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Two Ways to Get Tax Help in Elgin



For families who made less than \$55,000 last year (\$30,000 for individuals), The Center for Economic Progress' Free Tax Prep Program is now open in Elgin!

The program is hosted in Elgin by Judson University. Download [this flyer](#) for the program schedule and information on what you need to bring with you.

Last year, volunteers completed and filed over 1,200 federal and state returns, generating \$2.3 million in refunds for residents of our community. These IRS-certified tax preparers will go over all potential tax credits, ensuring that individuals and families get their maximum refund. Sites also offer opportunities to open a savings account and access to tax law services.



If your household earned less than \$66,000 in 2017 you can file both your federal and state returns for free using [MyFreeTaxes.com](#). This is the only free, online tax filing product offered by a nonprofit. United Way has made it available to over 100 million U.S. taxpayers as part of our fight for the financial stability of every person in every community.

MyFreeTaxes is powered by H&R Block's premium software, so filing is easy, secure, and guaranteed to be 100% accurate. The software scans for any tax credit you're entitled to, making sure you get your maximum refund. If you have questions along the way, IRS-certified specialists are ready to answer your questions in real time.

Celebrating the Life of Jack Shales



The entire Elgin community lost its fiercest advocate and friend when Jack Shales passed away on January 26, 2018. Jack was a 63-year volunteer for United Way of Elgin, serving on the board for many years, including as board chair in 1988. Jack also served as campaign chair three times during his life, most recently in 2013. In 2002, Jack was named a Lifetime Director.

In 2004, to celebrate his 50th year of volunteer service, UWE created the Jack Shales Spirit of Community Award, which was given annually to a company that showed exceptional corporate responsibility and community spirit. You can also [view a gallery](#) from our 90th Anniversary event in 2014 which honored Jack for his 60 years of volunteerism with UWE.

There is no sector of Elgin life that Jack did not touch in some way. We at United Way will always treasure his generosity and spirit, and will miss his visits to the office--just to chat, or bring us apples from Michigan--greatly.

A celebration of Jack's life and legacy will be held Saturday, February 24th at 10:30 at Judson University. More information about this and Jack's memorial requests can be found [here](#). We also have a limited number of the "Thanks, Jack" signs you see popping up around the community. If you'd like one for your yard, stop by our office.

Elgin Partnership for Early Learning Winter Meeting



The Elgin Partnership for Early Learning is excited to host their Winter Collaboration Meeting on Friday, February 16th from 9:30-11:30 am at the Gail Borden Public Library. Presenter Donna Nylander will speak about becoming a socially competent community.

You can learn more about the meeting, the speaker, and how to register [here](#).

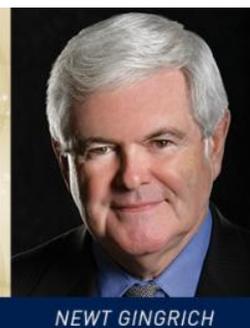
Judson University's World Leaders Forum



HOWARD DEAN



APRIL 19, 2018



NEWT GINGRICH

Judson University began the World Leaders Forum in 2011 with the goal of bringing renowned speakers to the Judson campus and giving both students and the larger

community the chance to hear inspiring messages, learn how leaders develop, and seek advice from someone who has made a global impact.

This year, the World Leaders Forum is proud to present Howard Dean and Newt Gingrich, who will speak about leadership in divided times. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit worldleadersforum.info.

If you have not yet checked out our video, you're missing the story of how thousands of lives are changed for the better through United Way of Elgin. To live better, we must LIVE UNITED!



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