



## Oakville Horticultural Society December 2018

**Date:**

December Monthly Meeting

December 10, 2018

**Location:**

Knox Presbyterian Church, 89 Dunn Street

**Set-up Volunteers:**

Don Dusha, Heather Reccord, Paula Clayton, Florenda Tingle, Valerie Rughi

**O.H.S.**  
**cordially invites**  
**you to the**  
**Annual General Meeting,**  
**Potluck Dinner**  
**and**  
**Penny Auction**  
**Monday,**  
**December 10, 2018**  
**Doors open 6:00 pm**  
**Cocktails 6:30 pm**

**Please bring a plate, utensils and  
a cup**

**Mailing Address:**

Oakville Horticultural Society  
Box 69605, 109 Thomas Street  
Oakville, ON L6J 7R4

**General Information:**

[info.ohs@oakvillehort.org](mailto:info.ohs@oakvillehort.org)

**President:**

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[president.ohs@oakvillehort.org](mailto:president.ohs@oakvillehort.org)

**Vice-President:**

Florenda Tingle

**Secretary:**

Heather Reccord  
[secretary.ohs@oakvillehort.org](mailto:secretary.ohs@oakvillehort.org)

**Treasurer:**

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**Membership:**

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**Webmaster:**

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**Garden Tour:**

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**Junior Garden:**

Helen Stephenson  
[juniors.ohs@oakvillehort.org](mailto:juniors.ohs@oakvillehort.org)

**Website:**

<http://www.oakvillehort.org>

Once again, it is that time of year when we consider all we've accomplished and all the fun we had doing it! We learned a lot from our many speakers, some of which we were able to apply in our own gardens (yea!) and we were also able to get out into the community in a variety of ways. We started the year with another wonderful Fun with Flowers event on Family Day – we had lots of great floral material and 4 large groups of eager 'budding' florists created some beautiful arrangements. We participated in the Oakville Spring Home and Lifestyle Show where we had the opportunity to tell visitors all about the benefits of OHS membership. The Junior Gardener program introduced another group of Oakville youngsters to the joys of vegetable gardening. We initiated a partnership with the Town to provide support to municipal garden allotment holders and our talks were very well-attended. Our Plant Sale and Garden Tour were both very successful fund-raising events. We collaborated with neighbouring Bronte and Burlington Hort Societies in presenting the award-winning documentary "The Gardener" at our May film night. We offered a design course in 'miniatures' and we now have more exhibits in this category every month. Our website and Facebook presence are excellent, and our newsletter is outstanding. Once again, we took time in August to celebrate all the volunteers who gave their time and talents so generously to help us achieve a very ambitious agenda!



Like all community groups, the Board of Directors meets to plan and oversee the schedule of the year, but it is the members who make the execution of our goals a reality. As a Society, we can be proud of the many volunteers who share their experience and talents in our initiatives. In addition, everything from setting up for meetings, rescuing and potting up plants for the sale, making sure there are refreshments for every gathering, scoping out suitable gardens for the tour, doing a turn at the Anderson Parkette, looking after our membership lists, putting the Draw Table together, and clerking at our exhibits are some of the necessary things that are not always noticed. So, hats off to all of you, for participating fully in everything the Society undertook this year!

About our membership – it naturally shrinks and grows and changes and we want to be sure that we continue to deliver what both new and long-time members want. So please consider stepping up and into one of the committee or leadership roles and get involved in shaping the OHS for the next decade.

I hope to see all of you at the AGM and Pot Luck dinner on December 10th. In the meantime, you'll find me watching the weather to get those last gardening jobs done and, as always, dreaming and scheming for spring!

Paula



## Renew your Oakville Horticultural Membership



**At the Oakville Horticultural Society Annual Meeting on December 10, 2018, we will be collecting food and/or money donations for our local Food Bank. Let us help those in need in our community.**

**"Sharing food and feeding hope – strengthening our community."**





Oakville Horticultural Society—a year to remember...



