



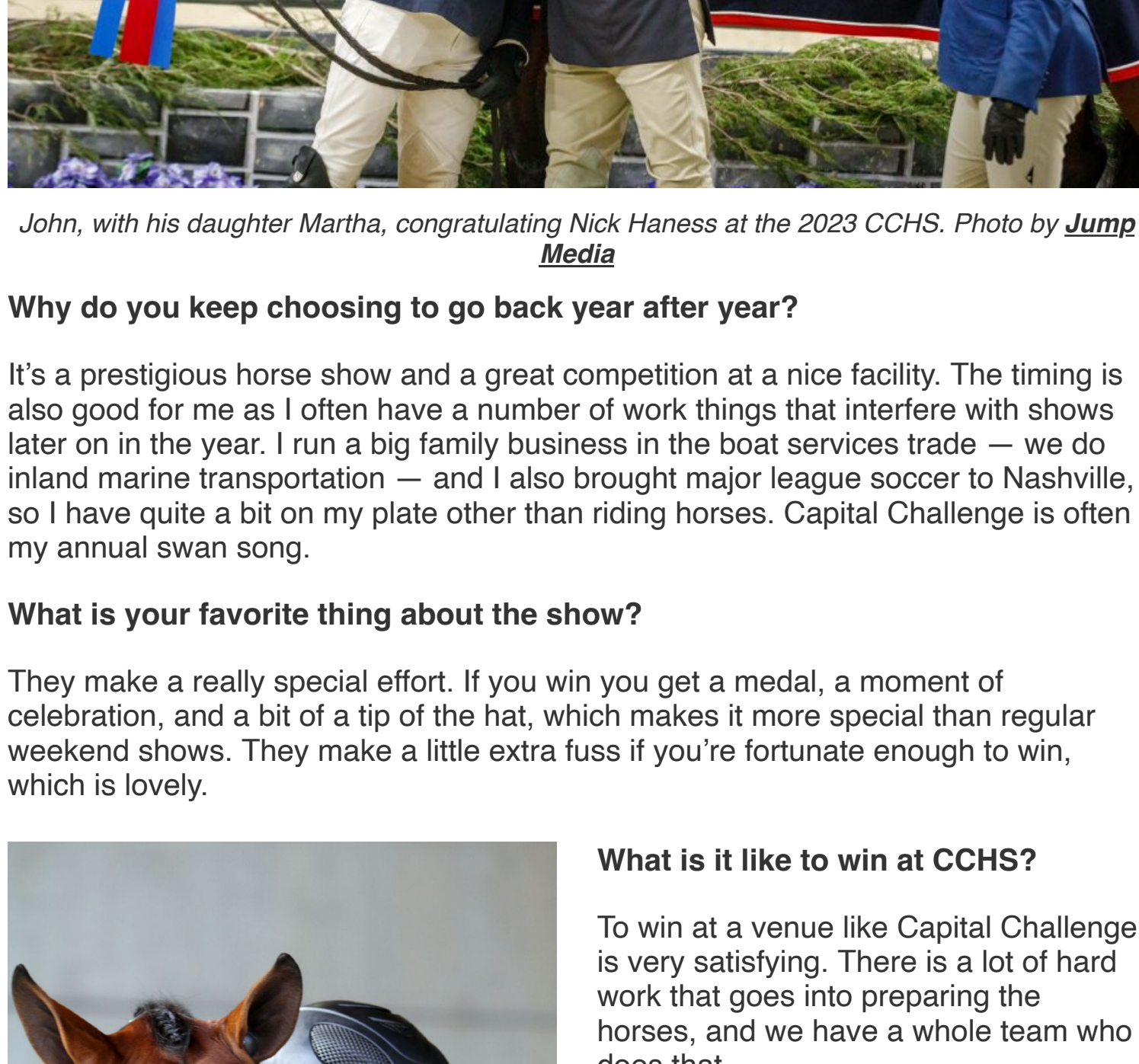
For Immediate Release | August 22, 2024
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Meet Prolific Amateur and Long-Time CCHS Exhibitor John Ingram

What is your history with CCHS?

As a junior rider, I didn't really do a lot of indoor shows; that started more with the adult amateurs. I've been a pretty consistent competitor at Capital Challenge for the past 15-plus years.

