

# Regnier Ready



## New Building

**J**ohnson County Community College will host a dedication of the new Regnier Center from 3-4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 25, followed by

an open house from 4-6:30 p.m. All events are free and open to the public.

The dedication will showcase JCCC's technology with an animated film, *A Down-Time Story*, created by the Educational Technology Center, and a video about the Regnier family created by Media Production & Services. JCCC administrators, state and local politicians, and Bob Regnier, president of Bank of Blue Valley, will speak at the dedication.

The Regnier Center opened for classes in August for the fall semester. However, on Sept. 25 classes will not begin in the Center until 6:30 p.m. so visitors can park in the new two-level parking garage south of the building, under the Regnier Center or an adjacent surface lot, which totals 400 new parking spots.

Entering through the east door, guests will first glimpse a view of the architecturally stunning three-story Shull Foyer, named in honor of Dick and Barbara Shull, which will serve as an information center for the entire building and meet-and greet lobby for the first-floor conference center. Open-house visitors will be allowed to move freely through the three floors and enjoy a gourmet offering of appetizers on each level. (The complete menu with items like poached shrimp and baked lavosh is listed in the April This Month.) A signature Regnier blend of coffee, created by The Roasterie, will be served. Giveaways are tote bags, CD cases, electronic cases and pens with a stylus.

Anticipation of the Regnier Center has been building since the June 2003 announcement of a \$5 million challenge gift by the Victor and Helen Regnier Charitable Foundation to support construction. Vic and Helen Regnier developed housing and commercial properties in Johnson County for five decades, and their foundation is co-directed by the Regniers' three children – Robert, Cathy and Victor Jr. – who plan to be present at the dedication. A virtual groundbreaking for the building took place in December 2004 and construction began in January 2005.

Now completed, the Regnier Center, dedicated to business and technology, is a three-story 155,000-square-foot structure housing:

- The Center for Business and Technology's training rooms, assessment center, computer labs, 6,000-square-foot conference center and classrooms including the Harvey S. and Beverly R. Bodker Executive Classroom for classes and seminars in management skills and leadership
- The Small Business Development Center, including an expanded resource center
- A center to support local entrepreneurs
- Classrooms and labs for courses and training in information systems, information technology, interactive media, computer science and data processing



■ A 5,400-square-foot biotechnology laboratory suite with a teaching lab, research lab, classroom, prep room, tissue culture room and faculty office and sophisticated equipment including a DNA sequencer, a thermocycler and high-pressure liquid chromatograph

■ Offices for the college's Information Services staff, who provide computer network, academic and administrative support to students and faculty campus wide

The building supports wireless technology throughout. By designing communications and electrical support into the infrastructure, any new technology will easily integrate into and operate in this building.

In addition to advanced technology, the Regnier Center is visually pleasing with red oak paneling in the conference area, large windows affording views of the city and campus, and a two-story "flash cube" meeting room with capa-

bility for exterior projection displays on the second-third floor of the south side.

"The challenge of running the Victor and Helen Regnier Charitable Foundation is finding ways to properly memorialize our parents' legacy," said Bob Regnier. "My father felt very strongly about investing in people. He had the age-old philosophy about teaching a man to fish, rather than giving him a fish. And that was his approach to education. He would much prefer to pay for a person to improve their skills and education, assets that last a lifetime, rather than handing out welfare.

"That's the significance and message of the Center – it's giving people opportunities to learn and receive the skills they need to go out in the workforce and get a job. My father would have wanted that. He would think a building at Johnson County Community College was a good investment." 🌿

Bryant Pierce (left) and Kevin Steuber, senior network analysts, configure Cisco 6500 series switches for the Regnier Center in advance of the building's opening.