

Frankfort Insurance marks multiple milestones

Frankfort Insurance Agency can definitely be classified as a true hometown insurance agency. This year they celebrate their 70th anniversary, all at the same location on Main Street in Frankfort. In all actuality, insurance business probably occurred out of the same office at 525 Main for a good many years before 1939 while under the ownership of George Robinson. With the depression finally ending Robert & Grace Lockhart began doing business in 1939 as Lockhart Insurance which years later became Frankfort Insurance. The business slowly grew during the war years while Grace ran the office as Bob was serving in the military. In the post war years Lockhart Insurance was a key business in town. Bob served on many boards and was instrumental in founding the Frankfort Elberta Athletic Association. His involvement in this organization led to the sports field in Frankfort being named in his honor. In 1964 Bernard Mick joined the business, followed later by his wife Harriet. A decade later, in 1974 Harriet's brother, Roger Johnson came to the agency. Frankfort Insurance became incorporated in 1979 thus making this a year with two anniversaries, first the business' beginning in 1939 then the corporation in 1979. Roger continued to expand the business as the area grew and old cottages transformed into year round homes. In addition to the insurance business the office offered a place for Roger to manage the Frankfort Scholarship Fund and Athletic Association. In 1994 after attending Insurance School at Westfield Insurance Company Roger's son Andrew joined the family business. Andrew has followed those before him in the growth of the business and in community service. He is the current President of the Frankfort Elberta Athletic Association and volunteers his time with the Chamber and high school and youth athletics.

Over the last 70 years Frankfort Insurance has shown a unique ability to retain the small-town business feel while technologically growing to meet their client's needs in the digital age. For a small business Frankfort Insurance has continually been a standout agency for its insurance companies compiling nine awards as a top performing agency. Most recently Frankfort Insurance has grown with the addition of Benjamin MacRae. Benjamin is, like those before him at Frankfort Insurance, a graduate of Frankfort High School. He and his family have been members of the community since the early 1990's when his parents purchased Community Drug Store. Shortly after attending college Benjamin returned to Frankfort as the business manager for Community Drug and more recently as an insurance agent at Curtis Insurance.

"We're very happy to welcome Ben to our agency and feel his business experience and involvement in our community are wonderful assets" said Andrew Johnson.

Frankfort Insurance believes their success is due to their commitment to the community. They feel that being active and supporting the local schools, the Chamber of Commerce, Betsie Valley trail and other organizations is vitally important as it builds an overall stronger community.

When asked about the future Andrew Johnson offered, "We expect our business to grow while continuing the practice of doing business on a face to face basis. In these financial times I believe it is immensely reassuring to know the person who is protecting your home or business."

With these milestones Frankfort Insurance can celebrate the past while using their experience and insight to move forward toward their next anniversary. Look out 100 years here comes Frankfort Insurance.