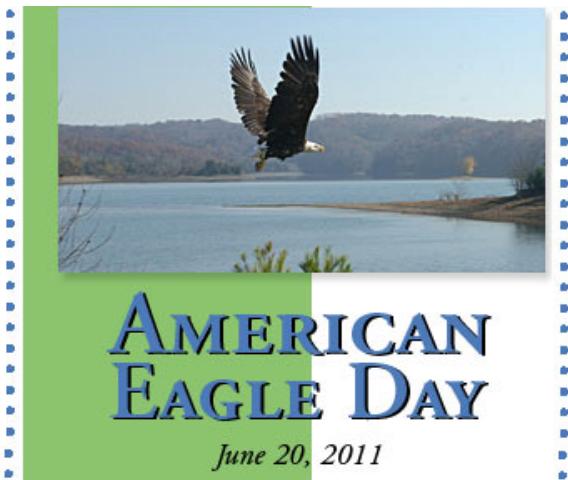


If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may see it online.



### Celebrate "American Eagle Day" On June 20, 2011



*Celebrating the recovery of the Bald Eagle to America's skies, and commemorating the heritage, ideals, and qualities that this majestic bird symbolizes.*

A Resolution proclaiming June 20th as *American Eagle Day* was approved by both houses of the U.S. Congress in 2007, 2008, 2010, & 2011. [Click here to view the 2010 Senate Resolution \(PDF\)](#) and [2010 House Resolution \(PDF\)](#).

Also, 33 Governors have signed Proclamations giving the USA's National Bird, the Bald Eagle, its own "official day" in their state!

The American Eagle Foundation wants to inform concerned citizens and conservationists that their National Symbol still needs help. This majestic bird still faces daunting post-delisting challenges - from loss of crucial nesting and foraging habitat to the threat of various contaminants, viruses and diseases.

###

### Promoting "American Eagle Day"

### Eagle Nest Cam On Internet



*On April 29, May 5, and May 6, the AEF's non-releasable Bald Eagle breeding pair, "Independence" and "Franklin", hatched 3 eggs. The eaglets were raised for 6 weeks in their nest located at the AEF's Eagle Mountain Sanctuary at*

[Subscribe](#) to our email list



*The Bald Eagle is the living symbol of America.*

On "American Eagle Day" (June 20), our Foundation is asking the American people to do the following:

- Tell the story of how our National Symbol came to be.
- Remember how we almost lost our living symbol, the Bald Eagle, in the wild to extinction, and how our nation rallied together to save and protect it.
- Educate about the need to restore and protect eagles and all endangered species.
- Observe the principles upon which our country's Independence and Freedoms were founded.
- Organize activities that renew the American spirit by promoting pride and patriotism.
- Challenge citizens to strive toward quality and excellence in all that they do—acting like symbolic American Eagles.
- Recognize people in communities across the nation who have made significant "beyond the call of duty" contributions to helping or improving the lives of others — American Eagle Heroes (give special "American Eagle Awards").

# # #

#### **Help Raise Awareness About Eagles!**

*tower on Douglas Lake where they will be released into the wild this summer.*

It's been a very successful nesting season at the American Eagle Foundation's United States Eagle Center at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Several of our bonded non-releasable breeding pairs laid eggs, resulting in 8 eaglets being successfully hatched!

People from all over the world joined in the excitement and had their eyes trained on East Tennessee. That's because anyone from anywhere who has an Internet connection could watch three of the eaglets growing up in their nest.

About a decade ago, the AEF opened up one of their Eagle Nest Cams to the public, and it's been a big hit ever since.

Viewers often caught a glimpse of the eaglets' interaction with their parents, Independence and Franklin.

The Bald Eagle pair has hatched and cared for numerous young before, and AEF President Al Cecere says they did better than ever this year, especially when East Tennessee had to deal with a number of Spring thunderstorms.

"The parents were very diligent about protecting their eggs and babies and would take heavy rain and hail pounding on their backs for hours. They did not allow those eggs or babies to be uncovered and exposed to the elements for one moment," Cecere said.

Over the years, the foundation has been involved in releasing hundreds of eaglets into the wild, and the three youngsters featured on the Eagle Nest Cam will soon join the rest in the wild. The eaglets have now been moved to an artificial nesting tower located on Douglas Lake.

"Usually when they reach about 6 weeks of age, they're tall enough to stretch their necks and look over the edge of the nest to see the Dollywood visitors below. We don't want them to see too much of that," Cecere said.

The AEF caretakers are very careful about keeping the birds' interaction with people to a minimum. In fact, back at the foundation's headquarters, two other eaglets that were hatched in an incubator were fed with an eagle puppet by AEF staff.

To view a segment of "Life in the Nest" which features a live video recording over many days from the Eagle Nest Cam, [please follow this link](#).

