

KANSA ATTENDS GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION CEREMONY IN WICHITA

Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department, Prairie Park Nature Center's resident bald eagle, Kansa, was selected to attend the Kansas Governor's ceremony proclaiming *National American Bald Eagle Day* held June 20 at Great Plains Nature Center, Wichita, Kan.

Governor Sam Brownback presented staff of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks with the proclamation dedicating the day to America's national symbol, the American bald eagle. Remarks were provided by members of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about conservation efforts that have made the bald eagle recovery possible nationwide.



Prairie Park Nature Center staff, Jenn Rader and Jesse Morgan, accompanied and handled Kansa during the ceremony. They also made a few remarks about the nature center's role in conservation education in Kansas.

Kansa is a female and was approximately a year old when she arrived at the nature center in March 2003. Kansa was injured by a power line in southern Kansas and is unable to fly. The bird was named Kansa to reflect the region in which the bird was found. Kansa means people of the south wind and is the name of the prominent Indian tribe which inhabited the land that today is known as Kansas.

The U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution in 2007 making June 20 American Eagle Day, dedicated to the bald eagle, as well as the American traditions and ideals the bird represents.

Here's a link to the story that ran in the Wichita Eagle regarding the ceremony in which Kansa stole the stage:
<http://blogs.kansas.com/outdoors/2011/06/20/gov-brownback-declares-today-american-eagle-day-in-kansas/>