Junior Gardening



Our February speaker



plant sale



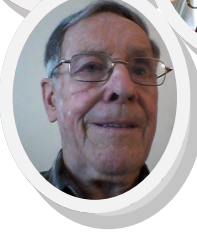
parkette construction



master gardeners



November's Speaker  
Liz Primeau





## David's Wisdom      December 2018

The leaf rake is back in the shed, the annuals are all on the compost pile, and it is too early to get serious about the seed catalogues which have started to arrive. I am feeling lazy, so here are a few random gardening thoughts gleaned from the internet:

In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt. *Margaret Atwood*

The more one gardens, the more one learns, and the more one learns, the more one realizes how little one knows. I suppose the whole of life is like that. *Vita Sackville-West (1892-1962)*

The watering of a garden requires as much judgment as the seasoning of a soup.  
*Helena Rutherford Ely (1903)*

When the world wearies, and society fails to satisfy, there is always the garden. *Minnie Aumonier*

The labourer who possesses and delights in the garden appended to his cottage, is generally among the most decent of his class. He is seldom a frequenter of the alehouse. *George W Johnson 1829*

An addiction to gardening is not all bad when you consider all the other choices in life. *Cora Lee Bell*

Herein were the old husbands very careful and used always to judge that where they found the garden out of order, the wife of the house (for unto her belonged the charge thereof), was no good housewife.  
*Barnaby Goode 1390*

Only fools will lend their tools. *Anon*

We come from the earth. We return to the earth. And in between we garden. *Anon*

The fair weather gardener, who will do nothing except when the wind and the weather and everything else are favourable, is never master of his craft. *Canon Henry Lacombe (1822-1916)*

To own a bit of ground, to scratch it with a hoe, to plant seeds and watch the renewal of life, this is the commonest delight of the race, the most satisfactory thing a man can do.  
*Charles Dudley Warner (1820-1900)*

Edwin Budding, the inventor of the lawnmower, said of his brainchild, "Country gentlemen may find in using the machine themselves, an amusing, useful and healthy exercise"

The good rain, like the bad preacher, does not know when to leave off. *Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)*

A garden is never so good as it will be next year. *Thomas Cooper*

God made rainy days so that gardeners could get housework done. *Anon*

But each spring, a gardening instinct, sure as the sap rising in the trees, stirs within us. We look around and decide to tame another little bit of ground. *Lewis Gantt*

The man who has planted a garden feels that he has done something good for the world.  
*Vita Sackville-West (1892-1962)*

A house though otherwise beautiful, yet if it hath no garden belonging to it, is more like a prison than a house.

Enough rambling, A happy green Christmas to everyone,  
David Marshall



# Make A Difference



## 2019 OHS Board and Executive:

**President: Vacant**

**Vice-President:** Florenda Tingle

**Treasurer:** Larry Urbanoski

**Secretary: Vacant**

### Board of Directors:

Jana Schilder, Sheelagh Rowland, Wade Pitman, Valerie Westwood, Helen Stephenson, Myroslawa Lukiwsky

society news...



## Oakville Horticultural Society

*Where Gardeners come to flourish*

### Membership Form

☐

Renewing Membership

or

☐

New Membership

☐

Single Membership

or

☐

Family Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to  
receive  
OHS email

☐

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members (if applicable):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Oakville Horticultural Society  
Box 69605,  
109 Thomas St.,  
Oakville, ON L6J 7R4  
info.ohs@oakvillehort.org

Office use only

Single (\$20)

☐

Paid by: Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Online ☐

Family (\$30)

☐

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Have you renewed your 2019 Oakville Horticultural Society membership? You need to do so as soon as possible. Please bring a cheque or cash to the next meeting and renew!!!**

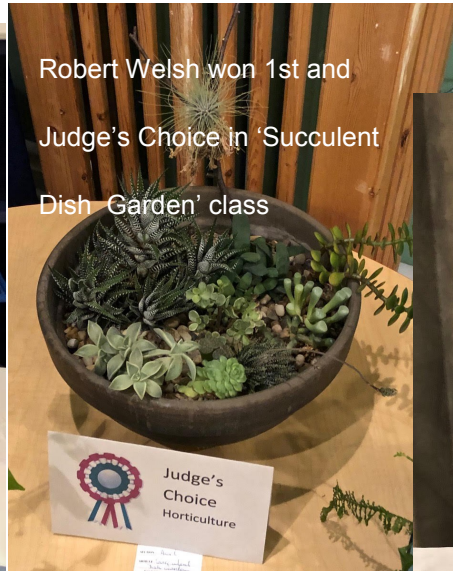




Mary Rose won 1st place and Judge's Choice in Design in Class 2 'Bossy Boots Road'



