

# INSIDE

February 2024

*Vermilion County*



**Tyler Zindars: Investing  
in the Area's Future**

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# INSIDE

Vermilion County

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CEO/President

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Chamber of Commerce Director

**Lisa Thompson**  
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If we are to be successful meeting the challenges in front of us and if we want to create an effective model for economic revitalization in our County, we must think long term. The problems that we face haven't arisen overnight, they have emerged over the previous decades. They won't be solved overnight either. However, the first part of finishing a marathon is taking the first step.

Our first step is to create a well thought out strategy to tackle our challenges. That approach must be based on data and evidence. Accurate information will truly help us understand our challenges and will provide a roadmap of how to fix them. Once we have this in place, it is a matter of having the will to implement the roadmap. Our County having the will to implement the plan for the future is the part I'm most confident in. Our people in Vermilion County are our greatest asset, and as I mentioned last month, they never fail to put everything they have behind a worthy cause. I know we will be successful.

During my first month at Vermilion Advantage, the thing that keeps me awake at night is knowing the challenge I have ahead of me - proving, amid significant changes in the economy and in this organization, that we bring significant value to our businesses in Vermilion County. It is a task Vermilion Advantage is up to. We are going to take the first step of winning the marathon. We will compile the data and evidence. We will start solving problems for our employers. And we will show the world that Vermilion County is a great place to visit, work, and live.

Mike Marron  
CEO/President  
Vermilion Advantage

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.

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*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.

# City of Danville --Moment with the Mayor

"It has taken me a while, but I'm learning that letting go of the past is a good thing. It doesn't mean forgetting, it just means moving on. Because the fact is, we can't enjoy the present and embrace the future when we are still stuck in the past." — Don Dewberry, internationally renowned consultant.

It was in Mr. Gholson's 5th grade class that I developed a love for history. I became especially enamored with President Lincoln because this man who had a strong connection to Danville saved our great nation. It was clear to me that whoever ran the government had a huge impact on everything, so I tucked this away in my ten-year-old brain.

Fast forward to 2019. Just two months into my first term, huge chunks of Bresee, which replaced Lincoln's law office and had sat empty since 2005, fell onto Main Street. Miraculously, no one was harmed. After additional years of meetings with potential "developers," regularly hearing near-accidents due to the road closure, and more pieces falling, major safety concerns forced our hand. We completed a professional architectural assessment to determine salvageability while also setting aside \$4 million in case it was not. The results were sobering; due to decades of neglect, it would cost a minimum of \$12 million just to re-open as is. Changing the use of the building to residential would be \$20+ million, a sum which investors would never recoup. While I had hoped to be the mayor who saved Bresee, I resolved to be the mayor who took care of a major longstanding problem.



We're collaborating with Vermilion County to demolish it and the similarly situated Courthouse Annex simultaneously, which will likely be late summer.

I'm incredibly proud of the nearly 400 dilapidated structures we've demolished over the past 5 years. With every blighted building that goes down, property value, neighborhood security, and the opportunity for something new to replace them goes up (think Kirchner's, Sonic, etc.). I'm also proud of the millions of dollars in redevelopment funds we've invested in buildings Downtown and throughout town. We spent almost \$90,000.00 alone to save the Adams building, we're working with the owners of the mall to determine its best future use, and new businesses continue to come.

The great news is that many people are choosing Danville as well! Over the past 2 months, I have met folks from: Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Quebec, and the Philippines! The even better news: only two sets of them have any connection to our community, meaning people from all over the country and world have chosen to make Danville home and they love it! Some common reasons for choosing us include affordability of good housing, high quality-of-life (such as our access to nature and the arts), and an opportunity to live out their dreams.

Why can others see our value when we can't? I think it's because we've become so mired in yesteryear that we can't enjoy what we have now! American clergyman and professor Douglas Horton was right when he said, "Happiness in the present is only shattered by comparison with the past."

In close, I present to you a question often posed by my mentor Brenda Yoho: "Are you a part of the problem or part of the solution?" If instead of celebrating the past, you use it to tear down our community, then you're hindering progress. If we want a bright future, we need everyone to join the thousands of people already working hard every day to make Danville an even better place to live, work, invest, and play! Albert Einstein once said, "Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." Thanks to everyone's collective efforts, I'm proud to say that we're doing just that!

