CROLEY INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL.

LOOK AHEAD, STAY AHEAD. **SPRING 2024**



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AGENCY NEWS

We did it - again. Hooray for us! We enrolled over 500 CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS consumers on Marketplace coverage and earned a place in the 2024 Marketplace Elite Plus Circle of Champions — the HIGHEST level in the Marketplace Circle of Champions among brokers

across the U.S.

Welcome to our newest team members:



Patsy Hines Medicare Dept.



Isabel Blanco Bagby **Property & Casualty** Dept.

Flood insurance: is it worth the investment?

With spring upon us, the Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance and the State Emergency Management Agency wants to reminds us to consider purchasing flood insurance. Although more than half of Missouri is currently experiencing drought, flooding can still pose a serious threat with enough rainfall. Rainwater can fail to efficiently infiltrate hard grounds in areas that have experienced abnormally dry conditions, increasing the risk of localized flash flooding. Almost 40 percent of flood insurance claims come from areas not considered high-risk for flooding.

It is important to note that a standard homeowner or renters' policy typically does not cover flooding damage. Missourians should review their current flood insurance coverage or consider purchasing a flood insurance policy if they don't have one. A new policy can take 30 days to go into effect and it is a great way to protect your home, business, or personal property from the damages of flooding. FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program for the state of Missouri claims that just ONE inch of water can cause \$30,000 in damage to an average home.

Source: <u>dci.mo.gov</u>

Flood insurance facts to know:

- Flood insurance can pay up to \$250,000 for damage to your house and up to \$100,000 for contents.
- Business owners can purchase coverage up to \$500,000 for structures and up to \$500,000 for contents.
- Flood insurance pays for covered flood damage regardless of whether there is a federal disaster declaration. According to FEMA, the average annual cost of an policy for homeowners is about \$950.
- Anyone can buy flood insurance if your community participates in NFIP, regardless of your home or business location.
- Individuals and business owners are encouraged to review their emergency plans and update them as necessary to ensure they are sufficiently prepared.

Ask these crucial questions:

- 1. If you already have a policy is your coverage amount adequate?
- 2. Do you have BOTH structure and content policies? These are separate coverage policies and amounts.
- 3. Do you rent? You can buy coverage for your personal property. Ask your insurance agent about renter's flood insurance.

Protect yourself against Medicare fraud.

Medicare fraud and abuse can happen anywhere, and usually results in higher health care costs and taxes for everyone. Some examples include:

- A provider that bills Medicare for services or supplies they never gave you, like charging you for a visit you never had, or a back brace you never got.
- A provider that charges Medicare twice for a service or item that you only got once.
- A person who steals your Medicare Number or card and uses it to submit fraudulent claims in your name.
- A company that offers you a Medicare drug plan that Medicare hasn't approved.

Here are 3 tips to protect yourself from Medicare fraud and scams:

- 1. If you get a call, text or email asking for your Medicare Number, don't respond. Don't give your Medicare card or Medicare Number to anyone except your doctor or people you know should have it.
- 2. Check your Medicare Summary Notices or claims statements carefully. If you see a charge for a service you didn't get or a product you didn't order, it may be fraud.
- 3. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card.

If you suspect fraud: first, call your provider's office to inquire. They may be able to help you understand the charges, or discover a billing error. If the situation is not resolved by the provider and you believe that you may be a victim of fraud, call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Visit <u>Medicare.gov</u> to learn more about preventing Medicare fraud and medical identity theft. (Source: Medicare.gov)

We love any reason to celebrate Chiefs Kingdom!





Another Super Bowl win for the history books!

Croley Crew Vs our Community

Beginning in July, Kyra Woods will be President of Springfield Rotaract and Deanna Adams will be Secretary of the Springfield Downtown Rotary.









Kyra presenting at the Show Me Rotary President-Elect Training Seminar

Property and Casualty Clients:

Give a referral, Get rewarded.

We appreciate your trust in our business and your referrals. Earn a \$10 gift card when you send a friend, family, or associate our way.

> Exclusions apply. Call 417-881-3520 for details

Visit with us at an upcoming chamber event:

4/17: St. Charles Chamber of Commerce luncheon

5/22: Springfield Chamber Maximize Your Membership event

The first blooms of spring always make my heart sing.

-S. Brown