

2026

DEKALB LIFE

Official Visitor's Guide

ADVERTISER'S SAMPLE

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@DeKa



#DEKALBLIFE

www.DeKalbLife.com



PR1

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**INTERIOR COVER
AD SPACE**

PR2

\$1110

**INTERIOR COVER
AD SPACE**

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So much to do!

Connect with us!



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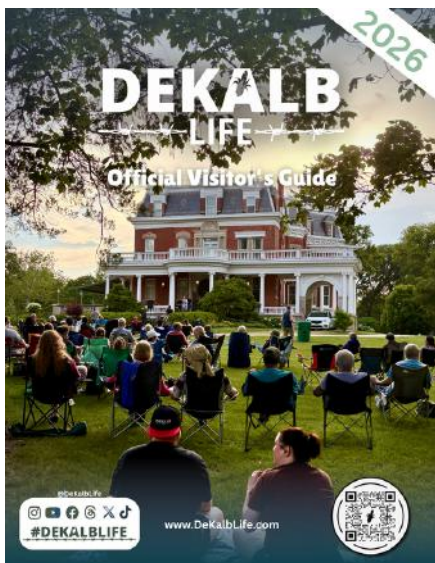
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36 Events



Welcome to **DEKALB**



ON THE COVER

Music at the Mansion is a summer concert series held at the Ellwood House Museum on select Wednesdays. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the great music!

DeKalb Life is excited to present:
The 2025 DeKalb, IL Visitor Guide!

This has been a big project in the works for a while now. In this guide we will fulfill your appetite with our local restaurants (p. 4), sports (p. 7), our many parks and greens spaces (p. 8), our numerous entertainment options (p. 10), our lodging options (p. 12), local history (p. 13), worship places (p. 14), public art (p. 15), Northern Illinois University (p. 16), shopping (p. 18), local events (p. 20) and so much more!



Every effort has been made to make this guide as accurate as possible. This guide is accurate up to November 2025. DeKalb Life assumes no responsibility for errors, changes, or omissions. Printed under the authority of DeKalb Life, any reproductions of this guide without permission is strictly prohibited.

Dekalb

by the numbers

10

Public
Schools

44

Parks

Seasonal Temperature Averages

	High	Low
Spring	68°	37°
Summer	82°	63°
Fall	62°	41°
Winter	34°	12°

Source: NOAA

1

Internationally
Recognized
University

300+

Local Businesses

13+

Public Bus Lines

65,000 Sqft
Public Library

#DEKALBLIFE

60,000

Residents in the DeKalb Area

20+

Community Service Organizations

5

Museums

60+

Dining Options

4

Forest Preserves



A message from **#DeKalbLife** founder

Welcome to DeKalb, IL.

Whether you're visiting for the first time, returning, or you're a long-time resident, we are thrilled to share our vibrant city with you! DeKalb is a place where community spirit thrives, and there's always something new to discover.

Several years ago, I started **#DeKalbLife** to promote all the incredible experiences this city has to offer. From our rich history and vibrant downtown to our beautiful parks and unique local businesses, there's truly something for everyone here.

We believe you'll fall in love with DeKalb just as many others have.

Welcome, and enjoy your stay!

Owen R. Botts

Founder, #DeKalbLife



El Jimador Mexican Grill



Thai Pavillion



Burger Naan

FOOD AND DRINK

Downtown Favorites

Rosita's Mexican Restaurant

Family owned and operated restaurant serving Greater Mexican food since 1972. Come and experience what has become a Northern Illinois tradition!

(815) 756-1201 | 642 E. Lincoln Hwy

Thai Pavilion

The food of Thailand in the heart of DeKalb. We're a bit of Southeast Asia in your own city. Everything from appetizers, salads, fried rices, to desserts.

(815) 756-6445 | 251 E. Lincoln Hwy

El Jimador

El Jimador offers a diverse menu that includes traditional tacos, burritos, enchiladas, even seafood and steaks that have that extra touch that only Mexican food has.

(815) 301-5008 | 260 E. Lincoln Hwy

Burger Naan

Discover the perfect fusion of authentic Indian flavors and street food excitement at Burger Naan.

(815) 517-1348 | 121 N. 2nd St

The Grove Tavern

Neighborhood tavern located in DeKalb, IL serving comforting dishes and drinks in a modern space.

(815) 264-2125 | 204 N. 4th St

Date Night

Class VI

Wine, craft cocktails, and charcuterie storefront and bar. Located in the heart of historic downtown DeKalb

(815) 994-9735 | 214 E. Lincoln Hwy

Ellwood Steak

Immerse yourself in a world of flavor and sophistication, where every bite is a journey and every moment is savored.

(815) 901-6445 | 2219 Sycamore Rd

The Flame Greek Grill

Generational recipes straight from Nafpaktos, Greece served in a comforting environment.

