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A Holiday for the Horse? Of Course!

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ASKED AND ANSWERED



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Dennis Reis is leading a horsemanship seminar tonight at the Saunders County Fairgrounds in Wahoo.

A holiday for the horse? Of course!

By KRISTI WRIGHT
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Dennis Reis claims to understand what so many years to know: the mind of an equine.

Reis, a self-proclaimed "horse whisperer" from California, is touring the nation this fall promoting his style of horsemanship and a petition drive to establish a national holiday honoring horses.

His horsemanship seminar, "Finding extraordinary performance with ordinary horses" is from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. today at the Saunders County Fairgrounds in Wahoo.

This whisperer shared some of his secrets with us and expounded on why the horse, which has captured human hearts, deserves its own day.

Q. What is a horse whisperer?

A. A horse whisperer is anyone who can communicate with horses. (Whisperers) use a body language so subtle that it's nearly impossible to notice.

Q. Is whispering just a gift, or can anyone learn it?

A. I work on it daily. It's evolved to the point where I can teach the art to others.

Q. How old were you when you first rode a horse?

A. Ten. I've been a horse lover my whole life. I'm 45 now.

Q. What can horse lovers expect to learn from your demonstration?

A. They can expect to be in-
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Dennis Reis

Horse whisperer who runs the Reis Ranch School of Universal Horsemanship in Penn Grove, Calif.

He's campaigning for national observance of a "Day of the Horse" on the second Saturday in December. In January 2002, he led a California legislative effort to observe a day honoring horses.

Horses deserve a national holiday — "There's a Groundhog's Day for gosh sakes!" he says.