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Groundbreaking
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The first shovels of soil breaking ground for a new 80-room Wine Country Inn in the vineyards of Palisade mark the realization of a decade-long dream for Richard and Jean Tally.

“I guess this makes it official,” says Richard Tally of the ceremonies to be conducted at 10 am Tuesday, August 28, on the 7½ -acre site of the new hotel just west of Grande River Winery.

The new property, which consists of three main buildings flanking a landscaped courtyard with an outdoor pool, spa, and pavilion, echoes the clusters of farm buildings typical of much of the turn of the century architecture in the area.

Architect Jim Johnson, whose firm JG Johnson Architects, designed the project, calls the style “farmhouse vernacular.” He points to wrap-around porches, gables and wood siding as typical design elements.

The Tallys say they wanted to evoke the Victorian feel of so many farm homes across America in small towns like Palisade.

“We wanted these buildings to look like they belong here, and we think the architects have done a wonderful job of giving a current interpretation to the Victorian farmhouse look,” Tally affirms.

Facing the I-70 corridor, the one and a half story Reception Building will house the public areas: lobby and front desk, breakfast/wine tasting room, catering kitchen, large and small meeting rooms, business center, gift shop, public rest rooms, offices, laundry and service, mechanical and storage spaces.

South of the Reception Building, the three story Guest House, will include 72 king and queen rooms, including ADA compliant accommodations. An elevator will serve that building.

On the East side of the complex, a Suites Building will offer several configurations for the remaining eight rooms. This two-story structure will cater to corporate retreats and meetings, bridal parties, family reunions and other small group oriented functions.

“We are ready to roll,” says Tally. “We hope to complete the project next spring with a target opening date of June. We couldn’t be breaking ground today without the extraordinary cooperation and assistance of the Town of Palisade and the Board of Trustees.”

Besides the architects, other principals on the project are The Wright Group, general contractors; Ground Logic, landscape architects; Rolland Engineers, (civil); Redwine Engineers, (structural); ME Group, (mechanical and electrical), and Design Force, interior design.

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