



Margaret Hartough – Library Trustee

“A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never-failing spring in the desert.” — Andrew Carnegie

I have always believed that the library is the heart of the community. As a resident of Northport–East Northport for over 40 years, I have seen firsthand how a strong library helps build a strong community. This is where I raised my four children, where my family’s roots run deep, and where I began my journey in librarianship at the Northport-East Northport Public Library as a part-time circulation clerk. That early experience inspired me to pursue my passion, earning a Master’s Degree in Library Science and an Advanced Certificate in Public Library Administration.

My professional career led me to the Half Hollow Hills Community Library, where I have served as Head of Teen Services, Branch Manager, and currently as Library Director. These roles have provided me with extensive experience in fiscal management, policy development, and ensuring that library services reflect both the needs and the rights of the community we serve.

While raising my children, I stayed actively involved in our local schools, including serving as President of the Fifth Avenue School PTA. Civic involvement and service are essential to supporting a healthy, engaged community.

I have been honored to serve on our Library Board of Trustees in multiple leadership roles, including President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Through these years of service, I have gained deep institutional knowledge and a practical understanding of the complex finances, state mandates, and policies needed to keep a library thriving, innovative, and fiscally responsible.

I am grateful to be part of such a remarkable community and to use my professional experience and lifelong dedication to help ensure our library remains a welcoming, vital resource for all.