Robert Welsh won 1st and Judge's Choice in 'Succulent Dish Garden' class



Mary Rose won 2nd in Class 1 'Sesame Street'



Photographs attributed to:  
ELIZABETH SCHLEICHER

Mary Cameron won 1st in Class 1 'Sesame Street'



Mary Rose won 1st place in the miniature design class 'Memory Lane'



Mary Cameron won 2nd place for her miniature design in 'Memory Lane'



**Congratulations to all our winners!**







At our November meeting, Liz Primeau left us a Garlic Primer to guide us ***“In Pursuit of Garlic: An Intimate Look at the Divinely Odorous Bulb”***. I hope that you find the Garlic Primer a wonderful resource, informative and knowledgeable.

## A garlic primer

Liz Primeau

Garlic is divided into two main types, hardneck (*Allium sativum* var. *ophioscorodon*), which grows a scape or flower stalk, and softneck (*A. sativum* var. *sativum*), which doesn't. Under the two main groups are ten subgroups (see below), which in turn include dozens of cultivars; these are the named varieties we buy from growers.

Just to complicate things, three of the subgroups (Asiatic, Turban and Creole) in the hardneck type don't always grow a scape, and so are called weakly bolting hardnecks. Generally speaking, the softneck and weakly bolting hardneck cultivars do better in the milder climates of Canada and the United States, and true hardnecks are recommended for areas with cold winters. But be bold, experiment - garlic is a survivor and if given a chance can adapt to growing conditions anywhere except the Arctic and the deep tropics.

Here's an arbitrary list of a few favorite cultivars, arranged under main type and subgroup. There are plenty more around. A couple of caveats: the tasting notes are subjective and gleaned from my notes and the opinions of others. The condition under which garlic grows affects its taste as well as the color of the skins. The cultivars mentioned here might not be available at your local fair or grower, but others just as good will be.

It's always better to start with garlic sold by growers in your area, then to branch out, grow and try more "exotic" varieties from other parts of the country, available through catalogues.

### Hardneck

#### Rocambole

Every cook's favorite - mellower and sweeter than many types of garlic. Rocamboles need cold winters to grow well and may not grow at all where winters are mild. Easy to peel, but the looser skins mean they don't store long. ***'Brown Saxon', 'German Red', 'Russian Red', 'Puslinch', 'Spanish Roja'***.

#### Purple Stripe

This variety is genetically closest to the origin of the species. Some varieties still produce seed. Longer storing than Rocamboles, they also need cold winters to produce well, and will grow in poor soil. They have plump cloves. ***'Chesnok Red', 'Persian Star'***.

#### Glazed Purple Stripe

Glazed Purple Squat are squat, shiny and purplish, with faint stripes and large cloves, but no relation to Purple Stripes. In fact, DNA studies show the Asiatics are closer to the Glazed Purple Stripes than are the Purple Stripes. ***'Red Rezan', 'Purple Glazer', 'Vekak'***.



Slaves building the Egyptian pyramids were given garlic to give them strength. The first ever recorded workers strike occurred when, to save money, they removed the garlic from the slaves diet.



## A garlic primer (continued)

### **Marbled Purple Stripe**

Marble Purple Strife is not a subgroup of Glazed Purple Stripe but another horticultural group; the name describes its dappled, striped skin. Plants are vigorous and tall with dramatically curling scapes; does well in cold climates but has been known to adapt to warmer areas, such as in Texas. **'Bogatyr'**, **'Metechi'**.

### **Porcelain**

Porcelains are statuesque plants with thick stems. Bulbs are large and white, with a few large cloves. Porcelains produce more allicin and have a stronger taste than other varieties. Zit is very cold hardy but adaptable to milder climates. Good soil is important, as is sufficient water, even just before harvest time. **'Dan's Russian'**, **'Fish Lake #3'**, **'Georgian Crystal'**, **'Georgian Fire'**, **'Majestic'**, **'Music'**, **'Rosewood'**, **'Susan Delafield'**, **'Romanian Red'** roasted.

### **Asiatic**

Previously considered related to the Artichoke group of softnecks, Asiatics now have their own class. Short scapes with long, distinctive "beaks" in northern climates but may not grow scapes at all in milder areas. **'Asian Tempest'**, **'Pyongyang'**.

