



Ames Insurance Center April 2010 Newsletter

Issue 6

April 1, 2010

BIG Customer Giveaway!

We appreciate the referrals our clients give us and we want to say thanks for them! To show our appreciation, we are running The BIG Customer Giveaway! The event began on April 1 and will continue until June 29!

Send your family and friends to Ames Insurance Center for a quote and your name will be entered into our great drawing!

We will be giving away:

- **Compaq Laptop**
- **Grill and Tools**
- **\$150 Hy-Vee gift card**
- **\$50 Gas Card**

The contest is open for all current clients! Every person that mentions your name will qualify you to win on of our amazing prizes! The more referrals you send, the more chances you have to win!

For rules and contest details, please look at the official rules on our website or contact the office!



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Texting While Driving Law Takes Effect July 1, 2010

Iowa is following the footsteps of many other states by banning texting while driving. Governor Chet Culver will sign the no texting while driving law in early April 2010. The law will be enforced starting July 1, 2010.



The law will be enforced differently for adults and teens. Adults must be pulled over for another violation before an officer can write a ticket for texting. This means that adults will not be pulled over for texting while driving alone. Teens on the other hand will be pulled

over and cited for texting violations without any other cause.

There will be a "one-year warning (education) period", meaning that

only warning tickets will be issued during the first year of the new law. After July 1, 2011, however, motorists cited for texting while driving will face a minimum \$30 fine.

If an accident or death results while a driver is texting, the fine moves up to \$500 and \$1,000

respectively. The driver may face suspension of their license if an accident or death occurs as well.

Texting while driving has been a hot topic for quite some time. Many states, including Illinois, Missouri, and Minnesota, have all banned texting while driving within the last few months.

Texting while driving is very distracting and dangerous, and Iowa lawmakers hope this law will create safer drivers and roadways.

For more information on the anti-texting law, review www.handsfreeinfo.com. Information on the dangers of texting while driving can be found in our December Newsletter.

Drunk Driving

Drunk driving does not only impact a single individual— it affects family, friends, and strangers too. Driving under the influence is a very costly and preventable mistake.

An Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) ticket is issued to drivers that have a blood alcohol content of .08. An OWI ticket alone costs \$625-\$1,250 plus a possible 2 days in jail and a license suspension of 180 days. Fines and penalties greatly increase with subsequent arrests. The cost of a ticket, however, is

nothing compared to the cost of a life.

In 2008, there were 37,261 motor vehicle fatalities in the United States as a whole. 11,773 of those deaths were deemed as "alcohol-impaired driving fatalities." In Iowa, 89 of the 412 driving fatalities were attributed to drunk driving in 2008, meaning that 22% of the motor vehicle deaths in were due to an operator driving under the influence.

Iowa's drunk driving arrests and

fatalities have been decreasing over the last few years, but the numbers are still staggering. Drunk driving is preventable and there are ways to keep all drivers on the roadways safe.

- Have a designated driver.
- Take public transportation like buses and taxis.
- If at a house party, stay the night.

Drunk driving arrests and fatalities are completely preventable. Be smart and be safe—drunk driving is not worth the risk. Information from nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov

Passionate about exceptional service.

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Organization