(779) 270-2000 | 209 E. Lincoln Hwy

Tapa La Luna

Tapas bar featuring international cuisine and an exquisite array of spirits.

(815) 217-0990 | 226 E. Lincoln Hwy

Restaurants in this guide were selected through a process using TripAdvisor, polls, and independent research. A full list of restaurants is available at www.dekalblife.com/food-drink/

Family Dining

The Junction Eating Place

We'd like to personally invite you to stop in today for Greek salads, great burgers, amazing breakfasts, sandwich specials, and more!

(815) 758-5441 | 816 W. Lincoln Hwy

The Lincoln Inn Voted Best Breakfast in DeKalb 2025

For over 40 years, the Lincoln Inn has been serving great food and dining experiences to the DeKalb community.

(815) 756-2345 | 302 Grove St

French Toast Pancake House

We are a local owned brunch restaurant with large portions of breakfast classics and modern entree's. We also have our own signature dishes.

(815) 754-6900 | 831 S. 4th St

Egg Haven Café

Serving our Community the Finest Breakfast, Brunch and Lunch Entrees since 2004.

(815) 748-1200 | 2562 Sycamore Rd

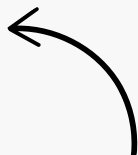
China House

Bring your appetite! China House offers a wide buffet for lunch and dinner featuring Chinese food, hibachi, and sushi.

(815) 748-0032 | 1900 Sycamore Rd

Full List of Restaurants

View our online Food & Drink Guide here!



1A

SOLD
1.5x5in

Pizza

JB's World Famous Pizza

Always offering a variety of types and flavors, this local pizzeria is a favorite among its community. Fresh ingredients and a friendly atmosphere.

(815) 756-8718 | 142 W. Lincoln Hwy

Pizza Pro's

Since 1991 we've loved creating that sense of community in the DeKalb area with our delicious slices. Pizza Pro's is a local favorite for families, college students, and sports lovers alike.

(815) 758-4776 | 1205 W. Lincoln Hwy

Pizza Villa

Serving up pizza and beer nuggets in a family friendly unique five level restaurant.

(815) 758-8116 | 824 W. Lincoln Hwy

Vinny's Pizza

Whether it's wings, pasta, sandwiches, or a variety of other foods we have available, we have something to satisfy you and your family.

(815) 787-6200 | 221 W. Lincoln Hwy

Zana's Wood Fire Pizza

All of Zana's signature pizzas are hand stretched 12 inches and baked in our wood fired oven.

(815) 517-1493 | 1406 Sycamore Rd

Iniga Pizzeria

We serve traditional Neapolitan pizza following strict rules and traditions, seeking to elevate the culinary art of pizza making.

(111) 111-0000 | 206 E Lincoln Hwy

Local Favorites

Fatty's

Known for World Famous Cajun Fried Potato Salad and with over 110 Different Beers to choose from!

(815) 758-7737 | 1312 W. Lincoln Hwy

Lothson's Karry Out

Frying the best chicken in the DeKalb, IL area since 1949.

(815) 758-4303 | 644 E. Lincoln Hwy

Whiskey Acres

Whiskey Acres is an estate distillery located on a family farm known for award-winning vodka, bourbon, and whiskey.

(844) 494-4753 | 11504 Keslinger Rd

Lala's Bagels

We use the finest quality ingredients to make the best tasting bagels and sweets.

(815) 748-7707 | 2205 Pleasant St Unit #2

Fushi Yami

Enjoy a variety of unique sushi dishes at our family owned restaurant. We also serve many more Japanese dishes.

(815) 748-8868 | 822 W. Lincoln Hwy

Barb City Bagels

We offer a wide variety of delicious bagels, sandwiches, soups, and more! BCB is the perfect place to enjoy a delicious meal or a warm drink.

(815) 754-5211 | 118 E. Lincoln Hwy

Bars

Hometown Sports Bar & Grill

A vibrant sports bar in downtown DeKalb with great food, great drinks, and weekly events.

(815) 217-3325 | 241/249 E. Lincoln Hwy

Molly's Eatery and Drinkery

We're the "restaurant near me" for NIU students, offering unbeatable food, regular events, and more.

(815) 517-0335 | 1000 W Lincoln Hwy

Lord Stanley's

Stanley's is a great place in DeKalb to watch your favorite sports team with your favorite craft beer in hand.

(815) 754-9031 | 142 E Lincoln Hwy

Coffee and Tea

Cast Iron Coffee

An NIU student favorite! Located right next to campus, Cast Iron serves coffee, tea, lemonade, Italian sodas, and more!

(815) 217-3325 | 241/249 E. Lincoln Hwy

Candy Cloud Cafe

The trendy specialty drink cafe that is sure to make you want more.

(815) 517-0335 | 1000 W Lincoln Hwy

IKWYRLS

DeKalb's horror themed coffee shop. I Know What You Rented Last Summer (IKWYRLS) is a first of its kind coffee experience.

