



Willowbrook Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

Willowbrook, IL— Willowbrook resident Consuelo Mendez won a \$50,000 [Powerball](#) prize when her ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Saturday, July 30 drawing. The winning numbers were - 11 – 17 - 21 - 23 - 32 – and the *Powerball* number was 5.

Mendez has lived in Willowbrook for 35 years. She was at home when she checked the winning *Powerball* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website and discovered her win. She plans to invest and donate to her favorite charities. “It has always been very important to me that I give to charities and now I believe that if you give, you get!”

The winning ticket was purchased at Speedway, 6241 South Cass Avenue in Westmont. Speedway received a bonus of \$500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit please visit illinoislottery.com

About the Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed more than \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state’s Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Mount Prospect Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 22, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

Mount Prospect, IL— John Morahan, a resident of Mount Prospect for over 30 years, won a \$50,000 [*Powerball*](#) prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Saturday, July 30 drawing. The winning numbers were - 11 – 17 - 21 - 23 - 32 – and the *Powerball* number was 5.

The *Powerball* jackpot for the July 30 drawing was \$478 million, the fifth highest *Powerball* grand prize ever. Morahan said he plays *Powerball* once a week. He plans to invest his windfall.

The winning ticket was purchased at BP, 1625 East Euclid Avenue in Mount Prospect. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit please visit illinoislottery.com

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Lifelong Champaign-Urbana Resident Wins \$100,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!



Kelley Chambers holds her winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

Champaign-Urbana, IL— Lifelong Champaign-Urbana resident Kelley Chambers scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$2,000,000 Extravaganza!](#) ticket and instantly won \$100,000. “I still can’t believe I won such a big prize!” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Chambers was at Hollywood Liquors, 512 South Neil Street in Champaign, when she bought and scratched her ticket. “I asked the clerk to verify my win and then I signed the back of my ticket right away.” Her plans for the windfall include sharing with family and buying a new car.

Hollywood Liquors received a \$1,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. [\\$2,000,000 Extravaganza!](#) is a \$20 instant ticket offering three top prizes of \$2,000,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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About Illinois Lottery

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Matteson Resident Wins \$250,000 on Illinois Lottery *Wheel of Fortune*® Instant Game

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 23, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

MATTESON, IL — Matteson resident Kimberly Collier played an Illinois Lottery [*Wheel of Fortune*](#) ticket and instantly won a \$250,000 top prize. “I like watching *Wheel of Fortune* on TV, so when I saw this ticket I bought one right away,” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

Collier was at home when she used a nickel to scratch her ticket. “I went back to the store and asked the clerk to double-check my ticket because I couldn’t believe I really won \$250,000!” When the clerk confirmed her win, Collier immediately signed the back of her ticket and took a picture of it. She plans to pay bills, donate to her favorite charity, and invest.

The winning ticket was purchased at Price Choppers Tobacco, 7809 West Lincoln Highway in Frankfort. The retailer received a bonus of \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

The *Wheel of Fortune* instant game costs \$5 and offers four top prizes of \$250,000. The game also features a second-chance promotion for a one-of-a-kind trip to Hollywood, California. Lottery players can enter non-winning *Wheel of Fortune* tickets, and find contest rules, at illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Chicago Resident Buys Ticket Online – Wins \$100,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL— Chicago resident Larry Schaibley played [Powerball](#) with *Power Play*® online and won \$100,000 when he matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Wednesday, July 27 drawing. The winning numbers were - 10 - 47 - 50 - 65 - 68 – the *Powerball* number was 24 and the *Power Play* number was 2. If he had not added the *Power Play*® multiplying feature to his ticket, his prize would have been \$50,000.

Schaibley has lived in Chicago for 52 years. He was at home when he bought his Quick Pick ticket and when he discovered his win. “It was so easy to buy my ticket online, and then after the drawing the Lottery emailed me to let me know that I won. When I read the email, I almost fell off my chair!” He plans to buy a new car and invest.

Online players of *Powerball*, *Mega Millions*, *Lotto* and *Lucky Day Lotto*, *Pick 3* and *Pick 4*, can also use the Illinois Lottery’s mobile app to purchase tickets, check winning numbers and jackpots, and even find a nearby retailer. The free app is the first of its kind in the United States offering any Illinois adult the chance to purchase lottery tickets via an app. For more information and to download the app, visit illinoislottery.com.

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Favorite Game Pays off for Havana Resident- Wins \$75,000 on Illinois Lottery 'Crossword' Ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

HAVANA, IL— "This is my favorite game!" Havana resident Linda Estep said when she played an Illinois Lottery [Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$75,000.

Estep has lived in Havana for seven years. She was at home when she scratched her winning ticket. "I enjoy doing crossword puzzles and I buy a *Crossword* lottery ticket once a week." She plans to share the windfall with her family.

The winning ticket was purchased at Circle K, 320 South Promenade Street in Havana. The retailer received a \$750 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. *Crossword* is a \$5 instant ticket with a top prize of \$75,000. Five of the fourteen top prizes have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Spectacular Lottery Prize for Bensenville Resident!

Wins \$1 million playing the Illinois Lottery's '\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular' Instant Game

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

BENSENVILLE, IL— Bensenville resident Louis Duty scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular](#) ticket and instantly won \$1 million. “When I saw how much I won, I freaked out!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Duty bought his winning ticket at Speedway, 436 West Army Trail Road in Bloomingdale. He told Lottery staff that he used a quarter to scratch his winning ticket right after he bought it. “I had the clerk double check my ticket, then I signed the back of it right away.” He opted to receive his prize in a one-time payment of \$600,000 (less required withholding) and plans to invest.

Speedway received a bonus of \$10,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular* is a \$10 instant ticket that offers \$300,000,000 in prizes. Of the 35 top prizes of \$1 million available to be won, 18 have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Crystal Lake Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL— Crystal Lake resident Marie Albanese scratched an Illinois Lottery [Sapphire Blue 7s](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$250,000. ‘My heart started pounding like crazy when I saw the prize amount!’ she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Albanese had just finished grocery shopping and was on her way out of the store when she stopped at the Lottery self-service dispensing machine to buy a ticket. “For no particular reason, I chose the *Sapphire Blue 7s* ticket. I’m so glad I did!” She plans to share the windfall with her children.

The winning ticket was purchased at Jewel Food Store, 6140 Northwest Highway in Crystal Lake. Jewel received a \$2,500 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. *Sapphire Blue 7s* is a \$5 instant ticket that offers over 100,000 prizes of \$25 or more and a top prize of \$250,000. For more information, please visit www.illinoislottery.com.

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Lucky Day for Addison Resident - Wins \$300,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

ADDISON, IL — “Tuesday, July 12th, was a very lucky day for me and my family,” Mario Laureta said after winning a \$300,000 [*Lucky Day Lotto*](#) jackpot prize when his ticket matched all five numbers – 17 - 33 - 38 - 39 – 41 - in the July 12 evening drawing.

The night of the drawing, Laureta checked the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. “I couldn’t believe it when all of the numbers matched my ticket! I told my kids and we were so excited, none of us slept that night!” Originally from the Philippines, Laureta has lived in the United States for over 20 years. He and his wife have four children and two grandchildren. They plan to invest the windfall.

The winning ticket was purchased at Caputo’s Fresh Market, 510 West Lake Street in Addison. The retailer received a bonus of \$3,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 11,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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South Beloit Couple Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

South Beloit, IL— South Beloit residents Michael and Michelle Dawson won a \$50,000 [Powerball](#) prize when their \$2 Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Saturday, July 30 drawing. The winning numbers were - 11 – 17 - 21 - 23 - 32 – and the *Powerball* number was 5.

The *Powerball* jackpot for the July 30 drawing was \$478 million, the fifth highest *Powerball* grand prize ever. “We usually buy a *Powerball* ticket when the jackpot gets really high,” Michael said. The couple discovered their win when they checked the winning numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. They plan to pay bills and invest.

The winning ticket was purchased at Everett’s, 426 Gardner Street in South Beloit. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit please visit illinoislottery.com

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Lucky Day for Streamwood Resident - Wins \$600,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 26, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

STREAMWOOD, IL — Streamwood resident Michael Loveisky won a \$600,000 [Lucky Day Lotto](#) jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 04 - 20 - 25 - 29 - 35 - in the Wednesday, August 3rd, midday drawing. “I heard that a big prize-winning ticket was sold at the store where I bought my ticket, and it turns out the big winner is me!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Rockford.

Loveisky has lived in Streamwood for 20 years. He confirmed his \$600,000 win when he used his phone to look up the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. His plans for the windfall include travelling and investing for retirement. “Because of this win, I may even retire a little earlier than I planned.”

The winning ticket was purchased at TJ Liquor, 149 Front Street in Wood Dale. The retailer received a bonus of \$6,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 15,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Romeoville Resident Wins \$250,000 Crossword Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 31, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

ROMEDEVILLE, IL — Romeoville resident Nishita Patel played an Illinois Lottery [\\$250,000 Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a \$250,000 top prize.

