



Contributed photo

John Day City Council members unanimously approved an employment agreement with Nick Green, who will begin his job as John Day city manager June 20 with an annual salary of \$65,000. His wife, Morgan, is the daughter of Tom and Ginger Haney, John Day. The couple has two children, Kaden, 10, and Penelope, 2.

New John Day city manager takes the helm

Blue Mountain Eagle

Nick Green started his new job as John Day city manager Monday, June 20.

John Day City Council members unanimously

voted to approve Green's employment agreement with an annual salary of \$65,000 at the regular meeting Tuesday, June 14, retiring City Manager Peggy Gray said.

The council also

reached consensus to sell the old fire hall, Gray said, but agreed to delay the sale to honor Fire Chief Ron Smith's request for additional time to move items to the new hall.

Monument man dies in crash

Blue Mountain Eagle

MONUMENT — Seth Blakeslee, 19, of Monument, was killed and Colton Winters, 21, of Dayville, was injured in a single-vehicle accident near Monument early Saturday morning.

The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the vehicle, a red 1993 Dodge four-wheel-drive pickup, driven by Blakeslee, with Winters as passenger, was headed south on County Road 3, when it

entered a left-hand turn near milepost 75.

According to witness statements, the vehicle veered to the right and Blakeslee over corrected, causing the truck to cross into the oncoming lane, leave the roadway and climb an embankment.

The vehicle rolled several times and both Blakeslee and Winters were ejected.

Blakeslee was pronounced dead at the scene. Neither was wearing a seat belt.

According to the report,

Winters ran into Monument, nearly a mile and a half away, for help.

He was transported by private vehicle to Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day.

The Sheriff's Office received the call at 3:27 a.m.

The case is under investigation by Deputy Ken Olson and Sheriff Glenn Palmer.

Anyone with information on the crash is urged to contact the sheriff's office at 541-575-1131.

Unemployment rate continues to drop

Grant County still highest in Oregon

Blue Mountain Eagle

The unemployment rates in Grant County and the rest of the state are continuing to fall.

Although Grant County still has the highest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Oregon at 7.8 percent, the rate has improved from 9.1 percent at this time last year, according to the latest economic indicators released by the Oregon Employment Department.

This is the county's lowest rate for the month of April since 2007.

The 1.3 percentage point reduction ranked in a six-way tie for 15th among Oregon counties.

Grant County had an estimated net gain of 40 jobs from April 2015 to April 2016.

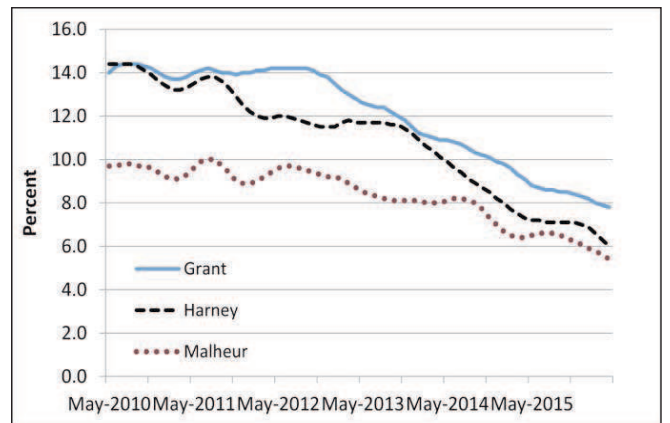
Mining and logging added 20. Retail trade added 20. Professional and business services added 10. And private education and health services added 10.

Construction and local government each lost 10.

Over the same time frame, Harney County added an estimated net gain of 60 jobs, reducing its unemployment rate from 7.3 percent to 6 percent.

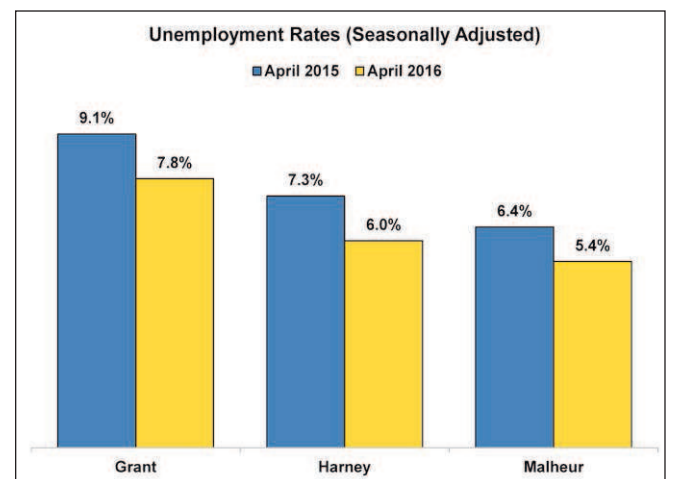
Malheur County added 120 jobs, from 6.4 percent unemployment to 5.4 percent.

