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Hundreds of Top Riders Will Compete at the Morven Park Fall International Horse Trials

LEESBURG, VA – Nearly 400 riders will compete in Morven Park's annual Fall International Horse Trials this weekend. The Horse Trials weekend features an equestrian discipline known as "eventing," in which each horse and rider combination must compete in dressage, show jumping, and cross-country. Competition begins on Friday, Sept. 30 and continues through Sunday, Oct. 2. The event is free for spectators.

The event marks the 40th anniversary of the Morven Park Fall International Horse Trials. Over the years, Morven Park has consistently drawn the world's top riders to this exciting sporting event. This year will feature several Olympic medalists, including Buck Davidson, Lauren Kieffer, and Kim Severson. While riders of all levels compete at Morven Park, the education of young horses and riders has long been a focus, building on the legacy of the Morven Park International Equestrian Institute, an equestrian college for aspiring riders and trainers that was based at the park from 1967 to 1991.

Morven Park is one of the few facilities in the country that offers eight skill levels of competition in a single weekend. Competition begins at 8 a.m. each day, ending at approximately 4 p.m. Top-level riders will compete in dressage and show jumping on Friday and in cross-country on Saturday. All guests are asked to enter Morven Park via Tutt Lane from Route 15, just north of Leesburg. Novice through Advanced Horse Trials and CIC 1-star, 2-star and 3-star competitions will feature new cross country courses, a new water complex, and improved footing in the dressage arenas. For its amateur competitors, Morven Park and County Saddlery are offering a custom saddle as the top prize for the adult amateur, Novice through Preliminary.

Morven Park was once the home of Westmoreland Davis, governor of Virginia from 1918-1922. This 1,000-acre historic estate in Leesburg, Virginia attracts about 100,000 people each year, enticed by the site's exquisite scenery, historic gardens, equestrian center, sports fields, museum collections and hiking trails.

Morven Park is a nonprofit that relies on donations from friends like you. All donations directly fund our work in historic preservation; our world-class equestrian center; youth sports and athletics; and our unique civics education programming. Your gift is an investment in Morven Park's future, ensuring that generations to come will enjoy this vital public resource. Please donate today at www.MorvenPark.org.

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