



## **Susan Barbash '72**

Susan Barbash is a life long resident of the Bay Shore School District. Her parents, Maurice and Lillian Barbash, moved to Brightwaters in 1954 and still reside in Susan's childhood home on Bay Way Avenue. A member of the Bay Shore class of 1972, Susan attended Harvard-Radcliffe College. Graduating with high honors in 1976, Susan returned to Bay Shore to enter the real estate development business. As President of Barbash Associates, Susan has designed and built distinctive residential communities throughout Suffolk County. She played a major role in the construction of the Great South Bay YMCA, serving as Building Chairman as well as Chairman of the Board from 1993 to 1995. A founding member of the Bay Shore/Brightwaters Summit Council, Susan served as that organization's Chairman from 1996 to 1999.

Above all, Susan values the diversity of her hometown. She has spearheaded a long list of projects and initiatives that have enhanced the quality of life for all residents of Bay Shore and Brightwaters, including the restoration of the historic Second Avenue Firehouse. She was instrumental in setting up such programs as the South Shore Storyteller's Festival, Poems for Homes, and the Writer's Voice Center at the Great South Bay YMCA. Her other pet causes include the Great South Bay YMCA Boulton Center for the Performing Arts, the Bay Shore Schools Arts Education Fund and the Summit Council Historic Preservation and Restoration Committee.

Susan has been honored for her public work by Outreach House, was named Woman of Distinction by the New York State Senate in 1998, by Distinction Magazine in 2002, and received the 1997 Great South Bay YMCA's Award for Exemplary Community Service and as the YMCA-Boulton Center's "Ambassador of the Arts." in 2005. She is also a founding member of the Bay Shore Tricentennial Steering Committee.