

PINE BLUFF COMMERCIAL

'First in Southeast Arkansas'

Free tax filing and assistance helps low-income families file taxes, get faster returns

Southern Bancorp and its nonprofit affiliate Southern Good Faith Fund in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service are offering a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to the residents of Phillips County and surrounding areas.

Dedicated, knowledgeable, IRS-certified volunteers are ready to provide tax-filing services free of charge to individuals and families who have an annual income of \$42,000 or less. The convenient, all-electronic filing process brings faster returns, and our volunteers make sure that they include all of the money in tax credits that filers are

eligible to receive.

Last tax season, Southern Bancorp's VITA program helped residents in Arkansas and Mississippi communities receive nearly \$1 million in Earned Income Tax Credits (EITCs) alone, which often go unclaimed because many people are not aware they qualify or how to file for them.

The VITA program begins on Jan. 20 and continues throughout the tax season. To make an appointment in the Phillips County area, please see the contact, location, and scheduling information below:

• Helena-West Helena, 502 Cherry Street - Vida Fielder, 870-816-1126

• Marvell, 911 Highway 49 - Leigh Ann Lammers, 870-816-2910

For more information, please call us today or visit us online at www.southernbancorp.com or www.southernngff.org.

Southern Good Faith Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to increasing incomes and assets of low-income and low-skilled residents in rural communities. Southern Good Faith Fund, Southern Financial Partners, and Southern Property Corporation are affiliates of Southern Bancorp, a \$575 million rural development bank with banking operations in Arkansas and Mississippi.