

## Save the Date

The Groundbreaking of John James Audubon Center for Art and Conservation in partnership with Montgomery County is scheduled for Friday, December 2, 2016 at The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove. This event kick-starts the official construction work of the John James Audubon Center for Art and Conservation which is due to be completed in 2018. Light refreshments will be served at 10:30 a.m. There will be a public ceremony 11 a.m. onwards which will consist of brief remarks by local politicians such as Montgomery County commissioners, key National Audubon Society leaders, and Audubon PA/John James Audubon Center staff. This groundbreaking event will also serve as a public introduction opportunity for Audubon PA's new Executive Director, Greg Goldman.

Students from the Norristown Area School District and our owl ambassador will also be participating. At the conclusion of the ceremonies we will stage photos with gold shovels to include various groupings of key guests. This event is open to the entire community.

## Meet little Conrad's Aunt Helena

Although I live in New Jersey, I have been on assignment to a firm close to Mill Grove and have delighted in exploring the trails and non-releasable birds during my lunch hour. Conrad, in particular, has captured my heart and I am so grateful to the staff for their service to these noble creatures and the beautiful estate. Please join me in supporting the work of Audubon by making a donation on #Giving Tuesday, November 29, specifically to support their non-releasable education birds: the four owls, Conrad the Blue Jay, and three chickens." ~Aunt Helena



Conrad



Aunt Helena

## **Chicken Enrichment**

Meet Coconut, Sunshine and Peckerton at Mill Grove. They are our educational chickens who live right behind the cottage. We are training them with specially designed Positive Reinforcement Training which is helping our chickens discriminate colors. This training will enable the children to understand how chickens can be trained like pets at our homes. The trained chickens will be a great way for children to have a more personal interaction with them. Birds that the members of the Corvid family are also trainable. Just like our BlueJay Conrad, who also lives behind the cottage.

Our very wonderful volunteers are making this happen. They provide hands-on experience for our students here on the property and off-site at schools.



Peckerton, Coconut and Sunshine