

# WHAT TO EXPECT AT A FRIENDLY DAY AT THE MOVIES



March 2024



*Winner, National  
Innovations in  
Caregiving Award*

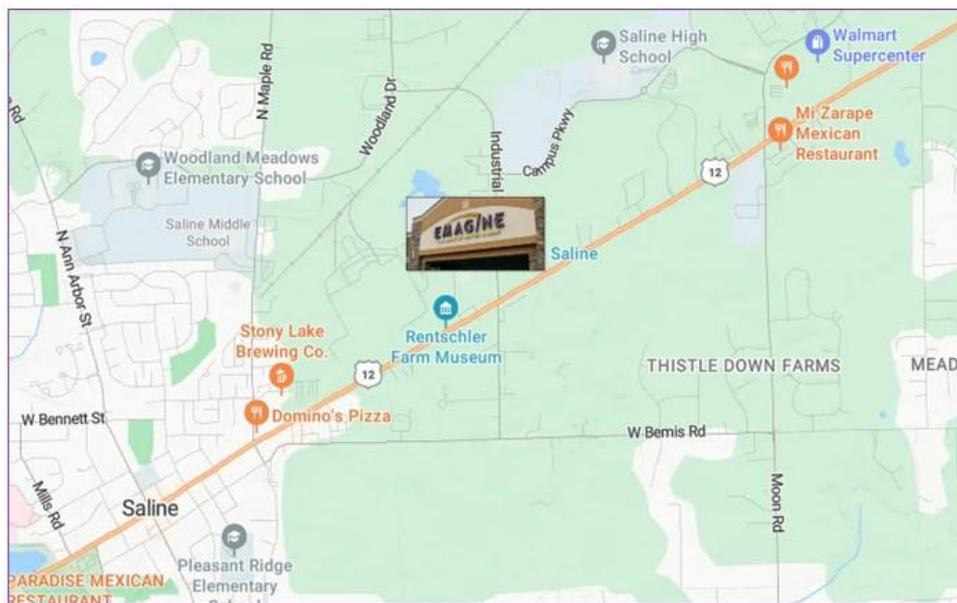


## WHAT TO EXPECT ON A FRIENDLY DAY AT THE MOVIES

The “Friendly Day At The Movies” is a new and unfamiliar sort of thing. So we understand that you might hesitate to try it. That’s why we put this book together. It explains what the program is all about. And how it will look and feel. We want you to feel confident about joining us at the movies.

We created the “Friendly Day At The Movies” program to be an easy, comfortable way to have fun at the movies, just like the old days. This booklet shows you what to expect.

Expect to be among friends—everyone at the event will be on the dementia journey in some way. There will be no embarrassment, no judgement.



Our movie program happens at Saline’s Emagine Theatre, 1335 E. Michigan Ave (US 12), Saline. Doors open for Social Time and Snacks at 1:15. The movie starts at 2 and will be over at about 4.

Imagine theatre is in a big strip mall, with lots of easy parking.



As you pull up to the curb, you will see our “Friendly Day At The Movies” sign, and our purple-hatted volunteers with big “I’ll Help You” buttons. Our volunteers will wait with one person while the driver parks the car.



If you arrive on a bus, our volunteers will help as you step off the bus.



And they'll help you through the big doors into the lobby



The theatre lobby is large and brightly lit. There is a fireplace, a bar, even a player piano.



A volunteer will escort you direct to our welcome table just inside the doors



There will be chairs in the lobby where one person can sit nearby if they want, while the other buys the ticket.

The old-fashioned paper tickets for the movie are \$5 a person. Pay by cash, check, or credit card.

Also at the table, our friendly volunteers will give you a Friendly Day At The Movies name badge.



