a woman of unchallenged character who was held in high esteem by all those who knew her. At the time of her arrest, Mrs. Parks was active in the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), serving as secretary to E.D. Nixon, president of the Montgomery chapter. Her arrest became a rallying point around which the African American community organized a bus boycott in protest of the discrimination they had endured for years. Martin Luther King, Jr., the 26-year-old minister of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, emerged as a leader during the well-coordinated, peaceful boycott that lasted 381 days and captured the world's attention. It was during the boycott that Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., first achieved national fame as the public became acquainted with his powerful oratory.

Citation credit <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/rosa-parks>

Important Dates

Black History Month
February 1st-Feb 28th

February 12th at 7 p.m.
Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Assembly Room

February 16th from
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Daddy Daughter Dance
Pitt County Shrine Club

February 19th at 7 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Meeting
Town Hall Assembly Room

February 20th at 7 p.m.
Board of Adjustment Meeting
Town Hall Assembly Room



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Winterville at Work!

PARKS & RECREATION



If you need assistance with checking your **smoke alarms** or changing the battery, please contact the Winterville Fire-Rescue-EMS Department at (252) 756-2515 or email at fireinspetions@wintervillenc.com. **EMERGENCY DIAL 911**



T-Ball & Pee Wee Baseball Registration

When: Online: February 26th - March 14th (walk-in also available 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)
Late: March 15th -18th(8:00 a.m.-5 p.m. only); includes \$10 late fee

Where: Online: www.wintervillenc.com – click departments, parks & recreation, then online "registration & reservation" link
Walk-In: 2936 Church Street Winterville, NC 28590 (Winterville Operations Center)

Divisions: T-Ball (4-5 year olds)
Pee Wee (5-6 year olds)

Fees: Resident: \$35
Non-Resident: \$45

Contact: Phone (252) 756-1487
Fax (252) 756-1368
www.wintervillenc.com

Interested in coaching? Please complete a coaching application online or at the Parks and Recreation Department office.

TOWN OF WINTERVILLE EASTER EGG HUNT

The Town of Winterville will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Winterville Recreation Park's Kiwanis Field (332 Sylvania Street) on March 18th at 2:00 p.m. rain-date will be March 25th. Come take part in Pitt County's largest Easter Egg Hunt featuring over 10,000 eggs. A certain bunny may also make a special appearance!



AEROBIC LINE DANCING

WHERE: Winterville Operations Center located at 2936 Church Street.

COST: \$3.00 per session.

WHEN: Tuesdays from 7-8 pm.

Learn a new dance while taking part in a great form of low-impact exercise. Who knew exercise could be so much fun!



Golden Age Senior Drop-In Program

The purpose of the Golden-Age Seniors Drop-In program is to provide seniors, as individuals or groups, an opportunity to come together for games and activities in support of their independence and encourage involvement in community activities. Seniors ages 55+ will have an opportunity to participate in games, activities, and events accordingly on a weekly basis. Games and activities may include (Bridge, Bingo, Puzzles, Cards, Aerobics, Zumba, etc.). The program will be held the **2nd and 4th Thursday of every month from 1:30pm-3:30pm** in the Training Room of Winterville Operations Center located at 2936 Church Street. There will be limited spaces for participation, be sure to call our office for your spot today! All activities are free of charge unless noted otherwise. For more information, please call 252-756-1487. **February 8th ~ Game Day;**
February 22nd ~ Arts & Crafts Day

Watch out for fake Winterville NC Utility bill pay site.

It has recently come to the Town's attention that there is a secondary unofficial website accepting payments for Town of Winterville utility bills. *Doxo* is a bill pay service that charges a large fee for making payments using their service. They are simply a check writing service and is not in any way affiliated with the Town of Winterville. They are charging customers around seven dollars to write the Town a check on your behalf. These checks can take as long as seven days to reach our customer service staff for payment processing. To reach official Town of Winterville online payment services, we recommend using a credit card at the direct bill pay service website of <https://billpay.wintervillenc.com>. Using the *billpay* site, you will only incur a \$2 convenience fee. Most importantly your payment will reflect on your account the same day unless received after 5 p.m. Any payment received after 5 p.m. will reflect on your account the next business day. We **Do Not Recommend** using this unofficial site operating with the name *doxo* for payment processing. The unofficial link that you should **avoid** is <https://www.doxo.com/info/town-winterville-nc>.