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## Local horse rescue receives holiday hay donation

By Samantha Anderson

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(VALLEY CENTER, Kan.)

Max isn't shy, the brown and white horse greets people who walk into his gated pasture with a friendly nudge, looking for food.

He is one of about 40 horses currently living at Hope in the Valley Equine Rescue and Sanctuary in Valley Center.

Those horses eat a lot of hay. They go through about one bale a day, each costing about \$100.

"I always worry whether we will have enough hay to get us through the winter," owner Ande Miller said.

Miller says the prices have increased because of the drought. "It's gotten almost cost prohibitive with this many animals" Miller said. "We have forty or more head of animals and they go through it pretty quick."

Kansas Star Casino heard about the shelter and decided to help out. "We wanted to do something around the holidays," Megan Strader, the casino's public relations director said. "It's a difficult time for the non-profits."

The casino donated 23 bales of hay, bringing relief to the owner.

"Really, for us to care for these horse, they have no idea how much worry or stress that gets off me, knowing that we can get through this Christmas and not having to worry about having hay to feed them.



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