(815) 754-9031 | 142 E Lincoln Hwy

What are Beer Nuggets?

Beer Nuggets are a food original to DeKalb.

They are soft fried dough pieces typically served with cheese sauce and marinara.

A must try option in DeKalb!

The Top 5

According to the 2024 #DeKalbLife ranking bracket.



1B
8.5x5in

SOLD

1C
8.5x5in

SOLD

Food Trucks

Local food trucks will line the street on Normal Road in front of the MLK Commons on select Wednesdays during NIU's fall and spring semesters from 11am to 2pm



1D
SOLD
1.5x4in

1E
SOLD
1.5x4in

1F **AD SPACE**
\$100
1.5x4in



French Toast Pancake House



The Lincoln Inn



Lala's Bagels





Willrett Flower Co.



Somms Vintage



found. Home & Vintage

Local Shopping In DeKalb

Antique & Thrift

This & That Collectibles

520 E Lincoln Hwy

We sell MCM, Primitive, Vintage & Antique furniture, glassware, etc. Old & new jewelry and much more. We are retailers for Dixie Belle Paint Co., 1803 Candles, ReDesign with Prima & Soberdough. New inventory is brought in weekly by our 30+ sellers.

The Country Store

842 W Lincoln Hwy

Thrift store run entirely by volunteers benefiting Senior Services.

found. Home and Vintage

153 E Lincoln Hwy

You never know what you will find at found.

Perchance Antiques

250 E Lincoln Hwy

Comic books, vinyl records, candles, soaps, primitives, older toys and smaller furniture.

Barb City Manor ReSale Shop

680 Haish Blvd

Our shop offers a variety of men's and women's clothing, household goods, décor, books, some furniture and more!

Music

Aurora Music Co.

137 E Lincoln Hwy

We are a music store that carries a range of guitars, basses, keyboards, percussion supplies, and band/orchestra supplies.

Ax-in-Hand Guitars

817 W #B Lincoln Hwy

Iconic guitar shop since 1964 selling instruments, providing lessons, and other music accessories.

Games & Toys

There's Fun in Store

229 E Lincoln Hwy

We are a locally owned game store that sells board games, video games, collectable card games, Pokémon, toys, and so much more.

Kid Stuff

149 E Lincoln Hwy

We specialize in everything related to children, including Maternity wear. BIG toys; little toys; Baby furniture; Baby equipment; Gadgets for kids/parents; children's clothes preemie to 14.

Affinity for Gaming

811 W Lincoln Hwy

Affinity for Gaming provides the essentials for many types of games like tabletop RPGs, wargames, card games, and board games. Plus plenty of accessories to enhance your experience.

Redemption Vault

2350 Sycamore Rd Unit k

Your go-to spot for all things collectible-Funko Pops, trading card games, comics, video games, and tournaments! We have it all! We also host in-store events such as celebrity signings, giving fans the ultimate meet-and-greet experiences and the chance to add exclusive items to their collections!

Alternative Medicine

Thyme and Again Apothecary

143 E Lincoln Hwy

Explore our stash of herbs, teas, farm-fresh goodies like meats, eggs, and honey!

Books

Robin's Nest Bookshoppe

218 E Lincoln Hwy

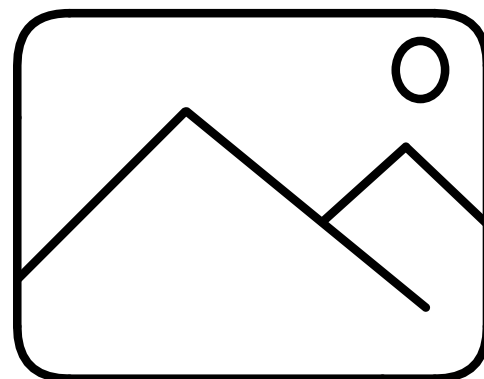
We are an independent bookstore in downtown DeKalb, IL.

Candy

The Confectionery

149 N 2nd St

Dive into our handcrafted favorites – think creamy delights, gooey caramels, crispy toffees, and so much more. Each treat isn't just tasty; it's a flavor-packed adventure waiting to happen!



Shopping Image

For a full list of stores in DeKalb please visit:
www.DeKalbLife.com/shop

Clothing & Boutiques

Cracker Jax

118 N 3rd St

All senses are delighted as you shop 15 cases of new and vintage jewelry, eclectic clothing, soy candles, oils, incense, gemstones of every kind, unique gifts, and more!

Ducky's Formal Wear

250 E Lincoln Hwy

Trust Ducky's Formal Wear to offer classy tuxedo and stunning dresses. We also sell or rent suits in a large array of colors.

Sports of All Sorts

147 N 2nd St #2

S.O.A.S. is your hometown custom apparel and gift shop in downtown DeKalb specializing in embroidery, screen printing, and iron-on lettering.

