



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union Announces 2025 Shining Star Award Recipient



Alpena, MI—Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union (AAACU) team member Rhea Smith received this year's Shining Star Award.

The Shining Star Award is presented to an employee, branch, or department that has been nominated by a fellow employee for going above and beyond in their job duties. Each quarter throughout the year, a winner is named to receive this award and the overall annual Shining Star Awardee is selected from those quarterly recipients.

This year's quarterly winners were Penny Seiler (Financial Experience Coach-Contact Center), Cassandra Travis (Commercial Loan Assistant), Rhea Smith (Financial Experience Advisor-Contact Center), and Katie Eldridge (Financial Experience Advisor-Contact Center). On Thursday, December 4, 2025, AAACU hosted its annual Holiday Party at the APlex where Rhea Smith was announced as the overall winner of the 2025 Shining Star Award.

Rhea's dedication to giving back to the community through her volunteer activities and fraud and scam awareness educational sessions for youth and adults is just one example of her exemplary character. She is also a compassionate and determined member of our contact center—consistently driving record breaking productivity, supporting teammates through training and delivering top tier customer service to members on the phones.

The credit union is honored to have so many employees that are dedicated to our mission to be our members' most trusted and valued financial partners for life.

AAACU is a state-chartered credit union with membership eligibility open to any resident in the state of Michigan. As of October 31, 2025, AAACU provides service to 49,037 members with total assets equal to \$927,479,597.