## **Education Corner**

There are many factors that affect your total assessed value. It may seem like your neighbor's house looks similar but almost every home is unique. Your home may have a finished basement and your neighbor may not. Your lot may be larger, or your neighbor could have a large deck and patio. Each of these unique attributes can vastly differentiate each homes assessment.

Also, assessors do not compare you to your neighbor's home. By law, assessors must use resent sales. Therefore, if your neighbor's home has not sold recently, it cannot be used to determine your new value.

Factors that can affect your assessed value:

- Total living area (sq ft)
- Finished basement
- Recent additions or improvements
- Patios/Decks
- Lot Size
- General Finishes (flooring, cabinets, counters)
- Number of beds and baths

Assessors aren't tax collectors, or even tax setters, we're just fellow tax payers trying to make everything fair and equitable.

