

INSIDE

Vermilion County

August 2021

Vermilion Advantage Membership More Valuable than Ever

Page 6



PARTNER IN PROGRESS

Vermilion Advantage

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



APPI
ENERGY

**PROVIDING DATA-DRIVEN,
HOLISTIC ENERGY SOLUTIONS
TO VERMILION ADVANTAGE
MEMBERS SINCE 2007**

Let our team go to work for you!

Through our data-driven procurement services, we negotiate with suppliers to ensure you are provided with ideal pricing and contract terms to fit your needs. Additionally, our holistic energy services provide financially and functionally vetted solutions to:

- ✓ **decrease energy costs**
- ✓ **reduce demand**
- ✓ **improve resiliency and sustainability**



Contact your Senior Energy Consultant,
Carolyn Johnson, for your complimentary
assessment today:
cjohnson@appienergy.com / (667) 330-1137



PARTNER IN PROGRESS
Vermilion Advantage
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





Providers of clean well maintained affordable housing in the Danville area for over 40 years!

Locations by major employers, interstate, medical district and north retail corridor - with over 400 high quality units.

Thanks to everyone who voted Heartland Properties Group "Best Property Management Services" Three Years Running.

FULLY FURNISHED EXTENDED STAY HOUSING



Extended Stay Rentals www.HeartlandPropertiesInc.net

- Fully Furnished Extended Stay Housing
- Modern 500 - 1100 sq ft Apartments
- Updated 3 Bedroom Houses
- Commercial Retail and Office Space
- Warehouse and Garage Space Available

Office Locations & Hours

HEARTLAND BUILDING • 715 W. Fairchild
(217) 442-3266

M - F 8 AM - 5 PM • Sat 9 - Noon

Other Time With Appointments - Call for an after hour appointment



SUNSET COVE 2200 N. Vermilion (North Danville)



1221 N. Logan (North Medical District)



3816 Sonny Lane (North Danville)



9 Ridgeview (North Danville)



1618 N. Vermilion (North Danville)

WE ARE HEALTHCARE

We live here. We work here. WE ARE CHRISTIE CLINIC.

Trusted and local for more than 90 years, we care about delivering personalized, accessible healthcare for you and your family.

DANVILLE ON LOGAN

735 N. Logan Ave.

(217) 431-6330

- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Dietitian
- OB/GYN (217) 366-1255
- Urology
- Vein & Vascular

NEW, EXPANDED LOCATION

DANVILLE ON VERMILION

3545 N. Vermilion St.

(217) 442-8611

- Convenient Care
- Family Medicine
- Foot & Ankle Surgery
- Laboratory
- Orthopedics & Sports Medicine
- Pain & Rehabilitation
- Physical Therapy
- Radiology



CHRISTIECLINIC.COM

INSIDE

Vermilion County

Tim Dudley
President & CEO

Machelle Dykes
Chamber Operations/Membership Director

Nicole Van Hyfte
Community Development Coordinator

Jo Doggett
Data & Finance Director

Rachel Haun
Office Manager



Phone 217.442.6201
Fax 217.442.6228

contact@vermillionadvantage.com
www.vermillionadvantage.com

www.vermillionadvantage.com/job-board

Content Development & Management by:



217-354-2600
info@whitesmith.us
whitesmith.us

Printed by:



217.714.8425

Leon@MidWestSpecialists.com

Vermilion Advantage, through membership value, provides strategic leadership on critical large and small business issues - leading economic and workforce development, anticipating and responding to members' needs, addressing quality of life issues and providing a network of information and business contacts. Vermilion Advantage works regionally to bring opportunities to Danville and Vermilion County.

Inside This Issue:

- Page 6 Vermilion Advantage Membership More Valuable than Ever
- Page 9 Second OSF OnCall-Danville Set to Open
- Page 13 Enel Green Power Salt Springs
- Page 15 Trep School Offering Free Business Training

Inside Vermilion County is a monthly publication created by Vermilion Advantage to showcase our members and share good news about Vermilion County. Each issue is mailed to all Vermilion Advantage members and over 1,000 copies are distributed throughout Vermilion County.

VERMILION COUNTY JOB BOARD

A Service of VermilionAdvantage

**we're
hiring!**
JOIN OUR TEAM!

The Vermilion Advantage Job Board gives our members opportunities to find new employees and to post hiring needs on one of the most popular job sites in East Central Illinois at www.vermillionadvantage.com/job-board.

Welcome Ned Hill, President and CEO, OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center

The new leader at Vermilion County's OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center shares a message area residents will want to hear. "My family and I are thrilled to be coming home and are excited to join the wonderful team at OSF Sacred Heart as well as the wonderful Danville community family!" says Ned Hill, President, OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center.

Hill brings strong local ties to his new role, having grown up in Illinois and Indiana. He spent his younger years in Countryside, Illinois, relocated with his family to Perrysville, Indiana, and graduated from North Vermillion High School in Cayuga, Indiana.

He has a caring, unique vision for his position as head of the medical center. "In my opinion, the most important role of a President is to serve our hospital guests, team members, and our community," he says. "We have an exceptional team at OSF Sacred Heart all working toward the betterment of those we serve. My main role in that team is to remove all barriers and obstacles that could stand in the way of providing a wonderful experience for each of our guests!"



His first day with OSF HealthCare was August 2nd.

Before moving to Vermilion County, Hill worked in healthcare leadership for many years. Most recently he served as CEO of Mesa View Regional Hospital in Mesquite, NV. Other experience includes leading healthcare facilities in North Carolina, Wyoming, Oklahoma, Alabama, Idaho, and Utah.

"I really enjoy being around a team whose sole purpose is to help our friends and neighbors in their time of need."

**Ned Hill, President
OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center**

Hill says the focus at OSF Sacred Heart will be to ensure everyone who visits the healthcare center has the most exceptional experience and truly feels safe, welcome, and at ease in their care. "OSF Sacred Heart has accomplished so many great things thus far and our focus will be to ensure our guests see and feel a very different experience than they have ever had at any other healthcare facility. I really enjoy being part of a team that is there to comfort those in need. We all have times in our lives when we are sick, hurting, and most vulnerable. I enjoy being one of many great team members that are always there when you need us!"

