

member|CONNECT

SUMMER 2022

AFENA SAVES MEMBER JONATHAN WEATHERLY OVER \$19,000 BY REFINANCING HIS CAR LOAN



If you ask Marion native Jonny Weatherly, how he feels about Afena Federal Credit Union, he'll tell you that for him, Afena is a "God thing." It's been nearly 11 years since Jonny first opened his new member account at Afena, a decision that he says was primarily driven by feeling

dissatisfied with a different credit union he was banking with at the time. Of course, back then, he had no way of knowing that over the next decade, Afena would help him finance numerous vehicles, consolidate his debt, and save him several thousands of dollars in potential interest—but he couldn't be more grateful that is exactly how things worked out.

Although he's enjoyed working with everyone on Afena's staff, Jonny is partial to Nikita Tays, the branch manager of Afena's South location, and he says that he goes to her for all of his financial needs. One of his favorite things about working with Afena is how easy it is. "I just can't say enough nice things about Nikita and Afena. They've always been very easy to work with and very pleasant. She asks us questions and is really informative about what we can do and what we can't do. She really just makes it so easy, it's wonderful," he said.

A few years ago, Jonny and his wife worked with Nikita on a debt consolidation loan, which helped them save money in their monthly budget and substantially lowered the amount of interest they were paying on their debt. The experience allowed the couple to turn over a new page with their finances. "There's nothing like being able to start fresh. Over the years, I've had three jobs move out of the country, my wife's had a couple cancer surgeries, and I've had one. It's just so nice to have a financial partner that can give you a break and help you deal with all of the financial responsibility. Afena's expertise and knowledge allowed us, as part of their

family, to experience that little break," he said.

Jonny's ultimate goal is to be debt free, and he believes that Afena can help him achieve that dream. "I asked God to help us with our debt, and He led us to Afena. And so far, everything has worked out just great. Truly, Afena has really been a 'God thing' for us," he stated.

It certainly felt like a divine intervention to Jonny when he refinanced his vehicle through Afena this past April. Nikita was able to save him over \$230 a month (almost \$20,000 over the life of the loan) and shave 12 months off of his payments. He says

the process was quick, easy, and convenient. "Nikita gave me info on refinancing and I brought it back home to discuss it with my wife. We got back with Nikita and told her we'd be interested, and before I knew it, it was done. If I'd have known

it was that easy, I would have done it a long time before!" he said.

Jonny's original vehicle loan was through OneMain Financial for \$22,700. When he refinanced with Afena, he still owed \$19,031. Follow the breakdown below for additional information and details.

	Loan Term	Interest Rate	Monthly Payment	Total of Payments
OneMain	60 mos.	24.00%	\$653	\$39,205
Afena	48 mos.	2.49%	\$417	\$20,016

After being let down by other financial institutions in the past, Jonny is thankful and grateful to have truly found a financial partner in Afena. "I tell everyone—if you've got something you need to do financially, whether it be a vehicle or a home, Afena is who to go see," he said. To find out how Afena can help you save money and achieve your financial dreams, visit afenafcu.org or call us at 765.664.8089.

SCAMS 101: PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM SCAMS

Recognizing the most common scams can help keep you safe

Recognizing the most common scams used by criminals can help prevent your money and personal information from being stolen. Here are some common red flags that you should look for:

- **Pressure to act quickly:** Scammers know that if you do your research, you'll see through the scam. That's why they pressure you to respond quickly. They might do this by claiming they have a warrant for your arrest, threatening that you'll lose access to your account, saying that a loved one is in trouble, or something similar.
- **Requesting money, particularly in unusual ways.** Scammers will often ask for wire transfers, gift cards, or cash to prevent the transaction from being traced or cancelled.
- **Asking for sensitive information.** Scammers try to collect sensitive information like passwords or social security and account numbers. Never give out this information without careful research.

If you encounter a situation that seems odd but doesn't raise one of these red flags, trust your gut! Hang up, don't reply, do your research, and get an outside opinion from someone you trust. Scammers are constantly updating their tactics, but here are a few of the most common scams:

- **Medicare Scams:** A fraudster claims to represent Medicare and asks for the victim's sensitive information, then uses it to bill Medicare for services never provided.
- **Grandparent Scams:** The victim receives a call from someone impersonating their grandchild. They claim to be in trouble and ask for money.
- **Debt Collector or IRS Scams:** A scammer contacts the victim claiming to be a debt collector or representative of the IRS who needs to collect money owed by the victim or their loved one.
- **Romantic Scams:** A con-artist deceitfully forms a romantic relationship with the victim online and then asks for money in a lump sum or smaller amounts over a longer period of time.
- **Lottery or Prize Scams:** The victim receives a notification that they won a big expensive prize and is then asked to pay the taxes or a processing fee in order to receive their award.
- **Tech Support or Antivirus Scams:** Victims get a notification that there's a virus on their device. The scammer says they can fix it by accessing the device or installing antivirus software, then they steal the user's sensitive data.

To learn more about common scams visit [FTC.gov](https://www.ftc.gov).

SAVE THE DATE: AFENA'S ANNUAL MONSTER MINI-GOLF EVENT TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 29 AT RIVER'S EDGE FAMILY GOLF COURSE

Afena's annual free Monster Mini-Golf Scramble and Putt-Putt Event is back! The event will be held on Thursday, September 29, 2022 at River's Edge Family Golf Center in Marion. Save the date, because you won't want to miss the evening of fun and FREE putt-putt for the whole family!

The Monster Mini-Golf event will help us kick-off Riley Month at Afena. Every year, Afena dedicates the month of October to raising money for Riley Children's Hospital. The funds raised go to help Riley doctors and scientists find new treatments and cures for kids through cancer research, diabetes research, and research into childhood heart, lung and genetic defects.

Stay tuned for more information about how you can participate in Riley Month at Afena FCU!

Afena Federal Credit Union presents the 8th Annual
**FREE FAMILY PUTT-PUTT EVENT
& MONSTER MINI-GOLF
SCRAMBLE**
River's Edge Family Golf Course
Thursday, September 29
Corporate Mini-Golf Scramble 3 pm - 5 pm
Free Family Putt-Putt 5 pm - 8 pm
All Proceeds Benefit
Riley Children's Hospital

AND, THIS LITTLE PIGGY GOT A SPECIAL SHARE CERTIFICATE RATE AT AFENA...

11-Month Special

1.00%
APY*

22-Month Special

1.50%
APY*

Jumbo \$100,000+

EARN AN EXTRA
.25%
APY*

*APY=Annual Percentage Yield. Each rate quoted applies to the specific term with which it is stated. In the case of a jumbo certificate (over \$100,000), the extra .25% will be added to the rate for the appropriate term. For example, if choosing the 11-month term, the rate for a certificate with an initial balance of \$100,000 or more, would be the 1.00% APY plus the additional .25%, resulting in a rate of 1.25% for 11 months. Penalty for early withdrawal; certificate will not automatically renew upon maturity. Fees may reduce earnings.



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