



# VIEWS & VISIONS

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## The Boy Scouts of America: Building Futures in West Virginia

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Furst is a major supporter and National Executive Board member of the Boy Scouts of America. He was instrumental in the development of the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve, located in Fayette and Raleigh Counties near Beckley, West Virginia.

Furst is a Distinguished Eagle Scout and a recipient of the Silver Buffalo Award, the Boy Scouts of America's highest recognition for service to youth.

When the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) came into existence as a youth-serving organization in 1910, coal was the economic engine that powered the southern West Virginia region, including 10,693 acres of mining land that eventually became the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve. More than a century later, those 10,693 acres are still making an economic impact in the region with approximately \$400 million in construction since development commenced in 2010, including \$38 million in construction currently underway and scheduled for completion in 2019.

The site was originally imagined as a permanent home for the BSA's quadrennial flagship event, the national Scout jamboree. However, the mission of the Summit Bechtel Reserve quickly expanded once the BSA explored the site and realized the breadth of activities it could accommodate. Today, it serves as an experiential learning laboratory for leadership and character development, while allowing young people to have the time of their lives participating in high-adventure activities such as zip-lining, skateboarding, whitewater rafting and other high-octane outdoor sports. It's somewhere youth can test their boundaries. We like to say that kids can ride the zip-line going 60 mph upside down with their hair on fire while texting if it teaches them something.

Current construction focuses on expanding the usability of the site, ensuring that the Summit Bechtel Reserve can operate 365 days a year with a wider variety of programming than is now available.

This utility begins with the construction of two state-of-the-art leadership centers. The Rex W. Tillerson Leadership Center and the J.W. Marriott, Jr. Leadership Center will be major components of the BSA's flagship ethics and leadership campus – the Thomas S. Monson Leadership Excellence Complex. They will allow the organization to develop and test cutting-edge leadership curriculum that can then be exported to other Scout groups and properties around the world.

Also expanding the Summit Bechtel Reserve's year-round usability are two bunkhouses, two dining halls and a pavilion at the outdoor gun ranges.

Each of the current construction projects is a valuable resource, not only for the Boy Scouts of America, but also for West Virginia. The Summit Bechtel Reserve attracts thousands of visitors each year to take part in the extraordinary programming and events held there. In 2017, there were 52,443 visitors to the site. These numbers are expected to increase as more venues come online and



*Construction on the J.W. Marriott, Jr. Leadership Center will finish in 2019. Once complete, the center will offer year-round leadership programming to adults and youth from around the world. Photo courtesy of the BSA.*





*The H. Bernard Wehrle Sr. Scout Leadership Service Center, which opened in 2016, serves youth in 39 counties across West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, and Ohio. Photo courtesy of the Buckskin Council/BSA.*



*One of two leadership centers currently under construction at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, the Rex W. Tillerson Leadership Center will be a major component of the BSA's flagship ethics and leadership campus – the Thomas S. Monson Leadership Excellence Complex. Photo courtesy of the BSA.*



*The Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve is the permanent site of the Boy Scouts of America's National Scout Jamboree, held every four years. In 2019, it will host the World Scout Jamboree. Scouts are pictured crossing the CONSOL Energy Bridge during a National Scout Jamboree. Photo courtesy of the BSA.*

the Summit Bechtel Reserve's reputation expands beyond the region. Outside groups, such as the Spartan Race and Coronado Coal, are already using the site to host events, attracting thousands of visitors to West Virginia.

Preparations are now underway for the 2019 World Scout Jamboree, where approximately 40,000 Scouts from around the world will gather to promote peace, mutual understanding and to develop leadership and life skills. This year, the event will be co-hosted by the Scouting organizations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico and held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, marking the first time since 1967 the event has been held in the United States. In addition, the opportunity to attend this extraordinary

event is not limited to Scouts; visitors are welcome and day passes are available.

The impact of the BSA on West Virginia goes beyond the Summit Bechtel Reserve and its venues. The BSA is dedicated to making a positive impact in local communities through service projects organized by the Summit Bechtel Reserve, BSA partnerships with local organizations and the activity of the local Buckskin Council.

