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## News July 2020

### Calendar of Events

'Til mid-July – Special Feature:

**Darlings in Denim**

Mid-July - October – Special Feature:

**Here Comes The Sun**

Tuesday, July 28, 10 a.m. – How to Grow Healthy Roses

Led by rosarian Steve Earnest  
Flowering Bridge Secret Garden

Tuesday, August 25, 10 a.m. – Tips and Tools for the Older Gardener

Led by gardening expert Maryann Brown  
Town Hall (back entrance)

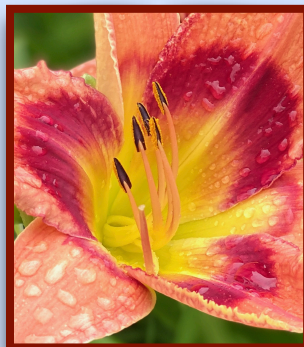
Social distancing and masks are required on the bridge and in the classes we offer. For more information, call Alice or Danny at 828-625-2540.

 Congratulations,  
Graduates!  
Class of  
2020  
~



A 2020 grad dons cap and gown for a photo op at the LLFB.

[photo by Dan Bails]



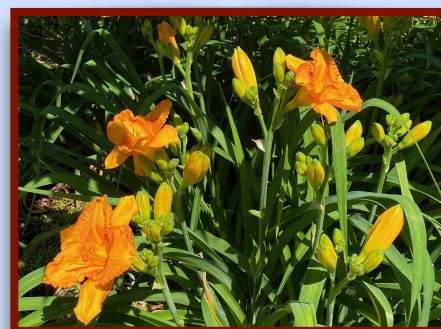
A daylily's stamens and pistil, seen above in the center of "Tryhlyta," are large and readily accessible, which makes daylilies easy to cross-pollinate, resulting in new varieties of the plant.

## Bedazzled By Daylilies

Located near the Flowering Bridge parking lot, in front of the arbor near the lion's head fountain, a variety of large trumpet-shaped blooms greets visitors. Appropriately named "daylilies," these beauties have flowers that last just one day. But they are not true lilies. They are members of the genus *hemerocallis*.

According to the American Daylily Society, there are almost 90,000 registered cultivars of daylilies in a variety of shapes and sizes and a rainbow of colors. Adaptable to a wide range of soil types and growing conditions, these plants are drought tolerant and rarely bothered by pests or diseases. It's no wonder these hardy perennials are so popular! By following a few simple rules, amateur hybridizers can grow their own varieties of *hemerocallis* by the process of cross-pollination. See [Beginner's Approach to Hybridizing](#).

Several years ago, [Foothills Daylily Society](#), a self-described "very nice group of fun-loving daylily folk," gave an assortment of daylilies to the LLFB. These plants include unique cultivars hybridized by members of this group. Don't miss photos of some of the most beautiful daylily blossoms from our "Foothills Collection" in this month's Scrapbook.



The cheerful blooms of "Foothills Fantasy" greet visitors at the west end of the bridge. This daylily was created by local hybridizer Paul Owen and named by fellow members of the Foothills Daylily Society.

**SEE WHAT'S BLOOMING ON THE BRIDGE.  
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**

## Bee Houses for the Bridge

A fuzzy, stinging insect that resides in a communal setting, such as in a hive, is usually what comes to mind when one thinks of a bee. However, the vast majority of native bees are “solitary bees,” insects that live on their own rather than in colonies. They sting only if threatened. All female solitary bees, instead of a single “queen,” lay eggs in tiny holes or tunnels found in the natural landscape.

Mike Lamm, a craftsman from Burnsville, NC, constructs bee houses with removable trays that contain egg laying tunnels of various diameters suited for a variety of native bees such as mason bees and leafcutter bees. In the spring, empty nesting trays are placed inside the bee houses, which are painted blue and yellow, colors bees can see. Egg-laden trays are removed in fall or early winter and placed in an emergence box for spring hatching.

Mike Lamm holds trays he crafted for the bee houses that he and his wife, Cathy, donated to the bridge. The couple are master gardeners from Yancey County, NC.

Teaming with Mike, we are able to provide safe nesting options for these insects that play a key role in the production of gorgeous blooms on the Flowering Bridge well as in local agricultural products!



Trays removed from bee houses on the bridge are full of eggs encased in pollen and sealed with mud.

