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Your Insurance and Children in College

By: Anita Munno, CISR, ACSR

A major milestone in life is when your child leaves home to go to college. Of course emotions, both joyful and bittersweet, surround this big event and insurance concerns are probably not in the forefront of your thoughts. But, as with most life changes, there are coverage issues that should be reviewed to make sure there are no surprises later. Some questions to ask: Is your child's "stuff"—clothes, computers, TVs, books, etc. still covered under your policy? Will they have liability coverage if they cause injury or damage to another person? Are they taking a car with them and if not, does your auto insurer give you a credit? What if they borrow someone else's car? What if they rent their own apartment instead of living in the dorm?

The good news is that, in general, many homeowners and auto policies define an *insured* to include "a student enrolled in school full-time, as defined by the school, who was a resident of your household before moving out to attend school, provided the student is under the age of 24 and your relative." In addition, many companies offer an endorsement to extend to the 'age 24' issue, in case a child takes a little longer to graduate. As far as liability is concerned, if the child is still an *insured* by the definition above, then they are protected for personal liability just as if they were still living in your home.

Most homeowners policies extend coverage for "personal property usually located at an 'insured's' residence, other than the 'residence premises,' is 10% of the limit of liability for Coverage C (contents / personal property) or \$1,000, whichever is greater." So, your child's items should be covered under your homeowners policy. However, if your child rents an apartment instead of living in the

dorm, then it's probably best if they purchase a Tenant's Homeowners policy (HO4).

Auto insurance extends to students away at school as long as parents still own the car. If a child owns a car and parents are *not* included on the title or registration, then the child needs their own auto policy, regardless of where they live or go to school. If your child goes away to school over 100 miles, most companies will credit your auto policy—but you must let us know so we can update your policy. As far as borrowing someone's car is concerned, the rule to remember is that when you borrow a car, you also borrow the insurance on that car. But, that car's insurance company will probably go after whoever was responsible for any claim or accident. So, if your child is responsible for an accident while borrowing a car, your own auto insurance may have to respond.

We've only touched on a few scenarios, so give us a call to review your own policies and your specific questions—we are here to help.

We are here for you during the pandemic

DDM is here for you during the pandemic.

Until it is safe for our entire staff to work together and to comply with local mandates, we are rotating team members weekly. There will always be staff in the agency who can assist you. However, when your account manager works remotely and you need to be in contact, it is most efficient to reach them via email. You can always call in and leave a voice mail message as an alternative method of contact.

Currently, our office is closed for visitors, but we look forward to when we can see you again in person.

Thank you for your patience as we navigate COVID-19 together. We appreciate your business!

Commercial Lines News

By: Stephen J. Deadrick, CLU, CIC

- At the beginning of the pandemic, many business owners reduced payrolls on their insurance contracts. Please be reminded to check those payrolls and have them increased (if needed) to avoid large year-end audit premiums.
- Many insurance carriers offer a drug-free workplace credit on their workers compensation policies. If you have a drug-free workplace program in force for your business, let us know. We will check to see if your carrier offers a credit, and if so, we will advise you on their requirements to obtain the credit.
- It is extremely important that the vehicles list on a commercial auto policy are tagged and titled in the name that is listed as the named insured. If personally owned autos are insured on a commercial policy, two steps must be taken to provide coverage to the vehicle and the owner:
 - #1 Create and execute a formal lease agreement.
 - #2 Endorsement CA9974 – Employee As Lessor must be attached.

Your attorney should write a formal lease agreement and it must include:

- A description of the vehicle.
- Name of the person who owns the car leasing it to the business.
- Agreement by the company that it will provide insurance protection and to what extent.
- Responsibility for loan payments (if any).
- Clarification regarding who is responsible for maintenance, upkeep, and who will pay property taxes.
- Whether financial compensation is required, such as mileage, fuel, etc.
- Properly signed with third party witness.

New Maryland State Law

Although Maryland lawmakers wrapped up an abbreviated 2020 legislative session early due to COVID-19, they passed a number of insurance-related bills, including Senate Bill 40.

