



MAJOR MERGER: Staff of the newly formed Denny Farnworth McGregor Insurance Brokers can't wait to begin working together. Seated, left to right: Wilma DeBruyn, Barbara Davies, Brenda Schrempf and Joyce Carpenter. Standing: Glenna Finnie, Carol Leys, Harold Denny, Silva Masales and R.J. Farnworth.

Insurance offices merge

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
The New Tanner

Denny Farnworth McGregor Insurance Brokers.

That's will be the name on the door at 15 Mill Street West next month as Daly Farnworth McGregor Insurance Ltd. closes its Willow Street office and merges with Denny's Insurance.

In what is described as "an agreement to do business" and a "a no cash deal" the two firms will consolidate their Acton offices and staff on May 1.

"This merger is a cost sharing arrangement in order to become more competitive and provide superior service," explained Denny Insurance co-owner Brenda (Denny) Schrempf in an interview last Thursday.

"We will split the cost of

one office instead of two. For our clients the merger means increased access to many more markets. We will be able to offer more choices, more competitive rates and better service," Schrempf said, adding that the news has generated "nothing but positive comments" from clients.

The Denny's have been in the insurance business for 50 years beginning with the arrival in Acton of insurance agent Bill Denny. In 1958, Bill Denny and son Harold opened an independent brokerage known as Denny's Insurance and then Harold Denny's daughter Brenda Schrempf joined the company in 1987 to ensure continuity of the family business.

Daly Farnworth McGregor Insurance Ltd. of Guelph operated a satellite office in Acton since 1977,

first in the medical building and then at a building it purchased on Willow Street.

Co-owner John Farnworth said that the merger is a matter of efficiencies.

"We have a lot of markets in common so it will be more efficient to operate as one office. The merger will open up more markets for our clients who will also get better service," Farnworth explained in an interview last Thursday, adding that his staff, including his son R.J. Farnworth, Glenna Finnie and Silva Masales will relocate to the Denny's Mill Street office to join Denny's existing staff. Farnworth said the Willow Street building might be leased or sold.

Clients of both companies were notified of the merger by letter last week.

Blue Springs goes private

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
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Acton's Blue Springs Golf Club, now owned by ClubLink Corporation, will be converted into a private club in the spring of next year, a move that ClubLink officials said pleased most members when they learned of it at a meeting at the club last Tuesday night.

"Most of the existing members purchased their membership on the basis that Blue Springs would be a private club but that didn't happen so now they are getting what they originally paid for," ClubLink spokesperson Nathalie Henri in an interview last Thursday.

ClubLink officials met with most of Blue Springs' 125 members last week to outline what membership options are now available and Henri described the offer as "extremely fair."

"We will either honour their existing agreement with Blue Springs and nothing will change, or we will give them a 100 per cent credit of what they paid against a ClubLink membership."

Henri said that they would also honour the locked-in annual dues for entrance-fee paid members this year. Those members paid between \$8,000 and \$30,000, which

was the corporate membership rate.

"We're selling memberships for \$20,000 at Blue Springs so if somebody paid \$15,000 for their membership they will get a full credit against our fee. They could spread the \$5,000 differential over five years, interest free."

That \$20,000 membership entitles a person to play at all of ClubLink's 22 courses and Henri said that 90 per cent of the people indicated after the meeting that is what they plan to do. Annual dues for senior memberships will be \$2,900.

At least one corporate member is not pleased with the offer. Acton's Fred Archibald who has a corporate membership with his two partners at Acton ProPlastex, was asked if he's satisfied with the offer.

"Well, not really," Archibald explained in an interview on Saturday the corporate membership gave all three partners signing privileges and allowed them 20 games on the big course and 10 on the little course each month and included annual dues of \$2,700.

"If we want to convert to a ClubLink corporate membership it would be \$15,000 per person which would cost us \$45,000 minus the \$20,000 credit for what we

paid Blue Springs. It might be fair but we don't golf enough to make it a good deal so we haven't decided what to do yet," Archibald said.

Henri said that ClubLink has withdrawn plans filed with the Town by Blue Springs to build a banquet hall and will develop new plans that more suit a private club.

Tax hike

Continued from Page 3

community to work and we want to provide the services that people expect," Serjeantson said.

At a Halton Region budget committee meeting on Tuesday councillors were told that the tax bill for Halton Hills residents with average property assessments of \$185,000 would increase by \$154 or 6.97 per cent. The total tax bill will be \$2,660 with \$620 of that amount for Town purposes, \$851 for education and \$1,189 for the Region. The final figures will not be known until June.

Bad manners shown

To the Editor:

This is in regard to the large garbage pick-up that Acton just had.

I look forward to these special pick-up days, hunting for treasures that other consider trash. I have followed this ritual for many years now, long before it was fashionable.

While I was driving around I noted, that indeed, there were many more people out and about doing the same as I was. The problem, however, was the inconsiderate manner in

which it was being done. I realize that this is indeed garbage, but scattering it about the street after going through it is what we seasoned treasure hunters call "bad manners."

Please, when going through piles, leave them in the same, if not better condition than you found them.

People spent their time carrying these things to the curb for you to see. Let's give them the same consideration of cleaning up after we go through them.

Seasoned Treasure Hunter

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