

Falconer Leslie Braun releases Sheela, a red-tailed hawk, back to the wild.

Free Again

Sheela, a one year old female Red-Tailed Hawk, was released on the #2 hole on Disney's Osprey Ridge Golf Course. When released she weighed almost three pounds and had a wing span of over four feet. Sheela was captured after leaving the nest by a falconer, Leslie Braun. Sheela was cared for and taught to hunt for survival in the wild. Almost 80% of these birds die in their first year from accidents, starvation and

deliberate killing. Since hunting is not allowed on Disney property and Sheela has passed her first critical year, we hope to see many other generations in the future from this release.

Look for Sheela in a tall pine tree, while she sits and watches open areas near the woods for food. Her red and brown color will blend with the trees. If you want to see her you'll have to look close.

Leslie Braun