Mela's Boutique & Alteration

659 E Lincoln Hwy

Local boutique specializing in formal wear for special occasions including quinceañeras, first communions, birthdays, and more.

Victor E. Threads

325 N Annie Glidden Rd & 1525 W Lincoln Hwy

Purchase the latest in Huskie-branded apparel, exclusive products, team-issued gear and novelty items.

Kaizen Vintage

866 W Lincoln Hwy

Are you looking for vintage clothing? Kaizen Vintage offers a wide selection of vintage shirts, hoodie, jerseys, hats, and more!

Flowers

Willrett Flower Co.

230 E Lincoln Hwy

Fill your home with gorgeous seasonal arrangements or get some delivered to your loved ones to make their day. Willrett also sells plants, gifts, candies, and more!

Glidden Florist

917 W Lincoln Hwy

Glidden Florist is a family-run florist that has been serving the DeKalb area for over 80 years. We provide beautiful flowers for all occasions.

Grocery

Inboden's Meat Market

1106 N 1st St

Full service deli counter with homemade salads, an assortment of fully-cooked deli meats, domestic and imported cheeses as well as homemade and Artisan breads, butcher counter, and wines.

DeKalb Fresh Market

615 Oak St

The freshest meats, vegetables, and a variety of delicious options such as tacos, burritos, tamales, and more!

Ruby's Asian Market

1406 Sycamore Rd STE C

Specialty Asian grocery store selling produce, seafood, dry goods, tea, spices, and more!

Art and Hand-made

Jubilee Artisans

128 E Lincoln Hwy

Jubilee provides a place for creative people to sell, teach classes and create in our studios. We have all mediums of creation, including print, textiles, pottery, jewelry, clothing, and music.

Artifex Studio

235 E Lincoln Hwy

A fine art gallery featuring pieces such as oil paintings, sculptures, clay works, and fused glass works.

Hardware

Gordon Hardware

514 E Lincoln Hwy

Selling high quality and trustworthy hardware products since 1946.



Jubilee Artisans

5A

SOLD

5B

SOLD

Any spots that don't sell will be filled with pictures of DeKalb.

