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MEET THE MERCHANT



LUKE WHITTAKER

Tax consultant Chris Holloway has worked in the tax field the past 15 years and recently purchased H&R Block franchise locations in Astoria and Gearhart. Now in peak tax season, Holloway helps prepare taxes for 15 customers daily on average.

By LUKE WHITTAKER
Coast River Business Journal

How long have you worked in the tax field?

“15 years.”

How did you get started?

“I came in one time with my girlfriend. She wanted to do her taxes at H&R Block, and I actually thought it was funny she wanted to pay someone to come and do it. We came in to the old Astoria office and the old owner John was preparing her taxes and I was complaining about the

prices, I don’t know why. And then he said, “Well, this is how much she’s getting back.” It was a lot more than we ever got back. He said, “If you want to take the class and figure out how to do it...” Well, I worked for him until last year, when I bought the business.”

Will your role change now that you own the business?

“No, I’ll just be here a little more often, but I pretty much live here anyways (ha-ha).”

Where are you from originally?

Chris Holloway,
tax consultant
H&R Block
1092 Marine Dr., Astoria
503-325-1166

“I was born in Gresham, Oregon. I spent five or six years down in Arizona. Then I’ve been back here since 1992.”

When is peak season for filing taxes?

“Right now, the first week of

February is really busy.”

How many people do you see on a typical day?

“It averages about 15, sometimes more. I try to do about 15 a day.”

Why should someone come see a tax professional instead of using software like TurboTax?

“The main thing is you just want to make sure you’re doing it right. It can also save you time and frustration from having to do it yourself.”

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