

Lease Named Volunteer Of The Year By GC Community Action Committee

quality of life for people in need by empowering them to become more self-sufficient and by providing essential services in collaboration and cooperation with partners.



Henrietta Lease, Swanton, was recently named Volunteer of the Year by Garrett County Community Action for her many years of income tax preparation service to the community. She is pictured accepting a plaque from Duane Yoder of GCCAC.

She volunteered under the AARP Tax Aide program for 13 years, and this past year, she continued to serve in this capacity as the AARP Tax Aide site merged with the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program sponsored by the IRS. Lease has served in this position, as well as a new volunteer mentor and an advisor to the site coordinator over the years.

"We are estimating that Henrietta has saved our elderly, disabled, and low-income residents more than \$156,000 in tax preparation fees over the past 14 years," said an agency spokesperson. "She is not only loved by her clients, but well respected by her fellow vol-

unteers."

All tax prep volunteers are trained and certified by the IRS, using either self-paced online training or face-to-face classroom instruction. For more information on how to volunteer, persons may call Lisa Swift at 301-334-9431, ext. 6149, or email lsswift@garrettcac.org.

The VITA service helps GCCAC to improve the