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Internal Revenue VITA Program Seeks Volunteer Tax Assistors

The Internal Revenue Service is seeking to help people with income tax filing problems through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistor (VITA) program. In its second year, the VITA project is aimed at particularly helping the many taxpayers in the low income group who may not be required to file returns or will have to pay less under the Tax Reform Act of 1969.

VITA volunteers are offered training by IRS Technicians, with basic tax return preparation courses planned for interested members of social welfare, service, religious, and cultural organizations.

While three-day seminars are being conducted in Los Angeles, enough interested persons willing to take the training and help others in their tax return filing in the Antelope Valley would

permit a special training session to be held in the Valley.

VITA volunteers work from material supplied by the persons who request assistance in filing their returns, but are not responsible if false records are involved.

Retired persons and interested individuals are welcome to join the program as well as representatives of various organizations. The VITA program also can be used by teachers in adult education classes.

Anyone interested in obtaining detailed information or wishing to join the program in helping others is asked to contact Miss Jo-An Pszeny, of the Internal Revenue Office, 1530 W. Glenoaks Blvd., Glendale, Calif. The telephone number is 247-2202, extension 483.

PRO-WATER — Co-Chairmen for AVEK Citizens for Water and Jobs are Della Arnold, right, and Chet Vreeland, both of Lancaster. The new organization is seeking approval of the AVEK water project bond issue at a Feb. 16 election. Mrs. Arnold is well-known for her participation in civic and political activities. Vreeland is business agent for a local union and a volunteer worker for the Salvation Army.

Mrs. Arnold, Vreeland Named to Water Group

Della K. Arnold and Chet Vreeland of Lancaster have been named as co-chairmen of AVEK Citizens for Water and Jobs, the group announced today.

Its purpose is to seek approval of bonds for construction of a system to distribute State Project water locally, according to chairman Charles Taylor.

The bond election is set for Feb. 16.

Mrs. Arnold has participated in many civic and political activities in the Antelope Valley since 1949. She is presently a member of the board of directors of the Antelope Valley Guild of Children's Hospital and Assistance League. A past president of the Assistance League and Antelope Valley Guild she has also served as an official of Antelope Valley Republican Women; Monte Vista PTA, and Park View PTA. She attended the University of Oregon.

Vreeland is business representative for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 12. He is a member of the Los Angeles County Building Trades Council and serves on the Salvation Army advisory board. His other community service activities include involvement in improvement projects at St. Andrew's Priory at Valyermo.

Vreeland attended Ventura College for four years following service in the U.S. Army.

Mrs. Arnold said she accepted co-chairmanship of the pro-water group because her 17 years as office manager of her husband's local equipment firm convinced her that the Antelope Valley cannot

fulfill its promise without more water.

"Because most people can always get water when they turn on the faucet, it's tempting to pretend that we don't have a water problem," she pointed out. "The unpleasant truth is, however, that we cannot continue to grow and improve unless we do something about our inadequate ground-water supplies. The only source of supplemental water is the State Water Project. We've contracted to buy this water and we're paying for it. Now we must take the one last step necessary to put this water to use to create jobs and make this a better place to live. We must build the local distribution system planned by Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency."

Vreeland warned that failure to approve construction of the AVEK water distribution system could cost local homeowners millions of dollars within the next few years.

"Without more water we're just not going to get very many new jobs," said Vreeland. "This will have a depressing effect on the value of homes now existing. If we don't have a steadily-improving economy, the market for homes will be sluggish. Without the water project, my personal opinion is that the typical homeowner here stands to lose several thousand dollars when he tries to sell his house. Who wants to buy a house where jobs are scarce?"

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