# Lakeview College of Nursing: 130 Years of Education



Lakeview College of Nursing is set to officially celebrate a significant milestone. The organization will mark its 130<sup>th</sup> year in November 2024 with special fall events.

Lakeview College of Nursing is an institution that offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree Program for college juniors and seniors. The organization has focused exclusively on nursing education since 1894. They have nearly 4,000 graduates who have served in the Vermilion County Area, the State of Illinois, throughout the nation, and worldwide.

Lakeview College of Nursing has been in Danville, IL, since 1894 and in Charleston, IL, since 2001. President Sheila Mingee leads the Lakeview team and has served in several roles since she started in 1989.

The college has experienced many changes in the last ten years,

especially integrating more technology into instruction. "Our faculty use life-like, high-tech simulators to instruct our students on how to care for patients," says Amy McFadden, Coordinator of Recruitment/Marketing. "The simulators have heart, lung, and bowel sounds, and we have one that can even go through all the stages of labor and give birth. Our nursing skills lab also has a computer on wheels with a barcode scanner for medications.

Technology was vital during the pandemic when students were immersed in online learning and virtual labs. "Fifty years ago, there was very limited technology," she adds. "Our students practiced their skills on live patients and traditional mannequins. Today, students get the best of both worlds with more variety in their hands-on experiences."

Most people who visit Lakeview are surprised by the size of the facility,

which contains a nursing skills lab, several classrooms, a chemistry lab, several lounges, a library, a computer lab, and several offices.

A high degree of specialization is what sets Lakeview College of Nursing apart. The organization is dedicated entirely to nursing education and focuses on offering a bachelor's degree. Lakeview's scholarship opportunities also set them apart from other options.

McFadden says anyone who thinks they may be interested in nursing should first explore the career field and its many opportunities. "We have a listing of career opportunities, salary information, and a guide to pursuing a nursing career that we can provide," she says. "We also encourage job shadowing so potential students can better decide if they can see themselves as a nurse." From there, they encourage potential students to learn about the benefits of having a bachelor's degree, admission requirements, financial aid, scholarship opportunities, and to visit the college to see if it will be a good fit. She says the first step is simple - visit [lcn.edu/inquire](http://lcn.edu/inquire).

Vermilion Advantage membership has been a positive move for the organization. "We love being able to easily share information about our events and activities, network with others in the community, and share ideas on building a healthy community!" she says.

To learn more about Lakeview College of Nursing, visit [lcn.edu](http://lcn.edu), call 217-709-0920, or email [admissions@lcn.edu](mailto:admissions@lcn.edu). Lakeview College of Nursing can also be found on Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Flickr.



# Vermilion Advantage Encourages Leap of Kindness Day, February 29, 2024

2024 is a Leap Year and that means we all get one extra day! This year Vermilion Advantage will join Chambers across the nation to celebrate Leap of Kindness Day on February 29, 2024. Leap of Kindness Day started in 2016 by the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. They used Leap Day to inspire their members and community to use their extra day that year to do something kind for someone else.

By 2020, the idea had spread, and Leap of Kindness Day was even bigger, with more than 200 chambers in the United States, Canada and Ireland joining in and organizing their own celebrations. They are hoping for even more participation this

year. Vermilion Advantage is excited to join and spread some kindness throughout the county.

Vermilion Advantage will be participating this year and would love your help. Throughout the month of February, local nonprofits can send an email to Dana Rowland at [drowland@vermilionadvantage.com](mailto:drowland@vermilionadvantage.com) and share what the needs are for their organization in 2024. This can range from items such as blankets, coats, toiletries, nonperishable food to monetary gifts to volunteer opportunities. No ask is too big or too small, you never know what someone may have to share! Vermilion Advantage will compile the list and share it on our website

and through our social media. We hope you join us in using this extra leap day to spread kindness to those around you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 217-442-6201.

