

# LAURIE BUDGAR

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## SUMMARY

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I'm an award-winning editor and writer with a robust history of producing compelling content for consumer, trade and B2B audiences. My specialties include health and business, but I am a strong interviewer and researcher who can treat any subject with curiosity and an obsession for accuracy.

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

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**Ways With Words**, President/Owner | 2008–Present | Longmont, CO

I provide freelance writing and editing services for print and online media. Clients have included the National MS Society, Healthline, Reader's Digest, Parenting, Delicious Living, Nutrition Business Journal, Fortune Small Business, Journal of Financial Planning, AmericanWay, AAA Colorado, University of Denver, the Denver Post, Nutrition Business Journal, LIVESTRONG.com and more.

**National MS Society**, Editor | 2011–2017 | Denver, CO

I coordinated all aspects of producing **Momentum**, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society's flagship publication, a 76-page magazine with a quarterly circulation of nearly 500,000. I assigned and edited all content, enlivening each issue with a mix of current research, advice for managing symptoms, profiles of people making a difference in the MS community, and essays from those living with MS. Under my leadership, **Momentum** won a 2014 Folio award for Best Full Issue and honorable mention for Best Redesign. In 2015, the publication won a Folio award for Best Article and in 2016, two Honorable Mentions for Best Full Issue. Outside my duties as editor, I also wrote books central to the Society's annual North American Education Program. Topics included: making medication decisions; cognition and mood in MS; managing bowel and bladder issues in MS; and cultivating resiliency.

**The Natural Foods Merchandiser**, 2003–2008 | Boulder, CO

Managing Editor | 2006-2008

I managed the editorial and production processes for this Penton-owned trade journal for the natural food and healthy-living industry. I directed a team of senior editors, copy editors and freelance writers, and developed the monthly layout for the magazine. I coordinated and directed special projects that involved the art, production, sales and trade show departments. I wrote and edited news and features, including the research-oriented Nutrition Science News section.

Senior Editor | 2003–2006

As lead editor of the organic and natural foods section of the magazine, I conceived and refined article ideas, wrote them or assigned them to freelancers, and oversaw them throughout the editorial process. I also created a bimonthly e-newsletter and oversaw its content development and budget.

**InvestmentNews**, Assistant Managing Editor | 2002 | New York, NY

I coached reporters in story development, collaborated with the editorial team on our weekly story budget and layout, and assisted with digital page design. I transformed a jargon-heavy tax column into a balanced, informative and entertaining read each week.

**Colorado Springs Business Journal/Pueblo Business Journal**, 1998–2001 | Colorado Springs, CO

*Editor-in-Chief* | 1999–2001

I directed all editorial functions at two Southern Colorado business journals. I wrote news stories, editorials and a weekly column on the business of health care. I assigned and edited all other stories and photography. I engaged our early multimedia capabilities to drive additional traffic to our website. I also launched new columns, special publications and regular features for the papers, and initiated a redesign.

*Associate Editor* | 1998–1999

I wrote news stories, features and a health care column. I coordinated guest-written articles for specialized industry overviews, generated story ideas for news and special sections, and assisted the editor with layout.

## HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE

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**Various hospitals and skilled nursing facilities**, 1986- 1998 *Speech-Language Pathologist*

Provided language, cognitive and swallowing retraining to people affected by neurological illness or trauma. Provided caregiver education. Acted as clinical consultant to other therapists. Wrote articles for physicians describing the benefits and availability of speech-language therapy. Advocated for patients' needs with physicians and insurers.

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

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**Boston University** | *MS in Speech-Language Pathology*

**State University of New York at Buffalo** | *BA in Communicative Disorders & Sciences; Psychology*

**Pikes Peak Community College** | *Journalism*

**American Speech Language Hearing Association** | *Certificate of Clinical Competence*

**American Medical Writers Association** | *Member in good standing*

## SKILLS

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**Style Manuals:** Thorough knowledge of the Associated Press Stylebook, and comfortable with the Chicago Style Manual and the American Medical Association Manual of Style.

**Languages:** Basic Spanish.