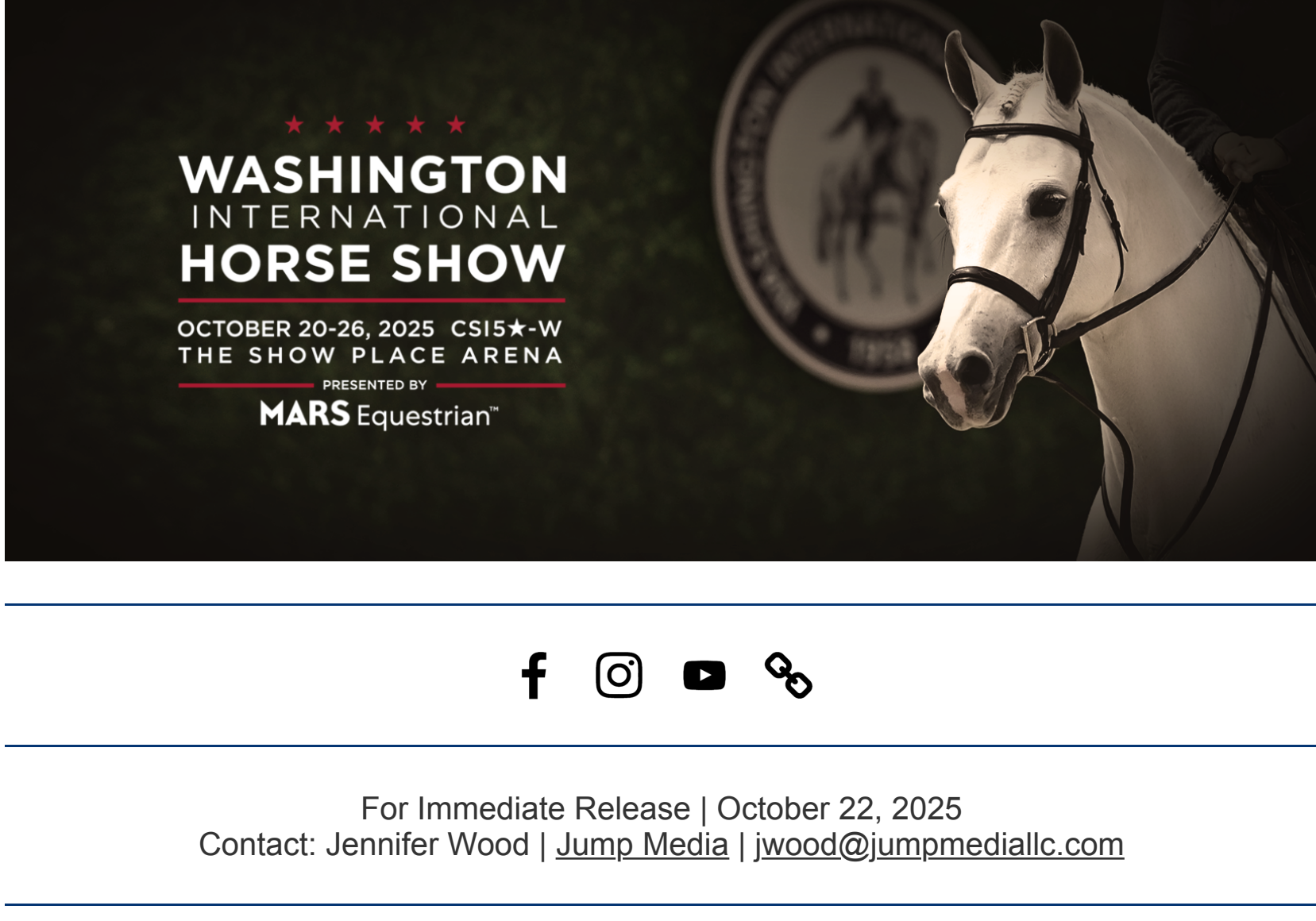




For Immediate Release | October 22, 2025
Contact: Jennifer Wood | [Jump Media | jwood@jumpmediallc.com](mailto:jwood@jumpmediallc.com)

