WAHU WAVE

Washington Association of Health Underwriters

November 2020 Volume 1, Issue 5





NAHU Happy Hour Podcast

Listen at the link above or subscribe via iTunes, Stitcher or Spotify

Watch the Live from NAHU Webinar on the Results of the Election

We joined NAHU CEO Janet
Trautwein on Thursday,
November 5, at noon ET for a
webinar that recapped the
results of the election and what
they will mean for the next year
and session of Congress. How
could the campaign pledges
become reality? What were
some key takeaways from the
exit polls that could shape the
receptions, legislative process?
Will there be new faces in the
Administration? How do the

results change NAHU's legislative strategy? And what should you tell your clients before Inauguration Day?

This was a very popular session!

The session was limited to 1,000 participants. If you didn't make it or want to rewatch, , the session was be recorded and the slides

WAHU's Day on the Hill 2021

and webinar recording are posted online.

So much great information and insight into the future impacts of this election!

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Our annual Day on the Hill will be a virtual event this year.

It is scheduled for Tuesday. January 19th and will have several hours of CE as well as our update on the legislators/legislations currently in play.

How our traditional visits with our elected officials will take place in this time of COVID is still under discussion.

More information to come, but be sure to put this on your calendar.



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Char Parker

Awards Chair

"The answer to an unasked question is always, no"

This month's WAHU Board Member

Char started her insurance career in 2008 when she joined Integrity Insurance.

Like most of us, an insurance career wasn't planned, but 12 years later here she is!

Char has been with her wife for 11 years, 4 years as partners and they were second in line at the courthouse they day it became legal for them to marry. They have two children, ages 9 and 7 so it is 'always nutty' at their house.

Her hobbies include camping, traveling, gardening and wine drinking as well as working on their 120 year old 'money pit' of a house.

Char has been the Awards Chair for WAHU for several years and does a great job of helping our chapters develop through our certification and awards blueprints.

NAHU Federal Policy Priorities

Single Payer: NAHU strongly opposes all forms of single-payer healthcare and is committed to promoting employer-sponsored health coverage and preserve Medicare, Medicaid, and other existing health programs.

Employer Exclusion:

NAHU opposes any efforts that would eliminate or cap the employer-tax exclusion

for health insurance.

Cadillac Tax and Health

Insurance Tax: On Thursday, December 19, 2019, the House and Senate passed the fiscal year 2020 spending bill and companion tax extenders measure, which included a permanent repeal of the Cadillac Tax and Health Insurance Tax effective January 1, 2020.

NAHU supports legislation to repeal the "Cadillac Tax" on middle class Americans' health plans and repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers under the ACA.

Surprise Billing: NAHU supports legislation to address surprise/balance medical billing through legislation that would provide new patient safeguards and implement a federal payment benchmark.

Check your Spam Filter!

WAHU sends out information to our membership and sometimes we get caught by email filters. Please take a moment and add us to your contacts, so that you don't miss a thing!

WAHU Communications

info@wahealthunderwriters.org

President's Corner

We are hip-deep in Fourth Quarter (we all know why it is capitalized.) We need to figure out what helps us unwind, relax and most especially, sleep.

I can always tell when my work-life balance has gotten a little out of whack. I will dream about work, usually about something vital that I have forgotten to do.

How to avoid the stress of Q4? Some is unavoidable. The sheer volume of work or tight enrollment periods see to that.

Of course there is always the standard advice: Get enough sleep, drink plenty of water, get out and breathe some fresh air every day.

My brain is weird though (we established that last month.) What relaxes me?

Korean Soap Operas. Korea has some amazingly enjoyable shows, and the cultural difference just make it more fascinating. For example, "The School Nurse Files" if Buffy was a high school nurse and instead of vampires, jelly monsters!

Christmas movies also get me out of my head. Especially ones I have seen every year, over and over.

An lastly, making lists.

Lists of projects for the house, Thanksgiving ideas, books to read, shows to binge, organizing projects.

It is a small thing, but helps me feel that I have some sort of control in a time of year we just hang on, and a time in our country where everything feels like the beginning of a dystopian novel.