Local Ties & Free Time

"Growing up in the area I can say the greatest thing about Vermilion County is definitely the people," says Hill. "It's very hard to find a more welcoming culture anywhere in the country."

In their free time, he and his family enjoy remodeling homes and boating. They can also be found spending time at the gym preparing for their next Spartan Man, a series of obstacle races of varying distance and difficulty ranging from three miles to marathon distances.



OSF® HEALTHCARE

Vermilion Advantage Membership More Valuable than Ever

Vermilion Advantage is back and better than ever after the many limits of the pandemic. With the invigorative vision of its new President and CEO Tim Dudley, the organization is revitalizing existing programs, launching new services, forging creative partnerships, and offering valuable member support with one goal in mind – helping Vermilion County win.

Vermilion Advantage encompasses the services of both economic development and the Chamber of Commerce. Its goal is to create and sustain an environment where all Vermilion County businesses and individuals succeed and grow. The staff and board's work supports non-profits, county-wide companies, community development, retaining and growing existing businesses, attracting new businesses, workforce development, and networking.

Among the recent changes, Machelle Dykes has been named Chamber Operations and Membership Director. Dykes has been with the organization for over 21 years. She is responsible for member services, Business & Networking Luncheons, Human Resources and Safety Councils, Leadership Tomorrow, professional recruitment assistance, Vermilion County Job Board, and much more.

"I believe membership in Vermilion Advantage helps grow Vermilion County which directly affects our members' customer base and workforce," she says. "It's an investment in the community. Alone we can do less; together, we can do much to build a greater Vermilion County!"

In her expanded role, she and the staff are taking member and traditional Chamber of Commerce services to an all-new level. Members can count on more opportunities to connect with other organizations and increased visibility of local business offerings.

For many of the member events, Dykes is partnering with Nicole Van Hyfte, Vermilion Advantage's new Community Development Coordinator. "Nicole adds a fresh, younger perspective to our events

and services," says Dykes. "Nicole is also working with the Danville Area Visitors Bureau to create a new area marketing video."

Business After Hours

Vermilion Advantage brought back Business After Hours, an event held in the evening from 5-7 PM, usually on the second Thursday of the month. Attendees enjoy a relaxed evening of networking at a local business location. "Previously, Business After Hours attendance was decreasing, no matter how fun the location, because people were so busy right after work with kids' sporting events and being on the run," Dykes said. "Now, people seem ready to get out after Covid."

Vermilion River Beer Company hosted the first event in July, with about 60 people attending. 112 Wine Shop in Hoopeston

was the second Business After Hours site, marking Vermilion Advantage's focus on the area's smaller communities. "I think we made a lot of connections. We had a good mix of younger and older crowds," Van Hyfte said.

Business & Networking Luncheon

The successful member luncheons got a new name and location to better serve members and reflect the event's spirit. The Business & Networking Luncheon, formerly the Business Roundtable, moved to the Palmer Arena, which offers more space. The cost is usually \$10 and includes lunch from an area restaurant or caterer, updates on community developments, a chance for attendees to talk about what's new in their organization, and occasional guest speakers. The luncheon is normally held on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 11:30 AM-1 PM.



Nicole Van Hyfte and Machelle Dykes

Young Professionals Network

Van Hyfte heads up the return of the Young Professionals Network (YPN). YPN offers an opportunity for young, working Vermilion County professionals to socialize, connect, and volunteer. "It's a great way for younger people to better themselves and the community," says Van Hyfte. The first re-organization luncheon is scheduled for August 13 at the Danville Country Club. There is no specific age limit to attend.

More to Come

In addition to the networking events, Dykes says the community will see the return of small business visits, increased visibility of ribbon cuttings/grand openings, encouragement to "buy local," and other initiatives designed to celebrate and encourage the success of local businesses, organizations, and people.

"Shop in Vermilion County whenever you are able," adds Dykes. "It's become so easy

to shop online but try to remember that a stronger tax base allows us to rebuild infrastructure and fund revitalization programs and other needs. Your employees also support our tax base when they spend locally. We are working hard every day to build and sustain the economic foundation of Vermilion County. But to effectively make that happen, we need you on our team, sharing your skills, knowledge, and experience. In return, we can help you grow your business and build a skilled workforce."

Events You Won't Want to Miss

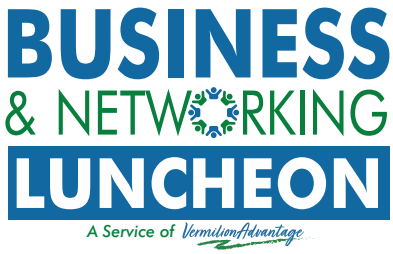


Business after HOURS
A Service of *VermilionAdvantage*

5:00-7:00 PM **Cost \$5-\$10** *(includes beverages and appetizers)*

- August 4 – Danville Library Foundation at Danville Public Library
- September 9 – The Flight Line at Vermilion Regional Airport
- October 7 – Sleepy Creek Vineyards in Fairmount
- November 4 – Fischer Theatre in Danville
- December 2 – Venue 22 in Danville

RSVP: Nicole at nvanhyfte@vermilionadvantage.com or Mabelle at mdykes@vermilionadvantage.com




BUSINESS & NETWORKING LUNCHEON
A Service of *VermilionAdvantage*

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **Palmer Arena** \$10 *(includes lunch)*

- August 25
- September 27
- October 27
- November 17
- December 15

RSVP: Rachel at rhaun@vermilionadvantage.com



ypn
VERMILION COUNTY
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK
A Service of *VermilionAdvantage*

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM **Free** *(Lunch available for purchase)*

August 13 – Danville Country Club

RSVP: Nicole at nvanhyfte@vermilionadvantage.com



Vermilion-Advantage FUN-raiser

29th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

August 20

Danville Country Club

*Prizes | Skins Game
Mulligans & Hole Contest*

For team registration & sponsorship information:
Mabelle at mdykes@vermilionadvantage.com

DACC Culinary Arts Program Rising to New Levels



Are you interested in a career with limitless opportunities, diversity, job settings, pay and benefits along with a promising job outlook? Dana Wheeler, Lead Instructor, Culinary Arts, Danville Area Community College (DACC), says a career in the foodservice industry may be for you.

