

Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Center

VOLUME 19, NO. 2

FALL 2013

The Mission of TWREC

Our mission is to help Pennsylvania wildlife by

- Caring for injured, orphaned or ill wildlife in order to enable their return to the wild
- Promotion appreciation and understanding of wildlife through education.

Admissions

At present time Tamarack is able to admit birds of prey, adult seed eating small birds, opossums and turtles. This is subject to change depending on case load. For more information call 814-763-2574.

Hours

September to May
By appointment

Newsletter Now Available by Email

Would you prefer to receive this newsletter electronically rather than get a paper copy? Contact the center by mail or phone to let us know your preference and we will add you to our electronic mailing list. This preference can also be noted on your membership form.



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

Official registration and financial information of T.W.R.E.C. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within PA: 1.800.732.0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.

Long Lost Treasure Found in Erie



Peregrine Fledgling

By Kristine Steiner

Getting a call about an injured falcon is not an unusual thing in the summertime. We expect the injured bird to be an American Kestrel, PA's smallest and most common falcon, which is what we were anticipating one day when Joe and Denise, Tamarack volunteers, arrived with a large box. Confused as to why a kestrel would need such a large box, I looked inside and was shocked to find a fledgling Peregrine falcon! This bird had been transported from Erie and my mind put two and two together quickly; if there was a fledgling Peregrine in Erie, then there were Peregrine parents with an active nest!

This was an exciting discovery because Peregrines are still considered endangered in PA and have never been documented

nesting in northwestern PA. Due to the toxic effects of DDT causing thinning of their eggshells, by 1960 all Peregrines east of the Rocky Mountains had died out and were considered extinct in PA. Officially listed as Federal Endangered Species in 1972, a reintroduction program was begun and by the spring of this year, there were 39 known nests in the state. None in our area. Two Peregrines had been seen in Erie the previous two springs performing courtship behavior near the Blasco library but

then disappeared. It was assumed that they had decided to not nest in Erie and had moved on. However, here was a Peregrine fledgling right in front of me!

An exam of the young female showed no injuries. She had most likely been practicing flight and simply landed in a bad location. She would be best reunited with her parents so I called the original finder, a manager at DonJon Shipbuilders on the Erie bayfront. He explained that he had been watching this pair raise their baby and had not realized what a treasure they were. The nest was about 100 feet up on a wall inside their building and the parents were controlling the pigeon and gull population. An opening on one end of the enormous building allowed the birds to

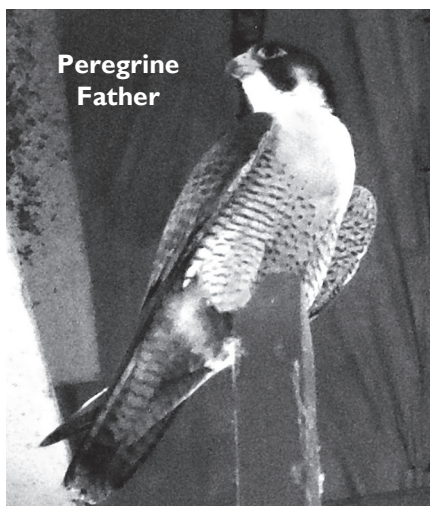
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come and go at will. The workers had been enjoying their aerial acrobatics for several months. They were all concerned when the fledgling was found on the floor of a ship they were working on, so they sent her to Tamarack and were now excited she could be returned.

News of this magnitude spreads quickly and by the time I arrived at DonJon a couple of hours later, I was met by the press, the PA Game Commission, and members of the local Audubon Society. All eyes were on a group of three people, myself included, as we climbed stairs that led to a platform about 80 feet up while this bird's daddy watched. The young bird was placed on the platform and immediately began vocalizing to her father, who in turn vocalized back to her. There were many smiles as the two reunited.

A couple of weeks later the manager confirmed the parents were teaching the fledgling to fly and hunt and were still seen daily. Now that officials know where the nest is, future nestlings will be banded so it will be possible to track the young that this nest produces. We are excited to have united this endangered bird with her parents, and to have helped discover the first Peregrine nest in Erie.