Being at Capital Challenge is a really different schedule than what we are used to. It's a whole different thing getting up and riding early — you typically have to get in the ring at 6 a.m. — but it's the culmination of the year for us. Riders from the West Coast come for the year-end competition. It's the best horses and riders who typically show up, so it's extremely competitive.



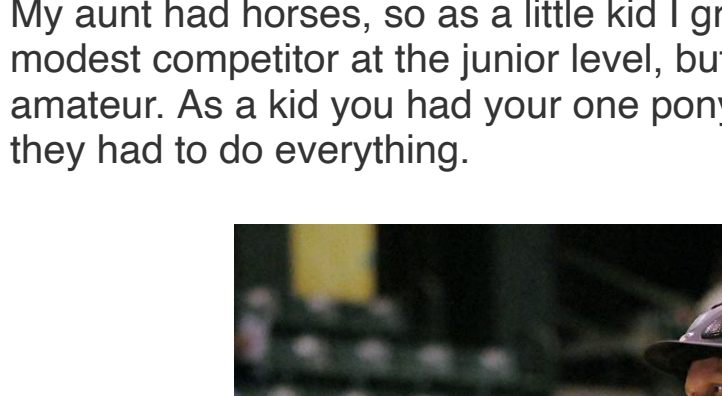
John, with his daughter Martha, congratulating Nick Haness at the 2023 CCHS. Photo by [Jump Media](#)

Why do you keep choosing to go back year after year?

It's a prestigious horse show and a great competition at a nice facility. The timing is also good for me as I often have a number of work things that interfere with shows later on in the year. I run a big family business in the boat services trade — we do inland marine transportation — and I also brought major league soccer to Nashville, so I have quite a bit on my plate other than riding horses. Capital Challenge is often my annual swan song.

What is your favorite thing about the show?

They make a really special effort. If you win you get a medal, a moment of celebration, and a bit of a tip of the hat, which makes it more special than regular weekend shows. They make a little extra fuss if you're fortunate enough to win, which is lovely.



John and Airport 48

What is it like to win at CCHS?

To win at a venue like Capital Challenge is very satisfying. There is a lot of hard work that goes into preparing the horses, and we have a whole team who does that.

I want to be fit, prepared, and rested myself, too, to give myself a decent chance.

What was your most memorable CCHS win?

I had a great horse called Airport 48 and, one year when I walked into the ring, I wasn't sure whether I'd win or get bucked off him. He held it together and won, and then he was champion. That was a great thrill.

What is your background with horses?

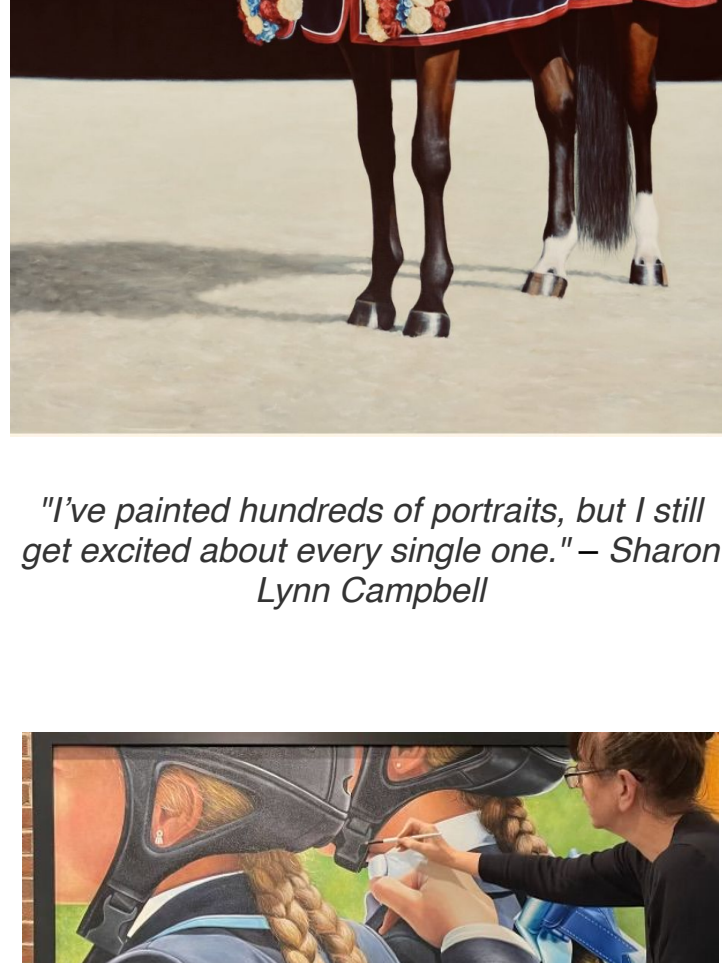
My aunt had horses, so as a little kid I grew up riding with my cousins. I was a pretty modest competitor at the junior level, but I've amped it up considerably as an adult amateur. As a kid you had your one pony for foxhunting, as your equitation horse — they had to do everything.



