A late fall opening is planned for a new insurance office in the Town of Fredonia that will combine two longtime insurance agencies.

The business, tentatively named the Degnitz MacGillis Insurance Agency, will be located at W3934 Hwy. H, immediately east of Schwai's Meat Market.

It will combine the staffs of the Roger Degnitz Agency, which is currently located in the Village of Fredonia, and the MacGillis Insurance Agency located in Brookfield.

Both independent agencies were founded in 1963 and offer home, life and health coverage with nearly two dozen different carriers.

"We are a third-generation insurance company which was founded by my grandfather, originally in Milwaukee and then Brookfield," Brian MacGillis said.

"I've known Roger and his staff for a lot of years. I was actually a marketing rep for one of his insurance companies before I took a job with the family agency."

MacGillis and his wife Libby live in Fredonia, giving him added reason to look forward to the opening.

"My commute time will be cut from 40 minutes to two minutes, so I am thrilled about the new building," he said.

The 3,600-square-foot building will feature a masonry exterior and extensive landscaping. There will be eight employees.

Although the building site is at the east end of a commercial corridor on the north side of Highway H, the 2.4-acre parcel is located within the Waubedonia River Acres subdivision.

That necessitated a rezoning and conditional-use permit from the Town of Fredonia.

"The town was very accommodating. I think they were glad to have any kind of building," MacGillis said.

A temporary sign will be replaced by a permanent business sign when the office opens.

Image Information: WORK IS PROGRESSING on an independent insurance office being built on Highway H in the Town of Fredonia. The office will bring together two agencies with decades of experience in the insurance field. A fall opening is planned. Photo by Mark Jaeger