Summer into Fall at the Center: A Wild Time!

It's been a wild season! This summer and fall we've seen rare patients and a high caseload. In May an Osprey (threatened species) was treated. These elegant, highstrung birds are among the most difficult to rehabilitate but ours was successfully released. June brought us a fledgling Peregrine falcon (endangered species) leading to the discovery of the first ever nest in northwestern PA (see page 1 story). A beautiful and uncommon Map Turtle (species of Special Concern) was admitted with shell fractures. She will be cared for overwinter. The Union City tornado blew down two 56 day old eaglets (threatened species) from their nest. The male eaglet was released this fall, while his permanently disabled sister was placed at a zoo in DE once healthy. July brought us a Merlin falcon nestling. There are less than five Merlin nests in our state, so it was the first time we'd treated a Merlin nestling. Happily our Merlin resident raptor "Jedi" was an excellent foster mother until the baby was old enough for release. In late summer, a gorgeous light-colored leucistic Red-tailed received surgery for her broken wing. And as I write, an unusual white Red-tailed Hawk is in treatment for injuries sustained from being caught in a leg-hold trap. It is a privilege to treat each one of these amazing creatures.

Starting with extra early owlets in February, it was a busy baby season with many Screech-Owlets and Kestrels reunited with their families, and the rest raised at the center. It was a big year for opossums: 49 orphans were raised and released. Late summer brought admissions of birds with West Nile Virus, especially Great Horned Owls, Red-tails and crows. As the seasons turn, thankfully admissions are beginning to slow. Some young Red-tails injured late in the season, and two turtles that need extended healing time are among those that will be wintered over until spring.



A big "thank you" to Larry Slomski for constructing a new songbird aviary, and to Terry Lobdell for donation of the lumber. Thank you to all our onsite volunteers, dispatchers and medics for your outstanding service to wildlife!

Thank you to our summer and fall helpers: summer interns Abby Hileman, Christian Hrinda, Nickie McGaughey, Rachel Payer; volunteer weekend supervisors Grey Whittney, Amanda DiCola, Caitlin Bemis; Allegheny College Bonner leader Josh Sadler, volunteers Courtney Alderman, Joel Laird, Ginny and Darry Buttrely, Martha Consola, Mary Haines, David Roach, Larry and Linda Slomski, Martha and Bob Sterba, Jessica Williams, and Allegheny College students Emily Beyers, Sarah Durrer, Mary Eddins, Kasey Hinkle, David Hinzman, Julia Scherer, Jessica Schombert, Kathleen Macie, Leeann Streshenkoff, Danielle Thieman, and Lara Stein.

Thank you to our wildlife medics: Joe Goertz, Gina Kron, Dave Roach, Sarah Sargent and Jessica Williams.

Our Wildlife Emergency Dispatchers, coordinated by Bob Hartman are: Jean Beach, Joe Goertz, Mary Halko, Bill Herlihy, Rhonda Hinrichs, Julie Hirt, Denise Hudson, Marc John, Gina Kron, Jane Levin, Roberta McCall, Barb Mitchell-Stull, Parks Swartzfager, and Lila Sweeny.



**Juvenile Bald
Eagle Release**



**Osprey
Release**



Orphaned Opossums



Female Eaglet from blown-down nest



**Barred
Owl
Release**



Wildlife Prints Supporting Wildlife

Award winning wildlife photographer Larry Slomski has generously made available a selection of prints on Tamarack's website, including raptors, songbirds, landscapes, waterfowl and mammals. The photos make great gifts for yourself or a loved one and can be ordered online for a donation of \$20. Each frameable print comes in a protective clear cover with a foam board backing and a certificate stating a donation has been made to support wildlife rehabilitation. All proceeds support the rehabilitation of wildlife. Check it out at www.tamarackwildlife.com

From the President's Perch

By Sarah Sargent

It has been an exciting summer and fall at the Center! It's hard to sum it all up. We've had a busy year so far with over 300 patients admitted already, more than in recent years. And 12 threatened or endangered species treated. Our annual Open House on October 20th welcomed 336 visitors! It was a wonderful event. Many thanks to everyone who came and to the 30 volunteers who hosted! We enjoyed showing off our new resident screech owl, Jasper, and all our education raptors. Sadly we lost our beloved Great Horned Owl in September.

