

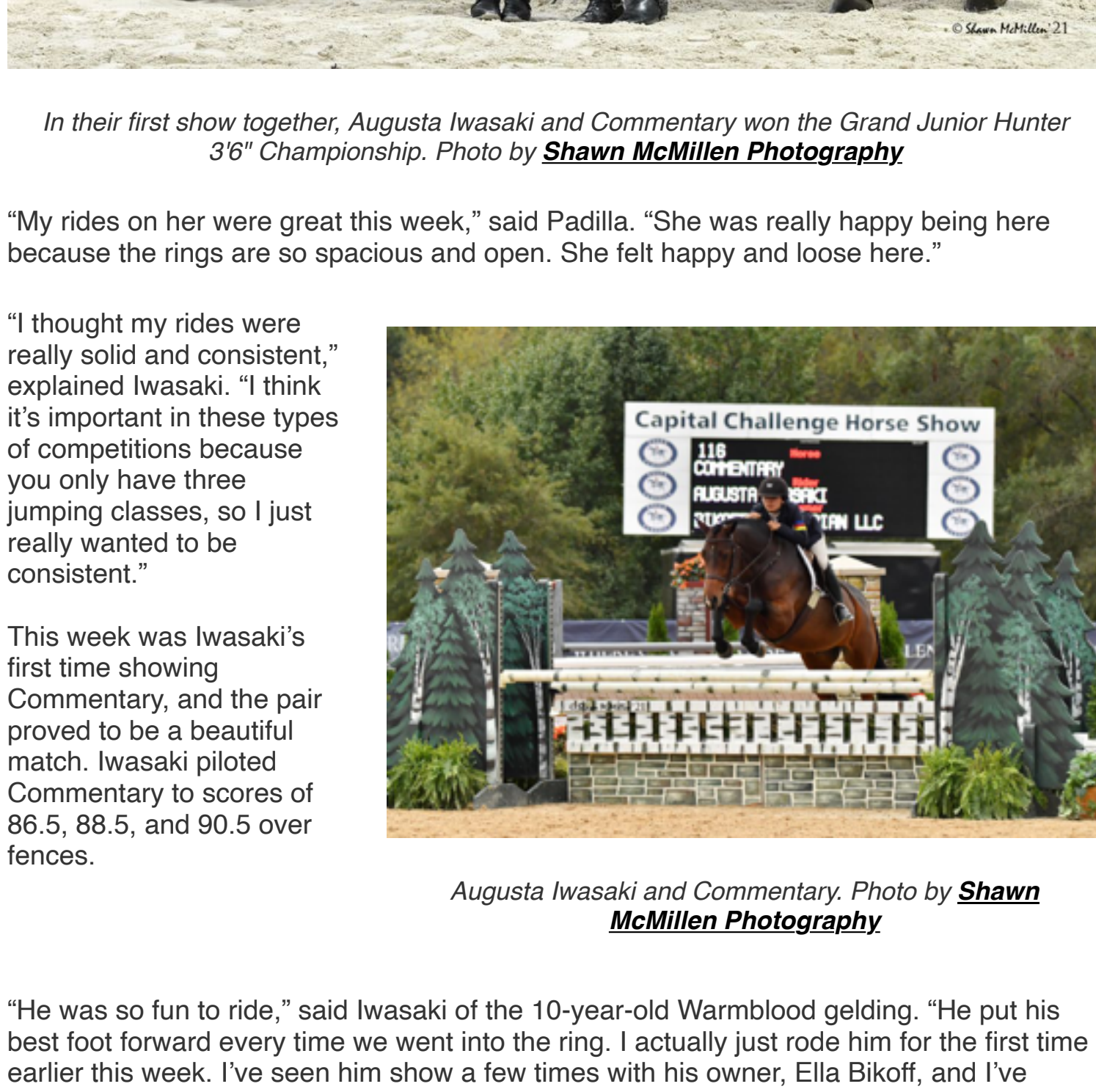
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10


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Augusta Iwasaki and Commentary Claim Grand Junior Hunter Championship

October 10, 2021 – Upper Marlboro, MD – Augusta Iwasaki of Calabasas, California, rode Bikoff Equestrian LLC's Commentary to the Grand Junior Hunter 3'6" Championship on Sunday, October 10, to conclude the 2021 Capital Challenge Horse Show, held at Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Iwasaki and Commentary first earned the Small Junior Hunter 16-17 championship, sponsored by Three Ships LLC, before being crowned Grand Champion. The pair earned two blue ribbons over fences, a second place in the stake class, and an additional first place in the under saddle.



