## lotery f Action

## Mason City Man Wins Belated \$1 Million Birthday Gift

## Days After Turning 50, He Wins Big Prize Playing Mega Millions

AMason City man says he got the most unexpected belated birthday gift: a $\$ 1$ million Mega Millions prize.

Lonnie Sandberg said he checked his numbers online right after the Mega Millions drawing, and then checked them again and again because he couldn't believe his eyes.
"I just happened to check them that night - I normally don't do that," he said as he claimed his big prize at lottery headquarters in Des Moines. "I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I'm still in shock."

Sandberg, who just turned 50 in late September, said once he realized how much he'd won, he needed some time to think. So he took a couple days away to consult with family for some financial advice.

Sandberg, who is single, said that before he claimed his prize, his brothers were the only ones who knew about his win.
"I just knew I needed to go slowly and think things through," he said. "I'm planning to invest most of the money. There are things that go through your mind, but I want to have a good plan with it. I'm still in disbelief."

He joked that he may be in trouble with his mom, who he hadn't told before claiming the prize.

Continued on Page 2

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## Action Briefs

## Tech The Halls Promo Runs Through Jan. 18

Again this year, the Iowa Lottery's "Tech The Halls" holiday promotion gives players a chance to win cash and Sony ${ }^{\circ}$ electronic prizes by entering the serial numbers from their nonwinning holiday scratch tickets. Nonwinning tickets must be entered in the promotion at ialottery. com with the appropriate prize category for the holiday scratch ticket by noon on Jan. 18, 2011.
Players enter to win with their name, street address, phone number and the serial number from a nonwinning scratch ticket. An eligible entry for this promotion is any legally acquired, nonwinning holiday scratch ticket in Game \#694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699 or 700 that has not been previously claimed as a winner or previously submitted as an entry.
For details, visit ialottery.com or see the promotional brochure.

| Game End and <br> Validation End Dates | Official <br> Game <br> End | Valid <br> Period <br> Ends |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 658 | Snowman Bingo | $8 / 30 / 10$ | $11 / 29 / 10$ |
| 661 | Nutcracker Cash | $8 / 30 / 10$ | $11 / 29 / 10$ |
|  |  | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 570 | Set For Life | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 623 | Ante-Up | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 635 | Double Payday | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 638 | Treasure Hunter | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 646 | Superstar Cash | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 650 | Flying Aces | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 651 | Midwest Millions | $10 / 4 / 10$ | $1 / 3 / 11$ |
| 668 | Sherlock Holmes |  |  |

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# Players May Win Red Hot $\$ 750$ Prize With New $\$ 2$ Pull-tab 

Red Hot Cash

Cost: \$2
Top Prize: $\$ 750$
Odds: 1 in 6.14
Begin Ordering: Nov. 8


Play by peeling apart the five tabs located on the back of the ticket. Three symbols are printed under each tab. Check all five tab areas. If three consecutive symbols printed vertically or diagonally under any of the tabs match identically any of the winning combinations shown on the ticket front, the player wins the corresponding prize. The arrow connecting the symbols indicates a winner.

This pull-tab ticket has 50 top prizes of $\$ 750$. Players who find the "Red Hot Jackpot" symbol automatically win the top prize. Top prizes in this game must be claimed at any Iowa Lottery regional office or by mail. For claiming instructions, see the retailer manual, a lottery brochure or visit ialottery.com/ Games/ClaimingPrizes.


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Continued from Page 1

"So, Mom, if you're watching ... sorry!" he said with a sheepish smile. "I talked to my brothers first because my brothers have a better background in investing than I do, so I went to them for advice."
Sandberg, who inspects and loads product at a Mason City food distribution service, says he expects he'll be getting a little more attention now that he's won \$1 million.
"That's one of the reasons I've been out of town!" he said with a laugh.
Sandberg said he did work for a time after realizing he'd won the big prize, but admits to being more than a little distracted on the job, so he took some time away. He said he will continue working and knows his co-workers will be surprised.
"I wanted to have a plan before I told anyone and I knew that if I stayed at work I would end up telling someone!" he said.
Sandberg says he enjoys playing lotto games and buys one ticket each week for the Mega Millions, Powerball ${ }^{\bullet}$ and Hot Lotto ${ }^{\circ}$ drawings. He said he's always added the multipliers to his lotto tickets, knowing it would multiple any prizes he might win.
"I've never gotten a check with so many zeros on it," he said as he looked at his ceremonial check when he was presented with his big prize.