The fine work of Tamarack and our rehabilitators is featured in a new documentary: "Pennsylvania Bald Eagles, Celebrating 30 Years of Restoration", released by the Game Commission this summer. We hope to bring a showing of the film to northwest Pennsylvania in the near future. We'll be sure to let you know about it.

This summer we established an endowment fund: the "Suzanne B. DeArment Fund for Wildlife" at the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation. This will help us continue to operate long into the future, and of course honors our longtime Director, Sue. If you are interested in making a donation to this fund, please let us know. Also, planned giving can be a wonderful way to support wildlife. We are happy to help with wording if you choose to include Tamarack in your will.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful group of board members right now. I want to thank each of them for their energy and dedication, which is allowing us to thrive and grow, so that Tamarack can better serve the wildlife of northwestern PA. Thank you!

Jasper: A Precious Gem



Meet Tamarack's newest education raptor: "Jasper", a handsome red phase Eastern Screech-Owl.

Found injured in the middle of a country road in April, Jasper was brought to the center for treatment. Unreleasable due to vision and hearing loss, he needed surgical removal of a damaged eye, but is now healthy and vigorous. With all the necessary permits in place, this striking red bird joins six other education hawks, falcons and owls, including the grey phase Screech-Owl "Willow".

Chosen from over 200 suggested names, "Jasper"

was submitted by the Seton School's Daisy Girl Scout Troop. The gemstone red Jasper has a color similar to the owl's feathers and is considered to offer protection from the hazards of the night.

For those interested in meeting this handsome bird in person, information about scheduling an education program for your group is on the Center's website, or call the center at 814-763-2574.

In Memory of Ick-a-Bobbet

Our beloved education Great Horned Owl, Ick-a-Bobbet, passed away from kidney failure at the age of 16 in September. We are grateful to have known this special bird and for all the lives she touched. We will miss her hooting conversations, how she loved the wind in her feathers, and the way she leaned into us while on the glove. Young and old were awed by her magnificence, her silent wings, and loved her hooting call.



2014 Wildlife First Responders Course

Have you ever wished you'd known how to handle a wildlife emergency? A hawk hit by a car on a roadside? Ducklings stranded away from their mother? Back by popular demand, a Wildlife First Responder course will be held late February to early March.

This course will teach you when to intervene and when not to, and how to capture, stabilize and transport injured birds. Participants have gone on to become dispatchers, transporters, onsite volunteers and board members, in addition to learning how to respond when they find wildlife in need. The class will run for three weeks: Tuesdays February 18, 25 and March 4 from 6:30-8:30pm in Edinboro. Plan to attend all three classes. Cost is \$25 and includes a workbook. Registration information will be available on the website, or call the center (814-763-2574). Previous participants are welcome to attend for review at no cost, but should register.



Screech Owlet before being reunited with its family

Owl release



Red-tailed Hawks in flight building for pre-release conditioning

New Members and Contributors

Note: Membership levels have been renamed to celebrate the species we treat.

GOLDEN EAGLE \$1000+

- William DeArment – Meadville, PA

PEREGRINE/ERMINE \$500+

- Beth Dubik – Erie, PA
- Barbara Johns – Girard, PA
- Presque Isle Audubon Society – Erie, PA
- Robert & Penelope Scott – Fairfax, PA

