

INSIDE

August 2022

Vermilion County

Rob Witzel
Pens First
Super Penguin
Book



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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 5 Rob Witzel Pens First *Super Penguin* Book
- Page 6 Project Success Making a Big Difference Every Day
- Page 10 Downtown Danville: Vibrant with Events
- Page 14 Healthy Prep Meal Service Creates Nutritious Meal Options

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.



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Rob Witzel Pens First *Super Penguin* Book

Danville resident Rob Witzel's longtime dream came true. The young professional authored his first book, *Super Penguin*, a superhero origin story in a world run by animals. "*Super Penguin* is an underdog with a lot of heart," says Witzel. "It's a story about friendship and doing the right thing, even when the odds are stacked against you. Think Marvel or DC Comics Universe merged with Disney's Zootopia or Disney's Robin Hood."

Witzel started by writing a story he thought he'd like to read and hoped others would enjoy it too. Superhero fans of all ages will enjoy the humor and references sprinkled throughout the book.

The *Super Penguin* character was born in a Danville High School study hall in 2005. "I had a habit of not using the study hall time to study and instead drew a dorky comic strip style story for my friends," he said. "I'd spend the study hall drawing and filling in dialogue bubbles, and then I would share it with them at lunch. They thought my stories were funny, so I kept doing it. Years later, around 2015, I was dating my now wife, Halley. I told her about *Super Penguin* and my desire to write a book someday, and she encouraged me to do it."

It took several years to write the book, with many stops and restarts. Witzel works full-time at McDonald's, so finding the time to write proved difficult. "Most of it was written in small pockets of time I'd find late at night or on my day off," he says. He also made the most of the world slowing down during the pandemic.

Super Penguin 2 is now in the works. With the addition of Parker, Halley and Rob's eight-month-old son, making time to write is even more challenging. "Trying to find the balance is difficult," he says. "I try to focus on writing when my wife and son are asleep, so I can spend as much time with them as possible and still get my writing done."

Aside from writing, Witzel also does his own social media, book convention appearances, and handles the sale and delivery of books.

He says he loves every aspect of being an author, but his favorite is brainstorming story ideas and characters. "I love creating the characters, coming up with their names and backstory and then playing out scenes in my head before putting them on paper." He also enjoys hearing from readers about their favorite characters or parts of the book they particularly enjoyed.



Joy Kelly created the cover art for *Super Penguin*. Witzel says her renderings turned out exactly how he pictured the characters in his head.

He has some wise advice for fledgling authors: pump as much positivity into your brain as possible. "It's really easy to be critical of your writing, and if you let doubt creep in, you're never going to finish," he says. "I listened to many audiobooks by successful people I admired. I'd listen to them when I wasn't writing, which motivated me to write more later that day. Gary Vaynerchuk, Kevin Smith, and Bob Goff are three I would recommend."

His second bit of advice is to gather a trusted inner circle of friends and family to give honest feedback and bring them along for the ride. "Without my inner circle, *Super Penguin* would never have been published," he says. "My inner circle helped edit, critique ideas, push me to write when I was procrastinating, and most important, encouraged me. Once I finished the book, my inner circle's job wasn't done as they've helped by celebrating the successes (both big and small), which made the process much more enjoyable."

To learn more about *Super Penguin*, follow them on Facebook @SuperPenguin and on Instagram @super_penguin_book. Books can be purchased online at several places, but the best place to get a copy is from Witzel's website SuperPenguinBook.com. All books ordered via the website will be signed and come with a free bookmark.

Project Success of Vermilion County Making a Big Difference for Students Every Day



Lucas Seilhymer, CEO of Project Success of Vermilion County, says the stories of the agency's students who are finding a brighter future are too numerous to count. The hundreds of high school students Project Success has helped to graduate on time through its credit recovery program especially move the local leader. "We had a student recently stop by and thank their afterschool teacher for 'forcing them to get back on track and helping them to graduate on time.' This former student is now professionally employed in the community and credits Project Success with his personal success. Something else that is inspiring to me is when we have former Project Success students who are now employed full time or part time by the agency."

Project Success serves students at 19 afterschool sites (21 schools) across Vermilion County. They provide comprehensive academic tutoring support, life skills and social and emotional enrichment. They serve children from kindergarten to 12th grade, an average of 700 students per day and over 1,000 individual students

per year. The agency has 19 full-time and 200 part-time employees. Most part-time staff members are teachers who work at the schools they serve.

With additional funding provided through the Illinois State Board of Education, the agency has grown dramatically to serve more children than ever before.

