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THE WINNING SPREADS THROUGH STUTTGART, THE \$177M TOWN

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LITTLE ROCK – It's \$177 million dollars. It's the largest jackpot ticket ever sold in Arkansas. This big Mega Millions winner, 71-year old Eliberto Cantu, is the 55th lottery-made millionaire in Arkansas. But amidst all the mystery and fortune, what about the behind-the-scenes folks in Stuttgart who made this multi-millionaire?

Turns out, at Stuttgart's All Stop Valero, 408 E. 22nd St., where the \$177,000,000 winning lottery ticket was sold March 30th, they're pretty happy, too – especially with their \$50,000 selling bonus, presented to them today by the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery. The Lottery also celebrated the biggest win ever in Arkansas with its famous "spin to win" prize wheel on hand at the retailer to help spread the winning throughout Stuttgart, the \$177 million town. "We're excited to help celebrate this historic win in my hometown in the Arkansas delta," Lottery director Bishop Woosley said.

About the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery

Since its inception in 2009, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has provided nearly \$700 million for in-state college scholarships to Arkansas students, more than \$2 billion in prizes to players, created more than 50 millionaires, and paid more than \$190 million in commissions to Lottery retailers. More than 92 cents of every dollar of Lottery revenue goes to prizes, scholarships, retailer commissions and other expenses in Arkansas. In fiscal year 2016, the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery had nearly 2 million winners every month – more than 2,500 an hour.

About Mega Millions -- and the \$177 Million Dollar Man

"All I can say is, we're blessed – and keep buying lottery tickets!," Mr. Cantu of Texas said at the April 17 press conference, where he was presented with an oversized check by Arkansas Scholarship Lottery director Bishop Woosley. A regular lottery player – in fact, the whole Cantu family plays – Mr. Cantu purchased the ticket while working in construction near Hazen.

Mega Millions was originally named The Big Game when the jackpot draw game launched in 1996. Five numbered balls are drawn from 1 to 75, and one numbered ball is

drawn from 1 to 15. If all your numbers match those that are chosen, you win the jackpot, which starts at \$15 million and grows until someone wins. The Megaplier option can multiply winnings by 2, 3, 4 or 5 times. The game is offered in 44 states, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington D.C. Mega Millions drawings are held Tuesday and Fridays in Atlanta.

Follow the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Visit <u>MyArkansasLottery</u> for more information on scholarships, winners, games, odds, promotions -- and to join the free Play It Again™ Rewards Club. To hear winning numbers, call the Winning Numbers Hotline at 501-682-IWON (4966). To get help with problem gambling, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-522-4700.

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