

Winter 2009 MIC GROUP INSURANCE AGENCIES

First we will be best & then we will be first

NEWSLETTER

Midwest Insurance Corporation

Richardson-Hanson

Vondracek-Hotz

Serving you in four locations

NEVADA, IA

1601 South B Avenue
Box 58
Nevada, IA 50201
515-382-3541
1-800-729-4341
FAX 515-382-3844

MAXWELL, IA

93 Main Street
Box 337
Maxwell, IA 50161
515-387-8725
1-800-944-1828
FAX 515-387-1275

COLLINS, IA

209 Main Street
Box 139
Collins, IA 50055
641-385-2203
1-800-677-4012
FAX 641-385-2241

MOUNT VERNON, IA

306 Hwy. 1 SE
Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
319-895-8633
1-800-759-3407
FAX 319-895-8226

TYPES OF COVERAGE

Written and
Serviced by MIC

- ★ AGRI-BUSINESS
- ★ MPCCI
- ★ CROP
- ★ LIFE
- ★ HEALTH
- ★ ANNUITIES
- ★ DISABILITY INCOME
- ★ LONG TERM CARE
- ★ MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT
- ★ AAEA/NABE
- ★ BONDS
- ★ WORKERS
COMPENSATION
- ★ BUSINESS OWNERS
COMMERCIAL INSURANCE
- ★ ASFMRA PROGRAMS
- ★ AUTO
- ★ HOME
- ★ MOTORCYCLES
- ★ BOATS
- ★ PERSONAL &
COMMERCIAL UMBRELLA

MIC ANNOUNCES NEW
RISK MANAGEMENT
SERVICES

RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES

What does it all mean?

Risk is the thing that keeps us awake at night. Am I covered if my roof blows off; does my health insurance cover that; is my business covered for that kind of loss; do I have enough life insurance to take care of my family? Risk Management is the identification, assessment and prioritization of those risks. Once you have developed the risk list, you carefully look at the resources MIC has available to you to minimize and control the probability and/or the impact that possible unfortunate events may have. How does MIC do this?

MIC's **Risk Management Services** are the culmination of all of the above. You may even call it a carefully laid out strategy to let you sleep better at night. There are several key methods that MIC employs to manage the risks you face. We do this under the umbrella of developing a relationship that's allows us to gain valuable insights into your needs.

Business Insurance

No matter what type of entity you are: business, school or government, MIC has the experience to develop a risk management program that reflects your organizations needs. Loss control programs, risk reduction suggestions, employee safety, and workers' compensation analysis. MIC also has premier insurance markets that give your entity the advantages of transferring risks to strong insurance partners.

Employee Benefits

At MIC you will receive a comprehensive consultation and analysis of your employee benefits needs. Detailed data analysis, plan benefit design and real options that reflect the financial decisions your entity must make. Your entity will also have access to MIC's partner companies and services. These include everything from group life and disability insurance to group and individual health insurance. Thinking about an employee Wellness program? MIC does that as well.

Costs of Driving Under the Influence

A first offense conviction for driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs (DUI) in Iowa can cost a driver up to \$6,000 in legal fees and related expenses, according to the Iowa Alcohol Beverages Division. This is considering a conviction without an accident.

Bail	\$300
Towing	\$100
Legal fees	\$2000
Fines	\$1500
Alcohol evaluation, education, & treatment	\$150-\$2000
Unexpected costs: “blow & go” device, life insurance premiums, lost time at work, lose your license-lose your job?	
Insurance Escalation	\$900 or more

One of the biggest hits a drunken driver takes is in insurance premiums. A DUI conviction, it will likely affect your insurance rates for at least the next three to five years. You will be moved to a higher-risk policy. Some companies may drop you on conviction. If your policy isn't renewed, you'll have to find insurance with another company or see whether your state has an assigned-risk pool. Consult your current agent for options.

To begin rebuilding your reputation in your insurer's eyes, you have to keep your nose completely clean—no speeding tickets or other traffic citations. The financial impact of that DUI doesn't end after three years. You'll likely have to go as many as five years, incident free, to get back to the “preferred” status with a lower premium.

