

DISCOVER, CONNECT, EXPLORE . . .

Danville Area / Vermilion County



WALLDogs RESURGENCE

Dax isn't just any dog; he's the heart and soul of the Danville Walldogs! With his bright, wagging tail, floppy ears and boundless energy, Dax brings joy and enthusiasm wherever he goes. Whether he's the perfect photo opportunity with his playful demeanor or simply being a loyal companion standing by, Dax embodies the spirit of art, creativity, teamwork and dedication.

Danville's Dog Gone Dandy 16 Walldog Murals came to life over 6 days in August 2010. Mural Artists came from all over the world and transformed Downtown Danville's Walls into a colorful, robust and historical Bus or Walking Tourist Attraction, all within a 3-block radius of one another. To this day, the Walldogs are loved, and Danville is proud to be a part of this movement which began in 1995 and is one of 30 Towns, 30 Years, 665 Murals of which 459 are WALLDogs.



WINTER 2025

Newsletter Highlights

A MESSAGE FROM
TEAM DAVB / VRBC
WINDOW DISPLAY

WALLDogs
RESURGENCE

NJCAA 32ND ANNUAL
DIVISION II MEN'S
NATIONAL BASKETBALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
MARCH 17-22, 2025

DASHER HOCKEY, DISC
GOLF

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
January - March 2025



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DANVILLE AREA / VERMILION COUNTY



Team DAVB

NJCAA

We are excited to Welcome Back the 32nd Year of the NJCAA Basketball Tournament, March 17-22, 2025. 2025 represents an awesome 32-year milestone for the hosts, DACC and the City of Danville. The NJCAA has awarded Danville Area Community College its host site for the 2026, 2027 and 2028 NJCAA Division II Men's Basketball Championships. This 20-team field made up of 16 automatic qualifiers and four at large selections championship played at the Mary Miller Center has become a staple for Basketball teams and fans alike all over the country.

"Danville Area Community College, our Board of Trustees, and the entire Danville community are thrilled to learn that the NJCAA has once again been awarded the Division II Men's Basketball National Championship Danville. Our leadership committee, our businesses, and our team of volunteers look forward to the expanded field of 20 teams, an exciting week of basketball action, and to crowning the next four National Champions in Danville", said Brian Hensgen, Danville Area Assistant Vice President.

A huge thank you to the VRBC for partnering with the DAVB to showcase Danville/Vermilion County in their front window display. We are excited to share all of the exciting activities and elements Danville and Vermilion County have to experience. We will begin January/February with our romantic culinary tastes and treats onward to the March Madness of basketball, the NJCAA. Spring will roll in with parks and wildlife and May we will play ball with the Danville Dans.



Dasher Hockey

2024 Season is well underway!

Dashers Hockey Club began their 3rd stint in Danville. Originally hitting the ice in 1981, and then disbanding, they returned in 2011 until COVID. The 2024-25 season marks the second reincarnation of the beloved franchise. The team calls the 2100 seat David S. Palmer Arena home, a historic venue in Danville that has hosted a variety of professional and semi-pro hockey. The Dashers are one of 14 teams in the Federal Prospects Hockey League, which is split into two divisions known as the Empire and Continental. The teams participate in a 56-game regular season, with the top 4 in each division advancing to the postseason. The Dashers hoisted the Commissioners Cup just 1 time, which came in 2017 in front of the home crowd. The Dashers majority owner is Barry Soskin, whose son Brian was a member of the team in their second era. Steven Esau, head coach, joins the Dashers after a brief tenure with the Watertown Wolves in the 2022-23 Federal Prospects Hockey League season that saw the Wolves make the playoffs. Esau also spent several seasons in junior hockey. With Steven's scouting ability and drive, the Dashers look to improve on their record and make 2025 an exciting one for our fans. The captain is Justin Brausen, who played for the team from 2014-2020 and is the all-time franchise points (369+) and goals (201+) leader. The team consists of players from around the globe, who can often be seen out in the community when not on the ice.



**Life is a
journey,
so bring
plenty of
DISCS!**

Disc Golf

Danville has 2 Public 18-Hole courses – Ellsworth Park celebrated the opening of 18 holes this past October and Kickapoo State Park debuted this past November with their new 18-Hole High Pond Course (Pavilion Shelter). Danville's VA has a 9-Hole Private Course. Disc golf is like golf, hence the name. But instead of clubs and balls, disc golf players utilize flying discs on the fairway. During a round of disc golf, the objective is to get the disc in the baskets at the end of each hole in the least number of strokes, considered a throw.

A disc golf hole begins from a tee area and ends at a target, the most common of which is an elevated metal basket. As a player progresses down the fairway, he or she must make each consecutive throw from the spot where the previous throw landed. In group play, the farthest away player always throws first. Players should not get ahead of the away player. The trees, shrubs, and terrain changes located in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. When the 'putt' lands in the basket, the hole is complete. Disc golf shares the same joys and frustrations as golf, whether it's sinking a long putt or hitting a tree halfway down the fairway. Unlike golf, disc golf is usually free to play in public parks and takes about half as long to complete a round. Disc golf is designed to be enjoyed by people of all ages, gender identity, and economic status, making it a great lifetime fitness activity.