



# TURTLE TRACKS

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES COUNCIL

SUMMER 2014

## ***New Sea Turtle Exhibit Construction Underway!***

**S**cuttle, the Center's loggerhead sea turtle, is on vacation this summer while his new home is under construction. While we are sad that Scuttle won't be around to help educate this summer's camp participants, we know that the students of Martin County will greatly benefit from the new, enhanced exhibit. The Sea Turtle Exhibit will include updated educational signage, handicap accessibility, advanced sea water filtration, better viewing opportunities, and a bigger tank for Scuttle.



Construction of the new exhibit began in early July. The construction is being overseen by the Martin County School District, while funds for building

the exhibit are being raised by the Environmental Studies Council, the Center's non-profit support organization.

With support from over 60 different donors, 90% of the funds for the new exhibit have already been

raised. If you, your organization, or business would like to help contribute to the turtle tank please visit [www.escmc.org/Turtle\\_Tank](http://www.escmc.org/Turtle_Tank), e-mail [escmcdonor@gmail.com](mailto:escmcdonor@gmail.com), or contact the Center.



## ***THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS***

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Jody Bond



***Please consider leaving a legacy by naming the  
Environmental Studies Council in your estate plans.***



## The Environmental Studies Council, Inc.

2900 NE Indian River Drive  
Jensen Beach, FL 34957  
Council Office: (772) 334-4643  
Center Office: (772) 219-1887

### Mission Statement

To protect and enhance the education programs of the Environmental Studies Center and to promote and extend environmental awareness through community education.

### Board of Trustees

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### Center Teachers

Dianne Pierce, Administrator  
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Charlie Carr      Capt. John Vanilla  
Michelle Fowler

### Center Staff

Sheri Tschinkel      Joann Parisi

Many thanks to  
  
Southeastern Printing  
Stuart, Florida  
for printing  
Turtle Tracks  
and using green ink!  


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## From the desk of the President

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**I**t's an exciting summer at the Environmental Studies Center this year! In addition to our Summer Camps, the Camp WET scholarship program, and general upkeep and maintenance of the Center, we've officially embarked on the construction of the NEW Sea Turtle Exhibit!

The new exhibit will be completed this summer, and opens just in time for students to enjoy and learn in the new school year. Our Groundbreaking Ceremony was held on July 7 and construction is well underway.

Growing up in Florida, summertime is often a time for exploration and outdoor adventures, and the Environmental Studies Center Summer Camp is a perfect example of summer days at their best. My own children have fond memories of attending camp, where they explored new habitats, learned about our delicate estuaries, and were introduced to so many species that reside on the Treasure Coast.

The Center has been a part of our lives, and the lives of so many Martin County residents, for decades, and the newest exhibit is one of the biggest projects the Council has undertaken during that time. It is an exciting time of changes at the Center, with new educational opportunities for exploration and discovery right around the corner, and even more enhancements on the horizon. I invite you to join us on this journey, and hope you will join us in October for the Grand Opening of the new exhibit. And with even more planned for the upcoming year, we appreciate your continued support and generosity of the Council.

I hope you and yours have an exciting and enjoyable summer filled with exploration, and we look forward to your next visit to the Center!

Sincerely,  
Kelly Bond Pelletier

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## Did Your Membership Expire?

**H**ave you renewed your membership to the Environmental Studies Council? These year-long memberships cost just \$25 for an individual, \$50 for a family and \$100 for a business. Funding everything from critter food to the salary of a certified teacher, memberships directly support the educational experience presented for free for ALL Martin County students.

We need your support!

**To sign up, log on to [www.escmc.org/membership](http://www.escmc.org/membership) or call (772) 334-4643.**

# Jensen Beach Garden Club donates Summer Camp Scholarships

**T**hank you to the Jensen Beach Garden Club for their generous donation to our summer camp scholarship programs. Because of their generosity, 5 additional students from Jensen Beach Elementary and Felix A. Williams Elementary will be afforded the opportunity to attend the Environmental Studies Center's camp this summer. A special thank you to garden club members, Dotty Tazzetta, Jeanne Alfieri, Brenda Hefty, and Annie Ruffing who stopped by the ESC to present the check to Kris Kerr, scholarship chair.



## OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS!

The Environmental Studies Council is fortunate to have many wonderful volunteers who dedicate many hours to support, protect and enhance the unique environmental educational programs of the Environmental Studies Center.

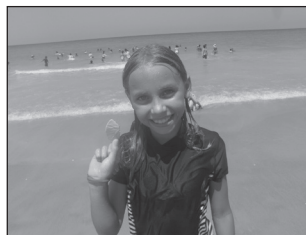
Environmental Studies Council Trustees Gene VanCuren, Inwater Research Group, and Mary Radabaugh were honored by the School Board this year as Outstanding Volunteers for their efforts to promote environmental awareness throughout the community. Inwater Research Group was recognized for their support and donation of a satellite tag to track Scuttle the sea turtle, Mary Radabaugh serves as the 2nd Vice President of the Council and Chaired the Center's 40th Anniversary Gala last year, and Gene VanCuren protects the Council's financial support of the Center as Treasurer of the Council.

*Pictured left to right: Dianne Pierce, Cody Mott, Gene VanCuren, Mary Radabaugh, Rebecca Negron, Maura Barry-Sorenson, and Superintendent Laurie Gaylord*



## SUMMERTIME FUN!

Summer Camp is in full swing, and campers have been enjoying all the local environment has to offer by seining, exploring at the beach, learning about mangrove habitats, and much more!



## SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Congratulations to our 2014 College Scholarship Recipient: Annie Majette!

Annie graduated from Jensen Beach High School and will be attending the University of South Florida in the Fall. She is planning to major in Marine Biology. Annie was a Counselor for the Environmental Studies Center Summer Camp, a member of the Earth Savers Crew, and a member of the JBHS Lacrosse Team.





## Did you know?

Since 1972, the Environmental Studies Center has incorporated innovative teaching methods that are field oriented, with hands on investigation. The curriculum at the center meets Florida's Next Generation Sunshine State Standards, Common Core State Standards, and reflects real-world application of scientific processes.

What would you learn in 2nd Grade?

Students study adaptation: An adaptation is having the right parts to get the job done. In order to survive, living things must adapt to find food, water and protection. Students will learn how scientists observe and investigate to predict and draw conclusions about living things.

## Speaker's Bureau

Every Martin County student knows about their exciting, hands-on environmental education experience at the Environmental Studies Center -- but do YOU? We're reaching out to homeowner's groups and civic organizations with the hope of sharing with our neighbors how this premier environmental agency is making a long-term impact on Martin County. Our Council is willing to present anywhere from formal meeting sessions to evening cocktail hours. If you'd like to learn more, call our offices at (772) 334-4643 today!



Environmental Studies Council, Inc.  
2900 NE Indian River Drive  
Jensen Beach, FL 34957

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SUMMER 2014

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## Center welcomes John Vanilla

Boat Captain John Vanilla is the newest member of the staff, but the Center is not new to him. As a student, John attended the Center with his classes and remembers fondly the yearly trips to the ESC. Now he is at the helm of "The River Scout" during field studies with fifth and sixth graders and with the summer camp programs. He serves as instructor for the sixth grade river investigation activities, and his technical skills maintain The River Scout, custom built in 1972, in safe and good condition. John's prior experience includes serving as second captain on the research vessel, Walton Smith, for the University of Miami and captain on the Lady Stuart.



## JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN HOUSE!

**Saturday, October 11  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Environmental Studies  
Center  
2900 NE Indian River  
Drive, Jensen Beach**

**FREE!**

*Tour the Center  
See the NEW Sea Turtle  
Exhibit & Meet Scuttle!  
Arts & Crafts  
Refreshments  
Entertainment  
Educational Activities*

**GO GREEN! JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST! FIND US ON FACEBOOK !**

<http://www.facebook.com/escmc>