

# The Wildlife Center Project

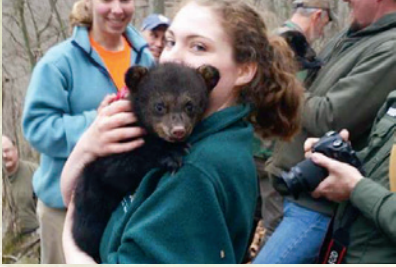
TOM RIDGE AND JULIAN WETLANDS | PORT MATILDA, PA







The mission of the  
Wildlife for Everyone Foundation  
is to promote wildlife conservation  
and education in Pennsylvania.



## The Wildlife for Everyone Foundation

The Wildlife for Everyone Foundation provides all wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts with a way to show their commitment through much-needed financial support for wildlife conservation efforts and education. Founded in 2004, the Foundation was organized to support important habitat and other critical projects that were in need of funding. Since its inception, the Foundation has raised millions of dollars to support projects including

wildlife and wetland habitat improvements, creek and lake restorations, the Seedlings for Schools program and student educational opportunities. The Foundation is committed to maintaining habitat for the 480 species of birds and mammals in addition to the fisheries in the Commonwealth. The Wildlife for Everyone Foundation endeavors to be the leading advocate for wildlife conservation in Pennsylvania.



## History of Bald Eagle Wetland Mitigation Site

The WHM Group, a multi-discipline company committed to delivering environmental resource solutions, was hired by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to construct a replacement wetland on property just west of State College in response to environmental disruption caused by the creation of Interstate 99 in central Pennsylvania. The Bald Eagle Wetland Mitigation Site, the first of its kind in Pennsylvania, was selected based on the property's ability to support wetlands as determined by an examination of hydrology and soils, as well as other environmental and non-environmental factors.

As part of its agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, The WHM Group gifted the wetlands site to a non-profit organization that would serve as a good steward of the property. In 2010, The WHM Group donated more than 135 acres

of land along Bald Eagle Creek—including 55 acres of wetlands it created—and gave a \$50,000 maintenance fund to the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation.

“We looked at a lot of different places for a non-profit to serve as a caretaker for the property, and there are a lot of good non-profits out there,” said Michael Schaul, president of The WHM Group. “But we selected the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation because of its mission to promote wildlife conservation and education that will teach kids the kinds of things that are necessary to continue the stewardship of our wildlife and our environment.”

Upon acquisition of the property, the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation dedicated the land to honorary board member and former Pennsylvania governor, Tom Ridge.




**NEW WILDLIFE CENTER PROJECT**

**Our goal is to create a world-class,  
fully accessible, outdoor learning space and  
nature observatory that offers everyone  
an opportunity to connect with nature.**

*Accessible Board Walk*




A white egret stands in a shallow wetland, surrounded by green grasses and water. The background is a dense, out-of-focus green field.

***The Tom Ridge and Julian Wetlands provide important stopover habitat and a great place for birders to hear and see some of the uncommon birds that move through Pennsylvania.***

