



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie
National Preserve

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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

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For Immediate Release
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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve's Centennial Quilt Wins a Blue Ribbon at the Kansas State Fair



STRONG CITY, Kansas: Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is pleased to announce that the preserve's Centennial quilt earned a blue ribbon at the Kansas State Fair and will be on display in the visitor center from now through October 2, 2016.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



The Flint Hills Quilt Guilds and local Chase County women lovingly put in over 400 volunteer hours in the creation of a queen size quilt celebrating two anniversaries, the Centennial of the National Park Service and the 20th of the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The quilt was entered in the category of *Sewn and Quilted by 3 Persons* and earned a blue ribbon. The Kansas State Fair on average receives over 300,000 visitors.

The tallgrass prairie fabric landscape is the backdrop for the entire quilt, representing its constant with the natural and cultural features of the preserve. Embroidered prairie wildflower blocks, historic photos, and patchwork quilt blocks representing Kansas and its place in history all come together to create this masterpiece. Some of the quilt blocks being displayed are Kansas Troubles, Log Cabin, Whirl Wind, and Wagon Wheel. One of the most talked about features of the quilt is the exquisite machine quilting used in creating the tall prairie grasses and the depth and dimension the quilting added for the stone fence. Much thought was put into the quilt, as the back of the quilt is just as beautiful as the front. The embroidery of the tall prairie grasses can be seen on the backside of the quilt as well. To help preserve the quilt, it will be on display for short periods of time in the visitor center. The first showing is from now through October 2, 2016.

To continue your love of quilts, be sure to grab a brochure on the Kansas Flint Hills Quilt Trail or visit this link <http://ksflinthillsquilttrail.blogspot.com> to learn more. Seven quilt trail stops are located in Chase County <http://www.nps.gov/tapr/Kansas-Flint-Hills-Quilt-Trail.htm> and more throughout the Flint Hills. You may also go to the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr/Kansas-Flint-Hills-Quilt-Trail.htm to learn about the Windmill design depicting the historic double- header windmill that once stood on the Spring Hill Ranch barn at Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. Come join the fun and learn about the past.

In celebration of the National Park Service 2016 Centennial, Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve invites you to discover the meaning of national parks, how your park inspires you - both in personal connections and memorable experiences. Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway) and is a unique public/private partnership between the National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy. For more information, visit the preserve's Facebook page at



<http://www.facebook.com/NPS.TallgrassPrairie> , website at www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, or call the preserve at (620) 273- 8494.

To learn more about The Nature Conservancy in Kansas, visit the Conservancy's website at www.nature.org/Kansas or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/TNCKansas> .

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