In 2018, visitors to the Summit Bechtel Reserve contributed 8,250 hours of volunteer service to the site and to local communities. In 2017, when it hosted the National Scout Jamboree, volunteer hours swelled to 214,457 with an estimated economic impact of \$5,859,560.

The BSA presence in West Virginia has allowed the organization to develop a mutually beneficial relationship with West Virginia University. The two organizations have collaborated on the innovative Science Behind the Sport curriculum, developed new academic degree programs and are currently working to establish the West Virginia Science Adventure School at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, with the goal of giving every West Virginia sixth-grader the opportunity to attend. And these are just a few of the ways BSA and WVU are working together to positively impact youth in the region and nationwide.

The local BSA council is having a positive effect on the region as well, constructing a

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## Creating a Center for Healing

Douglas Leech  
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Properties and WVU Hospitals, the need for large initial capital requirement is eliminated, while keeping the transaction off-balance sheet for the hospital.

Additionally, Ascension co-wrote a grant with the WVU Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry and was funded in the amount of \$1,000,000 through the Ryan Brown Treatment Fund provided by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities. This grant funding, the P3 and the commitment by WVU Medicine to

provide high quality treatment to West Virginians suffering from SUD, has brought first-class residential treatment to our great state, which was previously only received out of state by those with the ability to pay for such expensive services.

The construction of this facility has involved some great contractors, engineers and architects. What is probably most notable has been the inclusion of Impact Construction on this project, which hires people in recovery from addiction. This facility is already giving back by employing and providing good jobs to people in recovery to build the very facility that will allow for thousands of West Virginians to begin their journey of healing.

While patient motivation and an evidence-based treatment program are

the most important factors in creating positive treatment outcomes, the look and feel of the treatment facility is also critically important. When someone is finally ready to get meaningful help for their addiction, they are “sick and tired of being sick and tired,” and the last place they want to go is to a sterile environment that feels like a medical office with bright overhead fluorescent lights. People more proactively seek treatment when the facility has a dignified, home-like setting in a peaceful and serene location, which is much more conducive to recovery and serenity. With a facility as nice as the new WVU RTC, those entering treatment will immediately feel that someone loved them and cared enough about them to provide such a great center for healing. ❧



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new \$4.1 million headquarters. The Buckskin Council’s H. Bernard Wehrle Sr. Scout Leadership Service Center opened in 2016, serving youth in 39 counties in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia and Ohio. Buckskin Council Scout Executive Jeff Purdy said, “It’s enabled us to

expand the services we offer to Scouts and to the community. In fact, we have outside groups using our facilities on a weekly basis.”

The BSA is excited to have found a home for the Summit Bechtel Reserve in the hills of West Virginia. Coal from the site may no longer be fueling the local economy, but the Summit Bechtel Reserve is still an economic powerhouse for the region. We foresee many generations of West Virginians and Scouts benefitting from the innovative programs and facilities created there. ❧



## The Pennsylvania Contractor and Subcontractor Payment Act

K. Bradley Mellor  
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this amendment will have much impact. Essentially, it requires 30 days’ written notice of failure to receive payment sent to the contractor. Then, if payment is not received in 30 days from that notice, an additional certified mail notice is sent to the owner. If payment isn’t received within 30 days after the certified mail notice, the subcontractor can suspend performance. CASPA does not specifically provide for payment of the type of expenses that often surround a suspension, such as demobilization, remobilization, labor or material cost increases, or site general

conditions. The act also does not provide any specific schedule relief in such situations. It will be interesting to see how courts apply this provision.

Though presumably well intentioned, it is difficult or impossible for a legislature to enact a law or amendment that adequately addresses the concerns and issues of all the owners, contractors, subcontractors and suppliers that the law will affect. The best way to address each party’s individual concerns is to identify and negotiate those concerns before signing a contract. Recognizing that the necessary level of detail and negotiation may not be available to all contractual relationships, the Pennsylvania legislature has tried, with its 2018 amendments to CASPA, to make the overall playing field a little more level. The courts will certainly weigh in on the interpretation of the amendment, and their decisions will help to clarify its application. ❧