Project Success offers comprehensive afterschool programming. This includes academic help and support through tutoring, working with teachers to identify individual student needs, and providing a safe place for children between the critical hours of 3 pm and 6 pm. They also offer many enrichment activities to meet the 21st Century Community Learning Center standards. This includes cooking clubs, college visits and educational field trips, STEM activities (robotics, science experiments, educational visits from universities, etc.), social and emotional learning activities, anti-bullying and violence prevention curriculum, and many life skills. Every program completes a community project each semester to give back to the

community. Projects have included making blankets for the animal shelter, cards and visits to local nursing homes, bake sales for other local non-profits and community clean-up days.

Students from the following schools participate in Project Success: Georgetown Ridge-Farm District: Pine Crest, Mary Miller Junior High, GRF High School; Westville District: Judith Giacomina, Westville Junior High, Westville High School; Salt Fork: Salt Fork North and Salt Fork South (3-8 grade); Oakwood: Oakwood Grade School, Oakwood Junior High, Oakwood High School; Danville: Mark Denman, Garfield, Meade Park, South View, North Ridge, Danville High School; Hoopeston: Maple Elementary, John Greer Elementary, Hoopeston Area Middle School, Hoopeston Area High School.

Project Success brings over 20 years of afterschool experience. "What I believe sets us apart is twofold," says Seilhymer. "First, we host many of our programs at the school, which lends a smooth transition from the school day to afterschool programming. Secondly,

Project Success has always been 100% free of charge for any students who wish to attend.”

One notable event is the Project Success annual Christmas Wish program which is 100% donation funded and serves 250 children per year. The program provides each child with a Christmas they would not otherwise receive. “Countless parents pick up presents for their kids and leave crying because we 'saved their Christmas,' says Seilhmer.

“For our organization, Vermilion County's greatest strength is the collaboration and community-wide efforts that we see to make Vermilion County a better place to live and raise a family,” he says. “Our school district partners are incredible, and without them, we would not have a program.”

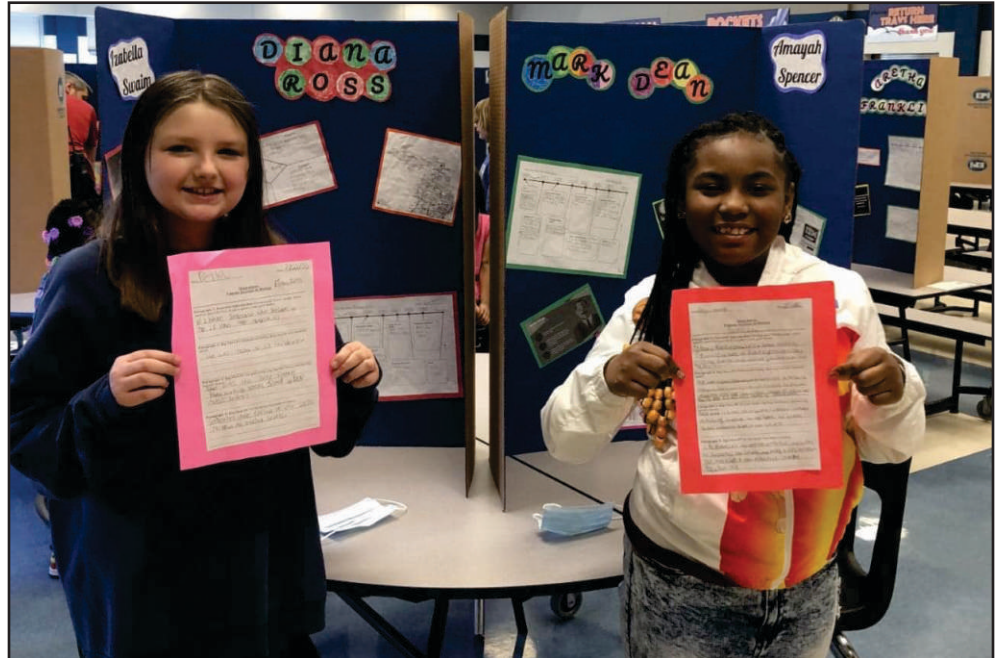
Vermilion Advantage is one of the organization's valued partners. “We love the Vermilion Advantage Job Board and have hired many applicants from the site,” says Seilhmer. “It helps us make sure we get talented local

people to work for us. I also enjoy the Young Professional's Network and the many networking events that Vermilion Advantage offers!”

Since much of the organization's funding is grant restricted, donations of hygiene products, clothing and monetary gifts are appreciated year

round. To learn more about donating, contact Lucas, Abby or Kimberly via the organization's website.

To learn more about Project Success, make a donation, or contact the team, visit vcprojectsuccess.org. You can also find them on Facebook @Project Success of Vermilion County.



VERMILION COUNTY JOB BOARD

A Service of *Vermilion Advantage*



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.vermilionadvantage.com/job-board



Danville Area Community College Nursing Department Offers Diverse Career Options

Ever wondered about a career in nursing? Danville Area College (DACC) can help. The college offers two strong program options in the Nursing Department.

