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GET QUOTE **DJIA** 12,646.27 -77.31 -0.61% **NASDAQ** 2,831.93 +3.70 +0.13% **S&P** 1,341.69 -5.63 -0.42%

[Market Summary](#)
U.S. markets open

Stamps and 9 other oddball investments

If stocks and bonds seem shaky, consider some unusual plays, from stamps that beat inflation to ETFs that own water and investment vehicles that perform like sports cars (because they are).

--By Michael Brush, MSN Money

38 | 69% | 31% | Shared 1251 times Like

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Sheer luck, recycled

As rich as he is, **Warren Buffett** famously says he'd never buy a lottery ticket. The odds against winning are steep, and he's cheap. But there's another way to make money off the Lotto, and it might pique the interest of even a frugal guy like the Oracle of Omaha.

Lucky lottery winners who can't take a lump sum payment, or who change their minds and decide they want one after all, can still cash out instantly. They can simply sell the rights to their decades-long income stream.

Those rights then get repackaged by firms like **MJ Financial Partners** in Boca Raton, Fla., for resale to investors. Marc Lowell of MJ Financial tells me he guarantees 6% to 8% interest a year, plus the return of your initial investment in lottery payoffs. That's far better than the measly 1% to 3.5% you get on government bonds these days.

The downside? The minimum investment is around \$100,000 and you typically have to lock in for eight to 15 years. But if you're OK with those ground rules, this seems like a much better way to play the Lotto than buying a ticket.

- [Bundle.com: Statistician finds pattern in scratch lottery tickets](#)

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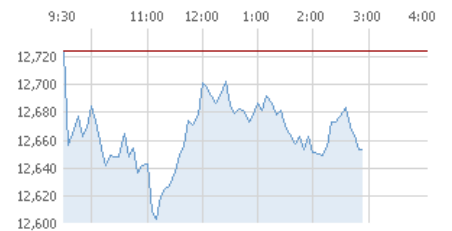
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MARKET UPDATE

US | INTERNATIONAL

| NAME | LAST | CHANGE | % CHANGE |
|------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| DOW | 12,645.51 | -78.07 | -0.61 |



| | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| NASDAQ | 2,831.80 | +3.57 | +0.13 |
| S&P | 1,341.69 | -5.63 | -0.42 |
| Russell 2000 | 839.47 | +6.57 | +0.79 |
| 10 Yr Note | 103.78 | +0.41 | +0.39 |

[BRIEFING.COM] The consumer discretionary sector has managed to advance to a 0.6% gain. The sector's strength comes in response to a series of stronger-than-expected same-store sales reports for April. **Hott Topic** (HOTT 7.20, +0.68), **Macy's** (M 26.77, +1.37), and **Target** (TGT 50.77, +1.54) are sporting the biggest gains in the group. Nasdaq +10.61 at 2838.84... NYSE Adv/Dec 1522/1407... Nasdaq Adv/Dec 1485/1050.

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Currencies

| NAME | LAST | CHANGE | % CHANGE |
|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Euro/Dollar | 1.45307 | -0.03061 | -2.06 |
| Pound/Dollar | 1.63881 | -0.01163 | -0.70 |
| Dollar/Yen | 80.38585 | -0.23415 | -0.29 |