

(Turning Dreams Into Reality, continued from page 2)
 She said physical and occupational therapists may recommend therapeutic riding for children with cerebral palsy, a condition that can affect movement and posture. Albertson believes horseback riding simulates the motion of walking and therefore can assist with coordination and balance.

Therapeutic riding may also be recommended for people with developmental disabilities. Learning horsemanship can be an avenue to success for children and adults who may not learn and succeed in typical ways, Albertson



(Left to right—Rebecca Shew, Brandy, and Ronnie Wood work on the grooming detail.

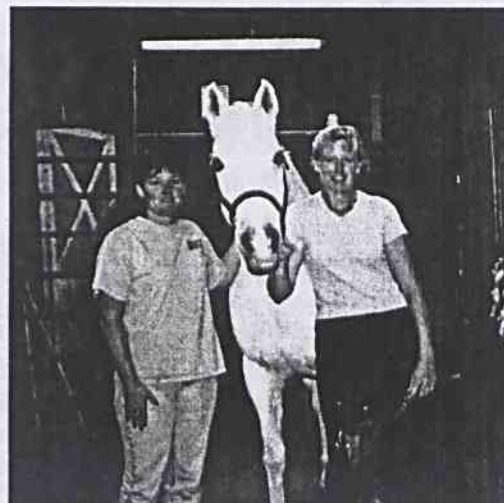
she said. “It’s also a way for children who have experienced abuse and neglect to reconnect with the concept of trusting.”

Research substantiating the benefits of therapeutic riding is steadily increasing. Additional information can be found by linking to the NARHA site at <http://narha.org>.

However, Albertson says that the concept of pleasure riding needs to be included when discussing the activity. Some who visit WTRP do so with the goals of spending time with friends or family while enjoying the beauty of the ride through the Albertson property and to adjoining Rendezvous Mountain.

WTRP is a 501(c)-3 nonprofit organization and assists individuals for a variety of reasons, including physical, mental, emotional, and developmental conditions. Albertson has plans for the continued growth of her facility as she is providing services for an increasing number of children and adults.

For more information, contact Albertson at 903-0016. She needs volunteers to assist with a variety of activities. This semester, Human Services student Teresa Pearson has worked with Albertson as part of her Co-Op Work Experience and issued this invitation: “I would like to invite each of you to come and see the courage, confidence, and motivation that are accomplished on the back of a horse.”



(Left to right—Teresa Pearson, Lynn, Diana Albertson, and Buddy).

explained. “While working with students who have disabilities, we focus on abilities and turn dreams into reality,” Albertson said.

“Learning to ride can be a confidence builder for children who are not going to participate in soccer,”

ROTARACT NEWS

By Michelle White

We have started the year off full blast. We are getting ready for the Fall Festival, Highway Clean-Up, and a community service project. Our club officers are the following: Michelle White is president; Lesley Vanhoy is secretary/treasurer; and Kelia Adams is club representative. At this time our vice-president and community service representative positions are vacant. If you would be interested in finding out more about our club, you can email the president at whitebm@wilkescc.mailcruiser.com or come by one of our meetings. We would be glad to have you as a member of Rotaract.

We would also like to wish Dr. Plexico a quick recovery. We would also like to thank our Co-Advisor Bud Rhodes for all that he has done in Dr. Plexico’s absence.



(Left to right — Anngie Hall, Michelle White, Joe Masterson, Kelia Adams, Lesley VanHoy)