**Tax Rebates are coming**

Tax rebate checks are coming to library patrons in North Babylon!

The North Babylon Public Library was pleased to participate with other libraries around Suffolk County in developing a Countywide Library Efficiency Plan in order to comply with the requirements of the NYS Tax Freeze legislation that was adopted, as a part of a three-year $1.5 billion program, by NYS in 2013.

Tax rebate checks, equal to the amount that library taxes have gone up in the past year, should be coming out soon for taxpayers in North Babylon.

To make North Babylon property taxpayers eligible for the checks the North Babylon Public Library had to keep its budget within the state’s tax levy cap and also develop an intergovernmental efficiency plan.  Earlier this year New York State approved Suffolk’s Countywide Library Efficiency Plan.

Suffolk County’s Library Efficiency Plan was developed through the coordination of the Suffolk Cooperative Library System (SCLS.)  SCLS Director Kevin Verbesey commented, “Public libraries have always been at the forefront of resource sharing and of working cooperatively to both expand local library services and save taxpayers money.  The Suffolk Cooperative Library System was proud to follow the leadership of our member libraries in working to develop a plan which will bring even greater tax saving to Suffolk’s residents.”

 The Patchogue-Medford Public Library (PML) served as the Lead Agency for the efficiency plan.  PML Director Lauren Nichols stated, “The Patchogue-Medford Library was happy to work with other libraries around Suffolk County in developing a plan that would allow libraries to share the cost of telecommunications, information databases, and other technologies that are essential to Suffolk’s library users.”

*Marc David Horowitz*