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The _____ MICHIGAN GAMING _____ Newsletter



DETROIT CASINOS TEMPORARILY CLOSE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

All three of Detroit's commercial casinos - MGM Grand Detroit, MotorCity Casino, and Greektown Casino - will be closed through December 8. On November 15, Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced new COVID-19 restrictions during a press conference addressing a recent rise in cases. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued an [emergency order](#) imposing restrictions on gatherings and requiring face masks. Gatherings are currently prohibited through December 8 at recreational facilities, including Michigan's commercial casinos in Detroit. Rick Kalm, Executive Director of the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB), issued an [executive order](#) on November 17 implementing the MDHHS order and ordering the closure of the casinos to the public.

NORTHVILLE DOWNS CLOSES DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Rick Kalm, Executive Director of the MGCB, issued an [Order](#) closing Michigan's one current horse racing track, Northville Downs, through December 8th consistent with the Order issued by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Northville Downs announced the closure on its website, stating: "We look forward to reopening as soon as we can! Stay safe Michigan!"

COMMERCIAL GAMING REVENUE REACHES \$9B IN THIRD QUARTER

United States commercial gaming revenue totaled \$9.04 billion in the third quarter, reaching 81% of pre-COVID levels when compared with the third quarter of 2019, according to the American Gaming Association in a [press release](#). Third quarter revenue is up 294% from second quarter's pandemic closures. Gaming revenue is down 36.5% year-over-year in the first nine months of 2020 compared with a 3% decline in the United States' gross domestic product (GDP) during the same period.

"Our industry continues to prioritize the health and safety of our employees, customers, and communities above all else," said AGA President and CEO Bill Miller in the press release. "While these quarterly results are promising, the reality is a full recovery is dependent on continued public health measures to control prevalence rates."

"As state and local officials respond to current COVID-19 outbreaks with additional restrictions, urgent Congressional action to provide COVID-19 relief is even more crucial. Gaming employees and communities depend on it," said Mr. Miller.

More than 100 casinos reopened during the third quarter, making 902 commercial and tribal casinos (90.8% of total) operational by the end of September. At the start of the third quarter in July, 800 casinos (80.8% of total) were operational.

Although slot and table game revenues were down in the third quarter compared with 2019, sports betting revenue bounced back in many new legal betting markets, including Michigan.

As of November 16, the date of the press release, the AGA reported that 911 of 994 United States casinos across 40 states have partially reopened. This includes 442 commercial casinos (94.7% of total) and 469 tribal casinos (89% of total). The AGA's COVID-19 [casino tracker](#) shows the reopening status of United States casinos.

GUN LAKE CASINO GIVES OVER \$611,000 IN BONUSES TO EMPLOYEES

Gun Lake Casino announced that it has distributed over \$611,000 in quarterly bonuses to team members in November as appreciation for the roles that they play in making Gun Lake Casino one of the best places to work in West Michigan. Gun Lake Casino was acknowledged as one of "West Michigan's Best and Brightest Companies to Work For" by the National Association for Business Resources earlier this year, in addition to being selected as the Best Casino by both the Holland Sentinel's Best of the Best and the Best of The West Revue Reader Poll. Since 2011, Gun Lake Casino has provided over \$16.4 million through the bonus program to its team members.

"Throughout these times our priority focus has been the health and safety of our guests and team members with our Play It Safe Initiative," said Sal Semola, President and Chief Operating Officer of Gun Lake Casino. "We are exceptionally proud, especially during a pandemic, to continue providing a superior gaming experience despite the challenges in doing so. I extend a heartfelt thank you to our team members and the community for complying with our safety protocols and continuing to follow these measures diligently. The awarded bonuses are only one way we display our appreciation for the constant efforts of the hundreds of team members we employ. The achievements we have reached this year would not be possible without the foundation of our business – our team members."

Gun Lake Casino employs almost 1,000 team members, making it one of the largest employers in Allegan County. The recent opening of Stage 131 Sportsbook and Lounge, the reopening of the Harvest Buffet, and the continuation of the construction of the new expansion has created many job openings, available immediately.

“The construction of our latest expansion has continued to move forward, which has created immediate career opportunities for West Michigan. I am proud to say that Gun Lake Casino strives to be a place of development and growth for our team members,” said Mr. Semola.

FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL TO HOST JOB FAIR DECEMBER 1

FireKeepers Casino Hotel is hosting a job fair on Tuesday, December 1, with job offers to be made on the spot. Interviews will be available from 8 AM – 10 AM, 12 PM – 2 PM, and 5 PM – 7 PM in the FireKeepers Event Center in Battle Creek. Interviews will be socially distanced, and will follow COVID-19 safety protocols, including masks and temperature checks.

Full and part-time positions with a variety of schedules are available in several departments throughout the property. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, with some positions requiring applicants to be 21 years old. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply for available positions in advance [here](#). Applicants should bring resumes, and are required to pass a drug screen and a background check in order to qualify for a gaming license for employment at FireKeepers. FireKeepers is a Native American preference employer.

“FireKeepers is proud to offer comprehensive benefits including 401(k) with company match, paid time off, and holiday pay,” said FireKeepers Casino Hotel Vice President of Human Resources Frank Tecumseh. “We also offer medical, dental, vision and prescription coverage, life insurance, an on-site medical clinic, discounted Team Member cafeteria, employee assistance programs, and so much more.”

Interested persons may contact FireKeepers Human Resources Department at (269) 660-5740 for more information.