

MR. SAVINO QUATELA

134 GRAND VALLEY BLVD

MAPLE ONT. L6A-3K6

c A

Communication

CW: November 6, 2012

Item: Dep b)

**RECEIVED**

OCT 01 2012

CITY OF VAUGHAN  
CLERKS DEPARTMENT

JEFFREY A. ABRAMS B.A.L.L.B. CITY CLERK  
CITY-OF-VAUGHAN

2141 MAJOR MACKENZIE DRIVE

VAUGHAN, ONT. L6A-1T1

REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION-DEAR SIR, I AM REQUESTING  
THE OPPORTUNITY TO be heard AT COMMITTEE OF THE  
Whole OCT-16-2012 PLEASE CONFIRM THE DAY  
AND TIME THAT I WILL have MY DEPUTATION,  
I PREFER YOU SEND IF VIA EMAIL AT

SAVINOQUATELA@YAHOO.CA WITH A hard copy  
TO FOLLOW by CANADA POST

SUBJECT MATTERS CHALLENGE

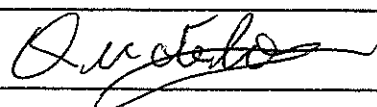
ENCROACHMENT, OF CITY OF VAUGHAN

BY-LAW-2242005 I WILL PROVIDE

WRITTEN N: 14 PAGE OF MATERIAL PLAS

MORE THEN 30 PHOTO TO EACH COUNCILLOR

SINCERELY

Savino Quatela  DATE OCT. 1-2012



**Communication: C4**  
**Committee of the Whole – November 6, 2012**  
**DEPUTATION: 6**

The City Clerk's Office has received a petition with respect to the summary wording below. The total number of signatures on the petition are: 61

**We in the undersigned petition support and like the landscaping work of Savino Quatela located at 134 Grand Valley Blvd Maple ON and we accept this simple landscaping encroachment.**

A copy of the entire petition document containing a total of 4 pages is on file in the office of the City Clerk.



# VAUGHAN

Enforcement Services

*Aug 14, 2012*  
*Extension*  
*W/ Sept 21, 2012*  
*[Signature]*

**Registered Mail**

July 26<sup>th</sup> 2012

Quatela, Savino  
 Quatela, Antonia  
 134 Grand Valley Blvd  
 Maple ON L6A 3K6

*Sept 4, 2012*  
*Additional time*  
*needed to*  
*Oct 16, 2012 allow*  
*to prep time for*  
*deputation.*

**NOTICE**

Dear Sir/Madam:

**RE: Plan 65M3389 Lot 61 being 134 Grand Valley Blvd., City of Vaughan**

On July 11<sup>th</sup> 2012 a site inspection was conducted on the above noted property. The investigation indicated a contravention of City of Vaughan By-law 244-2005, as amended, the particulars of which are as follows:

**ENCROACHMENTS PROHIBITED**

3 a) Whether deliberately or inadvertently no Person shall erect, place, or continue, or cause to be erected, placed or continue, an Encroachment of any kind on Public Lands, or Easements in favour of the City, except where permitted to do so in accordance with this by-law.

3 b) In addition, where deliberately or inadvertently no Person shall Alter or cause to be Altered, an Encroachment of any kind on Public Lands or Easements in favour of the City, except where permitted to do so in accordance with this by-law

*It has been observed that stone and shrubs have been placed on City of Vaughan property*

You are therefore directed to comply with the provisions of the City of Vaughan By-law 244-2005 within 30 days of the receipt of this notice, more specifically:

Either:

1. Remove the encroachment being the stone and shrubs and restore the area back to its original condition being grass:

Or:

2. Apply for and obtain an Encroachment Permit

Failure to comply with this notice may result in the commencement of legal proceedings against you.

