



TURTLE TRACKS

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES COUNCIL

SUMMER 2016

ESC's Unsung Hero: Louise Carnevale

In 2014, Louise Carnevale officially received the Unsung Hero Honor of the Environmental Stewardship Awards from the Keep Martin Beautiful organization, but perhaps our newer-to-the-area members are not aware of Louise's importance to the Center.

Those of us who have volunteered for many years alongside Louise felt we were lottery winners of the "big jackpot!" Were it not for her dedication at the beginning of the Environmental Studies Center, it might not have survived. As part of the original volunteers who joined forces to form the Environmental Studies Council which raised funds and awareness for the Center, she made it a full time "job" for many years – unpaid, of course. As a trustee first and then as Executive Director of the Council for over a decade, Louise gave her all, both at the Center and in numerous projects benefiting Martin County as a whole: promoting/defending the county's comprehensive plan, a beach bond issue and Indian RiverSide Park purchase to name a few. Volunteerism is in her blood having learned it from her father, Gennaro DePamphilis.

While at the Center, Louise's organizational

skills and enthusiasm helped "birth" our Turtle Tracks newsletter, the Florida Flavors Cookbook and annual, very popular Kitchen Tour. Although Louise can no longer get

around like she once did, she is just as sharp as ever and continues to write detailed letters on important matters to politicians at all levels of government.

Louise Carnevale will be celebrating her 102nd birthday this coming November. I doubt there are many that could match her record of service to her community and country. She is definitely one in a million combining a brilliant mind and unselfish spirit – and a Lady I am proud to call my friend!

-Nancy Scott, ESC Trustee



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Congratulations to Star Miller, this year's scholarship recipient! Star is graduating from Clark Advanced Learning Center with a 5.41 weighted GPA, and will be studying marine biology in college. Star says she has always had a passion for nature, and is constantly



hiking, kayaking or exploring new areas. She's interested in anything that has to do with plants, animals, the outdoors or water. She interned at the Hobe Sound Nature Center, and loved educating visitors about Florida's natural habitat. She's also a member of Clark Eco Club, doing beach clean-ups, plant sales, and the "adopt a road" program. Star was presented with her scholarship at the May Environmental Studies Council Trustees' meeting, where she shared her plans and passion for conservation with Council Trustees. We wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavours!



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) 219-1887 x 121
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.

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Many thanks to  **southeastern**
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 **for printing Turtle Tracks and using Green Ink**

From the desk of the President

As the school year comes to a close, the focus at the Environmental Studies Center has turned to summer camp. Camp at the Center has been a staple within the community for decades. Many children first attend the Center as elementary school students and eagerly return for a full week of adventure in the summer. When they are too old to attend, many continue to participate by becoming counselors in training and then fully fledged camp counselors. With their interest in the environment sparked by those many weeks at summer camp, a few have even gone off to college and returned as environmental scientists.

The Environmental Studies Council is excited to support summer camp each year by providing 20 camp scholarships to students who show a true passion for the sciences and the environment. The camp scholarship recipients are selected by the teachers at their respective schools. The scholarships are underwritten by generous donations from the Jensen Beach Garden Club, donations from the Youth Driven Cinema program, and individual donors. This year, we are excited to announce that the scholarship awarded to the Murray Middle School student has been renamed the Michael Chatham Memorial Scholarship, in memory of the former Center Administrator and Murray Middle teacher. The Perry J. Cohen Foundation has donated an additional 20 need-based scholarships, providing an amazing opportunity for children who otherwise wouldn't have been able to attend summer camp.

At almost every Center event, I hear a new story about what an amazing time someone had while attending summer camp. It is incredible the impact that a single week spent fishing, seining, snorkeling, and learning about our local environment can have on a person's life. Each camper is given the opportunity to learn more about their world while making new friends and having fun. I know that this year's group of campers will continue the Center tradition of having a great time while learning environmental stewardship.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful summer,
Cody Mott

Did Your Membership Expire?

