

What goes around comes around



This week you’ll read an announcement of even more awards our Wallowa Memorial Hospital has won. It made me smile with pride, as if I’d done something to earn that award. And, well, we all have.

We’ve made this a community where highly qualified people want to live.

I got to thinking about how every little thing adds to another to create “quality of life” and how big an addition a critical care hospital makes to that equation.

I’ve heard a story recently of a fellow who came in with an appendix about to burst, weather so bad that the helicopter couldn’t fetch him, roads so bad the ambulance would have had to crawl to La Grande, and one of our highly qualified doctors did the emergency surgery.

That’s life or death stuff. That’s a big addition to the equation.

I took a trip to the emergency room myself recently and was darn happy to know we had a thoroughly modern imaging suite to diagnose the extent



Dr. Powers and student nurse Jessica Barker, both of Enterprise, confirm their patient’s heart is strong and steady.

of my injuries and a highly qualified emergency room doc to make the call as to whether I’d go to La Grande or go home. That was a pretty big addition to the equation for me. So, “highly qualified medical staff” is one of the big additions that results in “quality of life” in Wallowa County. There are plenty of other “big numbers” we can count: great schools with nearly 100 percent graduation, clean air, low crime, and people who like to pitch in.

All those things benefit everyone, and they also mean Wallowa County has been able to attract doctors with degrees from Stanford, University of Chicago and Loma Linda.

Not only that, but we have been able to recruit docs with specialties to put us on a regular visiting schedule.

We’ve been able to offer chemotherapy and infusion services three times a month – saving some really ill people the ordeal of driving to Walla

Walla three times a month.

We have a maternity ward, an ICU and CCU, an ever-expanding physical therapy crew, a dietitian – not to mention the extraordinary dietary knowledge base of our physicians here in Wallowa County.

And the circular benefits of our natural resources plus our hospital go beyond the exceptional health care options available in Wallowa County. According to the Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems, our hospital creates 262 jobs. Since 158 of those jobs are right there in the hospital – where did the 98 secondary jobs come from? Pharmacies, construction companies, child care facilities, clinics associated with the hospital, Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness, and Main Street businesses that benefit from a population of employed individuals with incomes sufficient to purchase goods beyond the basic needs.

And the increased enrollments in our schools that families bring means more money for school programs, money to make repairs and purchase new educational tools for our schools, and the ability to retain our top teachers (which in turn attracts families).

And what goes around comes around. And this particular circle is a halo of blessings.

Go ahead and give yourself a pat on the back. We did good.

IN BUSINESS: BRIEFS

Joseph Chamber sets ‘listing’ event

Joseph Chamber of Commerce will host a free night of networking, refreshments and education 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, at the Outlaw, 108 N. Main St.

Highlight of the evening will be a session designed to teach area businesses how to access, update and modify their listing on JosephOregon.com.

The site generated more than 28,000 visits in February, and chamber officials expect that number to double by summer.

The session will include instruction in how to change content and write compelling ad copy that appeals to online users.

Those participating are asked to bring a laptop or a flash drive or other media with graphic files for business logo and photos.

A second class will be scheduled if at least 10 people cannot make the first one. This second class would be 10 a.m. Friday, April 28. Contact the chamber in advance to sign up for the second class – it is not necessary to contact or RSVP for the first session.

Wallowa Memorial Hospital earns two national awards

Wallowa Memorial Hospital in Enterprise is enjoying a wave of national recognition.

It was named a Top 20 Critical Access Hospital by the National Rural Health Association. Then on April 4, Healthgrades awarded it the Patient Safety Excellence Award.

The National Rural Health

Association, a nonprofit dedicated to improving the health and well-being of rural Americans, chose its Top 20 from a list of the Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals of 2017, recently chosen by iVantage Health Analytics. iVantage is a private health care company that evaluates and rates the 1,300 Critical Access Hospi-

tals nationwide on a variety of criteria to create its Top 100 list.

Wallowa Memorial Hospital was rated in the 99th percentile of the Top 100 list, which automatically put it into the Top 20. The hospitals on both lists are identified through the Hospital Strength Index, a rating system based

on publicly available information to determine overall performance in eight categories: quality, patient outcomes, patient satisfaction, costs, charges, inpatient market share, outpatient market share and financial stability.

“Rural hospitals across the country struggle to stay financially stable and provide quality care, and we are seeing record numbers of rural hospitals closing across the country, with another 700 at risk of closing,” said Wallowa Memorial Hospital chief executive officer Larry Davy.

“This recognition confirms we are in a good position to adapt to changes in health care policy at the state and federal levels.”

Of the Top 20 hospitals nationwide, only five are located in Pacific Northwest, including one other in Oregon, Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande. Wallowa Memorial earned the Patient Safety Excellence Award from Healthgrades, the leading online resource for information about physicians and hospitals, putting the small rural hospital “in the top 10 percent of all

hospitals evaluated for their superior performance in safeguarding patients from serious, potentially preventable complications during their hospital stays.”

“This is great recognition for the effort we put into following standards of care,” said Stacey Karvoski, infection control quality director and Registered Nurse. “All staff play a role, from housekeeping who keep the rooms clean to the nurses and physicians who follow strict protocols.”

Healthgrades evaluated patient safety by looking at the 13 indicators as defined by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The Healthgrades research reveals hospitals that prioritize patient safety are also more likely to achieve high quality outcomes for their patients, according to Dr. Brad Bowman, chief medical officer of Healthgrades.