Mary Pierce, President

NAHU Federal Policy Priorities, continued

Medical Loss Ratio: NAHU supports legislation to remove the agent/broker compensation from the Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) Requirement in the individual and small group markets.

Employer Reporting: NAHU supports legislation to streamline the employer reporting process and strengthen the eligibility verification process for the health care premium tax credit and cost-sharing subsidy.

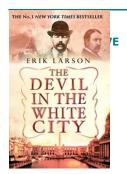
Full time Status: NAHU supports legislation to repeal the 30-hour threshold for full-time employee for purposes of the employer mandate in the PPACA and replace it with 40 hours.

COBRA Coverage: NAHU supports legislation to allow seniors enrolled in COBRA coverage to transition to Medicare Part B without a penalty, the same as seniors who remain on similar employer-sponsored coverage, by providing for a one-time special enrollment period.

Observation Status: NAHU supports legislation to allow observation stays to be counted toward the three-day mandatory inpatient stay for Medicare coverage of a skilled nursing facility.

HSA Reforms: NAHU supports legislation to address issues with HSAs and employer-sponsored coverage and modernize HSA regulations.

Small Business Tax Credit: NAHU supports legislation to expand and modify the small business tax credit to purchase marketplace health insurance coverage.



Soon to be a mini-

series starring

Leonardo DiCaprio as

HH Holmes

Ready to read a page-turner?

One was an architect. The other a serial killer. This is the incredible story of these two men and their realization of the Chicago World's Fair of 1893, and it's amazing 'White City'; one of the wonders of the world.

The architect was Daniel H. Burnham, the driving force behind the White City, the massive, visionary landscape of white buildings set in a wonderland of canals and gardens.

The killer was H. H. Holmes, a handsome doctor with striking blue eyes. He used the attraction of the great fair - and his own devilish charms - to lure scores of young women to their deaths.

These two disparate but driven men are brought to life in this mesmerizing, murderous tale of the legendary Fair that transformed America and set it on course for the twentieth century

Looking Ahead – WAHU State Symposium

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2021 WAHU State Symosium will be held this coming March 23rd and 24th.

Traditionally, we have two days with the same content, one held in Spokane and one in Seattle.

Because of the pandemic, and the likelihood that there will still be restrictions on large gatherings, the Symposium will be held virtually this year.

We will be holding the Symposium over two days with 3-4 hours each day of different content. Our goal is to present a total 6-8 hours of timely and interesting CE content. Our platform will have an exhibitor hall, to chat live with our carrier partners and break opportunities as well.

Keep an eye out for more details as we get closer to 2021!!

Do you know your Washington Legislators?

Sometimes it is hard to keep track of who your legislators are. Life gets busy, and unless there is an election cycle, it is easy to lose track.

Also, we are a society that moves around frequently. That often means a change in districts and a change in your elected officials.

Go check out the
Washington State
Legislature District Finder.

Just type in your address and it will give your State and Federal legislators and their contact information.

How can you connect? Check out their Facebook and Web pages. Follow them on LinkedIn.

During the Summer recess they often schedule local (most likely virtual at the moment!) community meetings.

Send them an email introducing yourself and your experience as an Insurance professional.

WAHU

Welcome New Members

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Michael Lancey, Mckenzie Chase Management, Seattle, WA – sponsor: Keith Wallace

Our Mission

The Washington Association of Health Underwriters promotes the highest level of professional and ethical conduct amongst its membership. We deliver education, public policy information and policy recommendations to our members. In addition, we advocate consumer choice, accessible and affordable quality health care for our communities.

Local Association Chapter Presidents

EWAHU – Spokane – Julie Shepard-Hall, integrityins@msn.com

NWAHU – Seattle – Keith Wallace, keith@riceinsurance.com

SSAHU – South Sound – Laci Moyer, lmoyer@pheinsurance.com

TCAHU – Tri-County – Harilyn Dumancas, harilyn.t.dumancas@kp.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.wahealthunderwriters.org