

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THE STAR EXEMPTION. There are two checks being issued by the State to qualifying residents. (1) the STAR credit check and (2) the property tax relief credit. Some of you may remember receiving a check in 2016 called the property tax freeze credit. This was a tax relief program that reimbursed qualifying New York State homeowners for increases in local property taxes on their primary residences. The last year of the program was 2016.

There is no longer a STAR exemption program in place for new homeowners. Instead the STAR credit check replaces the exemption and is a program for homeowners who purchased after March 1, 2015. Instead of seeing an exemption or reduction on their school tax bill, those homeowners will now receive a check from the State of New York sometime in September. The State will review your information every year and automatically send you a STAR credit check if you are eligible. To see when you might receive your check you can go to www.tax.ny.gov/star. You only have to register once with the State of New York. For those residents who have had the STAR exemption prior to 2015 they will see a reduction on their school tax bill as always.

Homeowners have the option of switching from the STAR exemption to the STAR credit check. You must register with the State of New York at www.tax.ny.gov/star. There is a deadline for registering so please check that information first. If you opt to receive the check instead of the exemption and you pay school taxes through a mortgage escrow account you may wish to contact the mortgage lender to advise them that you have switched to the STAR credit from the STAR exemption.

For further information regarding the property tax relief check call 518-453-8146 and to register for STAR call 518-457-2036.

Respectfully submitted, SHERYL LUONGO, Assessor, Town of Putnam Valley