



Wyoming
Hospital
Association

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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WHA Calendar:

WHA CEO/ Trustee Educational Program Cody, WY	5/19

Other Events:

Legislature Convenes	2/8

Save the Date: WHA Trustee Education – May 19 in Cody

The content and agenda for the annual WHA Trustee Education Program for 2016 is nicely taking shape, to once again bring focus on timely issues for presentation and review, specifically driven to the needs of Wyoming hospital trustees.

Well-grounded, thoughtful trustee education has become a cornerstone of our statewide efforts. As the challenging financial and operational pressures continue to stress hospitals nationwide, sound and diligent governance is imperative as hospitals stand committed to serve their respective communities.

This year's event is scheduled to be held Thursday, May 19 at the new conference facilities at West Park Hospital in Cody.

The agenda will feature a keynote address by Clint Maun, President and Senior Partner with Maun-Lemke Consulting, LLC. As co-founder of his firm, Mr. Maun is nationally recognized for his innovative expertise in healthcare operations, management, revenue enhancement, quality improvement – all aspects of leadership and professional development.

The agenda will also include a variety of current topics, with key leadership from the Wyoming Department of

Health on hand to review a number of licensure and survey issues. Senior Administrator, Heather Babbitt and Survey Agency Director, Laura Hudspeth will present – in addition to Pat Davis providing updates regarding life safety code and construction plan review.

Members of our Trustee Education Council have also identified a new area of specific interest to be included in this year's program – review and discussion of Hospital Foundation related activities.

All aspects of capital campaigns & fundraising, with the community relations and promotion that comes alongside these efforts – there are clearly some best practices and success stories that would be of benefit for all hospital boards and foundation boards to understand and learn from.

In building this into the agenda, we are very pleased to have Molly Hampton to help lead this discussion. Molly is from Lander and has been the director of philanthropy for The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming since 2006. She has led staff and board philanthropy teams who together have built a major gifts program focused on both annual giving and a \$40-million campaign for conservation throughout Wyoming and

internationally as well.

Molly holds a master's degree in Nonprofit and Education Leadership, and previous to her work with TNC, she was on the executive team at the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) for over 20-years. WHA looks forward to her expertise and experience in translating very well to the healthcare realm of foundation-based activity – to also include a panel discussion of foundation leaders to share their perspective and best practices.

The day will again include a legislative review and an open forum to focus the topics of the day in manner that becomes practical for all hospital board members. The opportunity to openly discuss local hospital issues, share successes and common challenges will be sure to serve as the perfect manner in which to tie the program together to conclude the day.

Full agenda and registration information coming soon.

We would encourage you to reserve your hotel room soon as the room block expires April 15th and rooms in Cody sell out quickly. We have negotiated a rate of \$129 per night at the Holiday Inn at the Buffalo Bill Village Resort. Their phone number is 307-587-5555.



Lovell Hospital Plants Time Capsule

North Big Horn Hospital has planted a time capsule containing information about its past, present and future vision for the hospital and the community in the wall of its new addition, currently under construction.

“We did this so people 25 years from now can see the kinds of things we dealt with, worried about, had excitement about and the optimism we created for the future,” explained NBHH CEO Rick Schroeder.

“What we’re doing today

(making improvements to the hospital and clinic) will make the future better. It contains information about some of the things we worried about and prepared for today in order to make a better tomorrow.”

The time capsule was placed in one of the walls of what will soon become the new main entrance to the hospital and the clinic.

On the outside, the capsule looks like a simple wooden box, but on the inside it’s a treasure-trove of

information about the hospital and the community it serves.

Some of the items in the box include photos of the clinic, the hospital, care center and staff and even an aerial photo of the town of Lovell.

A letter from Schroeder, a photo of the construction crew building the new addition and many more items designed to pique the interest of future generations are also sealed in the time capsule.

Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight

Rural Hospitals Discuss Their Future

Rural healthcare leaders are gathering in Phoenix for the 29th annual Rural Health Care Leadership Conference.

Sessions focus on the impact that industry changes will have on rural providers, including provider consolidation, the growing role of nurse practitioners and federal regulations.

The Save Rural Hospitals Act, introduced last Session,

would roll back Medicaid bad debt and disproportionate-share hospital pay cuts to rural hospitals.

It would also relax physician supervision requirements to make it easier for rural nurses and physician assistants to perform routine medical procedures.

The recently introduced Rural Emergency Acute Care Hospital Act would create a new Medicare pay-

ment designation for “rural emergency hospitals.”

Those facilities would receive 110% of normal reimbursement for providing 24/7 emergency care and observational care in some cases. No action has been taken on either bill since last summer.

Injury Coding Programs a Success

In January, the Wyoming Trauma and Injury Prevention programs hosted Sharper Coding for Trauma with ICD-10-CM and ICD-10-PCS in Casper.

The program was meant to increase coding skills for hospital billing staff, medical coders and trauma program staff.

The Trauma and Injury

Prevention programs would like to thank our hospitals for the tremendous turnout and interest in improving injury coding!

Course participants represented 70% of Wyoming's acute care hospitals, 69% of our Critical Access Hospitals, and one rural clinic.

In addition, three separate Wyoming Department of Health programs partici-

pated in the two day course.

For further information on the program, please contact Kelli Perrotti, BSN, RN, Wyoming Trauma Program, Office of EMS & Trauma, Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division, 6101 Yellowstone Road; Suite 400, Cheyenne, WY 82002, e-mail kelli.perrotti@wyo.gov, or call (307) 777-3470

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