

# THORP & TRAINER TIMES



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR CLIENTS OF THORP & TRAINER INSURANCE



## TIMES ARE CHANGING ... THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW.

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PERSONAL LINES ACCOUNT MANAGER

Living on the Northeast, we are used to severe weather. However, recently storms have become harsher and more frequent, leaving many of us with property losses. Sometimes those losses result in minor damage, other times losses can be severe or even catastrophic. In cases of a larger loss you could find yourself without the comforts of home or belongings. You may also incur additional costs due to changes in building codes.

All communities and municipalities have building ordinances and laws. An ordinance is a statute or regulation, enacted by a governmental authority. The codes and regulations in regards to building structures change over time. Electrical requirements today, for example, are very different than they were in the early 1900's, and in many coastal communities regulations

relating to roofs and windows are very different than they were just five years ago. Communities have also enacted strict elevation requirements for properties located within flood zones. When a building is damaged or destroyed, you may find yourself not only needing to re-build or repair, but also that you are required to make additional changes to meet the most recent set of building codes in force. In many cases, these can be extremely expensive.

Insurance policies were designed to help restore your property back to the way it was prior to the loss, subject to policy specific limitations. So what happens when you are required to take additional steps or make modifications when repairing or replacing a home due to the newest set of building codes in force? This is

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## COAST COVERED AT THORP & TRAINER

With a coastal heritage of over 100 years, we understand the importance of having multiple options for insuring property on and near the coast. In the wake of Super Storm Sandy where so many of our friends and neighbors were affected by losses, we have made it our priority to represent insurers who specialize in insuring coastal homes.

The companies we represent have expertise in calculating risk and properly pricing homeowners' insurance for homes that could be impacted by flooding and storms. Not every insurance company insures coastal homes, and we take it as our responsibility



to select insurance companies who share the same commitment to our valued customers as we do.

If we feel your homeowners' insurance could be better serviced with a different carrier, we will come to you with our recommendation. You also can feel free to reach out to Thorp & Trainer directly at 596-0146 if you have any questions or concerns about your current coverage.

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where **Ordinance** or **Law** coverage or in the case of flood insurance, **Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)** could kick in. Both are designed to provide coverage for additional costs incurred as a result of changes required by those newer building codes.

In the case of **Ordinance** or **Law**, not all policies are created equal. While some policies offer 10% or more of your building coverage for ordinance or law losses, it is not included on every policy, and in many cases may not be enough coverage should the worst happen. There are some companies that will allow you to purchase additional **Ordinance** or **Law** coverage for an additional premium, while there are others that do not offer the coverage at all. To be sure, always review your policy and any available options with your Thorp & Trainer Account Manager.

All flood insurance policies underwritten by the National Flood Insurance Program, (NFIP) have **Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC)** coverage included. The coverage will provide up to \$30,000 to help pay for the costs to bring the building into compliance with the community's floodplain ordinances. ICC coverage is available under two circumstances. Either the building must be substantially damaged by 50% or more of the **market value** of the home, or if your community has a repetitive loss provision in the floodplain management ordinances and determines that your property has suffered 2 or more paid flood losses in the last 10 years. If the buildings damage does meet that criteria there are four options that the ICC coverage will assist in paying:

**Elevation** – Raising the building to at or above the flood elevation levels adopted by the community

**Relocation** – Moving the building out of harm's way

**Demolition** – Tearing down and removing the flood damaged property.

**Flood proofing** – This option is available for primarily non-residential buildings. It involves making the building watertight through a combination of adjustments or additions of features to the building that reduces the potential for flood damage.

If you have any questions or want to review what your coverage options may be please call us anytime at **596.0146**. A well-educated insurance decision is always the best one you can make. At Thorp & Trainer, we always do our best to help you make sure our customers are well-informed and completely protected.

THORP  
& TRAINER  
INSURANCE

Since 1910

## HELPING OUR COMMUNITY FOR OVER 100 YEARS...

*At Thorp & Trainer, we work hard to be an exceptional community partner, and are proud to support the following organizations:*

- Seniors Helping Others
- Westerly Adult Day Care
- Ocean State YMCA
- St. Pius X School
- Theatre By The Sea
- Stand Up For Animals
- Jonny Cake Center
- Westerly Armory
- Tomorrow Fund
- Connecticut Aquatic Club

WE ARE PROUD TO BE MEMBERS OF THE INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF RHODE ISLAND



In order to provide superior customer service and comprehensive insurance products, Thorp & Trainer remains very active within the agent community. As members of the Independent Insurance Agents of RI (IIARI) we have access to top-rated insurance companies and the latest in insurance industry news and information.