GREAT HORNED OWL/SILVER FOX \$100+

- Sheila & Jim Bain - Erie, PA
- Susan Ann Barry - Erie, PA
- Glenda Bond - Erie, PA
- Diana Boone - Girard, PA
- Bill & Jane Campbell - Cambridge Springs, PA
- Phillip & Cynthia Chase - Laurel, MD
- Charles & Mary Chatfield - Springfield, OH
- Sharon Davenport - Erie, PA
- Kurt & Adair Decker - Erie, PA
- Mike DeCorte - Fairview, PA
- Deborah DiPlacido - Erie, PA
- Edinboro Industries, Inc.
- Erie Cage Bird Club, Ron and Linda Steele - Erie, PA
- John Fox - Meadville, PA
- Marti & Frank Germick - Meadville, PA
- Faith Heath - Erie, PA
- Steve & Diana Higbee - Stoneboro, PA
- Chalmer & Evelyn Jordan - Saegertown, PA
- Shanna Kirschner - Meadville, PA
- Mary & Bill Kite - Erie, PA
- Cynthia Kreider - Waterford, PA
- Harry & Karen Leshner - Union City, PA
- Howard & Jane Levine - Fairview, PA
- Shirley Morgan - Thermopolis, WY
- Timothy & Marian Morton - Portland, OR
- Tom & Billie Moser - Murrysburg, PA
- Cindy Paul & Abby Wilson - Mendon, MA
- Steve Petrus - Conneautville, PA
- Marcia Plocharsky - College Place, WA
- John & Nancy Powell - Meadville, PA
- Richard Raup - Guys Mills, PA
- Keith & Audrey Shade - Sherman, NY
- Denise Strohmeier Schultz - Fairview, PA
- Diana & Len Simoni - Broad Brook, CT
- Mark & Mary Skelton - Edinboro, PA
- Lawson & Meredith Smart - Meadville, PA
- Emily Smith - Titusville, PA
- Karla Smith - North East, PA
- Leroy Sproul - Hermitage, PA
- David Sublette & Rebecca Kightlinger - Meadville, PA
- The HomeTeam Inspection Service - Erie, PA
- Ann Throckmorton - New Wilmington, PA
- Maarit Viscusi - Fairview, PA
- Tom Wasilewski - Miami, FL
- Donald Watts - Warren, PA
- Patricia Wenzel - Erie, PA
- Janice & Terry Werneth - Meadville, PA
- Sharon Wesoky - Meadville, PA
- Judith Wiczorek - Erie, PA
- Wild Birds Unlimited - Erie, PA
- Neil Wilson - Erie, PA
- Imogene Yetman - Meadville, PA
- William Yetman - Annandale, VA

KESTREL/FAMILY \$30+

- Adam Miller Family – N. Springfield, PA
- Erica Antic - Erie, PA
- Jesse Antolik - Girard, PA
- Linda Balter, - Erie, PA
- Lois Bartos
- Grace & Glenn Black - Albion, PA
- Lisa Booth - North East, PA
- Rebecca Borthwick-Aiken - Albion, PA
- Gregory & Nancy Bricker - Fairview, PA
- Nancy Bricker
- John & Amy Bridger - Cambridge Springs, PA

- Jane and Bubba - Erie, PA
- Michael Burhenn - Fairview, PA
- C.A. & R.L. Staab - Espyville, PA
- Mary Caldwell - Erie, PA
- Lyman & Marilyn Cohen - Erie, PA
- Kristina Cooper - Erie, PA
- Terry & Ruth Darcangelo - Cambridge Springs, PA
- Donna Davis-Brown - Honolulu, HI
- Tina DeBaise - Cambridge Springs, PA
- Marlene Dexter - Erie, PA
- Don Fairfield Family
- Dorothy and Peter Johnson - Warrenton, VA
- Jessie Doyle - Conneaut Lake, PA
- Richard & Dianne Eakin - Guys Mills, PA
- Diane Farabaugh - Pittsburgh, PA
- Pat & Kathy Freeman - Meadville, PA
- Kevin & Sarah French-Komorek - Waterford, PA
- Don & Roberta Gorman - Erie, PA
- Julie Gould, - Edinboro, PA
- Bob Gross - Erie, PA
- Becky Grygier
- John & Linda Guenther - Meadville, PA
- Ellen Hailwood - Erie, PA
- Mary Halko - Erie, PA
- Rich & Connie Handy - Meadville, PA
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- Joe & Patty Lehosky - Oil City, PA
- Joan Leonheart - Meadville, PA
- Connie Lorenzo - Erie, PA
- Lori Love & Rich Franke - Butler, PA
- Katie Lubresky - Saegertown, PA
- Ray & Leann Luzier - Edinboro, PA
- Michelle Macie - Moon Twp., PA
- Richard & Barbara McCartney - Cochranton, PA
- Myrle Michel - Union City, PA
- David & Loretta Miller - Meadville, PA
- George & Sandra Moertel - Conneautville, PA
- Mike Mogush - Edinboro, PA
- Jim & Judy Mornewick - Meadville, PA
- Mr. & Mrs. Michael Koricich - Edinboro, PA
- Mary Mulligan-Haines - Saegertown, PA
- June Murray - Meadville, PA
- Gary Narbut - Erie, PA
- Terry & Diane O'Keefe - Erie, PA
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- Sara Parana - St. Marys, PA
- Michael & Kathryn Parks - Meadville, PA
- Don & Rose Marie Petruso - Meadville, PA
- Thora Resinger - Meadville, PA
- Bob & Bonnie Rickert - Meadville, PA
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- Janet & Greg Schock
- Denise Semrad - Conneaut Lake, PA
- Bob & Lacey Sheets - Cochranton, PA
- Brian & Minnie Sprague - Venango, PA
- Jessica Steckler - Erie, PA
- Bonnie Stevens - Albion, PA
- Lisa Stiles - Erie, PA
- Jay & Wendy Straub - Cochranton, PA
- Nicole Swan - North East, PA