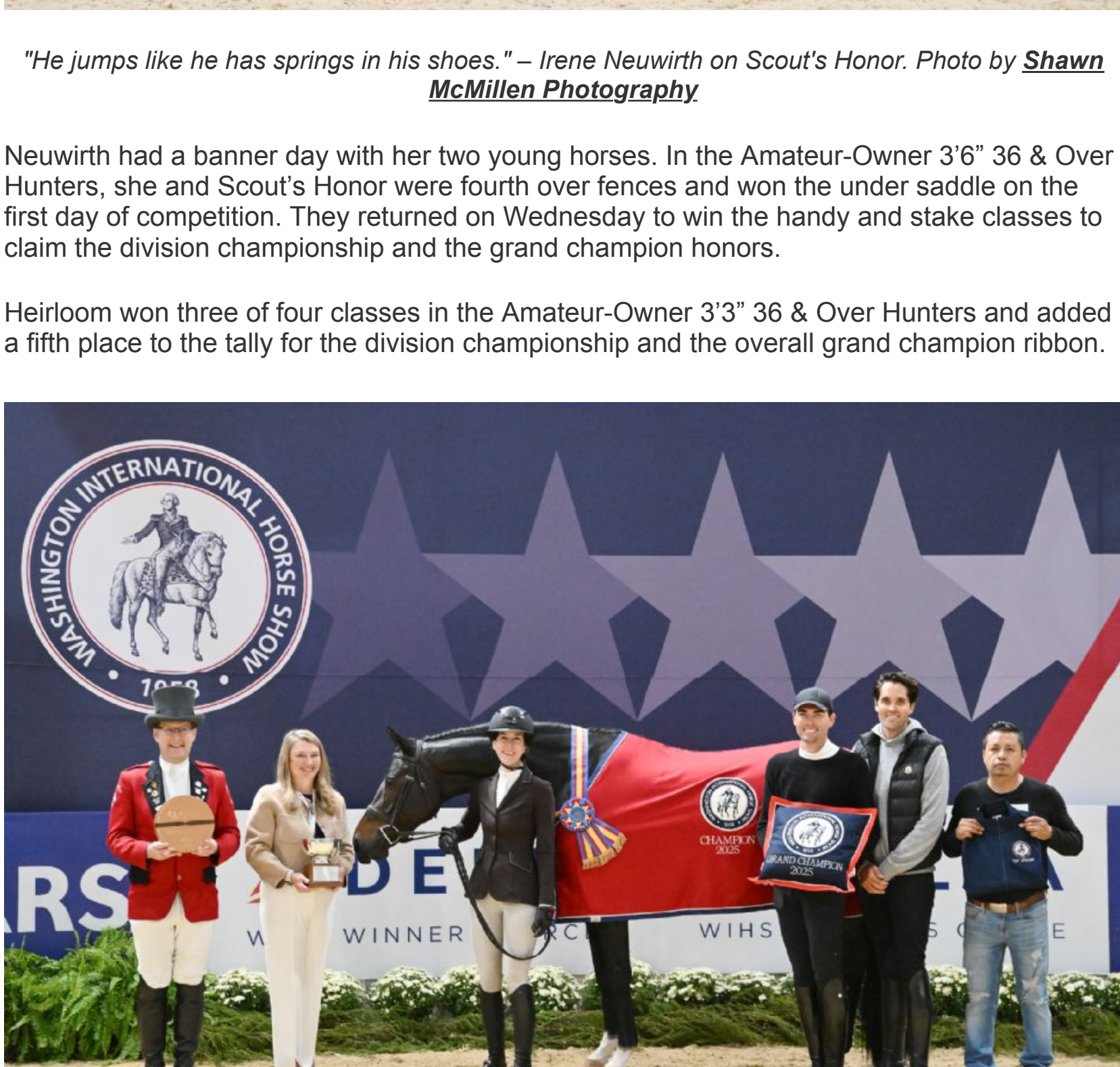
Live Stream

Results

Evening Tickets

NEUWIRTH SWEEPS GRAND AMATEUR-OWNER HUNTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Upper Marlboro, MD – The third day of the 2025 Washington International Horse Show (WIHS) recognized the best of the best in the Amateur-Owner Hunters. Irene Neuwirth of Culver City, CA, rode Scout's Honor to the Grand Amateur-Owner 3'6" Hunter Championship, while she and Heirloom received the Grand Amateur-Owner 3'3" Hunter Championship.



"He jumps like he has springs in his shoes." – Irene Neuwirth on Scout's Honor. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

Neuwirth had a banner day with her two young horses. In the Amateur-Owner 3'6" 36 & Over Hunters, she and Scout's Honor were fourth over fences and won the under saddle on the first day of competition. They returned on Wednesday to win the handy and stake classes to claim the division championship and the grand champion honors.