Further, where a Notice issued under subsection 13(a) is not complied with within thirty (30) days of the date of the Notice, the City may on behalf of the owner, remove, fill in or close up the Unauthorized Encroachment and restore the Public Lands to their former condition at the Expense of the Owner, such expense to be removed in full in the manner provided in Section 14 which states all Expenses incurred by the City in connection with the enforcement of this by-law shall be paid within thirty (30) days of their billing date, and in the event of failure to pay the entire amount within the said thirty (30) days, at the discretion of the City, the outstanding balance of the invoice may thereafter be added to the tax roll as the of the year in which the Expenses were billed.

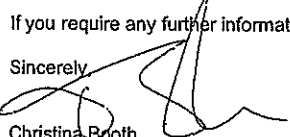
**YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY FURTHER NOTICES IN THIS REGARD.**

*Savino Quatela*  
*OCT-3-12*



If you require any further information in this regard, please do not hesitate to call our office.

Sincerely,

  
Christina Booth  
By-law Enforcement Officer  
(905) 832-8505 Ext: 8682

[christina.booth@vaughan.ca](mailto:christina.booth@vaughan.ca)

Copy to Building Department

*Sumino Ousdetto*  
*OCT 3-12*

Re: 134 Grand Valley Blvd, Speculated Encroachment Violation

4

I, Savino Quatela, inform this department of bylaw that I have chosen to challenge your request and will request a deputation at City Council which will include proof and evidence of many, many "encroachment violations" identical to those of mine in my own neighborhood. If this by law is to be interpreted in fashion that finds my home to be a violation than all those others should be considered a violation as well. The whole Municipal Council has the power and duty to correct this and they should do so.

I have a petition with the names addresses and signatures of 50 multicultural residents that "support and like the landscaping work of Savino Quatela located at 134 Grand Valley Blvd Maple ON and ... accept this simple landscaping encroachment."

Also, please find for your consideration a list of addresses in my immediate neighborhood that appear to have what you refer to as an "encroachment violation". So that it is clear, this is not a complaint that I am launching nor am I suggesting that an investigation of these addresses be made. I ask that the list be kept confidential and used only to verify my claim that there are many, many instances where the landscaping that I have completed has been found to be acceptable. I will dispose of the list after conclusion of the investigation of my homes inquiry.

This list which I had little time to put together includes:

Del Francesco Way, #'s 2, 6, 8, 20, 22, 26, 28, 38, 40, 12, 42, 50, 56, 72, 98, 100, 11, 23, 25, 37, 39, 41, 43, 55, 57, 59, 63, 6, 89 & 91

Manda Drive, #'s 15, 29 & 2

Pietro Street, #'s 12, 20, 25, 11 & 15

Discovery Trail, #'s 79 & 91

Grapvin Drive, #'s 2, 6, 8, 16, 10, 12, 18, 22, 26, 28, 25, 41 & 51

Bullrush Drive, #'s 25, 53 & 65

Timberwolf Crescent, #'s 15, 41, 51, 101, 109, 1, 17, 28, 36 & 35

Cormorant Crescnet, #'s 15, 14, 18, 27, 35, 43, 39, 47 & 59

Gina Drive, #'s 39, 41 & 45


Redfinch Crescent, # 83

Wildberry Crescent, #'s 52 & 6

I believe, along with my neighbors, that the voice of the people and of reason should be heard and should prevail.

Thank you for your consideration.

Most Sincerely,

 04-3-12

Savino Quatela

Re: 134 Grand Valley Blvd, Maple ON, Encroachment

Dear Mayor, Mr. Bevilacqua and Members of Council of City of Vaughan,

My name is Savino Quatela and I live at 134 Grand Valley Blvd. Earlier this year I had some landscaping done. These are the reasons why I had no choice but to make changes to my homes landscaping:

1) Health Issues

- a. Heart – Maintaining all of the lawn needs a lot of work. I am a senior and this work takes a lot of energy under the worst weather conditions. Every year is getting hotter and hotter and being a senior and working under the sun in the summer is very dangerous especially for someone like me with high blood pressure.
- b. Respiratory Complications – As a senior, high pollen can mean more than sneezing, coughing and rubbing eyes. As you get older it can mean breathing with difficulty or respiratory infections as has been the case for me over recent years.
- c. Allergies – I'm allergic to grass and weeds and when I was younger it was a hardship but manageable. This is no longer the case, handling grass and weeds makes me physically sick.

