

# QUARTERLY NEWS

April 2017

204 North Jackson  
Morrison, IL 61270

(815) 772-7215

www.AdOneCU.org

# AOCU

ADVANTAGE ONE CREDIT UNION

ESTABLISHED IN 1960



## The Top Five Home Improvements For Your Money in 2017



If you have watched any sort of home improvement show or visited any home remodeling expo lately, you know that when it comes to improving your home, the sky is the limit. But most of us don't have an unlimited budget, so deciding which improvement to do next can be a tough decision.

## THE HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVANTAGE

What's your next home improvement project? Is it as simple as new insulation in the attic or as complicated as a major overhaul of your kitchen? In either case, Advantage One Credit Union is ready to assist you financially. Because all home improvements aren't the same, we offer various types of loans to better fit your needs. Our experts are handy with the financial part of any home improvement you are ready to start! Just stop by or give us a call and let us know what your plans are.

## HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be closed for:

Memorial Day on May 29th.

Independence Day on July 4th.

Find us on 

www.Facebook.com/AdvantageOneCU

Most people look for an improvement that will make a difference in the value of their home. Though you rarely get back dollar for dollar the amount spent on an improvement, some improvements are just better at recouping your investment. According to Remodeling Magazine's Cost Vs. Value Report, here are the top five for 2017.

*Cost vs. Value Report - East North Central Region <http://www.remodeling.hw.net/cost-vs-value/2017>*

Here's How It Works



IMPROVEMENT	COSTS RECOUPED
Attic Insulation (Fiberglass)	79.3%
Manufactured Stone Veneer	78.5%
Entry Door Replacement (Steel)	77.4%
Minor Kitchen Remodel	72.0%
Garage Door Replacement	66.2%

This year, there is a mix of both aesthetic improvements and maintenance improvements. Though none of the top five listed are as exciting as the big remodels we see on HGTV, these minor improvements are noticed and appreciated by home buyers.

If you are planning on staying in your home, maintenance improvements are still your best value, not only for looks but for the overall well being of the structure. Replacing windows (which recouped 62.5% of costs) and doors will not only give your home a fresh new look, but may also make your home more energy efficient and pay itself back in savings. And though attic insulation isn't an improvement you see, you'll notice it in your heating and cooling bills.

Get bids and references from multiple contractors. Once you have them, do your homework, especially when it comes to energy codes. Energy code requirements change, and sometimes that changes the materials a builder must use, causing variance in costs. Be sure your bids are for the same options and upgrades.

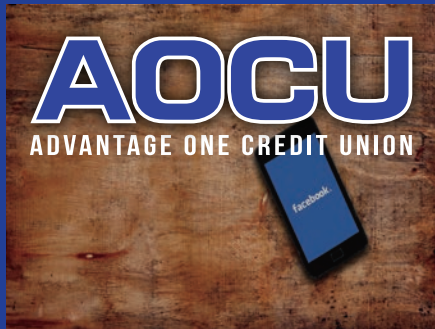
If you're ready to get started, be sure to call Advantage One. We offer a full range of options to help finance whichever type of home improvement you choose.

# CHANGE OF ADDRESS



We will no longer be receiving mail through our P.O. Box address. Please send all correspondence and payments directly to our address at **204 N. Jackson Street, Morrison, IL 61270.**

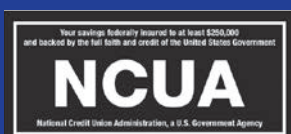
# OUR LOOK IS CHANGING



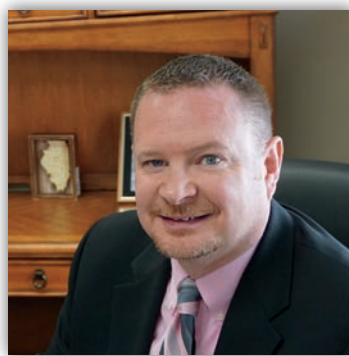
You may have noticed our new logo on this newsletter or a recent newspaper ad. We will be updating other items such as our Facebook page and business cards immediately, and some items such as statement paper and envelopes when it comes time to reorder. Even though the look may change, it's still an **ADVANTAGE** to be a member here!

# FUN FACT

**According to the U.S. Treasury:** The largest denomination of currency in circulation today is the \$100 bill. The largest denomination ever produced was the \$100,000 Series 1934 Gold Certificate featuring the portrait of President Wilson.



NMLS #746583



## Letter From The President

We have some exciting news here at Advantage One Credit Union. We have partnered with two local auto dealerships to offer Advantage One financing right at the dealership. If you are purchasing a vehicle at either **Kunes Country** or **Schuler Motors**, you can now apply for a loan from Advantage One while at the dealership. Here's how easy it is:

1. Visit either dealership and decide on the vehicle you want
2. Tell them you want the **ADVANTAGE** of credit union financing from Advantage One.
3. Within minutes you'll have a financing decision and can sign all your papers right at the dealership.

This convenient service is available to save time and allow you more time to enjoy your new or used vehicle. With Advantage One, you'll enjoy other advantages of having your car loan at your credit union.

- **Make your payments here at Advantage One.** Don't make payments to a far away place. Work with the people you know and trust at YOUR credit union.
- **Competitive rates and terms to fit your budget.** Not everyone has the same needs. We'll work with you to make your car purchase comfortable and not a financial burden.
- **Easy account management through Online and Mobile Banking.** Enjoy viewing all your accounts and managing everything from one place. Make payments, see balances and more.

And if financing at the dealership isn't your thing, or you have questions, you can always stop in and talk to our loan officers to be pre-approved before you start shopping. Remember, don't keep the advantage of credit union membership a secret. Tell your friends and family about Advantage One. As always, we thank you for your business.



## Teach Your Kids To Give A Hoot About Money

The first step to teaching your kids about money is talking about money.

"The most effective way to teach is by having frequent discussions and don't ever lecture," said Ted Beck, president and chief executive of the National Endowment for Financial Education, in a recent Wall Street Journal article. "Look for teachable moments and always be willing to answer questions."



**Unfortunately, this can also be the hardest.**

A 2015 T. Rowe Price survey found that 72% of parents experienced some reluctance to talk to their kids about financial matters. The most common reasons given were that the parents didn't want them to worry about financial matters or thought they were too young to understand. In reality, being honest about money in an age-appropriate way can be a powerful lesson.

**So how do you start the talk?**

- **Ask questions.** If you're going out to eat or making a purchase, talk about the price difference between the options, and ask them which they would choose. If they select the more expensive, talk through what you might have to give up later in the week.
- **Make them part of your budgeting.** If you're doing any kind of financial planning, solicit input from your kids. Enlist them in your saving goals. If you're uncomfortable revealing too much of your financial picture, you can keep the discussions high level, but involving them makes money less abstract.
- **Open a youth savings account at Advantage One.** This is the best way to help them to learn to save for what they find meaningful in life. A lifetime of good savings habits can start now!