**Local Non-Profits**  
Throughout the month of February, local nonprofits can send an email to Dana Rowland at [drowland@vermilionadvantage.com](mailto:drowland@vermilionadvantage.com) and share what the needs are for their organization in 2024. This can range from items such as blankets, coats, toiletries, nonperishable food to monetary gifts to volunteer opportunities.

2024 is a  
Leap Year



**02.29.2024: An Extra Day  
Do Something Kind  
for Someone Else**

**#LeapOfKindnessDay**

PARTNER IN PROGRESS  
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## Coffee Talk

February 13:  
Hall of Fame Plaques & Signs,  
speaker Linda Darby-Dowers

March 12:  
Berzerker's Grill and Catering  
at Mason Lodge



# Treasured Roots in Hoopeston Marks 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Elaine Tyler, owner of Hoopeston's charming Treasured Roots shop, often hears how people are surprised by all the items sold in the store. "Our eclectic mix always surprises them," she says. "And many people don't realize we can ship to their home if they do not live in the area."

Treasured Roots is a fusion of florals, plants, and unique gifts. Treasured Roots custom creates fresh and artificial florals, with delivery to Hoopeston and surrounding communities. "Our garden section is a green oasis offering an array of plants, seeds, and gardening essentials for cultivating one's piece of paradise," says Tyler. "Our outdoor garden center is open seasonally, offering hanging baskets, herbs, veggies, perennials, and more."

The gift shop is an eclectic mix of gourmet treats, bath and body products, pet essentials, candles, bedding sheet sets, and more. The shop offers a thoughtfully curated selection of products that enhance well-being and prioritize environmental sustainability. "We take pride in sourcing items made in the USA, good for you and leave a positive impact on the planet," she says. "From eco-friendly materials to products crafted with a focus on minimal environmental footprint, we strive to provide options that align with a healthier lifestyle and a more sustainable future."

Treasured Roots is located at 702 W. Main Street in Hoopeston.

Tyler says the business is unique in several ways. "We pride ourselves on offering a carefully curated selection of products that prioritize quality, uniqueness, and sustainability," she says. "Additionally, our commitment to customer experience goes beyond transactions; we strive to create a welcoming and engaging environment,



Treasured Roots Staff: (l-r) Nicole Gregory, Britteny Dafcik, Darlene McCormick, Misty Karrick, Shannon Langdon, Jess Rivera-Meyer, & Elaine Tyler

fostering a sense of community with our patrons. Whether it's our amazing product offerings, our fun events and workshops, our exclusive Savings Club, or the warm atmosphere we cultivate, our small business provides a truly one-of-a-kind shopping experience."

Tyler's pride stems not only from the products or services the shop provides but also from the journey and personal growth that has unfolded during her entrepreneurial path. She knows her story has been shaped by overcoming obstacles, navigating challenges, and adapting to changes in the business landscape. "Witnessing the growth of both my business and me has been incredibly fulfilling," she says. "Every hurdle has presented an opportunity to learn, innovate, and evolve. Through entrepreneurship, I have developed a sense of resilience and determination that has sculpted me into a more adaptable and resourceful individual."

One of Tyler's goals for the new year is to do even more in the community. Previously, the shop planned for a quarterly fundraiser. "Our goal for the new year is to give back each month!" she says.

For more information about Treasured Roots' local delivery, visit [treasuredrootsflowershop.com](http://treasuredrootsflowershop.com). For the shop's ship-to-your-home options, visit [treasuredrootsgiftshop.com](http://treasuredrootsgiftshop.com). Treasured Roots can also be found on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and Pinterest.

<p><b>Treasured Roots</b> 702 W Main St Hoopeston IL 217-283-5578 <a href="http://treasured-roots.com">treasured-roots.com</a></p>	<p><b>Winter Hours</b> Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Sat 9am-5pm &amp; Closed Sunday till Spring</p>
	<p><b>"Please tell your friends about Treasured Roots. We are still trying to get the word out!"</b></p>

# Everside Health Offering Unique Options for Local Employers and Employees

Local employers and their employees may benefit from a partnership with Everside Health.