In their first show together, Augusta Iwasaki and Commentary won the Grand Junior Hunter 3'6" Championship. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

"My rides on her were great this week," said Padilla. "She was really happy being here because the rings are so spacious and open. She felt happy and loose here."

"I thought my rides were really solid and consistent," explained Iwasaki. "I think it's important in these types of competitions because you only have three jumping classes, so I just really wanted to be consistent."

This week was Iwasaki's first time showing Commentary, and the pair proved to be a beautiful match. Iwasaki piloted Commentary to scores of 86.5, 88.5, and 90.5 over fences.



Augusta Iwasaki and Commentary. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

"He was so fun to ride," said Iwasaki of the 10-year-old Warmblood gelding. "He put his best foot forward every time we went into the ring. I actually just rode him for the first time earlier this week. I've seen him show a few times with his owner, Ella Bikoff, and I've always really liked him.

"It's challenging to get on a new horse and try to do the best that you can," she continued. "I think that only makes you a better rider, to be able to get on different horses and ride them the way they need to be ridden."



The champion of the Small Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 and Under division was Sterling Malnik on her own Coronation. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).



Brooke Morin and For Fun were the Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 16-17 champions. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).



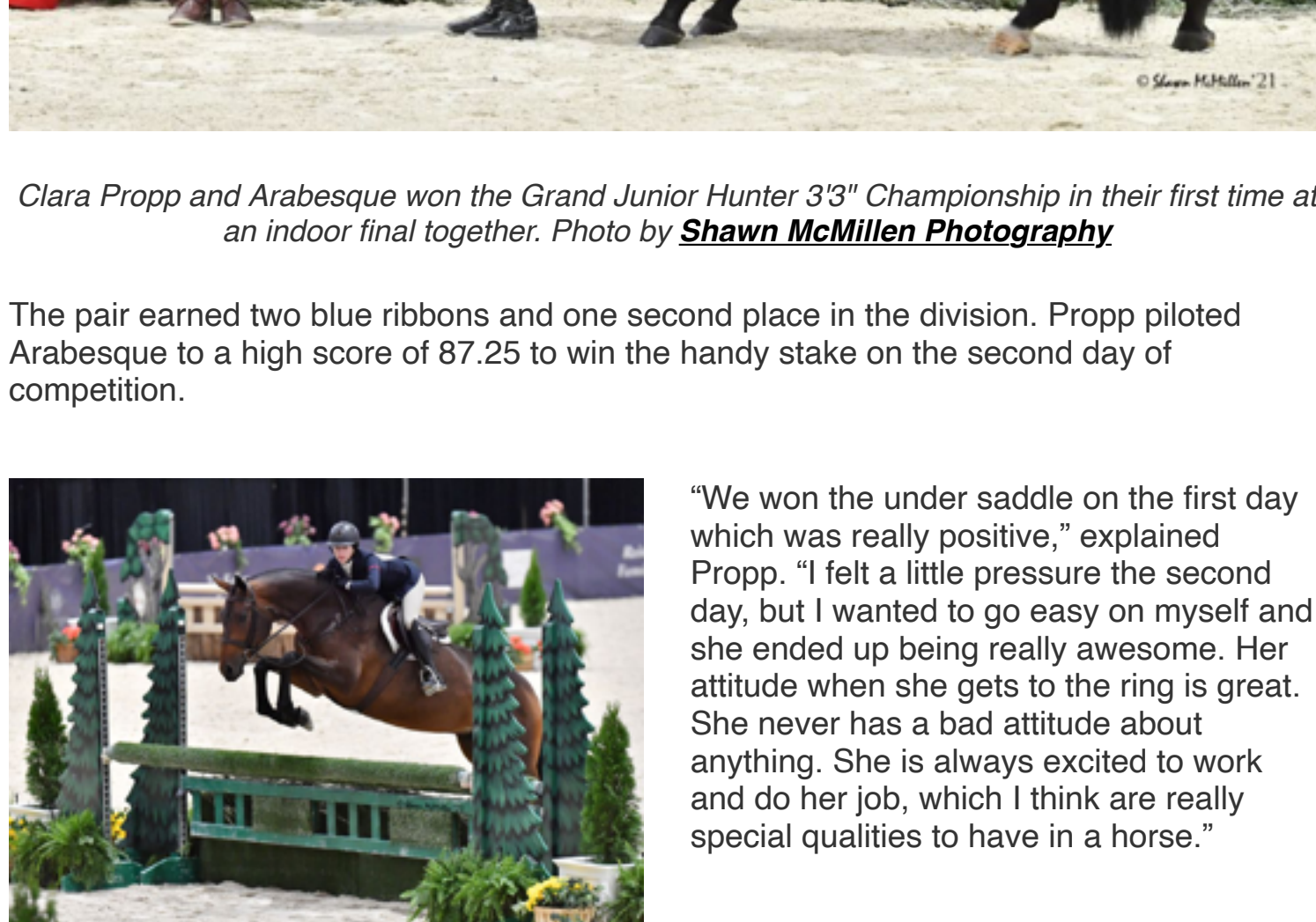
Raina Swani and Shadowfax Equestrian LLC's Small Occasion earned the Large Junior Hunter 3'6" 15 and Under championship title. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