Patel was at Homers Liquors, 13011 West 143rd Street in Homer Glen, when she bought and scratched her ticket. When asked about her plans for the winnings she said, “I am going to make wise investments.” Homers Liquors received \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$250,000 Crossword* is a \$10 instant ticket. Of the 56 top prizes of \$250,000 available, eight have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Lifelong Chicago Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL— Ray Stallworth, a lifelong resident of Chicago, scratched an Illinois Lottery [*Dazzling Dollar\\$*](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$250,000.

Stallworth was at Citgo, 8106 South Racine Avenue in Chicago, when he bought his winning *Dazzling Dollar\$* ticket out of the Lottery self-service dispensing machine. “I was walking past the machine when this ticket caught my eye, so I thought I should try it.” He plans to share the windfall with his family.

Dazzling Dollar\$ is a \$5 instant ticket with a top prize of \$250,000. Citgo received a bonus of \$2,500, one per cent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Retired Chicago Bus Driver Wins \$2 Million While Riding the Bus



Roy Pittman holds his \$2 million winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 25, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL— Chicago resident Roy Pittman, a retired bus driver, was riding on a bus when he scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$2,000,000 Jumbo Bucks](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$2,000,000. "I was on the bus going home from the store when I scratched my ticket. When I realized I won \$2,000,000, I started shaking!" he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

Pittman, 71, has lived in Chicago all his life. He plans to share the windfall with family and donate to his favorite charities. When asked if he had any advice for other players he said, "Try a ticket because you just never know."

The \$2,000,000 winning ticket was purchased at Vincennes Food Mart, 400 West 79th Street in Chicago. The retailer received a bonus of \$20,000, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. [\\$2,000,000](#)

Jumbo Bucks is a \$10 instant ticket offering a top prize of \$2,000,000. Of the three top prizes available, one has not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Glen Ellyn Resident Hits Jackpot!

Wins \$16.75 Million Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GLEN ELLYN, IL — Glen Ellyn resident Sarah Weron won a \$16,750,000 jackpot prize when her [Lotto](#) ticket matched all six numbers – 16 – 24 – 28 – 33 – 48 – 50 – in the Thursday, August 4, drawing. “This is fantastic! I am so grateful,” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Weron has been playing the same *Lotto* numbers once a week for several years. “I just chose some numbers I liked and I stuck with them.” After hearing that her local convenience store sold a jackpot-winning *Lotto* ticket, she looked up the winning numbers on the Illinois Lottery website and discovered her multi-million dollar win. “I have always made little comments and jokes about winning the lottery, but I never actually expected that I would!” She plans to share the windfall with family and friends, donate to her favorite charities and invest.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 35035 Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn. The retailer will receive a bonus of \$167,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. Weron chose to receive her prize as a one-time payment of \$11,464,000. *Lotto* drawings take place Monday, Thursday and Saturday nights at 9:22 p.m. For more information please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Downers Grove Resident Wins '\$500 A Week For Life' Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 9, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

DOWNERS GROVE, IL— Downers Grove resident Steven Sousanes scratched an Illinois Lottery [*\\$500 A Week For Life*](#) instant ticket and won a top prize of \$500 a week for life.

Sousanes, 50, has lived in Downers Grove for 22 years. He was sitting at his desk at home when he scratched his ticket. Thinking that he must have read the ticket incorrectly, he immediately went back to the 7-Eleven where he bought it and asked the clerk to confirm the win. "I freaked out! I was so happy I started shouting and running around the store!" Sousanes chose to take his prize as a one-time cash payment of \$392,000. He plans to get professional financial advice and invest the windfall.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 5105 Fairview Avenue in Downers Grove. *\$500 A Week For Life* is a \$1 instant ticket offering top prizes of \$500 a week for life. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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West Chicago Resident Wins \$500,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

WEST CHICAGO, IL — West Chicago resident Timothy Feiden won a \$500,000 jackpot prize when his [Lucky Day Lotto](#) Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 15 - 19 - 22 - 26 - 29 - in the Sunday, July 10th, midday drawing.

Feiden discovered his win when he checked the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. “I couldn’t believe it!” He plans to share the windfall with family and invest. When asked if he had any advice for other players he said, “If you win a big prize, get professional financial advice and make wise investments.”

A regular *Lucky Day Lotto* player, Feiden said he also occasionally plays *Powerball* and *Mega Millions*. “I play the other games once in a while, especially when the jackpot gets really high.” He bought his \$500,000 winning *Lucky Day Lotto* ticket at BP, 1905 Franciscan Way in West Chicago. The retailer received a bonus of \$5,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

More than 12,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in the July 10th *Lucky Day Lotto* midday drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Illinois Lottery Launches New Wheel of Fortune® Instant Game

Game includes a Second-Chance Promotion to win a trip to Hollywood

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 16, 2016

Media Contact:

Jason Schaumburg
(312) 793-3034

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Lottery is bringing back one of America’s favorite games, Wheel of Fortune. Today, the Lottery launched this iconic instant game at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield.

This game offers four top prizes of \$250,000, with more than 1.4 million prizes ranging from \$5 to \$250,000! “Wheel of Fortune has a longstanding place in American pop culture. We are excited to bring this game back for our lottery players and to offer them several chances to win in the palm of their hand,” Illinois Lottery Communications Director Jason Schaumburg said.

The Wheel of Fortune instant game also features a second-chance promotion for a one-of-a-kind trip to Hollywood, CA. Lottery players can enter non-winning Wheel of Fortune tickets at illinoislottery.com. Six player entries will be drawn to win a Grand Prize Package that includes:

- Round trip airfare for two to Los Angeles
- Four nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- \$1,000 in spending money
- Two tickets to a non-broadcast, lottery players-only taping of Wheel of Fortune with Pat Sajak and Vanna White and a chance to win \$1 million
- Bus tour of Hollywood for two
- Two tickets to a welcome reception
- Ground transportation to and from the hotel, LAX airport, and Sony Studios

The Wheel of Fortune instant game costs \$5 and is available at nearly 8,000 Lottery retailers statewide. All grand prizes are subject to required state and federal withholding. Please visit illinoislottery.com for official rules.

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Lifelong Chicago Resident Wins \$350,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 22, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL — Lifelong Chicago resident Brian Smith plans to do some extra Christmas shopping after winning a \$350,000 Illinois Lottery prize! He won the jackpot prize when his [Lucky Day Lotto](#) Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 09 - 18 - 20 - 23 - 44 – in the Wednesday, November 30, evening drawing.

Smith, 23, discovered his win when he looked up the *Lucky Day Lotto* draw results online. “I asked my dad to double check the numbers for me because I couldn’t believe I won!” He plans to invest most of the windfall.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 2741 W. Touhy Ave., in Chicago. The retailer received a bonus of \$3,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 15,800 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state’s Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Calumet City Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 28, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CALUMET CITY, IL — Calumet City resident Chanel Chester was at home when she used a penny to scratch an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000. “I love the Crossword games!” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

Chester, 34, plans to invest her windfall. She bought her winning ticket 7-Eleven, 45 E. Chicago Ave., in Chicago. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Oak Park Resident Checks Old Illinois Lottery Tickets, Finds \$100,000 Winner!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 1, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

OAK PARK, IL — Oak Park resident Jim McKinney was going through some old papers when he found an envelope containing a few of his [Powerball](#) tickets. He couldn't remember ever checking them, so he immediately drove to a store and used the Illinois Lottery self-service ticket scanner. "I was shocked that one of the tickets was a big winner!" McKinney won \$100,000 when he matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Wednesday, January 13, 2016, drawing. The winning numbers were – 04 - 08 - 19 - 27 - 34 – the *Powerball* number was 10 and the *Power Play* number was 2. If he had not added the *Power Play*® multiplying feature to his ticket, his prize would have been \$50,000.

McKinney used family birthdates as his numbers and bought his winning *Powerball* ticket almost a year ago at Snappy Convenience, 622 Madison St., in Oak Park. "I feel very lucky that I found my ticket before it expired." He plans to donate to his church, pay bills and invest.

Winners have one year from the original drawing date to claim their prize. Lottery prizes up to \$600 can be claimed at nearly 8,000 retail locations. Prizes over \$600 may be claimed at one of five Lottery Prize Centers across Illinois, located in Chicago, Des Plaines, Springfield, Rockford and Fairview Heights. Under Illinois Lottery Law, unclaimed prizes are transferred to either the Common School Fund or the Capital Projects Fund.

Players of Illinois Lottery draw-based games can use the Illinois Lottery's mobile app to purchase tickets, check winning numbers and jackpots, and even find a nearby retailer. All players who win via the Illinois Lottery's website are sent a notification to their personal email address, eliminating the chance of a prize going unclaimed. The free app was the first of its kind in the United States, offering any Illinois adult the chance to purchase lottery tickets via an app. For more information and to download the app, visit illinoislottery.com.

