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Farmer City Residents Hit \$3.5 Million Lotto Jackpot

Farmer City, Ill. – July 19, 2010 – Farmer City, Ill., is now home to Illinois Lottery's newest millionaires. Residents George and Susannah Hardin won the \$3.5 million jackpot from the Monday, July 12, 2010, Lotto drawing. Casey's General Store, located at 401 S. Main St., sold the winning quick pick ticket. The winning numbers were 18, 21, 22, 30, 51 and 52.

"Our winning moment story is quite funny," said Susannah. "Our son and daughter-in-law heard someone in our area won the Lotto and called us to make sure we checked our tickets," she continued. "We sent our 18 year-old grandson to have them checked. When he returned, he said we won \$1 from a Little Lotto ticket and more than \$3 million from the Lotto ticket. I thought he was joking and had to call the store to make sure!"

George has been playing the Lotto game twice a week for almost 30 years and said the most he's ever won before this was \$10,000 years ago.

"I can't think of anything more exciting than this," said George. "I haven't felt this much excitement since my wedding day and when I joined the Air Force more than 23 years ago."

To announce the good news, the Hardins had a small celebration with friends and family at their home. While no plans have been made as to what they will do with the money, their first priority is to make sure their home is secure.

"Illinois is on a winning streak," said Jodie Winnett, acting superintendent for the Illinois Lottery. "We are proud to say our latest millionaires are from Farmer City, and we look forward to awarding more winners throughout Illinois with our suite of games."

Casey's General Store, the retailer that sold the jackpot ticket, also will receive a \$35,000 bonus for selling the winning ticket, 1 percent of the jackpot.

About the Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery is a state agency with annual sales over \$2 billion. Since its inception, the Lottery has contributed more than \$14 billion to the state Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools. Players must be at least 18 years old. For more information on the Illinois Lottery please visit our website at www.illinoislottery.com.

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