

Starlite Drive-In Theatre



Location: 28264 Minnesota Hwy 22, Litchfield, MN

Built in 1955, Fred and Lloyd Schnee opened the Starlite Drive-In Theatre on June 28, 1956. Fourteen states (AZ, CA, FL, IA, IL, MI, MN, NC, NE, NY, OH, OR, TX, WI) were represented the first three nights of its grand opening. The Schnee brothers who also owned the Hollywood Theatre in downtown Litchfield sold both theaters to the Lutz family in 1976.

After the 1981 season, the Starlite Drive-In closed. The drive-in sat empty until it was sold in 1998 to Minneapolis resident, Tim Eller, who reopened it in the middle of that summer. By the time Eller sold the theatre in 2015 to David Quincer, the drive-in had 5 screens.

David Quincer spent a lot of time as a child at his parent's outdoor theaters and learned how to run movie projectors as a teenager. David also owns the vintage indoor 3-screen Cozy Theater in Wadena. The theatre has been in the family since 1923.

As of June 2017, the Starlite Drive-In Theatre has two active screens and is open Thursday through Sunday. Quincer has made many improvements to the property. The snack bar features all the usual movie theatre fare as well as mini-donuts, pretzels, hot dogs and nachos.

Keeping the American drive-in alive for more than 50 years, the Starlite Drive-in Theatre continues to draw a crowd every summer weekend. This summer you owe it to yourself and your family to check it out!

[Starlite Drive-In Theatre Website](#)

[Starlite Facebook Page](#)

References:

- Starlite Drive-In Litchfield MN. (n.d.). In *Facebook* [About]. Retrieved July 18, 2017 from <https://www.facebook.com/Starlite-Drive-In-Litchfield-Mn-107925112046/>
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- Broman, Andrew, August 19, 2015, Wadena theater owner to buy Starlite Drive-In. Retrieved from http://www.crowrivermedia.com/independentreview/news/local/wadena-theater-owner-to-buy-starlite-drive-in/article_65730c5c-0f2c-5d29-b604-8a64575a5945.html