

**Section D**

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"FrogWatch USA" is scheduled to take place Feb. 29 at Greenwood Gardens. On March 22, head of horticulture Sonia Uyterhoeven will give a presentation on orchids at the gardens.

**GREENWOOD GARDENS**

## Nature programs will lift winter spirits

Greenwood Gardens, 274 Old Short Hills Road, has two upcoming programs planned that are guaranteed to put a "spring" in your step.

First, if you are a self-motivated, environmentally-minded individual looking to learn something new, hop on over for a froggy fun workshop Monday, Feb. 29 (Leap Day!) Along with Cora Hartshorn Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary, Greenwood Gardens will be hosting "Frog Watch USA."

FrogWatch USA is a citizen science program that teaches and empowers volunteers to collect data on local frog and

toad species. After a brief training you will be on your way to aiding in frog and toad research across the nation. Refreshments provided; bring your own lunch.

This program is free but register online at greenwoodgardens.org. For more information, email sspoden@hartshornarboretum.org.

Next, Sonia Uyterhoeven, head of horticulture at Greenwood Gardens, will deliver a presentation, "Growing and Caring for Orchids," Tuesday, March 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Uyterhoeven will cover basic

orchid care, how to select easy-to-grow varieties, information on fragrance and color, and how to divide and re-pot orchids.

Register by March 10 and you will be able to specify which type of orchid you would like to receive from a list of several options. All materials will be supplied, including a beautiful orchid for each participant. More plants will be available for purchase at wholesale prices.

Class size is limited to 18 and advance registration is required. Call 973-258-4026. Cost for the program is \$40 for members, \$50 for nonmembers.



STAFF PHOTO BY MATTHEW KADOSH

Ralph Bace, Millburn's animal control officer, will address the Rolling Hills Garden Club Friday, Feb. 19, at 1 p.m. at the Millburn Free Public Library.

**ROLLING HILLS GARDEN CLUB**

## Officer to discuss furry, feathered invaders

Millburn Township Animal Control Officer Ralph Bace will address the Rolling Hills Garden Club of Short Hills at its general membership meeting Friday, Feb. 19, in the auditorium of the Millburn Free Public Library, 200 Glen Ave.

"Animals in the Garden" will be the focus of his talk. Bace has been with the township's Animal Control Department for 15 years.

Sightings of small and large animals in the township under-

score the need for animal control. Feral cats, deer, raccoons, chipmunks, geese, wild turkeys, groundhogs and black bears are among the animals that appear in the township.

Bace will address attendees' concerns regarding both home and garden invaders. He will tell attendees what to do and who to call when an unwanted animal comes onto their properties. Bace will also offer safety and prevention recommendations.

Rolling Hills Garden Club

invites the public to attend the event starting at 1 p.m. immediately following the garden club business meeting. Light refreshments will be served and questions answered. Attendees are asked to reserve a seat by calling program chair Gloria Patti at 973-376-4580.

*For more information about Garden Club events and membership, call Pat French, president, at 973-376-6342.*

**DOWN THE BLOCK INC.**

## Local nonprofit welcomes new board members

Down the Block Inc., which has paid bills totaling more than \$337,000 for township residents in need, welcomes Jeffrey Beckerman and Elizabeth Stevens to its board of directors.

Beckerman has practiced as a civil litigator in South Orange since 1983. He had been on the board at the Racquets Club of Short Hills from 2007 to 2011 and was in charge of volunteers for the annual Jake's Ride event.

Beckerman was a Down the Block board member from 2012-2014. He will be the group's liaison with the school system.

Stevens was a middle school-mathematics and science

teacher in Atlanta and at the American School in London.

Since moving to the township, she has volunteered her time with Newcomers and Neighbors of Short Hills & Millburn as well as positions within her children's schools. She will be contributing to the fundraising efforts of Down the Block.

Returning board members are Caryl Jacobs, Tyler Foster, Margo Greenfield, Dr. Lisa Jacobs, Wendy Minocha, Diane Nelson, David Sotnick and Nu Suwankosai.

Jacobs and Foster will take the reigns as co-presidents. Down the Block acknowledges the efforts of Jonathan Justice

and Lauren Teetsel, whose terms have come to an end.

Down the Block is a locally established 501(c)3 organization that pays for goods, services and basic needs for township residents who meet eligibility requirements, and who successfully complete an application and screening process. All applications and disbursements are kept strictly confidential.

