**Wilkes University Accounting Students to Offer**

**Free Income Tax Preparation**

Accounting students at Wilkes University’s Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership will offer free tax preparation to the public through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program.

The service will be offered Feb. 10, 17, and 24 by appointment only from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in room 134 on the first floor of Universty Center on Main, 169 S. Main St., Wilkes-Barre.

Income Tax assistance is by appointment only. Call (570) 408-4710 and leave a message with your name and phone number. Those interested will be contacted to schedule an appointment.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program offers free tax help to people with a household income of less than $54,000 who file basic federal, state, and local tax returns. Anyone interested in the service should bring the following items to the VITA site:

* Photo Identification
* Valid social security cards for the taxpayer, spouse and dependents
* Wage and earning statements (Form W-2) from all employers
* Interest and dividend statements from banks (Form 1099)
* A copy of last year’s federal and state returns if available
* Other relevant information about income and expenses
* Bank routing numbers and account numbers for direct deposit
* Total paid for day care provider and the day care provider’s tax identifying number
* Health care coverage ( Form 1095) or health care exemption documents

Both spouses must be present for taxpayers who are married and will be filing joint returns.

If there is a question regarding inclement weather and the school being closed, call (570) 408-7669. An automated message will inform you of the closure.

**[Pictured from left to right: Daniel O'Steen, Shelby Trumbo, Trudi Casier, Christine Quinn, and Amanda Cohick.]**

**About Wilkes University**:

Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence through mentoring in the liberal arts, sciences and professional programs. Founded in 1933, the university is on a mission to create one of the great small universities, offering all of the programs, activities and opportunities of a large, research university in the intimate, caring and mentoring environment of a small, liberal arts college, at a cost that is increasingly competitive with public universities. The Economist named Wilkes 25th in the nation for the value of its education for graduates. In addition to 43 bachelor’s degree programs, Wilkes offers 25 master’s degree programs and five doctoral/terminal degree programs, including the doctor of philosophy in nursing, doctor of nursing practice, doctor of education, doctor of pharmacy, and master of fine arts in creative writing. Learn more at www.wilkes.edu.

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