

FSA county committee elections to begin; producers to receive ballots this week

WASHINGTON, DC—Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) began mailing ballots to eligible farmers and ranchers across the country for the 2015 FSA County Committee elections on Monday. Producers must return ballots to their local FSA offices by Dec. 7 to ensure that their vote is counted.

“County committee members represent the farmers and ranchers in their communities,” said Dolcini. “Producers elected to these committees have always played a vital role in local agricultural decisions. They are essential to the daily operation of nearly 2,200 offices across the country. It is a valued partnership that helps us better understand the needs of the farmers and ranchers

we serve.”

Nearly 7,700 FSA County Committee members serve FSA offices nationwide. Each committee has three to 11 elected members who serve three-year terms of office. One-third of county committee seats are up for election each year. County committee members apply their knowledge and judgment to help FSA make important decisions on its commodity support programs; conservation programs; indemnity and disaster programs; emergency programs and eligibility.

Producers must participate or cooperate in an FSA program to be eligible to vote in the county committee election. Approximately 1.9 million producers are currently eligible to vote. Farmers and ranchers who supervise and conduct the

farming operations of an entire farm, but are not of legal voting age, also may be eligible to vote.

Farmers and ranchers will begin receiving their ballots this week. Ballots include the names of candidates running for the local committee election. FSA has modified the ballot, making it more easily identifiable and less likely to be overlooked. Voters who do not receive ballots in the coming week can pick one up at their local FSA office. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked no later than Dec. 7. Newly elected committee members and their alternates will take office Jan. 1, 2016.

For more information, visit the FSA website at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or contact your local USDA Service Center or FSA office.

Rep. Smith speaks to junior high citizenship class



Oregon Rep. Greg Smith speaks to a junior high citizenship class in Heppner Monday. The class is a nine-week elective course for eighth graders with the focus on being a good citizen. “We will eventually talk about our civic duty and being contributing members of society. We are also trying to incorporate some information on understanding local government and state government,” said teacher Petra Payne. Smith is an eight-term member of the Oregon House of Representatives, serving District 57, representing Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and portions of Wasco counties. -Photo by David Sykes

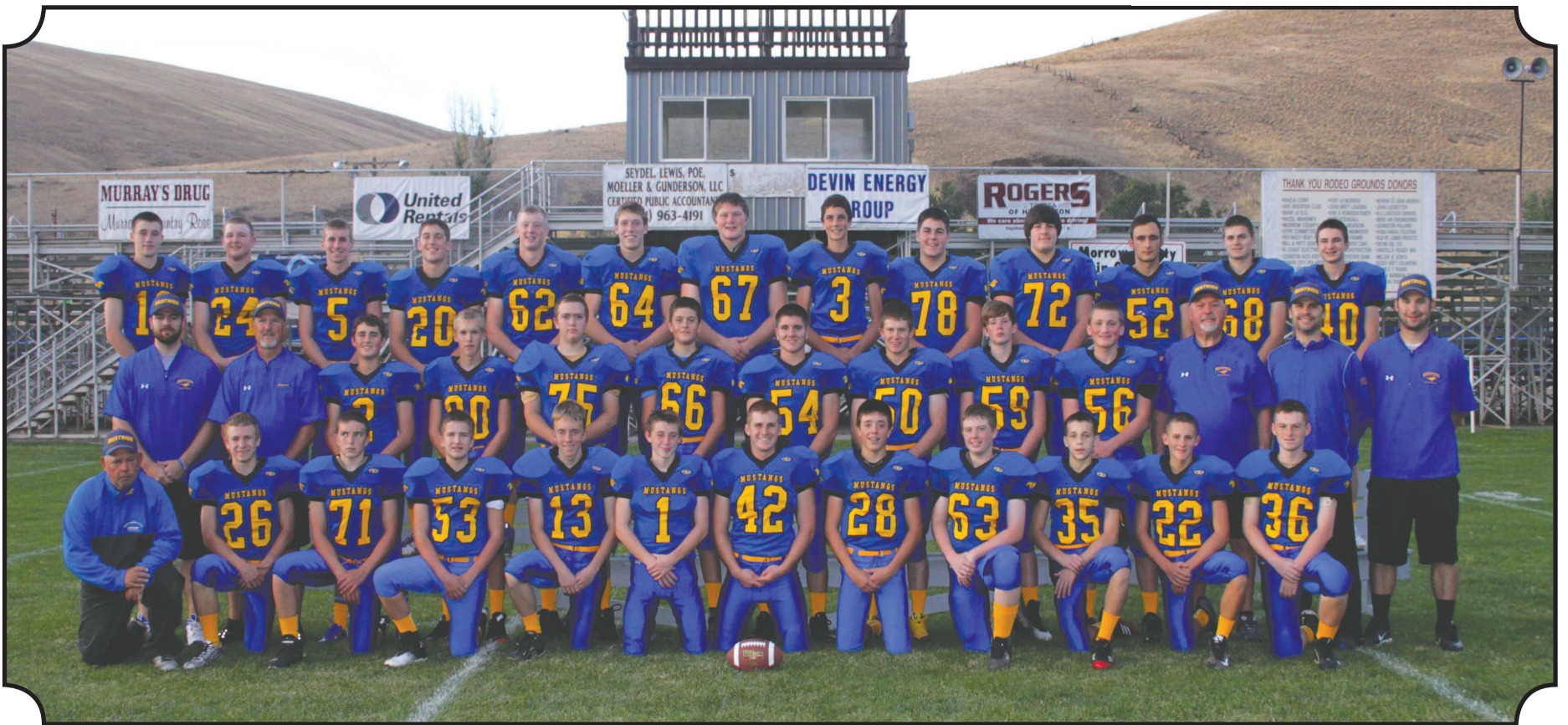
GOOD LUCK MUSTANGS!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

