

# Friends of Station Square

Wendy Bachman, President; Karen Koffler, Vice-President; Barbara Marsh, Treasurer; Sue Gregg, Secretary

Directors: Giselle Bates, Arlene Cohen, Ann Dichter, Angela Duff, Laura Evangelista, Rachel Borut-Firestone, Susanna Hof, Suzanne Parker



## An Unprecedented Year

We are certainly living through strange times. Back in March of this year the advent of COVID 19 shut down normal life in New York. Gradually everyone realized that this virus was not going away anytime soon and we understood even more deeply how essential green space is to an urban environment. How lucky that the restoration of Station Square was completed in 2019. We were also fortunate to have relatively cool weather in April and May which resulted in the prettiest Spring that I remember, with flowering shrubs and bulbs lasting much longer than usual. In those first scary months it was so heartening to be able to walk out of our homes and into the botanical garden that is Forest Hills Gardens and surroundings.

Our Benefit, which is ordinarily held every other year, has now been delayed twice. Due to the ongoing restoration work in the Square we postponed our 2019 event to April 2020 which, as you know, was a few weeks into the shutdown. Plans are now on-hold indefinitely. However, thanks to our regular donors, we have been able to continue our usual schedule of planting and watering throughout the year. Our landscaper, Rocco Parente, recently refreshed the plantings with purple and white chrysanthemums and, for the first time, purple and white Kale. Next Spring we hope to replace the tree outside the Inn that came down in high winds in May.

### New faces on the Square

Early this year House of Playful Soul, a children's play center, opened at 5 Station Square. In the summer Prince Tea House opened, in place of the dry-cleaners, with a lovely outdoor seating area complete with colorful window boxes (see center photo collage). Jade has new

owners, and there are new trainers in the gym. This is a tough time for small businesses, especially ones just starting out, and we wish them all the best of luck. We are also rooting for Dirty Pierre's Bistro, Shai's Salon, Gardens Eye Care and Terrace Realty who have each supported our efforts in the past.

### New Communications

Now that in-person contact is so limited it is even more important to embrace new forms of communication. We have begun sending occasional email updates to FOSS supporters who

supply their email addresses; please let us know if you would like to be added to our list by emailing us at [friendsofstationsquare@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstationsquare@gmail.com). We have also started to use Zoom for Board meetings and will conduct our Annual General Meeting via Zoom in December (see overleaf).

### Finances

A report on the finances of Friends of Station Square will be presented on Tuesday, December 1st at the Annual Meeting (see back page). It is also available on request. Please address your inquiry to Friends of Station Square, 14 Station Square, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

Friends of Station Square is a registered 501 (c)(3) not for profit organization dedicated to beautifying Station Square. As such, FOSS is not affiliated with the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation. The organization raises its entire operating budget through generous donations from residents of the Gardens and surrounding neighborhoods. Several local businesses consistently provide financial contributions as well. The bulk of the FOSS budget goes towards landscape maintenance and watering the plant materials.



VISIT US ONLINE AT: [www.friendsofstationsquare.org](http://www.friendsofstationsquare.org)

## Dolores Shearman

Sadly, in June we lost Dolores Shearman who was one of our founding members and also, with her husband Bob, a longtime supporter of Friends of Station Square. We are deeply indebted to Bob and his daughters, Nicole and Noelle, who suggested donations to FOSS in lieu of flowers. The resulting generosity of their family and friends went a long way to compensate for the cancellation of our benefit.



This new plaque has been installed to thank Assemblyman Andrew Hevesi for his support of the Square's restoration

## Friends of Station Square Annual Meeting

Tuesday, December 1st

Via ZOOM



Email us at [FriendsofStationSquare@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofStationSquare@gmail.com)  
for login details which will be provided in late November

Please help us to continue taking care of our Square. Your support is what makes it happen.

I would like to join / renew my membership at the following level:

\$35 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$200 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if renewal

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
In memory of Dolores Shearman

I would like to volunteer to help with:

Planting \_\_\_\_\_ Mailings \_\_\_\_\_ Future benefits/fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Clip and return this form with your check  
made out to Friends of Station Square to:

Friends of Station Square  
14 Station Square  
Forest Hills, NY 11375

OR

Contribute online via Paypal by visiting:

[www.FriendsofStationSquare.org](http://www.FriendsofStationSquare.org)

And clicking on the "donate" button on  
the Contact page. Credit cards and Pay-  
pal accepted.