**MARGARET BRITTINGHAM**

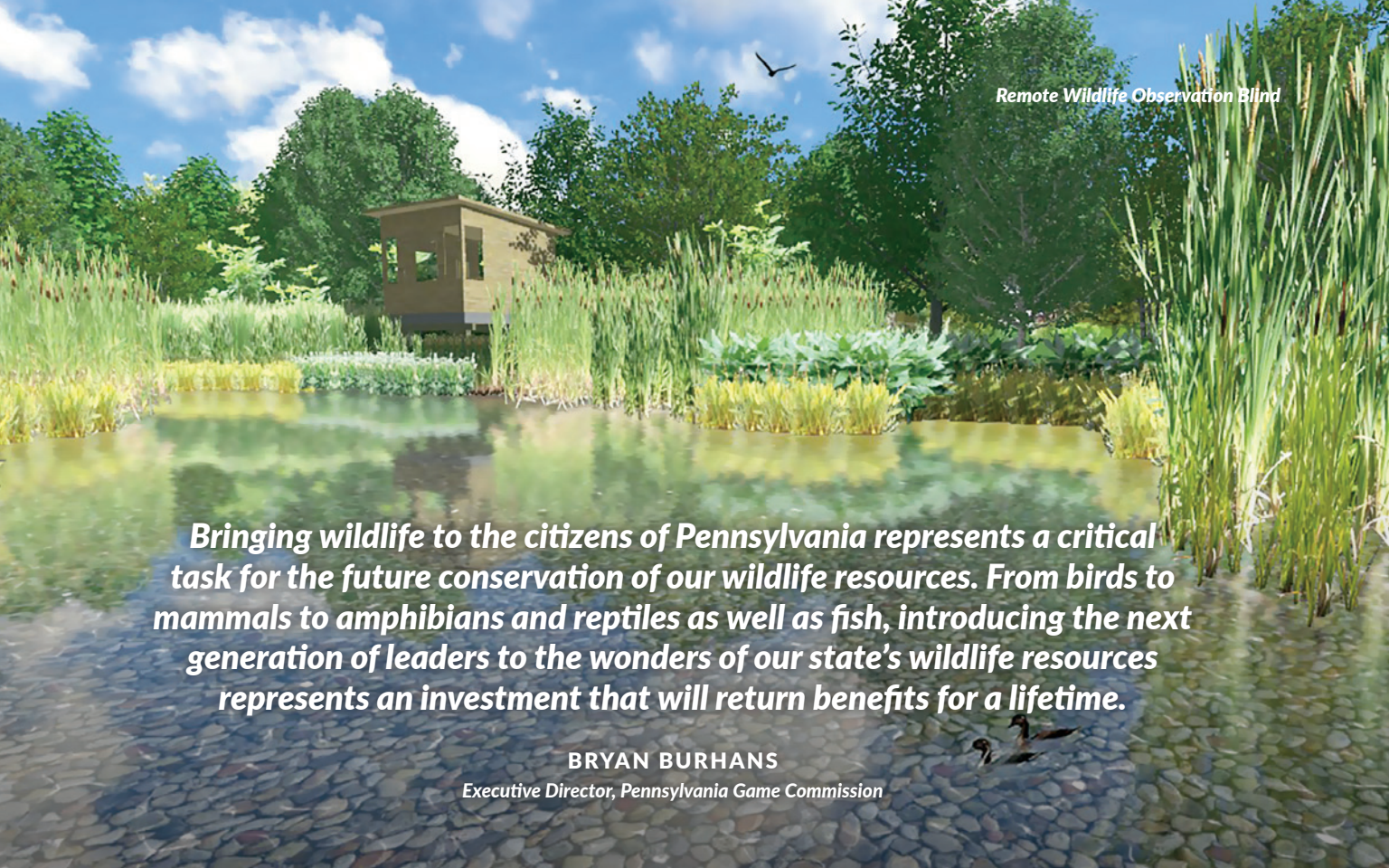
*Leading Ornithologist and Professor of Wildlife Resources, Penn State University*



***Too often we take for granted the restorative aspects of spending time in the great outdoors. Studies show those who can benefit from it the most often are kept inside due to physical limitations that make getting out and connecting with nature difficult. By creating a trail and wildlife center that is accessible for everyone, the Wildlife for Everyone Foundation addresses this issue. This mile-long accessible trail will be a national model and I am very proud to support it and promote wildlife conservation in Pennsylvania.***

