

# NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 46, Number 10

March 13, 2015

## WHA Calendar:

WHA Trustee Education  
Riverton 5/21

## Other Events:

HFMA Conference  
Casper 3/18-3/20

AHA Annual Meeting  
Washington, DC 5/3-5/6

National Nurses Week 5/6-5/12

## 2015 Interim Topics Revealed by Legislative Committees

On the heels of the 2015 General Session having come to a close last week, the official roster of interim topics to be studied by the various legislative committees has been released this week.

As is very typical, most of the activity related to our work at WHA and of importance to hospitals statewide rests with the Labor, Health & Social Services Committee.

As a general topic of focus, the LHSS Committee has identified "Health Care System Problems" as an area of study, to include a variety of issues related to primary care access, safety net programs such as qualified health centers, rural health clinics and the patient centered medical home model.

In addition, specifically as it relates to hospitals – the Committee intends to review "various models of hospital organization, governance and administration as they affect market, funding and regulatory difficulties."

In continuing with a theme that has been present over the past several years, the Committee will also review position and response to federal actions and initiatives.

The outcome of the upcoming "King v. Burwell"

decision, the ongoing effects of ACA reform on small employer group insurance and the state's reinsurance program, and other federal requirements regarding supervised agencies that need immediate action are all identified under this section.

The Committee will also review the state's medical education programs as they directly impact healthcare provider availability, including the WWAMI program, the UW family practice residency program, and the possible adoption of the Interstate Nursing Licensure Compact.

In addition to the hospital and healthcare related activity slated with the LHSS Committee, the Joint Appropriations Committee – as chaired respectively by Senator Tony Ross of Cheyenne and House Representative Steve Harshman of Casper also has identified hospital-related items of interest as well.

Somewhat similar to the elements of review desired by the LHSS Committee, the Appropriations Committee indicates intent to "review the structure, revenue sources, and all payer claims database and revenue options available to county and special district hospitals."

As the interim committees set their dates and corresponding agendas in which to conduct their review and work, WHA will clearly be called to keep in step with the desires of the respective committees, providing reports, documents and factual consult in support of our member hospitals statewide.

### Joint LHSS Committee

#### Senators:

Charles Scott, Chair – Natrona Co.  
Bernadine Craft – Rock Springs  
Ogden Driskill – Devils Tower  
Ray Peterson – Cowley  
Bill Landen – Casper

#### House Representatives:

Elaine Harvey, Chair – Lovell  
Eric Barlow – Campbell Co.  
Norine Kasperik – Gillette  
Sue Wilson – Cheyenne  
Lloyd Larsen – Lander  
Fred Baldwin – Kemmerer  
JoAnn Dayton – Rock Springs  
Harlan Edmonds – Cheyenne  
Andy Schwartz – Jackson

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Quilting for Fallen Heroes

Once a month, a group of Cheyenne women gathers to create final tributes for area veterans.

They create colorful red, white and blue quilts with patriotic fabric for veterans in hospice care at the Cheyenne Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The quilts will be draped over the gurneys and gurney blankets that cover the bodes of deceased veterans when they are removed from the

VA Center.

“When veterans die at the VA Medical Center, they are removed from the facility in a Final Salute ceremony,” Chaplain Carol Carr says. She is the chief of chaplain services at the Center.

Anyone there at the time a veteran is removed—doctors, nurses and other employees as well as residents—stops to salute the person as the gurney is wheeled out.

“Families and others who witness the Final Salute are deeply moved by the generosity of the community and by the tears and respect shown to their loved one during this simple ceremony, she said.

The quilts are dual purpose. They serve as bed covering while a patient, upon passing a patriotic tribute and covering while transported from their room and afterwards a lasting memento to the family.

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



### UW Nursing School Gets Grant

The University of Wyoming's Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing has been chosen to continue participation in a national initiative aimed at transforming nursing education.

The school's Wyoming Center for Nursing and Health Care Partnerships (WCNHCP) will receive a second two-year grant — of up to \$150,000 — through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's (RWJF) Future of Nursing State Implementation Program (SIP).

The \$7.65 million initiative is helping states prepare the nursing profession to address the nation's most pressing health care challenges — access, quality and cost.

SIP bolsters efforts already underway in 50 states and the District of Columbia — through the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action — to improve health and health care through nursing.

The campaign provides a vehicle for nurses at all levels to lead system change to

improve care for all through collaboration with business, consumer and other health professional organizations.

The WCNHCP will focus over the next two years to implement ReNEW, a shared statewide curriculum that allows students to earn associate's degrees and then continue seamlessly to BSN (or higher) degrees, starting at any of the community colleges and continuing to the University of Wyoming.

### Grants Training in Casper - May 4-5

The Casper Police Department and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Casper, May 4-5,

This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals.

Beginning and experi-

enced grant writers are encouraged to attend.

WHA members are offered a special tuition rate of \$425 which includes class workbook and accompanying resource CD that's packed full of tools and more than 200 sample grant proposals.

Seating is limited, online reservations are neces-

sary. Use code "WYASSN" to receive this \$30 discount off full price at registration. Complete event details including learning objectives, class location, graduate testimonials and online registration are available here. <http://grantwritingusa.com/grants-training/grant-writing-workshops/casper-wyoming-may-2015.html>

**Wyoming Hospital Association**

**2005 Warren Ave.  
Cheyenne, WY  
82001**

**[www.wyohospitals.com](http://www.wyohospitals.com)**

**307.632.9344**