VS. REEDSPORT BRAVES

MORROW COUNTY FAIR

GROUNDS @ 1:00 PM



Back Row (l-r): Kaden Clark, CJ Kindle, Logan Grieb, Weston Putman, Kevin Murray, Wyatt Steagall, Patrick Collins, Kevin Smith, Derek Howard, Dakota Howard, Saul Erikson, Tre Cimmiyotti, Beau Wolters. Middle Row: Mike Ehram, Coach Greg Grant, Jake Lindsay, Leo Waite, Ethan Akers, Cason Mitchell, Tim Jaca, Kolby Currin, Zavier Glover, Jacob Wallace, Les Payne, Asst. Coach Kevin Payne, Asst. Coach Jeremy Rosenbalm. Front Row: Jimmy Fichter, Kaden Corbin, Carson Brosnan, Keegan Gibbs, Mads Melt-ofe, Ryan Smith, Tommy Bredfield, Colby Dougherty, Charles Cason, Payton Lehman, Hunter Nichols, Zach Bredfield. Not pictured: Caden Hedman, Tristan Moses, Lane Wilhelm.

THESE BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS CONGRATULATE THE HEPPNER MUSTANGS AND WISH THEM GOOD LUCK!

Andy and Jessica Stelk
Bank of Eastern Oregon, Member FDIC
Bucknum's
Cliff, Dawna, Taighler & Ryan Dougherty
Damon and Carrie Brosnan
David Sykes Real Estate
Dick and Nancy Snider
Eddie Gunderson
Greg & Sherri Smith & Family
Heppner Chamber
Heppner Gazette-Times
Jeremy & Tylynn Cimmiyotti and Family

Jim and Becky Kindle
Jimmy Fichter
Ken, Carri, Paige, Logan and Claire Grieb
Les Schwab Tire Center
Mark Pointer and family
Millar and Sons Excavating and Disposal Service
Morrow County Grain Growers
Murray's Drug
Osmin Century Welding,
Frank & Cara Osmin

Sandi Putman and family
Seth Moses Roofing
Steve, Lisanne & Jacee Currin
Stor-4-U
Sweeney Mortuary
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Chris Sykes - Andrew Sykes
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