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Benefits Education and Institutions

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What Size Jackpot Motivates You to Buy a Lottery Ticket?

TRENTON (Sept. 20, 2016) – Multi-state lottery jackpots are always large. Mega Millions' starting jackpot is \$15 million and Powerball's is \$40 million. That amount of money could buy some significant homes, cars and vacations and yet, people wait for jackpots to climb even further before really feeling the excitement of the possibilities. When Lottery jackpots climb above \$250 million the public begins to take notice and gets inspired to dream. Here are a few New Jersey Lottery dreamers who opened their eyes and realized that anything *can* happen in New Jersey.

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, the Powerball jackpot reached a record-breaking \$1,586,400,000 with a cash value of \$983,500,000. Ira Lee Wagner from Leola, Pennsylvania, and owner of the Hickory Hill Trust that claimed a winning ticket, decided that was enough money to get into the game. He bought one ticket. His ticket numbers matched all five white balls drawn, but not the Powerball, to win the \$1,000,000 second prize. Thinking big, Wagner purchased his ticket with the Powerplay multiplier doubling his winnings to \$2,000,000. The winning numbers for the drawing were: 04, 08, 19, 27 and 34. The Red Powerball number was 10. The Multiplier number was 02. Wagner's lucky retailer was WAWA #423, 76 Springside Rd., Westampton in Burlington County.

That same Powerball jackpot inspired another infrequent player to purchase a ticket. His ticket also matched the five white balls drawn, but didn't include Powerplay, to win one million dollars. That ticket was claimed by West Riviera, LLC, from Brooklyn, New York, whose members include Israel Braunstein and his sons, Edward, Michael and son-in-law Benjamin Einhorn. Their lucky retailer was 7-Eleven #15560 (G), 171 Buckelew Ave., Jamesburg in Middlesex County.



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Please play responsibly. If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call 1-800-GAMBLER.

Michele Molinaro from Barnegat in Ocean County won \$150,000 playing Powerball from the Wednesday, March 16, drawing when the jackpot was \$70 million. Her ticket matched four of the five white balls and the Powerball drawn to win the \$50,000 third prize. Playing confidently, Molinaro purchased her ticket with the Powerplay multiplier bringing her winnings to \$150,000. The winning numbers for the drawing were: 10, 12, 13, 46 and 50. The Red Power Ball number was 21. The Multiplier number was 03. Her lucky retailer was Dollar Plus Variety, 304 Route 9, Waretown in Ocean County.

Lottery winners Jose and Martina Matias from Union City in Hudson County claimed a \$1,000,000 Powerball ticket from the Saturday, July 9 drawing. Jose Matias is not a frequent player but when he saw the \$288 million jackpot he was inspired to make a purchase. He bought two tickets for the drawing at 99 Cent Treasures, 120 48th St., Union City. The Matias' will be purchasing their first home. The numbers from the drawing were: 10, 28, 32, 61 and 64. The Red Power Ball number was 12. The Multiplier number was 03.

Maxwell Martins, a 24-year-old carpenter from Union, always plays Powerball and Mega Millions when the jackpots climb. When the Powerball jackpot grew to \$127,000,000 for the August 24 drawing he wanted to be in the game. Martins was waiting to meet his father and decided to grab a cup of coffee and buy five tickets for the game at Sweet Maria's Deli, LLC, 100 Elm Rd., Newark in Essex County. The next day, he began shaking when the retailer told him that his ticket matched the five white balls drawn to win the \$1,000,000 second-prize. He immediately drove to Lottery Headquarters to validate the ticket and claim the prize. The winning numbers were: 09, 11, 25, 64 and 65. The Red Power Ball number was 16. The Multiplier number was 03.

"Congratulations to all of these lucky lottery winners," Carole Hedinger, New Jersey Lottery executive director said. "The players are winners, the retailers are winners and most importantly, our beneficiaries are winners." New Jersey Lottery revenue supports vital education and institutions across the state.

ABOUT THE LOTTERY

Since its inception in 1970, the New Jersey Lottery (NJLottery.com) has contributed nearly \$24 billion to the State in support of education and institutions. Among its beneficiaries are: veterans homes, colleges and universities, school nutrition programs, homes for the developmentally disabled, psychiatric hospitals, higher education scholarship programs and the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf.



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