

Calloway: Tax savings information spread to Forsyth County

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program to help residents retain more of their hard-earned money. They are also soliciting the help of local employers and non-profit groups in communicating information about the credit and other available tax assistance to their employees and clients.

In order to facilitate the return process,

Hinson and many other Forsyth County volunteers, including Calloway students, will assist hundreds of local taxpayers this spring through the IRS VITA program.

This free program is available to lower-to-moderate-income taxpayers who can file simple returns.

By use of a worksheet, taxpayers in this category can determine whether they are

eligible for such credit.

In some cases, earned income tax credit can amount to over \$1,000 per claim.

Based on research by the General Accounting Office, about 25 percent of workers who are eligible to receive the EITC fail to claim it.

"The IRS has tried in recent years to advertise the credit, however some people are hesitant to use it as they

do not fully understand how it works," Hinson said.

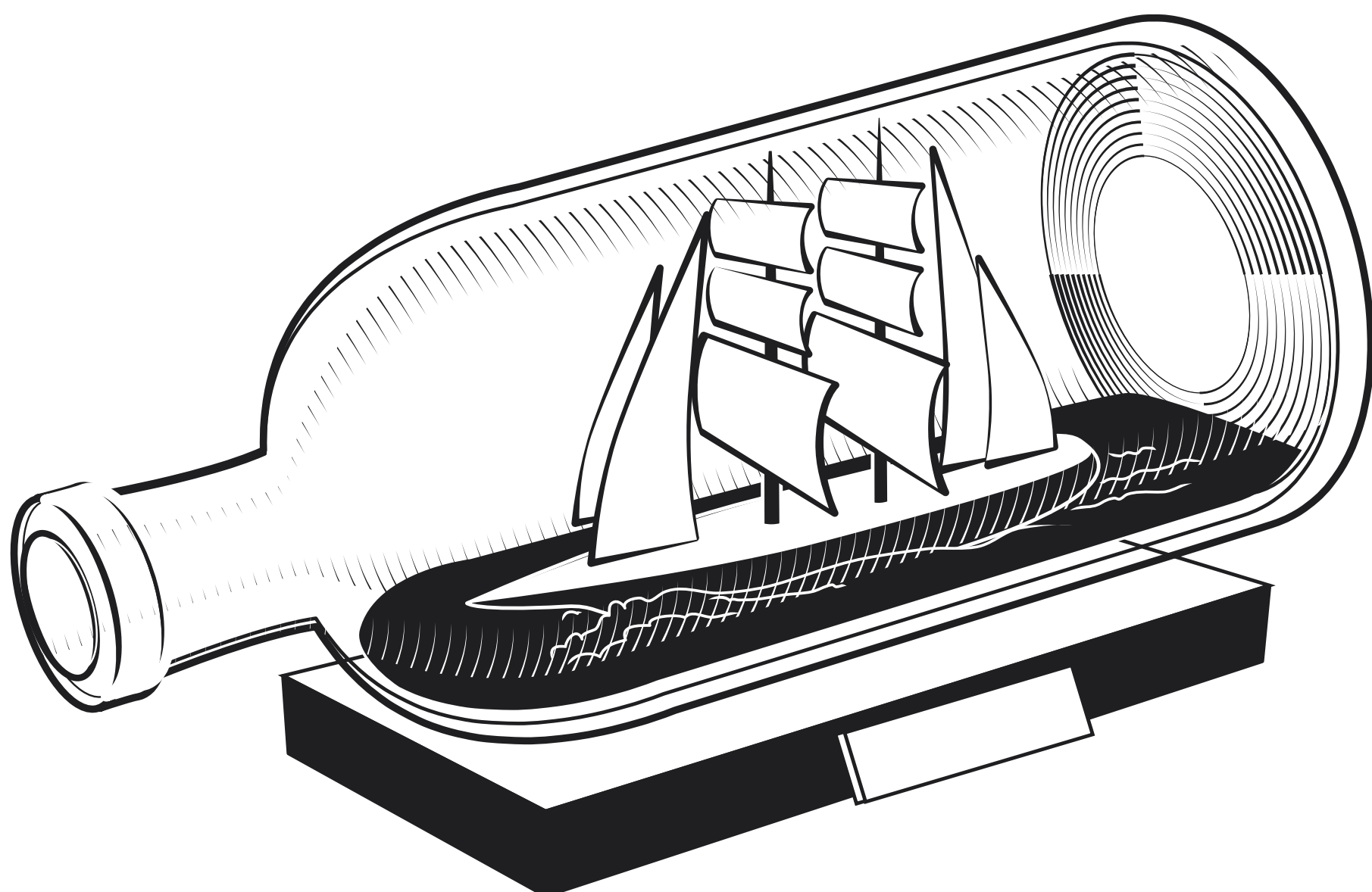
"The VITA program has also been in this county for a few years but has not been heavily publicized. This year the FWFP has been created to start up new sites and advertise in attempt to reach potential filers," he said.

Beginning in February there will be at least five VITA sites around Forsyth

County.

Hinson and her Calloway students have already partnered with Goodwill Industries, whose building on University Parkway will serve as such a site.

"Knowledge to work a VITA site closely parallels the policy issues students must learn in the class and it is a great way to put their knowledge into action," Hinson said.



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Council: New group for Greeks

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provide more leadership opportunity for those in their membership," she said.

At a formal induction ceremony hosted in the Magnolia Room, members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity were inducted into the Council, as well as the members of the MGC executive Board.

Under the leadership of Richerson, representatives from various Greek minority groups on campus with the goal to form a "council that would strive to educate the campus about our activities and create another agent of collaboration with other Greek organizations on campus," senior Dionne Tunstall, MGC Executive Board member for Service, said.

"Basically, our purpose is to promote cooperation and collaboration with all Greek letter organizations for the greater good of the campus environment," said Tunstall. "Also, it is important to educate other sororities and fraternities about the activities/purpose of minority Greek organizations in order to a foster better understanding of our goals."

The formation of the Council comes during a trend that has been affecting universities nationwide. According to senior Paul Singleton, a council executive board member for public relations and awareness, the formation of the MGC was an attempt to "catch up" to what these other universities had accomplished.

"We were following a national trend that universities like Wake Forest have responded to, those which have black fraternities across the country. We're just trying to catch up and get on track," Singleton said.

Aside from getting back "on track" in relation to other universities across the country, the MGC's official function is to combine the efforts of all minority Greek organizations on campus. According to Tunstall, one of the benefits and main goals of the MGC is to start regular events that will include other Greek organizations on campus to better the campus atmosphere.

"I think the future goals of MGC are to establish annual events that would be with the help of Interfraternity, Panhellenic Council and other groups on campus that may want to participate," Tunstall said. "I believe we want to strive to be recognized on campus as an active, solid council that the university can count on to produce quality events for everyone to enjoy," she said.

Additionally, the MGC creates a previously non-existing forum for the beliefs and ideas of these minority Greek organizations, as well as solidifying the beliefs of the University's other Greek organizations.

"I believe the Minority Greek Council is an excellent addition to the Greek councils on campus," said senior Kate Niemiec, president of the Panhellenic Council. "It not only gives them their own forum for discussion in their own National PanHellenic Council affiliations, but having their own council also helps the rest of the Greek community to understand their organizations and beliefs," she said.

The MGC hopes to jumpstart its presence among minority organizations on campus with events for the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend.