

# *NEWS IN BRIEF*

A Quarterly Report in brief by George Dunn, President/CEO, Middle Michigan Development Corporation

The most recent news to hit the Central Michigan Region this quarter was The Center For Applied Research & Technology at CMU Construction. The Mt. Pleasant Industrial Development Corporation has contracted with JBS Contracting to build the 6,000 square foot speculative "shell" building and Isabella Corporation to develop the first phase of infrastructure, due to be completed this fall.

Other items of significant activity include:

- Art Ellis to be Honored. Ribbon-cutting ceremonies will be held this fall for the dedication and naming of the new road in the CART, "Ellis Place", named in honor of the huge contributions of CMU Past President, Art Ellis.
- Project 700 Decision. The corporate decision identifying the selected community-of-choice is expected yet this fall, sometime in November, with a spring, 2009 opening date still expected.
- Isabella Road Extension. MDOT continues to prepare the design documents for the Isabella Road extension and the BR127 intersection, scheduled for construction in 2007.
- US127/Broomfield Road Interchange. MMDC continues to take the lead in discussions with MDOT and other public entities regarding the feasibility and financing of a new full US127 interchange at Broomfield Road.
- Clare Industrial Park Expansion. MMDC has presented its recommendations to the Clare IDC and the City of Clare identifying the preferred location for industrial park development, with a decision expected within the next 30 days.
- Verricor Construction Underway. Construction continues for the newest tenant in Farwell's "Enterprise Park", with the 120,000 square foot facility slated for completion in early 2007, employing 45-50 people.
- MMDC Mid-Year Presentations. In establishing better communications with its clients and partners, MMDC has made presentations to the Clare County Board of Commissioners, Isabella County Board of Commissioners, Mt. Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Mt. Pleasant City Commission, Mid Michigan Community College Board of Trustees, Clare City Commission, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, and the Clare Enterprise Community Board of Directors.

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- MMDC Web-Site Unveiled. MMDC has now completed its new resource data base with the addition of the Central Michigan Region Micropolitan Area demographics, geared toward people searching for new industrial and technology and research-based business locations ([www.mmdc.org](http://www.mmdc.org)).
- 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Planned. MMDC will celebrate its 25 years of serving as the area's single-voice economic development organization at its January 3, 2007 Annual Meeting of its Board of Directors and Corporate Sponsors, with a dinner and festivities, underwritten by Chemical Bank-Clare, Isabella Bank and Trust, and Firstbank.

For more information on these or other projects, contact MMDC at (989) 772.2858 or [www.mmdc.org](http://www.mmdc.org).