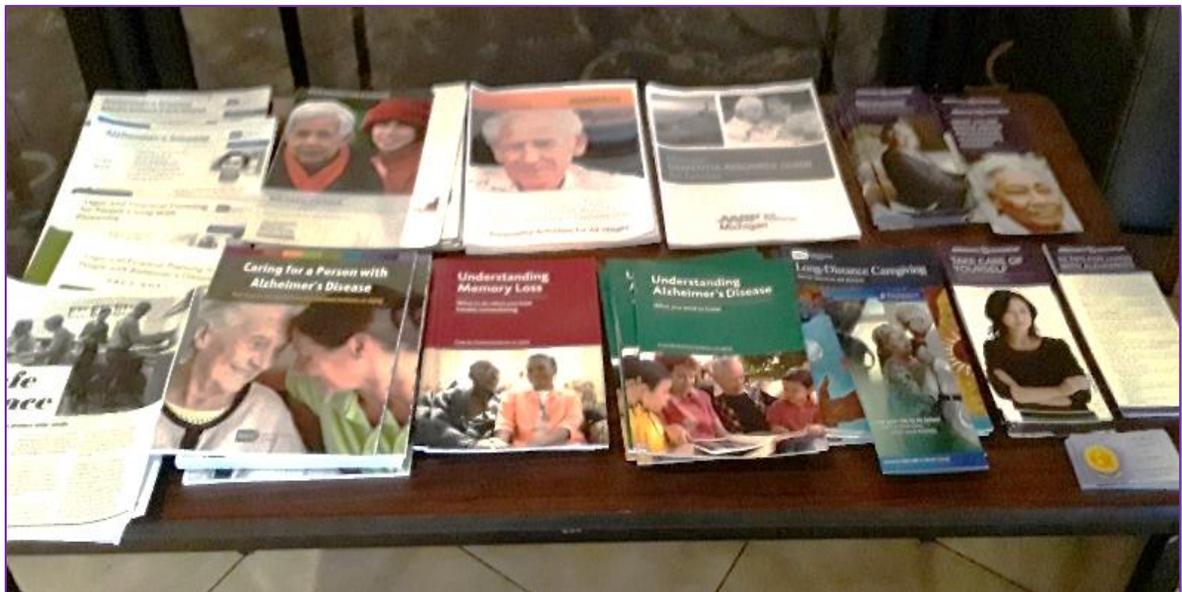
**A FRIENDLY DAY AT THE MOVIES**



Next to the ticket table is a Goody Bag table. Guests can choose from assorted free items donated by Dementia Friendly Saline and our sponsors. And take a look at the door prizes, too.



While one person is building their own Goody Bag, the other can browse the next table, which is full of free literature about dementia and about caregiving. There's also information from local care providers. Help yourself!



There's also a free Give or Take Puzzle Exchange

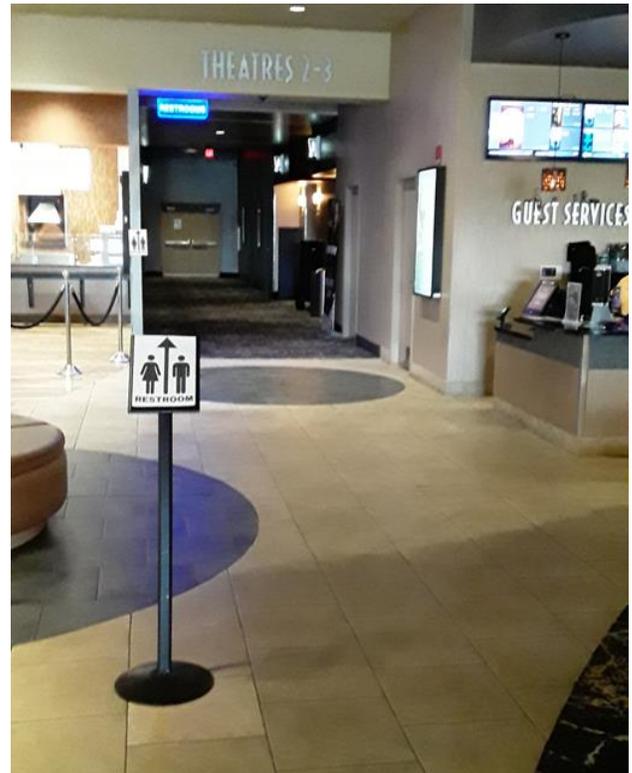


Then, a friendly volunteer will help you follow the Purple Print Path to the theatre where our movie will be.



You'll see a sign pointing to where the restrooms are. They are down a short hall. If you need to use the restroom at any time, a volunteer will help you get there, and get back to the right theatre.

Also, a volunteer will be happy to stay in the theatre and keep one person company while the other goes to the restroom. We call that our "Pee in Peace Plan".



Outside our theatre, Theatre One, a volunteer will take your ticket stub.

