

Bar and grill coming to town

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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JESSEN

Gothenburg Development Co. is restaurant builder

The encouragement of many people in Gothenburg is a big reason why developer Terry Jessen is going ahead with construction of a new restaurant.

Nebraska Bar and Grill is not part of a franchise and will be built by the Gothenburg Development Company, that Jessen owns, and other local investors.

“It will be the only one of its kind,” he said.

The restaurant, estimated to cost \$1.25 million, will employ up to 35 full and part-time people. It will be constructed on two acres just north of the Comfort Suites Hotel.

Jessen said the restaurant will serve steak, hamburgers, chicken, some seafood and other offerings.

“We want to be top of the line,” he said.

The business will serve lunch and dinner but not breakfast and have two areas—a restaurant and a bar.

Jessen said Monday he hopes to have footings installed within the next couple of weeks.

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Completion of the 7,200 square-foot structure is expected in May or June of 2013 depending on winter weather, he said.

Jessen said he thinks the business will be successful in attracting travelers from Interstate 80 and diners locally and from towns like Kearney and North Platte.

Employees will be hired locally and from the surrounding area, he said.

Tax-increment financing is involved in the project but Jessen said he didn't yet know the amount.

TIF supports a project by allowing the tax revenue generated by the property to help pay for its development.

Jessen and his partner, Diana Unterseher, started thinking about building a restaurant

1 years ago.

A year ago, the couple began readying the site for a restaurant.

Heavy equipment was moved in to bulldoze trees, install a septic tank and add seven feet of dirt to remove the area from the flood plain.

The couple approached Gothenburg Improvement Company stockholders about investing in a restaurant during GIC's annual meeting in November of 2011.

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So far, Jensen said one of the biggest hurdles has been the building permit approval process because of many state regulations.

Last weekend, Jessen's application for a building permit was approved by the city engineer.

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