

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

County of Luna

Joe "Oleo" Milo, Jr.
Commissioner, District 1

J. Jay Spivey, Chairman
Commissioner, District 2



R. Javier Diaz
Commissioner, District 3

Charles "Tink" Jackson
County Manager

700 South Silver Avenue • Post Office Box 551 • Deming, New Mexico 88031
Telephone (575) 546-0494 Facsimile (575) 544-4293

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CONTACT - Matt Robinson, (575) 545-4627

Media Release

DEMING, NM – Luna County's Starmax entertainment center will premiere "The Interview" on Christmas day, following approval granted Tuesday by Sony Pictures Entertainment.

The film, starring Seth Rogan and James Franco, will premiere at 7 p.m. Thursday, and will continue showing at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. It will resume at 7 p.m. on Sunday through Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015. Luna County Starmax is located at 333 North Country Club Road in Deming.

"Luna County is proud to be included among limited venues premiering this film," Charles "Tink" Jackson, Luna County Manager, said. "Many brave men and women have fought and died to defend our freedom of speech; we will not allow a dictator to decide what we can and cannot watch."

The film depicts an interviewer and his producer gaining exclusive access to North Korean dictator Kim Jong-un, but the two are recruited by the CIA to assassinate Jong-un. In mid-December, a North Korean group upset over the film's plot, hacked Sony Pictures Entertainment and leaked a massive number of internal e-mails and other materials. The terrorist group also threatened to attack any cinemas showing "The Interview."

Luna County officials are confident the film will be shown without incident, but are preparing additional security at the theater to ensure moviegoers are able to enjoy the movie and feel safe.

"We have already begun working with the Luna County Sheriff's Office to provide security at the premiere," Jackson said. "I trust our law enforcement professionals completely to keep our patrons safe."

Starmax Manager Ira Pearson said the theater was originally booked to show the film, but following it being pulled nationwide, he began working to see how it might still be shown locally. On Tuesday morning, after reports that theaters in Texas and Georgia would show the premiere, he called Sony to again ask permission to show the film.

"Our staff is excited to be part of showing the movie," Pearson said. "Of course it's just a movie, but we're dealing with much larger issues here concerning freedom of speech and censorship. I believe Sony is doing the right thing by standing up for American values."

For more information about Starmax or other showtimes, visit www.starmaxdeming.com or call (575) 546-7469.

CAPTION

Starmax Manager Ira Pearson is shown holding a poster for, "The Interview." The film will premiere in Luna County on Christmas.