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WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICES TO HOST 17TH ANNUAL TRADE SECRETS

Weekend Garden Extravaganza Celebration Set for Mother's Day Weekend



Sharon, CT, March 22, 2017 – Trade Secrets is back and better than ever! The oh-so-popular two-day garden event drawing thousands of garden enthusiasts to Connecticut's Litchfield Hills includes the rare plant and garden antique sale on Saturday, May 13, followed by a self-guided four-garden tour on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14.

“About this time every year, I get very excited about the thought of all the plants I'm going to find and the chance of finding a new garden ornament at Trade Secrets. I go with a list that's soon forgotten about once I get on the field and see all the wonderful things the dealers have brought. Hope to see you there!” said interior designer Bunny Williams who helped found Trade Secrets in 2000.

Saturday features over 60 vendors. Garden enthusiasts will find rare plant specimens from specialized growers and some of the nation's best-known small nurseries; and furniture, antiques, cloches, wrought iron fencing, garden statuary and so much more from the choicest purveyors of garden antiques.

Sunday's garden tour includes four exquisite gardens.

The handsome eighteenth century General Ashley House sits on a breathtakingly romantic piece of land, with lawn and meadow sloping down to a wide and quiet bend on the Housatonic River.

Pom's Cabin Farm is a richly-varied twenty-seven-acre piece of land along the Housatonic River that is nurtured and celebrated by its owner, Dale McDonald, and her dedicated team headed by horticulturist, Robin Zitter.

Over the past fourteen years, Juliet and John Hubbard owners of Coltsfoot Garden have created an enchanting cottage garden around the colonial house that has been in the Hubbard family for almost 100 years.

Trade Secrets founder, Bunny Williams' and husband John Rosselli's beloved garden has been a favorite on tour for the past 16 years. This year Bunny introduces her brand-new woodland studio with its fantastic views of the Berkshire hills.

"We are so fortunate each year to have so much support for Trade Secrets," said Dr. D. Elizabeth Mauro, Executive Director of Women's Support Services. "This past year we helped more than 527 victims of domestic violence, 41 of whom were children, and our hotline fielded over 515 calls. This fundraiser provides necessary funding for the programs and services that help us to create a community free of domestic violence and abuse."

This year for the first time, due to popular demand, the Garden Tour tickets are limited and will only be sold in advance for \$75.

Tickets for Saturday's sale at LionRock Farm in Sharon, CT., can be purchased in advance or day-of. Tickets: Early Bird \$125 from 8 – 10 am with continental breakfast; Regular Admission \$50 from 10 – 3 pm; and Late Bloomer \$25 from 1 – 3 pm. Tickets go on sale April 1st. For more information or to purchase tickets visit tradesecretsct.com or call 860-364-1080. Trade Secrets is sponsored by Flower, Connecticut Cottages and Gardens, Litchfield County Times and New England Home.

About Women's Support Services (WSS)

Women's Support Services seeks to create a community free of domestic violence and abuse through intervention, prevention and education. They offer free, confidential, client-centered services focused on safety, support advocacy and community outreach. www.wssdv.org or call 860-364-1080 or 24/7 Hotline # 860-364-1900.