National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals
Lone Star Chapter
NABIP

The LoneStar

NEWSLETTER

September, 2025 | nabiplonestar@gmail.com | www.nabip-lonestar.org

WE'RE BACK

Much like the mythical phoenix rising from the ashes, the Lonestar Chapter of NABIP is stepping forward with a bold new look and renewed energy. With the launch of our redesigned newsletter and updated website, we are embracing a fresh chapter in our mission to serve and support our members like never before.

Is Life Insurance The Answer To The Growing Long-Term Care Need In The U.S?

As seen in LIRMA

Each day, more than 11,000 Americans turn 65, and a majority (56%) of them will need some level of long-term care (LTC) services within Read More Here...

LoneStar's Commitment To You

Our commitment to professional growth and industry engagement is stronger than ever. Starting this year, members can look forward to monthly virtual CE classes, ensuring you can continue your education from anywhere. In addition, our newsletter and website will deliver industry news and key updates from Austin and Washington, helping you stay informed on the issues that matter most to your clients and communities.

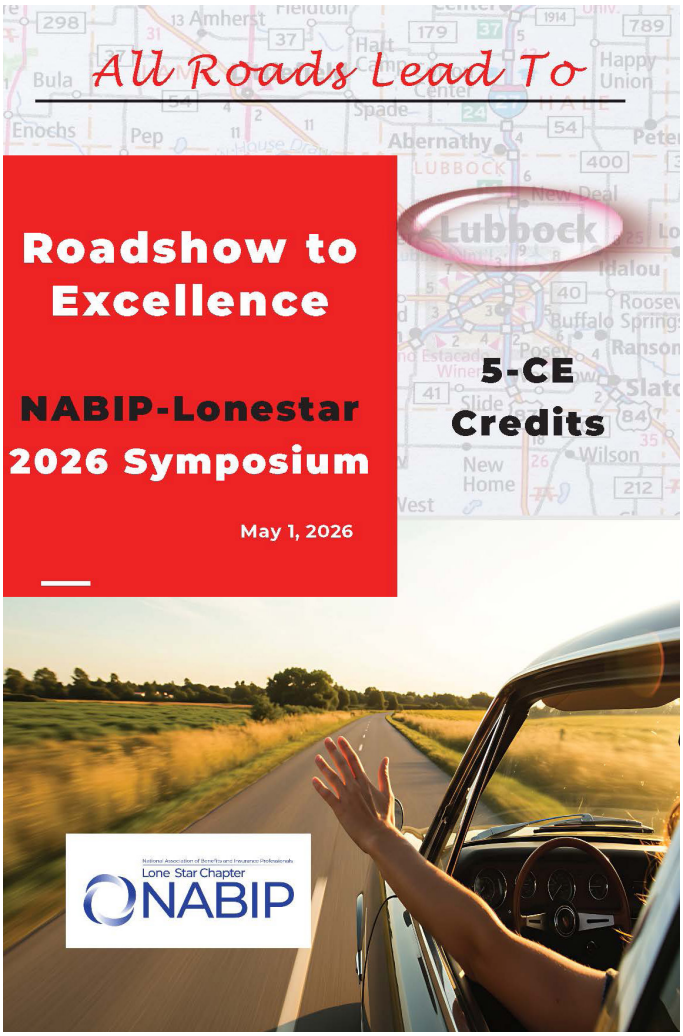
And because nothing can replace the value of face-to-face connection, we are excited to announce the return of our annual Roadshow. This event will once again bring us together in person, offering opportunities to network, learn, and exchange ideas that will shape the future of our industry.

The phoenix has risen—and so has Lonestar NABIP. With a revitalized platform, stronger connections, and renewed purpose, we're ready to soar higher than ever.

CMS Expands Eligibility For Catastrophic Health Plans

By: Jakob Emerson as seen in Becker's Payer Issues

CMS is expanding eligibility for catastrophic health coverage on the ACA marketplace in 2026. The agency issued new hardship exemption guidance on Sept. 4 aimed at individuals projected to be ineligible for advance premium tax credits or cost-sharing reductions due to their annual household income. Read More Here...



Lubbock TEXAS

We're Coming To Lubbock To See You!

You Can Stay In An Enchanting Castle Airbnb In Texas

By: Katie Lawrence as seen in Only In Texas

Did you know that you can stay in an enchanting overnight castle in Texas for less than the cost of most hotel rooms? Newman's Castle, tucked away in the rolling countryside just outside of Bellville, Texas, is a tourist attraction built by Mike Newman in 1998, inspired by his travels across Europe. With a moat, a working drawbridge, turrets, a perimeter wall, and other traditional features, the castle is impressively realistic.

While it's most commonly used as an event venue and for tours, the castle (well, one of its rooms, anyway) is also available on Airbnb. I'm running to book a night or two in one of the most whimsical places in Texas! The room will instantly transport you back to Medieval times with its four-poster queen bed, stone walls, tapestries, and rustic decor.
Read More Here...

LoneStar Monthly Virtual Webinars

September - 9th - 10:00 AM
The Hidden Cost Of Health Care
Speaker: Joe Brining

October - 14th - 10:00 AM
TBD

November - 18th - 10:00 AM

May 1, 2026
NABIP-LoneStar
Roadshow Symposium
Lubbock, TX

NABIP-LoneStar host a 1-HR Virtual CE Class on the second Tuesday each month starting at 10:00 AM.
Watch our website for topics and guest speakers.

NABIP-LONESTAR MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

MEET: BOARDMEMBER - RON BYRD

Ron Byrd – Donna TX

Ron recently joined the NABIP-LoneStar board of directors as Communication Chair. Ron is the current President of Group Sales & Marketing at the Infinitus Group in Edinburgh TX, better known as the RGV- Rio Grande Valley.

Ron has a 40+ year career in the insurance industry ranging from an Agent to President.

Ron also serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Benefits & Insurance Professionals (NABIP) as Magazine Editor, and the Communication Chair for the South Texas Chapter of NABIP.

Ron enjoys playing golf and spending time at his hunting lease in south Texas. He and his wife Deena are empty nester's and attend to their four-legged child princess, Hailey... the Pitbull.