

# Spring has Sprung

Gardening continues for Generous Gardeners in a careful socially distanced Gloucester.

Despite the tragic pandemic, Generous Gardeners volunteers continue to plant and maintain many public gardens in Gloucester. We have planted 2,500 pansies in planters and small spaces all over the city. Spring flowers are giving many walkers and runners around the city a mental boost.

The massive tulip display surrounding the Fishermen's Wives Memorial may begin blooming in May, although it could be earlier given the temperate weather. We planted 19,100 new tulips over the previous plantings, so it should be a lovely display of color moving from pink to purple, yellow to orange, and then red. Generous Gardeners also planted 2,000 red tulips at the Elizabeth Gordon Smith Garden that we renovated last year. The ten flowering trees will also be blooming in succession this spring. The witch hazel tree was a welcome burst of color in February.



**KUDOS TO MAYOR SEFATIA ROMEO THEKEN, DPW DIRECTOR MIKE HALE, AND ALL OF THE HELPFUL CITY EMPLOYEES WHO SUPPORT OUR WORK.**



**WATCH FOR THE ELIZABETH GORDON SMITH GARDEN RIBBON CUTTING TO BE HELD IN THE SUMMER OF 2020.**

**IN 2020 LOOK FOR SIGNIFICANT GARDEN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE 'MAN AT THE WHEEL' SIDE OF STACY BOULEVARD.**

***CANCELLED* 2020 GENEROUS GARDENERS' PLANT SALE, MAY 16.**

***STAYED TUNED* 2020 VIRTUAL GLOUCESTER GARDEN TOUR, JULY 11.**

## SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR GENEROUS GARDENERS

Generous Gardeners is instituting rules for our volunteers to maintain a safe public gardening environment. Gardeners will always wear their apron, gloves, and a mask if working together. Gardeners will also maintain a safe distance from each other and wash hands thoroughly when done. They will also only use their own tools. If gardening alone the mask is optional.

## The Gold

*The suddenness flowers have  
startle the air  
with their fire and ether  
as we do with what is ours  
because we are  
the gardeners of each other.*

*Gloucester poet Vincent Ferrini  
(1913-2007)*

## SPRING/SUMMER 2020 “STARS OF THE BOULEVARD”



Hellebores 'Brandywine,' commonly known as Lenten rose, blooms in early March even in the snow. Generous Gardeners planted these striking flowers at the Elizabeth Gordon Smith Garden and the newly renovated Fitz Henry Lane Garden.



Celosia argentea cristata 'Chief Gold,' commonly known as cockscomb, is a summer annual with a flower that resembles the folds of a brain. Generous Gardeners planted this fun flower in the gold bed on Stacy Boulevard.

Dianthus 'Pink Jolk,' also known as sweet William or pink, is a shocking pink annual that is planted in profusion in the pink beds surrounding the Fishermen's Wives Memorial. Combined with the pink Knockout roses and the 'Snow Princess' allysum, the memorial is a destination for a rest on the benches surrounded by beauty.







### O'MALEY MIDDLE SCHOOL GETS A MAKEOVER

The courtyard at O'Maley Innovation Middle School has seen a dramatic renovation with old planters removed and granite-edged beds with trees all along the street side. Generous Gardeners will plant a new bed at the entrance with aesthetically interesting grasses that won't attract bees.

## OUR DRONE DOCUMENTARY FEATURING DRAMATIC FOOTAGE FROM THE 2019 GARDEN TOUR

Sean O'Laughlin from Cut Bridge Productions worked with Generous Gardeners over the summer of 2019 to create a short film that would explain our organization and volunteers. We are proud to present our new drone documentary that explains our mission and includes beautiful footage of the Stacy Boulevard Gardens and our 2019 Garden Tour. Generous Gardeners planned to have an unveiling event, but circumstances have made that impossible in the near term. Please view it on your own on from the home page of our website at *GenerousGardeners.org*. The link to the older drone video of the first year of tulips from May 2017 is below it and is also beautiful to watch.



Antonietta has been busy since February potting up dahlias!

### BACKYARD GROWERS

Our vegetable gardening friends at Backyard Growers would like to get the word out about their online store. Gloucester and Rockport residents can order compost vegetable seed packets and felt grow bags from them for delivery.

[BACKYARDGROWERS.ORG/OUR-SHOP](https://backyardgrowers.org/our-shop)

978-281-0480

## NEW GARDENS AT THE FITZ HENRY LANE GARDEN ON THE HARBOR LOOP NEAR THE NEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING

This spring Generous Gardeners collaborated with the Gloucester DPW to transform the Fitz Henry Lane Garden at the Harbor Loop. A new flower garden is currently in process on Rogers Street next to the TD Bank and along the stone walkway near the sculpture of the artist.

### Our Gardened Spaces

Although the Stacy Boulevard Gardens are our flagship, we care for over 30 other spaces in Gloucester. Please see our website for more information.

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



Stacy Boulevard in bloom. Photo by David Cox

### VOLUNTEER WITH GENEROUS GARDENERS

*We currently have over 50 volunteers associated with our organization and welcome new volunteers who are interested in our mission. Caring for our gardens takes the majority of our volunteer time. We plant, weed, rake, water and deadhead. Susan Kelly maintains an email list of interested helpers who are notified of the tasks, time and location each week (more often if necessary), and volunteers come when they are available to help. There is never any obligation or commitment. This work is ongoing from early spring to late fall.*

*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](mailto: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](mailto:Susan@generousgardeners.org)