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Clara Propp Rides Arabesque to the Grand Junior Hunter 3'3" Championship

Clara Propp of New York, New York, and Aquitaine Equine's Arabesque earned the Grand Junior Hunter 3'3" Championship, sponsored by Aubrey Hill Equestrian.

On their way to the overall Grand Junior Hunter 3'3" Championship, Propp and Arabesque received the Junior Hunter 3'3" 14 and Under division championship, sponsored by Hesslink*Williams. Propp was also presented with the Best Junior 3'3" Rider Award, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Taramianz.



Clara Propp and Arabesque won the Grand Junior Hunter 3'3" Championship in their first time at an indoor final together. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

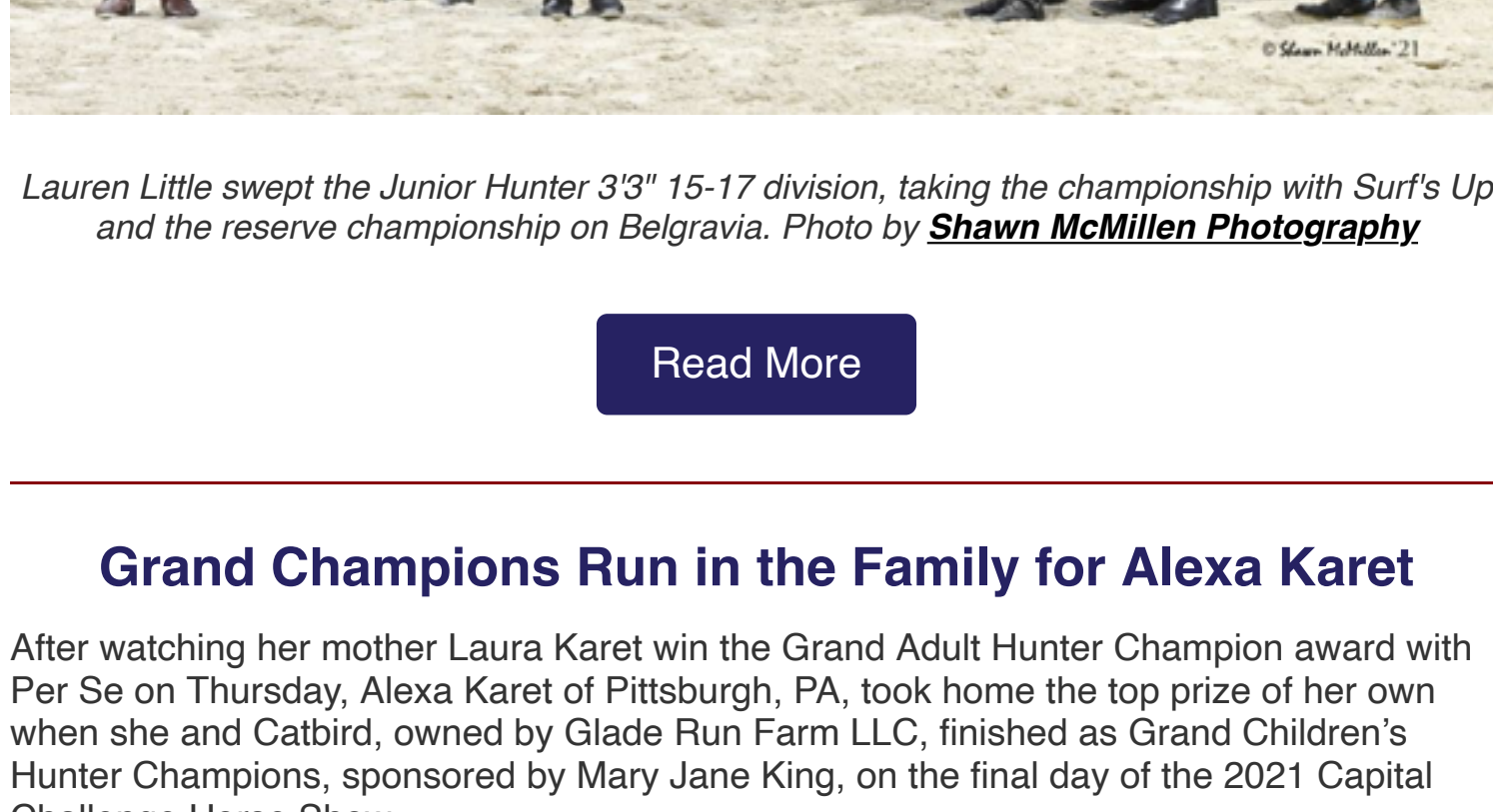
The pair earned two blue ribbons and one second place in the division. Propp piloted Arabesque to a high score of 87.25 to win the handy stake on the second day of competition.



Clara Propp and Arabesque. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

"We won the under saddle on the first day which was really positive," explained Propp. "I felt a little pressure the second day, but I wanted to go easy on myself and she ended up being really awesome. Her attitude when she gets to the ring is great. She never has a bad attitude about anything. She is always excited to work and do her job, which I think are really special qualities to have in a horse."

Although Propp has competed at Capital Challenge for several years, her mount Arabesque is new to the show. This championship is also Propp's first big victory at Capital Challenge.