5C

2.5x3.5in

\$200

5D

5x3.5in

SOLD

5E

2.5x3.5in

\$200

5F

2.5x3.5in

\$200

5G

2.5x3.5in

\$200

5H

5x3.5in

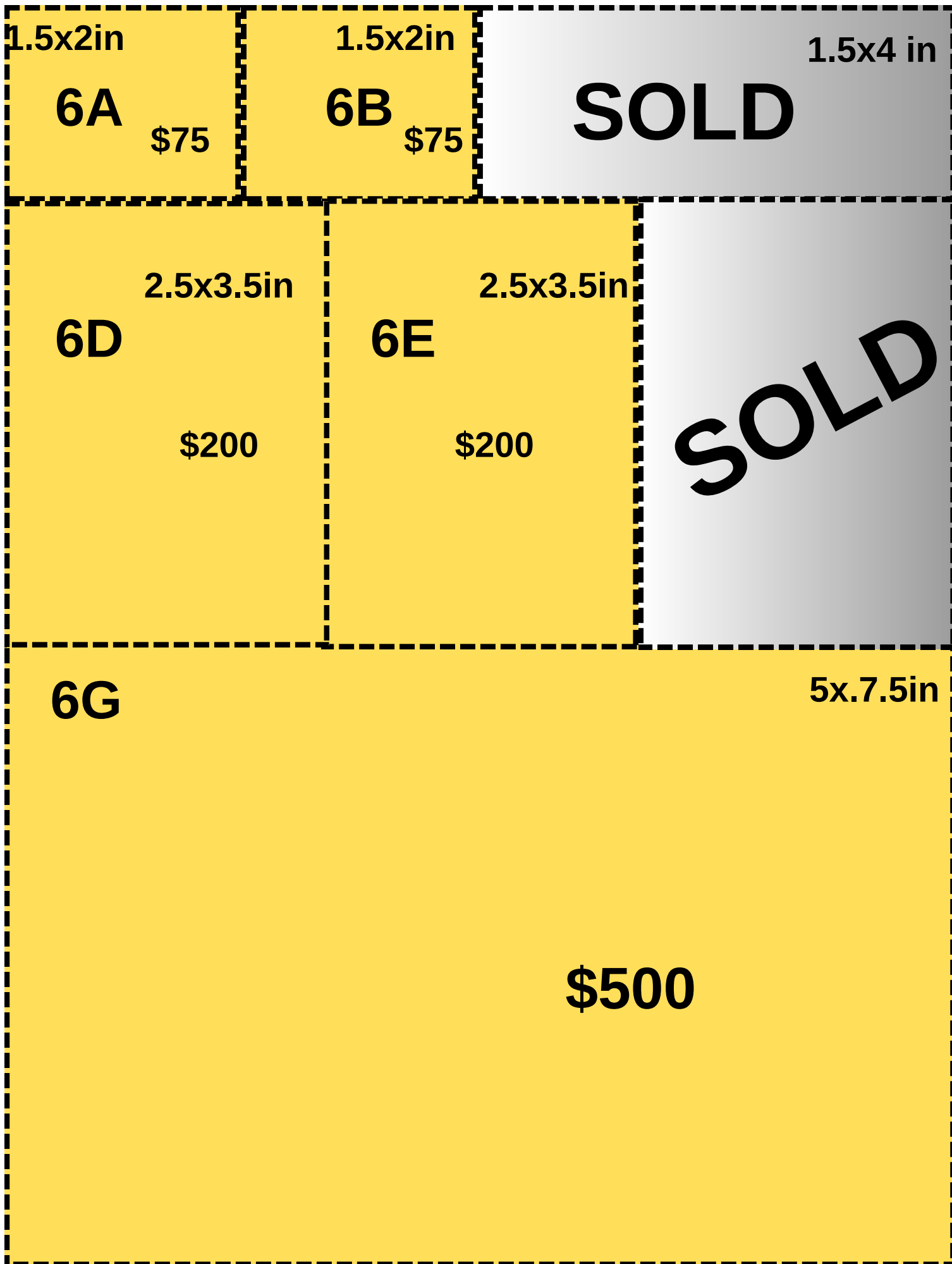
\$350

5I

2.5x3.5in

\$200

Any spots that don't sell will be filled with pictures of DeKalb.



THE OUTDOORS

Sunset over Hopkins Park

FOREST PRESERVES



P.A. Nehring

380 Bethany Rd



Afton

13600 Crego Rd



Merritt

14401 Keslinger Rd

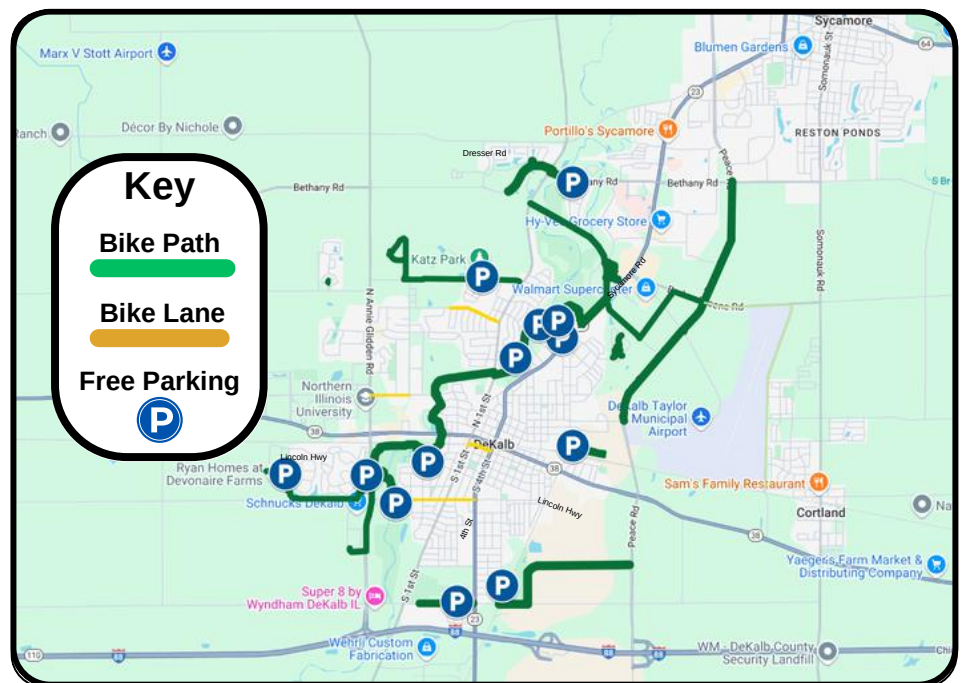


Country Farm

2305 State Rte. 23



BIKING



Learn more about biking in DeKalb at www.DeKalbLife.com/biking

Enjoy biking through DeKalb's many nature trails and bike paths. As you follow the Kishwaukee River you'll encounter wildlife first hand.

PARKS

DeKalb is home to 44 parks! whether you're looking for a playground, trails, fishing, sports fields, picnic areas, or anything else outdoors, the DeKalb Park District has it in one of their beautiful parks.



HOPKINS PARK

Hopkins Park has a pool, sled hill, band shell, playground, and more! The park has activities for everybody and every season.



ROTARY PARK

Rotary Park is a large park tucked behind the train tracks. It offers fishing, a bike path, and a shelter.



PRAIRIE PARK

Prairie Park is THE place for nature lovers! This park has disk golf and a river path that takes you through nature.



HUNTLEY PARK

Huntley Park is an old park right in the heart of the city. This park features beautiful gardens and a playground.



