

Golf teams take district titles



Heppner golf team members pictured back row (L-R): Coach Greg Grant, Reno Ferguson, Gavin Hanna-Robinson, Kellen Grant, Logan Burright, Cason Mitchell, Casey Fletcher and Coach Matt Scrivner. Front row (L-R): Kami VanArsdale, Kennison Wilkins, Suzy Cason, Claire Grieb, Nicole Propheter, Sash Keown and Catilynn Scrivner.

Both the Heppner Mustang boys' and girls' golf teams won titles at the district golf tournament held recently at the Pendleton Country Club.

The Mustang girls won the team title by shooting a two-day total of 755. This is the sixth year in a row that the Mustang girls have won the district championship. They were followed by LaGrande (805), Baker (949), Vale (997), Nixyaawii (1003) and Grant Union (1043). Other schools that had girls participating were Imbler, Wallowa, Mac Hi, Enterprise, Burns and Nyssa.

Nicole Propheter finished the tournament as the second-place medalist as she shot a two-day total of 169. Sasha Keown scored a 183 to finish fourth overall and Claire Grieb finished with a 197 to take home the fifth-place medal. Catlyn Scrivner shot a 204 and Kennisyn had a 243.

The Heppner boys team won the district title by a whopping 78 strokes. The Mustangs shot a 687 over the two-day tournament to best Burns (765), Enterprise (823), Grant Union (846),

Vale (851), Echo/Stamfield (866), Imbler (884) and Nyssa (967). This is the ninth district title in the last ten years for the boys' team. Wallowa and Nixyaawii also had boys that golfed at the tournament.

Kellen Grant shot a 161 over the two days to be the top individual and claim the district championship. Reno Ferguson finished third with a 161 and Logan Burright was the fifth-place medalist with a 177. Cason Mitchell was the sixth-place individual with a 180. Casey Fletcher and Gavin

Hanna-Robinson combined to shoot a 190 over the two days.

With the wins, both teams have qualified for the OSAA State Golf Championships which will be held on May 13-14. The girls' team advanced to the 4A/3A/2A/1A tournament which will be held near Redmond at the Eagle Crest Resort Ridge Course. The boys will travel to the Eugene area for the 3A/2A/1A tournament which will be held at Emerald Valley Golf Course in Creswell.



Below: Individual golf team members who placed in the top five and will compete at the state tournament are: Sasha Keown, fourth place; Nicole Propheter, second place; Claire Grieb, fifth place; Logan Burright fifth place; Reno Ferguson, third place and Kellen Grant, first place.

Ione school awarded grant

The Ione Community School was recently awarded a \$1,000 Northwest Farm Credit Services Rural Community grant to be used toward building a fitness center in Ione.

"Grant funds will be used to help build a much-needed fitness center that will benefit the students and entire community of Ione," said Principal Rollie Marshall. "We thank Northwest Farm Credit Services for their generous donation. Without community partners like this, the fitness center project would not be possible. This center will truly be an asset to our school and community."

Northwest FCS is



Pictured (L-R): Northwest FCS Relationship Manager Andy VanderPlaat, Rob Crum and Ione Principal Rollie Marshall.

committed to helping rural communities succeed. To date in 2019, Northwest FCS has committed over \$91,000 to 75 projects in rural communities across Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. Since the program's inception in

2007, it has awarded 1,067 grants totaling more than \$1.85 million.

The next rural grant deadline is June 1, 2019. Visit northwestfcs.com Stewardship/Rural-Communities for more information and an application.

Nat'l Forests caution visitors about spring conditions

The winter snow is receding and spring fever has many people excited to get outside and explore the forests. Though snow may have thawed from the foothills, forest officials are warning that most forest roads are still not accessible due to mud or snow. In addition, traveling on thawing, saturated and muddy roads can result in resource damage and serious safety concerns, especially if visitors are unprepared.

"We typically see multiple incidents this time of year where families head up for the day, get stuck and end up spending the night or making a very long hike out to look for help," said Lisa Rynearson, Safety Officer for the Malheur National Forest.

This can become a serious situation quickly, particularly if travelers are not prepared for the elements.

Many places in the Blue Mountains have limited or no cell phone coverage, so forest visitors should always be prepared to spend the night in the forest with warm clothing, food and plenty of water. "Before you head out, always let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return," added Lee Mercer, Safety Officer for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Public safety is not the only concern this time of year. Forest officials are encouraging the public to minimize impacts to natural resources from travel on roads that are susceptible to rutting due to warmer weather and melting snowpack. "Forest roads are not constructed to be all-weather roads, so they can be easily damaged when wet, especially during the spring season," said Da-

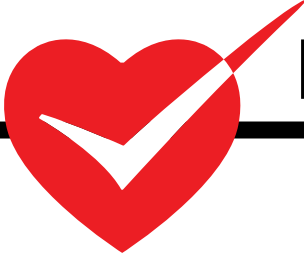
vid Plummer, Engineering Staff Officer for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. "Imagine driving onto your own lawn at this time of year. Tire ruts that are just an inch deep can leave lasting impressions that only grow with rain and erosion."

Forest Officials remind users that some roads remain seasonally closed for wildlife or resource concerns in spite of early access. Cross-country travel is prohibited under the Umatilla National Forest's travel management plan.

"We encourage forest users to responsibly enjoy their National Forest roads and trails. This will not only avoid further damage of the resources, but also ensure that there are future riding opportunities across the Forest," said Eric Watrud, Umatilla National Forest Supervisor.

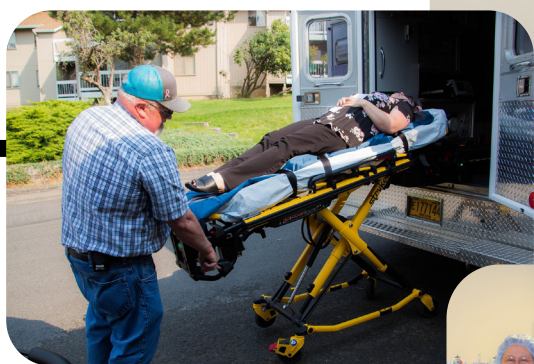
Don't Forget to Return Your Ballot By May 21

VOTE YES



Health First

- More Services
- Ambulance Transport
- Emergency Medical Services



Your Vote Counts Tuesday May 21, 2019

Vote Yes for the Health District

The Following Community Members Urge You To Vote YES On The Health District Levy:

- Carri & Ken Grieb
- Marie Shimer
- John & Ann Murray
- Aaron Palmquist
- Leann Rea
- David & April Sykes
- Larry & Betty Mills
- Andy & Andrea Fletcher
- Sherri & Representative Greg Smith

- Lisanne & Steve Currin
- John & Diane Kilkenny
- Thomas & Karen Wolff
- John and Kristen Bowles
- Jim and Monica Swanson
- Dale and Sheryll Bates
- Ed and Sheridan Tarnasky
- Jim Doherty
- Bill and Merilee McDowell
- Danny Sharp

- Rita & Daniel Van Schoiack
- Doris and Dan Brosnan
- Debbie Radie
- Don Russell
- Betty & Louis Carlson
- Steve and Molly Rhea
- Dick and Nancy Snider
- Matt Combe
- John and Pat Edmundson