With a focus on food preparation and production skills, nutrition, and food safety and sanitation, the DACC Culinary Arts Certificate program prepares students for various entry-level positions in the foodservice industry. With practical hands-on lab activities in a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen environment, the program provides opportunities for students to master the skills required for employment. If people are not interested in pursuing a certificate program but want to increase their culinary knowledge, DACC offers an option to select any of the individual courses.

"This program gives students the opportunity for hands-on experience, and many decide Culinary Arts is what they want to pursue," says Wheeler. "There are so many different opportunities related to

the foodservice occupation including research for large commercial companies, design for kitchens and menus and equipment. Nutrition is a big one, especially with people on restricted diets, even teaching. Writing, becoming a food critic or photographer, any field you mention you can relate that back to food in some way."

"I love to watch students grow and build their confidence. I like to watch the journey they take - some have gone on to start their own business or continue in school."

Dana Wheeler, Lead Instructor in Culinary Arts
Danville Area Community College

Wheeler says culinary students must have a passion for what they do and not be afraid of hard work. "This is a job where you can love what you do and still go to work every day."

Foodservice employers are looking for students with some form of training or experience in the field before they come into the kitchen. Basic sanitation, safety,

and food preparation skills are among the most important.

Culinary Institute of America

Wheeler's passion for the culinary arts led the DACC instructor to continue her education by completing a class at the Culinary Institute of America in New York. "This has always been an aspiration of mine, but as I got older, I did not think it was going to be possible. I want to thank DACC for this opportunity. Dreams really do come true."

While at the institute, Wheeler attended a course on baking and pastry taught by Chef Rudolph Spiess. The class was full of people from all backgrounds and experience levels. "This was an excellent opportunity to learn from the very best," she adds.

For more information about the Culinary Arts program at Danville Area Community College, contact Dana Wheeler at 217-918-0573 or dwheeler@dacc.edu. Students may also call DACC at 217-443-3222 or Counseling and Advisement at 217-443-8750



Second OSF OnCall-Danville Set to Open

OSF OnCall Urgent Care - What They Treat:

- Allergies, colds, and flu
- Back pain
- Earaches, fevers, and headaches
- Foreign object in the eye or nose*
- Minor allergic reactions
- Minor burns or bruises
- Minor fractures*
- Pink eye, rashes, and poison ivy
- School and sports physicals year-round* (immunizations not available)
- Scrapes and minor cuts
- Sore throats
- Sprains and strains
- Suturing of minor wounds*
- Urinary tract infections
- Upper respiratory infections
- And much more!

**Not available for treatment with an OSF OnCall Urgent Care virtual visit*

Other Services include:

- Testing for COVID-19 - available for people with symptoms. Testing also available if you are asymptomatic -- not experiencing any symptoms but have had a recent exposure to someone with COVID-19. Seasonal flu shots (for adults and children age 9 and older).
- The VFC (Vaccines for Children) program is not available at OSF OnCall Urgent Care. Call your pediatrician or health department for more information.
- Lab work and X-rays as part of your urgent care treatment.

Occupational health services:

- Employee physicals, initial injury care, drug testing.
- Medications and medical supplies needed for treatment.

Since August 2020, OSF OnCall has served over 8000 patients.

To learn more or schedule a visit, visit osfhealthcare.org/oncall/ or phone (217) 554-6827.

Vermilion County residents will soon have a new option for urgent care services. OSF OnCall is set to open its second Danville location at the corner of Main Street and Logan Avenue. The first OSF OnCall is located at 3653 N. Vermilion, near Meijer.

“We want to meet the patient where they are in their healthcare journey,” says Julie Gondzur, Registered Nurse, BSN, and the OSF OnCall Manager. “We are coming to communities where there may be a need for urgent care services that deliver quality care with the best possible patient experience. We wanted to be in an area that was easy to access and spread out from our Vermilion Street location.” The new location has a tentative opening scheduled for August 17.

OSF employs 20 mission partners at the two locations. Clinic staff includes Radiology Technologists, Medical Office Assistants, Certified Medical Assistants, Licensed Practical Nurses, and Advance Practice Providers.

OSF OnCall provides urgent care services, including X-ray on-site as well as occupational health services 365 days a year, 8 am to 8 pm. People can make a reservation online or walk-in. Virtual services are available 24/7 and most visits take about 15 minutes.





The City of Danville Offers a Wide Range of Economic Incentives

We recently caught up with Logan Cronk, Grants and Planning Manager for the City of Danville. We asked him to explain the city's many economic incentives for residents and businesses.

Here's what he told us:

First, would you explain the most popular economic incentives and who might qualify?

Logan Cronk - Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) is an economic development tool that helps local governments improve historic districts, restore run-down and blighted areas, or jump-start economically challenged parts of town. TIF funds help municipalities make needed improvements, like new roads and sewers, or provide incentives to attract private development and new businesses. TIF designation also helps existing businesses expand or improve their properties that might otherwise find more

attractive options elsewhere. TIF helps to overcome the extraordinary costs that often prevent development and private investment from occurring, including the remediation of environmentally contaminated properties, investing in new infrastructure, and assembling small properties into a single larger parcel for redevelopment. TIF cannot be used for residential purposes.

Enterprise Zone – Can be utilized for both residential and commercial. There are three main incentives through the Enterprise zone:

1. Half-price building permits. Depending on the size of the project this can be quite a substantial savings.
2. Sales Tax Credit on Building Materials – The state and local sales tax applicable within the City of Danville will be abated on materials for a certified project

within the Enterprise Zone. An application can be obtained on the City of Danville's website or at the Public Works building. Once approved, the applicant will be given a certificate that can be presented to the building material supplier for the tax exemption.

3. Property Tax Abatement – For non-residential projects, real estate tax abatement applied to those taxes which would be levied on the increased valuation of the property as a result of the project. The amount of the abatement is dependent on the total value of Project Improvements. The abatements can range from 25% to 75% for 10 years. For residential projects, the abatement functions in the same way as commercial, but real estate taxes can only be abated for 5 years at 50%.



OSF OnCall = TIF Redevelopment Agreement and Grant



CDBG Housing Rehabilitation – The City of Danville is currently operating a housing rehabilitation program funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Applications are available at the Public Works building for low to moderate-

income households (per HUD standards). The program assists owner-occupied households with exterior rehabilitation. This includes items like roofs, windows, gutters, and siding.