Heirloom won three of four classes in the Amateur-Owner 3'3" 36 & Over Hunters and added a fifth place to the tally for the division championship and the overall grand champion ribbon.

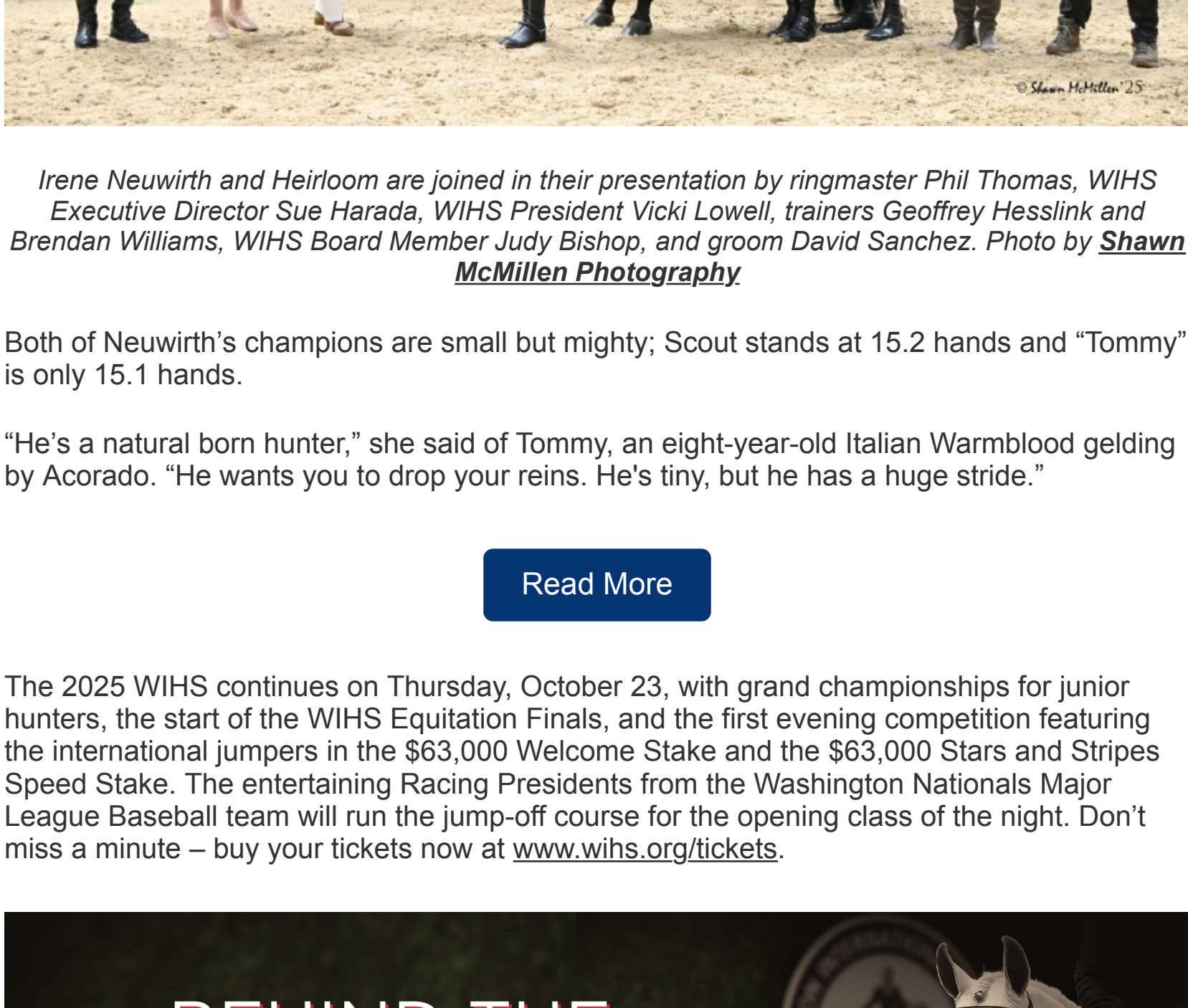


Ringmaster Phil Thomas, WIHS President Vicki Lowell, trainers Geoffrey Hesslink and Brendan Williams, and groom Chino Sanchez join Irene Neuwirth and Scout's Honor in their grand presentation. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

"He's a very special horse," she said of Scout's Honor, a seven-year-old Holsteiner gelding by Diarado. "He jumps like he has springs in his shoes. He has a giant stride, and he's very maneuverable.

