

Business Briefs

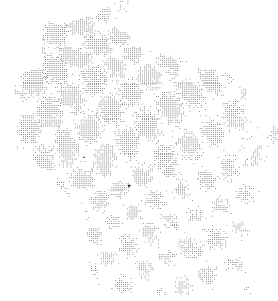
- Personal ethics fall not to greed or ambition but to everyday pressures, most typically striving to meet unrealistic goals and deadlines, according to a survey by the American Management Association and the Human Resource Institute of 1,100 human resource managers and executives. It found that chief executive officers most often bent the rules to achieve results, and that pressure to perform, the institute said, “often cascades down the corporate hierarchy.”
- Businesses will have to notify customers if their personal information is stolen and consumers will have greater say over who can get their credit information under legislation the governor signed to help prevent identity theft, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. Gov. Jim Doyle said in a statement that thieves can use just a tiny amount of information to ruin someone’s financial reputation. He said the bills would provide additional protections to prevent that from happening.



What This Symbol Means To You ...

There is a difference in where you buy your insurance. Many don’t realize there are three sources for insurance:

1. Captive Agents—who can sell you the insurance of only one company.
2. Telephone & Internet Representatives—who can offer you the insurance of one company only on the telephone or via computer.
3. Independent Insurance Agents, like us—who represent an average of eight insurance companies and research with these firms to find you the best combination of price, coverage and service.



Wisconsin— A Great Insurance Buy

National statistics show insuring your home and vehicle is cheaper in Wisconsin than nearly any other state, according to a report from Wisconsin Public Radio. Data from the National Association of Insurance Commissioners shows the average combined home and auto insurance premium in Wisconsin is 29 percent lower than the national average. The NAIC statistics are from 2003, latest data available. It ranks Wisconsin 49th out of 50 states and District of Columbia. Only Idaho is less expensive. The average cost to insure both your home and auto in Wisconsin is \$1,054.

Looking Back 100 Years

- Average life expectancy in the United States was 47 years.
- Only 14 percent of homes had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone.
- A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11.
- There were only 8,000 cars in the United States and only 144 miles of paved roads. Maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year; a dentist \$2,500 per year; a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
- The five leading causes of death in the United States were:
 1. pneumonia and influenza
 2. tuberculosis
 3. diarrhea
 4. heart disease
 5. stroke
- The population of Las Vegas, Nev. was 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer and iced tea hadn’t been invented.