Howard Thorp, President of Thorp & Trainer, is currently President of the Board of Directors for IIARI. Our Agency Manager and Vice President, Elizabeth Trebisacci serves on the IIARI Convention Committee, and Kelly Townsend, Account Manager, is Chair of the Young Agents Association. Kelly has also been an active member of the Coastal Committee.

Our staff remains committed to continuing education and worthwhile participation in the insurance community for the betterment of our clients.

# THORP & TRAINER WELCOMES NEW EMPLOYEES

We are pleased to announce that Suzanne McCoy has joined the staff of Thorp & Trainer. Sue will direct our Life Department and her specialties include: life, disability and long-term care insurance, as well as Medicare. Sue has worked as a financial services representative for both Sovereign Bank and New York Life, and also served as a financial consultant with Smith Barney. Additionally, she received a Bachelor of Science in Personal Finance and Consumer Affairs from the University of Rhode Island.



Sue is most proud that she was able to educate all eight of her children from home, and appreciates the values of hard work and integrity. She resides in Coventry, RI, where she enjoys spending time with her growing family. An active member of her community, Sue hopes to join the Westerly-Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce this summer.



Mandi Abate has joined the Thorp & Trainer team as a Personal Lines Account Manager. With experience in both customer service and business management, she is sure to be a tremendous asset to our expanding staff. Mandi prides herself on exceptional customer service skills and always goes above and beyond to make certain her clients receive the best possible coverage at a fair price.

With a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Connecticut State University, Mandi is a personal trainer at Luxe. She recently worked for Enterprise and is currently pursuing her producer license. She lives in Pawcatuck, Connecticut and frequently attends Chamber and Rotary-sponsored events. She also enjoys the beach and running.

## UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS OF HOSPITAL INDEMNITY PLANS

If you are currently looking into or have a Medicare Advantage Plan, you may be aware of certain deductibles or co-pays you would be responsible for in specific situations. Usually one of those situations is a daily co-pay requirement for a hospital stay. Such expenses tend to add up quickly should the need arise. Guaranteed Trust Life Company's (GTL) new Advantage Plus Plan is designed to supplement your current health insurance plan to fill some of the co-pays, deductibles, or coverage gaps you would be responsible for should you need care. The policy provides an innovative solution to help cover your out-of-pocket expenses.

A Daily Hospital Confinement policy also known as a Hospital Indemnity Plan pays you a daily benefit amount between \$100 and \$600 per day should you be confined to a hospital. You can also choose either a 10-day or 21-day benefit period which will restore after 60 days of no hospital confinement. Benefits are paid in cash directly to you and are paid in addition to other insurance you may have.

With GTL's Advantage Plus, you will have the peace of mind knowing that your health insurance co-pays, deductibles and coverage limits won't surprise you after an illness or accident. Please call Sue McCoy at 596.0146 to learn more.

(Basic exclusions may apply in addition to underwriting)

## STRAWBERRY/RHUBARB CRUMB PIE

Prep: 15 min. Bake: 45 min.  
Yield: 8 Servings

### Ingredients

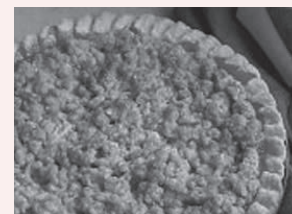
- 1 egg
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3/4 pound rhubarb rib, cut into 1/2-inch pieces or sliced frozen rhubarb, (about 3 cups)
- 1 pint fresh strawberries, halved
- 1 unbaked pie shell (9 inches)

### TOPPING:

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup quick-cooking or old-fashioned oats
- 1/2 cup cold butter, cubed

### Directions

- In a large bowl, beat egg. Beat in the sugar, flour and vanilla until well blended. Gently stir in rhubarb and strawberries. Pour into pastry shell.
- For topping, in a small bowl, combine the flour, brown sugar and oats; cut in butter until crumbly. Sprinkle over fruit.
- Bake at 400° for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to 350° bake for 35 minutes longer or until crust is golden brown and filling is bubbly. Cool on a wire rack.





Since 1910

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO KELLY TOWNSEND!

Thorp & Trainer would like to extend best wishes to Kelly Townsend, Personal Lines Account Manager, for being selected a 2013 Five Star Home/Auto Insurance Professional. Fewer than 7% of the home/auto insurance professionals in our area achieve this level of excellence and we congratulate Kelly on a job well done.



## 3rd Annual Shred Day

**Saturday, May 11th 9am - Noon**  
**At the Thorp & Trainer Offices, 107 Airport Road · Westerly**

The public is invited to bring 2 boxes of old statements, legal records and other sensitive documents to be shredded.

**This Event is FREE - Donations will also be accepted for the following local charities:**

Jonnycake Center: coffee, tea, condiments, baking items, ramen noodles, canned food, bread and pasta  
Stand Up For Animals: gift cards, canned soft cat food, cleaning supplies, old towels and blankets