



# THE JUDY BLACK MEMORIAL PARK AND GARDENS

## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



*Photos by Jonathan Beckerman*

## CHEERS TO VOLUNTEERS

It has been eleven years since the incorporation of the Washington Park Foundation, the official name of the nonprofit that owns and operates the Judy Black Park. Transforming an abandoned gas station into a beautiful community gathering space and providing engaging programming year-round are no small feats. It is no exaggeration to say that none of this would be possible without the tireless dedication of our many volunteers past and present.

We dedicate this year's annual report to our volunteers. From the park's inception, volunteers have worked to turn a vision into reality by donating their time, talents, and treasure. Before the hiring of today's three part-time staff members, volunteers assumed responsibility for most of our programming, marketing, building and garden maintenance, fundraising, and governance.

As we have grown, we still rely heavily on our volunteers to assist with tasks large and small. If you've attended the farmers market, an outdoor movie night, a live music performance or any other event at the park, you've no doubt witnessed our volunteers at work. They also work behind the scenes. If you have ever received a piece of mail from the park—an invitation to our FUNraiser or an annual appeal letter—you can bet that volunteers helped stuff, address and stamp the envelopes before they made their way to you.

Today, sixteen volunteers serve on our board of trustees, taking time out of their busy schedule to further a mission larger than all of us. The terms of two long-serving board members, Carolyn Setlow and Ron Garfunkel, will end in 2025, and we are forever indebted to them for their guiding vision and commitment to our mission. Our gratitude also extends to all former and current board members for their diligent service.

We thank and applaud each and every one of our volunteers and invite other members of the community to join us.

We'll see you at the park!

Laura Neminski  
*Executive Director*

Karyn Detje  
*Board President*



# WITH THANKS TO OUR 2024 SUPPORTERS & DONORS

## Daffodils - Up to \$150

Mary E. Adams  
Denise & Peter Arturi  
Judith Auchincloss  
Susan & Sam Averill  
Carolyn Bensley & Matt Muszala  
Max Bobinski  
Kathy Bower  
Michael M. Boyd  
Barbara & Alan Braverman  
Wanda & Stephen Brighenti  
Laura Moore Brown & Paul Brown  
Annabella Bushra & Peter Abrons  
Jessica & Alexander Cass  
Sarah Jane & Michael Chelminski  
Zoltan Csillag  
Laura & Tim Daly  
Barbara Damon Hill  
Kim DeYoung & Rich Pomerantz ★  
Suzanne & Douglas Day  
Pilar DeMann & Sebastian Tillingier  
Faith & Howard Drucker  
Barbara Mintz & Arlan Ettinger  
Lynn Evans

Marcella Fasulo  
Ann & Michael Feinberg  
Mia Ferrara-Pelosi  
Tammie Fiske  
Ellen Forman  
Julie & Joseph Fredlund  
Elizabeth & Stephen Funk  
Jeanne Fusco  
Karen Garver  
Kathleen & Vincent Giarrano  
Ashley Goodale & C.J. Muse  
Barbara Gold  
Joanne E. Goldfarb  
Betsy & David Goldin  
Judith Gorra  
Anne Gray  
Joan Hammond  
Alison Hanstead & Jeffrey Philp  
Maxie & Evan Harnik  
Anne & Nikko Hayes  
David Hoffman  
Lauren & Andrew Hoskins  
Cristi Hurdle  
Jamie Jackson Spannhake  
Julie Jennings-McKay

Sheila Josephson  
Elizabeth Kappler  
Joanne & James Kelly  
Rachel & Tom Kelly  
Lesley & William King  
Caroline & Jason Klein  
Nancy & Stephen Lasar  
Regine Laverge-Schade  
Ilene J. Leff  
Melanie & Daniel Leppo  
Karen LeSage  
Marcy Levy  
Robin & Christopher Linen  
Louis Lombardi  
Anne & Seth Low  
Isla & Mark Lowe  
Kristin & Peter Lurie  
Carroll & Michael Macdonald  
Audra MacLaren  
Jo-Ann Makovitzky  
Andrea Mann & Mitch Scherzer  
Richard Marquit  
Deana May  
Kathy McCarver  
Heather Miles & David Lombino

Katie Miller  
Zoe Milonas  
Mickey & Laura Morris  
Sarah Mudge  
Margarette O'Brien  
Anne O'Shea  
Casey & Jack Pascal  
Denise Pasch  
Ken Paul  
Sarah Payne & Bliksem Tobey  
Susan F. Payne  
Kathleen Peck  
Beatrice Rossi-Landi & Darryl Nitke  
Emma & Russell Plumb  
Brian Pontolilo  
Ronald Potter  
Alec Purves  
Betsy Renwick  
Polly Roberts  
Lisa Rossi  
Victoria C. Rowan & James Braly  
Carrie Rowe & Jim McDonough  
Ingrid Salcedo & Ulrich Vilbois  
Chloe Sauer

