



# TURTLE TRACKS

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES COUNCIL

FALL 2018

## ***Nathaniel Reed to be inducted in Hall of Fame***

Nathaniel Pryor Reed (July 22, 1933 - July 11, 2018) is to be memorialized in the Environmental Studies Council's Hall of Fame this January. The honor will recall the many large and small ways "Nat" Reed spoke up for the environment of Florida he came to know and love while growing up exploring the Indian River Lagoon as a boy.

After graduating college in 1955 and serving in military intelligence, Nathaniel returned to Florida and in 1967 he became environmental adviser to Governor Claude Kirk, where he helped create the Big Cypress Preserve. Called upon by President Ford, he became Assistant Secretary of Interior and was responsible for the Endangered Species Act, and the Clean Water Act (1971-1977).

He subsequently served as environmental adviser to 6 Florida governors; served 14 years on the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District; helped found 1000 Friends of Florida and was a founding member of the

Everglades Foundation.

Nathaniel has been lauded by numerous groups, a few of which include being inducted into the Everglades Coalition's Hall of Fame; named as an IFAS Distinguished Leader Award; the Dan F. Lufkin Prize for Environmental Leadership from the National Audubon Society; and the Arthur E. Marshall, Champion of the Everglades; and so many more. The Council is proud to add to Nathaniel's list of honors with his induction into the ESC Hall of Fame, which honors Martin County's heroes of the environment.

For more information on the Hall of Fame or participating in Nat Reed's induction, contact the Council at [info@escmc.org](mailto:info@escmc.org).

*'Don't be discouraged. Get angry, show up, make your voice heard, and when they ignore you, make it louder the next time.'* - Nat Reed

## **Thank you for attending our Open House!**



microscopes, examined animal habitats and Joey the alligator greeted everyone with inquisitive eyes. Let's not forget to thank the staff, volunteers and Earth Savers for making this day such a success. Hope to see you next year!

Environmental Studies Council welcomed over 1,000 visitors on October 6th for our annual Open House. Weather was beautiful and HOT! Luna the sea turtle was possibly the coolest of them all splashing in her sparkling tank. Ooohs and aahhhhs were heard throughout the Wet Lab as children and adults enjoyed marine life up close and personal with our touch tanks. Facepainting by River Kidz and arts and crafts kept little ones busy and having fun. "We were so excited to see everyone enjoying the many treasures here at ESC," said Co-Chair Mary Radabaugh. Teachers were on deck to explain and describe the various classrooms...visitors peered through



***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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## From the desk of the President

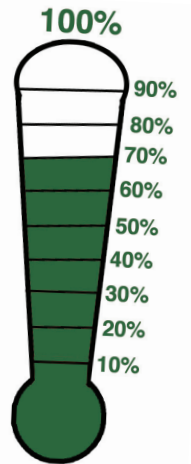
**E**xciting news from the Council! We are well on our way to a renovated Red Door room at the Center! Thanks to support from our members and community sponsors, including the Martin County Community Foundation, Seacoast Bank, National Save the Sea Turtle Foundation and Ecological Associates, Inc, the Environmental Studies Center will begin renovations this winter.

But of course, we still have a ways to go! As many Martin County School District alumni can attest to, the education gained at the Center is unforgettable and long-lasting. I will never forget my trips to the Center as a child, where science (my worst subject) suddenly made sense and came to life. I look forward to the day when my now 3-month-old son will have the opportunity to learn the same valuable lessons and take advantage of the future hands-on, experiential learning exhibit in the Red Door Room. The new classroom will bring to life our local habitats, and donations small and large will help make the new classroom a reality.

The timing of this project couldn't be more perfect, as we also look forward to inducting local environmental hero, Nathaniel Reed, into our Hall of Fame this January. Nathaniel Reed worked tirelessly to protect the environment, including many of the habitats that will be highlighted in the new red door room exhibit. The exhibit will focus on terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems found both locally and throughout Florida. Students will learn about the importance of pine flat woods and scrub habitat for animals like gopher tortoises and scrub jays. The Hobe Sound Wildlife Refuge, created in part using lands donated by the Reed family, contains both pine flatwoods and scrub habitat and is accessible to Martin County students.

The new exhibit will also cover the importance of freshwater marshes and the Everglades to animals such as American Alligator. Nat Reed worked to protect both the land and animals in the habitats through his work as a public servant. In the 1960s, he worked to protect the Big Cypress Swamp from development and drafted the Endangered Species Act in the 1970s. Today, the American Alligator is thriving because of the protection it received under the Endangered Species Act.

We have much to celebrate this fall and winter at the Center, and are so grateful to supporters for making this dream a reality. If you'd like to make a donation to help us meet our total fundraising goal of \$50,000 to fully fund the new Red Door Room exhibit, you can donate online at [escmc.org](http://escmc.org), call 772-219-1887, or drop me a note at [kwasernash@gmail.com](mailto:kwasernash@gmail.com). I'd love to hear from you and discuss more how this project will benefit future generations of Martin County students.



*Our fundraising completion to date of the Red Door Project*

Sincerely,  
Kim Waser Nash



## BIOLOGY CORNER

by Kara Muzia

It's fall in Martin County, and while we may not get the signature colorful leaf changes that our northern neighbors see, we do have our own Floridian version of the season: The Fall Mullet Run.

