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## NEWS

### Pocahontas Co. horses find forever homes

Eleven are adopted within two days of Messenger story By DAWN THOMPSON, Messenger staff writer

HAVELOCK — The members of a herd of horses in need of new homes have found them.

By 9 p.m. Friday, all 11 of the animals had been adopted, said Genea Stoops of Hooves & Paws Rescue Inc., Glenwood. Stoops was contacted Monday by the Pocahontas County sheriff's office to assist the owner in the removal of the horses from a farm near Havelock.

While no charges or civil action was being taken against the owner at the time, Sheriff Bob Lampe said something had to be done to address the situation.

During the past year, his department had received numerous calls about the horses getting out and wandering into neighboring fields. The owner had fixed fences and tried to sell the animals, but was still having problems managing the herd.

Stoops agreed to coordinate the adoption of the animals, but could not take them into her already full rescue organization.

A story seeking help was printed in The Messenger Wednesday, and within two days, Stoops said, she was contacted by more than 50 people in Iowa and Nebraska. Several were willing to adopt the horses and others offered donations of hay and transportation services to get the animals to their new homes.

While the herd from Pocahontas County is now taken care of, Stoops said, anyone who might still wish to adopt a horse in need can contact her rescue organization by going online at [www.hoovespaws.org](http://www.hoovespaws.org). She has 61 horses in foster care, many of whom are ready for permanent placement.

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