This bill prohibits insurers from increasing the renewal premium for an auto policy based on a homeowners insurance claim, and vice versa, prohibits insurers from increasing the renewal premium for a homeowners policy based on an auto insurance claim. The bill provides that auto insurers may consider homeowners claims, and homeowners insurers may consider auto claims, when rating the policy at the time of initial application.

Source: Insurance Agents and Brokers

WELCOME NEW CLIENTS

11831 Chaparal LLC
Barboz Enterprises LLC
Bill & Jim Inc.
Michael Warren Brown
Capitol Floors, Inc.
CD Medical Inc.
Chad's Cold Transport LLC
Mark Christman and
Kathryn Accame
Cleckley Development Corp.
Claudio Cobian
Community Health and
Education Services LLC
Cristo Viene Pentecostal
Church of God
Diamond Consortium II
Craig Dickerson
DRS Sumners & Company Inc.
From the Bottom to the Top
LLC
Game Changer Eco Friendly
Cleaning Solutions LLC
Daniel Gillotte
Guillen's Automotive LLC
William Hart
JMD Ramos Painting
& Construction
Joel's Investment LLC
Morgan King
Luis Mancuello
MTZ & Sons Plumbing LLC
Juan Gabriel Jimenez Nerio
Newport Ventures Inc.
Power Corps Solutions LLC
Max Smith
Adam Weiner
WMDA Service Station & Auto
Repair Association Inc.
Timothy Joseph Zetts

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Home Business Insurance



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Being stuck at home has provided an opportunity for a lot of us to turn a hobby into a home business.

We can help you cover your new venture by providing business liability and business personal property coverage that is excluded under a homeowners policy. There are also many optional coverages specific to your unique business needs, such as accounting services, auto detailers, bakers, computer consultants, interior decorators, and teachers.

For more information, give us a call. We're here to help.

Cyber 101

During this pandemic, many of us are finding ourselves at home working remotely for an indefinite amount of time. Computer hackers can use this time to deploy aggressive ransomware attacks and sophisticated social engineering scams to try and trick you into divulging sensitive information.

It's important to know what to look out for so that you don't become a victim of a cybercrime.

The seven most common cyber risks that can affect small to medium-sized businesses are:

- Social engineering
- Funds transfer fraud
- Ransomware/extortion
- Network interruption
- Data breach
- Network security
- Media liability

If you are aware of these cyber threats in advance, you can avoid becoming a victim of these hackers.



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Source: PIA Connection

Group Health News



By: Jack Rogers, Jr.

Open Enrollment will return for companies who do not have group health insurance. Open Enrollment for companies located in Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia is scheduled from 15 November until 15 December, for an effective date of 1 January 2021. For those of you who work for or own companies with two or more employees, we can offer you group health insurance with no participation requirements during this Open Enrollment period (with limitations). Please call us for quotes and more details.

We look forward to providing you service, information, and assisting you to find the most affordable group health insurance for your company.

We can provide group insurance quotes for life, dental, vision, and disability insurance, too.

For those of you have individual health insurance, we would be more than happy to give your employer quotes for group health insurance.

Individual Health Insurance – Maryland Uninsured Residents

Maryland residents who do not have health insurance can enroll for individual insurance only through Maryland Health Connection during their Special Enrollment Period due to COVID-19. This Special Enrollment Period has been reactivated and is scheduled to end 15 December. The website for the Maryland Health Connection is

www.marylandhealthconnection.gov. Jack Rogers is a broker on the Maryland Health Connection.

Please call our office for any possible extension dates and for more information.

**DDM Insurance will be closed
on Thursday and Friday, 26 –
27 November to celebrate
Thanksgiving.**

We invite you to call our professional staff for your insurance matters.

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Wendy Parsons x26

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Whitney Donaldson, ACSR, CRIS x29
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DAY, DEADRICK & MARSHALL QUARTERLY is published as a service to our readers. Any information contained in this newsletter should not be construed as an insurance contract. We urge you to read your policies carefully to determine your coverages. Please direct questions or comments to:

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