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*The forum dedicated to helping you better understand your government*

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*This week's question is for our Readers: " What's on YOUR mind?"*

**The Forum** - The Assessment Advisory Committee recently met and as usual, one of our topics was this article. It is a "tool", created out of a need to educate & inform. Earlier this year we had a steady volume of questions, but it seems to have fallen off. Although we all agree that we've done a fairly thorough job touching on all aspects of the assessment/tax process, we wonder if it's time to put the tool back in the toolbox until needed or use it for other purposes. So we're looking for questions from YOU. What else needs explaining? What else confuses you? How we can make your column better? Yes, YOUR column – it wouldn't be here without you! Without further questions or input, going forward we'll simply use the forum as needed. During the 2012 revaluation, we'll use it to keep you updated on the various steps, deadlines and general information that affects you.

**Exemption Renewal Forms** - Look for them to arrive in your mailbox in the near future. If you don't receive one, please call the Assessor's office. The Assessor is looking into holding an Exemption Renewal Day at the Senior Center and each Mobile Home Park to make it easier for our seniors to renew their Enhanced/Senior exemption. More information will be available as arrangements are made.

**2% Tax Cap** - You may have heard that New York State has passed a law regarding a 2% cap on the tax levy. What that means is that the money collected through taxation cannot be increased more than 2% over last year's levy or the rate of inflation (whichever is less). There are many exceptions and rules along with this law, so we've posted an information sheet on our website and will pass additional info on to you as we receive it

**THANK YOU & PLEASE, KEEP SENDING US YOUR CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS!!!!**

*Articles are archived on our website [www.erie.gov/newstead](http://www.erie.gov/newstead).*

*Please submit questions to [aac@townofnewstead.com](mailto:aac@townofnewstead.com)*