

# Riding lessons used as a therapeutic tool

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that they didn't know could use." Each week a progress report is done by workers for the Easter Seal Society who check and see how the child is doing. Improvements in extension, control, balance, and overall improvement are all evident. The program has been on for several years although this is the first year that the 4-H has been involved. And its benefits are evident. An example would be Boettner, Lancaster. She stated that six years ago she started to come to the riding classes as a student. Her interest in the program, Mrs. Jill Hassler told her she could come out to the farm every day. Now, years later, she is learning to be a

stable manager and at the moment is an apprentice at Hidden Acres. And she still loves horses.

Mrs. Ferro is hopeful that the program will expand in the future. She and executive director of the Easter Seals, Jack Sipple, plan to visit other facilities where riding is used as a therapeutic tool.

"We need to work this into a full time day program, but to do that we need monetary backing and more interest," she related. "At the moment, we are only doing and more interest," she related. "At the moment, we are only doing it on a one evening a week basis."

At the present time usually 12 riders are involved.

For those who are interested in becoming involved in the program or would like to learn more information about it, they can contact Mrs. Ferro,

either calling her at 717-284-4850, or writing to her at her home at Holtwood R2, Pa. 17532, or contacting her at the Lancaster Easter Seals office.

Meanwhile every Tuesday night, weather permitting, the horses and hopeful riders gather at Hidden Acres Farm for another session of riding and exercising as all learn to improve their skills.

## 4-H club meets

SPRING GROVE - The Central 4-H Dairy Club of York County will meet here on June 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Donald Eyster farm, Roth's Church Road.

For further information, please call Tom Welsh, East Berlin, 717-259-9685.

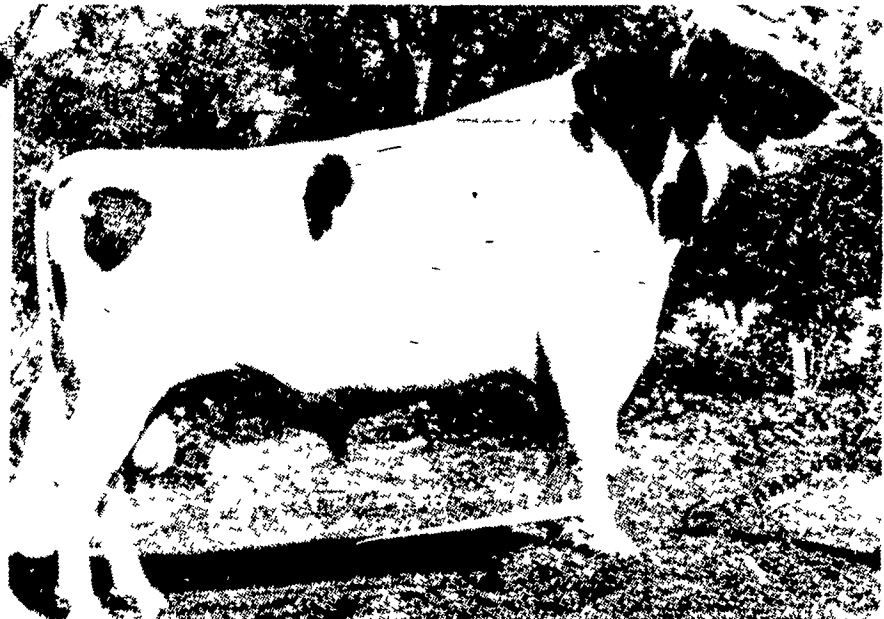


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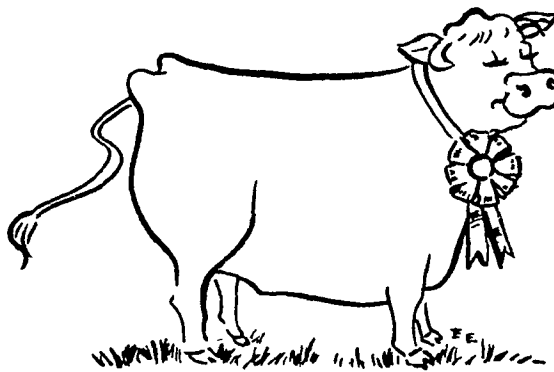
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