Why are economic incentives important for the City of Danville?

Cronk: Generally, the local incentives the City can provide help offset the development cost in economically depressed areas. We need to assist in “making the numbers work” for developers to invest in the City of Danville. Proving tax abatements and reimbursement grants assist the City of Danville in attracting business. If we make investments now, the taxing districts will be better in the future.

What should area residents know about the Economic Incentives available?

Cronk: The City of Danville has economic incentive zones that cover a broad area of the City. The majority of the commercial districts are located in the TIF or the Enterprise Zone. If anyone is considering making improvements to real estate in the

City, they should always ask about the incentive programs offered.

How will area business and/or residents be affected by the incentives?

Cronk: A common misconception about the TIF District and Enterprise Zone is that these districts are taking away the property tax that was collected by other taxing bodies. This is not the case. The taxing bodies will still receive the same amount of tax revenue generated from a property before any incentives have been provided. Once an incentive is supplied, the district will collect any increase to property valuation for a limited number of years. Once the incentive district runs its lifespan, the taxing bodies will recapture the increase of real estate tax.

How can businesses and residents apply for and learn about these incentives?

Cronk: The City of Danville has all the needed information on the City's website at www.cityofdanville.com or they can reach out to us here at the Public Works building.

Meet Meet Logan Cronk, Grants and Planning Manager for the City of Danville



What are your primary responsibilities?

- Manage all City Incentives
- Manage all entitlement grants and other grants awarded to the City
- Supervisor of Building Safety staff
- Planning Manager
- Zoning Administrator

How long have you lived in Vermilion County?

All of my 28 years.

What are the top priorities for your position?

Currently, two of my top priorities are the removal of blight, and economic development. We have been fortunate enough to be awarded a substantial amount of grant dollars for the demolition of blight in the City. We work to effectively use these funds and create economic development out of them.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Hands down, the most rewarding part of my job is to see the completion of a project. Whether that be a home that was rehabilitated through CDBG dollars or a site that has been developed with City incentives. It is always satisfying to see a concrete benefit that you helped provide to your community.

Tell us about what it's like to work with the City team.

Since I started, nearly two years ago, I have truly felt that the City team is here for a purpose. Every staff member gives 100% all the time and that is because of their love for this community. You could not do any of these jobs, without the passion to see the City succeed. That is something special to see every day when I come to work.

How long have you been with the City of Danville?

Coming up on 2 years.

Premier Network Solutions, Inc.



Being in the technology field, Jason Landis, the Owner/President of Premier Network Solutions, is already prepared for change. "I am continually challenging myself to learn the most current updates and stay ahead of the game," he says. "Keeping relevant with technology and meeting clients' needs as changes and updates occur are my highest priorities."

Premier Network Solutions provides full-service IT support for small businesses



including computer, network, and software installation and support. The company is located in Danville and serves Vermilion County and the surrounding areas. Premier Network Solutions was established in 2014. Landis assumed ownership in 2020 and looks forward to continuing to serve his current and future customers. He brings over 10 years of experience serving the county in various capacities.

Premier Network Solutions prides itself on quick response times, personal relationships with customers, actively listening to and understanding customers' needs while adhering to their budgetary requirements, and developing personalized plans and goals for their company. "We understand that every business is different, and we don't want to keep our customers in a box with their technology," he says. "Let's find out what works for you and make it happen."

Landis believes 2020 taught everyone to learn to slow down, even if it wasn't previously in their nature. He saw many examples of patience and grace. "Life always gives us the unexpected," he says. "I didn't expect to purchase a company in the midst of a global pandemic, but I did, and

my customers and I have persevered. I am confident that everyone's needs have been met. We always find a way to adapt, and I know we will continue to do so in the future as needs change.

Like many people who live and work in Vermilion County, Landis values the strength of area residents and businesses. "I am humbled by the generosity and character of some community members I have developed relationships with," he adds. "We are all willing to combine our resources and do what it takes to help our community grow."

As a new business owner in the community, he looks forward to building relationships with other business owners in the county. "I think there is a wealth of knowledge at my disposal through Vermilion Advantage," he says. "We all want Vermilion County to thrive, and there is room for everyone to grow and have success. Let's help and support each other with our unique skills and traits we bring to the table."

To learn more about Premier Network Solutions, call 217-350-0040, email jason@premierns.com, or visit premierns.com.

East Lynn Fertilizer Partnering with Local Farmers

East Lynn Fertilizer has a single focus - helping keep farmers competitive in the marketplace. "All of our clients are unique and are enjoyable to work with because they appreciate the service we offer them," says Keith Allen, President and Owner of East Lynn Fertilizer Inc. "I've had the opportunity to deal with some of the finest people God ever created over the years."

East Lynn Fertilizer (ELF) offers soil testing, custom application, liquid fertilizers, dry fertilizers, chemicals, lime, seed, GPS mapping, and trucking services.

With locations in Hoopston and East Lynn, the company has been serving the farmers of northern Vermilion, southern Iroquois, Ford, northeastern Champaign, and west-central Indiana counties for 41 years.

"Over the years, we built our own equipment for custom application and mixing," says Allen. "Because of that effort, ELF is still in business today as one of the only independents left in the area. We always watched our costs."



The company was established in 1980 in what they realized was a uniquely favorable area. "The north and east territories would normally dry out before the west and south territories, so we were able to handle customers with less equipment to keep our costs down for our farmers," he says.

The trend toward larger farming operations meant East Lynn Fertilizer adapted and changed to accommodate larger equipment and the need for more storage.

The addition of technology also had a big impact on ag operations at every level. "More technology for sure has changed agriculture," he says. "Fewer mistakes because of GPS have made an enormous difference."

Allen says he started the company "with a hope and a prayer. Most people at the time in the 1980s didn't expect us to last. Many were surprised we lasted five years. Our customers and employees deserve a lot of credit for our longevity."

To learn more about East Lynn Fertilizer, call 217-375-4225.

Enel Green Power Salt Springs

With a proven track record of developing, building, and operating wind projects in Illinois, Enel Green Power is already working closely with local landowners and civic leaders on the Salt Springs Wind Project which promises long-term benefits for the whole area. “Collaboration, respect, safety, reliability, and community investment are the foundation of all of our projects,” says Shad Little, Development Manager for Enel Green Power. “As the world’s largest private operator of renewables, our expertise is unmatched.”