About the Illinois Lottery

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playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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\$50,000 Illinois Lottery Win In South Beloit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 30, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net

SOUTH BELOIT, IL — A visit to South Beloit resulted in a \$50,000 Illinois Lottery win for Janesville, Wisconsin, resident John Iverson. “Whenever I am in Illinois, I buy a *Lotto* ticket. On this particular trip I bought a [Powerball](#) ticket too, and I won!” he said when he recently presented his winning *Powerball* ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield. Iverson won a \$50,000 prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Saturday, July 30, drawing. The winning numbers were – 11 - 17 - 21 - 23 - 32 – and the Powerball number was 05.

An occasional lottery player, Iverson said he does not regularly check his tickets. “I just checked this winning ticket a couple of weeks ago.” He plans to spend some of his winnings on a vacation and invest the remainder. He bought his winning ticket at Road Ranger, 6070 Gardner St., in South Beloit. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit illinoislottery.com

About the Illinois Lottery

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###





“Merry Christmas To Me!”

Henderson County Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

OQUAWKA, IL — Kenneth Brownlee, a lifelong resident of Oquawka, played an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000. “Merry Christmas to me!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Brownlee, 50, was at Day Break, 101 S. 8th St., in Oquawka, when he bought and scratched his ticket. “I asked the clerk to double check my ticket for me and when she saw how much I won, she was as excited as I was!” An occasional player, Brownlee said he buys one or two instant lottery tickets each week. “I’ve been lucky. Two years ago I won a \$2,000 prize on an instant ticket.” Plans for his \$75,000 windfall include building a garage.

Day Break received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Hoffman Estates Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL — Hoffman Estates resident Larry Lopez won a \$50,000 [Powerball](#) prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Wednesday, November 16, drawing. The winning numbers were – 28 - 41 - 61 - 63 - 65 – and the Powerball number was 7.

“I plan to share this windfall with my family,” Lopez said when he presented his *Powerball* ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. He bought his winning ticket at Super Food Mart, 3334 W. Lawrence Ave., in Chicago. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit please visit illinoislottery.com

About the Illinois Lottery

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Belvidere Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 27, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

BELVIDERE, IL — Belvidere resident Martha Barradas scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$250,000 Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$250,000. “I was so surprised that I won!” she said when she presented her ticket at the lottery Prize Center in Rockford.

Barradas has lived in Belvidere for 15 years. She was at 7-Eleven, 707 Logan St., in Belvidere, when she bought her ticket and used a coin to scratch it. She plans to put her winnings in the bank for now. The retailer received \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. [\\$250,000 Crossword](#) is a \$10 instant ticket with a top prize of \$250,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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“Great Day” for Willow Springs Resident! Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 21, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

WILLOW SPRINGS, IL — Willow Springs resident Mary Gallotta won \$75,000 when her \$1 [Lucky Day Lotto](#) Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 03 - 06 - 31 - 33 - 43 – in the Friday, November 11, evening drawing. “It was already such a great day, and then I won the lottery too!” she said when she presented her ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

On November 11, Veterans Day, Gallotta, 51, took the day off work to give out coffee and donuts to veterans. “I wanted to do something to give back because I really appreciate all that veterans have done for us.” Late that afternoon, she found a dollar bill in her pocket. She immediately had a feeling she should use it to buy a lottery ticket. A few weeks later when she checked her ticket, she was shocked to discover her \$75,000 win. She plans to put her winnings in the bank for now.

Gallotta bought her winning ticket at Oak Pantry and Deli, 6925 Joliet Road, in Indian Head Park. “I play *Lucky Day Lotto* once a month or so, and I always buy a Quick Pick.” The retailer received a bonus of \$750, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. Two winning tickets split the November 11 \$150,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* jackpot. The other \$75,000 winning ticket, also a Quick Pick, was purchased at Jewel-Osco, 13460 S. Route 59, in Plainfield. More than 12,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Bourbonnais Resident Wins \$1 Million Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 23, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

BOURBONNAIS, IL — Bourbonnais resident Paula Bleyle plans to pay bills and invest after winning \$1,000,000 on an Illinois Lottery [*\\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular*](#) instant ticket.

Bleyle opted to receive her prize as a one-time payment of \$600,000 (less required withholding). The winning ticket was purchased at Casey's General Store, 1430 N. Convent St., in Bourbonnais. Casey's received a bonus of \$10,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular* is a \$10 instant ticket that offers \$300,000,000 in prizes. Of the 35 top prizes of \$1,000,000 available to be won, 16 have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About the Illinois Lottery

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Good News Travels Fast! Ford County Resident Wins \$200,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 29, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

KEMPTON, IL — “Right after the drawing, I heard that a \$200,000 winning ticket was sold at the store where I bought my ticket. It turned out the big winner was me!” Rachel Shelby said when she presented her \$200,000 winning [Lucky Day Lotto](#) Quick Pick ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield. She won the jackpot prize when she matched all five numbers – 02 - 08 - 12 - 35 - 36 – in the Tuesday, November 22, midday drawing.

Shelby and her husband have lived in Kempton for 26 years. Their plans for the windfall include helping their children pay for college and investing. An occasional *Lucky Day Lotto* player, Shelby said that when she buys a ticket she always chooses a Quick Pick. She bought her \$200,000 winning ticket at Casey’s General Store, 215 W. Jackson St., in Cullom. The retailer received a bonus of \$2,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket.

More than 9,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Illinois Lottery Player Wins Big in Columbia!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 29, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

COLUMBIA, IL — Daniel Flanagan won \$155,402 when his [Lotto](#) ticket matched five of six numbers plus the *Extra Shot* number. The winning numbers in the Saturday, July 9 drawing were – 17 – 35 – 39 – 41 – 45 – 46 – and the *Extra Shot* number was 06.

Flanagan discovered his win when he checked the winning numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. His plans for the windfall include paying bills and taking a vacation. The lucky Missouri resident said whenever he is in Illinois he buys a *Lotto* ticket and always adds the *Extra Shot*. He bought his winning Quick Pick ticket at Red Roof Liquor and Lottery, 301 Southport Drive in Columbia. The retailer received a bonus of \$1,554, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

Lotto drawings take place Monday, Thursday and Saturday nights at 9:22 p.m. For more information about *Lotto* with *Extra Shot*, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Rock Island Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 27, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

ROCK ISLAND, IL — “I heard that a \$250,000 winning [Lucky Day Lotto](#) ticket was sold in Rock Island, so I checked my ticket, and the winner was me!” David Evans said when he presented his winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield. The lucky Rock Island resident won a \$250,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* jackpot prize when his \$1 Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 03 – 10 – 11 – 14 – 37 – in the Wednesday, June 29th, evening drawing.

“I plan to use this money to pay bills and take my wife on a vacation,” he said. A regular *Lucky Day Lotto* player, Evans buys two or three *Lucky Day Lotto* Quick Pick tickets each week. He bought his \$250,000 winning ticket at Hy-Vee Food Store, 2930 18th Avenue in Rock Island. The retailer received a bonus of \$2,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

More than 15,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in the June 29th *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Schaumburg Resident Wins \$700,000 Illinois Lottery Prize on Father's Day!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 28, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

SCHAUMBURG, IL — "I was having such a great Father's Day, I thought I should buy a Lottery ticket using family birthdays as my numbers, and I won!" Michael Ko said after winning a \$700,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* jackpot prize when his \$1 ticket matched all five numbers – 01 - 04 - 05 - 14 - 44 - in the Sunday, June 19th, evening drawing.

Ko, a resident of Schaumburg, recently discovered his win when he looked up the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. "I was shocked to see that the winning numbers matched the numbers on my ticket!" He plans to pay bills, invest and take a vacation.

The winning ticket was purchased at Mobil, 9660 Golf Road in Des Plaines. The retailer received a bonus of \$7,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 19,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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*** ALERT ***

Check Your Old Lottery Tickets!

\$1 Million Winning Ticket Sold in Glenview is About to Expire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 19, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GLENVIEW, IL — Check your desk, cookie jar, glove compartment, and anywhere else you may have stashed a winning lottery ticket! Time is running out for a lucky [Powerball](#) player to claim a \$1,000,000 prize from a ticket sold almost a year ago in Glenview.

The winning numbers in the Wednesday, January 13, 2016, drawing were – 04 - 08 - 19 - 27 - 34 – and the *Powerball* number was 10. The \$1,000,000 winning Quick Pick ticket was purchased at Citgo Food Mart, 915 Greenwood Road in Glenview. The retailer received a bonus of \$10,000, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

Winners have one year from the original drawing date to claim their prize. Lottery prizes up to \$600 can be claimed at nearly 8,000 retail locations. Prizes over \$600 may be claimed at one of five Lottery Prize Centers across Illinois, located in Chicago, Des Plaines, Springfield, Rockford and Fairview Heights. Under Illinois Lottery Law, unclaimed prizes are transferred to either the Common School Fund or the Capital Projects Fund.

