

# METRO + STATE



# Grace & Dexterity

**Ed and Lou Smith of Moorhead** converse about Marge Hanson's style of accordion playing during the Fargo Park District's German Folk Festival on Sunday at Rheault Farm in Fargo. Nick Wagner / The Forum



Forum file photo

**Enchanted Highway sculptor Gary Greff** shown in 2003 describing his vision for additional sculptures, a motel and an Enchanted Highway golf course for his native home of Regent, N.D. Greff is now raising funds for a possible eighth sculpture on the Enchanted Highway.

## Enchanted Highway sculptor turns to Kickstarter for spider web project

**By Patrick Springer**  
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**Regent, N.D.**  
Gary Greff hopes support from the Internet will help him erect an enormous spider web propped up by prairie wildflowers as the next addition to his "Enchanted Highway" collection of giant sculptures. With an assist from Fargo's Emerging Prairie, Greff, a retired educator-turned-scrap metal sculptor, has launched a Kickstarter campaign with the goal of raising \$15,000



for the project. His gigantic spider web would be the eighth huge piece of art adorning a lonely

stretch of highway in southwest North Dakota. His purpose, as with the others, is snaring tourists, preferably luring them to Regent, his struggling hometown, where visitors might linger and shop or even stay a night at his Enchanted Castle motel. Greff's spider web would be made from steel cable and stretch 70 feet by 70 feet. That's roughly as tall as a seven-story building, a scale in keeping with the Enchanted Highway's gargantuan sizes. "I wanted something

that dealt with string art," Greff said, explaining the inspiration for a piece featuring a spider web. Stringing that much cable will pose some challenges, and if he gets his sculpture off the ground, Greff expects he will need two and possibly three cranes to erect the piece. He already has obtained most of the raw materials, scoured from scrapyards around North Dakota, including the drums of four cement mixers that

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## Business park aims to 'clean up' Fargo's front door

**Work underway on \$18 million project at I-29, Main Ave.**

**By Helmut Schmidt**  
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FARGO - Demolition and site preparation is underway to create Butler Business Park on a 15-acre former site of Butler Machinery at the southeast corner of Interstate 29 and Main Avenue.



The Forum

The two-year, \$18 million project by Minneapolis-based Hyde Development will create 190,000 square feet of new, energy-efficient warehouse and office space, said Paul Hyde, founder and partner of the firm. The project "will clean up the front door" for Fargo, Hyde said Friday. Groundbreaking was held last week on the first phase of the project, a 65,000-square-foot office and warehouse at 100 36th St. S. that should be completed by December, Hyde said. Next spring, construction of a 125,000-square-foot bulk warehouse will start, Hyde said. Hyde said the project, once complete, should add about 250 jobs in that parcel, which hasn't seen any significant job generation in years. "What the city is excited about is seeing some redevelopment outside of the

downtown" area, Hyde said. "The hope is that this kind of bookends the development down on Broadway." The City Commission approved \$2.1 million in tax reimbursement for the project late last year, said city of Fargo planner Joe Nigg. That break will be doled out over 15 years in the form of tax increment financing. The tax break was given to defray costs of upgrading utilities and other infrastructure, environmental cleanup and demolition of five buildings, Nigg said. The buildings that had been on the site were built in the 1950s and brought in less than \$10,000 a year in property taxes, Nigg said. The completed project could bring in \$250,000 a year in property taxes, Nigg said. The warehouse planned for this year is a conventional steel frame on a concrete slab with precast

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