Beth & Franz Schober  
Susan & Craig Schoon  
Michelle Shapiro  
Karen Silk  
Johanna Singer & Brian Chaszar  
Janet & Ronald Smith  
Fourgie & Willie Smith  
Southbury Printing Centre, Inc.  
Joan & William Spear  
Jampa Stewart  
Helen Stewart  
Rebecca Stump  
Jean Taddonio  
Barbara & Peter Talbot  
Mo Van Moffaert  
Barbara Vaughn  
Barbara Von Schreiber  
Mary & Robert Weber  
Kathy Weiser  
Christine Weydig  
Zemba & Edmund White  
Lilah Wise  
Jillian Wood & Connor Duffey  
Darby & Harry Wright

## Beautyberries - \$150 to \$499

Anonymous  
Linda & Philip Andryc  
Michelle Balfour & Raffiq Nathoo  
Penny & William Bardel  
Karen & Hal Benett  
Lisa & Avi Berg  
Darcy & J. Treacy Beyer  
Barbara Blake  
Pamela & Michael Bless  
Carol Bokeniwick & John Smallwood  
Cecilia M. Brancato  
Joan Lobis Brown & Jeremy Grayzel  
Jean Dwyer Chapin  
Jeffrey Coploff  
Sally & Steven Cornell  
Owen Curtin

Josephine Dobkin  
Diane Drey & Melvin Winokur  
Laura Driscoll  
Mariann Eavenson  
Lisa & Lee Einbinder  
Cindy Ferrara & Larry Nathanson  
Catherine & Walter Fiederowicz  
Steve & Lori Fineman  
Linda Frank  
The Rachel & Jared Freedberg Family Fund  
Dale & William Genovese  
Ethan Geto  
Annie & Jack Gilpin  
Jennifer Godward  
Joseph Hoban  
Helen & Derek Hughes  
Dr. Ruth Jaffe

J. McLaughlin  
Elise Jaffe & Jeffrey Brown  
Michele James  
Leonard Kady  
Cookie & John Keggi  
Frances & Michael Keilty  
Jaclyn Levin & Andrew Kandel  
Britia Lombardi & Gavin Bishop  
Laura & James Lowe  
Wendy & Amb. William Luers  
Alice Maggin & Wayne Nelson  
Melora Mennesson ★  
Mary & Simon Metz  
Tracy Miller & Kent Burnham  
Claire Milonas  
Mine Hill Distillery  
Susan Monserud  
Elaine Mullen

Rebecca & Jim Neary  
Julia & Braden Neff  
Laura & Perry Neminski  
Elizabeth Page ★  
Steven Paggioli  
Ann & Louis Parks  
Dawn Pasquin & Michael Cordelli  
Nina & Michael Patterson  
Suzie Paxton & Patrick Horan  
Elizabeth & Thomas Rickart  
Pamela & Adam Riess  
Lisa Roumell  
Carol & John Santoleri  
Roberta Satow & Richard Wool  
Susan & James Scott  
Susan & Jim Shehan  
Randall Slack  
Maureen & Rob Sladen

Susan E. Smith  
Elizabeth & Randolph Snook  
B.K. & Peary Stafford  
Loretta Stagen  
Jean E. Suddaby  
Kathy Taylor  
Monica Thornton & Ivan Komarisky  
Andrew Trevenen  
Sydney Trevenen  
Caroline Vanderlip & Mark Krentzman  
Washington Food Market  
Katie Watkin  
West Mountain Builders  
Kevin & Mina Wheeler  
James Worth

## Golden Rain Trees - \$500 to \$999

Nicole Alger & Zachary Karabell  
Tamara & Bradford Bernstein  
Mona & Ajay Bijoor  
Kimberly & Marc Blair ★  
Pamela & Scott Bowman  
Maria & Woodrow Campbell  
Elizabeth & Jay Chandler  
Tal Fagin & Robert Copen  
Philip Farmer

Emily FitzHugh  
Steven Fuchs & Brian Lancaster  
Kate & Michael Gershenson  
Karen & Henry Glanternik  
Michelle & Michael Gorra  
Susannah Gray & John F. Lyons  
Susan & Charles Harris  
Anne & John Herrmann Jr.