## "I've never gotten a check with so many zeros on it." <br> — Lonnie Sandberg

Sandberg purchased his ticket at Mills Fleet Farm, 3200 Fourth St. S.W. in Mason City, the spot where he regularly buys his tickets.

Sandberg's ticket matched the first five numbers but missed the Mega Ball to win a $\$ 250,000$ prize. Since he added the Megaplier ${ }^{\circledR}$ option to his ticket, his won a $\$ 1$ million prize. All Match 5 Megaplier prizes are $\$ 1$ million, regardless of the Megaplier number drawn.* The Match 5 Megaplier change was just made in the game on Sept. 14, and Sandberg became Iowa's first million-dollar winner to benefit from the new system.

Players can add the Megaplier option to Mega Millions purchases for an extra $\$ 1$ per play. The Megaplier multiplies all other non-jackpot prizes by 2,3 or 4 .

Since the lottery's start in 1985, its players have won more than $\$ 2.5$ billion in prizes while the lottery has raised more than $\$ 1.2$ billion for the state programs that benefit all Iowans.

Today, lottery proceeds in Iowa have three main purposes: They provide support for veterans, help for a variety of significant projects through the state General Fund, and backing for the Vision Iowa program, which was implemented to create tourism destinations and community attractions in the state and build and repair schools.
*The published prize amounts are based on the expected number of winners sharing in the prize pool. In some cases, when the non-jackpot prize liability exceeds the available prize fund, these prizes may be paid on a pari-mutuel basis and may be lower.

## Watch For November Coupon

Some players will receive a coupon for Iowa's $\$ 100,000$ Cash Game in November, so be on
 lookout for it!
The coupon comes courtesy of the Iowa Lottery's monthly online player newsletter, "VIP Connection," and it's for $\$ 1$ off a $\$ 3$ or more Cash Game purchase. Players must make a minimum \$3 Cash Game purchase to get the $\$ 1$ off. The discount is $\$ 1$ per purchase, no matter how many plays the player purchases. The coupon number is 464 .
If you have a question about a coupon, please ask your DSR or call the Lottery's retailer hot line at 800-228-0010. After 4 p.m., you may call the Scientific Games hot line at $800-858-4744$.

## Reminders About Paying Prizes

Iowa Lottery retailers need to be familiar with the procedures for paying prizes in all types of situations. Lottery rules state that prizes may be paid to persons of any age, but there are different considerations in paying those who are under 21.
First, all tickets must be signed before they can be checked or validated.

Paying someone under age 18 - These people are minors in the eyes of the law. If the person entitled to a prize is under the age of 18 , the payment of the prize may be made with cash or a check payable to the order of the minor or to a parent or legal guardian of the minor. Claim forms and tickets submitted by minors must also be signed by a parent or legal guardian of the minor.

Paying someone ages 18,19 or 20 - These people are no longer minors but legal adults. They may claim prizes in Lottery games as long as the claimant did not actually purchase the ticket. The person cannot use the prize winnings to purchase lottery tickets.

Paying someone age 21 or over - There are no restrictions on paying the claimant a prize.
Retailers should always remember that tickets may not be sold to persons under the age of 21.

# IOWA LOTTERY GAME INFORMATION savatarzou 




[^0]:    Note about the next "Lottery Action": "Lottery Action" will not be published the week of Nov. 8 due to the Veterans Day holiday. The next issue will be released on Nov. 15.

[^1]:    Other important dates are listed on the back of this issue.
    Results from your state agencies: www.resultsiowa.org

