NEW IN THE GARDENS

The photo at left shows off a new highlight in the LLFB gardens. It's a peace pole, created by our Mitsi Chorak who offers this explanation of the origins of the poles:
"The peace pole was originally created to symbolize our common wish to be at peace in the world. The monument displayed "May Peace Prevail On Earth" in the language of your country on one side of the pole with the language of three other countries on the other sides of the pole. It has evolved over the years.

I became aware of this art form in the 60s during my "hippie/flower child" stage in San Francisco. We painted poles with sentiments such as make love not war, peace, live free, love and other happy thoughts. Poles are now most commonly known as garden poles and display flowers, birds, butterflies and such. All forms stand as visuals that remind us to think of peace and harmony." Thanks, Mitsi!

[Photo from Kathy Tanner]

Like us on Facebook - 2708 have! See more photos of holiday lights and other decorations.

A GOOD IDEA REPURPOSED

One of the beauties of the entire LLFB project is that it has brought new life to the 1925 historic Rocky Broad River bridge. Where cars once traveled, now you can stroll through gardens. You will see all sorts of items repurposed throughout our gardens, including doors, windows and apple boxes. So it comes naturally to our volunteers to find a new use for just about anything. Thus, our Nancy Nettles took some of our pumpkins from the Pumpkin People exhibit and transformed them for the current season. With a lot of imagination, some paint and clever additions, they now serve as holiday decorations like those you see here.

COME GET CRAFTY WITH US

From Eleanor Bails

-- Our first two craft parties to create items to sell at the LLFB booth at the Lake Lure Arts and Crafts Fall Show in October 2018 have been scheduled. Both will be 10 am - 1 pm at Town Hall. All materials are provided.

Wednesday, January 3 - Making fairy wands with Paige Massey
Questions? Email Paige at masseypai@aol.com

Wednesday, January 17 - Painting wood in preparation to make stenciled signs with Eleanor Bails
Questions? Email Eleanor at eleanorb190@gmail.com

We hope many of you will join in the fun and fellowship and perhaps dine at a local eatery after we're finished working.
**A NOTE FROM OUR 2018 LLFB CHAIRPERSON**

*From Kathy Tanner -- It’s a wonderful opportunity when you are given “free reign” to talk about some dear friends.... that’s the privilege I am given in this issue of the newsletter. The Lake Lure Flowering Bridge has been very fortunate that Lee Armstrong and Mike Lumpkin have been our dear friends the past seven years. I remember going to one of the first community meetings in Town Hall in 2011 to brainstorm how to make a project like this happen. I sat next to Lee and Mike and walked away from the meeting with a feeling of such respect for them and a hope that they would be involved with the project. Little did we know how quickly and fully they would jump in with us all. They have shared their talents, intelligence, and energy with us since our beginning. They have worked in marketing, public relations, photography, Facebook, the website, cell phone tour, and made many gracious and generous gifts to the gardens. In all of our years together I don’t think I ever heard them say "No" to a request for help or guidance. We are so very excited for them in their new roles as grandparents and know that their family will cherish their time together. We thank you for your love and support. Cheers to you Lee and Mike! [From Lee and Mike--thanks for the kind words, Kathy, and thanks for the joy of being part of the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge!]*

**LLFB NOTE CARDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

Lake Lure Flowering Bridge note cards are available now for just $7 per package of five. Featuring the photos of Mike Lumpkin, these are perfect gift for any occasion or just to keep for yourself. Inquire at the bridge when volunteers are working or email Kathy Tanner kathyt3@gmail.com. [Photo from Mike Lumpkin]

**YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VITAL TO OUR GROWTH**

We hope you will remember LLFB as you make year-end charitable donations. In addition to the new note cards mentioned earlier, there are donor opportunities to support the addition of benches, arbors and other special features. Donations from $250-$750 for various installations will be eligible for recognition. For more information, contact Marily Floyd at mountain.floyd@gmail.com . LLFB is a non-profit and all-volunteer community group. We thank you for your support! Become a Pathfinder and place your message along our walkway on a brick for a donation of $200. (Note-the brick process can take weeks to complete once ordered due to availability of engraving.) Any donation is appreciated.

[Donate Online Here](#)

And then the snow came.
[Photo from Alice Garrard and Danny Holland]

**Hickory Nut Gorge Community Calendar**

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<tr>
<th>January 1</th>
<th>Lake Lure New Year's Day Polar Plunge</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Lake Lure Beach, Noon</td>
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<td>(Registration 9:00-11:30AM)</td>
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THANKS TO THE CAMERA CLUB OF HENDERSONVILLE

When the Camera Club of Hendersonville came to tour the LLFB with Alice Garrard in November, they found lots to photograph and were gracious enough to share their photos with us. Their trained eyes saw the gardens from special perspectives that we share here.

Photo by Dennis Guffey

Photo by Diane Trochim

Photo by Valerie Klevan (from an October visit)

Photo by Bonnie Mangold

Photo by William Merrill