Please keep your ticket for the door prize drawing!



Right by the theatre entrance there's also a table full of free popcorn and soda.



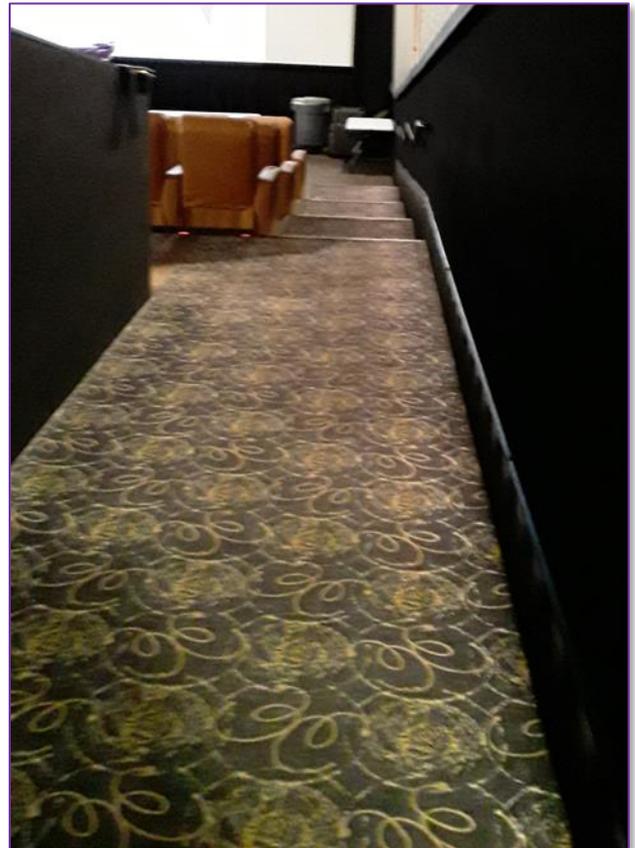
But you don't have to carry it---a volunteer will bring what you want to you in your seat.



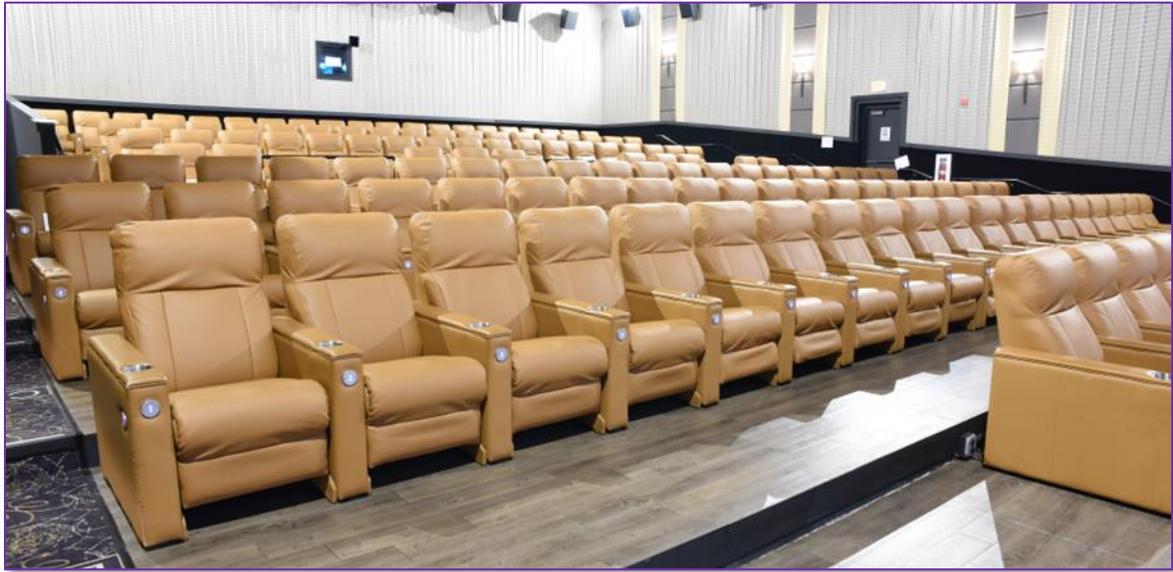
If you want, a volunteer can help lead you into the theatre .



