

## Maggy Hurchalla inducted into the Hall of Fame



Maggy Hurchalla was born in 1940 in Coral Gables, Florida and witnessed the damage that accompanied Miami/Dade's unbridled development. While raising her family in Martin County, she saw a beautiful 650 acre parcel on Hutchinson Island sold to a developer instead of being put into conservation. This spurred her to run for the Martin County Commission in 1974, a position she famously held for 20 years. Maggy Hurchalla was a pioneer for responsible growth and protection of the environment. Later, she served on the 1994 "Governor's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida" that laid the foundation for today's Central Everglades Restoration Plan. Her knowledge of the St. Lucie River/Indian River Lagoon inspired the next fighting generation. Maggy Hurchalla's name is synonymous with the "Martin County Difference" and her legacy lives on in, and beyond Martin County.

Maggy passed away on February 29, 2022. She was inducted into the Environmental Studies Center Hall of Fame on May 8, 2024.

Maggy rallied so many around a vision that was intertwined with the way she led her life. It was rooted in her deeply, her belief in protecting our wetlands and waterways and safeguarding Florida's last remaining green spaces.

Maggy truly was a force of nature, and a force for nature.

From her son, George...  
In her honor, blaze a trail. Push yourself through something terrifying. Find a magic secret passage in the mangroves. Learn a new plant name. Live like Maggy.



*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

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As we approach the summer break, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable achievements of our community and share our excitement for the upcoming months.

First and foremost, I am thrilled to report that our recent fundraiser gala at Rockin H Ranch was a resounding success. The evening was filled with joy, laughter, and a shared commitment to supporting our local education system. I want to thank Rockin H Ranch, Marcia Hendry, Gary Hendry, and Misty Aydelotte for the great event. Also thank you to everyone else who was involved.

Thank you also to all those who attended our recent Spring Celebration at the Center, especially our Council volunteers, the Earth Savers Crew, Center staff, and the many terrific vendors who made the day possible.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly preparing for the summer camps at the Environmental Studies Center. These camps offer a unique opportunity for our children to engage with nature, develop new skills, and foster a deep appreciation for the environment. We are committed to providing a safe, enriching, and memorable experience for all participants.

I also encourage you to sign up for a Sea Turtle Walk with the Council this summer. Sign ups are available online at [www.escmc.org](http://www.escmc.org).

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication. Together, we are making a difference in our community. Wishing you all a wonderful summer break filled with relaxation, adventure, and joy.

Sincerely,  
Coltin Radabaugh

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## 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

## Thank you!

*Thank you to Robert Ernst who made a generous donation to our floating classroom, the River Scout, in honor of his wife Margot, who passionately served as both a teacher and environmental activist. And to the Bob and Ralf Massey Foundation and Joann Cutler for their generous donation to the River Scout as well, we truly appreciate the generosity from all of you!*

## Students making a difference

**C**ongratulations to Freshman Aahan Asthana from South Fork High School for receiving the Dr. Walter Stokes Environmental Science Fair Award!

The Environmental Studies Council is proud to announce our 2024 choice for receiving our college scholarship!

This year's recipient is Gretchen Howe from Clark Advanced Learning Center! We proudly support those Martin County students looking to study in the Environmental and Marine Science fields and who have already shown active and passionate participation. Gretchen's career choice is to be a Biologist and is pursuing her MS in Biology and BS in Environmental Science. She plans to pursue conservation biology, specifically. Gretchen was accepted to Florida Gulf Coast University. We are proud to support Gretchen's next phase of her continued education. We look forward to hearing from her each year in how her future is shaping and about college life.



Congratulations Gretchen Howe!

## THANK YOU TO OUR BEACH TO BARN SPONSORS!

InWater Research Group, Inc.	City, LLC	Oral-Facial Surgical Associates	Indiantown Realty, Kevin Powers
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Grand Oaks of Jensen Beach, LLC	Kevin and Patty Henderson	Chapman Capital Advisors	Nicole Mader
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## Turtle Walks

Sign up for this summer's Turtle Walks on Tuesday June 18th or Tuesday June 25th

The link to sign up is live on our website!

[www.escmc.org](http://www.escmc.org)

## In Memoriam

Delores Smith  
6/20/44-7/20/23

A longtime volunteer at the ESC whose service was greatly appreciated.

## Wish List

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

- Batteries
- Foaming Hand Soap
- Paper Towels
- Sun Bum or Reef Safe Sunscreen
- Pool Skimming Net
- Large Air Compressor

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!

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

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## A new home for Oscar

Lauren Kelly, a 15-year-old life scout and founder of Troop 4832, has shown remarkable dedication to wildlife conservation through her Eagle Project. Her passion for animals and the environment led her to undertake the ambitious task of constructing a 16x12 foot snapping turtle enclosure for Oscar, a 50-year-old alligator snapping turtle residing at the Environmental Studies Center. Despite her age, Lauren's leadership skills shone brightly as she coordinated volunteers and garnered community support to bring her vision to life. With meticulous planning and hard work, the project was completed successfully, providing Oscar with a safe and spacious habitat where he can thrive.



Today, thanks to Lauren's efforts, Oscar enjoys a new home that meets his physical needs and provides essential enrichment. Lauren's Eagle Project serves as a testament to the power of youth activism and the profound impact one person can have on their community and the environment. As she continues her journey, Lauren serves as an inspiration to her peers, demonstrating that age is no barrier to making a tangible difference in the world. With her unwavering commitment to wildlife conservation, Lauren is paving the way for a brighter future where both humans and animals can coexist harmoniously.

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