

By Jan Rahn

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The community of Wallace was highlighted last week when one of its residents became a millionaire.

Scott Leatherman was the winner of \$1 million on June 20 with his Powerball ticket with a Power Play prize.

Leatherman, who grew up in Casper, Wyo., said he has played the lottery for years, usually ordering Powerball Quick Picks and tacking on the \$1 Power Play.

"I always knew in my heart I was due to win!" said the 49-year-old.

Leatherman's ticket was purchased at Ozzie's gas station and convenience store at the I-80 interchange near Sutherland.

"I don't even have my winning ticket!" he chuckled.

Leatherman is single and works at Scoular Company in Wallace. He said his plans with his winnings are to pay off all of his debts, the debts of his father and three brothers, fix up the house and maybe someday start his own business.

Leatherman has been playing the lottery since 1996 in Colorado. He moved from Denver to Nebraska in March 2008 and continues to play twice a week.

His move to Wallace centered around taking care of his parents who became residents of the small community in 1996 when his father retired from Texaco in El Paso, Texas. They found Wallace in an ad in the paper while they were in Colorado visiting Leatherman's brother.

They made a trip to Nebraska to visit friends and stopped through Wallace, ending up buying a house.

Leatherman's mother died in May 2008, so his focus has been on caring for his elderly father and managing his affairs.

In September 2008, Leatherman began working at Scoular. He had previously done a lot of traveling with his former employment at Phillips Services Corporation in Denver, a company that hydroblast cleans powerplants and refineries.

Becoming a recent millionaire hasn't altered his lifestyle any—Leatherman has been at work each day except for time off to travel to Lincoln on June 22 to turn in his ticket and receive his winnings, which the federal government will get 25 percent of and the state five percent.

Besides Leatherman, who was the \$1 million Powerball winner (\$200,000 multiplied by the automatic Power Play 5X multiplier), there were more than 19,000 other Nebraska Lottery winners in the Saturday, June 20, drawings.

Among them was a MyDaY \$5,000 top prize winner, which was sold at Black Bart's Shell in York. The \$88 million Powerball jackpot was won on a ticket sold in North Carolina.