Enel Green Power is a leading developer, long-term owner, and operator of renewable energy plants in North America, with a presence in 14 US states and one Canadian province. The company operates 58 plants with a managed capacity of over 6.6 GW powered by renewable wind, geothermal, and solar energy.

Illinois is ranked 6th in the nation for its potential to generate 6,516 Megawatt (MW) of operating wind, solar, and energy storage. That’s the equivalent of 2.5

million homes that can be powered by clean energy generated within the state.

“Everyone stands to benefit from the growth of renewables,” says Little. “The clean power industry is an important job creator in Illinois with a clean energy workforce of 13,400. In 2021 alone, clean power investments in local Illinois communities are projected to provide approximately \$68.7 million in property, state, and local tax revenue. Our team supporting the Salt Springs Wind Project is exploring a new 300 MW wind farm and 100 MW battery energy storage system in Vermilion County. Right now, we are working with local landowners to secure the land for the project and are actively open for leasing.”

Little says the company selected Vermilion County because the area “has proven itself to be a great place to do business and is eager to pursue economic growth. Wind isn’t new to this county – already, residents are benefiting from revenue for schools, roads, and public services. The wind resource in this part of the state is

strong, we’re working with collaborative landowner partners, the permitting process is clear, and our site has access to a point of interconnection to the power grid. Our team has been so grateful for the warm welcome, and the interest we have received from the community and local landowners since opening up leasing opportunities in Vermilion County.

Enel Green Power is one of the fastest-growing renewable energy companies in the US and the fifth-largest owner and operator of renewable capacity in the country. “While our business has grown, our commitment to our local community partners remains at the heart of our operations,” he adds. “We seek to create shared value with partner communities, like Vermilion County, to support the long-term sustainability of the region.”

While the project is just getting underway, there are no immediate position openings. However, Enel Green Power has many open positions – some of which are remote – listed at careers-enelgreenpower.icims.com.



Enel Green Power employees during the construction of the Whitney Hill wind farm in Logan County, Illinois.

We want to hear from you! Enel Green Power is new to Vermilion County, and we’ve been so thankful for the gracious welcome we’ve received so far. Wind projects don’t work unless they’re true partnerships with local residents – so get in touch with us and let us know how we can best serve this community! Our address is 200 S. Main Street, Georgetown IL, 61846 and our office number is 217-937-9199

Did you know?

Typically, wind projects of this size can create upwards of 200 construction jobs and 10-12 permanent jobs. In Illinois alone, there are over 13,400 direct jobs supported by wind and solar energy development. We encourage folks to stop by our new office to learn about any new employment opportunities that could be on the horizon.

Danville Library Foundation Continues to Grow

The Danville Library Foundation is increasing its already strong support of the Danville Public Library. "The energy at the library is at an all-time high and we want to pump more into that drive," says Peter Blackmon, Executive Director, Danville Library Foundation (DLF). "The foundation does not want to be a savings account for the library but rather an active stream supporting the growth of activity while remaining fiscally responsible with the overall endowment." The DLF's mission is to increase community support of the Danville Public Library (DPL) by raising and managing funds to broaden and enhance DPL services and promoting education and cultural opportunities in support of the library.

The foundation is governed by a 12-member board, comprised of residents of Danville and Vermilion County. "A committee of the board seeks out people who might serve the foundation well and have an interest in joining us," adds Blackmon.

"Volunteerism is Vermilion County's single greatest commodity. I've never seen us fall short when challenged as a community."

Events

The pandemic hit pause on all foundation events in the last year but that changed in August. This month, the foundation planned a week of activities to coincide with the library's Kai Con! event. Kai Con! was a fun event for fans of the 80s throwback movie, *The Karate Kid*, and its current-era counterpart series, *Cobra-Kai*.

On August 3rd, the DLF sponsored the Danville Dans game as a thank you to the library staff, the boards of the DPL and DLF, donors, and volunteers as well as to celebrate with the public. "We coordinated additional activities with the Dans to supplement what is always an exciting night at the stadium," says Blackmon.

On August 4th, the foundation, in coordination with the library, Small Business Development Center, and Vermilion Advantage hosted a Business After Hours. "There is so much happening at the library these days; the outdoor event was intended to reflect the energy on the inside," he says. "It's always a great networking event." The event also marked the first "unofficial" beginning of the organization's popular semi-annual book sales, which was renamed (at least for this week) a Book Fair.

On August 5th, the Book Fair opened to the public. The Foundation also hosted the return of its Donor & Volunteer Recognition, acknowledging the people who have offered financial and volunteer support.

On August 6th, the Danville Library Foundation played a part in Kai Con!, a big event for the library and Downtown Danville. Downtown Danville Inc. hosted their First Friday event and Summer Sounds; the DLF served as the non-profit partner. The Fischer Theatre joined the fun, showing *The Karate Kid* on the big screen.



Blackmon says the pandemic's biggest lesson was "our need to be creative and by that, I mean the ability to be virtual. Our 'Un-Gala Event' was an event reaching people over the internet in the comfort of their own homes. We didn't know what to expect but it was definitely a success. The lesson was - the era of virtual is here to stay long after in-person events have become the norm."

To learn more about the Danville Library Foundation, visit www.danvillelibraryfoundation.org, find them on Facebook @danvillelibraryfoundationillinois, email peter@danvillelibraryfoundation.org, or call (217) 477-5220 Ext. 114. A new website is coming soon.



Don't Miss Summer's Biggest Bash!

August 6 & 7

Danville Public Library

Trep School Offering Free Business Training

Community leader and entrepreneur Tricia Teague believes entrepreneurship grows a community and knows first-hand that starting a business from the ground up can be expensive. That's why her business, The Trep School, decided to offer Trep OnTrack Bootcamp, a series of free business training courses for local businesses.

The Trep School provides education, coaching, and consulting to business owners and leaders. Their office is located in Towne Centre, 2 E. Main St., Suite 98B and has been in operation since mid-2018.

"Our focus is on entrepreneurial mindset, which is about growth and success, both for the business and the individual," says Teague, the company's CEO. "In coaching, we focus on the whole person, because who you are as a person is who you will be as a business owner or business leader."