Players of Illinois Lottery draw-based games can use the Illinois Lottery's mobile app to purchase tickets, check winning numbers and jackpots, and even find a nearby retailer. All players who win via the Illinois Lottery's website are sent a notification to their personal email address, eliminating the chance of a prize going unclaimed. The free app is the first of its kind in the United States offering any Illinois adult the chance to purchase lottery tickets via an app. For more information, and to download the Illinois Lottery mobile app, please visit www.illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Jacksonville Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

JACKSONVILLE, IL— "I'm so happy I won the lottery! I plan to put this money in the bank for now," Brooke Johnson said when she presented her \$50,000 winning [Slingo Gold](#) ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Johnson has lived in Jacksonville all her life and was at home when she used a nickel to scratch her ticket. She bought her winning ticket at JP Convenience, 619 N. Prairie St., in Jacksonville. The retailer received a \$500 bonus, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Slingo Gold* is a \$3 instant ticket offering a top prize of \$50,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Lifelong Highland Park Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

HIGHLAND PARK, IL — Carmen Rodriguez, a lifelong resident of Highland Park, scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$250,000 Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$250,000. “I like the *Crossword* tickets because they take a while to play,” he said when he presented his ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Rodriguez was at Shell, 2135 Green Bay Road, in Highland Park, when he bought and scratched his winning ticket. He plans to put the windfall in the bank for now. The retailer received \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$250,000 Crossword* is a \$10 instant ticket with a top prize of \$250,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Gurnee Resident is a Merry Millionaire!

Wins \$2,000,000 on Illinois Lottery “Merry Millionaire” Instant Ticket



David Martinez holds his \$2,000,000 winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 30, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GURNEE, IL — “I am going to pay my bills, make wise investments, and maybe take a vacation. I’ve always wanted to go to Hawaii, and now I can!” Gurnee resident David Martinez said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [Merry Millionaire](#) ticket and instantly winning \$2,000,000.

Martinez, 60, was at a gas station getting hot chocolate when he decided to buy a *Merry Millionaire* ticket. He was at home later that day when he scratched it and discovered his \$2,000,000 win. “My wife and I were so happy we started jumping up and down!” He immediately signed the back of the ticket and put it in a safe place before presenting it at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. He chose to take his prize as an annuity and will receive \$100,000 each year for 20 years (prior to withholding).

The winning ticket was purchased at Citgo, 3419 Grand Ave., in Gurnee. The retailer received a bonus of \$20,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Merry Millionaire* is a \$20

instant ticket featuring three top prizes of \$2,000,000, two of which have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit www.illinoislottery.com.

About the Illinois Lottery

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###







McHenry Resident Wins \$1 Million Illinois Lottery Prize!



Jason Lorenz holds his \$1,000,000 winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

McHENRY, IL — McHenry resident Jason Lorenz scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular](#) ticket and instantly won \$1,000,000. “At first I thought I won \$1,000. When I realized the prize was a million dollars, I couldn’t believe it!” he said when he presented his ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Lorenz, 32, has lived in McHenry his entire life. He bought his winning *\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular* ticket at 7-Eleven, 600 E. Ill. Route 22, in Lake Zurich, and he was in his car in the parking lot when he scratched it and won. “It was surreal. I drove home very carefully, holding onto my ticket the whole way.” When asked about plans for the windfall, he said he will buy a house and a car. He opted to receive his prize as a one-time payment of \$600,000 (less required withholding).

An occasional lottery player, Lorenz said he buys one ticket each week. 7-Eleven received a bonus of \$10,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$300,000,000 Cash Spectacular* is a \$10 instant ticket that offers \$300,000,000 in prizes. Of the 35 top prizes of \$1 million available to be won, 16 have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About the Illinois Lottery

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Arlington Heights Resident Supports Good Cause – Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize



Jeff Janowiak holds his \$50,000 winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL — “I believe in doing good things, so when I learned that the proceeds from this ticket support breast cancer research, I immediately bought one,” Jeff Janowiak said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure](#) and instantly winning \$50,000.

Janowiak, 43, has lived in Arlington Heights for 15 years. He was on his way home from work when he realized he needed gas. Instead of stopping at his regular gas station, he decided to try somewhere new, and then instead of buying a familiar lottery ticket, he chose the new edition of the *Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure*. “The way it happened makes me think that I was supposed to win this prize, like this was meant to be.” His plans for the windfall include investing for his son’s education.

The \$50,000 winning ticket was purchased at Marathon, 102 W. Northwest Hwy., in Arlington Heights. The retailer received \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. The *Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure* is a \$3 instant ticket offering three top prizes of \$50,000, two of which have not yet been claimed. Since 2006, *Ticket for the Cure* has raised more than \$11.5 million to support breast cancer research, awareness and education in Illinois. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state's Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Tuscola Winner Claims \$134 Million Mega Millions Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2016

Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

TUSCOLA, IL – “The lottery has made our dreams come true!” said the winner and his wife, Tuscola residents who won a \$134 million [Mega Millions](#) jackpot prize when their Quick Pick ticket matched all six numbers – 13 - 21 - 28 - 34 - 40 - (15) – in the Friday, September 16th, drawing.

The winner and his wife, who claimed the prize in the name of the Elaine Francis Trust, were born and raised in central Illinois and have lived in Tuscola for several years. After discovering the win, they met with financial and legal advisers and made plans to retire early from their factory and health care industry jobs. They said they will share the windfall with their families, and will help out in the Tuscola community and the communities where they grew up. They opted to take the prize as a one-time payment of \$89,993,284 (before required withholding).

The winning ticket was purchased at Lambo’s BP, 1000 E. Southline Road, in Tuscola. The retailer will receive a bonus of \$500,000 for selling the winning ticket. More than 61,000 Illinois Lottery players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$1,500 in this *Mega Millions* drawing. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

Below is a list of the top 10 prizes awarded to Illinois Lottery players:

<u>Prize Amount</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Game</u>	<u>Date</u>
\$265 million	Jesus Davila Jr.	Mega Millions	January 2015
\$262 million	Jack Williams and Neal Logue	Mega Millions	June 2015
\$218.6 million	Merle Butler	Mega Millions	March 2012
\$183 million	Kainze Family	Big Game	May 2000
\$134 million	Elaine Francis Trust	Mega Millions	September 2016
\$110.3 million	PFK Partnership	Big Game	April 2002
\$81.5 million	JYS Partnership	Mega Millions	December 2007
\$63 million	Flynn & Powell Partners	Big Game	November 1999
\$50 million	Theo Baumgartner	Powerball	March 2013
\$45 million	Britton Family Partners	Lotto	June 1995

Quick *Mega Millions* Facts:

- The very first jackpot-winning Mega Millions ticket was sold in Illinois on May 17, 2002, in Chatham and resulted in a \$28 million jackpot prize
- Jackpots start at \$15 million
- Overall odds of winning the jackpot 1:258,890,850
- Drawings are at 9:59 PM (CT) every Tuesday and Friday

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Antioch Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 4, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

ANTIOCH, IL — “This is amazing! I feel very lucky,” Antioch resident Bill Labarbera said after playing an Illinois Lottery [*Ultimate Crossword*](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

Labarbera was at a gas station filling his tank when he decided to go into the store and buy an *Ultimate Crossword* ticket. “I like the Crossword tickets because they’re entertaining and they take a while to play.” He was in his car when he used a coin to scratch his ticket and discovered he was a \$75,000 winner. He plans to take his niece and nephews to Disney World and invest the remainder of his windfall.

The winning ticket was purchased at Barrington Mobil, 504 E. Main St., in Barrington. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Gurnee Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize



Brittney West holds her \$50,000 winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 31, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034
To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

GURNEE, IL— “I’m so happy I won the lottery! I am going to invest this money for my daughter to go to college,” Gurnee resident Brittney West said when she presented her \$50,000 winning Illinois Lottery [Crossword](#) ticket at the Prize Center in Des Plaines.

West, 30, was at Citgo, 2135 N. Green Bay Road, in Waukegan, when she bought and scratched her winning ticket. “The clerk double-checked my ticket and reminded me to sign the back of it right away.” Citgo received a \$500 bonus, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Crossword* is a \$3 instant ticket offering 52 top prizes of \$50,000, six of which have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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store, the Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

###





Berwyn Resident Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 14, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

BERWYN, IL — “It’s hard to believe this is real!” Berwyn resident Cathy Galindo said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [*The Money Game*](#) ticket and instantly winning \$250,000.

Galindo stopped at Addison and Laramie Shell, 5201 W. Addison St., in Chicago, to buy her ticket. “Every once in a while, I take a chance and try a lottery ticket.” She was in her car in the parking lot when she scratched her ticket and discovered she was a \$250,000 winner. She plans to share the windfall with family and buy a house.

