



Insurance by KATIE

K - Knowledgeable A - Attentive T - Trustworthy I - Independent E - Experienced

The Writer Agency
(308) 436-4202

Spring 2007

Special Interest Articles

- 5 Minute Insurance Check up 2
- Coming Events 3
- Check Your Coverage...3



“Everything in life is somewhere else, and you get there in a car”

E. B. White



Collectibles – Covered?



Jewelry. Fine art. Guns, Antique dolls. Fur coats. Rare coins. Autographs. Baseball cards. Fine Wine. Covered or not?

Standard homeowner or renter policies are intended to protect the everyday items in your home - appliances, furniture, clothing, etc. Coverage is limited for unusually valuable items and may exclude damage caused by floods, earthquakes, accidental breakage or during shipping, etc.

If you own individual

items or a collection worth more than \$1000, talk with your agent about specific additional coverage. Choose a policy that insures your collection on a stated value based on book price, secondary market value or appraisal, or replacement cost value. Examine the coverage exclusions and select a policy that is “all risk”—one that insures you for every potential hazard.

If you are in the collecting business, you will need to purchase business insurance to

protect your inventory. Homeowners policies limit coverage for business losses.

Keep all purchase receipts and supporting ownership and valuation documentation in a fireproof/safety deposit box. Keep a detailed inventory of items and their values, even if your insurer doesn't require it. Update your written appraisals every year or two.

What's the bottom line on collectibles? **Talk to your agent!**



What is UM and UIM, Anyway?

Nebraska State Law requires everyone to carry at least a minimum amount of bodily injury and property damage liability coverage for each automobile owned or operated. So why do auto policies also provide UM (uninsured motorist) and UIM (Under-insured motorist) Coverage?

Unfortunately some people ignore this law and so we must protect ourselves from being involved in an accident with these offenders.

UM & UIM will pay **you** for **your** injuries that you were entitled to collect from the other party but could not because they were not insured or were not insured for

enough to pay the injuries.

Although it appears that you are paying insurance “for the other guy”, in fact the UM and UIM coverage protects **you** and your passengers. With that in mind, consider matching your UM/UIM limits to your other Liability limits.

The New Year is a good time to put new batteries in smoke/carbon monoxide detectors and flashlights, and to ensure that fire extinguishers are operational.



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MAKING CHANGES?

As you begin this New Year, keep in mind that if you are contemplating any of the following, a discussion with your insurance agent may be warranted:

- Adding to or remodeling your home
- Opening an in-home business
- Adding or removing any licensed driver
- Getting married
- Having a baby
- Purchasing additional land or property
- Buying another vehicle
- Sending a child to college
- Retiring
- Other major life changes?

5 Minute Insurance Check-up

Yes	No	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a current inventory of my personal property and the list or video tape is stored off of my home/business premises
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I insure my home/building and personal property for the current value of their full replacement cost
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have made physical upgrades or changes to my dwelling or buildings in the past year which might require an adjustment to my insurance coverage
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I am aware of certain insurance policy limitations to special items, such as jewelry, guns, and silverware, and have taken appropriate steps to cover these exposures on my insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have adequate coverage for my property that is located outside of a building
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have adequate coverage for my property or my dependent's property while away from my premises (such as at college, etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have adequate liability limits to protect me in the event someone is injured on my property
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I currently carry an umbrella liability policy to provide additional protection from lawsuits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have towing or emergency road service protection in the event I am stranded on the road
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I weigh the costs of carrying comprehensive and collision coverage on my older vehicles against the risk of self insuring this exposure
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I carry comprehensive and collision coverage on my newer vehicles and am comfortable with the level of deductible that I carry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have adequate liability limits to protect me in the event I am involved in a motor vehicle accident or lawsuit
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have reported all drivers in my household to my agent as well as any occasional drivers of my vehicles
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	In the event of my death, my life insurance proceeds are sufficient to pay off all my debts and provide for the continuation of my family's lifestyle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	My beneficiary designations are up to date and correct
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have life insurance on my spouse and children
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have disability income coverage that will continue to provide an income in the event I am unable to work due to an accident or critical illness
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have long term care insurance coverage that will provide for an extended stay in a health care facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have discussed with my agent ways to reduce my insurance costs through deductibles, discounts, and self-insurance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have discussed with my agent my special insurance needs



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Current & Upcoming Events

As the Vice-President for the Independent Insurance Agent Association of Nebraska, (Big "I") Katie Kochenower is an advocate for insurance consumers. To this end, she will attend the Big "I" National Legislative Conference in April in Washington D.C.

Activities include an in-depth session on significant legislative

issues; high-profile speakers discussing important insurance and national issues; and hundreds of meetings on Capitol Hill between the lawmakers and Big "I" agents.

This conference will feature an array of thought-provoking and nationally recognized business speakers, industry-leading panelists and

innovative insightful workshops, as well as the largest trade show in the insurance industry; including numerous networking opportunities for agents and brokers.

Kochenower will use knowledge gained from the conference to benefit the Independent Insurance Agent Association as well as the clients she serves.



Founded in 1896, the Big "I" is the nation's oldest and largest national independent insurance agents and brokers association.

Its members are businesses that offer customers a choice of policies from a variety of insurance companies.

Independent agents and brokers offer all lines of insurance—property, casualty, life and health.

Check your Protection (adapted from Money Mag 2-2006)

Make sure you're prepared for any disaster. Dust off your policies and ask these questions:

IS IT THE RIGHT KIND?

Can I Replace My Stuff?
Your policy should cover the replacement cost of your "stuff"

How Old Is My Home?
If it's more than 5 years old consider Ordinance & Law coverage which pays to bring wiring & other features up to local building codes if you have to rebuild.

Am I At Risk of Flood?
Any location is at risk

of flood as we have seen in the past few years. A specialized separate policy can be fairly inexpensive depending on your location.

IS IT THE RIGHT AMOUNT?

What Did I Buy ?
Jewelry, a fur, art, a computer? You may have exceeded the coverage limitations in the policy for that category.

Have I Added On?
Did you turn a porch into a sun room, a garage into a guest or hobby room? You might need to

increase your home's policy limit.

What are Building Costs?
Disasters & inflation keep costs constantly changing. Check with a local building for going rates per square foot.

AM I CLAIM READY?

Where are my policies?
The safest place is a home fireproof safe or a safety deposit box.

Do I Know My Stuff?
Use a camcorder / camera to document everything including contents of drawers & boxes. Store in a safety deposit box.



The Certified Insurance Counselor designation is a nationally recognized mark of distinction that represents commitment to continuous development of service and knowledge. With over 100 classroom hours of formal insurance training along with yearly updates, CIC's are a symbol of professional excellence and proven leadership in the insurance industry. CIC's possess demonstrated competence and insurance expertise with dedication to serving individual client needs.



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5 Minute New Year's Resolution

Life changes at the speed of light and your insurance protection can become out of date just that fast, too. The New Year is under way and it is important

to take a moment to review your insurance coverage in order to verify that you are adequately protected against risk of financial loss.

Make a New Year's resolution you can keep this year by taking the five-minute insurance check-up

inside.

About Our Organization

Our agency represents many very competitive insurance companies dedicated to providing superior coverage and customer service.

With the support of the staff in Ogallala, Katie Kochenower, a Certified Insurance Counselor, uses her

20+ years experience to provide you with quality, affordable insurance tailored to fit your specific needs.



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**Do you know
someone who could
benefit from personal
insurance service?
Your referrals are
appreciated!**