"He's such a fun horse to ride," she continued. "He's made me love handy classes. I used to get really nervous and afraid, but he pays attention. You look one way, and he's right there. You push him forward, and he opens his stride really nicely. I think he's a real winner."

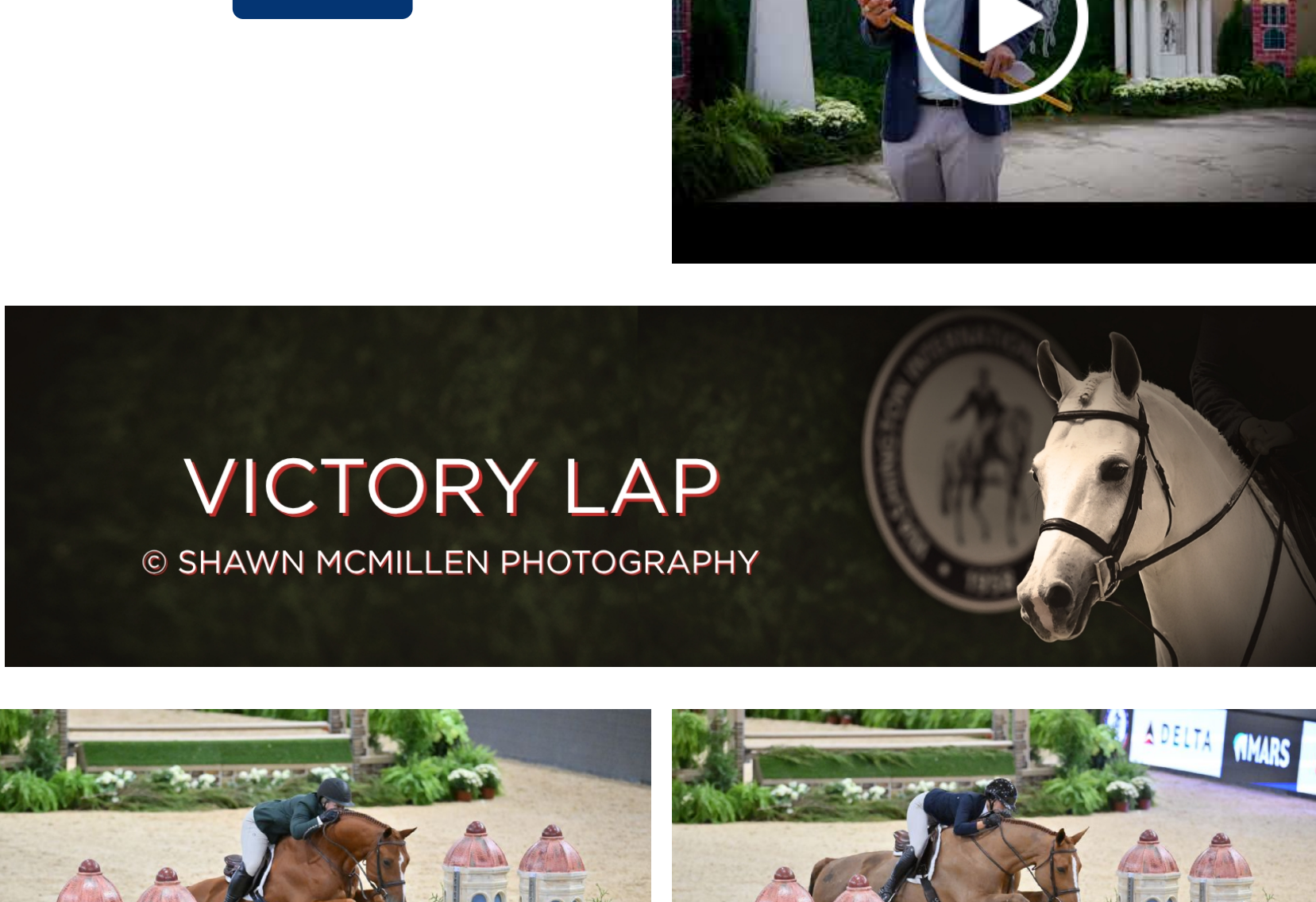
[Read More](#)



Aeronauc and Daniel Geitner swept the Green Hunter 3'9" division to tie for the Grand Hunter Championship. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

While Neuwirth has had success with "Scout" — they were reserve champions at last year's WIHS and grand champions at the 2024 Devon Horse Show at the 3'3" height — her partnership with Heirloom is brand new.

