

NEWS

Lucky trucker hangs up his keys

Fort White man claims Lotto loot

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A 49-year-old Fort White truck driver decided it was time to retire after winning millions in Saturday's Lotto drawing, but not before making one last scheduled delivery.

So, Lindsay Randall hid his winning ticket in a cabinet Monday and headed to work.

"I told my dispatcher when I returned, this would be my last run, because I had won the lottery," Randall said. "He said good luck to me and wished me well."

Randall, who is originally from England, presented his ticket to lottery headquarters in Tallahassee on Tuesday. He became the first of three winners to redeem a winning ticket from this weekend's estimated \$20 million jackpot. The other two tickets were sold in Tampa and Haines City.

Randall chose to collect a lump sum of \$3.8 million, rather than his entire \$6.66 million share over 30 years, with annual payments of about \$222,000.

He has lots of plans for the money, but they don't include moving out of town.

"I wouldn't live anywhere else," he said. "I love this place."

Randall plans to use some of the money to build a new home with a swimming pool, buy a new car, a new computer and possibly a new boat. He said he also wants to travel around the country and resume his hobby of scuba diving.

Randall, who has been playing the lottery since 1988, moved to Fort White seven years ago.

"You never expect this to happen to you," Randall said. "It has always been a dream of mine to win."

Randall learned of his winning Quick Pick ticket on Sunday after going to the store to get a printout of the numbers.

"When I checked the second row of my ticket, I knew immediately I had won, but I was in disbelief for a few minutes," Randall said. "I kept looking at the numbers over and over."

When he called his mother, she did not believe the news. "She said I was kidding, and went off to make a cup of tea," he said. "I later went over to her house and showed her my winning ticket."

He bought his ticket at the S&S Food Store at U.S. 27 North and 3rd Avenue in Fort White. The store will receive one-third of the \$10,000 retailer bonus for selling a winning ticket.

The winning numbers were 10-20-31-33-34-48.

