



FINALLY OPEN - Grant Dick wields the scissors to cut a ribbon marking the grand opening of his storage rental on old Route 66 south of Litchfield, across from the Litchfield Municipal Airport.

Taking part are Frank Fleming, economic development commission, Dave Rovey, alderman, Andy Ritchie, city administrator, Tonya Flannery, economic development director, Grant Dick, owner, Bob Weber, D&R Buildings, Collinsville, Kent Redfern, economic development commission, Wade Weitlauf, vice president, Associated Bank, Fairview Heights, Ben Williams, economic development commission, Bill Morgan, WAM computers, who installed the internet monitoring system, Bill Dees, alderman.

Grant Storage opens near local airport

Moving a dozen times during a 24 year career in the U.S. Air Force has taught Grant Dick a lot about storage. As retirement time crept up on him he started looking at investing into rental storage units.

He also looked into equipment rental. He bought Grand Rental Station franchise, a unit of True-Value, for the Litchfield area. It will be located in the former Quality Rental building between Old Route 66 and the old four-lane Route 66 near Capri IGA. Target date for that opening is May 1.

"We will be renting everything from Bobcats to breast pumps," Dick said. He wants to offer equipment for people moving. He said one thing Grand Rental Station is known for is equipment for parties from tents to glassware, portable dance floors and D.J. equipment.

In the meantime, Dick had rental storage buildings built with insulated roofs, fenced, video-monitored and equipped with a 24-hour, 7-day a week kiosk to take care of customers.

The facility has as large as 16 foot by 40 foot spaces with a 14 foot high door for recreation vehicles and trailers. There are smaller spaces, 14x 35 and 12x30 foot spaces for smaller trailers, RVs and boats. There are also a variety of storage units in the 5 foot wide and 10 foot wide of various depths.



SMALL WORLD - Robert Chiti, left, Staunton, stands with Grant Dick, owner of Grant Rental Storage. Between them is an Insomniac kiosk by OpenTech Alliance, who's president is Robert A. Chiti, Jr. When Dick made inquiries the younger Chiti happened to see the paperwork and returned the call because of where the kiosk was located.

The kiosk is designed for the storage rental business. It works 24-hours a day, seven days a week. It will take cash, check or credit card. It runs through the

contract provisions and directs to locations. It takes your identity photo and finger print so you can access the fenced storage areas. There is video monitoring. The kiosk can sell insurance policies for contents since the facility owners, by law, are not liable for theft or other damages. The kiosk can even sell locks.

Dick said his web site, grantrentalstorage.com has a link to an OpenTech Alliance site so the curious can learn about the kiosk's operation.