



Mayor Verga, sculptor Chris Williams and his wife Finella, and City Administrative Officer Jill Cahill, with the first of four bronze planters designed to complement the Fishermen's Memorial on Stacy Boulevard and commemorate Gloucester's 400th anniversary.

In 2019, Ann Gilardi Johnson, ASLA, our Generous Gardeners' volunteer landscape architect, created complementary designs for the city to update and improve the plaza for the Fishermen's Memorial. This included curved stone benches and flower beds. The design was implemented in 2021, but the Memorial improvements lacked the four bronze sculpted planters that were a key, albeit expensive, element of the proposal.

Generous Gardeners worked with the city and state over the past two years to garner support and lobby for funds to complete Ann's vision. We are pleased to report that these planters will be a major legacy project for Gloucester's 400th anniversary.

Native resident and world-renowned sculptor, Chris Williams, will be creating these unique pieces. The planters are ocean-themed, because the sea and the harbor are the magnets that brought all of us to this wonderful location. Generous Gardeners commissioned one of the bronze sculpted planters which has been partially funded with a designated gift from local businessman, Mike Nocella. The city and state have committed to fund the remaining three. If you are interested in specifically donating for the planter commissioned by Generous Gardeners, please contact Susan Kelly. These donations will be restricted from our general donations.

"If you look the right way, you can see that the whole world is a garden."

Frances Hodgson Burnett, The Secret Garden

Spotlight on Our Volunteers



Laurianne Byrne is a Generous Gardener who fits volunteering around a full time job. As she says, flowers can turn any bad day into a good day!

She has made a wonderful difference where Atlantic Street adjoins Concord Street on the way to Wingaersheek Beach.

She also spearheaded cleaning up the traffic island at the entrance to the State Fish Pier, which led to a post gardening volunteer event at Pratty's bar. What a welcome our green aprons received that day!

2022 Stars of the Boulevard



Yellow Magnolia Tree 'Elizabeth' (above). This variety was chosen specifically to honor Elizabeth Gordon Smith in the memorial garden named for her.



'Red Parade' Tulips

Over 7,000 of these flowers welcome visitors to the gardens. This vibrant red is visible when you turn the corner on Western Avenue and likely from the International Space Station.



Verbena Bonariensis

An annual flower much loved by monarch butterflies. It is a generous plant that self-seeds readily.

Did you know that all of the flowers, bulbs, tools, soil, and mulch for our work is funded by private donations and our annual Garden Tour and cut Dahlia Sale? Sponsorships are advertised in our garden tour booklet - distributed to over 1,000 attendees! Cash is wonderful, though gift certificates or donated goods or services are welcome for our fundraisers. Contact susan@generousgardeners.org for the sponsor form and advertising details.

BE A SPONSOR!

Platinum Level \$1,000

Gold Level \$500

Silver Level \$250

Bronze Level \$100

Garden Level \$50

Save the Dates

Plant Sale: May 20

We will have hundreds of great locally-grown plants donated from volunteers' gardens. The sale will include dahlia tubers from Stacy Boulevard.

Garden Tour: July 8

This year's Garden Tour commemorates Gloucester's 400th anniversary with a tour of downtown neighborhoods. On this scenic tour you will see a variety of urban gardens, from small front yards to hidden gems. Rain or shine. Tickets are \$30 and are available in advance online or at the High School on the day of the tour.

Cut Dahlia Sale: October 14

As far away as it seems now, we are already planning the most beautiful event ever when we cut down all of the dahlias on Stacy Boulevard and make bouquets for the public to buy.

**Our latest beautification project . . .
the stairway from Winchester Court to Spring Street**

Working with the DPW, Generous Gardeners volunteers are refurbishing, weeding, and replanting the beds along the neglected which was the stairway to the harbor for many early fishermen. The 2023 Garden Tour will end at Winchester Court, so we intend to showcase this unusual public space. From there, visitors are encouraged to stroll along on Main Street.



Our Gardened Spaces

Although the Stacy Boulevard Gardens are our flagship, we care for over 45 spaces in Gloucester. Please see our website for more information and a map of locations at GenerousGardeners.org



Stacy Boulevard in bloom. Photo by David Cox

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERS

We currently have over 80 volunteers associated with our organization and welcome new volunteers who are interested in our mission. Susan Kelly maintains an email list of all volunteers to keep them updated all year.

Caring for our gardens takes the majority of our volunteer time. We plant, weed, rake, water, and deadhead. Some garden volunteers like to be assigned to work as part of a team at a designated space for an ongoing commitment, and others work on a more intermittent basis when a specific task needs a group effort (such as tulip planting, spring clean-up, etc.).

Volunteering at one of our fundraising events is another way to participate. We also have a volunteer board of directors that keeps the organization focused on its mission and works with sponsors, grants, garden designers, website review, and finances.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please email Susan Kelly at susan@generousgardeners.org and let her know of your interests!

Generous Gardeners
101 Western Ave
Suite One
Gloucester, MA 01930

Phone: 781-346-1363
Email: Susan@generousgardeners.org