Have 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
or call 772-219-1887 x 121.**

Michael Chatham Camp Scholarship

Denise Chatham presented the first-ever Michael Chatham Camp Scholarship to Brandon Renfro, a Murray Middle School sixth grader, for a weeklong ESC summer camp experience in memory of her husband. The scholarship is named in memory of the former Center Administrator and life-long Martin County educator who leaves a lasting legacy for environmental education in Martin County.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER ADMINISTRATOR, MARILYN GAVITT

As the 2015-16 school year draws to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our generous supporters: The **Martin County School Board and Superintendent Laurie Gaylord**-for understanding the importance of our program and providing financial support. The **Environmental Studies Council**-once again, they've donated \$50,000 toward the cost of one teacher. Without that, we would have to cut the grade levels we serve. The Council

provides many things that enrich our programs. **TERRA (Technology, Education, Resource, & Redesign Alliance, Inc.)** for awarding us a grant of nearly \$3,000 for the second year in a row. We used the funds to purchase equipment for our sixth grade program. **Guy Harvey Foundation and Bealls Department Store**-Over \$4,000 was raised during a Guy Harvey signing event last December. We used the funds to purchase an ActivTouch panel. **Valerie Gaynor, MCSD Science Coordinator**-Valerie is a tremendous resource to our teachers. She has assisted us with data analysis and curriculum. **Pinch-a-Penny stores**-In addition to advice, they've donated a pool vacuum, circulating pump, testing equipment, and other supplies to keep Scute's tank healthy and clean. Our 12 Days of Christmas donors-**Barbara Hendry, Louise Faivre, and Pinch-a-Penny**. The families and friends of **Eleanor Small, William Daye, Geri Navitsky and Michael Chatham** for donations in memoriam. **Fintastic**-for discounts on RO water and fish food. **Integrated Telecom, Inc.**-for donating a new projector in the Green Door room. **Jersey Mike's in Jensen Beach** for sponsoring a lunch for teachers who attended a training here. **Flanigans**-for donating kid meals as prizes for our scavenger hunt during Grandparents Day. **Crowder Rods**-donated several rods for our summer camp. **Ellen Broderick**-for help in selecting native plants and giving us great advice. And of course - our volunteers **Farah Daye, Kris Kerr, and Sue Putnam**.



Council President Cody Mott presents a check for \$50,000 to the School Board for a full-time teacher at the Center



JENSEN BEACH GARDEN CLUB SUPPORTS CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Once again, we are thankful for the generous donation from the Jensen Beach Garden Club to our summer camp program! Additional students from Felix A Williams and Jensen Beach Elementary will enjoy a week long camp experience! A special thank you to garden club members, Linda Biagione, Diane Burr, Gail Rounds, and Joann Pound for stopping by the Center to present a check to Kris Kerr, scholarship chair.

Memories at the Center

Since 1972, Martin County students have been making memories at the Environmental Studies Center. Share your memories with us for a chance to be featured in the next issue of Turtle Tracks!

Nicolette Mariano holds up a sea cucumber she found on a 1998 field trip at Bathtub Beach



Counselors Nicolette Mariano, James Lauriello, and Nicole Teplitz perform a skit at camp

Wish List

The Environmental Studies Center needs your support! The Center has a current need for:

- Exhibit sponsors - help support new aquariums and exhibits in the wet lab!
- Send a child to camp for one week
- Critter food for our residents
- Charging cart for 24 small tablets

If you are interested in supporting any of the above opportunities, please contact us at info@escmc.org or by calling 772-219-1887 x121. Or stop by the Center - we'd love to see you!



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

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SUMMER 2016

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Kris Kerr named Volunteer of the Year

ESC volunteer and Council Secretary, Kris Kerr, was awarded the Martin County School District's Senior Volunteer of the Year award on Feb. 25 for her service and commitment to the Environmental Studies Center. Kris is a long-time volunteer with the Center, and as a council member, she has organized children's activities and crafts for the Center's Open House, Grandparents Day and Earth Day events. When the Center receives a new releasable sea turtle, she coordinates the naming of the turtle with the district's kindergarten teachers. She coordinates the scholarship program for the Center's summer camp to ensure that deserving children from the district's elementary and middle schools have every opportunity to experience summer camp. She also plans recognition events for the Center's staff to show the Council's appreciation for all of the hard work the staff does to educate our students. Kris even coordinates the mailing of Turtle Tracks! Thank you, Kris for all you do & congratulations on this much-deserved honor!



Superintendent Laurie Gaylord, Kris Kerr, Christa Li Roberts and Marsha Powers

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