Susan Hirschhorn & Arthur Klebanoff  
Alex & Brandon Ince  
Judy Jackson & Bruce Haims  
Sonia Kashuk & Daniel Kaner  
Linda Kastan  
Susan & Larry Kessler  
Sheryl S. Leach & Howard Rosenfeld

Stacey & David Lender  
Susan Lerner & Arthur Sachs  
Lois Schein-Lewis & Richard Lewis  
Michelle Madden ★  
Betsy & Ecton Manning  
Susan & Philip Markert  
Maria Mostajo & Mark Schein  
Rod Pleasants & Steve Godwin

Bonnie & Lee Richards ★  
Roberta Robbins ★  
Harriet Shapiro  
Nicole Tongue & Allen Kovac  
Cynthia King Vance & Lee Vance  
Donna & Malcolm Wattman  
Shanon & Brett Wheeler  
Kelly & David Williams

## Japanese Maples - \$1,000 to \$1,499

Keith & Peggy Anderson  
Lauren & Mark Booth  
Connecticut Community Foundation  
Elizabeth & Larry Dexheimer ★  
Alisa G. Field & Alan Mark Sandals ★

Valerie Friedman  
Shauna Holiman & Robert Hackney, Jr.  
Deborah & Peter Houldin  
Jennifer Judge & Ethelind Coblin  
Kathryn & John Kehoe  
Robert Parker & Peter Rogness

Csilla & John Prunier  
Sharon & Mark Ruchman  
Carla Sacks & John Morris  
Marie & Mark Schwartz  
Carolyn Setlow & Andrew Shapiro  
Jean Solomon & Tyler Smith  
Electa & David Varnish

## Dogwoods - \$1,500 to \$2,499

Disney  
Maria Elena Dendaluce & Joseph Gitterman

John Murphy & Jack Rosenberg  
Michelle & Ron Saltz

Richard Schlosberg & Marian Dar  
Karyn Detje & Sal Sorce

### IN MEMORY OF DENISE D. TREVENEN

Jean Dwyer Chapin  
Jennifer Judge & Ethelind Coblin  
Karen Garver  
Glynnis & Mark Snow

### IN MEMORY OF MURRAY HABER

Susan Haber  
Sharon & Mark Ruchman

### IN HONOR OF LAURA NEMINSKI

Jane Whitney Gruson

★ Some or all of this gift made to the  
Denise DeVault Trevenen Endowment Fund



# SPOTLIGHT: TRUSTEE CAROLYN SETLOW



Trustee and one of the park's champions since its inception, Carolyn Setlow will retire from the board in 2025 after nearly a decade of service.

A Washington resident, Carolyn fell in love with Litchfield County in 2007 when she married local resident Andy Shapiro. She is a retired business executive who spent most of her career in the opinion polling/marketing research field in Manhattan, where she also raised two sons.

Carolyn was pivotal in connecting her dear friend and our namesake, the late Judy Black, to the park when, during the final months of her life, Judy was looking to make a legacy gift to the community that she loved. Her gift made the final transformation of the park possible. Judy appointed Carolyn as the first occupant of the Judy Black Memorial Chair on the board to ensure her wishes were carried out.

Carolyn's contributions to the park are almost too numerous to list. As secretary of the board, she serves on the executive committee. Her imprint spans development, marketing, governance, programming and strategy.

Under her leadership, Carolyn oversaw the updating of the bylaws, initiated the organization of our digital archives of important documents, developed the park's mission statement, and has worked to ensure the park's financial sustainability well into the future by cultivating new trustees and donors, and securing grants and endowments.

Before the hiring of a marketing director, Carolyn oversaw the creation of the website and wrote the website copy, designed all plaques and produced annual reports among other marketing initiatives.

In reflecting on her time at the park, Carolyn summed it all up with the park's mission statement, "The park helps create community. It provides a place for residents and visitors to relax, learn, play together and share all that our community offers! I know that Judy and the original founders would be very pleased."

## VOLUNTEERS

Crissy Armstrong | Barbara Bouyea | Jean Chapin | Brian Chaszar | Jenny Cox | Kyle Davis | Karyn Detje\* | Debbie Doorfee | Andrew Flatt\* | Ron Garfunkel\* | Michelle Gorra\* | Anne Gray | Pastor Robyn Gray | Wilson Henley\* | Dave Hoffman | Patrick Horan\* | Alex Ince\* | Susan Lerner\* | Richard Lorenti | Julie Loughran | Michelle Madden\* | Ryan Marks | Valerie Mason | Pels Matthews\* | Kathy McCarver | Jim McDonough | Maria Mostajo\* | Holden Neminski | Jackson Neminski | Perry Neminski | Arturo Ortega | Vi Owens | Ben Paletsky\* | Tiana Panagos | Dawn Pasquin | Tori Rowan | Randy Sabin | Carolyn Setlow\* | Jean Taddonio | Jennifer Urquhart\* | David Varnish\* | Laurie Wolfe | Darryl Wright\*

