

# NEW ERA

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# CLOCK TICKS ON LATE FILERS



**Tax preparer Thomas Rees, left, shares a lighthearted moment with Woody Cochran of Peoria at Sharp Income Tax Service on Sterling Avenue on Monday afternoon. When asked why he decided Monday would be the day he'd file his taxes, Cochran laughed. "Procrastination is what it's called. That's the best explanation."**

ADAM GERIK  
JOURNAL STAR  
PURCHASE THIS PHOTO AT PJSTAR.COM

## Summer jobs may be scarce for teens

Youths advised to begin search early this year

BY STEVE TARTER  
OF THE JOURNAL STAR

**PEORIA** — Teens looking for summer jobs this year are advised not to wait for school to get out before trying to find employment.

A recent report called the summer job outlook for teens and young adults "pretty bleak."

Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies reported that a slowing national economy, falling retail sales and an increase in fuel prices could mean that "teens looking to work may not be able to find many opportunities."

In central Illinois, jobs for young people are likely to be harder to find than in past summers, said Jennifer Brackney, manager of workforce development for the City of Peoria.

"Local employers are facing an uncertain summer and won't necessarily be hiring at the same levels as last year," she said.

Youths 18 and older will have an advantage when competing

Please see **JOBS**, Page A6

ON THE WEB

See the state of Illinois' Summer Job Central resource at: www.ILWorkInfo.com/icm

**W**ith the tax deadline entering its final hours today, the looming due date can weigh on those who have not yet filed. But there are ways to get around the stress. Whether it be extended business hours by local tax services or instructions on how to file taxes online, here are some helpful tax hints as the clock ticks away.

If you don't have the time to complete your taxes now, just fill out Form 4868 to receive a six-month extension. You'll still have to pay what you owe, but your filing date will be reset to Oct. 15. And you'll avoid any late-filing penalty by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Get on a plan:** if you can't pay the full amount due with your return, you can ask to make monthly installment payments for the full or a partial amount. You can apply for an IRS installment agreement using the IRS' Web-based online payment agreement application on IRS.gov.

**For more information** regarding time extensions or installment agreements, including options for requesting an installment agreement online, visit IRS.gov and click on 1040 Central.

## Why did you wait so long to file your taxes?



"I don't have time to come in here and get my taxes done because I'm working all the time, and when I'm not working, I'm tired so it is hard to get them done. But I usually always get them done by a service."  
**WILLIAM LAWSON,**  
PEORIA



"Basically, it is just procrastination. I just didn't get them done, and so now I have to get them in here. I usually come to services to get my taxes done, and it is usually pretty good at getting them done on time."  
**JUSTIN STOLTZ,**  
PEORIA

## What are some tips you can give last-minute filers?



"The biggest thing that I can think of that would help people save time would be to E-file (electronically file). You'll get a quick response by the IRS, and it will usually be more accurate because the computers can detect problems a lot quicker. Another good solution is that if you can't get your taxes in on time, then you should definitely file for an extension. You will still have to pay what you have due, but you will have your filing date extended."

**JEFF LICHTENBERGER**  
GENERAL MANAGER OF SHARP INCOME TAX SERVICE

Compiled by **BRIAN FELDT** of the Journal Star

### Extended hours at local tax services:

**Lincoln Tax Service:** open until midnight  
2531 W. War Memorial Dr.

**Sharp Income Tax Service:** open until midnight  
3809 N. Sterling Ave.

**INSIDE** ▶ State tax workers get ready for a frantic week. **Page A7**

## Food-price inflation at worst level in 17 years

Costs forcing vendors to explain higher prices

BY ELLEN SIMON  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

**NEW YORK** — Steve Tarpin can bake a graham cracker crust in his sleep, but explaining why the price for his Key lime pies went from \$20 to \$25 required mastering a thornier topic: global economics.

He recently wrote a letter to his customers and posted it near the cash register listing the factors — dairy prices driven higher by conglomerates buying up milk supplies, heat waves in Europe and California, demand from emerging markets and the weak dollar.

The owner of Steve's Authentic Key Lime Pies in Brooklyn said he didn't want customers thinking he was "jacking up

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# Median draws ire of some on North University

Difficult access, proposed tavern have some worried about street

BY JOHN SHARP  
OF THE JOURNAL STAR

**PEORIA** — When Mick Lacanski moved into the developing Hawthorne Hills subdivision 40 years ago, there was nothing but farm fields around North University Street.

The street itself was nothing more than a two-lane highway.

Today, the University Street behind Lacanski's house is a busy four-lane road carrying about 20,000 vehicles a day and is divided by a concrete median in some parts that business owners claim is hindering positive development.

It is also a street "in flux," one city official recently said.

"It's always a changing thing on University," Lacanski said.

North University between Pioneer Parkway and Willow Knolls has also attracted a lot of attention from City Hall lately. Elliott's, an adult cabaret, has been fighting for a liquor license for the past five years. On the opposite side of University not far from the strip club, the teen center, Adrenaline, seeks city help in getting opened.

In addition, JJ Ryan's is looking to open a tavern next to Steak-n-Shake, which led to one city liquor commissioner to comment that a tavern on the street "is not the best use" of what the 7000 block of University could be.

"(JJ Ryan's) is a part of University that can be redeveloped," Commissioner Drew Cassidy said after voting against granting a liquor license to the

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