The first is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate program. The other is the two-year Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program that results in a nursing degree and the opportunity to sit for the registered nurse exam to become a licensed nurse. The ADN ladder program allows students to take the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) exam after the first year. DACC also offers an LPN to Registered Nurse (RN) bridge program for full-time and part-time students. The ADN program is accredited through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The Illinois Department of Public Health approves the CNA program.

The program's benefits are exceptional. The ADN program allows students to complete a nursing degree quickly and begin a career in two years. "There is a significant savings in tuition and housing," says Susan Koss, DACC Director of Nursing Education. "After the two years, we have affiliation agreements that allow students to complete a bachelor's or master's degree while working and earning money."

Koss says nurses must be caring and compassionate but tough enough to encourage those in their care to help themselves as much as possible. She also says it is essential to be assertive, able to advocate for yourself and those in your care, and well organized and detail-oriented. "There will be times you will hold a person's life in your hands, and you must be knowledgeable," she adds. "One mistake or hesitation may mean life or death in a situation."



"If students pursue a degree or certificate at DACC, they would be blessed beyond measure. The faculty and staff care and give the absolute best education money can buy. Many students are awarded scholarships through the DACC Foundation Office to help lower costs. We have many programs such as TRIO, Veterans assistance, and work-study to help students.

Nursing is a great field that is very rewarding, especially if you like to help others. I would match our program to any program. We have great pass rates in both the program and state boards. There are so many different career paths and opportunities that are available upon graduation.

There are indeed endless possibilities at DACC." Susan Koss

Students and faculty agree the length of the program and low tuition costs are two of the most significant benefits.

"We have faculty that are the best at what they do," says Koss. "I am so proud of our students and faculty and their commitment to the community and the college. The program and the curriculum are rigorous to produce the best nurses to care for our community."

Most of DACC's nursing graduates are employed by OSF Healthcare and Carle Foundation Hospital. Graduates can also find jobs in clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities or can become travel nurses. Salaries vary.

Koss says new nurses earn \$53,000.00 to \$82,750.00 depending on where they work. According to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Danville has an average salary of \$71,040.00, and Champaign has an average salary of \$61,460.00. Travel nursing can pay more depending on the contract and company.

Koss enjoys the staff, students, faculty, and administration in her role at DACC. "It has been my pleasure to join the DACC family and become part of this great learning institution."

To learn more about the Danville Area College Nursing program, visit dacc.edu and search "Nursing." The Nursing office number is 217-443-8553. To reach out by email, send a note to s.koss@dacc.edu or nursing@dacc.edu.



**Danville Area
Community College**

DJ Hypnotiq and vHYbz Entertainment Offer Mobile DJ Services and More



Are you looking for a DJ and host for your next event? Bryan Simmons, also known as DJ Hypnotiq and his company vHYbz Entertainment, can help. The entrepreneur is an emcee, host, and radio personality.

vHYbz Entertainment offers mobile DJ and hosting services for anniversaries, graduations, business openings, backyard gatherings, sweet 16s, and other events. He will begin offering wedding and reception services in 2023.

His experience includes several independent artists' album launches, club openings, festivals, and entertaining as a part of a DJ group that performed at various venues in South Korea.

"I created vHYbz Entertainment because I wanted to take my hobby more seriously and fully dive into music," says Simmons. "I feel I can provide a great service to all residents in Vermilion County and beyond this area."

The unusual vHYbz Entertainment name has a double meaning. "Vibes is how it's pronounced, so I am always picking the right songs to create that atmosphere or vibe for everyone to have fun and leave with great memories," he says. "I also combined HY, part of my DJ name (DJ Hypnotiq), in there. I was always the person with the aux cord that would pick the songs, therefore creating the vHYbz."

Simmons' idea for the company started while he was in South Korea in 2010, but he didn't officially launch the business until October of 2021. "DJing has always been a passionate hobby of mine, and starting it here in Danville, IL is an honor and a great way to get it off the ground," he says. "I see growth here as a major strength with opportunities to help residents and grow as a business."

Simmons is from Harvey, Illinois and has lived in several places in the US and overseas. He moved to Danville in 2016 after teaching English in South Korea for six years. He took a break from entertainment for several years, but he rediscovered his passion for music and entertaining on all levels during the quarantine. Simmons says he wants to become a force in Danville in the next few years.

To learn more about DJ Hypnotiq and vHYbz Entertainment, email vhybzentertainment@gmail.com.

He can also be found on Facebook @vHYbz Bryan or Mixcloud.com @ DjHypnotiq_vHYbz.

On Mixcloud, he has a radio show and posts small mixes. A website is coming soon.