ANNIE'S WOODS PARK

Annie's Woods is a large park right next to the university and Kishwaukee River. It has a playground, outdoor games, and more!

3A

\$400

**RESERVED FOR
PARKS/REC**

Historic Downtown

Take a stroll through our charming streets!

www.DeKalbLife.com/historic-downtown/

Our vibrant downtown is filled with public art, historical buildings, lovely shops, local restaurants, theaters, and the DeKalb Public Library!



Shop

Shop at the 20+ local shops that line our downtown streets.



Dine

Some of the best restaurants in the area are right downtown. All within walking distance of the shops!



Explore

Downtown Dekalb is right on Historic Lincoln Hwy and has 3 parks for you to explore.



Laugh

Laugh, cry, sing, and dance at the two local theaters downtown! Stagecoach and Egyptian.

2C

3.5x4

SOLD

2D

3.5x4

SOLD



PLACES TO Stay

Hotels

Comfort Inn

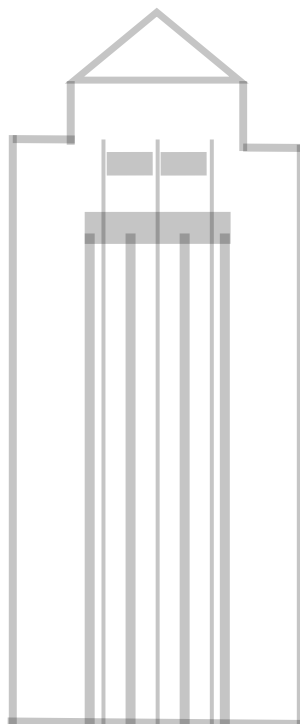
1314 W Lincoln Hwy
(815) 748-7100

Hampton Inn

663 S Annie Glidden Rd
(815) 748-4323

Home2 Suites

575 S Annie Glidden Rd
(815) 375-5465



Hotel at Holmes

330 Carroll Ave
(815) 753-1444

Red Roof Inn

1212 W Lincoln Hwy
(815) 753-8661

Super 8

800 Fairview Dr
(815) 748-4688



SPORTS

In DeKalb

DHS BARBS

Teams

Boy's Sports

Baseball
Basketball
Bowling
Cross country
Football
Golf
Soccer
Swimming
Tennis
Track and field
Wrestling

Girl's Sports

Badminton
Basketball
Bowling
Cross country
Dance
Golf
Gymnastics
Soccer
Softball
Swimming
Tennis
Track and field
Volleyball
Wrestling

www.dhs.d428.org/athletics

NIU HUSKIES

Teams

Men's Sports

Baseball
Basketball
Football
Golf
Soccer
Tennis
Wrestling

Women's Sports

Basketball
Cross Country
Golf
Gymnastics
Soccer
Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Volleyball

www.niuhuskies.com

DEKALB COUNTY UNITED

DeKalb County United is an adult men's and women's semi-professional soccer sides who compete in the Midwest Premier League (MWPL), and the Illinois Women's Soccer League.

www.dkcunited.com

2A

\$500

$\frac{1}{2}$ PAGE AD SPACE

2B

\$500

$\frac{1}{2}$ PAGE AD SPACE

3B

\$950

Full PAGE AD SPACE

4A

\$450

1/3 page advertisement.

4B

\$450

$\frac{1}{3}$ page advertisement.

4C

\$450

1/3 page advertisement.

Entertainment



135 N 2nd St

The Egyptian Theatre

The Egyptian Theatre is an Egyptian Revival theatre that is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places. It is a popular venue for performances throughout the year.



1730 Sycamore Rd

Mardi Gras Lanes

Mardi Gras Lanes offers fun-filled activities for the whole family to have a great time. The MGL bowling center features 32 conditioned lanes for both league and open bowl.



1234 E. Lincoln Hwy

Star Worlds Arcade

Star Worlds Arcade offers many classic arcade games from the 1980's as well as newer video games including DDR, Pop'n Music, Mario Karts, and pinball tables. Over 40 games to choose from and titles are frequently rotated.



340 Carroll Ave

Huskie Den

Open to students, staff, faculty and the general public, the Huskie Den offers bowling, pool, arcade games, and a stage. With plenty of seating for everyone, our perfectly stress-free environment is a go-to destination for anyone spending time at NIU. Stop by and have some fun!



595 College Ave

NIU Art Museum

The Art Museum presents an annual exhibition and events calendar with award-winning, original curated exhibitions and national traveling shows that deeply explore thematic topics of visual culture.



Cole Hall

Museum of Anthropology

Special exhibitions promote cultural awareness and solidarity in support of global social justice. Programs and events invite campus and community audiences to explore human and cultural diversity with the museum.



641 E. Lincoln Hwy

Fargo Skatepark

Fargo Skateboarding is everything skateboarding: a skate shop run by skateboard enthusiasts, and a nearly 10,000 square ft. heated indoor skatepark.



