

EDC to host groundbreaking, annual meeting on Thursday

May 3, 2016

Thursday will be a big day for the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corp., with a groundbreaking in the morning and the group's annual meeting at noon.

Hendrix Genetics will break ground for its new hatchery operation in Grand Island at 9 a.m. Thursday, according to a press release from the economic development corporation.

While the state-of-the-art \$10 million facility will span 20 acres in the northeast section of Grand Island's Platte Valley Industrial Park-East, the ceremony will be closer to the intersection of Blaine Street and Schimmer Drive.

"After the announcement of Hendrix Genetics' expansion to Grand Island in January, the GIAEDC staff and board of trustees are excited to welcome Hendrix Genetics to their new site," said Dave Taylor, economic development corporation president. "The project's multimillion-dollar investment and the addition of 35 to 50 jobs will dramatically change the landscape of our industrial park and community."

Ernie Goss will serve as the keynote speaker at the Grand Island Area Economic Development Corp.'s annual meeting at Riverside Golf Club.

Doors will open for lunch at 11:30 a.m. while the program will begin promptly at noon.

Goss is a professor of economics at Creighton University in Omaha, director of the Goss Institute in Denver and director of Creighton's Institute for Economic Inquiry. He is also a research faculty member at California State University-Fresno.

Goss was a visiting scholar with the Congressional Budget Office and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He is editor of Economic Trends, an economics newsletter published monthly that is distributed to more than 10,000 subscribers. Recently, Goss has appeared on CNN, Fox Business News, National Public Television and the BBC.

The 2016 Business of the Year award will be awarded to Dramco Tool Co.

Dramco Tool was established in 1978, beginning as a two-person shop. Today, Dramco employs more than 40 people in its 37,000-square-foot climate-controlled facility. Dramco serves customers worldwide that supply the automotive, aerospace, agriculture, transportation, ATV, heavy-duty on- and off-road equipment, electronics and consumer products industries.

Admission to the event will cost \$25 per Grand Island Area Economic Development Corp. member and \$35 per non-member.