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City Region

Sarah Reed breaks ground for \$18M addition

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Sarah Reed Senior Living will double the size of its skilled nursing facility with an addition to the West 22nd Street complex.

The 47,456-square-foot addition will be built west of the existing facility at 227 W. 22nd St. Construction of the twostory addition is expected to begin in August and will be completed in about 14 months, said Gale Magyar, executive director of the senior complex.

The \$18 million project will also include renovation of the existing 40,000-square-foot skilled nursing facility. Renovations will begin after the addition is built and will take about a year to complete, Magyar said.

Construction won't accommodate additional residents but will provide

> Please see REED, 2B



CONTRIBUTED ARTWORK

Architects have designed a 47,456-square-foot addition to Sarah Reed Senior Living.

Reed: Facility will feature private rooms

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more space for current residents, who now share double rooms. Each resident will have a private room and bathroom plus additional common spaces, including living rooms and recreational areas.

"The project will transform a facility that looks like and feels like a traditional nursing home into a facility that looks like and feels like a home," said Dennis Wilkins, principal architect for the project, of Weber Murphy Fox, Erie.

The expanded skilled nursing center will have 105 private rooms and two semiprivate rooms for couples, Magyar said, during a ceremonial groundbreaking at the facility Tuesday.

Sarah Reed Senior Living meets a "critical need" for senior care in Erie, Mayor Joe Sinnott said. The complex currently serves 215 residents, in apartments, a memory support unit, and the skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility.

"Throughout the history of this community, Sarah Reed has been synonymous with senior care in this community," Sinnott said. "The project being unveiled today represents the next generation of that."

The facility was established by Erie's first social service agency, organized by 30 women, including Sarah Reed, who worked

Sarah Reed's expansion

Construction of Sarah Reed Senior Living's planned \$18 million skilled nursing facility is scheduled to begin in August and is expected to be completed in about 14 months.



Southeast view of entrance of the planned 47,456-square-foot skilled nursing facility.



Part of yard area will become a parking lot.

The planned two-story nursing facility.

The existing skilled nursing facility is 40,000

square feet.

Sarah Reed's other buildings on block.

SOURCES: Sarah Reed Senior Living; staff reports CHRIS SIGMUND/Erie Times-News

together in 1871 to address community needs.

Construction will also benefit local businesses, including architects, general contractor E.E. Austin & Son Inc. and First Niagara Bank, which is handling project financing, said Gary Lee, Erie County director of administration. Lee represented Erie

County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper at Tuesday's groundbreaking.

"This is local collaboration at its best," Lee said of the project.

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