Addison and Laramie Shell received \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *The Money Game* is a \$5 instant ticket featuring three top prizes of \$250,000. One of the \$250,000 top prizes has not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Lockport Resident has “Lottery Emergency” - Wins \$750,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

LOCKPORT, IL — “I told my boss I needed to leave work early due to a lottery emergency!” Lockport resident David Balma said when he presented his \$750,000 winning [*Ultimate Crossword*](#) ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Born and raised in Joliet, Balma has lived in Lockport for more than 20 years and commutes to his Technical Support job in Schaumburg. “Traffic was light and I was really early for work one morning, so I stopped at a store and bought an *Ultimate Crossword* ticket.” He was in his office when he scratched the ticket and won a top prize of \$750,000. “I couldn’t believe it! I checked and re-checked my ticket several times and then my hands started shaking.” He immediately signed the back of the ticket, showed it to his boss, and then left work. He plans to share the windfall with family and invest for retirement.

Balma purchased his winning ticket at 7-Eleven, 1644 E. Algonquin Road, in Schaumburg. The retailer received \$7,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Bolingbrook Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

BOLINGBROOK, IL — Bolingbrook resident Dean Baki was shopping for a used car when he discovered he won a \$50,000 Illinois Lottery prize. “Now that I won the lottery, I can buy a nice, new car instead!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Baki won \$50,000 when his Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Wednesday, September 21 [Powerball](#) drawing. The winning numbers were – 01 - 28 - 63 - 67 - 69 – and the *Powerball* number was 17. He bought his winning ticket at Extra Value Liquors, 8286 Janes Ave., in Woodridge. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit [illinoislottery.com](#)

About the Illinois Lottery

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###





Lucky Day for Highland Resident - Wins \$250,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

HIGHLAND, IL — “The first thing I am going to do is take my husband, five kids and four grandchildren out for dinner to celebrate!” Kathy Garcia said when she presented her \$250,000 winning [Lucky Day Lotto](#) ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Fairview Heights. The lucky Highland resident’s Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 15 - 22 - 25 - 26 - 32 – to win a \$250,000 jackpot prize in the Friday, September 23rd, *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing.

Garcia has lived in Highland for 25 years. She was in her car the day after the drawing when she used her phone to look up the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. When she saw they matched the numbers on her ticket, she immediately drove to a store to verify her win. “The clerk who double-checked my ticket was as excited as I was and kept congratulating me!” She plans to invest her winnings for retirement.

Garcia said that whenever she plays *Lucky Day Lotto*, she always buys a Quick Pick ticket. She bought her \$250,000 winning ticket at Circle K, 12587 Illinois State Route 143, in Highland. The retailer received a bonus of \$2,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 14,500 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Chicago Resident Wins \$1 Million Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 20, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL — Chicago resident Leo Brown scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$1,000,000 Jumbo Bucks](#) ticket and instantly won \$1,000,000. “When I saw that I won, I froze! I just sat there!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

Brown is originally from Alabama and has lived in Chicago for 48 years. He and his wife plan to pay bills, travel to several southern states to visit relatives, and invest. When asked if he had any advice for other players, he said, “If you win a big prize, sign your ticket right away. A friend gave me that advice years ago, and I never thought I would need it. But I did!”

The winning *\$1,000,000 Jumbo Bucks* ticket was purchased at Royal Food and Gas Mart, 9900 S. Halsted St., in Chicago. The retailer received a \$10,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. *\$1,000,000 Jumbo Bucks* is a \$5 instant ticket offering a top prize of \$1,000,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Evergreen Park Resident Wins \$750,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 28, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

EVERGREEN PARK, IL — Evergreen Park resident Marta Drogobyska played an Illinois Lottery [*Ultimate Crossword*](#) ticket and instantly won \$750,000. “I love the *Crossword* tickets!” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. She plans to put her winnings in the bank.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 9860 S. Kedzie Ave., in Evergreen Park. The retailer received \$7,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Matteson Resident Stops for Gas - Fills Bank Account! Wins \$200,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

MATTESON, IL— Matteson resident Onzo Wilkerson scratched an Illinois Lottery [Bingo](#) ticket and instantly won \$200,000. “I’m going to put it all in the bank,” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

Wilkerson was paying for gas at River Oaks Mobil, 1401 Torrence Ave., in Calumet City, when he decided to buy a *Bingo* ticket. He was in his car in the gas station parking lot when he scratched the ticket and discovered his win. He immediately signed the back of it and put it in his wallet. “I drove home so carefully, and I kept looking in my wallet to make sure the ticket was still there!”

River Oaks Mobil received a \$2,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. *Bingo* is a \$5 instant ticket. Of the six top prizes of \$200,000 available, four have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Beginner's Luck for Quincy Resident – Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 22, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

QUINCY, IL - "It was the first time I ever played this game and I won \$75,000!" Quincy resident Brian Butler said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

Butler was at Casey's General Store, 2418 North 24th Street in Quincy, when he saw the new *Ultimate Crossword* ticket and decided to try it. When he realized he won a \$75,000 prize, he immediately signed the back of his ticket. He plans to put the windfall toward buying a house.

Casey's General Store received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Carbondale Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

CARBONDALE, IL— Carbondale resident Choak Somkroot played an Illinois Lottery [Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$50,000.

Somkroot has lived in Carbondale for 35 years. He was at home when he used a quarter to scratch his *Crossword* ticket. When he received his check from the Illinois Lottery, he went straight to the bank and deposited his winnings. "I plan to save it for now," he said.

The winning ticket was purchased at West Town Shell, 222 North Emerald Lane in Carbondale. The retailer received a \$500 bonus, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Crossword* is a \$3 instant ticket offering 52 top prizes of \$50,000, seven of which have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Lucky Day for Morris Resident – Wins \$225,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

MORRIS, IL — Morris resident Duane Cobb won a \$225,000 [Lucky Day Lotto](#) jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 11 - 13 - 21 - 24 – 27 - in the Saturday, August 27th, evening drawing. “It’s hard to believe I really won. I still can’t believe it!” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Cobb has lived in Morris for 18 years. He said he plays *Lucky Day Lotto* three or four times a week and always buys a Quick Pick ticket. His plans for the windfall include completing some home remodeling projects and investing.

The winning ticket was purchased at Jewel-Osco, 1414 North Division Street in Morris. The retailer received a bonus of \$2,250, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. Two winning tickets shared the August 27th *Lucky Day Lotto* jackpot. The other \$225,000 winning ticket was purchased at 320 Grocery, 320 North Court Street in Rockford. More than 20,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Chicago Grandma to Share \$450,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 27, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL — “I chose some of my grandchildren’s birthdays as my numbers to play [Lucky Day Lotto](#), and I won!” Gloria Schmitz said after winning a \$450,000 jackpot prize when her \$1 ticket matched all five numbers – 10 - 13 - 17 - 19 - 21 – in the Wednesday, September 14th, midday drawing.

Schmitz has lived on the South Side of Chicago for 56 years. She bought her winning ticket at Phillips 66, 3901 W. 63rd St., and returned to the store a few days later to check it. “When I realized that I won \$450,000, I was so nervous! I signed my ticket right away.” She plans to share the windfall with her three children and 12 grandchildren.

Phillips 66 received a bonus of \$4,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 14,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Manteno Resident Banks \$350,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

MANTENO, IL — “When I received my check from the Lottery, I went straight to the bank to deposit it, then took my husband out for a celebration dinner!” Manteno resident Holly Koehne said after winning a \$350,000 [*Lucky Day Lotto*](#) jackpot prize last month.

Koehne discovered her win when she checked the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website and saw that her ticket matched all five numbers - 07 -- 11 – 24 – 25 – 26 - in the Tuesday, August 16th, evening drawing. “I chose these numbers a few years ago because I thought they looked lucky, and I’ve been playing them ever since,” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 4901 West 167th Street in Oak Forest. Two winning tickets shared the August 16th *Lucky Day Lotto* \$700,000 jackpot. The other \$350,000 winning ticket was purchased at A & B Convenience, 100 West Randolph Street in Chicago. Each retailer received a bonus of \$3,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

More than 28,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Lifelong Belleville Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September X, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

BELLEVILLE, IL— Jennifer Wallace, a lifelong Belleville resident, played an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000. “I love the *Crossword* tickets!” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Fairview Heights.

Wallace was at home with her husband Brad when she scratched her winning ticket. “You are not going to believe this!” she shouted when she realized her prize was \$75,000. When asked about her plans for the windfall she said, “We’ll pay bills, invest, and Brad is fixing up a classic car so he’ll spend some on that.”

The winning ticket was purchased at Circle K, 1001 East Main Street in Belleville. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Lucky Day for East Peoria Resident – Wins \$700,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 20, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

EAST PEORIA, IL — East Peoria resident Kathy Allison won a \$700,000 [Lucky Day Lotto](#) jackpot prize when her ticket matched all five numbers – 04 - 09 - 21 - 27 – 29 – in the Tuesday, August 23rd, evening drawing.