It's a pricey mistake! Obviously, there are a lot of costs associated with drinking and driving; most of them will change your life and the lives of others forever. So, if you want to drink make sure you call a cab or at least have a designated driver to ensure you get home safe and sound. Don't drink and drive.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Rick Hugdahl

Healthcare reform in the United States is a hot topic these days. Iowa has already been a leader in addressing some of the issues of concern. Many employers offer group insurance for their employees. No employee can be denied group coverage. A newly hired employee may be subject to some pre-existing condition limitations for the first 12 to 18 months if the new employee did not have prior credible health coverage. Many insurance companies offer individual policies including health savings account plans. The Iowa State Legislature created the Health Insurance Plan of Iowa (HIPIOWA) to provide access to health insurance coverage to all residents in the state who are unable to obtain individual insurance. Iowa also has the “hawk-i” program for uninsured kids under 19 years of age for qualifying low income families. If you want information on health insurance contact one of the MIC Group agents.

Would you prefer to receive future MIC newsletters electronically? Email us: info@midwestins.com. We appreciate those of you who responded to this option in our Spring Newsletter.

You may also view a copy of the Newsletter on our webpage at www.midwestins.com

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSES

Wednesday, December 9	Maxwell—93 Main Street	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Wednesday, December 16	Collins—209 Main Street	9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Friday, December 18	Nevada—1601 South B Avenue	9:00 am to 4:00 pm



Please join us for a treat and visit!

RENTER'S INSURANCE

Many renters are under the assumption that their landlord's policy covers their belongings in addition to the landlord's belongings. That's not the case, and quite often this is not discovered until after a claim or disaster. The landlord's policy doesn't cover anything that belongs to you. The only exception to this would be if the loss was caused by proven negligence on the part of your landlord.

Too often, people think they don't have enough property to make a renter's insurance policy worthwhile. Take a minute to think about what you own, and what you've got to lose; including clothing, furniture, computer, and jewelry. Renter's insurance provides protection if your personal property is damaged, stolen, or destroyed. If you are living with a roommate, their policy does not automatically cover your property. Your renter's policy will state exactly what you're insured against. In the insurance world, it's known as "named peril" coverage. The named perils in your renter's policy may include: fire or lightning, windstorm, smoke, vandalism or malicious mischief, theft, accidental discharge of water.

Your renters' policy will also include liability protection, which covers proven negligence for injury to another person or their property. If necessary, your policy may even pay for your legal defense in these circumstances. Additionally, your policy includes medical payments coverage. Medical payments coverage pays medical expenses for non-resident visitors who are injured on your property. Medical payments coverage is limited to the amount of coverage selected when you purchase renters' insurance.

If you are a renter or landlord, please contact your MIC agent for more complete details and information.

MIC cares for you, your security, and your success.

Information in this newsletter is for general knowledge. Specific details should be discussed with your agent.
www.midwestins.com. Click on Contact Us.

**You've Had An Auto Accident—
What Should You Do?**

We hope you're never in an auto accident, but they can happen. If you are ever involved in an accident, make sure to:
Stay calm:

1. Remain at the scene.
2. Contact police and, if necessary, medical services; ask a passing motorist to call if you're unable to.
3. Gather the following information:
 - ★ Date, time and location of the accident.
 - ★ Name, address, phone number and insurance information of the driver and owner (if different) of the other vehicle.
 - ★ Year, make, model and license number of the other vehicle.
 - ★ Name, address and phone number of any passengers or witnesses.
 - ★ Take photos if possible.
4. Do not discuss details or make any admissions of fault or sign any written statements until you have consulted with your claim representative.

You also want to remember to keep your Auto Insurance ID information in your car.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Collins-Maxwell
Beth, Ruth, Diana, Darla



Nevada
Kathy M., Nikki, Denis, Jon-Scott, Todd
Dianne, Ros, Kathy H., Jeannette, Elisa,
Rick



Mount Vernon
Lynn, Mike, Lori
Russ, Sara, Jeremy