The Trep OnTrack Business Bootcamp is a program to support aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in the Danville and Tilton areas. The program offers three unique tracks.

Track One - Trep Prep --- Geared towards aspiring entrepreneurs, particularly those who have a business idea but haven't yet explored the implementation. Known as the Ice House Entrepreneurship Program, this 9-week course teaches the entrepreneurial mindset for success while also allowing the entrepreneurs to vet and further develop their idea. The second cohort begins on November 3.

Track Two - Targets existing entrepreneurs, whether the person is running a "side hustle" business or a full-time business. The Kauffman FastTrac® is a 10-week course and is considered a mini-MBA as participants complete their business plan, business model,

pitch deck, and financial forecast during the course. This class begins on Thursday, September 9.

Track Three - Focuses on Growing Your Business with GrowthWheel®. This is a series of workshops designed for existing entrepreneurs and allows people to pick which workshops in the series best suit their needs. The most critical workshop in the series is "Getting a 360° Perspective on Your Business" which was presented twice in July and will be offered again on Monday, October 25 at 6 p.m.

"Your business can only grow to the level of your personal capacity. If you grow yourself, your business will grow too."

Tricia Teague, CEO
The Trep School

All participants may receive 12 free coaching sessions.

The program also includes:

- Seed funds - distributing \$90,000 to program graduates.
- A pitch contest where the winner will receive \$7500.
- Launch of a Danville chapter for 1 Million Cups, a nationwide organization for entrepreneurial networking and community support.
- Start of a Kiva loan fund. Kiva is a crowdlending platform designed to provide small and microloans to small businesses.

All courses are free thanks to funding from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) as part of its Restore, Reinvest, and Renew (R3) program. "The program invests cannabis tax dollars into the hardest-hit communities and Danville and Tilton contain several 'R3 zones' where those

funds can be reinvested," says Teague. "One of the targets of the R3 initiative is economic development, so The Trep School created this program in its R3 application."

Teague gives back to the community in other ways as she was recently elected to Danville City Council and serves as Alderman for Ward 4, Board President at Laura Lee Fellowship House, and Board Parliamentarian for East Central Illinois Community Action Agency.

Additional programming will also be announced later this year or early in 2022.

To learn more about the Trep on Track program, visit www.TrepOnTrack.com, email ontrack@thetrepsschool.com, or call 217-497-9227. You can also find The Trep School on Facebook @TheTrepSchool.



Members of Vermilion Advantage, NFP in Good Standing by Level of Membership

ADVANTAGE DIAMOND DIRECTOR:

(Level \$10,000+)

Aqua Illinois, Inc.
City of Danville
Danville Sanitary District
Fiberteq, LLC
First Financial Bank
First Midwest Bank
Iroquois Federal
Old National Bank
OSF HealthCare Sacred Heart Medical Center
Vermilion County Government

ADVANTAGE GOLD CROWN DIRECTOR:

(Level \$6,000 - \$9,999)

Arconic
Bunge Milling, Inc.
Carle / Carle Medical Supply
Cannon Cochran Management Services, Inc.
Christie Clinic
Danville Area Community College
Danville Metal Stamping
Danville School Dist. #118
Hyster-Yale Group
McLane Midwest
Mervis Industries
REG Danville, LLC
Republic (formerly Allied Waste)
thyssenKrupp Presta
Vermilion Development, Inc.
Viscofan USA, Inc.
Voyant Beauty
Watchfire Signs

ADVANTAGE MILLENNIUM MEMBER:

(Level \$2,500 - \$5,999)

AmerenIP
Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center
Catlin Bank
City of Hoopeston
CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP
Curry Construction
Double S Liquid Feed Service, Inc.
Genpact
Greenwood, Inc.
McDonald's c/o DND Witzel Enterprises, Inc.
Quaker Oats
Village of Oakwood
Walgreens - Danville Accounting Center

ADVANTAGE EXECUTIVE MEMBER:

(Level \$1,000 - \$2,499)

Acton & Snyder, LLP
Anderson Electric, Inc.
APPI Energy
AT&T Illinois
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Bose Corporation
Brainerd Chemical Midwest, LLC
Central States Distribution Service
Chittick Family Eye Care
County Markets / Niemann Foods
Depke Gases & Welding Supplies
Envirox, LLC
Escape Day Spa

Express Employment Professionals
Faulstich Printing Company
First Farmers Bank & Trust
First Savings Bank of Danville
Flex-N-Gate Plastics
Heritage Development
Heritage Health Therapy and Senior Care
Hubner Industries, LLC
IL Chapter Nat'l Electrical Contractor's Assoc.
Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation
Meijer
Neuhoff Family Broadcasting
Prospect Bank
The Sygma Network
thyssenKrupp Crankshaft Company
Towne Machine Tool Co., Inc.
Vermilion County Bobcats
Village of Catlin

ADVANTAGE ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

(Level \$500 - \$999)*

** Indicates Hoopeston Chamber Member discount due to
partnership with Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce

112 Wine & Coffee
A&R Mechanical Contractors
Allied Capital Title
Arnold's Office Supply
Arrow Ambulance
Autumn Fields Adult Community of Hoopeston
AWEBCO
Beltone Hearing Aid Service
BIGG Success
Bill Smith Auto Parts
Bricks and Ivy Sports
Built 2 Last Construction
Busey Bank
C.H. Smith Insurance Agency
Carla's
Carmack Car Capitol
Charlotte's Coffee & Tea
CIBM Bank
City of Georgetown
Classic Homes Realty
Coldwell Banker Commercial Devonshire
Realty - Larry Kuchefski
Comcast Business
Commercial-News
Courtesy Ford Lincoln / Courtesy Chrysler
Dodge Jeep
Credit Union 1
CTS Computers
Danville Area Board of Realtors
Danville Bldg. & Construction Trades Council
Danville Gardens, Inc.
Danville Public Building Commission
Davis & Delanois, PC
Dawson Logistics
Days Hotel and Conference Center
Dean Crandall - Morgan Stanley
D.I. Fire & Safety
Dines Machine & Mfg.
Donohue & Associates, Inc.
Dougherty Group
Duncan Farms
DynaChem, Inc.
East Central Enterprises
Education Personnel Federal Credit Union
Edward Jones (Marcus Provost)
Ela's Eatery
Enel Green Power Salt Springs
EPIC Insurance Midwest
Farnsworth Group
First Institute Training & Mgmt., Inc.
FLP Wealth Advisors of Raymond James
Ford of Hoopeston
**Freeman General Contracting
Full-Fill Industries, LLC
Gailey Eye Clinic
Gardenview Manor
Gibson Teldata, Inc.
Greene Galvanized Stairs
Group 2029 Inc. (d/b/a Burger King)
Health Alliance Medical Plans
Heartland Properties, Inc.
Hickory Point Bank
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites / Hampton Inn & Suites
Hoopeston Coin Laundry
Home Instead Senior Care
Homefield Energy
HRW, Inc.
Hussmann Rogers Law, LLC
IBEW Local 538
Illini Castings, LLC
Illume Counseling and Wellness Center
International Greenhouse Co. - Danville
JAC Property Management
Jocko's Depot / Diveley Development Corp.
Kick Me Shirts
Kruger's ATA Martial Arts, Inc.
Kruger-Coan-Pape Funeral Home
Kurland Steel Co.
Lamar Outdoor Advertising
Landmark Credit Union
Leatherneck Hardware, Inc.
Lebanon Seaboard Corporation
Lipa Enterprises, Inc.
Loman Ray Insurance Group **Hoopeston
Longview Bank & Trust
Love's Travel Stop
Lowe's
Martin Hood, LLC
Mattress Firm
MH Equipment
MI-BOX Moving & Mobile Storage
Newton's Cleaning & Restoration, LLC
Pepsi-Cola C-U Bottling Co.
Portal Entertainment Group
Prince of Peace Community Early Learning Center
Randal Ashton, DDS
Ray O'Herron Company
Redimere Surface Solutions
RE/Max Ultimate
Revive Salon & Spa
River Bottom Farms Topsoil
Robinson Chiropractic, Ltd. - Danville, Hoopeston, & Westville locations
R.S. Quick Properties
Russell Leigh & Associates
Salt Fork CUSD #512
Second Church of Christ
Sentry Roofing, Inc.
Shore Wealth Management
Silgan Containers
SK Exteriors
Slumberland Furniture
Spherion
Steel Grip, Inc.

Terminix Services, Inc.
 The Andersons Rail Group
 Townway Place, LLC
 Toyota of Danville
 Trillium Staffing
 Turtle Run Golf & Banquet Center
 Two Roads Wellness Clinic
 United Rentals
 Venture Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
 Vermilion Chevrolet
 Vermilion County Conservation District
 Vermilion County Title, Inc.
 Vermilion Regional Airport Authority
 Vermilion River Beer Company
 Vermilion Valley Produce Co., Inc.
 Vermilion Valley Railroad
 Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System
 Village of Fithian
 Village of Tilton
 W & T Enterprises L.P.
 WCIA Nexstar Broadcasting
 Westville CUSD #2
 WITY Illiana Communications, LLC
 Woodard's Computing Services

ADVANTAGE HONOR MEMBER

(Level \$300 - \$499)

* Existing Members Grandfathered prior to Base level change to \$500 in 2014
 ** Indicates Hoopeston Chamber Member discount due to partnership with Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce

Aquality Solutions, LLC
 Automation International, Inc.
 AutoZone Distribution Center
 B&K Investments, Inc. (Wendy's)
 Berry's Garden Center & Florist
 Bismarck-Henning CUSD #1
 Bodine Electric of Danville
 Bowman Estates
 Brunswick Apartments
 CDS Office Technologies
 Cooper East Lake Animal Hospital
 Country Financial
 Crose Insurance Crowder CPA's, Ltd.
 Culver's - T/Kat, Inc.
 Cunningham, Inc.
 Danville Housing Authority
 Danville NECA-IBEW Electrical JATC
 Danville Towne Centre, LLC
 David S. Palmer Arena
 DP Supply, Inc. (formerly Danville Paper & Supply)
 East Lynn Fertilizer
 ERH Enterprises, Inc.
 Fairchild Animal Hospital
 Fancy That Bridal & Special Occasion
 Fehr Graham
 First Presbyterian Church
 Flex-N-Gate / Master Guard II
 Georgetown Wood & Pallet Co., Inc.
 Gibson Health of Hoopeston
 Glesco Electric, Inc.
 Hoopeston Area CUSD #11
 Illinois Small Business Development Center
 Jameson Steel Fabrication
 Jenna Wirth State Farm
 KBA Limited
 Lakeview College of Nursing
 Liberty Village
 McDowell Builders, Inc.
 McLaughlin Asset Management
 MidWest America Federal Credit Union
 Myers Carpet Weavers
 Napa Auto & Truck Parts Superstore
 NCT, Inc.
 Newell Township Supervisor

NewWave Communications
 North Vermilion Family Dental
 Oakwood CUSD No. 76
 Olympic Hardware
 **Owen Financial Services
 Prairie Center Health Systems, Inc.
 Schomburg & Schomburg Construction, Inc.
 Servpro of Vermilion County
 Shortz Family Farms, Inc.
 Sleep Inn & Suites
 Sleepy Creek Vineyards
 Sunset Funeral Home, Memorial Park & Cremation Center
 Teasdale Foods
 Terry R. Miles, Attorney at Law
 The Myers Group at Morgan Stanley
 Tridan International, Inc.
 Vermilion County Health Department
 Vermilion Healthcare Foundation, Inc.
 Vermilion House
 Vibrant Credit Union
 Village of Bismarck
 Village of Belgium
 Village of Henning
 Village of Potomac
 WhiteSmith Marketing Group, Inc.

