

Our Town

Facebook poll brings 'Back to the Future' to the big screen

By ROB GLIDDEN
STAFF WRITER

When Doc Brown (Christopher Lloyd) unveils his time-traveling Dolorean car in "Back to the Future," he intends to journey 30 years forward in time.

That would place him closer to our era, where "Back to the Future" is being shown on the Southington Drive-In.

Of course, things go awry and Marty McFly (Michael J. Fox) winds up going 30 years into the past instead.

The result was a perennially popular film that recently won a poll among fans of the drive-in on Facebook.

The movie will be shown on August 14. Each individual screening is spon-

sored by a local civic group, and this one will be hosted by the Kiwanis Club.

This summer has seen the return of the drive-in movie theater, now run entirely by volunteers.

It was a popular attraction (and a private business) in years past until it eventually closed.

Residents voted to purchase the property in 2004, and officials have been slowly turning the area into a multi-purpose park.

Town Councilor Dawn Miceli, who serves on the committee that manages the drive-in, approached Len Marcheselle of the Kiwanis Club about the possibility of having the community pick the film for their screening.

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Dawn Miceli,
Member of Drive-In Committee

that people really wanted to interact with us and participate in the process," Miceli said. "This is a community owned and operated drive-in, so we decided to go for it. The response has been overwhelming and really exciting."

The Kiwanis Club was receptive to the suggestion, so a poll was launched on

the Drive-In's Facebook page.

Looking over the responses, the winner was determined.

"Back to the Future is a must," Robert Pace said on the page.

Dozens of others endorsed the film, some opting to use all capital letters or multiple exclamation points.

Other close contenders were "Star Wars," "The Goonies," and "Grease."

Miceli said the committee had been unable to secure the rights for "Star Wars" in the past, which made a screening unlikely at this time. "Grease," however, may be part of a future double-feature with "American Graffiti" as part of an overall

1950s-themed evening featuring vintage cars.

"Back to the Future" may have emerged as the winner, but Miceli noted that all of the most popular suggestions had something in common.

"People like these family movies that evoke a happy time," she said. "Parents want to share that experience with their kids."

She added that the process of having the public pick some of the featured films would return in the future.

Send us your letters!

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