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Buffalo Co. Set to Open New Jail

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KEARNEY- After a year-and-a-half, construction on the new Buffalo County Jail and Buffalo County/City of Kearney Emergency Operation Center is nearing completion, and a public ribbon-cutting and open house have been set for 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 17.

The ribbon cutting will take place at 1512 Central Ave., directly across the street from the Tye & Rademacher law offices.

Opening the event will be Richard Pierce, chair of the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors. Also speaking will be Nebraska Lt. Gov. Rick Sheehy, Kearney Mayor Stan Clouse, Buffalo County Sheriff Neil Miller and Supervisor Horace Dannehl.

"We have reached a milestone in the construction project," Pierce said. "We are extremely appreciative of the citizens of the Buffalo County, and we want to again thank everyone who has supported the Buffalo County Justice Center Project."

Tours of the new facility will be given after the ribbon cutting and again that afternoon from 1-4 p.m. Public tours will also be given on Saturday February 20, 2010 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

The new jail will house 205 inmates, and will include a central master control area, video arraignment room, training/conference room and workspace for corrections officers. The Emergency Operations Center will be located in the basement, and will include the backup 911 system for the county and city.

The facility was designed by Goldberg, Sullivan & McCreery of St. Joseph, Mo., and built by Beckenhauer Construction, Inc., of Norfolk. Once the move into to the newly completed jail is complete, the old jail will be demolished, and a new courts complex will be built on the site. The new complex, which will include five courtrooms, and accompanying office space for judges and their staff, along with the jail and Emergency Operation Center will become the Buffalo County Justice Center.



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