ADVANTAGE INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL, NON/NOT FOR PROFIT (with annual budget under \$250,000), AND CLUBS:

(Level \$150 - \$299)

AMBUCS
 American Legion Post #210
 Amy S. Marchant - Mediator
 Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Danville
 Arts In The Park, Inc.
 Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness
 Bennett, Scott (Senator)
 Better Business Bureau - Central Illinois
 Boys & Girls Club of Danville
 CASA of Vermilion County
 Center Street Productions
 Central Christian Church
 Child Care Resource Service
 Cleaning by Jai
 Community Development Institute/Head Start
 Community Foundation of East Central IL
 CRIS Healthy-Aging Center
 CRIS Rural Mass Transit
 Crosspoint Human Services
 DACC Foundation
 Danville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
 Danville Area Labor Management Council
 Danville Boat Club
 Danville Christian Academy
 Danville Country Club
 Danville Downtown Event Center
 Danville Family YMCA
 Danville Farmer's Market
 Danville Library Foundation
 Danville Public Library
 Danville Public School Foundation
 Danville Sunrise Rotary
 Danville Symphony Orchestra
 Danville Tennis Center
 Deer Creek Manor
 DLO Musical Theatre (formerly Danville Light Opera)
 Douglas Discovery Garden
 Eastern Illinois Foodbank
 Edward J. Ryan, CPA
 Erickson, Gary C.
 First Church of the Nazarene
 First Presbyterian Church of Hoopeston
 GAO Grotto / Denmark Park Corporation

Grace Lutheran Church
 Hoopeston Multi Agency Service Center
 Immanuel Lutheran Church
 Immanuel Manor, Inc. - Senior Residences
 Informed Decisions
 Jphoto
 Keep Vermilion Co. Beautiful, Inc.
 Land of Lincoln Goodwill Industries, Inc.
 Laura Lee Fellowship House Association
 Law Office of Bethany D. Hager
 Midwest Print and Sign Specialists, LLC
 Monyok Leadership Coaching
 New Directions Treatment Center
 Oakwood Area Food Pantry, Inc.
 Oakwood Public Library District
 Prairieland Council - Boy Scouts of America
 Premier Network Solutions
 Project Success of Vermilion Co., Inc.
 Red Mask Players, Inc.
 Rodman Business Center
 Roland Lim Photography
 Schlarman Academy
 Shannon Schroeder, Young Living Marketing Professionals, Best of Oil Team
 Spring Hill Cemetery
 St. James United Methodist Church
 STEP Recovery Center
 Stephens-Felix, Stacy - Fountain Insurance
 Survivor Resource Center
 Swires, Bob
 The Fischer Theatre
 The Salvation Army
 Trinity Lutheran School
 United Way of Danville Area
 University of IL Extension., Vermilion Co. Unit
 Venue 22
 Vermilion Co. Conservation Dist. Foundation
 Vermilion Co. Elementary Schools Assoc.
 Vermilion Co. Fair and Expo
 Vermilion Co. Farm Bureau
 Vermilion Co. Museum Society
 Vermilion Co. War Museum
 Vermilion Voles Vintage Baseball Club
 Westville American Legion Post 51
 WorkSource Enterprises
 Zindars Property Management, LLC

ADVANTAGE HOME-BASED ADULTS, FULL-TIME STUDENTS, OR RETIREES:

(Level \$100)

Anderson, Jim
 Bennett, State Rep. Tom
 Beynon, Mark
 Block, Gerald R.
 Drude, Charles (Bott's Locksmith)
 Fields, David L.
 Franklin, Susan (Franklin's Farm Blooms & Heirlooms)
 Hays, Chad (Retired State Representative)
 Lee, Todd
 Mulvaney, Jeanne
 Nicholls, Bill
 Resh, Gary (Resh Frame Shop)
 Spezia, John (Reach 1 Coach 1)
 Stoner, Christopher (Pro Wash)
 Teague, Tricia (The Trep School)
 Wood, Jim



ALL A's ACCOLADES, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ACHIEVEMENTS

Don and Deanna Witzel, Owner/Operators of the Witzel Family McDonald's have announced Employees of the Month



July Employee of the Month

- Hometown Stars McDonald's.....Jazmine Lawver
- Classic Rock-n-Roll.....Piper Freeman
- Oakwood.....Savannah Nevitt
- Georgetown.....Camryen Sloan
- Hoopeston.....Luz Rivera
- Neighborhood McDonald's.....Mandy Caraballo

Vermilion Advantage FUN-raiser



29th ANNUAL GOLF OUTING




DANVILLE COUNTRY CLUB | FRIDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2021

Sponsor Opportunities

*Prizes | Skins Game
Mulligans & Hole Contest*

**Call 217.442.6201
for more information**

Your Vermilion Advantage Membership Offers:

-  Contact with more than 520 local businesses
-  Local Jobs Board with over 40,000 monthly views
-  Business support for government relations, financial and tax incentives, marketing opportunities and much more



**Call or email today to find out
how we can help your business grow!**

CANCER.

IT'S PERSONAL.

Do I need to make lifestyle changes?

Will I be able to work? **What if it comes back?**

We're here to navigate you through the uncertainty that comes with cancer, providing treatment in a safe environment designed to reduce stress. You'll have an experienced team, including a nurse navigator, focused on your physical, mental and spiritual needs throughout your individual journey.

We're ready to fight with you. Because for all of us – it's personal.



Hear Bud's story and connect
with a nurse navigator at
osfhealthcare.org/personal

BUD,
OSF HEALTHCARE
CANCER PATIENT & VOLUNTEER



OSF[®]
HEALTHCARE

300,000 Square Feet Under One Roof!

Plus...

- Food Grade Certified Since 1983
- Specializing in Managed Warehousing & Transportation
- 5-Car Covered Rail Siding with Daily Loading and Unloading
- Located off Illinois I-74, Exit 220
- 25 Dock Doors (10 With Shelters)
- Electronic Inventory Management
- Cross Docking Services Available



Let us show you how we get things
DONE! RIGHT! NOW!

CENTRAL STATES
DISTRIBUTION SERVICE®

3401 Lynch Creek Drive
Danville, Illinois 61834



Joe Mollica
Director
Business Development

Call Joe Mollica at **1-866-678-0887** or email Joe@cs-dist.com to discuss your needs. | Visit our website: www.cs-dist.com



Kelly Odomes

Danville Branch Manager
& Mortgage Specialist

NMLS #: 648056

217-446-3954 ext. 8200

210 N Gilbert St

Danville, IL 61832

mwafcu.org

YOUR DREAM HOME IS WITHIN REACH with a MidWest America Mortgage



MIDWEST AMERICA
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION®

- Multiple Financing Options
- Zero or Low Down Payment
- 1st Time Homebuyer Financing
- \$299 Refinance Program

Mortgages | Digital Banking | Consumer & Business Lending | 24 HR ATM