- The Bortnicks - Meadville, PA
- Margie & Glenn Thompson - Meadville, PA
- Cheryl VanHouten - Sugar Grove, PA
- Richard & Erika Wilhelm - Erie, PA
- Jessica Williams - Saegertown, PA
- Mary Wolff - Meadville, PA
- Colleen Wozniak - Erie, PA
- Paul Wursch - Erie, PA
- Richard Wyman - Cambridge Springs, PA
- Russell & Donna Yoas - Centerville, PA
- Vicki & Mark Zaczek - Erie, PA

CHICKADEE/INDIVIDUAL \$20

- Frank Amicucci - Erie, PA
- David Bantlett - Erie, PA
- Stephen Bucklin
- Joelyn Bush - Lake City, PA
- Cambridge Springs Garden Club
- Jack Campbell - Edinboro, PA
- Mary & Joe Consola-Pears - Meadville, PA
- Karen & Mike Couse - North East, PA
- Lynn Cowell - Meadville, PA
- Kathleen Dachsberger - Erie, PA
- Brittany Davis - Corry, PA
- Loretta Dingfelden - Centerville, PA
- Don Weyel - Conneaut Lake, PA
- Bill Engell - Erie, PA
- Jason Gary - Fairview, PA
- Marie Harper - Saegertown, PA
- Debra Hulings - Albion, PA
- Charles Keil - Erie, PA
- Mary & Francis Kiefer - Meadville, PA
- Edith Konnerth - Erie, PA
- Janice Lyle - Sheffield, PA
- Rose Lyons - Erie, PA
- Sara Macosko - Erie, PA
- Rebecca Malmgren - Erie, PA
- Ronald & Diane Mariani - Conneaut Lake, PA
- Stephen & Lea Marshall - Saegertown, PA
- Steve Mills - Titusville, PA
- Dr. John & Lucy Nesbitt - Meadville, PA
- Susan Parry - Erie, PA
- Joanne Pusz - Meadville, PA
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- Bob Rossi - Meadville, PA
- Jesse Russo - Greenville, PA
- Dennis & Barb Schreckengost - Erie, PA
- Toni Simko - Erie, PA
- Smith Smith - Cambridge Springs, PA
- Jackie Stewart - Centerville, PA
- Barb Stoker - Erie, PA
- Karen Tessmer - Elgin, TX
- Lori Wagner - Girard, PA
- Richard Wilkins - Union City, PA
- Charlene Young - North East, PA
- Barbara Zirngibl - Pittsburgh, PA

IN HONOR OF...

- "Joanne Otis Hulings" by Bonnie Stevens
- Diane Potocki-Leggate

IN MEMORY OF...