2) The province banning pesticides of weeds that came into effect April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2009, Earth Day, left little choices for seniors and the maintenance of their lawns. The benefits of eliminating toxins into our systems are many. However, we do have a problem with weeds out of control in the City of Vaughan. I'm confident if you are to ask the Director of Public Works as to the status of weed control they would reply that the resources needed to control this problem are very very short of what is needed.

3) Our drinking water should be for that, drinking, cooking and bathing, not for watering grass, trees, flowers, vegetables or washing the car. There are other ways to water these things like grey water systems. The problem is that using regular tap water or investing in grey water costs money and someone living on old age pension simply can't afford it.

Savino Quatela OCT 3-12

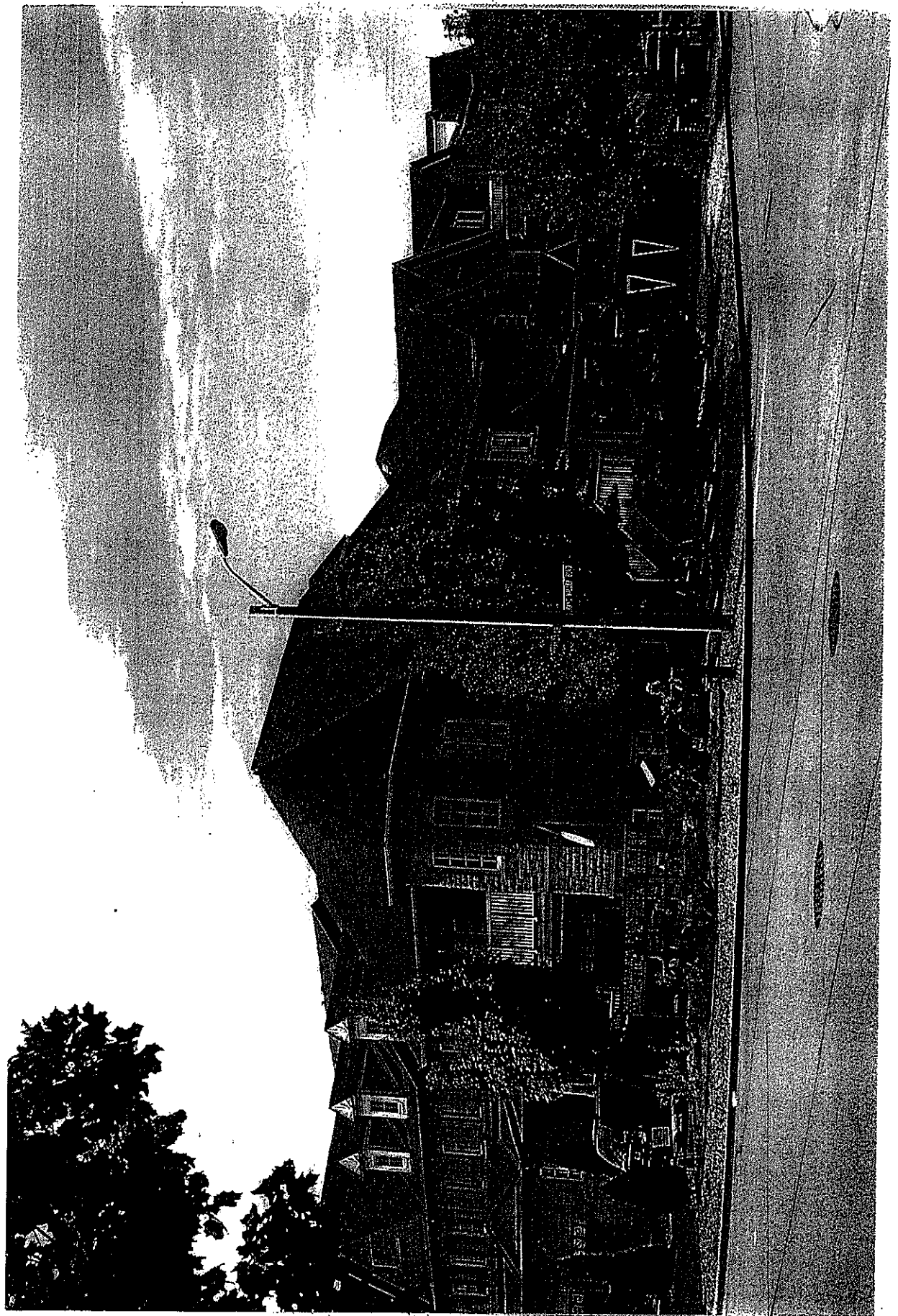
I'm 68 years old and the financial cost of maintaining my land and the city's land was far too much. I have been paying physically and financially for many years to maintain the city's property. I simply cannot afford to continue to do so physically or financially. My wife and I are seniors and maintaining the grass and controlling the weeds presents us with dangerous consequences to our health and fixed income. We had no choice but to go with very popular environmentally sound and low maintenance choices.

