

Press Contact:  
Jon Lieb/Thirty Ink  
(212) 563-8025

Bank Contact:  
Joseph T. Curcio, Director of Marketing  
(718) 240-4803

**RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS BANK TO HOST  
ARIVA'S FREE TAX PREPARATION DAYS IN THE BRONX**

**- Community-Focused Bank Works to Help Bronx Residents -**

**Bronx, N.Y., January 15, 2014** — Ridgewood Savings Bank announced today that it will again be hosting ARIVA's complimentary Tax Preparation Days at four convenient Bronx locations.

The sessions will be held at the following sites/dates/times:

- **Sunday, February 9, 2014:** 9:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Held at the bank's Jerome Avenue branch – 3445 Jerome Avenue; (718) 881-3430
- **Saturday, February 15, 2014:** 9:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Hosted by Ridgewood's White Plains Road branch and held at Community Board #12 – 4101 White Plains Road at 229<sup>th</sup> Street; (718) 882-0440
- **Saturday, February 22, 2014:** 9:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Held at the bank's Allerton Avenue branch – 711 Allerton Avenue; (718) 882-2220
- **Saturday, March 1, 2014:** 9:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Held at the bank's Soundview branch – 1626 Bruckner Boulevard; (718) 589-1323

All Bronx residents are eligible for free tax filing if they are single with no dependents and earn less than \$25,000 or file with dependents and earn less than \$52,000. *Since space is limited, qualifying taxpayers must call the branch that is hosting the session in advance to schedule an appointment.*

This community service is presented by Ridgewood Savings Bank in partnership with ARIVA, a non-profit organization that implements a program instituted by the IRS known as "VITA", which trains volunteers who then provide pro bono service for income-eligible households. The IRS Certified VITA Volunteer Preparers will prepare and electronically file the common 2013 tax forms: 1040 EZ, 1040A and 1040 forms.

"We have a long history of commitment to helping residents of the communities we serve manage their financial responsibilities," said Peter M. Boger, Ridgewood Savings Bank chairman, president and chief executive officer. "This program, which has grown in popularity over the years, enables people to file their taxes on time and accurately. Ultimately, they can avoid costly mistakes and promptly receive any refunds due."

All qualified taxpayers will need to bring the following to their appointments:

- Photo IDs and Social Security Cards for each individual named on the tax return
- W-2 or 1099 Forms for every job held
- Documentation and child care provider Tax ID#, if claiming childcare expenses
- 2012 tax returns
- Any other tax-related documentation received
- \*For those who are married and filing jointly, both spouses must be present at the appointment.

For first time tax filers, ARIVA can prepare the W-7 Form to obtain an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). Eligible first-time taxpayers should bring a passport, USCIS photo ID, Visa issued by the U.S. Department of State or National Identification card.

“Our bank representatives also will be on hand to provide information to residents who are interested in opening an account at any one of our eight conveniently-located branches in the Bronx,” added Walter Reese, Ridgewood Savings Bank’s senior vice president of retail banking. “Among other advantages, this allows taxpayers to have their refunds electronically deposited directly into bank accounts – a faster and safer alternative.”

**About Ridgewood Savings Bank:**

Chartered in 1921, Ridgewood Savings Bank ([www.ridgewoodbank.com](http://www.ridgewoodbank.com)) is the largest mutual savings bank in New York State with \$5.1 billion in assets serving customers throughout the New York metropolitan area.

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