While much of the world fretted about the news in 2017, all was peaceful and serene on the Bridge of Flowers. It was a year when not much changed, aside from the endlessly changing parade of blossoms and greenery, and the ongoing stream of visitors from near and far who came to admire the bridge.

Visitors and those who work on the bridge continued to enjoy the beauty and practicality of the newly constructed Garden House, which is proving not only more attractive but more useful than the garden shed it replaced.

In light of some of the news early this year, the bridge committee voted to add a notice to the sign-in kiosks making clear that every human being is welcome there, regardless of nationality, religious beliefs, race or other variables.

The plant sale in May was again successful, generating positive feedback along with needed dollars for bridge upkeep. Of special note, this year’s weather was cooperative! Many thanks went out to the dozens of volunteers who helped pot plants, donated plants or baked goods for sale, moved or sold plants, and to those who bought them as well.

In June, our bridge was one of four area gardens honored as a Bee Space for pollinator-friendly practices by the Franklin County Beekeepers’ Association and Greenfield’s Second Congregational Church at the Greenfield Bee Fest. Carol DeLorenzo accepted the plaque, which was presented by former Governor Deval Patrick and now hangs proudly on the bridge.

Some members of the bridge committee, along with members of our sponsoring Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club, organized a mini float for the Shelburne Falls 4th of July parade and we heard many positive comments about our little red wagon covered with flowers (sadly they had to be artificial to stand up to the July heat) and about the candy tossed along the way.

A long and lovely fall and growing season kept visitors coming to the bridge later than usual. Visitors
were also especially generous, setting a new record for contributions made to the donation boxes. And we all enjoyed the lovely October volunteer appreciation party held at the riverbank home of supporter Joan Greenfield near the bridge.

As the year came to a close, committee members addressed an ongoing issue of muddy paths and work areas by agreeing to install a small stone patio in the most troubling area. That should be complete and ready for use by the time the bridge opens in the spring.

All in all it was a very good year on the Bridge of Flowers, thanks to the hard work of our head gardener, Carol DeLorenzo, her assistant, Elliston Bingham, committee head Pat Leuchtman, plant sale chair Lynda Leiterin and many, many others, especially the Blossom Brigade! And baskets of beautiful thank you blooms to all of you who donate to the Bridge, whether for a memorial, a honoring gift or as a Friend of The Bridge. You who are important partners in its ongoing loveliness.

Elliston Bingham, committee head Pat Leuchtman, head gardener, Carol DeLorenzo, her assistant, Lisa Talayco

New England Astor (gifts of $500+)

David Freitas & Mark Naccarata
Greater Shelburne Falls Area Business Association
Michael C. Herr
John & Barbara Hurley
Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club
West End Pub

Gardener's Circle (gifts of $250-499)

Sam & Marie Bartlett
Carol Boudic
Bridge of Flowers Business Center
Davenport's Service Station
Kate Downes, Essq.
Thomas Dame & Denise Duval
Eddie's Wheels, Inc.
Constance Emmett & Suzy Groden
Florence Flowers
Polly French
Greenfield Savings Bank
Hillside Nursery
Judith & Robert Lawler
Kerry and Carol Murphy
Richard & Judy Nicholas
David Nims
Pam & Melissa Godfrey
Janice Gordon
Frances W. Hall
Gail Hanlon
Kathleen & Kenneth Kippenberger
Pat & Henry Leuchtman
Peter & Marion London
Tom and Gail Lucia
Joan MacIver
Wildered March
Joy Martin
John McLean
Karen O. Moore
Maureen Moore
Dick & Dianna Muller
Nancy L. Dole Books & Ephemera
Paula & David Parsons
John & Margaret Payne
Regina Purinton
Sue Samoriski
Gloria & Sidney Seltzer
Sheburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC
Randi Steen
Stillwater Porcelain
Annette Spitzer
Steven ThomasEW
Michael Todd & Kichung Lizee
Don & Kathleen Upton
Gordy & Liz Vandalinder
Anne Vogel
Janet & Robert Weissman
Nikki & Bob Welsh
Donald & Marcia Wheeler
Karen Winkler
Deborah Woodhouse
Anonymous

Silver Trowel (gifts of $100-249)

