



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	Marcella Fasulo	Sheila Josephson	Katie Miller	Beth & Franz Schober
Denise & Peter Arturi	Ann & Michael Feinberg	Elizabeth Kappler	Zoe Milonas	Susan & Craig Schoon
Judith Auchincloss	Mia Ferrara-Pelosi	Joanne & James Kelly	Mickey & Laura Morris	Michelle Shapiro
Susan & Sam Averill	Tammie Fiske	Rachel & Tom Kelly	Sarah Mudge	Karen Silk
Carolyn Bensley & Matt Muszala	Ellen Forman	Lesley & William King	Margaret O'Brien	Johanna Singer & Brian Chaszar
Max Bobinski	Julie & Joseph Fredlund	Caroline & Jason Klein	Anne O'Shea	Janet & Ronald Smith
Kathy Bower	Elizabeth & Stephen Funk	Nancy & Stephen Lasar	Casey & Jack Pascal	Fourgie & Willie Smith
Michael M. Boyd	Jeanne Fusco	Regine Laverge-Schade	Denise Pasch	Southbury Printing Centre, Inc.
Barbara & Alan Braverman	Karen Garver	Ilene J. Leff	Ken Paul	Joan & William Spear
Wanda & Stephen Brighenti	Kathleen & Vincent Giarrano	Melanie & Daniel Leppo	Sarah Payne & Bliksem Tobey	Jampa Stewart
Laura Moore Brown & Paul Brown	Ashley Goodale & C.J. Muse	Karen LeSage	Susan F. Payne	Helen Stewart
Annabella Bushra & Peter Abrons	Barbara Gold	Marcy Levy	Kathleen Peck	Rebecca Stump
Jessica & Alexander Cass	Joanne E. Goldfarb	Robin & Christopher Linen	Beatrice Rossi-Landi & Darryl Nitke	Jean Taddonio
Sarah Jane & Michael Chelminski	Betsy & David Goldin	Louis Lombardi	Emma & Russell Plumb	Barbara & Peter Talbot
Zoltan Csillag	Judith Gorra	Anne & Seth Low	Brian Pontolilo	Mo Van Moffaert
Laura & Tim Daly	Anne Gray	Isla & Mark Lowe	Ronald Potter	Barbara Vaughn
Barbara Damon Hill	Joan Hammond	Kristin & Peter Lurie	Alec Purves	Barbara Von Schreiber
Kim DeYoung & Rich Pomerantz ★	Alison Hanstead & Jeffrey Philp	Carroll & Michael Macdonald	Betsy Renwick	Mary & Robert Weber
Suzanne & Douglas Day	Maxie & Evan Harnik	Audra MacLaren	Polly Roberts	Kathy Weiser
Pilar DeMann & Sebastian Tillingier	Anne & Nikko Hayes	Jo-Ann Makovitzky	Lisa Rossi	Christine Weydig
Faith & Howard Drucker	David Hoffman	Andrea Mann & Mitch Scherzer	Victoria C. Rowan & James Braly	Zemba & Edmund White
Barbara Mintz & Arlan Ettinger	Lauren & Andrew Hoskins	Richard Marquit	Carrie Rowe & Jim McDonough	Lilah Wise
Lynn Evans	Cristi Hurdle	Deana May	Ingrid Salcedo & Ulrich Vilbois	Jillian Wood & Connor Duffey
	Jamie Jackson Spannhake	Kathy McCarver	Chloe Sauer	Darby & Harry Wright
	Julie Jennings-McKay	Heather Miles & David Lombino		