"I just bought Heirloom four weeks ago," she revealed. "I hoped that he would go around, be brave, and we could get our lead changes. I didn't have huge expectations, but every single time I've shown him, he's exceeded them."



Irene Neuwirth and Heirloom are joined in their presentation by ringmaster Phil Thomas, WIHS Executive Director Sue Harada, WIHS President Vicki Lowell, trainers Geoffrey Hesslink and Brendan Williams, WIHS Board Member Judy Bishop, and groom David Sanchez. Photo by [Shawn McMillen Photography](#)

Both of Neuwirth's champions are small but mighty; Scout stands at 15.2 hands and "Tommy" is only 15.1 hands.

"He's a natural born hunter," she said of Tommy, an eight-year-old Italian Warmblood gelding by Acorado. "He wants you to drop your reins. He's tiny, but he has a huge stride."

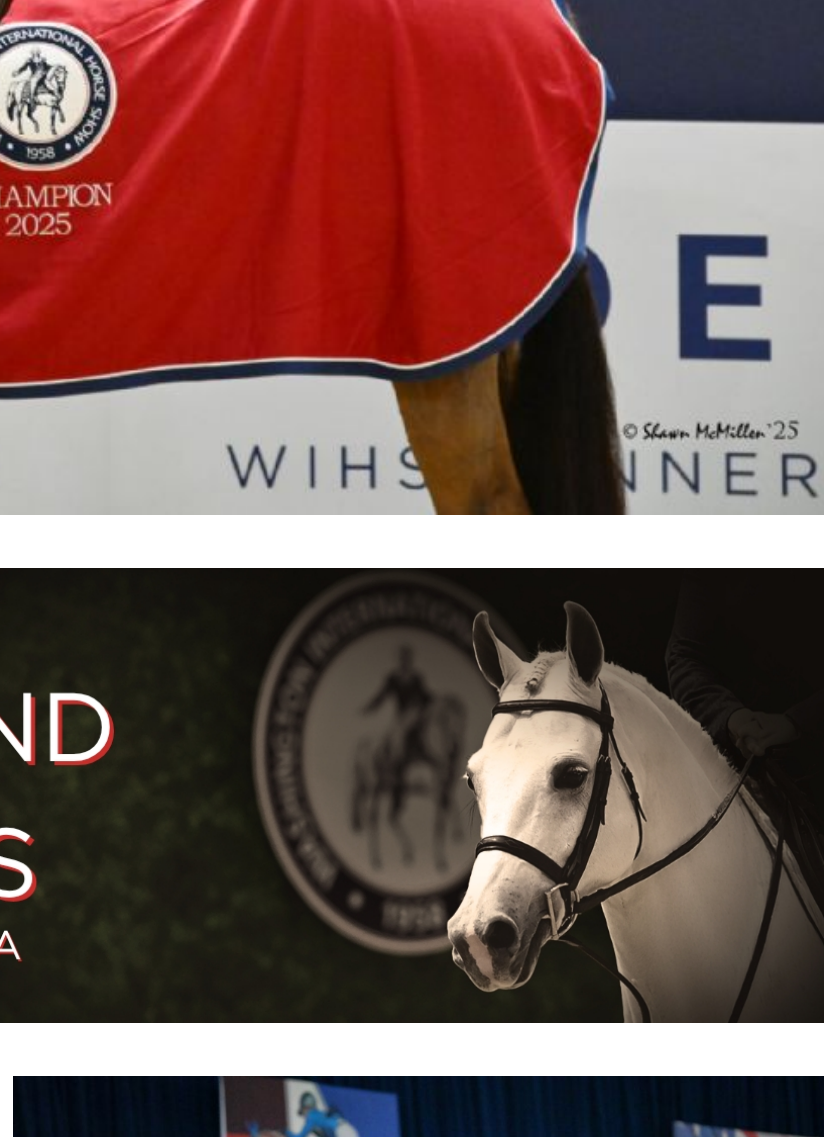
[Read More](#)

The 2025 WIHS continues on Thursday, October 23, with grand championships for junior hunters, the start of the WIHS Equitation Finals, and the first evening competition featuring the international jumpers in the \$63,000 Welcome Stake and the \$63,000 Stars and Stripes Speed Stake. The entertaining Racing Presidents from the Washington Nationals Major League Baseball team will run the jump-off course for the opening class of the night. Don't miss a minute – buy your tickets now at www.wihs.org/tickets.