Shannon Allen & Brian O'Neal
Colleen Armstrong
Philip Baker
Amy & Craig Barry
Sam & Marie Bartlett
Kay & Bill Berenson
Blackmer Insurance Agency Inc.
Cynthia Brown & Patrick Carmack
Buckland Pizza House
Carl's Four Season Yardscape, LLC
Michael Chovance
Cohn Financial Services
Chia Collins and Michael Cohen
Sally L. Cornish
Susan V. Cosrigia
Deborah Daniels
The Dobensky Family
Ronald & Karen Dobosz
Anders Ferguson & Nancy Edwards
Andrew & Steven Frank
Lois Gifford
Janice Gordon
Frances W. Hall
Gail Hanlon
Kathleen & Kenneth Kippenberger
Pat & Henry Leuchtman
Peter & Marion London
Tom and Gail Lucia
Joan MacIver
Wildered March
Joy Martin
John McLean
Karen O. Moore
Maureen Moore
Dick & Dianna Muller
Nancy L. Dole Books & Ephemera
Paula & David Parsons
John & Margaret Payne
Regina Purinton
Sue Samoriski
Gloria & Sidney Seltzer
Sheburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC
Randi Steen
Stillwater Porcelain
Annette Spitzer
Steven ThomasEW
Michael Todd & Kichung Lizee
Don & Kathleen Upton
Gordy & Liz Vandalinder
Anne Vogel
Janet & Robert Weissman
Nikki & Bob Welsh
Donald & Marcia Wheeler
Karen Winkler
Deborah Woodhouse
Anonymous

Green Thumb (gifts of $25-99)

Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters, LLC
Davenport's Service Station
Anush Dawidajan
William Delaney
Susan DeMatteo
Marianne M Dispenziere
Pearl Edwards
Karen Fairbrother
Cheryl Faulaf
Fred & Lois Feidman
Robert & Nancy Fischlein
Flanders Law Office
Dick & Shirley Floyd
Judy Fogg
Franklin Land Trust
Donald & Margaret Freeman
Michael Garfield-Wright
Ann Girard
Sharon Glazer
Jacqui Goodman & Norma Beebe
Dr. & Mrs. Gregory Gillone
Richard & Roxanne Hamilton
George & Carole Hartling
Barbara Hoffman
Nancy Parland & Steve Howland
The Hyldeford Family
J. H. Sherburne Fine Art
Rita Jaros & Wes Talley
Sally Judy
Ellen & Marc Kaufmann
Kenbun Orchards
Richard & Sharon Khachadourian
Antoinette Kuzminski
Lake Lure Flowering Bridge
Bill & Lynda Leiterin
Amelia Leonardi
Doreen & Rick Leskowitz
Maureen Liarac
Mary Lindamood
Mark & Amelia Madenski
Barbara Mahony
Debb Makara
Peter & Deb Halley
Mayhe Steel
Nathalie McCormick & Mark Pichtee
Malcolm Mele
Memorial Association
Bill & Amy Mish
Wanda Moore
Leonard & Suzanne Morse-Fortier
Dr. and Mrs. Clark Moseley
Peter and Marjorie Moser
Pat & Henry Leuchtman
Evelyn Burtick
Jessica Murrow
Michael Naidrot
Sylvia Orcutt
Margaret Orlando/Orlando Blooms
Don & Marilyn Osgood
Elaine & Richard Parment
Julie Petey & David Reading
Deborah Phillips
Jim Picardi, Cabinet Maker
Jean and Larry Rankin
Amy Resner & William Lee
Elizabeth Roberts
Pam Roberts
Mary Robertson & Stefan Koska
Barbara and Bob Richman
Sarah Saville Shaffer
Paul Schroeder
Ann & Edward Shanahan
Ann Shea
Susan Searhe
Rev. Marguerite Sheehan & Dorothy Merriam
Shelburne Falls Booksellers
Steven Shulda
Sylvia Smith
Penelope Speareance
Gene & Patricia St. Pierre
Jerry & Trina Sternstein
Dennis & Susan Stetson
Shauna Stolkes & Joel Chew
Bill Sweechny
Judy & Al Symonds
Linda Spink & Bruce Granbart
Carolyn Taylor
Patricia & Edward Thomas
Holly Tittet
Tregelly Fiber Farm
Bill & Jane Trombi
Wash-n-Wire
Ellen Weeks
Gina & Larry Wells
Jeremiah Wells
Ann Wetherbee
Alice Winer
Nancy & Joe Woods
Jim & Kathy Wynn
Anonymous

Gifts In Memoriam

Robert Ackley
Eleanor Baker
Candace B. Bath
Jane S. Burnett
Marguerite Chamberlain
Mildred Catherine Doyle
Marjorie Erickson
Margaret Folgmann
Adeline Fortier
Mildred B. Knapp
Madeline McKinnon
Henry S. (Rusty) Miller, Jr.
Kip Moeller
Lila Moore
Lisa Patricia "Tish" Murphy
Barbara Ann Piper
Susie Robbins
Hattie O. Salter
Toni (Burnham) & Don Severance
Karen A. Soles
Nancy Strader
Janice E. Wheeler
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford H. Wheeler

Gifts In Honor Of

Becky Carroll
Linda Spink
Ruth Warner
Lisa Talayco

Anonymous