Downtown Danville: Vibrant with Businesses, Entertainment and Events

If you haven't visited Downtown Danville lately, we can give you more than 75 good reasons to make sure you do. "The four-square block area that comprises Downtown Danville is home to more than 75 businesses," says Carol Nichols, Secretary, Downtown Danville, Inc. (DDI) Board of Directors.

DDI was established in 1983 to promote a vibrant business, residential, and entertainment district while catalyzing economic, social, and cultural enrichment.

Downtown has seen substantial growth in the past few years, despite the challenges faced due to the COVID pandemic. "The renovation of the historic Fischer Theatre in 2019 contributed to that growth and continues to attract people downtown to shop, eat and enjoy entertainment,"

she says. Specialty shops such as Lima Bean Glassworks, The Local Farmhouse, Sweet Repeats, Glory Daze, and Back Alley Creations have made Downtown Danville a home decor and gift shopping destination. In addition to the Fischer Theatre, entertainment is available at Adventure Escape Rooms, Up and Down Golf Simulator, Art Studio 7 Gallery, and the Vermilion County War Museum. Performing arts groups such as DLO musical theater company and Kottgrimm Storytellers now call downtown home. The area is also home to several bars and restaurants.

DDI owns the building at 149 N. Vermilion St. in Danville. In 2018, the organization began using the building as a co-workspace, Lift Off Downtown. Lift Off Downtown has private office space and shared workspace available

for lease on a month-to-month basis, allowing small businesses a chance to get their start in something other than a home-based environment. Nichols says businesses utilizing the space have access to a conference room, break room, business equipment, and wi-fi. The space is also available for daily rental. "Since opening, clients have included a speech pathologist, cleaning services, an in-home care service, senior care consultants, an insurance adjuster, beauty consultants, attorneys, and digital sign programmers, to name some of the nearly 30 businesses that have utilized the space in the past four years," she adds.

DDI provides small interior and exterior grants to business owners and property





owners within the SSA. In the past five years, nearly \$100,000 has provided grants for building improvements to attract and retain downtown businesses.

A board of directors governs DDI made up of property owners in the district and their representatives, with elections held annually in January. The board includes:

Rob Black	President
Heather Pierce	Vice President
Liya Hussmann Rogers	Director
Michael J. O'Brien	Director
Amy Lamb	Director
Andrew Dudich	Treasurer
Jason Rome	Director
Ashton Greer	Director
Nicole Van Hyfte	Director
Robert Komosa	Director
Kaylan Huber	Director
Carol Nichols	Secretary

“We see Downtown Danville as the heart of a proud and progressive community where neighborhoods

support dynamic business-filled storefronts, financial offices, cultural and entertainment facilities, centers of learning, and government service centers,” says Nichols. “Downtown is the focal point for community activities where people of every age come together in a positive way.”

Activities are at the heart of the vibrance that permeates downtown. Ashton Greer, Community Development Director at the City of Danville, has developed a full calendar of events being held on the First Friday of each month, incorporating and enhancing many of the events previously coordinated by DDI, including the Night of Lights Christmas Parade. DDI continues to coordinate Summer Sounds, a free outdoor concert series held on Friday evenings at Temple Plaza from June 3 to August 12 (except for July 8 when Balloons over Vermilion is held). This year's Summer Sounds will provide unique and diverse genres of music, including

'50s and '60s, Funk, Soul, Rock, Country, Honky Tonk, Hip Hop, RnB, Blues, Indie, Pop, and more. In addition to local performers, acts are coming from Nashville, St. Louis, and Baton Rouge. Evening sponsorships are still available. Contact Jordan Cundiff, Smart Set Entertainment, at jordan@smartsetentertainment.com for more information.

Nichols has been a long-time leader and community advocate. She has an easy answer when asked about Vermilion County's strengths. “As Donna Doberfuhr said when she unveiled her brick sculpture in Temple Plaza, what makes our area special is its people who persistently work to make us better every day.”

To learn about businesses and happenings in Downtown Danville, visit downtowndanville.org or find them on Facebook @[downtowndanvilleil](https://www.facebook.com/downtowndanvilleil).



Love In the Name of Christ of Vermilion County Taking Good Care of Neighbors

Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) of Vermilion County may be one of Vermilion County's best-kept secrets. "We show people they have God-given value by teaching them they can achieve success," says Michael Rohall, Executive Director. "We bridge the gap between those with resources and neighbors in need. The Vermilion Gardens fire in 2020 is a great example of how we build bridges among churches of different denominations to meet needs a single congregation can't."



Volunteers receive calls for assistance through the Connection Center. They listen to neighbors' stories and look for resources in the community to help meet their needs. When a need not currently being met by an agency or church is identified, they help churches assist those who have fallen through the cracks. To date, Love INC has helped congregations develop diaper, bedding and prescription assistance ministries, among others.

