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P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Sun's Out, Fun's Out for CA Lottery's Newest Millionaires

SACRAMENTO – The sun is shining, and so likely are the smiles of five Scratchers® players across the Golden State who've just become the California Lottery's latest millionaires. Collectively, these five players are celebrating a combined \$11,000,000 and supporting public education in California in the meantime.



Two players picked up a cool \$1,000,000 each from tickets sold in Los Angeles County. **Eugenio Anaya** won the top prize playing a *Sparkling Riches* Scratchers game bought at One Stop Liquor Whole Mart in Los Angeles. **Martin Ramirez** was also a top-prize winner, playing *The Perfect Gift!* Scratchers sold at the Chevron on East Huntington Drive in Monrovia. Gabby Gonzales, who works at the Chevron, says this is the first \$1 million win she has heard of from their shop.

“We do sell a lot of Scratchers. A lot of people say because we are nice, they like to play here. After the \$1 million ticket, more players have come in. I think the word spread. They think we are lucky,” Gonzales explained.

Speaking of being lucky, **Lenora Watson** won \$5,000,000 on a game living up to its name: *\$5,000,000 Extreme*. That ticket was purchased at SP Gas & Food Mart in Berkeley.

Rounding out today's news, a pair of winners each picked up \$2,000,000 top prizes, playing *Instant Crossword* Scratchers. **Susana Corona** bought her winning ticket at McCowan Liquor in Torrance, and **Miguel Ambriz** got his ticket at Chevron on Victoria Avenue in Ventura.

The California Lottery was created by voters in 1984 for the explicit purpose of raising additional money for public schools, kindergarten through the university level. Through the responsible sale of Scratchers and other games, the Lottery has generated more than \$41 billion for public education since its inception.

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The California Lottery's mission is to provide supplemental funding to California public schools, including kindergarten and grades 1-12, community colleges, the California State University, the University of California, and other California public educational entities. The funds the Lottery transferred to public education totaled approximately \$2 billion for fiscal year 2021-22, which amounted to a modest percentage of education's overall budget. However, this funding is largely discretionary, meaning schools can use this for important, yet unfunded instructional programs they would otherwise not afford. During the same period, the Lottery generated more than \$8.8 billion in sales, more than 95% of which went back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. If you feel you have a gambling problem or know someone who does, you can get free confidential help by calling the California Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

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