

# Five-year population change in E. Oregon

County loses 15 as deaths outpace births and migration

By Christopher Rich  
To the Blue Mountain Eagle

There are two components of population change: natural increase and net migration. Natural increase is the number of births in an area minus the number of deaths. And net migration is the number of people who moved into an area minus the number of people who moved out. Both of these components varied widely across Eastern Oregon counties from 2010 to 2015,

	July 1, 2015 Population Estimate	April 1, 2010 Census Population	Population Change 2010-15	Percent Change 2010-15	Average Annual Change since Census	Births 2010-15	Deaths 2010-15	Natural Increase 2010-15	Net Migration 2010-15
Oregon	4,013,845	3,831,074	182,771	4.8%	1.10%	238,583	175,409	63,173	119,598
Baker	16,425	16,134	291	1.8%	0.4%	900	1,074	-175	466
Grant	7,430	7,445	-15	-0.2%	0.0%	329	431	-102	87
Harney	7,295	7,422	-127	-1.7%	-0.4%	431	444	-13	-114
Malheur	31,480	31,313	167	0.5%	0.1%	2,306	1,613	693	-526
Morrow	11,630	11,173	457	4.1%	0.9%	839	412	427	30
Umatilla	79,155	75,889	3,266	4.3%	1.0%	5,881	3,301	2,580	686
Union	26,625	25,748	877	3.4%	0.8%	1,577	1,345	232	645
Wallowa	7,100	7,008	92	1.3%	0.3%	309	449	-140	232

resulting in stark differences in population change.

Grant County saw the smallest overall population change for the period (-0.2 percent) and was the only county apart from Harney to experience a drop in popula-

tion since 2010. Umatilla's population grew by 4.3 percent (3,266 people); the largest change within the eight county region and only 0.5 percentage points behind the state growth rate of 4.8 percent.

For Baker, Grant, Harney and Wallowa deaths outpaced births from 2010 to 2015. This was primarily due to the large and growing share of residents ages 65 years and over, as well as the small share of 15 to 34 year olds in each of

the four counties. The largest difference between births and deaths came in Wallowa County with 45.5 percent more deaths than births for the period. Harney County had the smallest difference with 2.9 percent more deaths than births.

For Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla and Union births outpaced deaths. This was primarily because of the large share of 15 to 34 year olds, as well as the small share of residents ages 65 years and over in each of the four counties. The largest difference between births and deaths came in Morrow County with 103.8 percent more births than deaths. Union County had the smallest difference with 17.2 percent more births than

deaths. Only two counties in Eastern Oregon experienced negative net migration from 2010 to 2015. Malheur County saw 526 more people choose to move out of, rather than into the county; while Harney County saw 114 more people choose to exit rather than enter. For Harney County, negative net migration combined with negative natural increase for an overall population loss of 127 since 2010. For Malheur County, positive natural increase outweighed negative net migration for an overall population gain of 167 since 2010.

Christopher Rich is a regional economist covering Eastern Oregon for the Oregon Employment Department.

# Grand jury considers FBI's use of force in Finicum shooting

PORTLAND (AP) — A federal prosecutor revealed in a court document that the investigation of FBI agents involved in the traffic stop that led to the killing of Oregon standoff spokes-

man Robert "LaVoy" Finicum is before a grand jury.

Attorneys for the defendants accused of taking part in the Ammon Bundy-led takeover of a national

wildlife refuge in Oregon have been seeking records from the investigation into the FBI's use of force in the Finicum shooting and whether there was a cover-

In a motion to keep reports sealed, Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles Gorder wrote Thursday that matters before a grand jury are protected from disclosure rules.

Oregon State Police troopers fired the rounds that killed Finicum during the Jan. 26 confrontation on Highway 395 between John Day and Burns, and the shoot-

ing was deemed to be justified.

Investigators, however, discovered FBI agents failed to disclose they fired two rounds that missed Finicum.

# 567 signatures turned in for recall effort against County Commissioner Boyd Britton

By Sean Hart  
Blue Mountain Eagle

Petitioners turned in 567 signatures Monday for the recall effort against Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton, Grant County Clerk Brenda Percy said Tuesday.

Percy said 490 certified signatures are required for the recall to move forward, and she has 10 days beginning Tuesday to certify the signatures turned in.

If 490 signatures are certified, Britton will have five days to respond or resign. If



Boyd Britton

Britton doesn't resign, Percy said the county must hold a special county-wide elec-

tion for the recall within 35 days.

If the majority votes to recall Britton, the remaining two Grant County Court members will appoint a third officer to fill the position until the next pertinent election.

Dayville resident Julie Carr filed the recall petition March 28.