### **Turban**

Delicate looking plants, sometimes with a weak scape with a turban-shaped umbel. Early to mature--should be harvested after a couple of leaves have turned brown. Not known for long storage. **'Chinese Purple'**, **'Thai Fire'**.

### **Creole**

Originated in Spain. Some people in the southwest call them Mexican Purples. Sweet, rich taste, long storing, perform well for southern growers. Gardeners in northerly but not frigid regions can successfully grow Creoles, although they produce smaller bulbs. **'Creole Red'**, **'Morado de Pedronera'**, **'Burgundy'**, **'Rose de Lautrec'**.

## **SOFTNECK**

### **Artichoke**

Often used commercially because it's easy to grow and produces large bulbs with many layers of cloves. Adaptable and seldom grows a scape. Taste can be simple, without richness or depth, but many cultivars have good flavor. **'Inchelium Red'**, **'Kettle River Giant'**, **'Lorz Italian'**

### **Silverskin**

Silverskin varieties are usually found in supermarkets because they store well. Like Artichokes, they generally don't produce a scape. They may produce a summer bulb in the north if planted in early spring. Taste varies from mild to strong and acid. **'Silver White'**, **'Locati'**, **'Nootka Rose'**.



During World War I, soldiers depended on garlic for its antiseptic properties. They used the garlic juice on swabs of sterile moss. It was said that this prevented gangrene and sepsis when in the trenches.





Royal Botanical Gardens  
**ORCHID SOCIETY**

38<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Spring  
*Orchid*  
Show & Sale

*Thousands of orchid  
blooms to see!*

Orchid Cultural Seminars,  
Orchid Sales & Art Displays  
Admittance free with admission to RBG.

Royal Botanical Gardens  
680 Plains Rd. W., Burlington, ON

Saturday, February 23, 2019  
Noon - 5pm  
Sunday, February 24, 2019  
10am - 5pm  
Photographers Sunday  
8am - 10am

Visit our website for additional information:  
**www.osrbg.ca**

Receive **\$4 OFF** an adult or  
senior admission to the RBG.\*  
\*Not to be used in conjunction with any other offers or  
discounts. No cash value. Limit one \$4 discount per  
coupon. Valid ONLY February 23 & February 24, 2019.



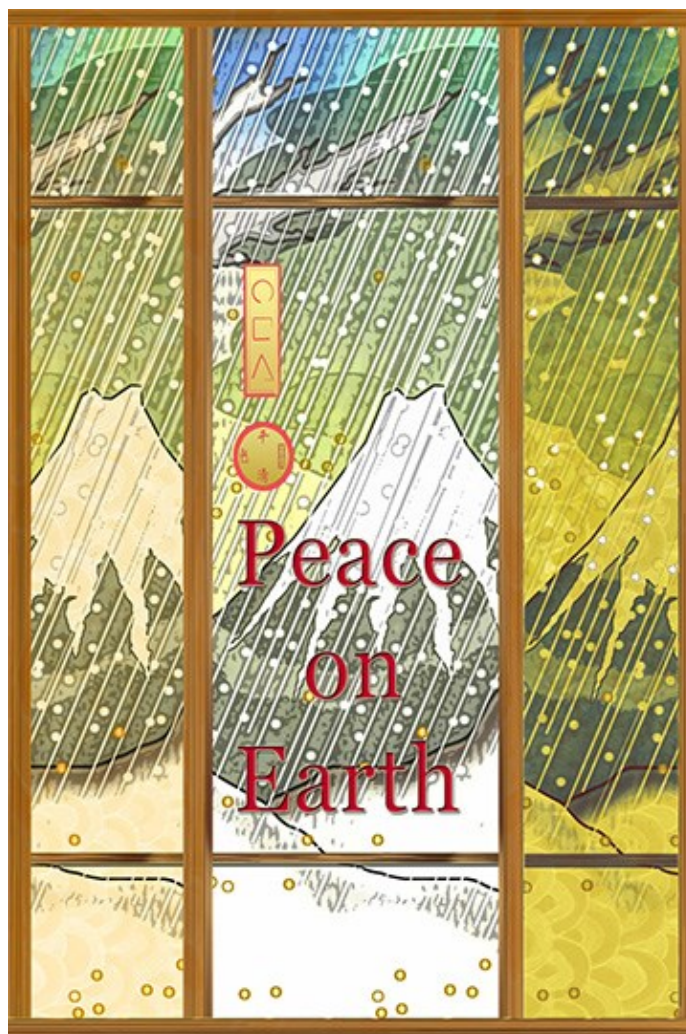
While solitary bees are important for plant pollination, their numbers are declining due to a loss of suitable nesting locations. This nest provides a safe place to lay their eggs, helping to boost the local population of these beneficial, nonaggressive bees.