Everside Health is a national onsite, nearsite, and virtual Advanced Primary Care and Occupational Health provider that offers employee/organization-sponsored health care. The simple per-member, per-month pricing structure offers predictability to help control the rising cost of care and a technology-driven approach to deliver customized options based on needs.

In Danville, Everside Health is located on Logan Avenue. The company currently partners with several local employers.

Services include primary and preventive care, referral management, virtual care, pharmacy, general wellness, mental health, onsite labs and testing, condition management, and occupational health. The company says it can meet up to 90% of a patient's medical needs in the health center.

Jonathan L. Taylor, MBA, Vice-President of Sales for Everside Health, says employers with 100+ employees are the most likely to benefit. "We work with employers to help lower medical costs. With better access to comprehensive healthcare, employees create a wellness habit and get in front of issues to avoid big incidents, visits to the emergency room and unnecessary specialist appointments."

The Everside financial model includes:

- Value-based per-member per-month flat fee membership
- Financial alignment with employers to drive a reduction in total cost of care
- Member engagement through benefit design and marketing outreach
- No copays or fees for members, including prescriptions
- No charges to insurance
- Predictable, transparent pricing structure for clients
- Performance guarantees that align with the employer's total cost of care reduction

Everside supports employers by improving employee and dependent health via easy access to comprehensive care, attracting and retaining employees by offering best-in-class patient experiences and controlling rising healthcare costs.

"We are committed to improving access to quality healthcare for the people of Vermilion County," says Taylor. "We want to be community partners. We want area residents to live longer, healthier lives with their families. People might also be surprised by how much we've saved companies in



healthcare costs. Over the years, we've saved businesses millions of dollars."

Everside Health represents four companies that came together to create a different kind of healthcare experience. Paladina Health, Activate Healthcare, Healthstat, and R-Health each brought unique perspectives, a diverse footprint, and an orientation to building relationships with employers and patients.

The company has more than 380 health centers across the US. The gross average total cost of care savings Everside delivers to clients is about 31%.

For more information about Everside Health, contact Jonathan Taylor at [Jonathan.taylor@eversidehealth.com](mailto:Jonathan.taylor@eversidehealth.com) or 502-550-1447. The company can also be found on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and You Tube.

# Tyler Zindars: Investing in the Area's Future

Exciting developments are happening in downtown Danville. Tyler Zindars, a real estate developer and syndicator, has a hand in those changes and many more property improvements across east Central Illinois.

“We recently took over management and development of the largest mixed-used property in Vermilion County, Danville Towne Center,” says Tyler. The team has given the property a new name – Danville Riverfront Plaza - which works well with the city's recently announced plans for developing along the Vermilion River downtown.

In 2023, Zindars launched Westwood Equity Partners LLC, a new real estate private equity firm. “We are planning to open our new offices at the Danville Riverfront Plaza in the summer of 2024,” he says. “We are using new technology and an online investment platform to more efficiently raise and fund redevelopment projects here in Danville, including houses, apartments, and commercial properties that could and should be redeveloped.” Investors will be able to view a pipeline of projects and see the completion of those projects online through quarterly updates on their portal.

Zindar's company will sponsor the projects, underwrite the debt, and raise capital from private investors. “I’m



going to utilize this new software and technology to capitalize and fund rehab projects in the community,” he says. “We are hiring staff for the development company, including skilled trades and office personnel.”

Zindars is also the managing broker and operator of Zindars Property Management LLC. The company manages about 400 rental units in Vermilion and Champaign counties. These rentals include single-family homes, apartment buildings, a small mobile home park, and office and retail properties. The company primarily focuses on renovating units and improving the management of distressed properties throughout Vermilion County.

His work is fueled by a passion for building, creativity, and solving ongoing

development issues. He says he enjoys the challenges of fixing up properties and managing the day-to-day operations. “It doesn't feel like work to me,” he says. “Every time I see a cool building that I want to renovate, I tell my wife, 'It's like a giant adult playground, and I get to play in it!’”

## Better Together

Zindars and his team are one of several developers who continue to invest in Vermilion County's future.