Love INC is a proven outreach ministry that helps churches help people in need. Their offices are located at 100 N Franklin St in Danville. Through several name changes over the years, the mission remained-- to unite churches to help the hurting members of our community.

Love In the Name of Christ is a national movement of 115 affiliates in 30 states and Kenya. The depth of the local network of multi-sector partnerships encompasses approximately 70 organizations throughout Vermilion County. They served over 200 county families in 2021 and have three part-time staff members and six volunteers. Before COVID 19, they utilized 24 volunteers and volunteer teams to assist with their Transformational Ministries (TM), which they hope to restart this month.

Each Love INC starts with the Connection Center, which has the potential to grow into four additional modes of outreach. While all Love INC modes of ministry are relational, each ministry mode addresses needs differently. The more complex methods naturally go deeper into fulfilling Love INC's mission—mobilizing local churches to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.



The final piece of the puzzle is Transformational Ministry. Allies walk through Affirming Potential (AP), Faith and Finances, Boundaries, Raising Highly Capable Kids, and emotional and spiritual wellness classes with each family. "We are empowering families to break out of the chaos and take control of their lives through the love of Christ," says Rohall. "When I describe our classes and how things will change as we enter Comprehensive Transformational Ministry, I like to use Danville Area Community College as an example. Anyone is welcome to take any class. In contrast, Comprehensive Transformational classes are like signing up for a degree or certificate program. As we enter Comp TM, students will go through a separate intake interview to determine whether they are ready to change and willing to make the necessary sacrifices. They start AP, allowing them to identify their area of greatest need and set goals to overcome those issues. Once they have completed AP, participants will be assigned a mentor and a guided curriculum that focuses on physical issues like finances and emotional, relational, or spiritual health. The program is expected to last up to 18 months. Ongoing classes may be available to help our neighbors thrive, not just survive."

Students earn a blessing bag filled with personal care or household items, including Fair Hope vouchers, gas cards, diaper packs and other resources.

In today's economic climate, public-private partnerships are vital. Vermilion Advantage partners can help Love In the Name of Christ by providing incentives that neighbors receive in their blessing bags. As they expand into Comprehensive Transformational Ministry, the plan includes professional counseling, automotive and home repairs, dental services and more.

To learn more about Love In the Name of Christ, call the administrative line at (217) 442-7311. Call (217) 442-5683 (L-O-V-E) to learn more about services. They can also be reached by email at ed@loveincvermilion.com or by visiting LoveINCvermilion.com/contact-us. Follow them on Facebook @LoveINCvermilion.

High Expectations Aesthetics Now Located Inside Studio 31 Salon & Spa

If you are interested in finding ways to enhance your beauty and feel better about your skin, Hannah High can help. The Full Practice Authority Nurse Practitioner owns and operates High Expectations Aesthetics PLLC.

The business provides botox/Dysport, Kybella, and microneedling. She also offers fillers for lips, fine lines, cheeks, and under eyes. High created the business in 2021 because she was very passionate about aesthetics, as she loves making others feel more beautiful and comfortable in their skin. As a nurse practitioner in pulmonology, critical care, and sleep for nearly five years, she wanted to find another way to utilize her skill set. She decided being an aesthetics nurse practitioner was exactly her calling.

Prior to her experience as a nurse practitioner, High gained experience through being a Registered Nurse in a



critical care unit for an additional five years. Her ten years of healthcare experience show when you walk into her practice.

High Expectations Aesthetics is located inside Studio 31 Salon & Spa on 11 E. Liberty Lane, Danville, IL 61832

"I am proud of all the lives I have changed by making others feel more beautiful or helping fix or change something they may be insecure about. Everyone deserves to look in the mirror and feel beautiful every single day. I enjoy making this happen." Hannah High

Hannah started her aesthetics training to further her education and inject only her close circle of friends and family. Recently, the owners of Studio 31 Salon & Spa asked her to provide services at their salon and spa. "I am absolutely in love with my career decision," says High. "The salon and spa are very welcoming with many great employees. Their mission parallels with my values and goals."

High often offers monthly specials, including discounts on fillers, microneedling, and botox/Dysport. She also provides botox/Dysport parties at Studio 31 or in the client's choice of space. "This helps people feel more comfortable getting the services, as they get to do it in environments they are familiar and comfortable with, and amongst people they are at ease with," she says.

High Expectations works with each client to establish an affordable and feasible plan. "I enjoy making others feel happy and pretty," she says. "I sit down with my clients, discuss their budget and ultimate beauty goals, in hopes of making those goals a reality economically."