Originally from Springfield, Allison has lived in East Peoria for 14 years. She is married with five children and eight grandchildren and uses family birthdays as her *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers. “I always had a feeling that I would win a big *Lucky Day Lotto* prize one day!” she said. When Allison received her winnings she shared with family, donated to her favorite charities and put the remainder in the bank.

The winning ticket was purchased at Little Grocery, 200 East McKinley in East Peoria. The retailer received a bonus of \$7,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 26,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state’s Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

###





Calm, Cool and Collecting \$1 Million!

Roscoe Resident Wins \$1 Million Illinois Lottery Prize



Lindsay Fields holds her winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

ROSCOE, IL— Roscoe resident Lindsay Fields scratched an Illinois Lottery [World Class Millions](#) ticket and instantly won \$1,000,000. “I’m calm now, but when I scratched my ticket and saw that I won \$1,000,000, I was freaking out!” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Rockford.

Fields, 29, was at a gas station buying a soda when she decided to treat herself to a *World Class Millions* instant ticket. She was at home when she scratched her ticket and then she immediately returned to the store to have the clerk double-check it. “I couldn’t believe I won such a big prize!” She plans to buy a house and a new car, and invest.

The winning ticket was purchased at Mobil, 9915 Orlando Street in Machesney Park. The retailer received \$10,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *World Class Millions* is a \$30 instant ticket offering three top prizes of \$15 million, seven prizes of \$1 million, and 20 prizes of \$100,000.

One of the \$15 million prizes, two of the \$1 million prizes, and 10 of the \$100,000 prizes have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About the Illinois Lottery

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Henry County Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 1, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

ATKINSON, IL — Atkinson resident Lloyd Smith played an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000.

Smith, 63, has lived in Atkinson for 26 years and was at home when he used a pocket knife to scratch his ticket. “I really like the *Crossword* tickets, and I’ve been lucky with them. Last year, I won \$1,000, and now this!” His plans for the windfall include donating to his favorite charities and paying off the new truck he bought last month.

The winning ticket was purchased at Casey’s General Store, 300 East Henry Street in Atkinson. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, its bonus for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. There are 10 prizes of \$750,000 available to be won, none of which have yet been claimed. Of the 100 prizes of \$75,000 available to be won, 91 have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Sangamon County Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 23, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

PLEASANT PLAINS, IL— “This is fantastic!” Pleasant Plains resident Marilyn Gates said after playing an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

Gates is originally from Springfield and has lived in Pleasant Plains for eight years. She is married and has four children, 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. When asked about her plans for the windfall she said she plans to put it in the bank for now.

The winning ticket was purchased at Bert’s Service, 200 East Hargrave Street in Athens. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state’s Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Woodlawn Resident Wins \$500,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

Winning Ticket Purchased in Mount Vernon

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 6, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

WOODLAWN, IL— “I can’t believe I’m a half-millionaire!” Woodlawn resident Melba Knox said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [*Towering 10’s*](#) ticket and instantly winning a top prize of \$500,000.

Knox was in her car when she used a quarter to scratch her *Towering 10’s* ticket. When she saw the \$500,000 prize amount, she was sure she had made a mistake so she put on her glasses to take a closer look. Still not believing her good fortune, she drove to her brother’s house where he double-checked the ticket and confirmed her win. When he advised her to immediately sign the back of her ticket, Knox had a hard time. “I was crying and shaking and could barely write my name!”

A factory worker all of her adult life, Knox, 64, was hoping to retire within the next year. “Without this win, I wouldn’t be able to retire when I wanted to. This couldn’t have happened at a better time!” After presenting her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield, she drove to work and notified them of her retirement.

When asked about her plans for the windfall, Knox said she and her husband would pay bills, invest and share with their son, daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. “I know money doesn’t buy happiness, but this \$500,000 sure is making us smile!”

Knox said she buys one instant Lottery ticket every week on payday. She bought her winning *Towering 10’s* ticket at Circle K, 103 North 44th Street in Mount Vernon. The retailer received a bonus of \$5,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Towering 10’s* is a \$10 instant ticket with three top prizes of \$500,000. Two of the \$500,000 prizes have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Lucky Day for Crystal Lake Resident – Wins \$300,000 *Lucky Day Lotto* Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 29, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 507-9408

CRYSTAL LAKE, IL — Crystal Lake resident Michael Wirsing won a \$300,000 [Lucky Day Lotto](#) jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 11 - 22 - 25 - 27 – 31 – in the Saturday, September 10th, midday drawing.

Wirsing has lived in Crystal Lake for 16 years. He bought his winning ticket at Circle K, 280 N. Illinois Route 31, in Crystal Lake. “I have been playing *Lucky Day Lotto* for a couple of months. I always buy a Quick Pick, and always at this store.” He and his wife Pat plan to invest the windfall for retirement.

Circle K received a bonus of \$3,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. More than 11,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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###





Kankakee Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

KANKAKEE, IL— “I couldn’t believe I really won! I’m going to share this with my family,” Kankakee resident Nicolas Diaz said after playing an Illinois Lottery [*Ultimate Crossword*](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

Diaz bought his winning ticket at Circle K, 3 Gladiolus Street in Momence. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner! Shiloh Resident Wins \$2,000,000 Illinois Lottery Prize



Patrick Emmerich holds his \$2,000,000 winning ticket

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 14, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang 217) 524-5158

SHILOH, IL— “I was at the store picking up chicken for dinner when something told me to get a lottery ticket, so I did, and I won!” Shiloh resident Patrick Emmerich said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [\\$2,000,000 Extravaganza!](#) ticket and instantly winning \$2,000,000.

“I always said that one of these days I was going to win a big lottery prize and now I can’t believe I really did,” Emmerich said. He was at Dierbergs, 4000 Greenmount Crossing in Shiloh, when he bought and scratched his winning ticket. When he saw the \$2,000,000 prize amount, he thought he must have made a mistake so he asked the clerk to double-check it. The clerk confirmed the win and Emmerich immediately signed the back of his ticket. “And then I stuffed the ticket down my shirt and went straight home.”

“When I told my family that I won, they didn’t believe me!” Emmerich is married with four children and one grandchild. He works at a factory in Belleville and said he will keep working. Plans for the \$2,000,000 windfall include donating to his church, buying a new car and trailer, and investing.

Dierbergs received a \$20,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket.

\$2,000,000 Extravaganza! is a \$20 instant ticket offering three top prizes of \$2,000,000, two of which have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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About Illinois Lottery

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Mount Prospect Resident Wins \$250,000 Crossword Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

MOUNT PROSPECT, IL — Mount Prospect resident Renee Maliszewski played an Illinois Lottery [\\$250,000 Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$250,000. “I feel very lucky that this happened to me,” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. Her plans for the windfall include paying bills and investing.

Maliszewski bought her winning ticket at BP, 1625 East Euclid Avenue in Mount Prospect. The retailer received \$2,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$250,000 Crossword* is a \$10 instant ticket. Of the 56 top prizes of \$250,000 available, six have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Geneva Resident Wins \$100,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 8, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GENEVA, IL— Geneva resident Bob Gamboni scratched an Illinois Lottery [\\$10 Million Cash Bonanza](#) ticket and instantly won \$100,000. “I plan to pay bills and invest,” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Gamboni was at 7-Eleven, 621 West State Street in Geneva, when he bought and scratched his \$100,000 winning ticket. The retailer received a bonus of \$1,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$10 Million Cash Bonanza* is a \$30 instant ticket with three top prizes of \$10 million. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Glenwood Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GLENWOOD, IL— “I can’t believe I won! It still hasn’t sunk in,” Glenwood resident Sandra Batty said after playing an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

An occasional Lottery player, Batty was at Glenwood Minuteman Citgo cashing in a \$6 winning instant ticket when she saw the *Ultimate Crossword* ticket and decided to try it. She was in the store when she scratched it and won \$75,000. “When I saw the prize amount, I thought I might pass out!” She immediately signed the back of her ticket and kept it in a safe place before visiting the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Chicago. When asked about her plans for the windfall, Batty, 54, said she will share with family, pay bills and take a vacation.

Glenwood Minuteman Citgo, 18659 South Halsted in Glenwood, received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Aurora Resident Wins \$100,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

AURORA, IL— “This is great! I’m going to pay my bills and invest,” Aurora resident Steven White said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [*\\$2,000,000 Extravaganza!*](#) ticket and instantly winning \$100,000.

White was at Poor Boys Pub, 283 Montgomery Road in Montgomery, when he bought and scratched his winning ticket. Poor Boys Pub received a \$1,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$2,000,000 Extravaganza!* is a \$20 instant ticket offering three top prizes of \$2,000,000, and six prizes of \$100,000. Two of the \$2,000,000 prizes and three of the \$100,000 prizes have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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About Illinois Lottery

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Reynolds Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

REYNOLDS, IL— “At first I thought I won \$100. When I saw that my prize was actually \$75,000, I started shaking!” Susan Anderson said after playing an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly winning \$75,000.