Reimagining Danville's future is at the top of his list of professional goals. “I would like to coordinate with the City of Danville, Vermilion Advantage, along with neighborhood associations and local churches to establish a public/private partnership to tackle blighted properties and encourage the



city's redevelopment over the next 10-15 years," he says. "I think leadership here wants to see economic progress and improvement. I want to raise additional capital to acquire, renovate, and manage more distressed assets over the next few years."

He also hopes to play a leadership role in spearheading private redevelopment in Danville. "I would like to help real estate investors manage their properties, invest in new and exciting projects, and help them on their investing journey to meet their financial goals through an alternative investment class," says Zindars. "I'd like to improve opportunities for my employees and tradesmen. At the same time, I would like to help the city with its long-term goal of blight removal because it has such a negative effect on development in the city. Real estate development takes a team of highly skilled people and partnerships from investors, lenders, suppliers, and contractors to advance a project. If you are a local company investing in this community, money and economic development stay here."

Deanna Witzel and Linda Darby Dowers top the list of local people he admires. "I think they have done a lot for this community by building their companies," he says. "They have also given back in significant ways. They are working hard to build a non-profit hub for the community and help spearhead the Step Up initiative."

### His Start

Zindars grew up on a small farm outside Fithian, attended Oakwood High School, and has lived in this area most of his life. He bought his first property in 2010, acquiring what he says was the worst house on the block. "I spent five months remodeling it and learning the different trades," he says. "I learned so much by rehabbing that first property."

The entrepreneur got his start in real estate development, building a hotel in Jamaica. "I helped my family launch a resort in the Caribbean after college," he says. "We had a single villa that expanded to a 24-room boutique hotel



over a few years. I learned a lot about hospitality and the importance of great service. I learned how to be resourceful since there weren't any big box hardware stores to buy building materials. All materials and supplies had to be either imported or built locally. We still own and operate the hotel today."

### The Future

His first task this year is converting a retail space into a new coffee shop and bakery. "Arnholt Bakery closed years

ago, and we have a new bakery moving into a space at the Danville Towne Center," he says. "We are working with a couple who want to see positive change and have a great business vision. I would like to see that come to fruition."

According to Zindars, a big misconception is that the team only manages properties. "We do a lot more, including making investments in the community, providing jobs, and helping make Danville a better place to live," he says. "I'm pretty excited that my two longest-tenured employees of Zindars Property Management LLC, have been able to begin their investing journey buying and managing their own rental properties."

The Zindars family includes wife, Alexis, two daughters, Mariah (8) and Claire (5), and one son, Elijah (2). "We really enjoy the holidays and spending time together," he says. "We like to take small vacations to different destinations throughout the year."

For more information about Zindars Property Management, visit [zindarspropertymanagement.com](http://zindarspropertymanagement.com) or call 217-274-7089. For more information about Westwood Equity Partners, visit [westwoodequitypartners.com](http://westwoodequitypartners.com)



# Don Jones Highlighting 65 Years at Hyster-Yale Group

Hyster-Yale Group (HYG) is proud to celebrate the long tenure of many of its employees. A case in point is Don Jones, currently a second-shift janitor, marking his 65<sup>th</sup> year with the company. When Hyster manufactured forklifts in Danville, Jones held several additional roles.

“Hyster-Yale Group has a long history of highly tenured employees,” says Tom Hashimoto, Director of Parts Operation at HYG’s Parts Distribution Center in Danville. “Along with celebrating Don’s achievement this year, we had five other employees who celebrated anniversaries over 50 years, including Dianne Weddle, our purchasing clerk, who celebrated her 59<sup>th</sup> year working at HYG. It comes to a total of 335 years of experience, just among those six people.”

“We are so proud of Don, Dianne and all of our Danville team members and the incredible effort they give every day to support our customers”, says Hashimoto.

Hyster-Yale Group (HYG) in Danville is the largest lift truck parts distribution center for the entire HYG customer base globally. HYG is a leading global manufacturer of lift trucks and other materials handling equipment. In Danville, the team handles the aftersales for the North, Central, and South American markets, including warehousing and sales of service parts and a team of on-site customer support members.

