



News from Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg - March 2015



Pomp and Circumstance at the Capitol

Don Stenberg was sworn in for a second term as Nebraska State Treasurer in a ceremony Jan. 8 in the Legislative Chamber. Administering the oath of office in the center photo is Chief Justice Michael Heavican. In a private ceremony earlier in the day in the Wherry Room, Treasurer Stenberg signed the official papers, right, and was greeted by Secretary of State John Gale, left. With the Treasurer for the ceremony was his wife, Sue. *Photos by Rachel Biar and the Office of the Clerk of the Legislature.*

Hot off the Press

The 2015 Unclaimed Property Report is hot off the press and ready to be distributed in Nebraska's 16 daily newspapers, beginning March 8. The 44-page publication lists almost 160,000 new properties that were added to the Treasurer's database in 2014.

This year's report features the stories of three families and one business that found unclaimed property last year. Featured are Jim Allen, president of Western Potatoes of Alliance; Darrel and Nancy Weers of Lincoln; Dave and Sue Erickson of Omaha; and Rosie Linnenbrink of West Point.

Their stories can be read at <http://treasurer.nebraska.gov>. Nebraskans and people with ties to Nebraska can search for unclaimed property any time at <http://treasurer.nebraska.gov>. Type a name in the search box in the center of the homepage. Try variations of your name. Watch your local newspaper for this year's report:

- March 8 - Omaha World-Herald and Scottsbluff Star-Herald
- March 21 - Norfolk Daily News, Beatrice Daily Sun, Fremont Tribune, and York News-Times
- March 22 - Columbus Telegram and Lincoln Journal Star
- April 3 - Holdrege Citizen, McCook Gazette, and Sidney Sun-Telegraph
- April 4 - Alliance Times-Herald, Hastings Tribune, and Kearney Hub
- April 5 - Grand Island Independent and North Platte Telegraph



Unclaimed Property Fast Facts

- **\$11.7 million returned in 2014**
- **16,592 claims paid**
- **Average claim \$707**
- **Largest claim \$253,410**
- **Top ten properties to be claimed range from \$80,871 to \$596,669**



Treasurer Stenberg with Jessica Rauert, president of Wood River chapter of FBLA.



Treasurer Stenberg with students at Wayne High School.



Colby Keiser of Wayne High School shows off the \$10 he won in a financial literacy quiz.

Looking to Compete?

Treasurer Stenberg went on the road to Wayne, Nebraska City, and Wood River to encourage high school students across the state to compete in the 2015 Personal Finance Challenge and to prepare by using the online financial literacy course made available through the Nebraska Educational Savings Trust (NEST).

"Do you like to compete?" Stenberg asked the students in remarks at each school. "You may already compete on the basketball court, at the volleyball net, on the football field, on the outdoor track, or on the wrestling mat. Others of you, no doubt, compete in the classroom or for a seat in the band or a place in a vocal ensemble. I am here today to offer you another opportunity to compete. This time for a college scholarship."



Treasurer Stenberg presents financial literacy certificates to students at Nebraska City. With him is Jennifer Davidson of the Nebraska Council on Economic Education.

NEST, a division of the State Treasurer's Office, will award a total of \$14,000 to winners in the Finance Challenge, sponsored by the Nebraska Council on Economic Education. Students compete in the event in teams of four. Regional competitions are April 18 in Lincoln, Omaha, and Kearney.

Members of the first-place team will each receive a \$2,000 contribution to a NEST college savings account. Second-place team members will each receive a \$1,000 NEST account. And third-place team members will each receive a \$500 college savings account. Read more at <http://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2015/0210/>



2014 winners at Werner Park in Papillion.

Spring Training for Writers

Entries are due March 27 to the 2015 "Why I Want to Go to College" writing contest sponsored by the Nebraska State Treasurer's Office and the Omaha Storm Chasers baseball team. Winners will be recognized May 10 at Werner Park in Papillion.

Students in the seventh and eighth grades are eligible to enter. Three winners will be selected from each of Nebraska's three congressional districts and three winners will be selected from outside the state.

<http://treasurer.nebraska.gov/csp/scholarships/essay/college/2015/contest-announcement/>

Stenberg Elected NAUPA President

Nebraska State Treasurer Don Stenberg is serving as president of the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators (NAUPA) for 2015. He was elected to the year-long volunteer position in December. Read more at <http://treasurer.nebraska.gov/news/2015/0126/>.

Newsletter header photo courtesy Nebraska Capitol Commission.

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