Anderson has lived in Reynolds for 10 years and was at home when she scratched her winning ticket. Thinking she had made an error, she called her sister and asked her to come and double-check it. “My sister went over every letter and word on my ticket. We couldn’t believe I won such a big prize!” She plans to spend her winnings on home remodeling projects.

The winning ticket was purchased at Casey’s General Store, 1105 West 10th Avenue in Milan. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Lake County Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 13, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

WADSWORTH, IL — Wadsworth resident Pablo Garcia played an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000.

Garcia, originally from Mexico, has lived in Wadsworth for 15 years. He was at La Conchita Bakery, 1703 Washington St., in Waukegan, getting coffee and pastries when he decided to buy an *Ultimate Crossword* ticket. He took his ticket home to scratch it. “When I saw that I won \$75,000, I rushed to the closest gas station to confirm it. I didn’t even finish my coffee!” He plans to put his winnings in the bank for now.

La Conchita Bakery received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Illinois Lottery Unveils New ‘Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure’ Instant Game *Proceeds Support Breast Cancer Research and Education*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2016

Media Contact:

Jason Schaumburg
(312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL —The Illinois Lottery today introduced the 13th edition of its breast cancer awareness instant lottery game, [Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure](#), at Presence Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center, a recent grant recipient of Ticket for the Cure funding. Illinois was the first lottery to launch a game to support the fight against breast cancer.

Since 2006, *Ticket for the Cure* has raised more than \$11.5 million to support breast cancer research, awareness and education in Illinois. Net proceeds from the sale of the ticket are distributed by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), which provides grants that fund medical research centers and community organizations across the state.

“Millions of dollars have been raised to help support women diagnosed with breast cancer in Illinois through this Illinois Lottery specialty ticket,” Illinois Lottery Acting Director Tim McDevitt said. “The Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure is an exciting opportunity for players to win great prizes while also helping fight breast cancer.”

“While breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in Illinois and the second leading cause of cancer death, early detection can significantly improve the rates of survival from this disease,” said IDPH Director Nirav D. Shah, M.D., J.D. “If we do promote early screening and healthy lifestyles, while supporting research that will further prevent the spread of this illness, we can drastically increase the survival rate. We are fortunate to partner annually with the Illinois Lottery on this ticket, which helps fund valuable research and screening activities in Illinois.”

This specialty game was renamed *Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure* in 2011. It is named for former Illinois Lottery Superintendent (2003-2007) Carolyn Adams, who fought her battle with breast cancer until 2007.

Tickets are available at nearly 8,000 Lottery retail locations statewide. Each ticket costs \$3 and has three top prizes of \$50,000.

Click [here](#) for information about breast cancer and screenings in Illinois.

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Lucky Day for Glenview Resident!

Wins \$700,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 27, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

GLENVIEW, IL — “I am very, very happy that I won this prize!” Robert Buta said when he presented his winning [*Lucky Day Lotto*](#) ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. The lucky Glenview resident won a \$700,000 jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 12 - 13 - 16 - 22 – 32 – in the Monday, October 17th, midday drawing.

Buta discovered his win the day after the drawing when he checked the winning numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. He plans to buy a house and a new car.

The winning ticket was purchased at Kathe’s Car Wash, 825 Milwaukee Ave., in Glenview. The retailer received a bonus of \$7,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 16,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Winnebago Resident Wins \$200,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 11, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang, (217) 524-5158

WINNEBAGO, IL— “When I scratched my ticket and saw that I won \$200,000, I freaked out!” Winnebago resident Tashinah Shade said when she presented her winning [Bingo](#) ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

An occasional lottery player, Shade said she buys one instant ticket each week. She used a penny to scratch her *Bingo* ticket, and when she discovered she was a \$200,000 winner, she signed the back of the ticket right away. Her plans for the windfall include paying bills and investing.

The winning ticket was purchased at 203 Food Mart, 203 W. Madison St., in Oak Park. The retailer received a \$2,000 bonus, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. *Bingo* is a \$5 instant ticket. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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*** ALERT ***

Check Your Old Lottery Tickets!

\$100,000 Winning Ticket Sold in Lake in the Hills is About to Expire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 26, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

LAKE IN THE HILLS, IL — Check your desk, cookie jar, glove compartment, and anywhere else you may have stashed a winning lottery ticket! Time is running out for a [Lucky Day Lotto](#) player to claim a \$100,000 prize from a ticket sold almost a year ago in Lake in the Hills.

The winning numbers in the Wednesday, November 18th, midday drawing were 03 - 06 - 19 - 21 - 32. The \$100,000 winning Quick Pick ticket was purchased at Shell, 4231 Algonquin Road, in Lake in the Hills. The retailer received a bonus of \$1,000, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket.

Winners have one year from the original drawing date to claim their prize. Lottery prizes up to \$600 can be claimed at nearly 8,000 retail locations. Prizes over \$600 may be claimed at one of five Lottery Prize Centers across Illinois, located in Chicago, Des Plaines, Springfield, Rockford and Fairview Heights. Under Illinois Lottery Law, unclaimed prizes are transferred to either the Common School Fund or the Capital Projects Fund.

Players of Illinois Lottery draw-based games can use the Illinois Lottery's mobile app to purchase tickets, check winning numbers and jackpots, and even find a nearby retailer. All players who win via the Illinois Lottery's website are sent a notification to their personal email address, eliminating the chance of a prize going unclaimed. The free app is the first of its kind in the United States offering any Illinois adult the chance to purchase lottery tickets via an app.

Lucky Day Lotto drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, and to download the Illinois Lottery mobile app, please visit www.illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Lucky Day for Calumet City Resident - Wins \$150,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 6, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CALUMET CITY, IL — “I used family birthdays as my numbers, and I won!” Calumet City resident Velma Dance said after her [*Lucky Day Lotto*](#) ticket matched all five numbers – 02 - 08 - 10 - 19 - 22 – to win a \$150,000 prize in the Wednesday, September 21st, evening drawing.

Dance discovered her win when she checked the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. She plans to buy a house.

The winning ticket was purchased at River Oaks Mobil, 140 Torrence Ave., in Calumet City. The retailer received a bonus of \$1,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 15,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

Founded in 1974, the Illinois Lottery has contributed over \$19 billion (since 1985) to the state’s Common School Fund to assist K-12 public schools, as well as hundreds of millions of dollars to the Capital Projects Fund and to special causes like Illinois Veterans services, the fight against breast cancer, MS research, Special Olympics and assistance for people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition to playing in-store, the Illinois Lottery offers online and mobile play for all draw-based Illinois Lottery games at illinoislottery.com. Players must be at least 18 years old.

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Lucky Day for Hoffman Estates Resident!

Wins \$600,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL — “This is a great prize!” Jeff Kelly said when he presented his winning [Lucky Day Lotto](#) ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. The lucky Hoffman Estates resident won a \$600,000 jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 01 - 03 - 20 - 32 - 35 – in the Tuesday, October 25th, evening drawing.

Kelly discovered his win when he checked the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. He plans to pay bills and invest.

The winning ticket was purchased at Mobil, 810 N. Roselle Road, in Hoffman Estates. The retailer received a bonus of \$6,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 19,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Homewood Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 10, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

HOMEWOOD, IL — Homewood resident Kehinde Salami played an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won \$75,000. “I plan to put this money in the bank,” he said when he presented his winning ticket at the lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Salami, 51, bought his winning ticket at Lambert Mobil, 1529 N. Broadway St., in Joliet. The retailer received \$750, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Round Lake Heights Resident Wins \$75,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 18, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

ROUND LAKE HEIGHTS, IL — Round Lake Heights resident Keith Olsen scratched an Illinois Lottery [Candy Cane Crossword](#) ticket and instantly won a top prize of \$75,000. “I plan to use some of my winnings to pay bills,” he said when he presented his ticket at the Prize Center in Des Plaines.

Olsen said he buys a few instant lottery tickets each week and also occasionally plays *Pick 4*. He bought his \$75,000 winning *Candy Cane Crossword* ticket at Fairfield Quick Shop, 1115 N. Fairfield Road, in Round Lake Beach. The retailer received a \$750 bonus, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Candy Cane Crossword* is a \$5 instant ticket offering five top prizes of \$75,000, four of which have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Beginner's Luck for Champaign Resident - Wins \$100,000 Illinois Lottery Prize!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

CHAMPAIGN, IL— The first time Champaign resident Krystal Marshall played an Illinois Lottery [\\$10 Million Cash Bonanza](#) ticket, she instantly won \$100,000! “When I saw this ticket I had a feeling I should try it,” she said when she presented her winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield.

Marshall, 30, has lived in Champaign for eight years and was at home when she used a coin to scratch her *\$10 Million Cash Bonanza* ticket. “I was shocked! I read the rules on the back of the ticket several times to make sure it was real.” She plans to put her winnings toward the purchase of a house.

