

PRESS RELEASE

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 6, 2024 <u>PIO@calottery.com</u> <u>@calotterypress</u>

CA Lottery Player Wins \$1 Million Scratchers® Prize at Neighborhood Market She Rode Her Bicycle to as a Kid

Four New Millionaires Unveiled Today

SACRAMENTO – Tucked away in a quiet Whittier neighborhood on Santa Fe Springs Road, is a market **Alexandria Rodriguez** says she's quite familiar with. After all, Helen's Market is the place she remembers riding her bike to all the time as a kid.



Rodriguez told the California Lottery never in her wildest dreams could she have imagined so many years later she would return – only this time driving a car – and walk away holding a winning *Xtreme Multiplier* Scratchers ticket worth \$1 million, the game's top prize.

She credits her thirst for an energy drink on her way home from work as the reason she became California's latest millionaire. She decided to buy a Scratchers game while she was there and picked the winning game at random.

"It was catchy. I liked the colors. I was like, 'eh, just give me that one!" Rodriguez explained. "What's interesting is I ended up picking my lucky number."

Sure enough, the game she bought – simply because she liked the colors – happened to be the 22^{nd} ticket from the pack of Xtreme Multipliers.

"I was born on the 22nd – that's my number," she exclaimed. "The money is going to help with a

lot of things. I'm just looking forward to what one million dollars is going to bring. Positive things only!"



The owner of the Helen's market won as well – in the form of a \$5,000 bonus for selling the lucky Scratchers.



(Helen's Market in Whittier)

Three more lucky California Lottery Scratchers players are also taking home some pretty cool prizes.

Vahidin Arnaut played a *\$10,000,000 Bonus* Scratchers ticket and won, you guessed it, a staggering \$10 million just for scratching. That ticket was picked up at Winchester Shell in San Jose.

Mugdim Dedic won \$2,000,000 playing an *Instant Prize Crossword* Scratchers. That game came from Webster 76 in Alameda.

And lastly – even though it's June – **Juan Villegas** is in the holiday spirit because he won \$1 million playing a *Merry Multiplier* Scratchers ticket purchased at CVS Pharmacy on College Boulevard in Oceanside. That CVS has been a lucky one for Scratchers players recently, as a <u>\$5 million winning ticket</u> was also sold back in November 2023 at that same store.

###

The mission of the California Lottery is to raise additional funding for public education, helping to supplement school budgets for K-12 as well as colleges and universities. The California Lottery has raised more than \$43.8 billion for public schools through the responsible sale of its games since 1985. Lottery funding for schools is largely discretionary, so administrators and educators can use Lottery money for instructional programs and services they may not otherwise afford. The California Lottery seles revenue goes back to the community in the form of prize payments, retailer commissions and bonuses, and contributions to education. More information about who benefits can be found <u>here</u>. California Lottery is also committed to promoting responsible gaming. Anyone who shows signs of a gambling problem, or knows someone who does, can get free, confidential help by calling the CA Problem Gambling Hotline at 1-800-GAMBLER.

