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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Dunedin Launches Osprey Cam

St. Andrews Links, Dunedin, FL - August 31, 2009

This year a pair of nesting Ospreys can be viewed online at www.DunedinOspreyCam.com. The City of Dunedin received a donation from Sparky Jones, founder of Friends of Sun Coast Wildlife, which enabled the City to place a wildlife nest cam in the Osprey nest at St. Andrews Links, right along the Marquis Pinellas Trail. The location was selected by Art Finn, Dunedin Parks Director.

Dunedin-based business owner Dan Zucker of Zucker & Zucker created and is hosting the website and has coordinated with Scott Falcon, IT for the City of Dunedin. Content has been provided and designed by Clearwater Audubon Society Osprey Watch volunteers to fulfill the site's main purpose which is public education. "St. Andrews Links is a great location for school groups or scout groups to see the nest from the ground" said PGA Professional Paul Sylvester and Golf Course Supervisor of St. Andrews Links. St. Andrews Links is also planning an Osprey Open golf tournament in the spring to raise funds for continued operation of the Osprey Cam.

Fourth or fifth grade classes anywhere in the state are encouraged to participate online. Educational materials will be updated and added on a regular basis. Teachers who wish to participate with their classes may contact barbibird@tampabay.rr.com or can call 727-442-9140. Students will learn how to be 'citizen scientists'. Last year, students participated with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission statewide in a vote for a new State bird. The Osprey was 'elected' on November 4th, 2008. "Hopefully the website will help complete that effort as well," said Barb Walker, Osprey Watch Coordinator for Clearwater Audubon Society.

Ospreys, also called 'Fish Hawks', are a protected species and certain guidelines and permits are required when working around Osprey nests. In general, Ospreys are tolerant of human activity. Many Florida Ospreys, as well as other wildlife, make their homes on golf courses.

St. Andrews Links is located at 620 Palm Blvd., Dunedin, FL 34698.

Contacts:

Art Finn, 727-298-3278
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Barb Walker, 727-789-0183 or 727-431-2856
Dan Zucker, 727-733-8115
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