

KEEPING THEM IN STITCHES



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Hope McLaughlin with her quilting machine and a king-sized quilt sent by a customer, ready to be quilted.

Quilt show to feature work of Hope McLaughlin, who has helped countless others complete their creations

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Hope McLaughlin of Enterprise would just as soon not have her age published in the paper, so let's just say her energy and the length of her community service is astonishing.

Hope is known to local quilters — and some in Hawaii, New Jersey and California — for her interest in quilting, her quilting machine and the token price she charges to quilt.

For those who don't quilt, the double meaning of "quilt" can be a little tricky. Most quilters (here it means someone who builds a quilt) cut fabric in little pieces and sew those pieces together in a pattern. That is a quilt top. The bottom of the quilt is often a single fabric and, of course, there is some sort of batting (an insulation layer usually made of polyester, cotton or wool) sandwiched between the fabrics. To hold this sandwich together, someone must "quilt" it — stitch through all the layers of the quilt to hold everything in place.

See *QUILT*, Page A9

Hospital switching to digital records

By Steve Tool

Wallowa County Chieftain

Picture an ambulance with flashing lights and a siren blaring as it pulls into Wallowa Memorial Hospital's emergency entrance transporting an unconscious patient with critical injuries whose only ID is a driver's license.

The patient has no spouse or friend to deliver critical information to emergency room staff.

Some emergency room personnel start treatment while one staff member is on the phone desperately trying

See *RECORDS*, Page A9

WALLOWA GRADUATES STEP INTO ADULTHOOD

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

And so the adventure begins.

That was the class motto for the 2016 Wallowa High School graduates, most of whom are starting that adventure into adulthood with ... more school.

Eleven of the 13 students who walked across the stage to accept their diplomas from School Board Chair Jeff DeVore had scholarships, from Air Force-bound Robert Delancey's Wallowa High School Student Body Government Scholarship to Valedictorian Emily George's 19 scholarships, including an Oregon Promise award to get her started on her education at Linn Benton Community College before her transfer to Oregon State University.

Music Teacher Anna Stipe pointed out that awards won by students totaled \$100,000 in scholarships and financial assistance, and thousands of those dollars came from local awards.

Oregon Promise rewarded nine Wallowa students with nearly two free years at community college. Those were awarded to:

- Dakota Allen, who also won the AJ & W Blockland Award
- Ashley Campbell, who also won the Terry Crenshaw Memorial and Wallowa Volunteer Fire Department Cadet Awards
- Salutatorian Koby Frye, who also won the AJ & W Blockland and Cecil and Lottie Chrisman Memorial Awards
- Emily George, as mentioned above
- Cole Hafer, who plans to go on to police academy after studying at Central Oregon Community College and also won awards from AJ & W Blockland, Wallowa Volunteer Fire Department, Wallowa Education Association, Charles & Kate Goebel Memorial, Cecil & Lottie Chrisman Memorial and Mike Holloran/Elizabeth Jackson Holloran King

• Mary Beth Hulse, who also won



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Marybeth Hulse poses with proud family members after graduation.



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Marli Tracy gets a hug from a friend after graduating with the 2016 Wallowa High class.

the Terry Crenshaw Memorial Award

- Thomas Jamerson, who is headed for culinary school and also won the Seifert Family Award
- Megan Jones, who also won



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Valedictorian Emily George is all smiles with classmate JiSu Lee after graduation. George took home 19 scholarships.

awards from AJ & W Blockland, Lawton & Florence McDaniel Memorial, Wallowa County Teachers Guild, Blue Mountain Community College Ambassador and Wallowa Lions Club

See *GRADS*, Page A9

County joins suit over paid sick leave

By Kathleen Ellyn
Wallowa County Chieftain

Nine counties — including Wallowa County — are suing the state of Oregon, claiming its new paid sick-leave law is an unfunded government mandate.

Linn County commissioners filed the suit Friday in Linn County Circuit Court on behalf of Douglas, Jefferson, Morrow, Malheur, Polk, Sherman, Wallowa and Yamhill counties.

According to Wallowa County Commissioner John Lawrence, Commissioner Susan Roberts did most of the legwork on the decision — talking to local businesses and county commissioners from other counties — before the county indicated in writing it would be interested in joining Linn County in the suit.

The decision for Wallowa County was finalized Monday during the regular commissioners' meeting.

Since January, Oregon law requires employers with at least 10 employees to provide paid sick leave. Employers must provide one hour of sick time for every 30 hours an employee works, or 1 1/3 hours for every 40 hours worked.

The law would apply to part-time employees as well as full time.

The counties are asking the state court for its interpretation of the constitution, which states (Article 11, section 15) that counties may refuse to comply with any new state program if they aren't given funding from the state to offset those costs.

See *LAWSUIT*, Page A9

