

# Horticulture society blooms for 85th year in Stouffville

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Television host Denis Flanagan will help the Stouffville Horticulture Society kick off its 85th year Monday with a laughter-filled presentation on gardening.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville resident is the host of HGTV's Indoor Gardener and One Garden Two Looks. "He's so entertaining," said Diane Ward, a member of the society.

Monday evening's meeting, which starts at 7:30 p.m. at Stouffville United Church, is not just for returning members, but also for new ones.

## HGTV HOST

"We want new members and people who don't know anything" about gardening, Mrs. Ward said. "None of us are experts. We all need to learn something."

Which is why the group meets once a month to discuss everything from vegetable gardening and landscaping to growing herbs in a window box.

"It's not easy growing a

**'We want new members and people who don't know anything (about gardening) None of us are experts. We all need to learn something.'**

Diane Ward  
Stouffville Horticulture Society

few herbs in a container in your window sill," Mrs. Ward said.

Some of this year's guest speakers include Shari-Lynn Safir, who is the president of the Greater Toronto Rose Society, Marjorie Mason Hogue, who owns Mason Hogue Gardens near Uxbridge, and flower arranger Shirley Binns.

Although no one is sure who started the society or what its initial purpose was, they do know the Stouffville Horticulture Society held a meeting on April 11, 1924, and since then the group has remained active.

"Our purpose now is mul-

tiples. It is to help the town, learn and share plants and information," Mrs. Ward said.

The group maintains the town-owned gardens in front of the Care and Share on Main Street, as well as the gardens at the Whitchurch-Stouffville library.

On Saturday, May 2, the society will hold a social tea at Parkview Home to celebrate its anniversary. The event takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. and is free.

## MAINTAIN TOWN GARDENS

The cost to join the society is \$15 a year per person or \$25 a year per family. Visitors can pay \$5 per meeting.

All meetings are held at Stouffville United Church on the third Monday of the month. The church is on Church Street just north of Main Street in downtown Stouffville.

For more information, contact Carolyn Ratcliff at 905-640-3845, info-stouffville@gardenontario.org, gardenontario.org/site.php/stouffville/about.

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Funds raised from this event will be allocated to the purchase of equipment for the Maternal Child Unit and the funding of the Dr. Bear Program.



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