2116 Sycamore Rd

AMC Market Square 10

The DeKalb AMC Market Square 10 has many amenities including relaxing recliners, an extensive food menu, and 10 great theaters!



126 S. 5th St

Stage Coach Players

Stage Coach Players began in DeKalb County in the summer of 1947, shortly after World War II had ended. Stage Coach Players is a popular theatre in DeKalb.



901 Lucinda Ave Unit G

Wreckroom

Wreck Room, the premier Rage Room Experience in Dekalb, Illinois! Get ready to unleash your inner beast and let off some steam in the most exhilarating way possible.



595 College Ave

NIU Esports Arena

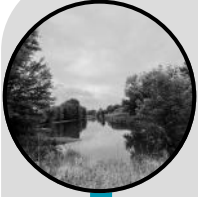
From casual gaming and open play to club competition to varsity teams, you'll find your community at NIU. Located in Altgeld Hall and available for all NIU students with an active OneCard.

Full list of Things To Do

www.DeKalbLife.com/things-to-do



Quick Local History



1856

DeKalb is incorporated as a village.



1874

Joseph F Glidden patents "The Winner."
The first practical "barbed wire."



1899

Northern Illinois State Normal School opens with
173 students on the first day.



1935

DeKalb Park District is founded.



1944

The DeKalb Taylor Municipal Airport opens.
First the airport was a Navy drone manufacturing
site. Now it serves as a refueling and flight lesson
airport.



1977

Corn Fest (as we know it) started in downtown
DeKalb with music and vendor booths.



2011

A new 400,000 sqft high school building opens for
the Barbs.



2023

The Meta DeKalb Data Center opens!
This facility is one of the top in the world.

DeKalb History Museums



J.F. Glidden Homestead

921 W Lincoln Hwy



Ellwood House Museum

420 Linden Pl



Local Highlight

Jessi Haish LaRue,

Glidden Homestead Executive Director

"DeKalb is rich with stories about innovation,
progress, agricultural strides, and more. Get out
and explore the local museums and historical
markers, and enjoy this unique history!"

Worship in DeKalb

	Saturday Service	Sunday Service	Weekday and Other Service
Catholic			
Newman Catholic Student Center 512 Normal Rd www.newmanniu.org	4:30pm	8:00am, 10:30am, 8:00pm	12:05pm
St. Mary's Catholic Church 302 Fisk Ave www.stmarydekalb.org	5:00pm	9:00am, 11:00am (Vietnamese) 2nd Sunday 1:30pm (Spanish) Sunday 4:00pm	Mon-Tues 5:00pm Wed-Fri 7:00am (Spanish) Tuesday 6:30pm
Protestant/ Non-Denominational			
First Baptist Church of DeKalb 309 S 3rd St www.firstbaptistdekalb.org		9:00am	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church 900 Normal Rd www.stpaulsdekalb.org		9:30am	
Bethlehem Lutheran Church 1915 N 1st St www.bethlehemdekalb.org		9:30am	
DeKalb Seventh Day Adventist 300 E Taylor St	11:00am		
Christ Community Church 2350 Pride Ave ccclife.org	5:10pm	9:10am, 11:10am	
First United Methodist Church 2501 N Annie Glidden Rd firstumc.net		10:00am	
Orthodox			
St George Greek Orthodox Church 320 S 2nd St stgeorge.il.goarch.org		9:50am	
Islam			
Islamic Center of DeKalb 801 Normal Rd islamiccenterofdekalb.org	Go to islamiccenterofdekalb.org for more information.		

Art in DeKalb

DeKalb is a city with many public exhibitions of public art including murals, sculptures, paintings, and mosaics. Below are some of DeKalb's most recognizable public art installations.



Belonging

164 E Lincoln Hwy
Artist: Danielle Casali
Year: 2023



Le Baron

Castle Drive
Artist: Alexander Calder
Year: 1965



Its Merits Recommend It...

101 E Lincoln Hwy
Artist: Olivia Gude
Year: 2000



**The Tribesman, The Hero
and The Light**

200 University Cir Dr
Artist: Boyan Marinov
Year: 2024



Everyone's Everest

550 Lucinda Ave
Artist: Barry Hehemann
Year: 1999



Balance of Equality

600 Lucinda Ave
Artist: Dann Nardi
Year: 1991

#DEKALBLIFE

Learn more about public art in DeKalb
at www.DeKalbLife.com/public-art



Ventus Ingenium

590 Garden Rd
Artist: Evan Lewis
Year: 1995



Sesquicentennial

110 N 2nd St
Year: 2006



Game on

309 Oak St
Artist: Reneé Bemis
Year: 2016



Incredible Nothing

Castle Drive
Artist: Hew Chee Fong



Pyrumus and Thisbee

200 University Cir Dr
Artist: Terrence Karpowicz
Year: 1990



Olive

595 College Ave
Year: 1899 Refurbished: 2013



Pervasive Cycle

364 Gilbert Dr
Artist: James O'Hara
Year: 1977



Celebration

231 N Annie Glidden Rd
Artist: Bruce H. White
Year: 2005



Pride of the Pack

1196 Stadium Dr North
Artist: Reneé Bemis
Year: 2013



Diesel

1245 Stadium Dr S
Artist: Reneé Bemis
Year: 2017



X-Cess

590 Garden Rd
Artist: Bruce White
Year: 1998

**Take the DeKalb Life
Public Art Tour here!**



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Popular photo op!
The NIU letters are a must-take selfie spot.



