

Horse Healer

written by Heather Darata/The Journal

Denise Bean-Raymond really knows what it means to rein people in. Denise teaches horseback riding lessons, and tends to horses with holistic complimentary and alternative therapy. While the riding began when she was five, the therapy portion of her avocation stems from the type of medical help she received ten years ago following a back injury not related to horseback riding. "That's when the light bulb went on," Bean-Raymond said. "I said if these (therapies) work so well for humans, why can't they be used for horses as well?"

Bean-Raymond pursued her idea and discovered someone else had come to the same conclusion. After three years in a program established for horse therapy, she was ready to provide non-traditional approaches for maintaining equine health, preventing and treating illness, and alleviating pain.

Bean-Raymond's background and knowledge caught the attention of Quarry books, publishers of practical general interest including a category for pet care. The book Bean-Raymond was contracted to write compliments their line of manuals governing holistic care for dogs and cats.

"The next thing I knew I was writing a book on top of my 75 hours per week," she said.

The book, "The Illustrated Guide to Holistic Care for Horses: An Owner's Manual", took a year to write, and is currently followed by a book tour.