



"Softly the grass sways, not knowing that the day brought, hope for tomorrow"  
~Haiku written in 1974



"Courage is like love; it must have hope for nourishment."  
~ Napoleon Bonaparte



"We must free ourselves of the hope that the sea will ever rest. We must learn to sail in high winds."

~Aristotle Onassis

## The comfort of Faith....

Every year, February is the month most filled with hope for me. I know that in the next month, spring will begin to burst forth, bringing wonder and excitement around every corner. Something about this month makes me believe that no matter what the obstacles, I will be okay. There is a metaphor about the seed having to shatter its shell in order to become a flower and how we will endure pain in our lives to come to our best character. I gain the comfort I need knowing that change is inevitable and have learned to enjoy each moment.



## February Fun Facts....

"The day birds choose their mates"

The February birth flower can be the Iris, which represents faith, hope and wisdom. Or the Violet (Viola), which represents faithfulness, modesty and virtue. The Iris takes its name from the Greek word for a rainbow. The Giardino Del'Iris in Florence, Italy, annually hosts a breeder's competition. The Violet (Viola) has over six-hundred cultivars including shrubs but is usually visualized as the annual bedding plant. One quirk of some Viola is the elusive scent of their flowers; along with terpenes, a major component of the scent is a ketone compound called ionone, which temporarily desensitizes the receptors of the nose, thus preventing any further scent being detected from the flower until the nerves recover

## What's Growing on...

News & Noteworthy



The NW Flower and Garden Show February 17 – 21, 2016 is coming to the Seattle Convention Center. The theme this year is America the Beautiful. It will be our first year not doing a display garden with our Professional Organization, (WALP) Washington Association of Landscape Professionals. We will be there, to offer helping hands where needed and just enjoying the show this year.