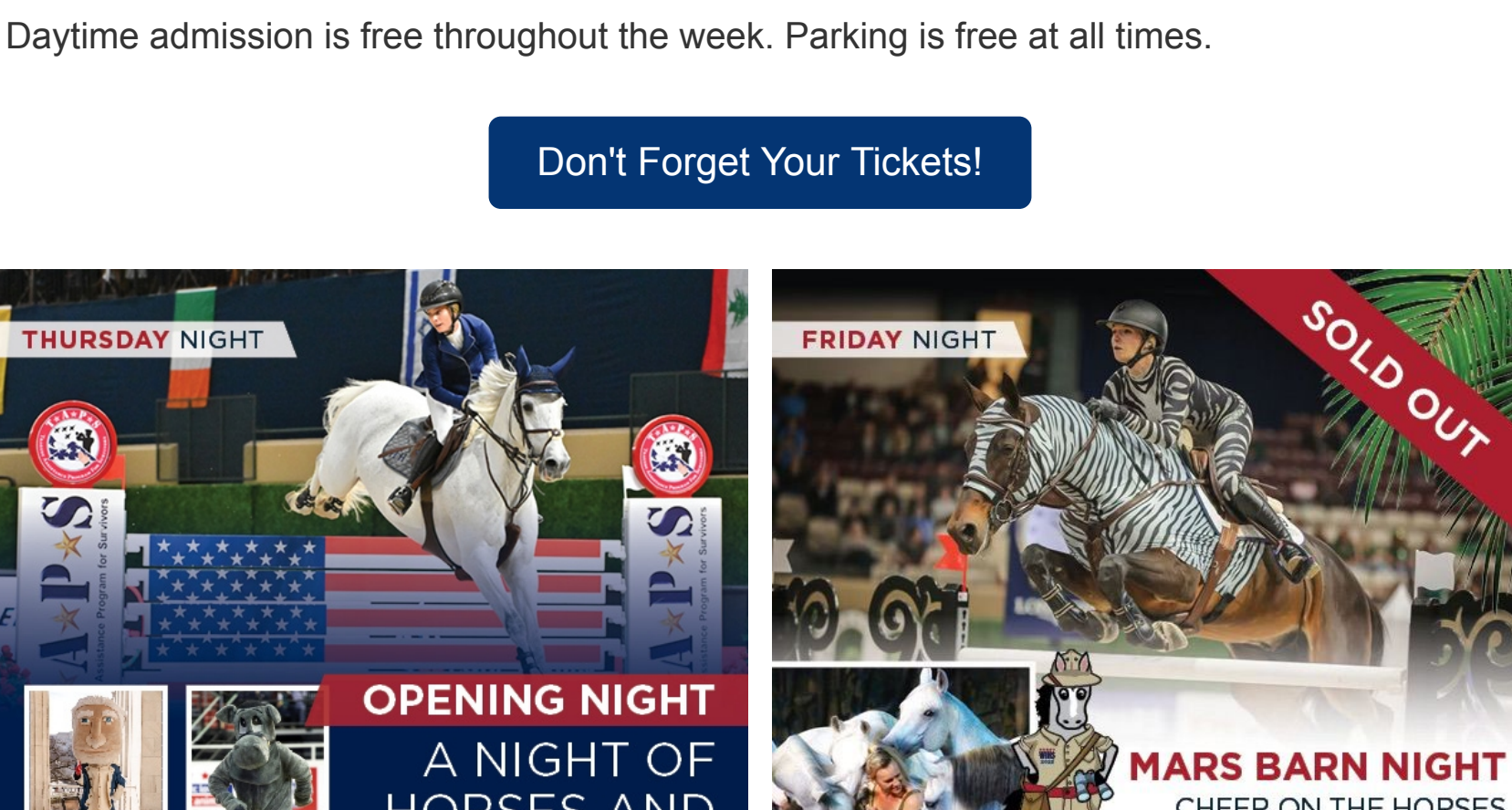
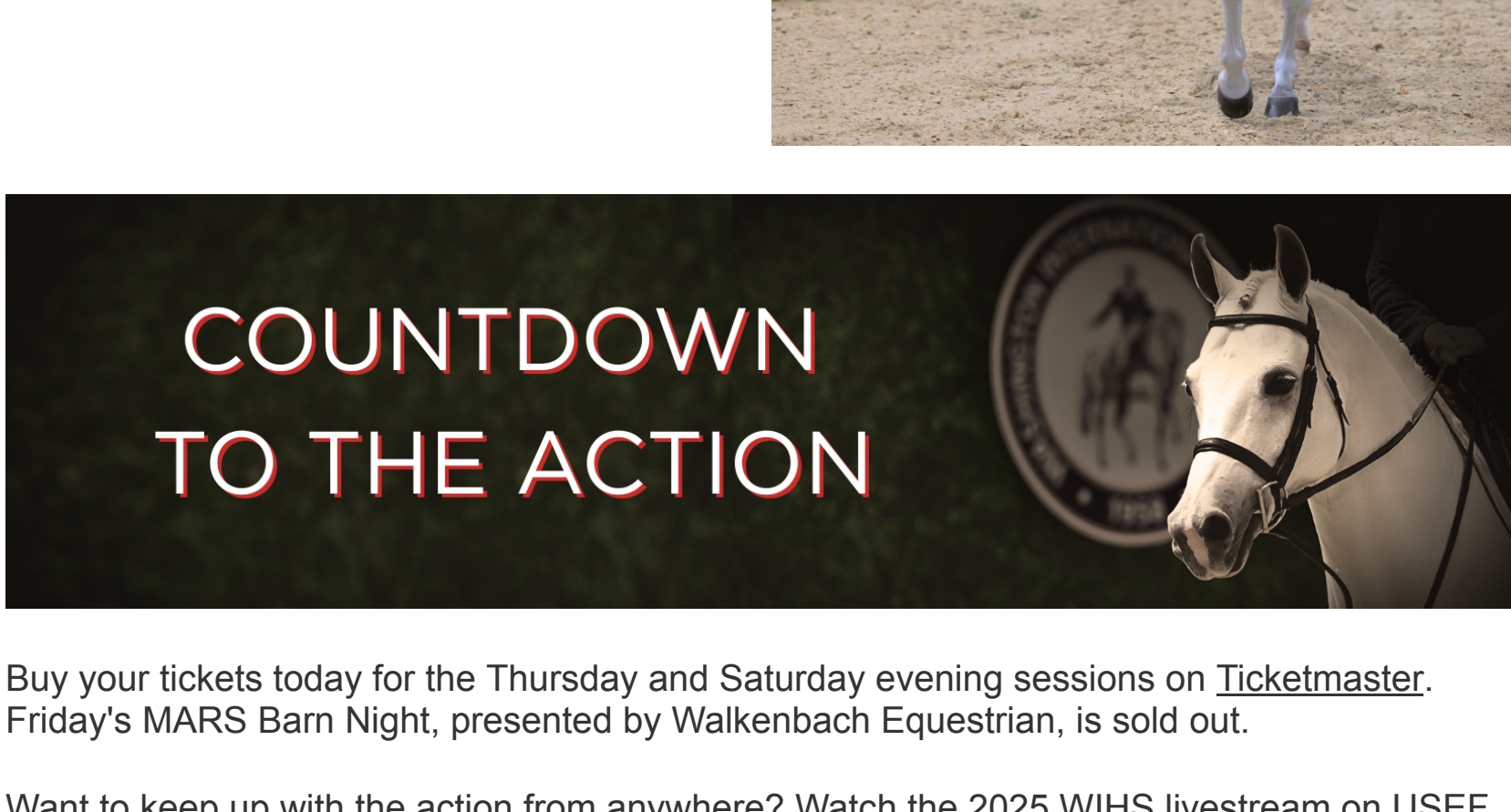
[Listen to Irene Neuwirth discuss her two small but powerful grand champions](#)