Need a ride?
Take the Huskie Bus line!



15,000+ Students

Founded: 1895

2026 College of Distinction

At a Glance

260,000+ alumni

100+ majors



A message from President Freeman

Welcome to vibrant DeKalb, home of the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Huskies! NIU brings together students and scholars from across our state, nation and world to create new knowledge and expand opportunities in the sciences, humanities, arts, business, engineering, education, health, law and more.

I invite you to tour our beautiful campus, have a bite to eat in the Holmes Student Center, take in a concert or performance, attend one of our many Division I sporting events, or connect with us at the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center. You'll find that what NIU and DeKalb have in common is a warm and friendly spirit that welcomes visitors from near and far.

With our vibrant campus culture, collaborative community and forward-thinking leadership, NIU offers a dynamic and diverse environment for learning and discovery. Whether you are here to explore, study, or build your career, NIU is a place where you can thrive.

Go Huskies!

Lisa C. Freeman

President, Northern Illinois University



17 Varsity Sports

40+ Intramural Sports

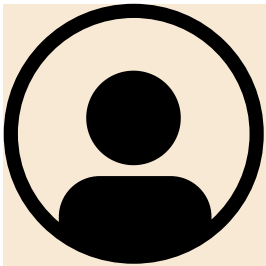
7 Colleges

200+ student organizations

Featured on the Forbes Top College List

Local *HIGHLIGHTS*

Hear the voices of locals! Business owners, community members, NIU students, and public figures.

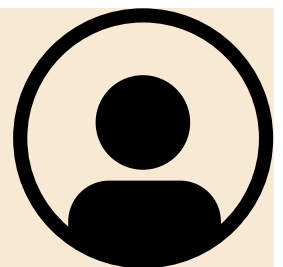


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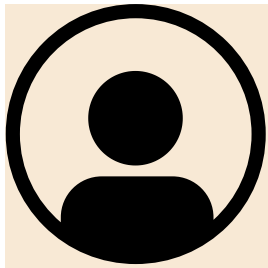
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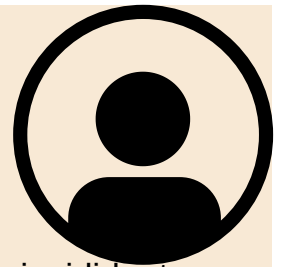


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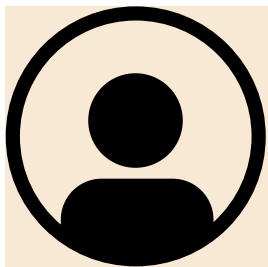
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Recurring events

Music at The Mansion

Summer on select
Wednesdays at 6:30pm
located at The Ellwood
House.

DeKalb Municipal Band Concert

Summer every Tuesday at
7:30pm located at Hopkins
Park.

Stem Café

First Wednesday at 6:30pm
located at Fatty's Pub and
Grille.



Farmer's Market

Thursdays 10am to 2pm
June to September in
Downtown.



More events!

Check out the
DeKalb Life Local
Events Calendar.



2026 | Calendar

Add some of our many local events to your calendar.
There are so many things to look forward to!

February

Polar-palooza Winter Festival
Sweet Stroll

March

St. Patrick's Day .1k

April

Breakfast with The Bunny
Kid's Easter Egg Hunt
Teen's Easter Egg Hunt

May

Cinco de Mayo Celebration
Spring DeKalb Back Alley Market
Memorial Day Parade

June

Juneteenth Celebration
Pride Fest

July

4th of July Celebration
Family Fun Fest
Community Kickback
Summer DeKalb Back Alley Market



August

Corn Fest
NIU Week of Welcome

September

Fall DeKalb Back Alley Market
Kite Fest
DeKalb Corn Classic
Taste of DeKalb
Stem Fest
8 Countries in 1 Day

October

Spooktacular Trick or Treating
NIU 118th Homecoming
KSO Free Halloween Concert

November

DeKalb Day of the Dead
Merry Market

December

Santa Comes to Town

PR3

\$1110

**INTERIOR COVER
AD SPACE**

PR4

\$1110

**INTERIOR COVER
AD SPACE**

PR5

\$1500

**BACK COVER AD
SPACE**