I look forward to seeing some action from this council on this by law issue.

Sincerely

  
Savino Quatela

OCT 3-12



QUATELA  
134 Grand Valley B.L.V.  
MAPLE, ONT.  
L6A 3K6

0 CT-3-12 S. Q.



(7)

Laughlin Citizen Sunday Oct 25 2009 12

# Councillors to take encroachment issues to city hall for residents

Concave who spent about \$500 to modify the retaining wall for the driveway and driveway at the city sent the neighbours violation notice in April stating that encroachment on any and on public land is not permitted. As a result residents had to days to restore the area back onto original condition. In this instance grass residents were also given a second option to submit an application for the city encroachment agreement which allows for any type of property to land scaping and other purposes. Being the application cost resident Anna Balkaran \$500 and it does not guarantee approval.

This is a unique situation, but I think the city is going to find a solution. People who live on this street beautify their homes and spend a lot of money.

Angelo Del Beluz  
Homeville

do it myself. Mc Balkaran said taking this chance with the encroachment agreement was the more cost effective approach. Furthermore, applicants must obtain and maintain an insurance policy in the minimum amount of \$2 million and name the city as an additional insured party. Over the spring and summer months, the handful of St. Francis Avenue residents opted for amended

ing their landscaping to acceptable standards approximately 10 feet away from the sidewalk. However, the changes did not fall within the city's orders to comply stating leaving residents in the same predicament.

Under the current policy, you cannot have any encroachment without an encroachment agreement. It does not matter what changes you made. If you do not have an agreement in place, the city can tell you to put the grass back.

Residents who visited the neighbours with East Woodbridge Councilor Bernie DeVona on Wednesday. The councillors reiterated that while the bylaws are rigid and allow for no flexibility, the Vellore area is facing issues under a municipal code that does not adequately reflect the more modern Wood

What happens when a subdivision is approved? What happens when a subdivision is approved? What happens when a subdivision is approved?

For the most part, residents will come to the opportunity to finally meet with a council member and a council member will be made in their favour. This is a unique situation, but I think the city is going to find a solution. People who live on this street beautify their homes and spend a lot of money.

When you pass laws, one size fits all does not work all the time. We cannot break the law all we can do is try to bend the law now into what we intended it to be. This was never the intent of the encroachment law for this area because of

the way it was physically designed. Mr. DeVona said. If the policy can be modified it could allow for moderate landscaping in areas similar to the subdivision around St. Francis Avenue. Mr. Rosan said.

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Savino Quarta  
Oct 3-12

## SPECIAL FEATURE



AS APHOTO:SIDERO WITTEVEN  
Allan Goldstein and daughter Andrea, 7, suffer from allergies and say they can't abide the dandelion weeds in Beverley Glen Park running rampant. Here near Wilshire Elementary School, daughter Brianna, 10, and family dog Blue don't mind romping through the weeds.