Approved by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, it has 20 nesting tubes of various sizes to accommodate

different bee species. The space between the tubes is filled with porous volcanic stone to insulate from cold and heat, discourage mites and absorb moisture to prevent fungus growth. A pattern of broken color on the exterior draws the attention of bees, and a plastic shield on the front protects the tubes from being pulled out by birds and rodents.

Made of ABS plastic, the nest is 5" long overall and mounts easily with two included nails. With a few plants to supply edible pollen growing in your garden (a list of suitable plants is included), you'll attract your first pollen bees in no time, and their descendants will continue to use the nest – and benefit your garden – year after year.

Made in Canada. Cash only: \$15.



did you know...

**Wishing you and your loved ones  
peace, health, happiness and  
prosperity in the coming New Year!**





District 19  
Ontario Horticultural Association  
Waterloo, Ontario

October 04, 2018

District 19 of the Ontario Horticultural Association is pleased to announce that they are willing to host a Judging School in Waterloo starting in 2019. It is a total of five courses over three years so likely two would be done in 2019, two in 2020 and the final early in 2021.

The course would give successful individuals, who complete and pass the 5 courses, a certificate which entitles them to judge at future OHA Flower Shows and Fairs. You will be trained in Horticultural Specimens, Floral Designs, Fruits and Vegetables.

We are writing to find out who may be interested in joining us. We would warmly welcome other Districts around us, Garden Club members and Agricultural Society members.

To proceed with the planning of the school, we need to get an idea of how many people are interested in attending.

**If you are interested, please complete the information requested below and return it to us, with a "good faith" deposit of \$10.00 which would be applied towards the fees of the first course.**

Depending on the number of interested applicants we hope to offer each course, which is all day Saturday, and Sunday until 3pm, for approximately \$100.00 or less and includes lunch and refreshments. Please make your cheque payable to District 19 and send to the contact shown below.

Please let us know, no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Regards,  
**Myra Takasaki**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

What Society, District, Garden Club or Ag Society you are connected with: \_\_\_\_\_

Please reply to:

**Myra Takasaki, 287 Normandy Ave., Waterloo, Ontario**

**N2K 1X6 ---- 519-885-5300**





## WE NEED A STRONG, INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSIONER OF ONTARIO

POSTED ON NOVEMBER 26, 2018

Ontario is about to lose the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, as part of cuts announced by the Ford government on November 15, 2018. The details were laid out in Bill 57, which includes proposed amendments to the province's Environmental Bill of Rights.

For the past 25 years, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario has operated as an independent officer, appointed by the Ontario Legislature, not the party in power. It has served the Legislature and the public with careful research, clear explanations and early warnings on issues ranging from air quality through pollinators to wetlands. Some highlights of the ECO's work are:

- *providing an independent, expert voice speaking up for nature and the environment at Queen's Park*
- *publication of annual updates on environmental protection, climate change and energy efficiency*
- *being a guardian over the public's right to comment on environmental concerns*

More information on the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario here: <https://eco.on.ca/>

Please consider sending a letter to Premier Doug Ford and your local MPP encouraging them to restore the role of the ECO in its entirety.

Petitions are available via the organizations and links here: [Green Prosperity Ontario](#) OR [Ontario Nature](#)



## Oakvillegreen Conservation Association News

Thank you Oakville for a great fall season of stewardship and tree planting and for playing a role in protecting the local environment through personal involvement!

We couldn't have done all of this without our wonderful volunteers' hard work and commitment!

**480 native trees** were planted this fall at 4 different sites in Oakville – Oak Park, Pelee Woods, Indian Ridge Trail and Falling Green Pond.

We had **166 volunteers participating** in our September and October tree planting events!

We would like to acknowledge everyone who supported us in our larger community effort to restore and grow Oakville's tree canopy. **Special thanks to our community and corporate partners and supporters: Town of Oakville, MP Pam Damoff, Oakville Chinese Network, UPS, Mindshape, & Heather Govender.**

We look forward to our Spring 2019 tree planting season and to working with all of you once again.



