

News from Genoa Main Street



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All Systems Go for New Event Saturday

Tractors, Animals, Auction and Entertainment Take Center Stage in Genoa Saturday

A new midsummer celebration will greet visitors to downtown Genoa this Saturday, July 23 at the first annual Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run. The day-long event celebrates the agricultural heritage of the Genoa area.

“Many folks today have little opportunity to view farm animals up close, see tractors in action, or meet the farmers who grow their food,” says Mim Evans, Genoa Main Street, Inc. executive director. “Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run will have all that plus great live entertainment, games, a pet costume contest, live antique auction and sidewalk sales.”

Tractors in Motion

Tractor owners will gather on Main Street at 9:00 a.m. to show off their tractors. Several driving contests and a 20-mile-run later in the day will give them a chance to put the tractors to the test. A parade down Main Street at 3 p.m. will be one of the day’s highlights.

“Tractor owners can still sign up to participate,” says David Glaum, who is organizing the run. “Drivers can choose to compete in the contests, go on the run or simply display their tractors and enjoy lunch with other tractor enthusiasts. They can call the Main Street office at 815 784-6961 or go to genoamainstreet.org for more information.”

Pets Compete for Prizes

Pets and their owners can enjoy a competition of their own. Pets can be brought in costumes to compete for prizes. Farm or historical themed costumes are encouraged.

“We have many prizes to give out, and the first twenty pets will receive a free toy or treat,” says Evans. “Pets should come to the Open Air Market at 10:00 Saturday morning to sign up. We’ll begin the judging as soon as sign up is completed. All the pets will then parade on the sidewalk along Main Street.”

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Live Performances All Day

Visitors will sway with the music and laugh at the jokes on the Genoa Street Stage. Live entertainment is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and features popular Christian rock band T.O.W. and well-known local artists Wally Mulso and Kris “Dusty” Crowe. Other scheduled performers include Daniel Souvigny, Matt Chandler and Ed Wesemann. Visitors will also be treated to a performance by the award winning Center Stage Performing Arts.

Movie, Games for Kids

Kids will be thrilled with the tractors and animals. There also will be games, contests, face painting and a haystack treasure hunt. The day will wind up with a performance by Center Stage Children’s Theater at 8:00 p.m. followed by free popcorn along with the free showing of the movie *Yogi Bear*, all in the municipal parking lot.

Unusual Live Antique Auction

Antique enthusiasts will find much to like at Summer Farm Fest. In addition to the display of antique tractors, there will be more than a dozen displays of personal collections rarely seen in public. These displays will be in business windows along Main Street and include antique toys, glass milk bottles, collections of rabbits and horses, work by local artists. One of the highlights will be a live auction of antique farming items.

“Auctioneer Rex Nelson will conduct the live auction on the Genoa Street Stage at 1:00 p.m.,” says Gene Bradford, auction organizer. “These are interesting items that would have been commonly found on area farms many years ago. Examples include a treadle sewing machine, baskets, bottles, tools, horse equipment, lantern and household items. Proceeds from the auction will benefit Genoa Main Street, Inc.”

Market Features Local Produce

Those who prefer to pay a fixed price rather than bidding on their purchases will find plenty to consider at the Open Air Market. The market will have locally grown corn, tomatoes, and other fresh produce. Crafts, new items, flea market treasures, jewelry, pet supplies and more can be found at the market. In addition, many downtown businesses will have sidewalk sales.

“We get tremendous support for our community events,” says Evans. “Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run is made possible by the generosity of Waste Management, Kishwaukee Community Hospital, Citizens Bank and the Genoa Community Women’s Club. Additional sponsors for the movie “Yogi Bear” are Resource Bank and Custom Aluminum Products.”

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Tractors, Animals, Auction and Entertainment – Add 2

For more information, to register a tractor or reserve market spaces go to genoamainstreet.org, call 815 784-6961 or e-mail genoamainstreet@atcyber.net.

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.