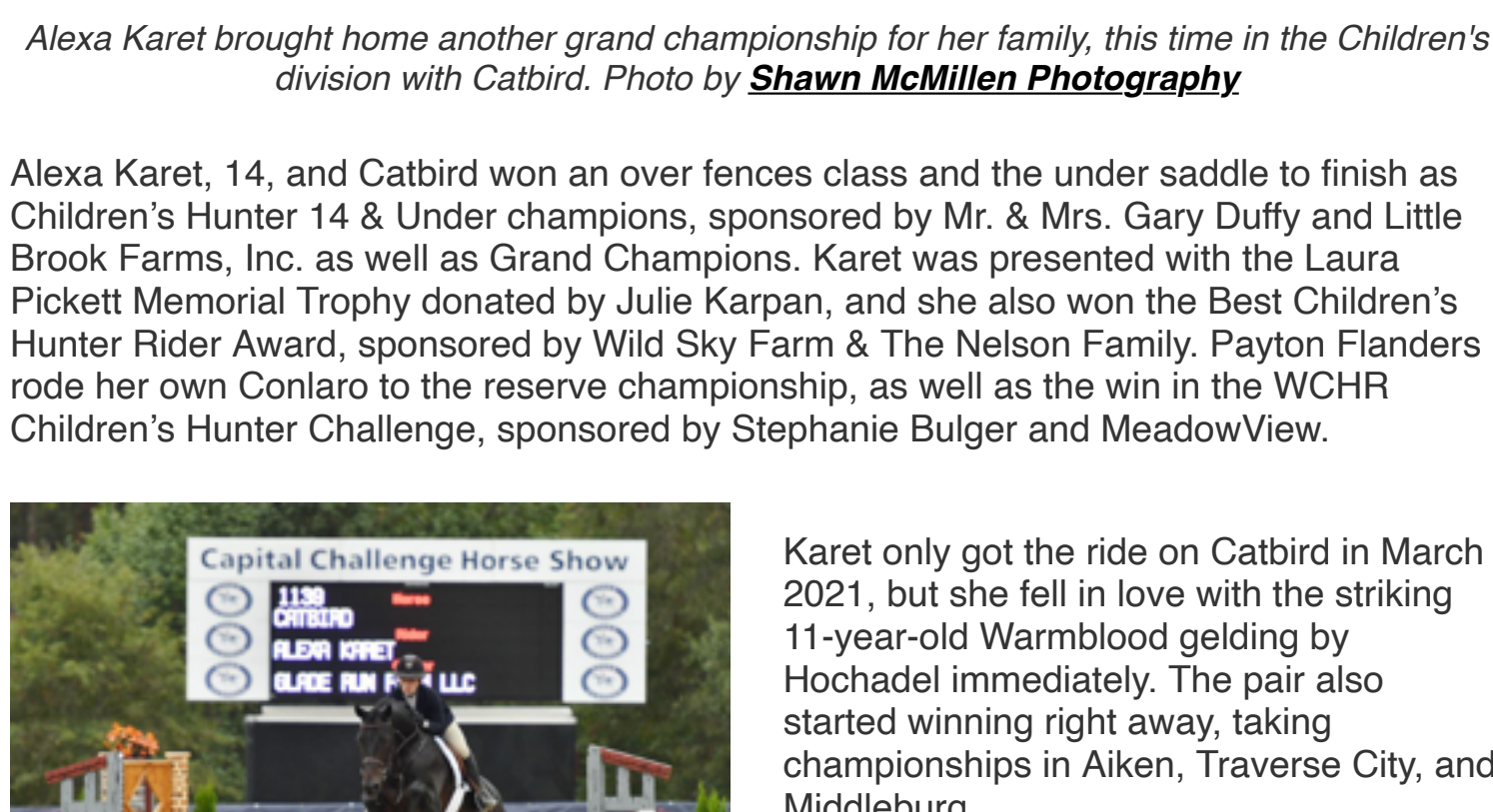


Lauren Little swept the Junior Hunter 3'3" 15-17 division, taking the championship with Surf's Up and the reserve championship on Belgravia. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

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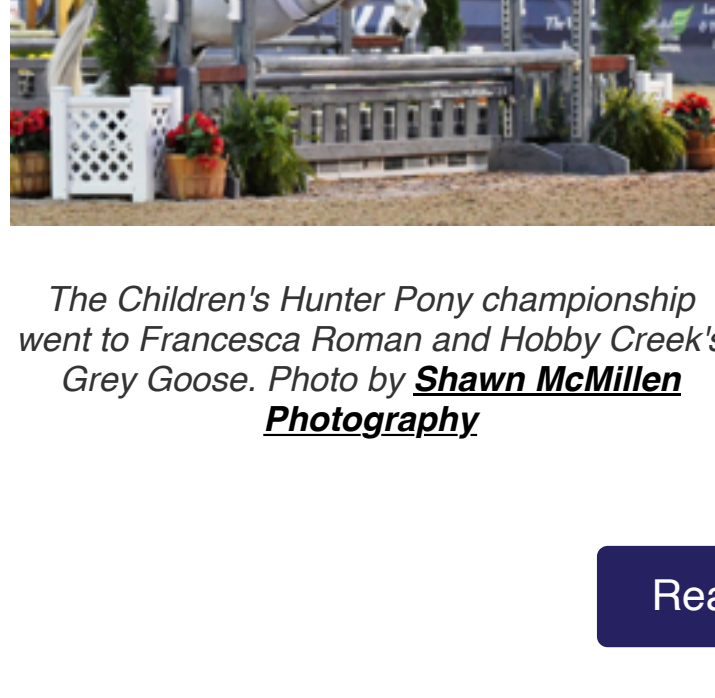
Grand Champions Run in the Family for Alexa Karet

