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## News November 2020

### **Calendar of Events**

- November 17, '20 January 5, '21 Special Feature: "Happy Holidays From Our 'Gnome' to Yours" Seasonal decorations incorporating the "gnome" theme and twinkling lights transform the bridge into a holiday wonderland. White lights will brighten winter nights until March 2.
- January 15 March 15, 2021 Special Feature: "Sleds In Beds"

Social distancing and masks are required on the bridge.

We're thankful for our wonderful volunteers, supporters and visitors. Have a safe, healthy and

Happy Thanksgiving!





You'll often find Susie Doll, who began volunteering this past May, working at the merchandise table.

## Bloom Where You're Planted

Susie Doll, who moved to Lake Lure from Florida three years ago, was "overwhelmed with the beauty" when she first strolled the bridge with her son. On a return visit, "I spoke to one of the volunteers. She gave me about an hour of her time, which was so delightful, and I told her that I would love to volunteer, so she made that happen for me."

Having retired after 38 years of living and working in Maryland, Lisa Willis decided to "venture down to the Flowering Bridge" when she came to check on the house that was being built for her in Lake Lure. Lisa explains, "I came upon some friendly volunteers and got to chatting about donating some garden fixtures and decided to sign up as a volunteer! Being a nurse and massage therapist, I am naturally drawn to people and enjoy helping the community."

Neither Lisa nor Susie considers herself an expert gardener. Instead, they rely on the kindness and expertise of the seasoned volunteers to help them out when questions arise. Both women have been assigned garden areas to tend. "Now that I have my own garden [on the Welcome Terrace], I guess they're going to keep me," jokes Susie.

Turn the page to meet five more volunteers

who've joined our crew this past year. Their example might inspire you to find your own niche in this community. Visit with our volunteers on a Tuesday or Thursday, when they're in the gardens, or contact Volunteer **Coordinator** Paige Massey for more information: massevpai@aol.com.



New volunteer Lisa Willis, who moved to Lake Lure in January of this year, is in charge of the Volunteer Friendship Garden.





## Dan Bails

Kiosk Manager, Tech Support

Also helps LLFB volunteer wife with garden chores and cuts wood for decorations at a moment's notice.

### Mark Hoek

Builder, LLFB Board Member

Will don Carhartts in a flash to build trellises and benches, and help with all kinds of construction projects and installations on the bridge.





## Mary Jaeger-Gale

Tends Arbor Two, LLFB Board Member Never leaves home without her trusty tool belt, armed to do battle with any invasive vines and ground covers that threaten the beauty of her garden.

## Welcome Aboard!

In addition to Susie Doll and Lisa Willis, who are featured on the previous page, join us in welcoming five more superhero volunteers to the Lake Lure Flowering Bridge.

John Reed Woodworker

Presented with a concept or shown a picture, there's nothing too challenging for this man to fashion out of wood.

#### Larry Lane General Garden Helper

Can wield a mean leaf blower and deliver a wheelbarrow full of mulch in a flash.



# It's a Dog's World!

If you follow the path to the lower Riverside Garden near the west entrance of the bridge, you'll arrive at a tranquil new garden space made possible by a generous donation from a local resident in memory of a dog-loving relative. In the new canine-themed area, designed by Garden Co-chairs Kathy Tanner and Debbie Clark, you'll find a stick library (yes, that's a thing) and dog house built by woodworker John Reed. There are also paw print stepping stones, a golden retriever topiary and a unique fountain. Herbs that dogs find calming, such as mint, are planted throughout the area, which presents some fun photo ops for dogs and humans.



Visitors can relax on one of several benches and enjoy the soothing sounds of a fountain created by Debbie Clark from a fire hydrant that was donated by Emily and Charlie Yelton.



Kathy Tanner's pups, Lucy and Connor, pose for a photo in the open-air dog house.

Dogs who like to play fetch can borrow a stick from the stick library.



[photo by Kathy Tanner]





Our volunteers had loads of fun creating these pumpkin pets, in the gardens for our visitors to enjoy from mid-October through November 3.















[photo by Susie Doll]