“I buy a lottery ticket every couple of months, and usually at a gas station store,” Marshall said. She bought her \$100,000 winning ticket at Circle K, 4202 W. Springfield Ave., in Champaign. Circle K received a bonus of \$1,000, equal to one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *\$10 Million Cash Bonanza* is a \$30 instant ticket with three top prizes of \$10 million. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Lucky Day for Lifelong Deer Creek Resident! Wins \$500,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2016

Media Contact: Mike Lang (217) 524-5158

DEER CREEK, IL — “I can’t believe it!” lifelong Deer Creek resident Lloyd Bates said after winning half a million dollars playing [Lucky Day Lotto](#). Bates won a \$500,000 jackpot prize when his \$1 Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 11 - 20 - 21 - 27 - 45 – in the Monday, June 27th, evening drawing.

The winning ticket was purchased at Casey’s General Store, 312 E. 1st Ave., in Deer Creek. After the drawing, Bates returned to the store to check his ticket and discovered his win. He presented his winning ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Springfield and when asked about his plans for the windfall he said, “I am going to invest this money wisely.”

Casey’s received a bonus of \$5,000, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 19,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Lucky Day for Des Plaines Resident! Wins \$225,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 29, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

DES PLAINES, IL — Des Plaines resident Martin Schwalm plans to buy a house after winning a \$225,000 jackpot prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched all five numbers – 02 - 09 - 21 - 25 - 30 – in the Thursday, November 10, [Lucky Day Lotto](#) evening drawing.

Schwalm, 59, discovered his win when he used his phone to check the winning *Lucky Day Lotto* numbers on the Illinois Lottery website. He bought his winning ticket at Mobil, 9660 Golf Road, in Des Plaines. Mobil received a bonus of \$2,250, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket.

Two winning tickets shared the November 10 \$450,000 jackpot. The other \$225,000 winning ticket was purchased at Gee 'N Jays, 925 Dundee Ave., in Elgin. More than 20,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Crest Hill Resident Heads to College Thanks to \$500,000 Illinois Lottery Win

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 21, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CREST HILL, IL — “I always wanted to go to college, and now that I won this prize, I can,” Michael MacAuley said after scratching an Illinois Lottery [\\$500,000 Jackpot](#) ticket and instantly winning a top prize of \$500,000.

The lucky Crest Hill resident was at home when he scratched his ticket and won. “I started to shake when I realized I was holding a ticket worth half a million dollars!” He immediately signed the back of his ticket and put it in a safe place before presenting it at the Lottery Prize Center in Chicago.

MacAuley buys one or two instant lottery tickets every week. “You have to try a ticket once in a while because you just never know.” He bought his \$500,000 winning ticket out of the self-service lottery machine at U.S. Tobacco, 1701 N. Larkin Ave., in Crest Hill. The retailer received \$5,000, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket.

\$500,000 Jackpot is a \$10 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$500,000. Of the three \$500,000 prizes available, two have not yet been claimed. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

About Illinois Lottery

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Illinois Lottery's '*Veterans Cash*' Instant Game on Sale Statewide

100% of Proceeds Benefit Illinois Veterans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 17, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

CHICAGO, IL – The Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) joined the Illinois Lottery today in launching the newest *Veterans Cash* instant game at the National Able Network, a recent grant recipient of the *Veterans Cash* funding.

The first *Veterans Cash* ticket was launched in 2006. It was the first lottery game in the United States to designate 100 percent of net proceeds to veterans. Since then, *Veterans Cash* has awarded more than \$13.3 million in grants statewide to veterans' organizations that provide vital services, including job training, housing assistance, and post-traumatic stress disorder treatment.

"The Illinois Lottery is proud to be partnering again with the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs to support men and women who have fought for and represented our country," Illinois Lottery Acting Director Gregory Smith said. "This gives lottery players the chance to support our veterans and to win cash prizes just by asking for the *Veterans Cash* instant ticket. Millions of dollars have been raised through this instant ticket to help veterans with housing, education, and training."

Proceeds from the sale of *Veterans Cash* are deposited into the Illinois Veterans Assistance Fund. The IDVA uses the money to provide grants to veterans' service providers. Some additional services provided through the Lottery game include assistance for homeless veterans, health insurance costs and disability benefits.

"The *Veterans Cash* lottery ticket is a critical component for our support to veterans' organizations across the state," Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Director Erica Jeffries said. "The more *Veterans Cash* tickets we sell, the more funding we have to support our Illinois

heroes. Thanks to the *Veterans Cash* lottery program, we have been able to provide funding to nearly 300 organizations, totaling more than \$13 million.”

Tickets for the new *Veterans Cash* game cost \$3 and feature three top prizes of \$50,000. This game is available at nearly 8,000 Illinois Lottery retail locations statewide. *Veterans Cash* is one of five specialty instant tickets that benefit good causes in Illinois. The others are *Carolyn Adams Ticket for the Cure* (breast cancer research), *MS Project* (Multiple Sclerosis research), *Red Ribbon Cash* (AIDS/HIV prevention), and *Special Olympics* (sports training programs).

For more information on *Veterans Cash*, please visit IllinoisLottery.com. To apply for a *Veterans Cash* grant, please download an application at [the Veterans Cash website](#). For more information about IDVA and its programs, please [visit the agency's homepage](#).

About the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs

The mission of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA) is to empower veterans and their families to thrive. We do this by assisting them in navigating the system of federal state and local resources and benefits; by providing long-term health care for eligible veterans in our Veterans' Homes; and by partnering with other agencies and non-profits to help veterans address education, mental health, housing, employment, and other challenges.

About Illinois Lottery

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Joliet Resident Wins \$50,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg, (312) 793-3034

JOLIET, IL — Joliet resident Richard Giemzik won a \$50,000 [Powerball](#) prize when his Quick Pick ticket matched four numbers, plus the *Powerball* number, in the Saturday, October 22 drawing. The winning numbers were – 01 - 28 - 33 - 55 - 56 – and the *Powerball* number was 22.

“I plan to put my winnings in the bank for now,” Giemzik said when he presented his *Powerball* ticket at the Illinois Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. He bought his winning ticket at Bucky’s Express, 6551 Route 34, in Oswego. The retailer received a bonus of \$500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling a winning ticket. For more information about *Powerball* please visit [illinoislottery.com](#)

About the Illinois Lottery

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Good News Travels Fast! Winchester Resident Wins \$750,000 Illinois Lottery Prize

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034

WINCHESTER, IL — “It’s true that good news travels fast! Everyone in town has been congratulating me on my big win,” Winchester resident Robert Mueller said after playing an Illinois Lottery [Ultimate Crossword](#) ticket and instantly winning \$750,000.

Mueller was at home when he scratched his \$750,000 winning ticket. Thinking he had made a mistake, he asked his wife to double-check it. “We still couldn’t believe it, so we went back to the store to confirm that we really won.” They plan to share the windfall with their three children, seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

An occasional lottery player, Mueller said he buys two or three instant tickets each week and sometimes also plays *Pick 3*. He bought his winning *Ultimate Crossword* ticket at Winchester Food Mart, 5 W. Cherry St., in Winchester. The retailer received \$7,500, one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. *Ultimate Crossword* is a \$25 instant ticket featuring top prizes of \$750,000 and \$75,000. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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Best Birthday Gift Ever!

Retired Chicago Public School Teacher Wins \$1,050,000 Illinois Lottery Prize



Sue Swanson holds her \$1,050,000 winning ticket.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 1, 2016

Media Contact: Jason Schaumburg (312) 793-3034
To request a high resolution photo, please email photos@northstarlottery.net.

TINLEY PARK, IL — “I want to thank the Illinois Lottery for the best birthday gift ever!” Tinley Park resident Sue Swanson said when she presented her \$1,050,000 winning [Lucky Day Lotto](#) ticket at the Lottery Prize Center in Des Plaines. On October 2nd, her 68th birthday, Swanson bought three \$1 *Lucky Day Lotto* Quick Pick tickets, one of which hit the jackpot. She won \$1,050,000 when her ticket matched all five numbers – 08 - 19 - 35 - 36 - 45 – in the Monday, October 3rd, evening drawing.

Swanson was an elementary school teacher for Chicago Public Schools from 1970 until she retired in 2005. She has lived in Tinley Park for 25 years. She plans to donate to her favorite charities, complete home

remodeling projects, and buy a new car. “I will be so happy to get a brand new car because my car is 14 years old!” She also plans to get professional financial advice and make investments. “On my birthday, right after I bought my *Lucky Day Lotto* ticket, I read my horoscope and it said my dreams would come true. They certainly are coming true now!”

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven, 17055 S. Oak Park Ave., in Tinley Park. The retailer received a bonus of \$10,500, or one percent of the prize amount, for selling the winning ticket. More than 35,000 players won prizes ranging from \$1 to \$200 in this *Lucky Day Lotto* evening drawing. *Lucky Day Lotto* drawings are twice a day, seven days a week. For more information, please visit illinoislottery.com.

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