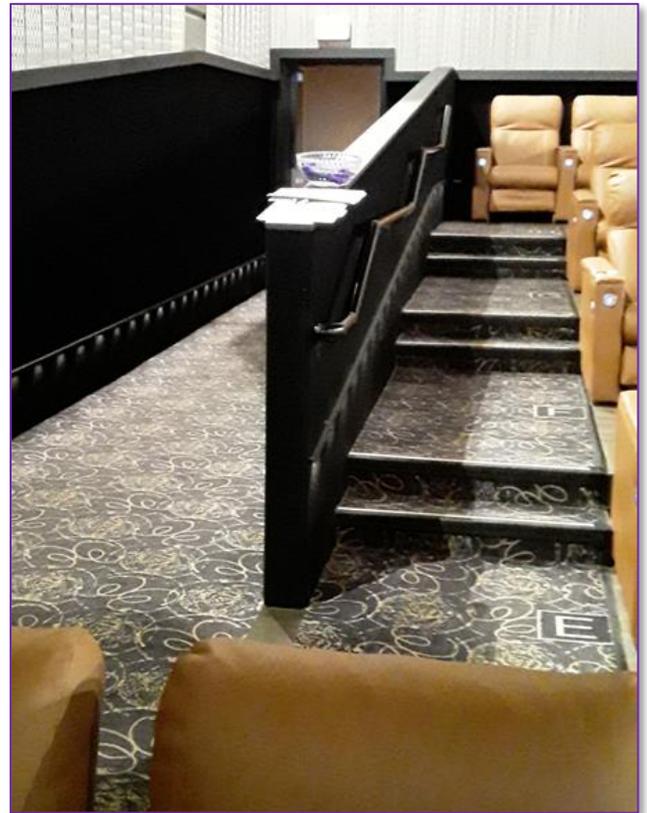
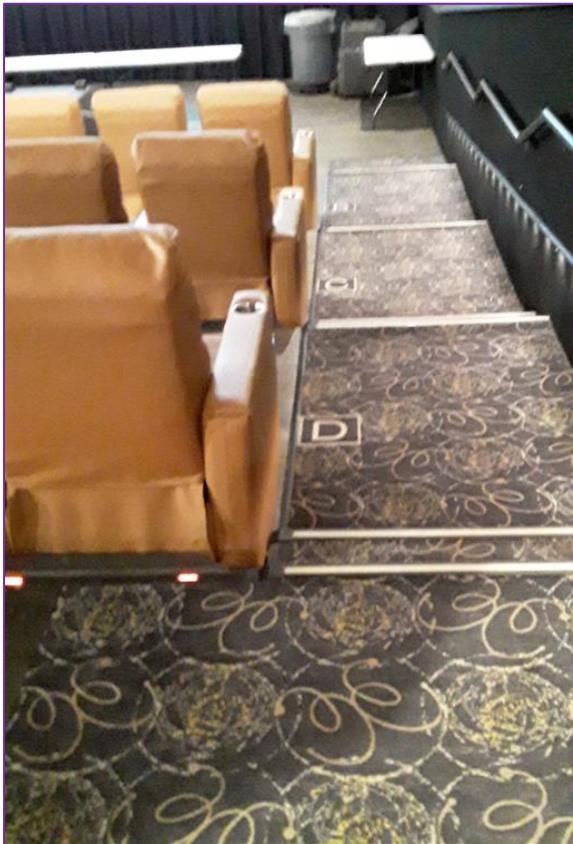
There is a short entranceway, then a very slight up ramp into the theatre. We'll help you every step of the way if you'd like.



You'll enter the spacious theatre at mid-level.



There are rows of seats lower, closer to the screen. There are also rows of seats higher, farther back. Sit wherever you like. They are all good, luxury seats.



A volunteer can help you up or down the steps, but you can avoid the steps if you want: on the other side of the theatre, we have ramps instead of steps.



Volunteers will help you on the ramps, especially if you are using a walker or wheelchair.



Once you are seated, a volunteer will safely park your walker, and they will bring it back to you after the movie

There are spaces for wheelchairs along the entrance row.



The adjacent seats have movable armrests, so that a person in a wheelchair could slide sideways into the theatre seat.

