

LIBRARY TRUSTEE CANDIDATES: VOTE FOR ONE

Stuart Carter

My name is Stuart Carter and I am running for the Longwood Public Library Board of Trustees. My wife Sue and I live in Yaphank.

As a lifelong patron and supporter of Library associations, I believe that libraries offer multiple resources and help communities thrive, serving as both an educational and social center for the community.

Our Library offers a wonderful array of services to the members of the community and I am excited to continue to support the innovative actions and programs of the Longwood Public Library.

Professionally, I have BA and MPA degrees and have worked in the electronic component industry for the past 45 years. While earning my Masters degree, I was the Graduate assistant Librarian at the CW Post college library, where I learned to appreciate the importance of libraries.

I would greatly appreciate your vote in our annual election for the position of Library Trustee.

Tracy Caliendo

My name is Tracy Caliendo. I am a proud 17 year resident of the Longwood community. I have 2 boys who currently attend Longwood Senior High School, and we are all avid library patrons.

I have been fortunate to serve our school community over the years as Co President & Vice president of the Coram Elementary PTA, President & Vice President of our JH PTSA & 1 term as President of the HS PTSA. I am presently the Vice President of the Longwood Council of PTA's. In an effort to better understand the needs of our district & surrounding community I am an active member of our district's Safety & Awareness Committee along with our district's Legislative Committee.

My PTA & committee background have given me the tools to manage budgets, oversee new & collaborative programs, the ability to work with others in a professional manner, create lasting relationships with those I have worked with, & advocate in a way that can be beneficial to so many. I believe that our Longwood Library is the one place our community can go to, to grow, learn and connect whether you are 1 or 101. I welcome the opportunity to continue to support our residents in such a meaningful way.

Longwood
Public Library

Board of Trustees

Lauren O'Connell
President

Victor Massian, Jr.
Vice-President

Gail Lynch-Bailey
Secretary

Gretchen Cotton
Finance Chairperson

Clayton Hudson
Building Chairperson



800 Middle Country Road
Middle Island, NY 11953
(631) 924-6400

Hours

Monday–Friday: 9:30 am–9:00 pm
Saturday: 9:30 am–5:00 pm
Sunday: 1:00 pm–5:00 pm

Visit us at longwoodlibrary.org

Director, Lisa H. Jacobs
Assistant Director, Ann Hofbauer

2025-2026
Annual Budget Vote
& Trustee Election

Remember
to Vote!

Tuesday, April 8
8:00 am–9:00 pm
at the library

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Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – 8:00 am–9:00 pm

2025-2026 Annual Budget Vote & Trustee Election

Voter Registration Information

REQUIREMENTS TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION

- You are at least 18 years of age
- You are a citizen of the United States
- You have been a resident of Longwood Central School District for at least 30 days
- You have voted in any general, school or other election in the last four years

VOTER REGISTRATION

Registration is available every school day through April 3 at the Longwood Central Office, 35 Yaphank-Middle Island Road, Middle Island

ABSENTEE & EARLY MAIL-IN BALLOTS

Applications are available at the library. Completed applications will be accepted by the District Clerk between **March 10 and April 7**. If the ballot is to be mailed, the application must be received by **5:00 pm on Tuesday, April 1**.

Budget Information Meeting

Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 pm

The Library Director, Lisa Jacobs, will be happy to answer any questions you have about the library or the budget.

Please call (631) 924-6400 x275 or e-mail: lisa@longwoodlibrary.org

	Current 2024-2025	Proposed 2025-2026
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES		
Books & eBooks	\$340,000	\$360,000
Audiovisual Materials	\$140,000	\$125,000
Information Software	\$79,000	\$82,000
Other Library Materials	\$23,000	\$25,000
Library Programs	\$213,000	\$219,500
Museum Passes	\$20,500	\$23,000
Library & Custodial Supplies	\$117,000	\$121,000
PROFESSIONAL & CONSULTING SERVICES		
Legal, SCLS, Treasurer, Auditor	\$118,100	\$122,000
LIBRARY OPERATIONS		
Circulation System	\$47,000	\$40,000
Printing, Postage & Publicity	\$95,000	\$97,000
Election Expenses	\$10,000	\$10,000
Training	\$24,500	\$29,500
Office Equipment	\$55,000	\$58,000
Service Contracts	\$47,000	\$43,000
BUILDING OPERATIONS		
Utilities	\$150,000	\$155,000
Telephone & Internet	\$29,100	\$25,100
Insurance	\$62,000	\$65,000
Campus Maintenance	\$31,000	\$31,000
Building Repairs & Maintenance	\$60,000	\$64,000
Miscellaneous Building Costs	\$21,250	\$21,250
EQUIPMENT		
Computer Hardware	\$70,000	\$70,000
Furniture & Equipment	\$20,000	\$20,000
FIXED EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		
Retirement, Social Security	\$885,836	\$985,675
Health & Supplemental Insurance	\$860,200	\$940,200
Workers Compensation	\$33,000	\$33,000
Unemployment & Disability	\$10,200	\$10,200
SALARIES		
Professional	\$2,509,350	\$2,709,351
Clerical, Maintenance, IT	\$1,642,383	\$1,584,069
Pages	\$184,000	\$177,000
Sundays/Holidays	\$195,000	\$205,000
BOND PAYMENT	\$1,176,000	\$1,179,000
SUBTOTAL	\$9,268,419	\$9,629,845
ANTICIPATED REVENUES		
State Aid, Interest, Fines & Fees	\$71,500	\$159,000
PILOTs	\$80,000	\$80,000
Fund Balance	\$300,000	\$350,000
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	\$8,816,919	\$9,040,845

