

Press Contact:  
Jon Lieb/Elser & Aucone  
(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 Bank Offers Service to Assist Eligible Bronx Residents -**

**Bronx, N.Y., January 2011** — Ridgewood Savings Bank announced today that it will again be hosting ARIVA's free Tax Preparation Days at three convenient Bronx locations. The sessions will be held at the following sites/dates/times:

- **Saturday, February 19, 2011:** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Held at the bank's Jerome Avenue Branch – 3445 Jerome Avenue; please call (718) 881-3430
- **Saturday, March 5, 2011:** 10 a.m. – 4 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; please call (718) 882-0440
- **Saturday, March 19, 2011:** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.. Held at the bank's Soundview branch – 1626 Bruckner Boulevard; please call (718) 589-1323

Bronx residents are eligible for free tax filing if they are single with no dependents and earn less than \$18,000 or file with dependents and earn less than \$50,000. *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 2010 tax forms: 1040 EZ, 1040A and 1040 forms.

"We are always seeking ways to assist our neighbors and the community with important financial matters," said William C. McGarry, Ridgewood Savings Bank chairman and chief executive officer. "This tax preparation service offers Bronx residents an opportunity to have well-trained volunteers help them with filing their taxes correctly and on-time, a key component of fiscal health."

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
- 2009 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.

“The bank will also provide information to residents who are interested in opening an account at one of our nine convenient branches in the Bronx,” added Walter Reese, Ridgewood Savings Bank’s senior vice president of retail banking. “This gives taxpayers the advantage of having tax refunds electronically deposited in their bank accounts, so that they receive what they are due quickly and securely.”

**About Ridgewood Savings Bank:**

Chartered in 1921 and now celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Ridgewood Savings Bank ([www.ridgewoodbank.com](http://www.ridgewoodbank.com)) is the largest mutual savings bank in New York State with \$4.5 billion dollars in assets serving customers throughout the New York metropolitan area.

# # #