Jones is very active and enjoys bike riding whenever he gets the opportunity. To celebrate his anniversary, he was presented with a Trek Verve 2+ electric bike. “It is something Don wanted so that he could travel farther and make it up the hills a little easier,” says Hashimoto. In attendance for the presentation were Don’s colleagues from second shift operations in the warehouse as well as several senior leaders from the HYG Americas Division, including Chuck Pascarelli, President, Americas Division; John Gardiner, VP,




Hyster – Don Jones, Charles Pascarelli – President Hyster-Yale Group Americas

Manufacturing; Ray Ulmer, VP, Finance and Brett Schemerhorn, President, Aftersales Business.

Congratulations to Don and the entire Hyster-Yale Group team!






**5:00-7:00PM**

**February 8, 2024**  
DLO Musical Theatre  
141 N Walnut Street, Danville

**March 14, 2024**  
Soar Space with Tricia Teague  
2 E Main Street, Suite 36, Danville

*Please RSVP to Dana at*  
drowland@vermilionadvantage.com



**11:30AM-1:00PM**

**February 7, 2024**  
YPN Kickoff at Turtle Run

**February 21, 2024**  
“How 2 Series” Luncheon  
DACC Bremer Center, Room 141/142  
with speaker Nicole Van Hyfte

**March 20, 2024**  
“How 2 Series” Luncheon  
DACC Bremer Center, Room 141/142  
with speaker Annie Monyok

*Please RSVP to Dana at*  
drowland@vermilionadvantage.com



**11:30AM-1:00PM**

**February 28, 2024**  
Sunset Funeral Home/  
Hager Law Office  
at Palmer Arena

**February 28, 2024**  
Ashton Greer/City of Danville  
at Palmer Arena

*Please RSVP to Dana at*  
drowland@vermilionadvantage.com



## Celebrating the Heart of Our Community

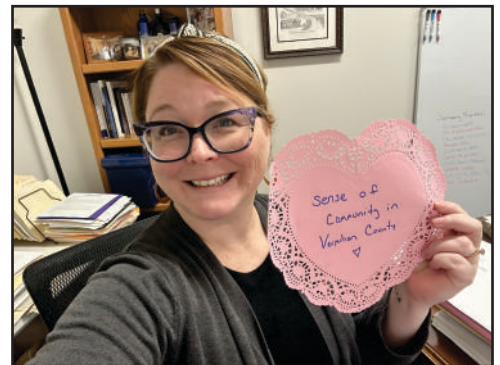
Love is in the air, and there's no better time to express our admiration for the incredible community we call home. At Vermilion Advantage, we are excited to celebrate Valentine's Day through the month of February, highlighting what we love most about our county.

We'd love to hear from you too! We are asking you, the heart of our community, to share what you love about our county. Whether it be the people, a special park you visit, a favorite meal at a local eatery, or

something as simple as the flowers on Vermilion Street, we'd love to hear it! Check out what we love in the photos!

As we come together to celebrate Valentine's Day, Vermilion Advantage extends its gratitude and love to the incredible community that makes Vermilion County a special place to live and thrive.

Through our social media posts, we hope to share and promote local businesses, favorite destinations, and showcase the unique features that



make our community truly exceptional. Be sure to check out our Facebook page and share your photos on the posts, starting February 9th. We'd love to see your hearts and showcase them on our social media. You can also email them to [drowland@vermilionadvantage.com](mailto:drowland@vermilionadvantage.com) to be shared throughout the month.

VERMILION COUNTY  
**JOB BOARD**  
A Service of *Vermilion Advantage*



**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.vermilionadvantage.com/job-board](http://www.vermilionadvantage.com/job-board)

# Danville Farmers Market: A Year-Round Danville Treasure

Susan Franklin, manager of the Danville Farmers Market and owner of Franklin's Farm Blooms, believes the Danville Farmers Market consists of a group of the best, kindest and hardest working people in the area. She should know. She's served as market manager since 2017.

"They are an eclectic group of farmers, artists, entrepreneurs, craft people, young and old, who dream of being their own boss and working hard to achieve their goals," she says. "We are a family working to support our dreams and each other."