**STATE SENATOR JAKE CORMAN**





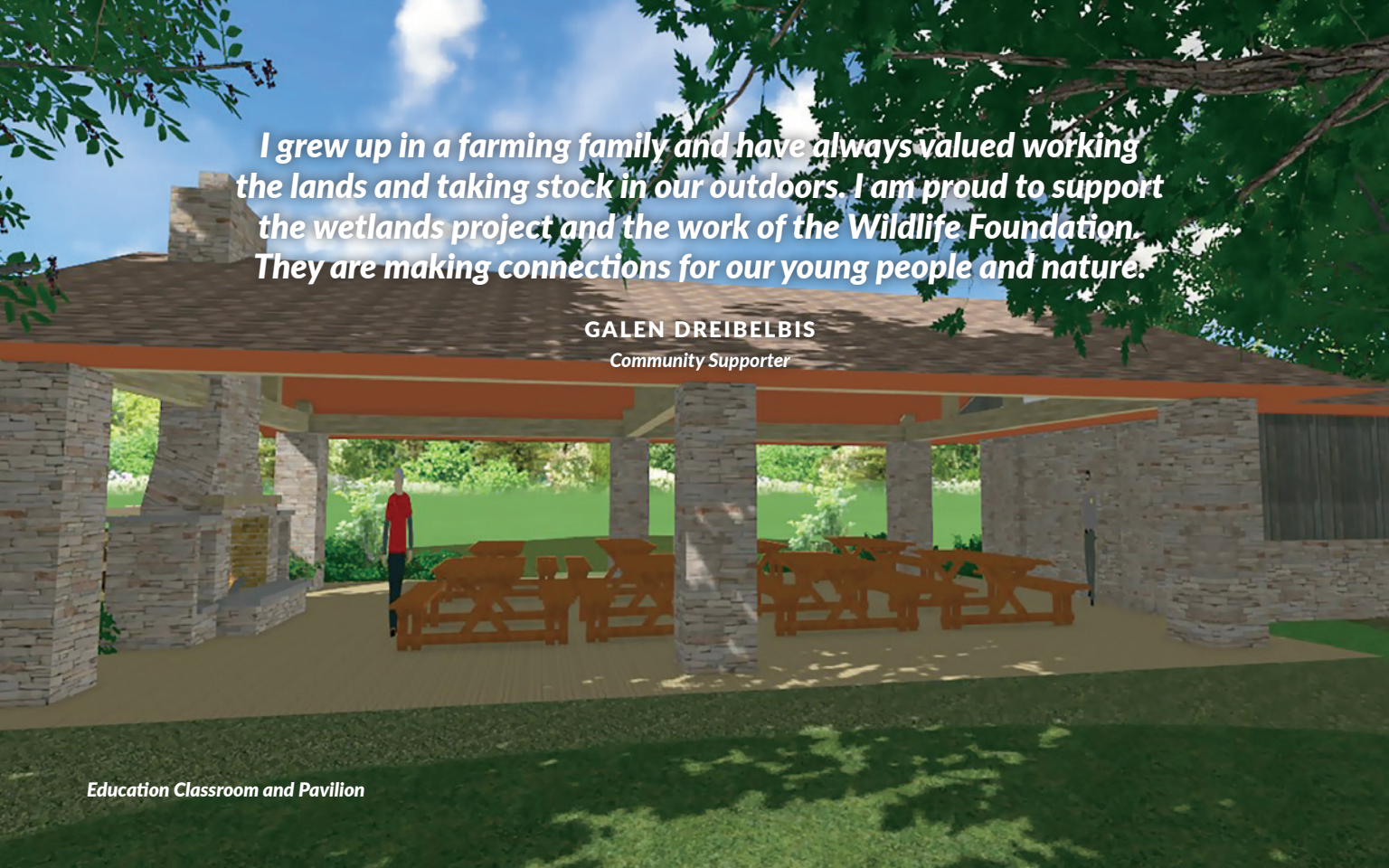
*Remote Wildlife Observation Blind*

***Bringing wildlife to the citizens of Pennsylvania represents a critical task for the future conservation of our wildlife resources. From birds to mammals to amphibians and reptiles as well as fish, introducing the next generation of leaders to the wonders of our state's wildlife resources represents an investment that will return benefits for a lifetime.***

**BRYAN BURHANS**

*Executive Director, Pennsylvania Game Commission*



A 3D architectural rendering of a large, open-air pavilion. The structure features a gabled roof with a dark brown shingle finish and a prominent stone chimney on the left side. The walls and pillars are constructed from light-colored, stacked stone. The interior is furnished with several wooden picnic tables. A person in a red shirt and dark pants stands in the center of the pavilion, looking towards the camera. The pavilion is situated on a grassy lawn under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. Large green trees frame the top and right sides of the image.

*I grew up in a farming family and have always valued working the lands and taking stock in our outdoors. I am proud to support the wetlands project and the work of the Wildlife Foundation. They are making connections for our young people and nature.*

**GALEN DREIBELBIS**

*Community Supporter*

*Education Classroom and Pavilion*



*Accessible Fishing and Observation Area*

***This is our signature property for people of all ages from across the Commonwealth to come and experience our rich outdoor heritage. I want to thank all the people who have supported us and our board, which is 100% behind this project.***

**RUSS SCHLEIDEN**

*Board Chairman, Wildlife For Everyone Foundation*



# The Wildlife Center Project

***We need your help!***

Your donations will help us make this a reality.

Please contact Wildlife for Everyone Foundation

President Jerry Regan:

**(814) 238-8138**

**[jregan@wildlifeforeveryone.org](mailto:jregan@wildlifeforeveryone.org)**





**Wildlife for Everyone Foundation**

341 Science Park Road, Suite 103

State College, PA 16803-2287

(814) 238-8138

[info@wildlifeforeveryone.org](mailto:info@wildlifeforeveryone.org)

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



*Wildlife Center architectural illustrations by John Otterson.  
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