High says many clients are nervous about the stigma around receiving botox, fillers, or any aesthetic services. However, once her clients realize their identity is kept confidential and the services do not create overly dramatic results, they are pleasantly surprised and pleased.

To learn more about High Expectations Aesthetics, visit highexpectationspllc.com, find them on Facebook @High Expectations Aesthetics PLLC or call the salon at (217) 446-3131.

Healthy Prep Meal Service Creates Fresh and Nutritious Meal Options

Triena Billips, Founder and CEO of Healthy Prep Meal Service, says her meal prep service is different because "our meals are ready to eat, fresh, local, and created with an abundance of fruits and vegetables that provide everything you need and nothing you don't!" The local entrepreneur's background in nutrition serves as the foundation for the new business located at 212 W. Fairchild Street in Danville.



Healthy Prep Meal Service provides nutritious meals and snacks to individuals, families, and community groups. Their ready-to-eat meal options are created with fruits and vegetables as the base. They offer infused Fruit and Herb Waters that promote health benefits such as sugar and weight control, stress relief, and more. Quickbites serve as snacks and are kid friendly. Individual meals and salads are created from fresh and lightly baked vegetables. They also offer Fit Blenders, a combination of



fruits and vegetables that come frozen and are perfect for summer. All Healthy Prep Meal Service meals are 100% dairy-free.

"We do not promote or follow any health trends, but our meals are prepared so they are low sodium, low or sugar-free, low or carb-free, and low or fat-free," says Billips.

Customers can order items daily, complete weekly meal preps for same-day pickup, or order up to 90 days in advance. Orders may be placed via the website, the phone, or in person.

Healthy Prep Meal Service has six hard-working and much-appreciated employees. Their hours of operation are seven days a week from 9 am-6 pm.

Getting started in the Vermilion County area has been beneficial to this start-up, including volunteer help and insight from business owners, free business guidance provided by the Trep School, and the organization's new and enthusiastic customer base. "Our customers are unmatched in word-of-mouth advertising!" says Billips. "We couldn't be more grateful for all the support Vermilion County has already

granted us during our soft opening for Healthy Prep Meal Service."

Billips says Healthy Prep Meal Service began as a way to help communities eat healthier in a more consistent, convenient, and affordable manner. They started the journey by joining The Trep School's free series of business courses for aspiring entrepreneurs. Through the lessons learned and feedback gained in the Trep School, the development of Healthy Prep Meal Service began.

"For a mother of three (two of which are toddlers), a hovering engagement, and amidst a pandemic, the likelihood of accomplishing the tasks before me did not seem or sound possible," she says. "Through constant determination and family and community support, Healthy Prep Meal Service was able to overcome complex obstacles and launch less than a year later. We look forward to serving our community in the best and most efficient way possible, and we appreciate all the continuous support."

How to Order Healthy Prep Meal Service

For more information or to place an order, visit HealthyPrepMenu.com, stop by their location at 212 W. Fairchild St. in Danville, or call (217)442-7737 (PREP).



Ridge Plumbing Provides Plumbing for Residents and Businesses

Whatever your plumbing need, Ridge Plumbing is here to help.

Owners Jamie and Angie Ridge opened the family-owned business in October of 2021. The company offers residential, commercial, and industrial plumbing.

The Ridges began thinking about the business while Jamie was working for a utility company and no longer enjoying his job. "We always wanted to open our own business, so we decided to go for it," they say.

The business is located in Catlin, Illinois and serves the surrounding areas. "We are ambitious and are trying to grow our business to serve the people of Vermilion County," they add.

The couple says people may be surprised to learn they are the only local "union shop that does residential work."

They appreciate how welcoming and encouraging residents and customers have been. They've also been pleased by the warm reception from competitors. "They all want us to succeed," says Jamie.



One of the company's current projects is plumbing in the former Catlin IGA building. "It is nice to see new businesses coming to the building," says Angie.

Currently, Jamie completes the work in the field, and Angie handles most of the office work. They plan to expand and hire additional employees in the future. Ridge Plumbing is a member of

Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 157. Anyone interested in employment in the plumbing field could contact Local 157 or Jamie Ridge.

For more information about Ridge Plumbing, call 217-499-3895, email ridgeplumbingllc@gmail.com, or visit ridgeplumbing.net. They can also be found on Facebook @Ridge Plumbing Contractor LLC.