# Dandelions not dandy for all

Warm spring, lack of snow melt let weeds thrive while turf grass struggles, parks and forestry director says

BY KIM ZATOUN  
@kimz@cbc.com

Allan Goldstein would put his child in the middle of a horde of

And he certainly won't let her play in the dandelion

The Thornhill dad believes sending his allergy-prone daughter into Beverley Glen Park would be just about as dangerous, even the knee-high weeds taking over the neglected neighbourhood green space.

And he's mad as a hornet about it. "I don't care if they have to use old-fashioned push mowers. We pay for these parks to be beautiful. Either we can use them or not. And if we can use them, then I want a

reduction in my taxes. The province's cosmetic pest-control ban came into effect on Earth Day, April 22, 2009, an effort to reduce the potential toxic effects

DANDELIONS Page 17

Savino Amato

OK 3-12

# Dandelions: weeds or flowers?

on families and pets. Since they're municipally owned and has turned progressively yellow — bright dandelion yellow — and not everyone is pleased by the sight.

Mr. Goldstein took his dog blue to the local park for a romp, but after a few steps in the grass he turned around and left the golden retriever sniffing the baseball diamond instead.

The problem is getting worse and worse. The dandelions are simply multiplying. This particular park was shaded last year.

Warne Fraser, Vaughan's director of parks and forestry operations, says that grass weeds grew higher this year.

The warm spring and lack of snowmelt from a mild winter caused a shortage of water in the soil, she said. This caused weeds to thrive and the turf to struggle.

As well, several years of a pest-free environment created conditions that allow dandelions to slowly but surely compete with grass, she said.

Joey Kapman also isn't happy with the result, and she's noticed other neighbours similarly disgruntled, watching parents drag their children from the weed stalks while wondering aloud why the city is doing something about it.

Mr. Kapman, who can no longer run around the park, she sympathizes.

Mr. Kapman says, "I don't know what you're doing, but you're doing it."

Mr. Kapman also notes that the city is also not doing it.

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Richmond Hill staff mow town grass once a week, road allowances every couple of weeks, and twice a week on sports fields, according to parks supervisor Jim Henderson.

In Richmond Hill, at least, he said residents appear to be more tolerant, accepting that the dandelion invasion is a three-week phenomenon that will soon pass.

Valerie Burke, a Thornhill-Markham councillor, also sees attitudes changing.

But she it doesn't look all that great, but it's not a very long time for the good of our health were going to have to put up with this period. Obviously, we want our community to look nice, but we have to look at the overall picture.

The only thing the town could do is more mowing, but does everyone want us to put more resources into that for this small window of time? And then there's the greenhouse effect of mowing.

Thornhill-Vaughan Councillor Alan Sherman said he, too, is hearing fewer complaints. He received one e-mail about the issue this year, the least amount ever, he said.

The pesticide issue hits close to home for Mr. Sherman. Having battled cancer himself, he is especially keen to get one group of chemicals out of our eco-system and environment. It's a very very small price to pay.

Before the province instituted the ban, he said, a local veterinarian reported the number of animals with nose cancer had escalated tremendously and it was attributed to chemicals sprayed on lawns.

While municipalities may not have budgets for safer weed-disposal, such as composting meal, there are more affordable tactics, said Mr. Wood with York Environmental Alliance.

Mowing more often when dandelions are blooming will prevent them from going to seed, she said. Allowing the grass to grow longer in the non-blooming season will shade the weed growth. When public property has bare patches, it should be overseeded right away, and rather than the less-hardy Kentucky bluegrass, she suggests perennial ryegrass or fescue.

And when you find yourself irritated by dandelions, she suggests taking a lesson from children.

You see them picking them to make chains and bouquets. They don't see them as weeds. They see them as pretty yellow flowers.