*For additional information or to make a donation, visit www.downtheblock.org or call 973-943-1424. Down the Block is a beneficiary of the United Way of Northern New Jersey.*

## LEARNING HOW A DEER SAYS, 'I WAS HERE'



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OPEN DOOR NURSERY SCHOOL

Sara Spoden, an environmental educator from the Cora Hartshorn Arboretum, shows students at Open Door Nursery School of Wyoming Presbyterian Church how deer rub their antlers on trees, leaving a personal mark. Spoden's visit was part of an Arboretum program to educate township youngsters about animals living in the wild.

**ESSEX COUNTY**

## Environmental Center plans Feb. events

A variety of programs are being offered at the Essex County Environmental Center, 621B Eagle Rock Ave. in Roseland during the month of February that will teach children and adults about nature and help them gain a greater appreciation and understanding of the environment.

All of the programs require advanced registration. To register or for more information, call 973-228-8776. Events scheduled for February are as follows:

**Monday Morning Yoga**  
Mondays, Feb. 15, 22, 29 at 9:30 a.m.

All levels welcome. Come weekly or for just one class. Cost is \$10 per class. Dress comfortably and bring your own mat.

**Tuesday Afternoon Yoga with Meditation**  
Tuesdays, Feb. 16, 23 at 3:30 p.m.

The focus of this class for adults is on the many benefits of long-held, seated poses. All levels are welcome. Cost is \$10 per class. Dress comfortably and bring your own mat.

**Little Explorers Winter Nature Program**  
Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 1:30 p.m. or Fridays, Feb. 12, 19 at 1:30 p.m.

This child-caregiver class for 4 and 5 year olds uses stories, walks and crafts to develop an awareness and appreciation for science and nature. Each week, a different nature or science topic is covered. Cost is \$9 per child per session.

**Chair Yoga Series**  
Thursdays, Feb. 11, 18, 25 at 3 p.m.

This program is for adults who are new to yoga or know and love

yoga but can no longer get up and down from the floor easily. All poses are done seated or standing next to a chair. All levels are welcome. Dress comfortably. Cost is \$36 for the month, \$28 for those 65 and older. No refunds for missed classes. Minimum number of participants required.

**Thursday Evening Yoga**  
Thursdays, Feb. 11, 18, 25, at 6:15 p.m.

This "all levels" yoga series for adults will focus on alignment, flow and warmth followed by a restorative pose to unwind the body and mind for bed. All levels are welcome. Cost is \$40 for the series. No refunds for missed classes. Minimum number of participants is required.

**Friday Morning Yoga**  
Fridays, Feb. 12, 19, 26 at 9:30 a.m.

This adult class will explore the many joys of yoga. Breathing synchronized with movement will warm the body and relax the mind. All levels are welcome. Participate weekly or for just one class. Cost is \$10 per class. Dress comfortably and bring your own mat.

**Love Potion No. 9 Valentine's Gift**  
Saturday, Feb. 13 at noon

During this workshop, adult participants will learn how essential oils can enhance attraction, desires, romance, passion, and make Valentine's Day joyous no matter whether you are single or in a relationship. Each participant will make bath salts infused with essential oils to take home to enjoy. Cost is \$20 per person. Minimum number of participants required.

**Eat like a President**

Monday, Feb. 15 at 3 p.m.

Children ages 8 to 12 who have an interest in cooking or eating can help prepare and cook the sweetest part of a presidential meal. Participants will make and eat one of George Washington's favorites: cherry pie! Each child will leave with a recipe card. Cost is \$10 per child.

**Build a Bird House**  
Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10:30 a.m. to noon

This class is for adults and children ages 10 and older who are accompanied by an adult. To commemorate National Nest Box Week, participants will build a home that encourages breeding birds and other wildlife to take residence. Cost is \$8 per child and \$10 per adult.

**Three-Day Short Course on Beekeeping**  
Saturdays, Feb. 20 & 27 (Snow Date: Saturday, March 5) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Essex County Beekeepers Society will present this short course appropriate for new beekeepers ages 12 through adult as well as those who need a refresher. The society will take participants through a full year of beekeeping.

Meet in Garibaldi Hall. Cost is \$150 per person and includes ECBS/NJBA membership, class materials, continental breakfast and afternoon snack.

Scholarships for this course may be available for full-time students ages 12 to 22. For more information or to register, visit www.njbeekeepers.org or contact Pat Gamsby at bjornlass@aol.com or 973 396-8996.

**Community news submissions**

Community news for publication can be submitted to Nancy Halper, editorial assistant, via email at halper@northjersey.com or by calling 973-921-6451 or by writing, 181 Millburn Avenue, Suite 201, Millburn, NJ 07041.