There are also spaces for wheelchairs along the very front row---but still far enough away from the screen so people can watch the movie comfortably. Trained volunteers will help with maneuvering wheelchairs.

All theatre seats are comfortable, roomy recliners. Use the controls on the armrest to make it recline.



At the front of the theatre, there will be a big buffet table full of roll-up sandwiches, fruit, sweets. It's free. Go on down and help yourself to a plate of finger food.



Or, hang out at the buffet table and chat with other guests. There's plenty of room.



Or take the snacks back to your seat.

During the movie, volunteers will bring trays of food around for you.



Before the movie, there is often some movie soundtrack music, or maybe a singalong with karaoke lyrics on the screen, like for *Singing in the Rain*

Or maybe some dancing, like before *Swing Time*.



Or perhaps a Dancing Queen flash mob



Or even a costume contest.

A little before 2PM, our announcer will greet everyone, and tell you some fun facts about the day's movie.



### TIMES CHANGE

Some of the older films we show were made when social norms were different. They may include negative depictions or mistreatment of people or cultures. These racist, sexist and other discriminatory stereotypes were wrong then and are wrong now.

Rather than ignore or try to erase history, we can acknowledge and learn from the offenses and errors of the past and work together to create a more just and inclusive future.

The announcer will explain that for your comfort, we'll keep the lights on for you. We also keep the sound soft.



Besides the soft light and soft sound, the announcer will explain that we have no hard rules

**A FRIENDLY DAY AT THE MOVIES**

**HERE'S THE RULES-----THERE ARE NO RULES!**

**GO AHEAD AND:**

- **TALK**
- **CLAP**
- **SING ALONG**
- **GET UP AND DANCE**
- **HAVE A GREAT TIME**

So go ahead and talk, clap hands, sing along, get up and dance if you want. We want you to just be yourself and enjoy yourself.

Thanks to our great friends at Emagine Theatre, we'll skip the advertisements and the coming attractions and go right into the movie.

If you need anything during the movie, just wave to a volunteer.



**A FRIENDLY DAY AT THE MOVIES**

**NEED SOMETHING?**

**FOOD?**

**REST ROOM?**

**WAVE, OR CALL FOR A**

**VOLUNTEER**

**COME AND MEET  
NEW FRIENDS  
AROUND THE FREE  
BUFFET**



Need a bathroom break? A volunteer can guide a person to the restroom and back.

OR, the volunteer can take one person's seat while the other person goes the restroom.

Need a Quiet moment?

Volunteers will help guide anyone to our Quiet break room, and back when they are ready.



After the movie ends, there will be door prizes. So keep your ticket handy.

### *Door Prizes*



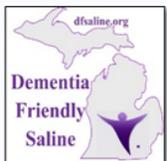
There will be comment cards available. We really want your feedback.

#### PLEASE TELL US

Did you enjoy today's event? Comments?

How could we make it better?

What other movies would you like to see?



Volunteers will bring walkers to the owners, and will help everyone leave the theatre safely and comfortably, and, we hope, smiling!



Volunteers will guide you all the way out to the curb, and again, they will stay with one person while the other retrieves their car.

If you came by bus, volunteers will also help you get to it and get on board, with your souvenirs, and your memory of having a good time.

Now that you've seen what our Friendly Day At The Movies program looks like, we hope you'll feel confident about joining us to have a great time.

Dementia Friendly Saline+ ([www.dfsaline.org](http://www.dfsaline.org)) is a nonprofit working to make living in our community less difficult, more dignified, and a lot more fun for persons dealing with dementia. Wherever they are on the journey, we welcome all---women, men, and anyone else; straight, gay, whatever; White, Black, Brown or anywhere on the human rainbow; Rich, or Not So Much---we're in this together. No one ever needs deal with dementia alone.

Donations for this and our many other programs are always welcome. Donate on our website or at our welcome table. Thank you.



*Dementia Friendly Saline+ thanks Emagine Theatres, a corporate partner from Heaven.*



A Friendly Day At The Movies is supported by the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, the Glacier Hills Golden Opportunities Fund, the Awesome Ann Arbor Foundation, The Dementia Society of America, the State of Michigan, Ageways Nonprofit Senior Services, Brewed Awakenings, Brookdale Senior Living, Glacier Hills Senior Living, Nu2u Resale Shop and by donations from movie guests and other friends.