5:00-7:00PM

August 11, 2022
Danville Boat Club
15750 Boat Club Road, Danville

September 8, 2022
Vermilion Regional Airport
22633 N Bowman Ave #1, Danville

Please RSVP to Nicole at
nvanhyfte@vermilionadvantage.com



11:30AM-1:00PM

August 17, 2022
American Legion Post 210
201 Prospect Pl, Danville

September 21, 2022
TBD

Please RSVP to Nicole at
nvanhyfte@vermilionadvantage.com



11:30AM-1:00PM

August 24, 2022
Palmer Arena, Room 127
100 W. Main Street, Danville

September 28, 2022
Palmer Arena, Room 127
100 W. Main Street, Danville

Please RSVP to Nicole at
nvanhyfte@vermilionadvantage.com

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 Employees of the Month

- Hometown Stars McDonald's.....Izaya Gaston
- Classic Rock-n-Roll.....Valentina Aguilar
- Oakwood.....Taylen Wait
- Georgetown.....Hanna Sandlin
- Hoopeston.....Ara Bekkering
- Neighborhood McDonald's.....Doris Cox
- Covington, IN.....Jeff Hines

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ADVANTAGE DIAMOND DIRECTOR:

(Level \$10,000+)

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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 Country Club
Danville Metal Stamping
Danville School Dist. #118
Hyster-Yale Group
McLane Midwest
Mervis Industries
REG Danville, LLC
Republic (formerly Allied Waste)
thyssenKrupp Dynamic Components Danville, LLC
Vermilion Development, Inc.
Viscofan USA, Inc.
Watchfire Signs

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Carle Hoopeston Regional Health Center
Catlin Bank
Central States Distribution Service
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
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Anderson Electric, Inc.
APPI Energy
AT&T Illinois
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Bose Corporation
Bowman Estates
Brainerd Chemical Midwest, LLC
Chittick Family Eye Care
County Markets / Niemann Foods
Depke Gases & Welding Supplies
EnvirOx, LLC
Express Employment Professionals
Faulstich Printing Company
First Farmers Bank & Trust
First Savings Bank of Danville
Flex-N-Gate Plastics
Heritage Development
Heritage Health Therapy & Senior Care
Hubner Industries, LLC
IL Chapter Nat'l Electrical Contractor's Assoc.

Julius W. Hegeler II Foundation
Meijer
Neuhoff Family Broadcasting
Offutt Development
Prospect Bank
The Sygma Network
thyssenKrupp Crankshaft Company
Towns Machine Tool Co., Inc.
Village of Catlin
WITY Illiana Communications, LLC

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
B & B Construction
BEE PLUS, Inc.
Beltone Hearing Aid Service
Berns, Clancy, & Associates, P.C.
Big Thorn Farm & Brewery, LLC
BIGG Success
Bill Smith Auto Parts
Bricks and Ivy Sports
Built 2 Last Construction
Bussey Bank
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
CTS Computers
Danville Area Board of Realtors
Danville Bldg. & Construction Trades Council
Danville Dats
Danville Gardens, Inc.
Danville Public Building Commission
Dawson Logistics
Days Hotel and Conference Center
Dean Crandall - Morgan Stanley
D.I. Fire & Safety
Dines Machine & Mfg.
Donohue & Associates, Inc.
Dougherty Group
DTI Office Solutions
Duncan Farms
DynaChem, Inc.
Earthrise Energy
East Central IL Community Action Agency
Education Personnel Federal Credit Union
Edward Jones (Marcus Provost)
Enel Green Power Salt Springs
EPIC Insurance Midwest
Farnsworth Group
First Institute Training & Mgmt., Inc.
FLP Wealth Advisors of Raymond James
Full-Fill Industries, LLC
Gailey Eye Clinic
Gallipots of Salt & Sweets
Gibson Teldata, Inc.
Greene Galvanized Stairs
Greenlight Landscaping
Group 2029 Inc. (d/b/a Burger King)
Harrison Steel Castings Company
Health Alliance Medical Plans
Healthy Prep Meal Service
Heartland Properties, Inc.
Hickory Point Bank
High Expectations Aesthetics PLLC
Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites/Hampton Inn & Suites
Hoopeston Coin Laundry
Hussmann Rogers Law, LLC
IBEW Local 538
Illini Castings, LLC
Illume Counseling and Wellness Center
Insurance Providers Group
International Greenhouse Co.- Danville
JAC Property Management
Jimmy Johns
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
Martin Hood, LLC
Mattress Firm
MI-BOX Moving & Mobile Storage
Motley Food
MSM Construction
Newton's Cleaning & Restoration, LLC
Painter's USA, Inc.
Pepsi-Cola C-U Bottling Co.
Portal Entertainment Group
Randal Ashton, DDS
Ray O'Herron Company
RE/Max Ultimate
Revive Salon & Spa
Ridge Plumbing Contractor
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.
Seven Point
Shore Wealth Management
Silgan Containers
Slumberland Furniture
Spherion
Square 1 Healthcare
Steel Grip, Inc.
T.H. Snyder Co.- Architectural Woodwork Div.
Terminix Services, Inc.
The Andersons Rail Group
Toni Stone State Farm Agency
Townway Place, LLC
Toyota of Danville
Trillium Staffing
Turtle Run Golf & Banquet Center
Two Roads Wellness Clinic
United Rentals
University of IL Community Credit Union
Up & Down Golf Simulator
Venture Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
Vermilion Chevrolet
Vermilion County Conservation District
Vermilion County Title, Inc.

