

# SOME FREES ADVICE

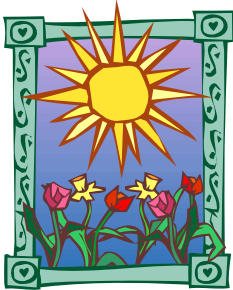
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## Umbrella Coverage Not Just for Rainy Days

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The staff here at Frees Insurance is always willing to help. When you call, any of us can talk to you regarding your account. We are:

Robb      Nancy      Lisa  
Patty      Dianne      Kelly  
                 Dave

This article is about an Umbrella, but not the accessory you carry on a rainy day to keep from getting wet. There is another type of umbrella you may not be as familiar with, but is infinitely more important to your future financial health.

We are all familiar with insuring our cars, homes and recreational vehicles, but may not have an understanding of the Umbrella policy. As a means of explanation, picture the kind of umbrella you would carry in the rain. Now imagine that umbrella sitting above all of your individual insurance policies.

An Umbrella liability policy gives you added protection in the event of an insurance

related law suits. If you are in an automobile accident, the coverage offered in your standard policy could quickly be eaten up by high liability awards and lawyers fees. The same could be true of your homeowners policies.

If you carry an Umbrella policy in addition to your standard policies, it offers you added protection above and beyond those policies. So once your limits have been exhausted you can turn to your Umbrella policy which would give you additional \$1million to \$5 million coverage.

Without an Umbrella policy you could be personally responsible for coming up with the additional funds to cover

such a loss.

We recommend all of our clients consider an Umbrella policy, but especially those individuals with pools, trampolines or animals where your exposure to injury loss is higher.

Please give us a call to discuss this important coverage. For as little as \$250 you could get the peace of mind you deserve.



## What Factors Go Into Auto Insurance Rates?

Do you know what information insurance carriers use to establish your car insurance rates? Most people would answer age of the driver, location of the car, driving record and type of vehicle. All of these factors would be considered, but there are a few more things that are taken into account. According to AAA World, your credit history might be just as important as your driving record. Your credit score is a portion of what the Insurance Industry refers to as your "Insurance Financial Score (IFS)". This measures your responsibility with money and directly affects the cost of your car insurance. A high IFS translates into lower premiums.

In this world of high auto insurance rates, every client should do whatever they can to keep premiums as low as possible. Just one more reason to keep those credit reports as clean as possible.

## Backing Everything Up is the Name of the Game

If your household is anything like your neighbors, you have at least one electronic device that holds personal information. We would venture to guess that the number is more like 3 or 4 devices. Whether it is a personal computer, laptop, a handheld Personal Data Administrator or MP3 player, the theft of such a device could be devastating.

Not only would you suffer the financial loss of the equipment being gone but there is also an identity loss of sorts.

We recommend always backing up the information you store on these devices. That way if anything is stolen you have only lost the electronics and not the blood, sweat, and tears that you put into loading

your personal information. With the plethora of flash drives, portable hard drives and online file storage options now available, an insured need never risk losing both a device and its contents.

So please remember, back-up your electronic devices at least once a week!!



*“Ideas are like rabbits. You get a couple and learn how to handle them, and pretty soon you have a dozen.”*

John Steinbeck  
US Novelist  
1902-1968

## What Do You Have That We Don't Know About?

It is important to us here at Frees Insurance that our clients carry appropriate coverages on all their assets. We don't want you to carry excessive insurance but at the same time we don't want anyone underinsured either. To this end, we would like you to review the following checklist to make sure you don't possess something that we don't know about that needs to be insured.

### Automobile Insurance

- Adequate Liability
- Full-tort/Limited-tort
- Towing and/or Rental Reimbursement Coverage
- Discounts available: Retirement, Auto/Home Combination, and Anti-Theft.

### Homeowners Insurance

- Dwelling Replacement Cost Coverage
- Contents Replacement Cost Coverage

- Identity Fraud
- Back Up of Sewers & Drains
- Riders for Jewelry, Silver, Furs, Etc.
- Flood Insurance
- In Home Business
- Garages—Other Structures Adequate Insurance
- Increase Deductible
- High risk—Pools, Trampolines

### Valuable Items Coverage

- Jewelry

- Silver
- Antiques
- Collections

### Liability Umbrella

This provides additional Liability coverage over both your home and your cars. It is catastrophic protection for your personal assets should your basic coverage be insufficient.



## Think About Those Graduates

It seems like only yesterday, your child was just starting grade school, now they're graduating! During this very exciting time, there are a few insurance items you should consider.

If your child is graduating

from High School and moving out, make sure you keep their personal property protected. We recommend purchasing renters insurance for them. Whether they are in an apartment at college or right around the corner, renters insurance is a must.

If your child is graduating from college, in addition to renters insurance, you should help them obtain health insurance. Typically children are no longer covered under their parents health insurance policy once they graduate from college.