

News from Genoa Main Street



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Far East Comes to Downtown Genoa

Martial Arts Academy Sponsors Dinner and Movie on Main Street on Saturday, July 26

Downtown Genoa takes on a martial arts and Far East flair Saturday evening July 26, as Genoa Main Street, Inc. teams up with Midwest Martial Arts Academy to host the summer's second themed Dinner and Movie on Main Street.

The evening starts at 7 p.m. with a Far East Feast served by academy students and volunteers featuring sweet and sour chicken, beef and mushrooms, fried rice, white rice, egg rolls, dessert and beverage for just \$8 for adults. Dinners for children age 10 and under are just \$5, with a choice of either the Far East Feast, or hot dogs and chips with beverage.

The dinner will be served at the Midwest Martial Arts Academy studio at 121 North Emmett Street in downtown Genoa. Dinner tickets are available by visiting the Genoa Main Street office at 327 West Main Street or calling the office at 815-784-6961; or from the Academy (call 815-784-4555).

Following the dinner, the crowd will move to the Genoa Municipal Parking Lot at Main and Genoa Streets. There they will join families coming for the movie only for a martial arts demonstration prior to the evening's feature movie, *The Karate Kid*, which will start at 8:30.

"Both events offer great low cost entertainment close to home," said Pattie Marx, president of Genoa Main Street, Inc. "It's great to be able have fun evening of dinner and a free movie that can fit anyone's budget. We are pleased to team with Midwest Martial Arts Academy to bring the dinner and movie to downtown Genoa."

"Everyone is invited to the movie, remember to bring a lawn chair, and enjoy free family entertainment along with free popcorn," said Pattie Marx, president of Genoa Main Street, Inc.

(more)

In case of rain, the movie will be shown indoors at the Midwest Martial Arts Academy studio.

“We are especially grateful to Midwest Martial Arts Academy for sponsoring this year’s second dinner and movie. Thanks to them we are able to secure the rights to newer movies,” said Marx.

“While many communities in the area are now showing movies outdoors, we are proud to have been among the first 12 years ago when our newly recognized organization was looking for a way to build a stronger sense of community and bring people downtown,” said Marx. The summer’s final dinner and movie date is Saturday, August 23.

The showing of movies outdoors recalls the times at the turn of the century when families gathered in parks around band shells and gazebos for entertainment by local bands, and the booming 1950s when drive-in movies were a place for the family to have a night out.

History of Service to Downtown Genoa

Genoa Main Street, Inc. is a volunteer organization dedicated to preserving Genoa’s historic heritage and small town wholesomeness while promoting economic development and downtown improvements. Genoa was designated an Illinois Main Street community by the state in 1996. Part of the Office of Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, Illinois Main Street provides a targeted set of services to participating communities, including training and technical assistance. For more information on this “Dinner and a Movie” or other Genoa Main Street, Inc. events, go to <http://www.genoamainstreet.org>.

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(Photo and caption follow)



Photo Caption for *popcorn at movie.jpg*

Movies Feature Free Popcorn – Genoa Main Street volunteers Roger Watson (back to camera) and Nicole Moore serve free popcorn at the summer’s first Movie on Main Street held last month in downtown Genoa. The tradition of serving free popcorn started 12 years ago at the first Movies on Main Street. Today, thanks to sponsors such as Resource Bank and Midwest Martial Arts Academy, free popcorn is still being served.

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