[all photos by Kathy Tanner]

## Volunteers Build Some Awesome Additions

LLFB board members Charlie Yelton and Mark Hoek and craftsman John Reed recently donated their their time and talent to build structures on the Flowering Bridge. These welcome additions will beautify the bridge and be appreciated by fellow volunteers and visitors for many years to come.



Charlie Yelton, assisted by his wife, Emily, constructs a large billboard-type structure that will hold a display of decorative mirrors and living, framed “pictures” planted with succulents.



John Reed stands beside one of two trellises he built for the Rose Garden. John also crafted a decorative gate for the Overlook Garden.

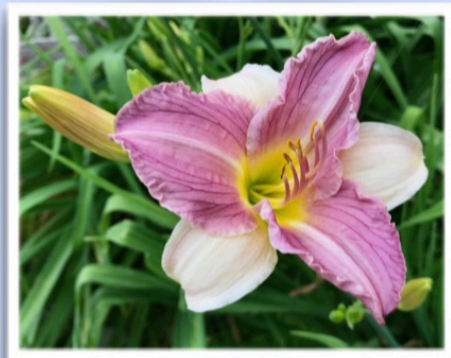


Mark Hoek creates a rustic arbor near the west entrance to the bridge. This unique structure is fashioned from locust posts and branches.

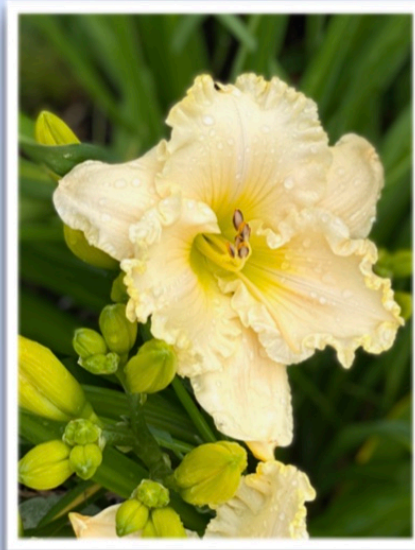


# July Scrapbook

Feast your eyes on these daylilies currently blooming near the west entrance to the bridge. All of these beauties were donated by Foothills Daylily Society.



Purple Pipsqueak



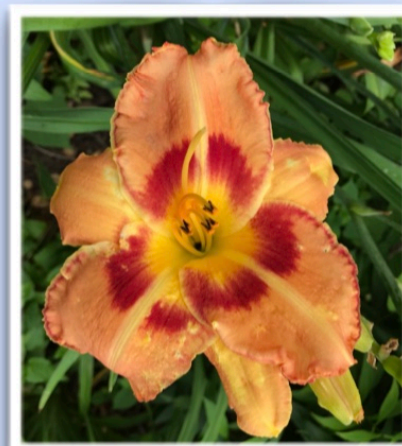
Moonlit Masquerade



Dark Monkey



Chasing Fireflies



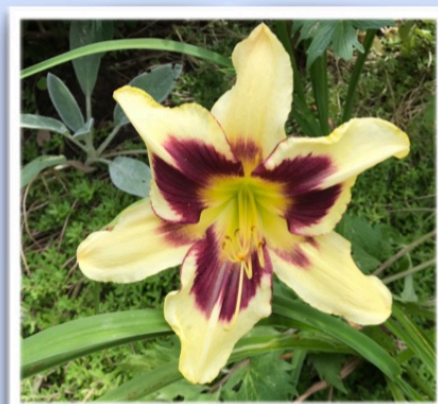
Big Bill



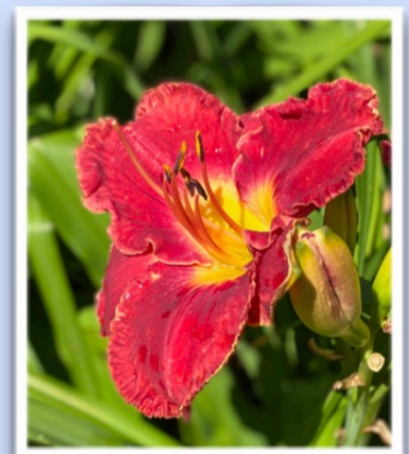
Painted Bunting



Carnival in Mexico



Shutterbug



Gypsy Lore