

Ocala Star Banner - **43rd year for HITS Ocala**

Doug Engle



A rider clears a jump during practice in the Hunter 1 ring Tuesday February 27, 2024. Tuesday was a practice day for competitors at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla. This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. There are about 1400 stalls at HITS. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024





Paul Banco, left, gives his wife's horse, Hugo a kiss on the nose as Rachael Schaeffer-Banco, right, fixes her stirrup Tuesday February 27, 2024 while on a practice day for competitors at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla. This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. There are about 1400 stalls at HITS. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

Paul Banco, left, gives his wife's horse, Hugo a kiss on the nose as Rachael Schaeffer-Banco, right, fixes her stirrup Tuesday February 27, 2024 while on a practice day for competitors at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla. This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. There are about 1400 stalls at HITS. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

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Vanessa Lee gives Chris a bath after his work out Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. There are about 1400 stalls at HITS. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Marianne Grothe a groom and rider, lunges Dancer's Ghost in the lunging ring Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. There are about 1400 stalls at HITS. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024





Farrier Mark Stuthers from Ottawa Canada, shoes a horse in the barn area Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

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Marianne Grothe a groom and rider, prepares to take Dancer's Ghost out to the lunging ring Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024 Doug Engle/Ocala Star-Banner



Juan Montoya is the HITS Show Decorator and talks about how he and his crew set up the courses for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024





A member of Juan Montoya's HITS Show Decorator crew moves a jump end while setting up the course for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Chanel Chen cleans her saddle Tuesday February 27, 2024 after practice at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Mr. Bear, with East End Stables out of Long Island East Hampton, N.Y., guard's the farm's golf cart Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Eleanor Ephraim, left, gets some help from her mother Jess Ephraim, right, with a buckling up her safety vest before riding a pony Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla. This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024





Paul Banco, right, helps his wife, Rachael Schaeffer-Banco, left, with her stirrup Tuesday February 27, 2024 while on a practice day for competitors at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Members of Juan Montoya's HITS Show Decorator crew moves a jump and removes the water while setting up the course for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



HITS Show Decorator Juan Montoya, right, and a member of his crew, left, moves props for a jump while setting up the course for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla. This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024





Gabby Calvert clears a jump aboard her horse Lenny while practicing in the Hunter 1 ring Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Marianna Banco, 17, rides her horse Niles while in the practice ring Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



Shyanne Patel puts a bridle and bit on Trauma the horse Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024



HITS Show Decorator Juan Montoya, sets up the courses for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

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Eiphlinn White answers a text message while cleaning up Petrus the horse Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

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Vanessa Lee, left, helps Harold Chopping with his horse before his work out Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

Vanessa Lee, left, helps Harold Chopping with his horse before his work out Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024

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HITS Show Decorator Juan Montoya gives a thumbs up while heading out to set up the courses for competition Tuesday February 27, 2024 at Horses In The Sun, HITS Ocala Winter Circuit at Post Time Farm in Ocala, Fla, This is the 43rd year of HITS since starting in 1981. This week marks the seventh week of 12. The big event this week is the \$75,000 Ocala Marion County Grand Prix on Saturday and the \$24,500 Horseflight Jumper Classic on Sunday. [Doug Engle/Ocala Star Banner]2024