|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| H & R Pyes Tax & Accounting Services  A small house with a porch lit up at night  Description automatically generated  396 Millvale Road  Bucksport, ME 04416  207-443-6183  [www.pyestax.com](http://www.pyestax.com) | | | | | | |
| January 2025 | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| If you’re like me, you are wondering where the heck did 2024 go? I thought it was right here. Now it’s gone. Looking back, 2024 was a good year. We had additional work done at our house, and my new office is finally complete. Now I just need to organize it.   The holidays are past us, and now it is time to turn our attention to our favorite time of year – that’s right. Tax season! Our website has been updated with the Tax Year 2024 engagement documents ([www.pyestax.com](http://www.pyestax.com)). If you need them mailed to you, please let me know.   One thing I do need to address up front is my fees. You may have noticed (or perhaps not) that I have not raised my fees during the past 3 tax seasons. I will be implementing a 5% increase this year. As you know, I bill on a per form basis. Some forms will see a nominal increase while others will see an increase of several dollars. I appreciate that this increase is not something you wanted to hear; I appreciate your understanding.  Contacting me: You can reach me by phone at 207-443-6183; please leave a message if I don’t answer. Please be sure to leave your phone number and best time for a return call. You can also email me at [hollypye@pyestax.com](mailto:hollypye@pyestax.com). Please be sure to have a subject line and write a detailed message. If it is an **urgent** matter, please call my cell at 207-319-6985. | | | |  | | *Member of:*  *National Association of*  *Enrolled Agents\**  *National Society of*  *Tax Professionals*  *Institute of Management Accountants*  \*An enrolled agent is a person who has earned the privilege of representing taxpayers before the Internal Revenue Service by either passing a three-part comprehensive IRS test covering individual and business tax returns, or through experience as a former IRS employee. |
| If you didn’t pre-schedule your appointment, please contact me as soon as possible to get on my schedule. 464 Book Your Appointment Royalty-Free Images, Stock Photos & Pictures |  Shutterstock | | | | |  |
| Poster, Print Vector important stamp, 40x40 cmImportant info for your 2024 Tax Return | | | | | | |
| Health Savings Accounts  You have until April 15th, 2025, to make a 2024 IRA or Health Savings Account contribution.  2024 limits for HSA Health Savings Account are:  $4,150 self-only coverage  $5,150 self only coverage 55 and over  $8,300 family coverage under 55  $9,300 family coverage one is over 55  Mileage Rates for 2024  Business: $0.67  Medical: $0.21  Charitable: $0.14  Educator Expenses  You can deduct up to $300.00 of out of pocket costs.  Energy Credits  If you have new windows, doors, heat pumps, solar panels, hot water tank or furnace, these items MAY qualify for some tax credits. Please be insure to include this information with your tax documents, including (but not limited to): receipts, date purchased, date installed; energy certification from manufacturer, cost of the item(s).    If you are collecting Social Security benefits and you are not at full retirement age, you may earn up to $1,860 per month , for a total of $22,320 for the year.  In the year you reach full retirement age, you can earn up to 4,960 per month, for a total of $59,520.  If you exceed the earnings limits, you will have to repay some of your social security benefits.    CYBER SECURITY  Don’t be a victim! Email scams and facebooks scams are on the rise.  Links may contain malware and/or direct to a fake website.  This may steal your login information or trick you into sending money, passports or other ID to the scammers. QR code phishing is another method of stealing information from you.  Beware of QR codes on stickers or in emails.  Two other big items:   * Wire Fraud – once it is sent by wire odds of getting your money back are very slim. * Paying people you don’t know with gift cards – a legitimate business will not ask you to pay this way.   It is a good idea to use a credit card to purchase items online, they give you the best protection against fraud.  The next best is to use a debit card, but the protection on your debit card may not be as strong as on a credit card.    Yes, debit cards have purchase protection in a few ways:  Miscellaneous  Remember, all of the engagement documents for tax year 2024 can now be found on our website – [www.pyestax.com](http://www.pyestax.com)  Please be sure to include all the **required** engagement documents with your tax documents.  You can mail your documents to our office, email them to [hollypye@pyestax.com](mailto:hollypye@pyestax.com) (please put 2024 TAX DOCUMENTS on the subject line) or you can go old school and actually schedule an in office appointment.  Please be sure I have your documents at least 3 days prior to your scheduled appointment.  The last filing date for the 2024 tax year is April 15, 2025.  I realize that you have several options for preparing your taxes. As always, I appreciate the trust you place in me.  And finally, remember –  Don’t pass the Pyes by, or your taxes may be too high! | |  | Retirement Matters  We all dream about it, but you really need to do more than dream. If you haven’t already, start putting money into your company’s retirement plan. They don’t have one? Open an IRA.  Retirement Contribution Limits   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Type of Plan** | **2024** | **2025** | | **401k/401b** |  |  | | under 50 | 23,000 | 23,500 | | Age 50 and over | 30,500 | 31,000 | | Age 60 thru 63 | 30,500 | 34,750 | | **IRA and Roth** |  |  | | under 50 | 7,000 | 7,000 | | 50 and older | 8,000 | 8,000 | | **Simple IRA for 2025** |  |  | | Under 50 | $16,000 | $16,500 | | 50 and over | $19,500 | $20,000 | | Age 60 to 63 | $19,500 | 21,750 |   Social Security  Full retirement age varies depending on the year you were born.  Age 66 if born between 1943 – 1954  Age 66 years and 2 months if born in 1955  Age 66 and 4 months if born in 1956  ` Age 66 and 6 months if born in 1957  Age 66 and 8 months if born in 1958  Age 66 and 10 months if born in 1959  Age 67 if born in 1960 or later   * **Chargeback**   If you don't receive the goods or services you paid for, or if there are billing errors, you can dispute the charge with your bank. This is called a chargeback. You should try to resolve the issue with the merchant first.   * **Unauthorized purchases**   If your debit card is used without your permission, you can limit your liability to $50 if you report the fraud within two business days. If you report it within 60 days, you could be liable for up to $500. If you don't report it within 60 days, you could be liable for the full amount stolen.   * **Purchase protection from major payment processors**   If your debit card is issued by a major payment processor like Visa or Mastercard, you may be covered by purchase protection. For example, Visa offers purchase security to eligible cardholders at no additional cost.  You can also protect yourself by regularly reviewing your bank statements and setting up alerts for card activity.  Crypto Currency  **Do You Have or Use Crypto Currency**?  If you sell, trade one for another or buy anything with Bitcoin, Ethereum, Dogecoin or the like, you have engaged in a taxable transaction which must be reported on your Income Tax Returns.  These activities, where the cyber currency has left your ownership, count as a sale of property  (like stocks, bonds, real estate etc.) and you must pay tax on the gain.  So, you are responsible for maintaining the correct information – how are you keeping track of your cost basis and sale/exchange data?  Modern 2D Cartoon Web Site with Daffy Duck and Bitcoin | Stable Diffusion  Online | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
|  | You can easily change the formatting of selected text in the document text by choosing a look for the selected text from the Styles gallery on the Home tab. | | | | | |