### Looking for some great reading:

**Halton Region Master Gardeners** is a member of **Master Gardeners of Ontario** (MGOI Inc.), a registered non-profit organization. Their volunteers are experienced gardeners, who have studied horticulture extensively and regularly upgrade their skills through technical training. With this training and continuing education, Master Gardeners provide sustainable horticultural advice to the gardening public. We have diverse horticultural backgrounds and love to share our passion for gardening with the communities of Ancaster, Burlington, Dundas, Georgetown, Hamilton, Milton & Oakville.



Cross Pollination Newsletter for December 2018 click December.



did you know...

# Calendar of Events

December 10	<b>Monthly Meeting and Pot Luck at MacMillan Hall 89 Dunn Street</b>
	Monthly meeting will be held at the Knox Presbyterian Church 89 Dunn Street. Doors open at 6:00 pm, cocktails at 6:30 pm, meeting commences at 7:30 pm
December 11	<b>Big Thinkers with Mark and Ben Cullen</b>
	7:00 pm Oakville Public Library, Central Branch Auditorium 120 Navy Street, Oakville The bestselling author will reflect on his years of gardening in Canada and the ways that horticulture is changing the world. Sharing excerpts from his newest book, <i>Escape to Reality</i> , Cullen will discuss topics ranging from nature as therapy to practical tips for cultivating and coexisting with your garden.
January 10	<b>Eco-Movie Night: The Woman Who Loves Giraffes</b>
	7:00 - 9:00 PM Venue: Film.Ca Cinemas - 171 Speers Rd. Admission: \$2/student, \$5/adult Dr. Anne Innis Dagg re-traces the steps of her groundbreaking 1956 journey to South Africa to study giraffes in the wild – and discovers a startling contrast between the world of giraffes she once knew and the one it has become. Weaving through the past and present, her harrowing journey gives us an intimate look into the factors that destroyed her career and the forces that brought her back.
January 14	<b>Monthly Meeting at MacMillan Hall 89 Dunn Street</b>
	Monthly meeting will be held at the Knox Presbyterian Church 89 Dunn Street. Doors open at 6:30 pm, meeting commences at 7:30 pm
January 25	<b>Tree Risk Assessment and Mitigation</b>
	9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at RBG Centre Fee: \$180 (M 10% off) Kyle Berwick, ISA certified arborist, provides an in-depth introduction to how trees live and grow, respond to their environment, and common structural defects. Part of the day is outdoors and focuses on how to rate tree risk and methods of mitigating this risk in this professional and practical workshop. ISA approved course.
February 11, 25, March 4, 18	<b>Landscape for Life</b>
	7 to 9 p.m. at RBG Centre. Fee: \$130 (M 10% off) Conventional gardens often work against nature but with a few guidelines and informed decisions you can have a healthier, sustainable, more beautiful garden for your family, pets and the environment. In this four-part Landscape for Life course, Charlie Briggs, horticulturalist, outlines soil, water, plants and a garden's impact on human health with lots of advice on gardening practices.
February 14	<b>Eco-Movie Night: The Superfood Chain</b>
	7:00 - 9:00 PM Venue: Film.Ca Cinemas - 171 Speers Rd. Admission: \$2/student, \$5/adult Are so called <i>superfoods</i> really that great for you? And how does the burgeoning global demand impact the indigenous cultures who grow the food and depend on it as a staple? The Superfood Chain is a beautiful cinematic documentary that investigates how the superfood industry affects the lives of farming families from Bolivia, Ethiopia, Philippines, and Haida Gwaii.
February 23	<b>District 6 Spring Breakfast</b>
	Hosted by the Flamborough Horticultural Society. Location: Connon Nurseries 9:00 am - 12:00 noon. More information to follow.
February 24	<b>Seedy Sunday Oakville Public Library</b>
	Seedy Sunday Oakville Public Library is pleased to present its first ever Seedy Sunday! Come and celebrate the launch of the OPL Seed library, exchange seeds and visit with a variety of organizations all related to seeds, plants and gardening! Age: 18Y and up Cost: Free/Drop-in Queen Elizabeth Park Community & Cultural Centre Sun/Feb 24 10:30 am-4:00 pm For more details, please visit our website at <a href="http://www.opl.ca/blog/seed-library/">www.opl.ca/blog/seed-library/</a> starting Sep. 24.