## Beautyberries - \$150 to \$499

Anonymous	Josephine Dobkin	J. McLaughlin	Rebecca & Jim Neary	Susan E. Smith
Linda & Philip Andryc	Diane Drey & Melvin Winokur	Elise Jaffe & Jeffrey Brown	Julia & Braden Neff	Elizabeth & Randolph Snook
Michelle Balfour & Raffiq Nathoo	Laura Driscoll	Michele James	Laura & Perry Neminski	B.K. & Peary Stafford
Penny & William Bardel	Mariann Eavenson	Leonard Kady	Elizabeth Page ★	Loretta Stagen
Karen & Hal Benett	Lisa & Lee Einbinder	Cookie & John Keggi	Steven Paggioli	Jean E. Suddaby
Lisa & Avi Berg	Cindy Ferrara & Larry Nathanson	Frances & Michael Keilty	Ann & Louis Parks	Kathy Taylor
Darcy & J. Treacy Beyer	Catherine & Walter Fiederowicz	Jaclyn Levin & Andrew Kandel	Dawn Pasquin & Michael Cordelli	Monica Thornton & Ivan Komarisky
Barbara Blake	Steve & Lori Fineman	Britia Lombardi & Gavin Bishop	Nina & Michael Patterson	Andrew Trevenen
Pamela & Michael Bless	Linda Frank	Laura & James Lowe	Elizabeth & Thomas Rickart	Sydney Trevenen
Carol Bokeniwicz & John Smallwood	The Rachel & Jared Freedberg Family Fund	Wendy & Amb. William Luers	Pamela & Adam Riess	Caroline Vanderlip & Mark Krentzman
Cecilia M. Brancato	Dale & William Genovese	Alice Maggin & Wayne Nelson	Lisa Roumell	Washington Food Market
Joan Lobis Brown & Jeremy Grayzel	Ethan Geto	Melora Mennesson ★	Carol & John Santoleri	Katie Watkin
Jean Dwyer Chapin	Annie & Jack Gilpin	Mary & Simon Metz	Roberta Satow & Richard Wool	West Mountain Builders
Jeffrey Coploff	Jennifer Godward	Tracy Miller & Kent Burnham	Susan & James Scott	Kevin & Mina Wheeler
Sally & Steven Cornell	Joseph Hoban	Claire Milonas	Susan & Jim Shehan	James Worth
Owen Curtin	Helen & Derek Hughes	Mine Hill Distillery	Randall Slack	
	Dr. Ruth Jaffe	Susan Monserud	Maureen & Rob Sladen	
		Elaine Mullen		

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

Nicole Alger & Zachary Karabell	Emily FitzHugh	Susan Hirschhorn & Arthur Klebanoff	Stacey & David Lender	Bonnie & Lee Richards ★
Tamara & Bradford Bernstein	Steven Fuchs & Brian Lancaster	Klebanoff	Susan Lerner & Arthur Sachs	Roberta Robbins ★
Mona & Ajay Bijoor	Kate & Michael Gershenson	Alex & Brandon Ince	Lois Schein-Lewis & Richard Lewis	Harriet Shapiro
Kimberly & Marc Blair ★	Karen & Henry Glanternik	Judy Jackson & Bruce Haims	Michelle Madden ★	Nicole Tongue & Allen Kovac
Pamela & Scott Bowman	Michelle & Michael Gorra	Sonia Kashuk & Daniel Kaner	Betsy & Ecton Manning	Cynthia King Vance & Lee Vance
Maria & Woodrow Campbell	Susannah Gray & John F. Lyons	Linda Kastan	Susan & Philip Markert	Donna & Malcolm Wattman
Elizabeth & Jay Chandler	Susan & Charles Harris	Susan & Larry Kessler	Maria Mostajo & Mark Schein	Shanon & Brett Wheeler
Tal Fagin & Robert Copen	Anne & John Herrmann Jr.	Sheryl S. Leach & Howard Rosenfeld	Rod Pleasants & Steve Godwin	Kelly & David Williams
Philip Farmer				

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

Keith & Peggy Anderson	Valerie Friedman	Csilla & John Prunier
Lauren & Mark Booth	Shauna Holiman & Robert Hackney, Jr.	Sharon & Mark Ruchman
Connecticut Community Foundation	Deborah & Peter Houldin	Carla Sacks & John Morris
Elizabeth & Larry Dexheimer ★	Jennifer Judge & Ethelind Coblin	Marie & Mark Schwartz
Alisa G. Field & Alan Mark Sandals ★	Kathryn & John Kehoe	Carolyn Setlow & Andrew Shapiro
	Robert Parker & Peter Rogness	Jean Solomon & Tyler Smith
		Electa & David Varnish

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

Disney	John Murphy & Jack Rosenberg	Richard Schlosberg & Marian Dar
Maria Elena Dendaluce & Joseph Gitterman	Michelle & Ron Saltz	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

### Grants

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

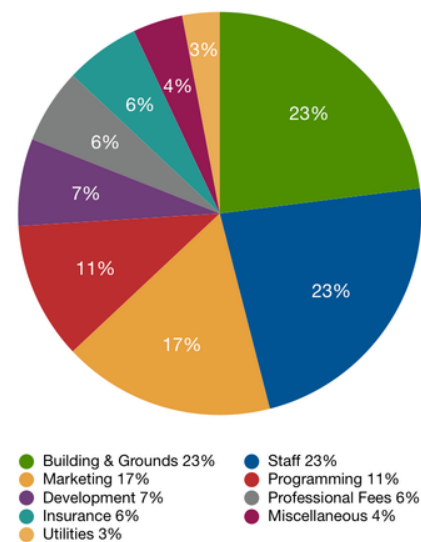
## ARTISTS

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

Donations made during this annual, area-wide fundraising drive enable us to fulfill our mission. We appreciate the support of our community during Give Local this April!

**Support Us!**

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

@judyblackpark