

Kay Enterprises expanding

GAYLORD — Kay Enterprises Co.'s Gaylord Operation is only half a year old, but 2,000 square feet of space already is being added to its new building at 1484 O'Rourke Boulevard.

Jim Kollar, president of Kay Enterprises, personally had toured the Upper and Lower Peninsulas in search of a sister plant for the firm's operation in Troy.

Kay supplies industry with manufacturing engineering services and diversified production tooling plus custom electronic quality control devices. It was founded in 1960 to supply the auto industry with electrical test equipment.

According to Kollar, Gaylord's diversified labor market, community spirit and easy access to all modes of transportation were factors in the decision to locate in the Gaylord Air Industrial Park.

The firm's Gaylord plant opened in March, 1981.

Jack Porter, vice president and general manager, heads a staff including manufacturing engineers, mechanical engineers, electrical and electronic engineers, micro-process programmers, electronic technicians, tool makers and plastics technicians.

Porter and his wife Kay reside in the Gaylord area.

Country Star eyes restaurant

GAYLORD — Country Star Market, located at the 45th Parallel, plans to expand its food service with a restaurant viewed for construction in 1982.

According to Larry McNitt, president of the Country Star Markets board of directors, the proposed buffet-style restaurant would be located between the market's parking lot and Old 27 South.

The 200-seat restaurant in planning stages would join the firm's sister store in Boyne City which already operates a Country Star restaurant.

Country Star Market began its Gaylord operation in 1977 as part of the B & C Chain

with headquarters in Cheboygan.

In June 1979, the Gaylord store and stores in Boyne City and Onaway were purchased by a group of former employees of B & C.

In 1978, the present store at the intersection of McCoy Road was built with B & C. It features a spacious 30,000 square foot area with a wide range of groceries, a meat department, bakery and deli.

Country Star Markets employ 200 people in their three stores, with 52 working at the Gaylord location. Manager of the Gaylord market is Mickey Brown, who also serves on the firm's board of directors.

Wickes: 20 years of home service

GAYLORD — Gaylord's Wickes retail outlet has provided a full line of home improvement and construction products to area consumers for 20 years.

The Wickes outlet, one of over 280 nationwide, moved to Gaylord from Gladwin in 1961 as part of the Wickes Corporation.

Wickes was founded almost 130 years ago

in Michigan.

The retail outlet here, located on Old 27 North at Fairview Road, employs about 35 people with an annual payroll over \$350,000. Frank Rock manages the local Wickes business.

Wickes also operates a truss plant in Waters that employs about 20 persons.

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