"The first time I ever competed there was on a fantastic horse called Hush, who was one of the best movers in the country." — John Ingram

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Q&A With Capital Challenge Horse Show Official Artist Sharon Lynn Campbell



"I've painted hundreds of portraits, but I still get excited about every single one." — Sharon Lynn Campbell

What is your role at the Capital Challenge Horse Show?

I create the poster art, the prize list front cover, and the cover for the program, which gets distributed at the show. The rider who wins the WCHR Professional Finals gets to be on the official poster. The job consists of three different pieces for Capital Challenge every year.

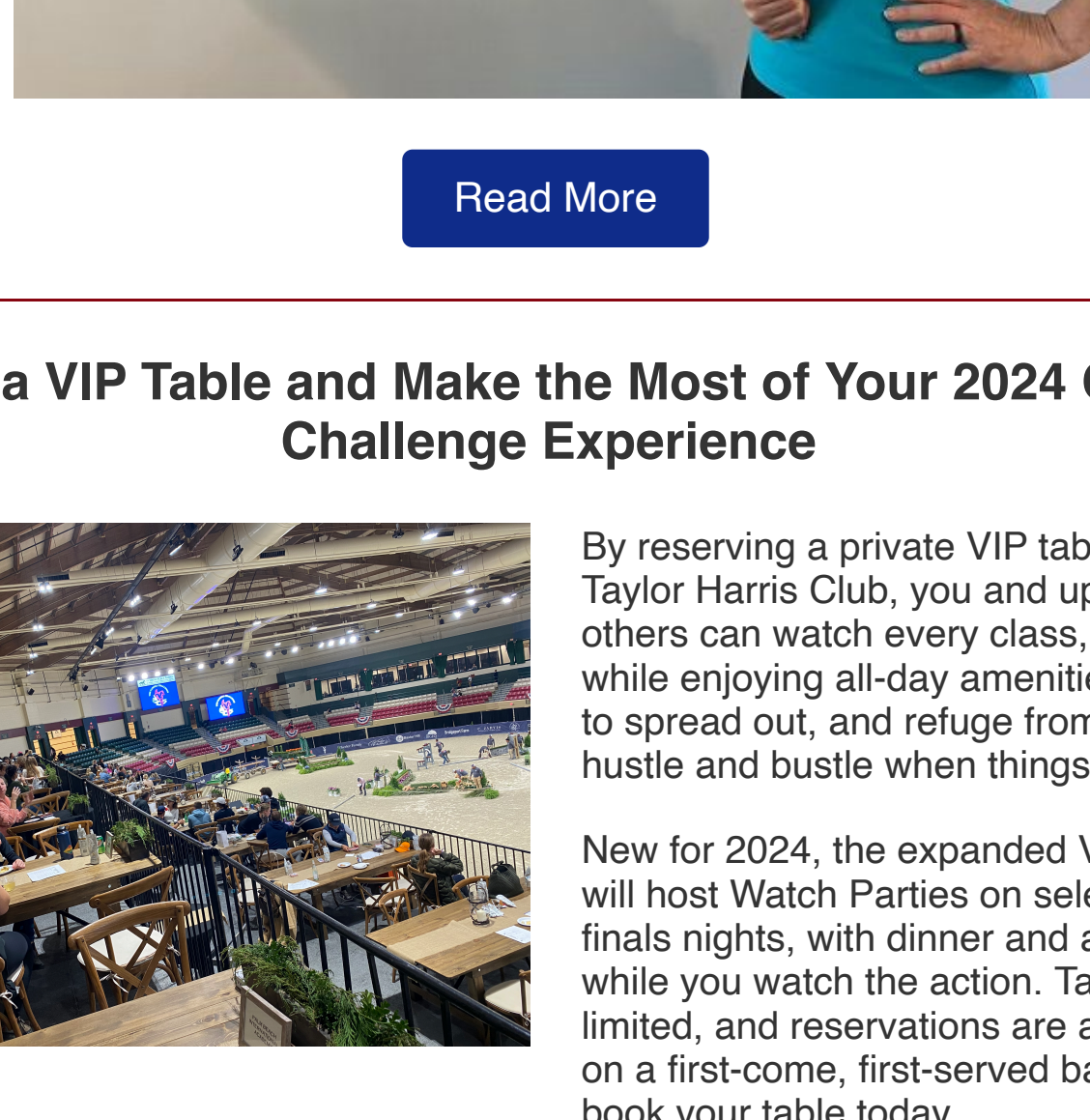
What is your background with horses?

