

# 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, Rachel Borut-Firestone, Susanna Hof, Suzanne Parker



## Looking Back

As this year draws to a close, Friends of Station Square is completing over 30 years of stewardship of Station Square, the architectural gem that is the gateway to the Forest Hills community. The mission of our non-profit organization is to preserve and beautify this historic space and its surrounds for the enjoyment of all. During the 1990's, FOSS spearheaded a campaign to get the MTA to commit to a historically faithful renovation of the Long Island Rail Road station which was completed in 1999. Then, after raising over \$100,000 in their Millennium Landscaping Appeal, FOSS ordered new trees, shrubs and perennials to be installed on the south side of the newly renovated LIRR station in 2000. Since then, our community's ongoing generosity has ensured that the Square is maintained by professionals who weed, prune and plant on a regular basis so that it is attractive in every season.

## Gardening Challenges

Taking care of the Square, a very large garden, is a constant concern. The challenges that we faced during the past 12 months included drought conditions through much of 2022 which almost killed two dogwood trees near the ramp on Burns Street. Continued adverse conditions this past Spring resulted in the roses on either side of the steps falling prey to a pest that decimated their blooms and foliage. In addition, and rather upsettingly, vandalism caused significant damage to our perennial beds in June. Happily, we can now report that the dogwoods have new growth sprouting and the roses are sporting new green leaves and pink blossoms. Meanwhile a quick dash to our wholesaler for extra plants and the tender ministrations of our landscaper, Rocco Parente, have largely repaired the damage to the perennial bed as you can see from the center photograph.

Our next challenge may involve the proposed upgrades to

the LIRR station. In addition to extending the platforms on the line, the ADA will necessitate an upgrade to the station's accessibility. The current plans call for the ramps to be demolished and rebuilt to new standards. This will likely impact the plantings along Burns Street and may damage the controls to our aging sprinkler system located near the current ramp.

## Can we count on your support?

Please renew your membership if you are already a member (thank you!) or consider joining us if not. All donations help us financially of course, but even small donations demonstrate that you care about Station Square and the community of Forest Hills. As you may already

know, Friends of Station Square does not receive any funds from the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation so we are entirely dependent on financial support from our local community. We are a 501© 3 organization so all donations are tax deductible.

We believe our efforts benefit anyone who walks through Station Square and we hope to keep it blooming for many years to come. Check out our Instagram page and our website (see details below) for more information including stunning photos, earlier newsletters and our financial report.

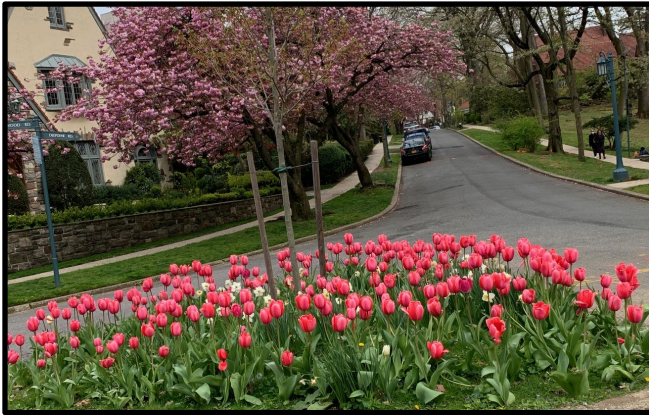


Photo: Wendy Bachman

VISIT US ONLINE AT: [www.friendsofstationsquare.org](http://www.friendsofstationsquare.org)  
OR ON INSTAGRAM: [https://www.instagram.com/friends\\_of\\_station\\_square/](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_station_square/)

### Sad news

Friends of Station Square mourns the loss of board member, Liz Haberkorn. Liz joined the Board as Treasurer in 2014, a position she held for 5 years, and remained an active Board member contributing many ideas. Liz was a keen gardener whose yard attracted much admiration from walkers in the neighborhood in the Spring. She especially loved tulips and daffodils even taking it upon herself to plant tulips in the triangle near Deepdene and, with her son, daffodils in the park. Our entire board offer their sincere condolences to Liz's family.



## Friends of Station Square Annual Meeting

Tuesday, November 28th  
7:30 PM

In the lobby of the Inn at  
One Station Square  
All are welcome



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 volunteer to help with:

Planting \_\_\_\_\_ Mailings \_\_\_\_\_ Events \_\_\_\_\_ Instagram posts \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Friends of Station Square is a private non-profit 501 ( c ) 3 charity and does not receive funding from the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation.

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 by visiting:

<https://www.friendsofstationsquare.org/donate>