- "Peeker and Ick" by Mary & Joe Consola Pears
- "Peeker" by William Yetman
- "Beloved Ick-a-bobbet" by Holmgren family
- "Denise's father, Robert Donovan" by Denise Hudson & Joe Goertz
- "Marilyn J. Grady" by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Koricich
- "Lucille Poux Martin" by Audrey J. Lavery
- "Lucille Poux Martin" by Jessie Doyle & Family
- "Shirley Schreiner Yetman" by Captain William R. Yetman
- "Jerry Sullivan" by Linda & Michael Koricich

In-Kind Contributors:

Stella Bridger and family • Darry and Ginny Buttrey • Christian's Critter Kids • Michelle Curtze • Erie Zoo
Tom Fowler • Greener Pastures Veterinary Clinic • Mary and Bill Haines • Hare Today Gone Tomorrow
Horstman Feed • Ruth Latour • Drs. Lindstrom of Animal Clinic Northview • Terry Lobdell • Karen Lunger
Dr. Erica Miller DVM • Pharmacy Innovations • Photoholics • Dr. Ramey of Animal Kingdom Pet Hospital
Larry and Linda Slomski • Scotland Yards Greenhouse • Bob and Diane Vogel • Pam Wheeler

If we neglected to include you - please let us know! We appreciate all our supporters and do our best to remember you all.

Wish List

Bleach

Liquid laundry detergent for High Efficiency Machines (HE)

Water bottles for small mammals

10 gallon tanks/aquariums for small mammals (used is fine),

10 gallon tank screen lids for mammals

Duct Tape

Mixed Bird Seed

Old Pillow Cases, Flat Sheets

Sterile Saline or Lactated Ringers (up to 2.5 dextrose) IV bags

Cardboard Boxes (esp. computer printer size) for temporarily housing birds.

Frozen archery hunted pure venison to feed hawks, owls and eagles

Laptop computer and computer projector

Bald Eagle release photo and Goldfinch shortly before release.



For more information about Tamarack's education programs, check out
the website www.tamarackwildlife.org or call the center.



SPONSORSHIPS MAKE GREAT GIFTS

You can give a sponsorship of our educational animals for \$25.00 per year. Sponsors receive a certificate of sponsorship, a 5x7 photograph and a brochure about the bird they are sponsoring. Additionally, sponsors' names are displayed by the bird's enclosure and sponsors may arrange to visit the Center for a personal encounter. Indicate which animal(s) you would like to sponsor. Send this form, along with a check for \$25 per animal per year to TVREC, 21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433.

Lady Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk _____

Sophia, Barred Owl _____

Jasper, Eastern Screech-Owl _____

Alice, Cooper's Hawk _____

Pierre, Peregrine Falcon _____

Willow, Eastern Screech-Owl _____

Jedi, Merlin Falcon _____



*Photo taken by:
Jillian Ramsay Stern*

Name of Sponsor: _____

Gift Recipient's Name: _____

Address of Sponsor: _____

Gift Recipient's Address: _____

**Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation
and Education Center**

21601 Stull Road
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Fall 2013 Newsletter



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YES! I WANT TO HELP WILDLIFE!

Become a member of TWREC and help wildlife. You will receive two newsletters each membership year and be invited to our annual open house. Your donations are tax deductible and you will have the satisfaction of helping our native wildlife.

If your membership is not up for renewal, but you want to help further financially, your additional donation or memorial contribution is always welcomed. Send contributions to:

Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center, Inc.
21601 Stull Road, Saegertown, PA 16433

Annual Membership:

Individual/Chickadee - \$20.....
Family/Kestrel - \$30.....
Great Horned Owl - \$100+.....
Peregrine - \$500+.....
Golden Eagle - \$1000+.....

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the newsletter via:

☐ Mail ☐ E-Mail

(If e-mail, please list below)

NAME: _____

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Enclosed is a contribution of \$ _____

in ☐ **Memory** or ☐ **Honor** of _____

Please send acknowledgement to: Name: _____

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**All Contributions are
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*If your address label is incorrect,
please let us know.*

T.W.R.E.C.'s

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Kris Steiner

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Assistant Director Kris Steiner
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