



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Raptors make visit to Galveston as part of FeatherFest

April 3-6 at Saengerfest Park

GALVESTON ISLAND, Texas (March 17, 2008)—Raptors, otherwise known as birds of prey, will ascend on Saengerfest Park, 23rd and Strand, April 3-6 as a free activity included as part of FeatherFest 2008. Jonathan Wood's Raptor Project features eagles, hawks, falcons and owls and is touted to be the best raptor show in the United States.

Jonathan Wood, a Master Falconer and Wildlife Rehabilitation expert, brings unique insights, observations and humor to his nationally acclaimed shows. His show celebrates the majesty of winged predators and features 15-20 live raptors from diverse habitats at each wildlife education presentation. This show is seen by more than 10 million people through nearly 1,000 educational programs on an annual basis.

At 16, Wood was already a recognized ornithologist and wildlife photographer. He was the inspiration for the character Jon Wood in the novel "Frightful's Mountain" by award winning author Jean Craighead George. Wood grew up in the National Seashore Wilderness of New York's Fire Island and his fascination with raptors lured him to begin training falcons at 12 years old. Today he works with more than 100 birds between his winter home in Padre Island/Corpus Christi and primary home in The Catskills, NY. He and his family tour constantly in a large RV that serves as home, office and traveling bird exhibit, averaging about 500 shows per year.

"This is the sixth festival and we wanted to do something new and special and to try to engage the public who may not otherwise be attending FeatherFest," said President of Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council and Chairperson for FeatherFest 2008 Morton Voller. "I saw the Raptor Show at a festival in Florida two years ago and I have wanted to bring Jon to Galveston ever since."

Jonathan Wood's Raptor Project is sponsored by Galveston Island Nature Tourism Council. Saengerfest Park is located in The Historic Downtown Strand District. Exhibition times are 10 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 10 a.m. and noon on Sunday.

FeatherFest celebrates the birds and nature of the Upper Texas Coast during the springtime, with four days of expert led workshops and field trips by bus, boat and kayak as well as social events. This year's keynote dinner speaker is Kenn Kaufman, one of the best known naturalists in the United States. For more information, visit the website: www.galvestonfeatherfest.com.

###

CONTACT:

Christine Hopkins, Director of Communications

G-1 Corporation

An Affiliate of Mitchell Historic Properties

(409) 457- 1055

chopkins@mitchellfamilycorp.com