## GOOD TO KNOW

Ministry of Environment recommends:

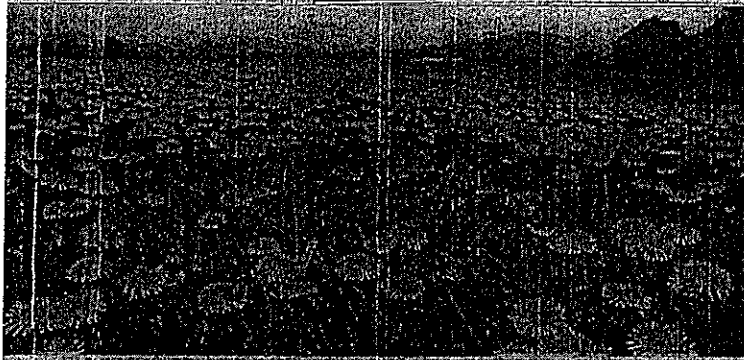
Aerate (the mechanical removal of plugs of dirt from the lawn so that air, water and nutrients can reach the roots) in spring and fall.

Overseed regularly and dress seed in the fall. Spring and late fall mowing the seed will contribute to pressing with the mow improves the soil. Add grass seed to bare patches after weeding.

Keep the lawn between 6 and 8 cm (2 1/2 to 3 inches) high. Shade weeds. Leave lawn clippings to feed grass naturally after each mow.

*Savino Ansteth*  
Oct 3-12





## Natural weeds could be part of your diet

BY TERESA LATCHFORD  
latchfo@vaughan.com

ON PAGE 14 IS YOUR salad bowl? Even without Karen Stephenson admitting her friends and family have her some questionable looks when she began educating them on what can be included in your diet.

We have been conditioned that weeds need to be destroyed, she said. The fact is, we have been removing a food source that offers vitamins and minerals.

With the job market still reeling from the recession, more people seeking financial assistance and more job cuts, needing the local food pantry it doesn't make sense to kill these plants that could make the food system more stable right here at home.

The word weed seems to have this negative connotation associated with it, she added. When I find a patch of edible weeds, I cultivate, work around and embrace it.

People need to be open minded because there is an incredible amount of wild edible plants that have been labeled as weeds that have nutritional value.

Ms Stephenson is a writer, but her passion for wild edible food has led her to enroll in the fall pharmacy education program.

Before you go out picking these plants, you have to be 100 per cent sure in identification, she stressed, adding some of the edibles have nasty cousins that could make you ill.

There are plenty of reasons to learn more about wild edibles. They are free, genetically stronger than other food, most are drought resistant, most are more nutritious than hybridized store produce and you get exercise by picking your own.

The local resident will head her first group walk about during the annual Spinfest event at the Sharon Temple National Historic Site Saturday.

Here are the five common wild edibles that can be found locally.

**Alfalfa:** An overlooked wonder food containing vitamins such as trace elements of B7, said to help prevent cancer, vitamins K, C and E as well as copper and iron. Identified by clusters of 10 to 20 purple flowers and three-part leaves clustered along the stem.

The leaves and young shoots can be eaten raw or cooked, and can be dried to make teas or soups. The seeds can be ground into powder and mixed into baked goods to improve nutrition.

**Broadleaf plantain:** This perennial plant packs a punch with vitamin C and all of the B's, calcium and magnesium. It is identified by its green, oval to egg-shaped leaves that grow in a rosette pattern and long-pointed green flowers grow from the base containing seeds.

The entire plant is edible, although the leaves are bitter. Blanching before adding them to a salad softens the leaves. They can be frozen for later use in sautés, soups or stews.

**Chickweed:** Is a small plant that boasts vitamin A, B and C and calcium, magnesium, iron and selenium. It is a common plant with small, white, star-shaped flowers and oval leaves with pointed tips.

The leaves are best added to a salad or on bread with butter. When adding the plant to a cooked dish, stems and flowers can also be used.

**Lambs quarters:** The annual wild edible that tastes earthy, similar to chard, is found in shady areas with poor soil. One handful of the leaves contain more than the required vitamin A daily intake. It can be identified by its dusty look when in a large patch and light green diamond leaves that are pale on the underside. It pro-

*San'sis Quist*  
Oct. 3-12