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NEWSLETTER
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We will close at noon on Friday, December 3rd for our office Christmas party and on noon, December 24th, Christmas eve and December 31st, New Year's eve.

TAX BASIS IN YOUR STOCKS AND MUTUAL FUNDS

For those of you who sold stock and mutual funds in 2004, please gather and obtain the cost or other basis information before you make your tax appointment. Too often this information is missing and we cannot complete your return. So start now and call your stockbroker, if you do not know what you paid for that stock or mutual fund.

2004 TAX ORGANIZERS

For our clients who find these organizers useful in getting ready for your 2004 tax appointment, please call Kathy to order your personal tax organizer. We no longer mail them en masse.

W-2 and 1099s

Make sure that we have all correct information for employees' addresses and social security numbers. For independent contractors that you used in 2004, we need names, addresses, employer ID number or Social Security numbers.

INDIANA WORKFORCE GOING AFTER TAVERN OWNERS

Indiana's Workforce Development auditors have targeted tavern owners to see if unemployment taxes have been understated. We read in our tax magazines and journals that tavern owners quite frequently do not have employees but "independent bartenders." This contention can be challenged.

IRS AND INDIANA HIRES A WHOLE BUNCH OF NEW AUDITORS

With this new armada of auditors the chances of being audited by these fiscal sleuths increases dramatically. They will be looking at auto and cell phone logs, travel, meals, entertainment and basis of assets being written off. So a word to the wise: document your business use of the aforementioned items.

NEW TAX LAW

Tax write-offs for heavy SUVs purchased after October 22, 2004 are limited to \$25,000. For other qualifying purchases, the limitation is \$102,000 and the total qualifying purchases cannot exceed \$410,000. But do remember to make an economic decision first and don't let the tax tail wag the tax dog.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS

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