Oregon's statewide unemployment rate is 4.5 percent, and the national rate is 5 percent.



Contributed images

This Oregon Employment Department unemployment rate graph shows the downward trend is continuing.



This Oregon Employment Department graph shows Grant County's unemployment rate improved from 9.1 percent in April 2015 to 7.8 percent in April 2016.

COPS & COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Circuit Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Circuit Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Tony Duane Hand, 55, was convicted by court verdict of possession of less than an ounce of marijuana, and fined \$250. The court acquitted him of counts for driving under the influence of intoxicants and failure to renew vehicle registration.

Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of June 10-16:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 5
- Average inmates: 17
- Bookings: 7
- Releases: 7
- Arrests: 1
- Citations: 2

- Fingerprints: 10
- Civil papers: 13
- Warrants processed: 2
- Asst./welfare check: 3
- Melvin Teal, 37, Rapid City, S.D., cited for violation of open container law.
- Gregory Wynn, 64, Portland, cited for violation of the basic rule, 78/55 zone.

Justice Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Violation of the basic rule: Jeremy Lynn McCarty, 42, Prineville, 71/55 zone, April 23, fined \$135.
- Exceeding the speed limit: Arnold Leroy Young, 54, Mt. Vernon, 55/30 zone, May 27, fined \$135.
- Driving while suspended: Harvey Askew, 57, Prairie City, June 4, fined \$370; Wesley James Bolin, 31, Mt. Vernon, April 5, fined \$435.
- Failure to install ignition interlock device: Harvey Askew, 57, Prairie City, June 4, fined \$370.
- Driving uninsured: Wesley James Bolin, 31, Mt. Vernon, April 5, fined \$260.
- No operator's license: David Ritchie Kirby, 72, Gladstone, April 22, fined \$260.
- Ryan Gene Gunn of John Day was convicted of second-degree disorderly conduct and sentenced to probation for 12 months and 120 hours of jail, to be suspended if the 40 hours of community service and all fines of \$450 are paid within 90 days.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 160 calls during the week of June 13-19. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

John Day Police:

June 14: Arrested a Prairie City man for driving under the influence of intoxicants and driving suspended; responded to a report of theft of medication at Riverside Mobile Home Park.

June 15: Advised of theft of companion animal at Riverside Mobile Home Park.

June 18: Criminal mischief reported on South Johnson Street in Prairie City.

Grant County Sheriff:

June 17: Responded for a motorcycle accident on the Izee-Paulina Highway.

John Day ambulance:

June 13: Dispatched for an elderly woman.

June 17: In separate incidents, responded for a 57-year-old woman, a person who fell, a 78-year-old woman and a 56-year-old woman.

June 18: Responded for a 91-year-old man.

Blue Mountain Eagle
Early Deadline
For July 6th Edition
Ad, Classified & Legal Deadline
Thursday, June 30 by 5pm.

Office will be
closed July 4th

Blue Mountain EAGLE
Grant County's newspaper since 1868
 195 N. Canyon Blvd., MyEagleNews.com
 John Day, Oregon 541-575-0710

Best Fireworks in Grant County

MONUMENT
4TH of JULY
JUBILEE
 Monday July 4, 2016

7:00-9:00 am	Pancake Breakfast - Senior Center
7:30 am	*Top Road Challenge 5K Run**
9:00 am	Horseshoes
9:30 am	Booths Open
10:00 am	Parade**
10:30 am	Baking Contest**
11:00 am	Family Games - Frisbee Golf
1:00 pm	Carnival
2:00 pm	Watermelon Eating Contests**
3:00 pm	Auction
4:00 pm	Lip Sync
5:00 pm	Corn Hole
6:00 pm	Chili Cook Off
7:00 pm	Bingo - Senior Center
10:00 pm	Fireworks over the River

***Entry fee - **Prizes**
 If you have questions, please call Lonnie: 541-934-2696, Lorna: 541-934-9871 or Heather: 541-934-2690