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CLUES ACROSS

- Volcanic craters
- Makes nervous
- Long strip of cloth
- Expressions of surprise
- Perception
- 2016 World Series runner-up
- Former Communist power
- Consume
- Abyss
- Regulator gene
- Card game
- Women (French)
- State capital
- Nursemaid
- Surface opening
- Second sight
- Beloved Mexican dish
- Discounts
- Ceremonial staff
- Support with difficulty
- Reluctant to share information
- Song
- Relating to songbirds
- Conductance units
- Breezed through
- Supervises flying
- Chemical ring
- Swiss river
- Not happy
- Surgery (slang)
- Let go
- Take effect
- ___ and greet
- Male offspring
- Notes

CLUES DOWN

- Vertebrate oncogenes
- Troubles
- Imitator
- Increase motor speed
- Midway between south and southeast
- Sir ___ Newton
- Penny
- Ultimate
- Gummed labels
- Quiet and dull
- Cuckooes
- Dishonest scheme
- Adult female chicken
- Breathe in
- Pieces of land
- Of I
- Type of footwear
- Heavy clubs
- Conductance unit
- Approaches
- Fungi cells
- Devoured
- Type of shark
- Work steady at one's trade
- Vegetable
- Sound-mindedness
- Matured
- Chinese communist revolutionary
- Large insect
- Transportation tickets book
- Female horse
- Expresses surprise
- Saudi Arabian king
- Unleavened bread
- Christmas
- Deity of monotheistic cult
- Flowering plant genus
- Hairstyle
- Radio personality Rick
- Something you chew
- The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
- ___ Basinger, actress
- Midway between north and northeast



Church Directory

Church of Christ

502 W. 2nd Street • Wallowa
541-398-2509

Worship at 11 a.m.
Mid-week
Bible Study 7 p.m.

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church

100 NE 3rd St., Enterprise
NE 3rd & Main St



541-426-3439
Worship Service
Sunday 9:30am

St. Katherine's Catholic Church

Fr. Francis Akano
301 E. Garfield Enterprise

Mass Schedule
Tues-Fri 8:00 am
Saturdays 5:30pm Sundays 10:30am
(541)426-4008
stkatherinecenterprise.org
St. Pius X Wallowa Sundays 8:00am
All are welcome

Summit Church

Gospel Centered Community
Service time: 10:30 am
Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise
Pastor Mark Garland
www.summitchurchoregon.org



Joseph United Methodist Church

3rd & Lake St. • Joseph
Pastor Cherie Dearth
Phone: 541-432-3102

Sunday Worship Service
10:00 am

JosephUMC.org

Faith Lutheran Church



409 W. Main
Enterprise, Oregon

Worship 2nd & 4th Sundays - 2 pm

Bible Study
2nd & 4th Thursdays - 11 am
LCMS
(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Enterprise Christian Church

85035 Joseph Hwy • (541) 426-3449

Worship at 9 a.m.
Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship at 6 p.m.
(nursery at A.M. services)

"Loving God & One Another"
David Bruce, Sr. - Minister

Christ Covenant Church

Pastor Terry Tollefson
Church Office: 541-263-0505

Family Prayer: 9:45am
Sunday School: 10am
Worship Service: 11am

723 College Street
Lostine

Lostine Presbyterian Church

Discussion Group 9:30 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM

Childrens program during service
Blog: dancingforth.blogspot.com

541.398.0597
Hwy 82, Lostine
Stephen Kliever, Minister

Enterprise Community Congregational Church

The Big Brown Church with an open door
Pastor Archie Hook
Sunday Worship 11am
Bible Study 9:30am

Ark Angels Children's Program
Ages 4-6th grade, 11am
Nursery for children 3 & under
301 NE First St. • Enterprise, OR
Find us on Facebook! 541.426.3044

Wallowa Assembly of God



606 West Hwy 82
Wallowa, Oregon
541-886-8445

Sunday School • 9:30
Worship Service • 10:45
Pastor Tim Barton
wallowaassemblyofgod.com

Seventh-Day Adventist Church & School

305 Wagner (near the Cemetery)
P.O. Box N. Enterprise, OR 97828
541-426-3751 Church
541-426-8339 School

Worship Services
Sabbath School 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Worship Hour 11:00 a.m. - Noon
Pastor Jonathan DeWeber

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Births



A son,
Ryker Neil Lowe
was born March 6, 2017,
to Mike and Melissa Lowe.
Grandparents are Elwayne and
Bonnie Henderson and Mayah
Lowe. Great grandparents are
Norman and Jeanie Warner,
Vera Henderson, and Don and
Charlotte Stonebrink.

A daughter,
Ayla Faye Weathersbee
was born April 7, 2017, in
Enterprise to James Weathersbee
and Christina Merlo of Wallowa.
Grandparent is Cathy Merlo.

A daughter,
Mattie-Rae Grace Hunter
was born April 10, 2017, in
Enterprise to Jeremy and
Laura Hunter of Enterprise.
Grandparents are Terri Tucker,
Steve James, Frank and Jody
Orrell, Judy and Jack Burgoyne,
Bob and Sharon Dees, and
Calvin and Denise Hunter.



301 W. Main, Enterprise • 541.426.3177