Watch



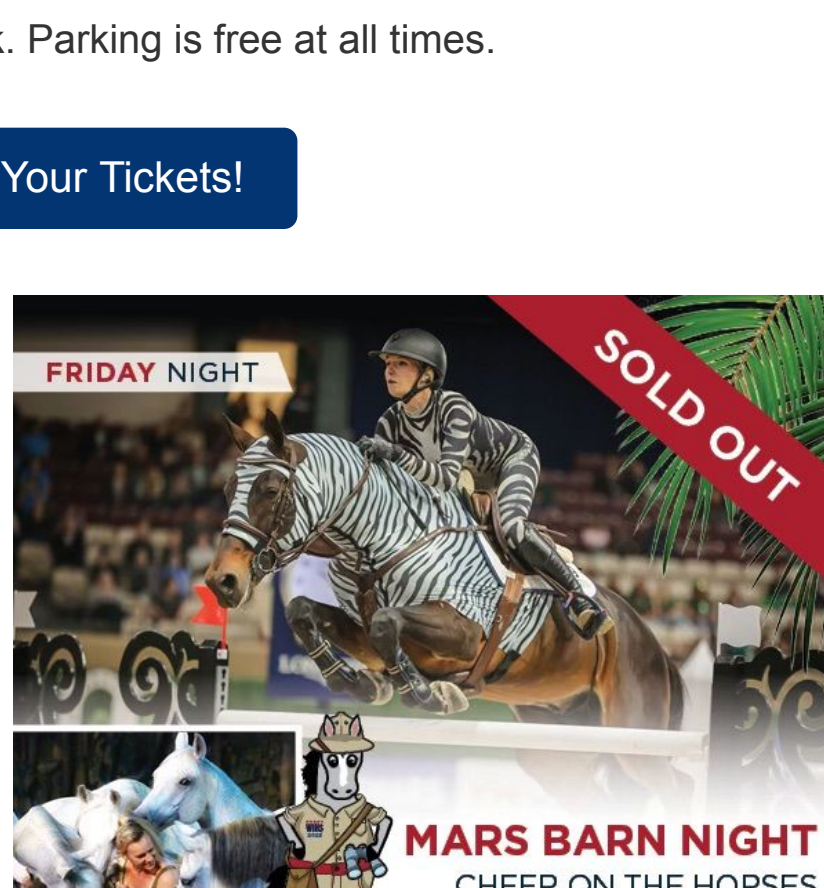
[Learn from international jumping course designer Nick Granat on what can be expected for this week's competition](#)

Watch



Amateur-Owner 3'3" 18-35

Champion: Bordeaux, Brittany Warden, Glebe Ventures LLC
Reserve Champion: Arabesque, Clara Propp, Aquitaine Equine



Amateur-Owner 3'6" 18-35

Champion: Daydream, Mimi Gochman, Gochman Sport Horse LLC
Reserve Champion: Colter, Mimi Gochman, Sophie Gochman



Grand Champion Amateur-Owner 3'3" Hunter
Leading Amateur-Owner 3'3" Rider Bucky Reynolds Memorial Award
Amateur-Owner 3'3" 36 & Over

Champion: Heirloom, Irene Neuwirth, Irene Neuwirth
Reserve Champion: Cadet, Stephanie Danhaki, Stephanie Danhaki



Grand Champion Amateur-Owner Hunter Leading Amateur-Owner 3'6" Rider
Amateur-Owner 3'6" 36 & Over

Champion: Scout's Honor, Irene Neuwirth, Irene Neuwirth
Reserve Champion: Camera Ready, Clementina Brown, Clementina Brown



Buy your tickets today for the Thursday and Saturday evening sessions on [Ticketmaster](#). Friday's MARS Barn Night, presented by Walkenbach Equestrian, is sold out.

Want to keep up with the action from anywhere? Watch the 2025 WIHS livestream on [USEF Network](#) throughout the week and on [FEI TV](#) for the week's five-star classes.

Daytime admission is free throughout the week. Parking is free at all times.

[Don't Forget Your Tickets!](#)



The WIHS Grand Prix Fan Guide Powered By [EquiRatings](#) will be available Saturday morning!

The 2025 WIHS Souvenir Program is now available online at wihs.org!

For more information, visit www.wihs.org.

About Washington International Horse Show, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization

Established in 1958, the Washington International Horse Show is one of North America's most prestigious, competitive, and entertaining equestrian events with competition for international, professional, amateur, junior and child riders. Highlights include the Longines FEI Jumping World Cup™ Washington CSI5*-W for the President's Cup, the WIHS Equitation Finals and Children's and Adult Hunter and Jumper Championships, top national hunters and jumpers, plus popular community and charity events. WIHS is an official USEF Heritage Competition. For more information, visit wihs.org.