The Winter Markets are held the first Saturday of every month from Nov to April (except Jan) from 10 to 2 at First Presbyterian Church gym, 100 N. Franklin, Danville. Summer Market plans are still in process with the tentative goal of being open every Saturday beginning May 11 from 8-noon. "The Summer Market has been held at Crossroads Church, 3613 N. Vermilion, for the last four summers. At the end of last season, we decided to try to find another location because, as with previous locations, we have begun to grow past the available space," she says. If an individual or business is interested in being a market sponsor to enable us to rent a prime location, please contact Susan.

The market had 68 registered vendors last year, with an average of 28 at each market. Forty-five vendors have already registered for 2024. "We have almost every type of item represented," she says. "Lots of food! Fresh produce in season, candy makers, bread, snacks, desserts, hot foods ready-to-eat, and freezer meat. Crafts of every variety-wood, yarn, cloth. All the best resellers: Scentsy, Rada Cutlery, Tupperware, Tastefully Simple, and so many others. We also have honey sellers, fast food and craft and home supply sellers, fundraisers for local charity groups, service sellers who use our venue to advertise and get new customers, employee recruiters, political organizations, brick and mortar stores for gift card and specials sales, and the list keeps going. We strive to meet the needs of many, with local vendors selling quality products at a fair price with the best service around."

The market's most popular items include seasonal fresh produce, with other food items following a close second. The organization is in the process of becoming a not-for-profit organization. "Now is a great time to become our PRIMARY sponsor!" says Franklin.

The market is always on the lookout for new vendors. "It is our goal to give people an opportunity to be their own boss and start a business or grow a current business through market advertising as cheaply as possible," she says. "We have an annual registration fee of \$25, and markets cost between \$5 and \$10 each to participate as a vendor."

The Danville Farmers Markets accepts and matches LINK. LINK market customers can double the money spent on a LINK EBT card for local food and produce at every market.

Franklin's business is located in Newell Township, off Bowman Avenue, on 21 acres. She dreamed of running a "truck farm," a local farm where local people could get seasonal food. Besides selling at every market, she sells to an email subscriber group where people order weekly from a list of products. She delivers to north Danville and offers pickups at the Danville Farmers Markets. "I sell products I 'make, bake and grow,' from a list that changes weekly," she adds.

To learn more about the Danville Farmers Market, follow them on Facebook @DanvilleFM. Messages may be sent from this page or to danvillefarmersmarket2017@gmail.com.

*Danville Winter Market*

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**DEC. 2**  
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**MAR. 2**  
**APRIL 6**

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



### January Employee of the Month:

Hometown Stars McDonald's.....Amber Wilburn  
 Classic Rock-n-Roll.....Abbie Cox  
 Oakwood.....Audrey Shumate  
 Georgetown.....Justin Nose  
 Hoopeston.....Lillian Stone  
 Neighborhood McDonald's.....Luz Alvarez  
 Covington, IN.....Daniel Newell

### January Student/Athlete of the Month:

DHS Student of the Month.....Jillian Potts  
 DHS Athlete of the Month.....Devin Larkin  
 Schlarman Academy North Student of the Month.....Cheyenne Lutz  
 Schlarman Academy North Athlete of the Month.....Ricky Soderstrom  
 OHS Student of the Month.....Brody Blew  
 OHS Athlete of the Month.....Grant Brewer  
 GRFHS Student of the Month.....Leyla Shelton  
 GRFHS Athlete of the Month.....J J Hall  
 HAH School Student of the Month.....Charissa Johnson  
 HAH School Athlete of the Month.....Angel Zamora  
 Covington HS Student of the Month.....Dani Berger  
 Covington HS Athlete of the Month.....Kaedeyn Lawson

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 Prospect Bank  
 Runnings  
 SIHF Healthcare  
 The Sygma Network  
 thyssenKrupp Crankshaft Company

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Village of Catlin  
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 Danville Area Visitors Bureau  
 Danville Art League  
 Danville Boat Club  
 Danville Christian Academy

Danville Family YMCA  
 Danville Farmer's Market  
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 Danville Public School Foundation  
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 Mulvaney, Jeanne  
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 Resh, Gary (Resh Frame Shop)  
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