

In the News



Jovica Dimovski at Helios Equine Rehabilitation Center

Helios Equine Rehabilitation Center (HSERC.com), a new therapeutic facility providing rehabilitation services to horses recovering from surgery or injury or requiring rest and customized care, opens spring 2019 in Lincolnton, Georgia. Located on 120 acres, the 18,000-square-foot center has 24 stalls and 24-hour on-site personnel, including veterinarians and equine therapists. Helios features state-of-the-art innovations such as circadian lighting and Advanced TeleSensors Vital Sign Equine Sensors, which remotely detect and wirelessly transmit equine heart rate, respiratory rate, heart rate variability and motion continuously in real time, without the sensor touching the horse. Helios General Manager **Edward David** says that horses, clients, personnel and property will be rigorously protected by a sophisticated security system designed to prevent theft and injury to the horses entrusted to Helios' care. The risk management program will be supervised by **Jovica Dimovski**, a highly commended security expert and military veteran who for a decade was responsible for protecting U.S. combat bases in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Equestrian **Michelle Durpetti** has debuted a new website and blog at www.MichelleDurpetti.com. Michelle balances a busy life as an amateur rider and owner, a wedding and event planner, an entrepreneur, a wife, a managing partner of a hospitality group and more, and is now sharing an inside look at the many facets of her life online. Michelle's new website features sections on all facets of her life including personal topics, her travel, event styling and planning, hospitality, fashion, health and wellness, and, of course, her horses! Michelle currently rides and trains with **Caitlyn Shiels** of **True North Stables** based in Elgin, Illinois, and in Ocala, Florida, in the winter months, and she competes in the amateur-owner hunter and adult jumper divisions aboard her three horses, **Cassius**, **Lucca** and **Serafina**.



Nacho and Delfina Figueras

Photo by Sheryel Aschfort Polo Paparazzi

The 6th annual **Great Futures Celebrity Polo Charity Cup & Brunch** benefiting the **Neil S. Hirsch Family Boys & Girls Club of Wellington** took place in March and raised over \$215,000 for Club programming. Co-chairmen were **Marc and Melissa Ganzi** and **Olexa Celine**. For the sixth consecutive year, **Grand Champions Polo Club** was the host of the celebrity polo match featuring honorary event chairmen **Nacho Figueras**, polo's international ambassador and the face of **Ralph Lauren**, and **John Walsh**, "America's Most Wanted/The Hunt" TV host and child advocate. Proceeds from the day's events support the Neil S. Hirsch Family Boys & Girls Club of Wellington, one of 13 Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County. The Club provides services during non-school hours, as well as summer camp opportunities, to nearly 1,000 boys and girls from ages 6 to 18. The Club emphasizes educational, vocational, social, recreational, health, leadership, and character-building skills in a positive and safe atmosphere. For more information about this event or about the Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County, call (561) 683-3287 or visit www.bgcpbc.org.



Steve Moss, celebrity judge Roxanne Stein, and event designer and producer Bobbi Rottman
Photo by Alex Stark

A crowd-pleasing **Buck Off Challenge** benefited the **Southeast Florida Honor Flight** with a successful bull-riding competition at the **Wellington National Golf Club**. From

3-year-old **Aubrey Trisjano**, the youngest rider, to 100-year-old World War II Army Air Corps veteran **Pete Peterson** watching from a VIP table, the second annual **Buck Off Challenge** raised more than \$27,000 for the Stuart-based Southeast Florida Honor Flight. The veterans on site received several standing ovations throughout the evening as the appreciative audience thanked them repeatedly for their service and sacrifice. The main sponsors of the **Buck Off Challenge** were philanthropists **Sanjiv Sharma** and **Nadine Allen**, who live in Highland Beach and regularly support local and national charities relating to food, health and education, as well as Southeast Florida Honor Flight Vice Chairman Janet Hoose, president of Fort Lauderdale-based **Fuel Facility Management**.

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The evening of **Cocktails & Conversations**, presented by **Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Wellington** along with exclusive partner **Zoetis**, was a smashing success. The seminar was well-attended by South Florida equestrians representing multiple disciplines who were educated on a variety of topics by the experts of **Rood & Riddle Equine Hospital in Wellington**. Attendees were also able to tour the facilities during the social hour catered by **Ken Rose**. Additional industry sponsors included **Adequan**, **Covetrus** and **Merck**. Four top veterinarians hosted presentations. Each of the speakers took audience questions regarding the topics they covered. **Dr. Scott Pierce**, Shareholder and Wellington Managing Partner said of the event, "Cocktails & Conversations exceeded our expectations. The crowd was enthusiastic and had great questions. Our vets had a great time too."



Lisa Lazarus

The head of **Morgan Sports Law's** newly established Equestrian Division and the former general counsel of the **Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI)**, **Lisa Lazarus**, was a featured speaker at the inaugural **European U.S. Asian Equine Lawyers (EUAEEL) Congress**. The highly successful event was held during the **2019 Dutch Masters Indoor Brabant Horse Show** in 's-Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands. Attended by nearly 200 guests, the