I've been riding since I was eight. We had a farm in Indiana, and we started importing horses from Holland in the 80s, so I was showing, training, and teaching hunter/jumper — we had 36 horses in the barn. Back then, the blacksmiths were used to thoroughbreds or quarter horses, and when we got the warmbloods a couple of them got hurt by the farrier, so I went to shoeing school. I would shoe two in the morning, then ride 10 horses, then teach in the evening.



How did you get into equestrian art?

I went through a divorce and spent seven years on my own with my three kids. Then I met my now husband, and we married in July 1999. In September of 1999, my faith led me to paint; God told me to do this. I've been booked up ever since; it's been crazy that I've had clients year-round right from the start. I have no formal training — just high school art classes. I didn't go to college because back then all I wanted to do was show horses and ride.



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Book a VIP Table and Make the Most of Your 2024 Capital Challenge Experience



By reserving a private VIP table at the Taylor Harris Club, you and up to five others can watch every class, every day, while enjoying all-day amenities, a place to spread out, and refuge from the hustle and bustle when things get busy.

New for 2024, the expanded VIP Club will host Watch Parties on selected finals nights, with dinner and a full bar while you watch the action. Tables are limited, and reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so book your table today.

[Reserve Your Table Now](#)

The all-day amenities at the Taylor Harris Club include:

- Spacious and private seating for six, or high-top tables for four
- Watch the indoor action from the best seats at the horse show
- *NEW* Watch Parties during selected evenings with dinner and open bar
- Keep tabs on the outdoor action with big-screen monitors
- Enjoy espresso coffee, tea, and hot and cold beverages all day
- Breakfast options every day starting bright and early
- Light choices at lunch, small bites in the evenings, and all-day snacks
- Evening beer and wine from 5-7 p.m.
- Wi-Fi internet access

Reserve your table when entering online or from the "Ringside Tables" tab at www.Capitalchallenge.org. For further information or to reserve directly, call or text Lisa Rossi at 202-255-8805 or email LisaRossi@CapitalChallenge.org.

A Note About SafeSport to All Capital Challenge Participants

The Capital Challenge Horse Show reminds all participants that they are bound by the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, USEF Safe Sport Policy, and [Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies](#), also known as the MAAPP. This includes the SafeSport Training requirement for adult members and participants who have regular contact with or authority over minor athletes. Additionally, please remember reporting obligations. Any concerns that are non-sexual in nature, please use the [USEF Safe Sport Incident Reporting Form](#) available on the USEF website. Concerns or suspicions regarding sexual misconduct must be reported to <https://safesport.isight.com/portal> and the authorities if a minor is involved. All of this information can be found in the [USEF Safe Sport Policy](#).

Please take a moment to review the [USEF Safe Sport web pages](#) on the USEF website to find comprehensive resources regarding USEF Safe Sport efforts. You can also contact Sarah Gilbert, USEF Safe Sport Program Coordinator, at sgilbert@usef.org for any questions or concerns relating to the USEF Safe Sport program.

Thank you for your support and for helping Capital Challenge and USEF bring the joy of horse sports to as many people as possible!

About the Capital Challenge Horse Show

The Capital Challenge Horse Show, an official USEF Heritage Competition, has a distinct and unique focus on preeminent hunter and equitation competition. The 2024 edition of the Capital Challenge Horse Show will take place from September 26-October 6. The 11 days of competition include prestigious equitation events, jumper divisions, the World Championship Hunter Rider (WCHR) Finals, the Green Hunter North American Championships, and more, with many of the country's best horses and riders competing in junior, amateur, and professional divisions. Follow the 2024 show on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), or [TikTok](#). For winning rounds and rider interviews, check out the [Capital Challenge Horse Show YouTube channel](#).

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