\*Trustee

### River Birches - \$2,500 to \$4,999

Andrew Flatt & Richard Lorenti  
Deborah & Daniel Glass  
Gloria & Martin Greenstein  
Jane Whitney Gruson  
Halley Harrisburg & Michael Rosenfeld  
Audrey & Danny Meyer  
Perlman Family Foundation  
Alessandra Rampogna & Alan G. Mnuchin ★  
Glynnis & Mark Snow  
Katherine Wenning & Michael Dennis

### Linden Trees - \$5,000 to \$9,999

Sarah Gager & Roy O'Neil, Jr.  
Susan Haber  
Stacey & Pels Matthews ★  
Susanna Salk  
Jennifer Urquhart

### White Oaks - \$10,000 and Up

Chrissy Armstrong & Ben Nickoll  
Debra & Leon Black Family Foundation  
Sandra Breakstone & Ronald Garfunkel ★  
Peter J. Cooke  
Martha & Jon DeVault ★  
Margaret Ferguson & Daniel Sherr  
J. Wilson Henley & Bruce Glickman ★  
Stephanie & Tim Ingrassia

### Grantors

Town of Washington  
CT Humanities, Cultural Fund Operating Grant

## GIFTS-IN-KIND

Arbor Services of CT, Inc. | Chrissy Armstrong | Cotille Davis | William Raveis  
Lifestyles Realty | Wright Electrical

## SPONSORS

Sarah Gager and Roy O'Neil | Gallagher | The Glass Family  
Gunn Memorial Library | National Iron Bank

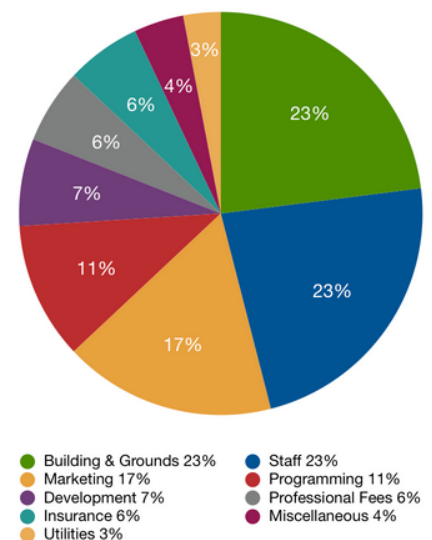
## ARTISTS

Theresa Bates | Stephanie Johnson  
Peter C. Jones | Hugh Kepets | Alicia  
Mordenti | National Hispanic Heritage  
Artists | Brendan O'Connell | Anastasya  
Peña | Region 12 Students | Adam Rogers  
Jack Rosenberg | Terri Tibbatts | Barbara  
Vaughn | WCSU Faculty & Alumni



Brendan O'Connell (left) and Stephanie Johnson (right)  
Photos by Jonathan Beckerman

## 2024 EXPENSES





# THE JUDY BLACK MEMORIAL PARK AND GARDENS

WASHINGTON PARK FOUNDATION • ONE GREEN HILL RD.  
PO BOX 142 • WASHINGTON DEPOT, CT • 06794

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES & STAFF WASHINGTON PARK FOUNDATION, INC.

Karyn Detje, *President*  
Pels Matthews, *Vice President*  
Carolyn Setlow, *Secretary*  
Jennifer Urquhart, *Treasurer*

Andrew Flatt	Susan Lerner
Ronald Garfunkel	Michelle Madden
Michelle Gorra	Maria Mostajo
Wilson Henley	Ben Paletsky
Patrick Horan	David Varnish
Alexandra Ince	Darryl Wright

Denise Trevenen, *President Emerita (deceased)*

Laura Neminski, *Executive Director*  
Elyse Sadtler, *Marketing Director*  
Cotille Davis, *Programs Director*

## BECOME A VOLUNTEER

To learn more about how you can become a volunteer, contact us via email at [info@judyblackpark.org](mailto:info@judyblackpark.org). Students get school credit!

“As a high school student, community service hours are a graduation requirement. These hours strive to get students involved in and surrounded by the community. The park was a great way for me to meet great people. It has also made me, and many others, feel welcomed, respected, and appreciated. I continuously volunteer with the park because of their key role in serving the wonderful people that support and appreciate the great work that this organization does.”

—Ryan Marks, Region 12 High School Student



Jack-O-Lantern Contest winner  
Hunter Molitz—  
for the third year in a row!  
Photo by Jonathan Beckerman



Vegetables from Helmstead Farm  
on display at our weekly  
Saturday farmers market



Anchor Management  
performing at the FUNraiser  
in September  
Photo by Jonathan Beckerman



[judyblackpark.org](http://judyblackpark.org)

[f](https://www.facebook.com/judyblackpark) [i](https://www.instagram.com/judyblackpark) @judyblackpark