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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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CA Lottery's Newest Two Millionaires Have One Incredible Thing in Common: They Both Got Very Lucky Gifts



SACRAMENTO – Not many people become instant millionaires the day it becomes legal for them to play the lottery. That is, unless your name is **Kaleb Heng**, and you just won \$1 million on a California Lottery Scratchers ticket your grandmother bought for you for your 18th birthday.

“I’m pretty stoked! I certainly wasn’t expecting it,” said Heng.

And how could he? For his entire life, he was too young to play the California Lottery. But on the day he could legally play, his grandmother surprised him with what turned out to be a million-dollar Scratchers ticket for his birthday present!

“My mom was driving me to go fishing, and on the way, I scratched it. We had to pull over. It was a million dollars, and I didn’t even have an ID yet!” Heng exclaimed. “We turned around and went home because I had to get an ID before I could even claim the ticket.”

Notably, the name of the Scratchers ticket that made him one of California’s newest millionaires is The Perfect Gift! The image to the left is a copy of Heng’s actual winning ticket where the **\$1,000,000** is visible on the third row. Heng told the California Lottery he wants



to use the money for college and invest in his future. Heng’s grandmother purchased his winning ticket at Oasis Market in Turlock.

Another California Lottery Scratchers player, **John Vang**, also just became an instant millionaire after getting a winning Power 10’s ticket as a gift from his brother-in-law at Christmas. This winning ticket was purchased at Sunnyside Liquor & IPA Hub in Fresno.

Vang received his gift when he and his wife were visiting from out of state over the holidays. He described to the California Lottery a little bit of irony when it comes to this win.

“I actually don’t ever play Scratchers – that’s what’s funny about it,” he said. “I do play Powerball and Mega Millions, but not Scratchers.”

The image to the left is a copy of Vang’s actual winning Scratchers ticket, with the **\$1,000,000** prize clearly visible against the blue background.

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The California Lottery’s mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled approximately \$2 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, which amounted to a modest percentage of education’s overall budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated more than \$8.8 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

www.calottery.com