

Harden: building and real estate

GAYLORD — Harden Building Co. in Gaylord dates back to 1974, with a companion business, Harden Real Estate, being in operation nearly that long.

After 13 years as a builder and construction manager in the Detroit area, Bob and Adeleen Harden made an abrupt switch to the north country.

"I came to Gaylord to tell a friend I wouldn't come this far to build a house," Harden said of his first visit. But by the time they returned downstate, they had plans to sell and move! "We love the area," he said.

After first working out of their home at Lake Arrowhead, the Harden's moved the construction firm to a ski rental building on Old 27 South and then purchased a building

at 2336 Old 27 South. Since 1976, the businesses have been in that location, formerly the site of the old Townsend Realty.

Bob serves as president of the building firm, while Adeleen is secretary - treasurer. Adeleen is broker - owner of the real estate firm, and Bob assists her as a salesman.

Five other real estate sales people work out of the office. In addition, one Harden son, Thomas M., has worked with his parents as a licensed builder and a real estate salesman.

The building firm handles residential and commercial construction, working with subcontractors.

Burke Ceramic Tile serving north

GAYLORD — Burke Ceramic Tile Co. has served northern Michigan since May, 1978 from its location at 126 South Illinois Street.

Owners Edward Burke and his sons Michael and Paul operate the family business, aided by Ed's wife Paula. Ed formerly worked as a journeyman tile setter in Detroit.

The firm handles tile sales and installation for home, commercial and industrial use. Tile products from six distributors are available.

Burke's service area includes a geographical ring formed by Traverse City, Houghton Lake, Alpena and Mackinac Island.

Bozzer in 1946

GAYLORD — Founded in 1946 as the first Gaylord firm to provide concrete blocks and ready mix, the business now known as Bozzer Brothers, Inc., was purchased in 1974 by Gino and Nelson Bozzer.

The Bozzer Brothers concrete supply business serves an area approximately 20 miles surrounding Gaylord.

In addition to on-site delivery, Bozzer Brothers is an outlet for concrete, blocks, bricks and masonry supplies.

The firm is located on Old 27 North, about half a mile north of the city limits.

Steel service

VANDERBILT — North Central Steel Fabrications, Inc., a skilled trade shop, has been operated in Vanderbilt by Leo and Nancy Singleton since 1973.

The firm produces and installs steel fabrication products such as air pollution equipment, safety cages, conveyors, sheet metal and blow pipe fittings.

In addition, North Central Steel is actively involved in on-site maintenance and repair of steel fabricated products.

Construction was recently completed on new offices for the company.



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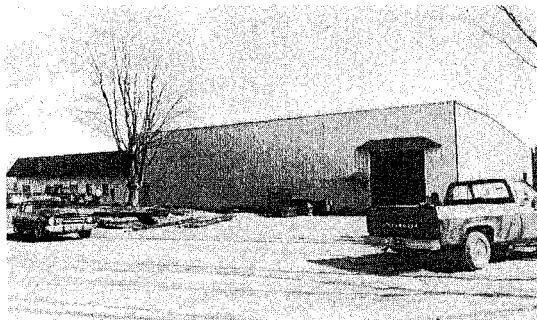


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