[Watch Video Story About The Video Nest Cam \(WBIR Channel 10\)](#)

# # #

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list



*Top Photo: Former Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen presents signed "American Eagle Day" Proclamation to AEF staff member Julia Cecere and the Eagle "Challenger" of the American Eagle Foundation. The current Governor of Tennessee, Bill Haslam, also signed the Proclamation for 2011.*

*Bottom Photo: Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn appears with Al Cecere and Challenger in support of American Eagle Day. Gov. Quinn was the first Governor to sign this proclamation in 2011.*

The Bald Eagle has been taken off the ESA's endangered and threatened species list (June 2007), but that doesn't mean it has fully recovered and won't continue an up-hill fight for survival. We must monitor and protect eagle nests and adjacent ecosystems on private lands nationally for the remainder of this decade and beyond.

- If your Governor has not yet signed a Proclamation for 2011 recognizing and celebrating *American Eagle Day*, please write a letter asking him/her to do so. **Instructions for writing the letter are provided on the AEF website.** This information includes a sample

#### Eagle Nesting Season - Spring 2011



*During Spring 2011, the AEF's experienced Golden Eagle breeding pair, "Wakan Tankan" and "Cheyenne", were given the task of incubating a Bald Eagle egg (for about 35 days) and foster-parenting the Bald Eaglet that hatched (for 8 weeks) before the young bird was taken to the AEF's artificial nesting tower on Douglas Lake. It presently shares a nesting cage with another bald eaglet about the same age, and both birds will be released into the wild together this summer.*

2011 has been a banner year for hatching Bald Eaglets at the American Eagle Foundation raptor facility at Dollywood. The captive breeding program produced 8 Bald Eaglets from 4 non-releasable eagle breeding pairs.

Fertile eggs were laid by Bald Eagle pairs "Brave Heart" & "Honor", "Independence" & "Franklin", "Freedom" & "Faithful Spirit", and "Isaiah" & "Esther".

Eagle pair "Isaiah" and "Esther" laid 2 clutches of eggs during the Spring. They were not able to incubate any of their own eggs or raise any of the babies that hatched from those eggs (due to the location the pair selected for their nest).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list

used by your Governor.

- Also, we invite all U.S. citizens who love our National Bird to get involved in contacting their Governor as soon as possible to obtain Proclamations for 2012.
- Learn all about the Bald Eagle from our [resource page](#).
- Take a field trip to [view eagles in the wild](#) or [attend an eagle event or festival](#).
- Contact your local paper or TV station and ask them to feature a program dedicated to what people can do to help the Bald Eagle in its continuing recovery and protection.
- Have a [fact sheet](#) or brochure ready to give to people who ask you for information. Place the fact sheet or brochure in libraries or other public places where people congregate. [Download a brochure](#) (PDF format) from the American Eagle Foundation. Print and distribute!
- [Write your government representatives](#) and ask them to encourage private land owners to protect the eagle.
- Work to keep the environment clean and unpolluted, so that eagles and other wildlife can live without fear of poisons, hazardous trash, or contaminants in their food chain.
- Recycle at your home (school or business) and properly dispose of items that may be harmful to the environment and wildlife.
- [Boy and Girl Scout Patch Activities](#) are available which are centered around *American Eagle Day*.

#### [Additional activities](#)

# # #

#### [Celebrities Featured At 2011 High Point University Graduation](#)

So, the second clutch of two eggs were hatched in AEF incubators and the resulting babies were fed and raised with an eagle puppet operated by AEF staff.

Bald Eagle pair "Freedom" and "Faithful Spirit" hatched and raised one of the eggs from the first clutch laid by "Isaiah" and "Esther".

Golden Eagle pair "Wankan Tankan" & "Cheyenne" were given the task of incubating the other Bald Eagle egg from the first clutch laid by "Isaiah" and "Esther" and then the Golden pair cared for the baby that hatched. That eaglet has since been taken to the AEF's artificial nesting tower on Douglas Lake, and shares a nesting cage with the youngster hatched by "Brave Heart" and "Honor".

The two eaglets will be released into the wild together this summer.

Earlier in the year, the AEF raised and released a bald eaglet that originated from an egg rescued from a Florida nest located at a baseball stadium.

[Watch Video Of Golden Eagle Story](#)

[Watch Video About Independence & Franklin's Eaglets](#)

# # #

#### [Very Busy Memorial Day Weekend For Eagle "Challenger"](#)



*The Eagle "Challenger" and AEF President Al Cecere appeared on Chicago's ABC affiliate with Director of Illinois Veterans Affairs Dan Grant to lend support to Governor Pat Quinn's Military Family Relief Fund.*

The Eagle Challenger, along with AEF President Al Cecere and his staff, had a very busy Memorial Day weekend.

During the opening ceremonies of the 2011 National Junior College Athletic Association Division II World Series in Enid, Oklahoma, Challenger was released from a high vantage point in the ballpark and soared around until coming to rest.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list



*High Point University welcomed Lance Armstrong as keynote speaker and the Eagle "Challenger" to fly during their 2011 graduation ceremonies.*

For several years, Al Cecere and the Bald Eagle "Challenger" have participated in the graduation ceremony at High Point University in North Carolina. This year, after Lance Armstrong delivered the Commencement Address, Challenger flew a celebratory flight over the graduating class and their families and friends.