Vermilion Regional Airport Authority
 Vermilion River Beer Company
 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
 Xcellence Motors

ADVANTAGE HONOR MEMBER**(Level \$300 - \$499)**

* Existing Members Grandfathered prior to Base level change to \$500 in 2014
 ** Indicates Hoopston Chamber Member discount due to partnership with Hoopston 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
 Brunswick Apartments
 CDS Office Technologies
 Cooper East Lake Animal Hospital
 Country Financial
 Crose Insurance.
 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 Hoopston
 Glesco Electric, Inc.
 Hayley Siefert, Broker - Keller Williams
 Real Estate, TREC
 Hoopston Area CUSD #11
 Illinois Small Business Development Center
 Jameson Steel Fabrication
 Jenna Wirth State Farm
 KBA Limited
 Lakeview College of Nursing
 Liberty Village
 Mason, MD John
 McDowell Builders, Inc.
 McLaughlin Asset Management
 MidWest America Federal Credit Union
 Myers Carpet Weavers
 Napa Auto & Truck Parts Superstore
 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 Belgium
 Village of Bismarck
 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)**

A New Start A New Vision, LLC
 A Touch of Health
 AMBUCS
 American Legion Post #210
 Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Danville
 Arts In The Park, Inc.
 Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness
 Baby Blessings Ultrasound Studio
 Balloons Over Vermilion, NFP
 Bennett, Scott (Senator)
 Better Business Bureau – Central Illinois
 Boys & Girls Club of Danville
 Briana's Creations
 Brown, Amy S.
 BURTo Photo
 Butler, Rosemary (Tutor/Mentor)
 Cannon Place Mercy Housing
 CASA of Vermilion County
 Center Street Productions
 Central Christian Church
 Child Care Resource Service
 Christian Wellness Retreat Center
 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 Area Living - Shannon Schroeder
 Danville Boat Club
 Danville Christian Academy
 Danville Country Club
 Danville Downtown Event Center
 Danville Family YMCA
 Danville Farmer's Market
 Danville High School Class of 1982
 Danville Library Foundation
 Danville Lions Club
 Danville Noon Rotary
 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
 Downtown Danville, Inc.
 East Park Church of Christ
 Eastern Illinois Foodbank
 Edward J. Ryan, CPA
 Erickson, Gary C.
 Festival of Trees
 First Church of the Nazarene
 First Presbyterian Church of Hoopston
 Floral-n-Flair
 FSO: LLC Barbershop & CMS Detailing
 GAO Grotto / Denmark Park Corporation
 Gateway Family Services of Illinois
 Grace Lutheran Church
 Habitat for Humanity of Danville, Inc.
 Hoopston Multi Agency Service Center
 Icebox Club
 Immanuel Lutheran Church
 Immanuel Manor, Inc. – Senior Residences

Informed Decisions
 Iroquois Economic Development Association
 It's In Your Head
 Keep Vermilion Co. Beautiful, Inc.
 Kiwanis Club of Danville
 Land of Lincoln Goodwill Industries, Inc.
 Laura Lee Fellowship House Association
 Law Office of Bethany D. Hager
 Love INC of Vermilion County
 Lovin' Cup Food Truck
 Luella's Lodge, NFP
 Midwest Print and Sign Specialists, LLC
 Miller, Dawnielle
 Mimi's Kitchen & Catering, LLC
 Monyok Leadership Coaching
 New Directions Treatment Center
 Oakwood Area Food Pantry, Inc.
 Oakwood Public Library District
 Prairielands Council – Boy Scouts of America
 Precious Time Pampering
 Premier Network Solutions
 Project Success of Vermilion Co., Inc.
 Red Mask Players, Inc.
 River Bottom Farms Topsoil
 Roland Lim Photography
 Roxy's House at Blue Heron Ranch
 Schlarman Academy
 Spring Hill Cemetery
 St. James United Methodist Church
 STEP Recovery Center
 Stephens-Felix, Stacy – Fountain Insurance
 Super Penguin Books
 Survivor Resource Center
 The Danville Art League
 The Fischer Theatre
 The Salvation Army
 Trinity Lutheran School
 United Way of Danville Area
 University of IL Extension., Vermilion Co. Unit
 URE Home Daycare
 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
 V.F.W. Jewell Whyte Post 728
 vHYbz Entertainment
 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)
 Swires, Bob
 Teague, Tricia (The Trep School)
 Ward, Jacqueline
 Wood, Jim

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