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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Before we know it, another year is upon us. And with it brings the reminder that Uncle Sam is standing by to hear from us. As you prepare for our appointment, I've outlined some items for your information and consideration.

New Website. If you haven't already, please check out the new website at: www.starrcochran.com Under the *Tax Practice* tab you will find valuable information including, articles, the Tax Data Sheet, a map to the office, and links to the IRS and Arizona Department of Revenue.

Tax Data Sheet. Changes in our lives can often impact our tax returns. Please take a few moments to review these questions and items. You may discover a potential tax-saving item.

List of Deductions. If you choose *not* to use the Tax Data Sheet, please bring a list of your deductions.

Property Tax Deduction for Non-Itemizers. If you take the standard deduction and have paid property taxes, you will be able to deduct those property taxes without having to itemize.

Contributions to 529 College Savings Plans. From now through 2012 you may subtract amounts you contribute to 529 college savings plans during the taxable year on your Arizona return. The limits for this deduction are: \$750 for single taxpayers and \$1500 for taxpayers filing a joint return.

Energy Credits. There are several energy credits available which apply to your personal residence such as for new windows and doors, installation of insulation, window tinting, wood burning stoves and garage doors so please bring your receipts for any energy improvements you made to your home last year.

Payment Due at Time Services Rendered. Please be prepared to pay your invoice at the time your tax return is completed. Electronically filed returns will be transmitted only after payment is received.

Child Care. We continue to appreciate your making child care arrangements for our appointment. The uninterrupted time enables us to better focus on completing your returns accurately and efficiently.

Office Hours. From February 1st through April 15th our office hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

We look forward to seeing you in the next few months. In the meantime if you have any questions, please give us a call.