Walking out onto our local beaches, particularly during the month of September, could lead to a show on par with National Geographic. Every year thousands of white and striped mullet make their way south. Dark rivers of fish are plainly visible from the beach as they cruise the coastline. Our students have encountered them in the river, crashing onto the surface...it is quite a sight to see firsthand.

Scientists who have studied this phenomenon believe that these fish are migrating from Georgia where they've spent their spring and summers growing. Now, the fish seek out the warmer Florida waters for spawning. The results of this natural impulse are huge schools of fish migrating right off our coast. This doesn't go unnoticed by other inhabitants of the sea. Tarpon, sharks, jacks and even birds will dive into the fray, creating a feeding frenzy. As they cut through the schools of mullet, their prey quickly take to the air creating quite the spectacle from the shore.

Next time you are at the beach or river, be sure to be on the lookout for nature's annual fall show!



*Photo by Sam Wolfe*

## ARE YOU A MEMBER?

"Here! Bring the net up! Careful, make sure to keep moving. Lift the bottom poles!"

Two children wade onto shore, a net strung between them held upright by the poles clasped in their small, damp hands. As they step out the waters of the Indian River Lagoon, the students are coached by a smiling teacher and excited classmates.

Classmates and Environmental Studies Staff help pull the net out of the water and onto the beach. Fish flop and shrimp jump as the students hurriedly throw their prizes into buckets or rush them back into the water.

"Alright! Take it out, shake it out!" the ESC teachers call, and the next duo grab the net, bring it to the water, and vigorously shake the remaining critters out. Back on shore, students admire their catch, now lazily circling in buckets in the shade. "Oh that's a baby puffer fish!" one says, "We got a seahorse!" squeals another child. Some of these students would have never gotten the opportunity to seine and to see these creatures were it not for the Environmental Studies Center.

Donations and memberships help to keep the Center fully student ready- ready to show the next generation what natural treasures we have in our own backyards. Your membership to the ESC will help create lasting memories and a sense of stewardship for our environment through education and hands on learning, like the



seining trip described above.



Please renew or join the ESC today on our website [www.escmc.org](http://www.escmc.org). Memberships start at just \$25/year to join at the Loggerhead Level. You'll be helping to educate and inspire the next generation to protect our natural environment.

Thank you for your support!

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## Did Your Membership Expire?

**H**ave you renewed your membership to the Environmental Studies Council? These tax-deductible year-long memberships start at just \$25 for individuals and \$250 for businesses. Funding everything from critter food to the salary of a certified teacher, memberships directly support the educational experience presented free for ALL Martin County students. We need your support!

**To sign up, log on to [www.escmc.org](http://www.escmc.org)  
or call 772-219-1887 x 121**

## Did You Know?

- Our new alligator, Joey, is almost two months old.
- Open House was a success with over 1,000 visitors.
- New additions: "Boxer," the baby box turtle, and a soft shell turtle
- Enjoyment Books are on sale! Stop by the Center to pick up your copy.
- Save the Date for our annual fundraiser... February 22, 2019
- Over 400 children visit ESC every week!
- Luna consumes 100 grams of fish and squid daily.
- Thank you to New England Seafood and Adventure Seafood for providing clams for our critters!

## Wish List

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

- *Exhibit sponsors - help support new exhibits in the Red Door Room!*
- *Critter food for our residents*
- *Enjoyment books are on sale now! You can purchase them at the Center for only \$35 to benefit our programs.*

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



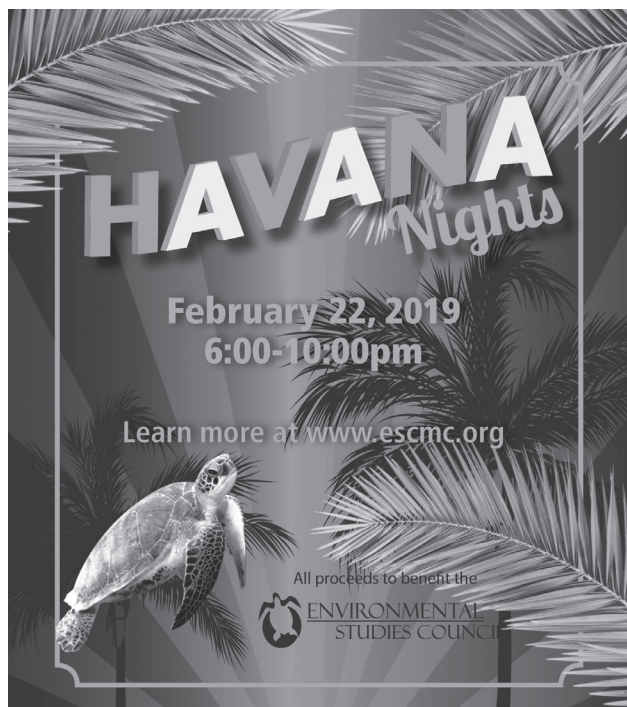
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## Save the dates! Lecture Series and Fundraising Gala



The Environmental Studies Council will be hosting its 32nd Annual Environmental Lecture Series, scheduled to kick off in January 2019. The popular lecture series, presented by the Tobacco Free Partnership of Martin County, will take place on four Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Environmental Studies Center, located at 2900 NE Indian River Drive in Jensen Beach.

The Environmental Lecture Series is **FREE** and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Stay tuned to [escmc.org](http://escmc.org) to learn all the details, and mark your calendars for January 30, February 6, February 13, and February 20.

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

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