



# TURTLE TRACKS

SUMMER 2023

## Congratulations ESC Scholarship Recipient!

The Environmental Studies Council is proud to announce this year's choice for recipient of our college scholarship: Benjamin Wetterer from Clark Advanced Learning Center!

We strive to support those Martin County students looking to study in the environmental fields and whom have already shown active, passionate participation.

Ben will be studying at Florida State University and plans to study Marine Ecology and Biology.

We are excited for Ben's future and hearing from him each year as to how he is enjoying advancing in his field!

Congratulations!!

Suzanne D. Granfield, Chairperson ESC Scholarship Committee



## Dr. Walter Stokes Environmental Science Fair Winner

Congratulations to Isabella Calhoun from Martin County High school for winning the Dr. Walter Stokes Environmental Science Fair Award, presented by council member Jeff Guertin and MCHS Biology teacher, Shannon Parks.

## In Loving Memory of Jody Bond Smith

October 25, 1942 – January 7, 2023

Jody Bond-Smith was a champion of children and always said "yes" when asked to help. She was a founding member of Hibiscus House and the Children's Services Council, elected Martin County School Board member and worked to advance Exceptional Childhood education in Martin County. Her work with Soroptimist International helped provide scholarships and other services to many worthy young people.

We celebrate Jody's dedication to the Environmental Studies Center and to our Council. She was a trustee for almost 20 years and served as President. She was a driving force in the reorganization of the Council to the well-run entity it is today. She had a core belief in the mission of the Center to provide environmental education to all Martin County students and was beyond generous in her ongoing support for the ESC.

We are thankful for the vision and dedication that Jody brought to the ESC and to our community.



**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.

### Board of Trustees

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Office Manager: Jessica Darden

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Valerie Gaynor, Coordinator  
Heather Arnold      Michelle Fowler  
Brook Bullock      Capt. John Vanilla  
Charlie Carr

### Center Staff

Anita Mattia      Mike Glynn

## From the desk of the President

I am pleased to share with you all that this spring has been nothing short of amazing and productive for the center!

As the current President of the Environmental Studies Center Council I am truly honored to work with a magnificent team of individuals. I'd like to begin with a resounding thank you to our current coordinator Valerie Gaynor. Valerie works tirelessly to represent the center and promote environmental awareness. She spearheaded a grant project with our team and through application submission to presentation, she shined. So much so, that the Martin County Impact 100 awarded the Council \$100,000 for our improvement plans. With this amazing gift we plan to make some necessary updates to the center creating a more welcome and safer environment for our biodiverse habitat. Can you envision an air-conditioned wet lab? Thank you Valerie!

Next I would like to acknowledge Kaija Mayfield, Tricia Rastrelli, Misty Aydelotte, and Lindsey Potter for coordinating our 50th Anniversary celebration. What an amazing event! Whether you attended in person, or participated in the Center's online auction we are truly thankful for your contributions. I would also like to recognize Ann and Knight Kiplinger for hosting the event at their historic Bay Tree Lodge on Sewall's Point. This property is part of Martin County history and showcases our waterway and surrounding environment. Another brief thank you to our amazing community of donors and local artists who contributed to the auction. We had a great fundraiser and have kicked off 2023 as a financially successful year! I am impressed and motivated to continue this work and partner with each of you in our community. If you have yet to follow us on social media, please do so as we regularly share upcoming events such as open house and grandparents' day. We also include updates on our exhibits and animals as well as opportunities to contribute!

Sincerely,  
Coltin Radabaugh

## Did Your Membership Expire?

Have you renewed your membership to the Environmental Studies Council? We need your support!

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

# EXCITING SPRING FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES COUNCIL!

By Jackie Holfelder

It's been a spectacular two months at the Environmental Studies Center, thanks to the hard work of the 501(c) (3) that supports it, the Environmental Studies Council. On March 29, the Council learned that it was awarded a \$100,000 grant from Impact100 Martin for its Wet Lab Revitalization. Then, on April 1, months of hard work culminated in a successful gala that celebrated the Center's 50th anniversary and netted over \$110,000.

Key sponsors included Ann & Knight Kiplinger, M.E.'s Team, Seacoast Bank, FPL and Kay Sutton. The 140 attendees enjoyed a buffet dinner, tours of the Bay Tree Lodge property in Sewall's Point, music, and live and silent auctions.

Proceeds will be used to fund capital improvements including the Wet Lab Revitalization, as well as assist with the Council's regular expenses of a teacher's salary, community education and outreach, and boat-related expenses.



## Thank You To Our Sponsors!

### Red Door Title Sponsors



**M.E.'s TEAM**  
Changing lives through teamwork.

**Ann and Knight Kiplinger**

### Orange Door Sponsor



### Green Door Sponsors



**Kay Sutton**



### Yellow Door Sponsors



**Tricia and Chris Rastrelli**



**Nic Mader**

**Jane Buss**

**The Butterscotts**



### Wet Lab Sponsors



**Gene & Judy Van Curen**



**Patty Henderson**



### Turtle Tank Sponsors



**Juris & Candy Krumins**



**Cynthia Hauser**

## Volunteer of the Year Awards

Our volunteers are THE BEST! Thank you for your countless hours and love for the ESC! Cory Carter, Mary Pullen Radabaugh, and Mia Fowler! Also thank you to Snook Nook our business partner of the year!



## Knight Kiplinger Tour

Thank you to Ann and Knight Kiplinger for their generous sponsorship of our 50th Anniversary fundraiser, hosted at the Historic Bay Tree Lodge in Sewall's Point.



## Spring Open House

A huge thank you to our volunteers, vendors, and Center Staff for a successful Spring Open House at the Center! Visitors explored the Wet Labs, visited Coral the Sea Turtle and Joey the Alligator, and enjoyed special displays from Jonathan Dickinson State Park, Treasure Coast Wildlife, the Garden Club of Stuart, River Kidz, H2O Kids and so much more!

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Non-Profit  
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## Welcome Mike Glynn!

The newest addition to our ESC family is Mike Glynn. Florida born and raised in Coral Gables FL/South Dade County. Mike is the youngest of 13 in his family. Mike and his wife Kathy are proud parents of 2 young women. Martin County Schools and sports helped raise their kids, especially being a part of the South Fork High School Volleyball State Championship and the lacrosse team. Oldest daughter Lindsay graduated and as a Student-Athlete playing volleyball at IRSC and Flagler College. Caroline will be graduating from UF Honors in May and has been active in different groups and the community.

Prior to starting at the ESC, Mike was in commercial landscape and irrigation industry and tree farming for 40 plus years. He is a consistent volunteer in the community also serving on the Board of Directors of The Indian River Keeper Organization.

We are thrilled to welcome Mike aboard our little crew and he jumped right in and made a splash. He brings an immense amount of passion and knowledge to our staff, as he is a State of Florida Licensed Irrigation Contractor, Certified Arborist and bonafide Tree Hugger who is proud, happy and honored to be part of the ESC Team helping to support the mission of teaching and helping our kids be aware of our natural environments and treasures.



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