

Air park boosts industry

GAYLORD — There's room to grow in the Gaylord Air Industrial Park.

The park, under the auspices of the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), features choice lots close to air, highway and rail freight lines for most any industry or commercial outlet.

During the past year, Kay Enterprises, J&D Body Shop and Pettibone are among the businesses to locate in the 177-acre park on Dickerson Road.

Overall, about one-third of the 165 lots have been sold. Present concerns range from a tool and die shop to area distributors. Two buildings are currently available for lease.

The park is rated Class A, referring to facilities and accessibility of transportation and restrictions as to types of businesses permitted.

City water and sewer services are

available, along with paved streets and all utilities.

The IDC was first formed in 1958 as a civic league. It was established to operate exclusively for promotion of social welfare and to prevent unemployment in Otsego County.

The IDC was a factor in attracting the multi-million dollar Champion International plant to Gaylord. For its progressive effort, in 1964 Gaylord received an Economic Achievement Award during the World's Fair in New York.

The park development followed a substantial cash commitment by the IDC. Land was traded with the county, and with the aid of a \$1 million federal grant, the park became a reality.

Edward Calkins, one of the original backers of the IDC, is its current president. Other officers include Harold McCann, vice president; and John Mankowski, treasurer.

Chamber 300 strong

GAYLORD — The Gaylord / Otsego County Chamber of Commerce, with 300 members, is geared to serve the varied needs of the area's commercial climate.

The chamber, from its office on South Otsego Avenue, provides information for inquiring businessmen, consumers and tourists. It also helps co-ordinate community activities, Gaylord's Oct. 24 Centennial Celebration being a major example.

In presenting a convention and vacation scorecard, the chamber can boast that the county offers dozens of restaurants, and motel room occupancy of about 1,000 persons.

Our bucks on the move

GAYLORD — The buck doesn't stop in Otsego County. It keeps moving.

That is, the effective buying income average per household ranks high among counties in northern Michigan.

According to the Survey of Buying Power, 1980 Census reports and a Michigan State University Statistical Abstract, in 1980 the county's effective buying income totaled \$79,808,000.

The median, or average, effective buying income was \$14,208. The greatest percentage of residents, 32.4 percent, were in the \$15,000 - \$24,999 buying income range.

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