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Caption for GCWC Check-IMG

The Genoa Community Women's Club has signed on as a primary sponsor for Genoa's upcoming Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run and the first Movie on Main Street for 2011 – Yogi Bear. The events are organized and presented by Genoa Main Street, Inc. on Saturday, July 23, in downtown Genoa. Above (from left), Karen Orser and LeAnn Johnson of Genoa Community Women's Club present the \$800 sponsorship check to Mim Evans,



executive director of Genoa Main Street. On hand for the presentation were Genoa Main Street event volunteers (left to right) Jane Brown, Mardell Ross, Carol Cleveland, Mike Ross, Roger Watson, Leslie Sanderson and David Glaum. Participating sponsors for the Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run include Waste Management, Citizens First National Bank and Kishwaukee Community Hospital; and participating movie sponsors include Custom Aluminum Products and Resource Bank.

Caption for Jane Brown-IMG

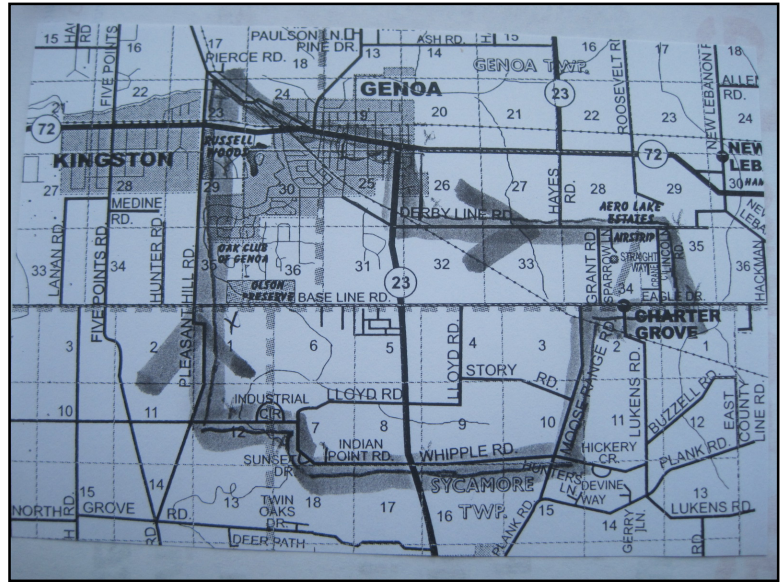
Long-time Genoa resident Jane Brown of Genoa positions one of many rabbits in her collection in the window of Reflections Hair Care in downtown Genoa. While many are fabric, one of a baby rabbit is a hand-painted stone. The collection is among a dozen making up the "Windows on Main Street" Museum during Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run.

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Caption for Tractor Run Map-IMG

Following a morning of tractor games starting at 10:30 a.m., tractor drivers will have lunch , display their tractors and then parade down Main Street at 3 p.m. The parade leave downtown going west on Main, south on Washington, east on Hill, north on Sycamore to Main, east to 23 South to Derby Line. It will then follow back roads to Lincoln, Baseline, Moose Range, Whipple, Pleasant Hill to Genoa Road and back into downtown Genoa.



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Summer Farm Fest & Back Roads Tractor Run Schedule

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Open Air Market
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Meet the Farm Animals
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Kids Games and Contests
9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Live Entertainment on the Genoa Street Stage
10:00 a.m.	Pet Costume Contest and Parade
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Tractor Display
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Tractor Driving Contests
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Live Auction on Genoa Street Stage
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Tractor Show & Tell
3:00 p.m.	Tractor Parade on Main Street
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Tractor Run (see map)
8:00 p.m.	Center Stage Children’s Theater
8:30 p.m.	Free Outdoor Showing of “Yogi Bear”

Free Entertainment on the Genoa Street Stage

9:30 a.m.	Ed Wesemann
10:30 a.m.	Center Stage Performing Arts
11:00 a.m.	T.O.W.
Noon	Daniel Souvigny
2:00 p.m.	Dusty Crowe
3:00 p.m.	Wally Mulso

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