

Alvin/Pearland area to get drive-in movie theater next summer

By Stacey Glaesmann | Posted: Friday, February 19, 2016 3:51 pm

Andrew Thomas, owner and operator of the Wellborne Cinema Four, located at 324 E. House St. in Alvin, is working on plans to open a second Showboat Drive-In Theater location in the area. The inaugural drive-in theater is currently located in Hockley.

“We’re looking at two locations right now,” said Thomas. Both sites are close to Highway 6, one near CR 99 and the other about half a mile further north.

Thomas opened the Wellborne Four in Alvin, naming it after the street he grew up on. “You’d see a lot of name stealing by theaters in the 1920’s,” said Thomas. “There were lots of Ritzes and such. We named our theater ‘Wellborne’ because that’s the street I grew up on right outside of Pearland.”

Thomas’s goal is to have the new Showboat Drive-In Theater opened by summer, 2017. “The great thing about a drive-in is that construction is minimal when compared to an inside venue. We need concession and projection buildings, but the rest is basically moving dirt,” he said.

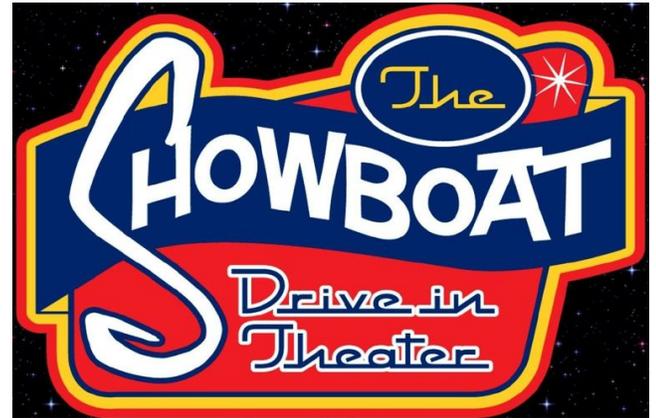
The drive-in is just the latest of “retro” products making a comeback. “In 2015, old vinyl records outsold CD’s, digital music and every other form of modern sound medium,” Thomas said. “For parents, the drive-in movie may be nostalgic, but teens and college kids are discovering what a great place it is to go for a date night or to hang out with friends.”

The theater will eventually have four screens, show double features and offer concessions with typical movie theater fare, plus hamburgers, chicken fingers and other quick meals for the hungry family or teenager.

“We are about to start having food trucks come to our Hockley location,” said Thomas. “There may be taco trucks or some specialty items that attendees can partake of. We want to offer variety.”

This is also the eventual plan for Showboat South – the official name of the coming theater.

To keep apprised of the Showboat South’s progress or to learn more, visit their Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/The-Showboat-Drive-In-111062885595069/?fref=ts>.



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