



PRESS RELEASE

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Expressions of Excitement and Surprise From California's Latest Winner on How He Won a \$2 Million Scratchers® Prize

Plus, an Additional Five Lucky Players Earn A Place in CA Lottery's Millionaires Club



SACRAMENTO – Although there are a number of businesses in Hollister that sell California Lottery Scratchers, **Larry Goodman** almost always gets his at Pacheco's Express Way Liquor. He says he's been doing so for the past five or six years, trying to hit it big.

His allegiance to Pacheco's, as well as his persistence of playing the lottery for more than five years, finally paid off when he stopped by one evening after work. He bought a pair of [Instant Prize Crossword](#)® games and hit the \$2 million top prize on the first one he scratched!

"I matched all 12 words, but at first, I didn't believe it. I've won \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$2,500 on other games, but I thought I made a mistake reading this one! I double and triple checked it. It was surprising," Goodman said. "I don't just scan the barcode like a lot of people do. I take them home and play them because I feel like if I don't win, I might as well get a few minutes of fun out of it."

Goodman said he's putting his winnings to good use saying, "I bought a new truck, a new house, and I've put some money away to do all right for a while. It's pretty cool."



Despite his newfound wealth, Goodman said he still plays Scratchers and recently won another \$1,000 prize as well. The owner of Pacheco's Express Way Liquor received a \$10,000 bonus for selling the winning \$2 million ticket.

Goodman isn't the only player who got to make seven-figure deposits into their bank accounts:

Leticia Hiraes also won \$2,000,000 on the same game as Goodman – a \$20 [Instant Prize Crossword](#). That lucky ticket came from the Water Store on Alondra Blvd. in Paramount (Los Angeles County). The owner of that business also earned a \$10,000 bonus.

Janet Lua scored a whopping \$7,000,000 after winning the top prize on a different crossword game – a \$30 [Crossword Xtreme](#). This lucky ticket was purchased at Cutler Food Mart in the small Tulare County community of Cutler. The owner there got a \$35,000 bonus.

Miguel Bravo won the top prize of \$5,000,000 playing a [100X](#) Scratchers. This lucky ticket was sold at \$1 Store in Gardena (Los Angeles County). The shop owner gets a \$25,000 bonus.

Francisco Ortega took home \$1,000,000 playing a [Millionaire Maker](#) Scratchers. That ticket was purchased at La Mexicana on Van Nuys Blvd. in Pacoima (Los Angeles County).

Brian Mejia also won \$1,000,000 playing an [Ice Cool](#) Scratchers. This ticket was sold at a Valero gas station on Victory Blvd. in Van Nuys (Los Angeles County).

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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 features eight [draw games](#) and dozens of new instant [Scratchers](#) games each year. More than 95% of California Lottery sales 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 [here](#). As jackpots rise, the California Lottery would like to remind players that gambling should be fun. Borrowing money to play, spending above a person's budget, or using money intended for other purposes can ultimately lead to significant problems for players and their families. If a player recognizes that they have a gambling problem or if someone knows of someone who may have a problem, the Lottery recommends calling the California Problem Gambling Help Line at 1-800-GAMBLER.



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