

Larimore residents
to vote on future
of new gym.
Page A13

CHOICE HEALTH & FITNESS
WINTER PROGRAMS youth & adult
Let's Have some fun!
REGISTER TODAY! | CHOICEHF.COM | 701.746.2790

Grand Forks Herald

UNLOCK DIGITAL AT GRANDFORKSHERALD.COM/ACTIVATE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2021

\$100K grant given to GF Center for Exploration

By Pamela Knudson
Grand Forks Herald

An idea that has been floating around the community for about 30 years has taken a big step forward with a grant from the North Dakota Department of Commerce.

The Grand Forks Center for Exploration, otherwise referred to as a children's museum, has received a \$100,000 Tourism Planning Grant to support professional planning for the facility, which is being developed to enhance the lives of area residents but also to draw visitors from out of state.

The Grand Forks Center for Exploration is one of five recipients of this award, selected from a field of 18 applications. It was the only project in the Red River Valley to receive this type of grant this year. The awards, ranging from \$100,000 to \$400,000, totaled \$1 million.

The funds will be used to develop a comprehensive plan needed to build the Center for Exploration, described as a destination children's museum that provides STEAM – science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics – learning activities for people of all ages and abilities.

The building will serve as a connection point for the region with exhibits

GRANT: Page A9



Photos by Eric Hylden / Grand Forks Herald

Grand Forks Mayor Brandon Bochenki (second from left), with City Administrator Todd Feland, left, Economic Development Corp. President and CEO Keith Lund, and Brandon Baumach, EDC director of business development, discuss the early stages of a deal to bring a large agribusiness to Grand Forks during a meeting with the Grand Forks Herald editorial board.

CITY CHOSEN FOR 'HISTORIC' PROJECT

'Largest private capital investment in region's history' is expected to break ground this spring



The future site of the Fufeng Group project on the north end of Grand Forks.

By Sam Easter
Grand Forks Herald

City and economic leaders have revealed a budding business deal they say is among the largest projects ever in Grand Forks – one expected to result in a large new factory on the city's north end, hundreds of new jobs, opportunities for the region's ag producers and infrastructure improvements that will benefit other potential businesses in years to come.

They say the deal has enormous consequences for Grand Forks. Though officials close to the deal did not disclose the value of the

company's likely investment, they said it is "historic."

"It's the largest single private capital investment in the region's history," said Keith Lund, who heads the local Economic Development Corporation.

The plant will be a "wet corn milling" facility, owned by Fufeng Group Limited, and could consume as much as 25 million bushels of corn once it's running at full capacity, sometime around 2024, or 2025. Fufeng Group has not described the facility's product line yet, but the company reportedly produces starch sweetener, corn oil, amino acids, xanthan gum and a range of other

additives.

City leaders say the company's products are used in the food and beverage industry, in pharmaceuticals, the oil and gas sector and beyond. The bulk of Fufeng Group's operations are based in mainland China. The

Grand Forks location would be the company's first North American production facility, city leaders said.

The company expects to construct on a 370-acre site on the north side of town, in the existing agribusiness park.

PROJECT: Page A8

Get the newspaper format you love EVERY DAY.



Open your phone or tablet's camera and point it at the code below any time after 6 a.m. each day to access that day's print replica.



Available even on days your print paper is not delivered!

Political map-making tees up possible clash

By Sam Easter
Grand Forks Herald

City Council President Dana Sande got right to the point on Monday night: as the city redraws its political maps, he won't vote to back a new map that throws a sitting council member out of their ward.

"I believe that all council members who raised their hand to serve our community should not be displaced based upon the changing demographics of the community," Sande said. "... Knowing how few people are willing to serve, I don't think we should draw different lines to take people that have already (volunteered to run) and make it so that they can't serve their constituents."



Sande

Sande's objections came as city leaders got their first look at three draft options of a new political map, all of which would shift the city's ward and precinct borders to account for big changes measured in the 2020 Census. That map-making process is expected to play out over the next several weeks, with a preliminary vote on a map set for Monday, Nov. 8, and a final vote expected as soon as Nov. 22.

And in the meantime, Sande's

CLASH: Page A9

MAGNETIC INTERIOR STORM WINDOWS

- Virtually Eliminates Condensation and Frost
- Lower Heat Bill Up to 50%
- Fraction of the Cost of Replacement Windows
- Install & Remove in Seconds
- Keeps Drafts, Dust, & Noise Out
- Custom Made to Fit
- Save Money and Energy



SPECIAL PROMOTION
20% OFF
MOST SHOW COUPON
OFFER ENDS 11/15/21

SunroomsPlus Inc.
701-746-8684
4224 Gateway Dr. • Grand Forks
www.sunroomsplus.com

FIREPLACE DESIGN CENTER

SALE
UP TO \$350 OFF
on select FIREPLACES
Offer Ends Nov. 15, 2021
*MOST SHOW COUPONS

FREE ESTIMATES!
WE DO COMPLETE INSTALLATIONS

Inside

Classified: C4-8
Nation: A6
Opinion: A5

Sports: B1-4
Weather: A2

Sports: C1
Weather: A2

Year: 142 Issue: 134
Copyright: 2021
Newsstand price:

\$3.00