# # #

#### Eagle "Challenger" Flies Delta VIP Style!

on Al's arm on the pitcher's mound as the final notes of the *Star Spangled Banner* were sung by a local church choir.

After performing in Enid, Challenger and Al appeared on "Fox and Friends" TV show on May 29 in New York City. The next day they headed to Chicago, to lend support to Illinois Governor Pat Quinn's *Military Family Relief Fund* during interviews on CBS, ABC, and FOX local affiliates. This whirlwind tour ended with a free-flying performance by Challenger at the Chicago Cubs / Houston Astros Memorial Day baseball game held at Wrigley Field.

[Watch Video Of Challenger On ABC-Chicago](#)

[Watch Video Of Challenger On FOX & Friends - NYC](#)

[Watch Video Of Challenger Flying At Chicago Cubs Game](#)

# # #

#### A Few Easy Ways To Help Our Nation's Eagles



Please sign up to use [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine and online shopping mall, and select the American Eagle Foundation as your charity of choice. Every time you search the Internet or make an online purchase at a GoodSearch partner merchant, a donation is made to the American Eagle Foundation. GoodSearch is powered by Yahoo! so you get great search results.

Also for online shoppers . . . Did you know if you shop though I-GIVE you can help eagles and other birds of prey? Just go to [www.Igive.com](http://www.Igive.com) and choose the American Eagle Foundation as your charity. This site has more than 950 stores where you can shop. Every time you make a purchase at one of the partner stores, the American Eagle Foundation will receive a donation.

Finally, we welcome you to purchase beautiful and unique eagle-themed gifts [from our on-line store](#).

Thank you very much for your help and support!

# # #

#### Injured Golden Eagle Receives Treatment At The AEF's United States Eagle Center

---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list



*The Eagle "Challenger" receives the very best care and attention as he travels coast to coast on Delta Airlines. Top Photo, Challenger departs aircraft; Middle Photo, Challenger and AEF staff member Laura Cecere Sterbens take time for a photo op with Delta ground crew workers; Bottom Photo, Challenger, AEF staff members Al Cecere and Danielle Steckley thank Delta pilot John Trittschuh after a safe landing.*

*Delta Airlines and its staff do everything possible to make sure that the airplane flights are as comfortable, relaxing*



*Dr. Mike Jones, University of Tennessee School of Veterinary Medicine, and Kevin Buchanan, AEF Curator of Birds, give physical check-up to an injured Golden Eagle being rehabilitated by the American Eagle Foundation.*

During 2010, a Golden Eagle was accidentally caught in two leg-hold traps in the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee. The bird pursued a chunk of deer meat laying inside of one of the traps and unfortunately got its foot caught, eventually causing its small toe to be amputated. As the bird fell down trying to free its foot from the trap, it fell forward and got its breast caught in the other trap. It struggled to free itself for hours until it was eventually found by the owner of the traps—who immediately called a Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency officer to take it to the University of Tennessee Veterinary School for initial treatment. It has now been under the care at the AEF for several months where it has gone through an extensive healing process. As soon as the eagle grows new flight feathers (that were also damaged), it will be placed into the AEF's flight exercise enclosure and then eventually released back into the wild during 2011.

# # #

and safe as possible for the Eagle Challenger (and the AEF staff who accompany him) on his many trips throughout the United States. This special attention really helps the celebrity eagle feel refreshed and rested when he arrives at various destinations for his National Anthem free-flight appearances in large stadiums and convention halls. In turn, these events help Challenger "open doors" for Bald Eagles and other wildlife through public education. We thank Delta for all the years of excellent assistance and care their staff and crew have given to our very special and valuable National Bird.

# # #

**American Idol Meets American Icon**

*2011 American Idol winner Scotty McCreery, AEF President Al Cecere, and the Eagle "Challenger" take time out for a chat and photo op at Muhammed Ali's Celebrity Fight Night. Scotty showed a genuine interest in the star bird, and Challenger chirped a few notes that impressed him.*

**If you would like to Adopt An Eagle, become a member of the American Eagle Foundation (AEF), or buy an eagle-themed gift, please click on the links below. You will be assisting the AEF in its efforts to ensure that our national bird keeps flying strong and free for generations to come.**

**[Adopt An Eagle](#) ~ [Visit Our Gift Shop](#) ~ [Become A Member](#)**

---

**The American Eagle Foundation is a non-profit 501(C)(3) organization dedicated to the mission and vision of preserving the U.S.A's majestic eagles and fragile environment for future generations to enjoy.**

**We are located in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains.**

**Visit us online at [www.eagles.org](http://www.eagles.org), email us at [savetheeagle@aol.com](mailto:savetheeagle@aol.com), or contact us at (865) 429-0157.**

American Eagle Foundation | Post Office Box 333 | Pigeon Forge, TN 37868

---

This email was sent to

[Subscribe](#) to our email list

[manage](#) your preferences | [opt out](#) using **TrueRemove®**

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.



---

[Subscribe](#) to our email list