After watching her mother Laura Karet win the Grand Adult Hunter Champion award with Per Se on Thursday, Alexa Karet of Pittsburgh, PA, took home the top prize of her own when she and Catbird, owned by Glade Run Farm LLC, finished as Grand Children's Hunter Champions, sponsored by Mary Jane King, on the final day of the 2021 Capital Challenge Horse Show.



Alexa Karet brought home another grand championship for her family, this time in the Children's division with Catbird. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

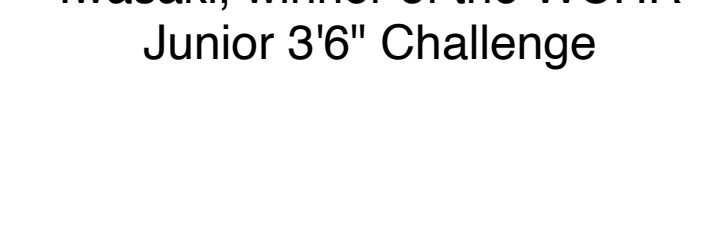
Alexa Karet, 14, and Catbird won an over fences class and the under saddle to finish as Children's Hunter 14 and Under champions, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Duffy and Little Brook Farms, Inc. as well as Grand Champions. Karet was presented with the Laura Pickett Memorial Trophy donated by Julie Karpan, and she also won the Best Children's Hunter Rider Award, sponsored by Wild Sky Farm & The Nelson Family. Payton Flanders rode her own Conlario to the reserve championship, as well as the win in the WCHR Children's Hunter Challenge, sponsored by Stephanie Bulger and MeadowView.



Alexa Karet and Catbird. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

Karet only got the ride on Catbird in March 2021, but she fell in love with the striking 11-year-old Warmblood gelding by Hochadel immediately. The pair also started winning right away, taking championships in Aiken, Traverse City, and Middleburg.

"He is one of the most amazing horses to ride. He is so smooth, and his jump is really soft, so it feels like you're floating," she described. "What I like most about him is his personality. His barn name is 'Cookie,' which is perfect for him because he is so sweet. He is also really smart, and you can tell that he studies and thinks through things."



The Children's Hunter Pony champion went to Francesca Roman and Hobby Creek's Grey Goose. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).



The Children's Hunter 15-17 champion was Take Heart, ridden and owned by Emma Shove. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#).

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Watch More From the Final Day of 2021 CCHS

Watch an interview with Augusta Iwasaki, winner of the WCHR Junior 3'6" Challenge



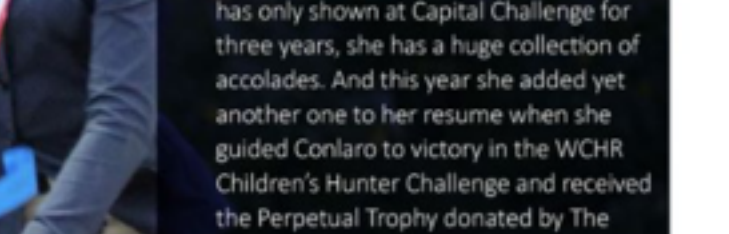
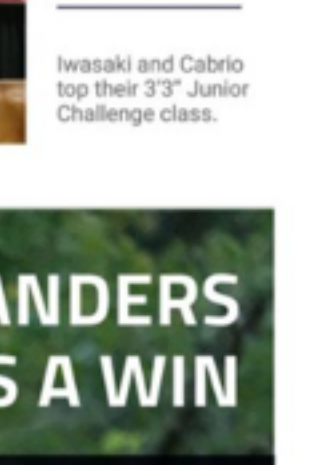
Hear from Lauren Hunter Little, who swept the Junior 3'3" 15-17 division and won the WCHR Junior 3'3" Challenge



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