Annual Message to the Community

In 2024, as usual, we had a lot going on here at the LPL. The Community Yarn Project was a “thread” that ran through the entire year and across all departments, from collecting donated yarn to offering programs for all ages, to displaying fiber arts around our building and finally to donating lap blankets to a local rehab facility. Thanks to all who took part in this library-wide, and community-wide, initiative.

Our staff introduced new programming such as the volunteer-led Repair Café and the eclipse challenge (we distributed 1300 sets of glasses to participants!). We expanded programs in the makerLAB. We added new discount tickets for sale at the Circulation Desk, saving residents money. Thanks to Legislator Caracappa, we were awarded a grant from Suffolk County which supported additional summer music and dance performances. We launched a new platform for mobile printing in the library, and introduced Fiero Code, a new online resource for learning coding skills. Our community completed the second iteration of the NexTrex Challenge, taking soft plastic film out of the waste stream, and winning a bench that is now located in Bartlett Pond Park. As always, we continue to enhance our collections: we added lots of new items to our Equipment & Gadgets collection, and our children’s department introduced Toniebox Kits.

Our dedicated library staff has worked throughout the year to offer high-quality, in-demand services, and has made plans to introduce new programs and services in 2025.

Now that we have been in our “new” building for almost ten years, we will also be evaluating our collections and their use as well as their placement in the building. We anticipate relocating some items and freshening up spaces.

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that the small proposed increase is again below the state tax cap. The anticipated increase for the average household is 94 cents per month (\$11.29 per year). Details of the proposed budget are shown here and will be available in the library and online in early March. The Board will hold a budget information meeting on Wednesday, March 26 at 7:00 pm.

Completed petitions for library trustee are due by 5:00 pm on Monday, March 10, and information about trustee candidates will be available in the library and on our website shortly thereafter. There is one five-year term seat on the Board of Trustees that is up for election. If you have any questions about the budget, running for trustee or the library in general, please contact Library Director Lisa Jacobs, at (631) 924-6400 x275, or by email at lisa@longwoodlibrary.org.

Please Vote

We will hold our **Annual Budget Vote and Trustee Election on Tuesday, April 8, from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm** at the library. The Library Board of Trustees is committed to continuing to offer excellent library service while keeping the budget as low as possible. We thank you for your support throughout the year, and ask you to come in and vote on April 8.

A Few Statistics from 2024

- More than 489,000 physical items were checked out or renewed. In addition, eBooks, movies, music and audiobooks were streamed or downloaded more than 187,000 times.
- Computers were used almost 35,000 times, and the library’s wireless network was accessed more than 113,000 times.
- Library staff planned and produced 2117 in-person or virtual programs with 39,645 participants.
- Cardholders utilized our online learning courses more than 21,000 times.
- The library’s convenient mobile app was launched almost 37,000 times during the year.

2025 Plans

The library provides incredible value for the community’s modest investment. Your support of the proposed 2025-2026 budget will allow the library to continue our current excellent level of services and programs, such as:

- The ability to stream and download free eBooks and eAudio from Libby, Hoopla, Freegal and Kanopy
- Free museum passes to more than 40 museums on Long Island and in New York City
- Equipment & Gadgets, our Library of Things collection
- Classes and events for all ages, including concerts and performances in our theatre-style Community Room
- Access to classes and appointments in the makerLAB, our makerspace
- Thousands of books, movies, audiobooks and more, with access to millions of additional titles through our shared county catalog
- Free online homework help including live tutors every day from 2 pm to 11 pm
- Access to public computers with librarians who can provide guidance, as well as one-on-one tech assistance
- A wonderful play area for families with young children, plus the interactive Learn & Play Children’s Garden

In addition, your support will enable the library to introduce and/or expand:

- Coding programs for children and teens
- Programs and collections geared toward new adults (adults aged 18-30s)
- Our first GamerCon event, for all ages
- Programs and displays focused on sustainability
- A new reading challenge for students: 500 Books Before Junior High

It is estimated that adoption of the Proposed Budget would increase your property taxes as follows:

Impact of Proposed Increase	
Assessed Value of Home	Annual Additional Cost
\$2,000	\$9.26 per year
\$2,438 (district average)	\$11.29 per year
\$3,000	\$13.89 per year