She says Britton has failed to represent constituents "on road and access issues," violating a county ordinance in the process.

Britton refused to call

for an investigation of the Canyon Creek Complex fire, she says, "despite the overwhelming continued request by the majority of his constituents"

Carr says he fails to excuse himself as a commissioner when dealing with agencies from which he has benefited personally and financially.

She also says Britton "deliberately misrepresented his intentions of attending a community meeting on Jan. 26, 2016 acting in the capacity as Grant County Commissioner."



The deadline for What's Happening items is 5 p.m. Friday. Call the Eagle, 541-575-0710, or email editor@bmeagle.com.

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29

### Wind Down Wednesday

• 5-8 p.m., John Day Elks Lodge patio and parking lot, 140 N.E. Dayton St.

An open-air market featuring food and drink specials, games, entertainment and shopping from local vendors will take place Wednesdays through Aug. 3. An Elks membership is not required. For more information or vendor applications, contact Sandie Gilson, 541-575-1529, or the lodge, 541-575-1824.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JULY 1-3

### Dayville Fourth of July celebration

• 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and 7:30-9 a.m. Sunday in Dayville

A Youth Arts Program presentation Friday is followed by a day full of activities Saturday and a community breakfast Sunday. See the front-page article for more information.

## SATURDAY, JULY 2

### Farmers Market

• 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Southwest Brent Street, John Day  
Weekly features include vendors offering a variety of locally grown produce, homemade food and handmade crafts, plants and more. This Saturday, Chic by Squeak will be helping children make bracelets for the Fourth of July. The markets continue every Saturday through mid-October. Call 831-596-0656, email johndayfarmersmarket@gmail.com or visit johndayfarmersmarket.com.

## MONDAY, JULY 4

### Prairie City Fourth of July celebration

• 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. with fireworks at dusk  
See the front-page article for more information.

### Monument's Fourth of July Jubilee

• 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. in Monument  
See the front-page article for more information.

### Long Creek Founder's Day celebration

• Noon, Long Creek City Park  
See the front-page article for more information.

## 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:

• Jeanne Marie Moles, 30, pleaded guilty June 22 to unauthorized use of a vehicle on or about March 5. She was sentenced to 10 days in jail with credit for time served, 18 months probation and 40 hours of community service. She was fined \$200, plus \$480 restitution. She pleaded guilty to second-degree theft and was fined \$100. The court dismissed a count of unlawful entry into a motor vehicle.

• Christopher Carris Boyer, 27, pleaded guilty June 23 to second-degree disorderly conduct on or about Feb. 22. He was sentenced to 12 months bench probation, 40 hours community service and four days in jail with

credit for time served. He was fined \$300. The court dismissed a count of fourth-degree assault.

### Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of June 23: concealed handgun licenses, 9; average inmates, 16; bookings, 3; releases, 11; fingerprints, 4; civil papers, 7; warrants processed, 1; asst./welfare check, 2.

### Justice Court

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

• Violation of the basic rule: Clayton Todd Stevens, 51, Newcastle, Washington, 85/55 zone, June 16, fined \$220; Britain Wayne Brady, 35, Portland, 74/55, June 16, fined \$160; Lance J. Carter, 61, Redmond, Washington, 83/55, June 16, fined \$220.

• Open container of alcohol: Melvin W. Teal, 37, Lebanon, June 2, fined \$260.

# Firefighters contain blaze near Long Creek

Blue Mountain Eagle

Firefighters responded to a brush and grass fire two miles east of Long Creek June 22.

Oregon Department of Forestry John Day Unit firefighters were assisted by members of the Long Creek Rural Fire Department and

stopped the spread of the War Canyon Fire at about 20 acres, according to an ODF press release.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

ODF resources on scene included four engines, a four-person hand crew and the incident commander. Fire-

fighters will continue to mop up today.

No other fires 10 acres or larger were reported Wednesday on ODF-protected land.

To date on ODF-protected land, lightning has caused 33 fires that burned 2,126 acres, and 160 human-caused fires have burned 182 acres.

## HIKE • BIKE • RUN

### CANYON CITY CHALLENGE 2016

July 16, race starts at 8 a.m.  
Canyon City Park

Prize for winning  
Poker Hand  
(must be present to win)

Proceeds go towards  
family friendly events at  
Canyon City Park and  
updates to the park

DOOR PRIZES  
(must be present to win)

To pre-register, pick up and drop off form to: Canyon City Hall, Grant County Chamber of Commerce or at 120 S Washington St., Canyon City • Mail to: Canyon City Challenge, PO Box 383 Canyon City, OR 97820 • email: canyoncitychallenge@gmail.com

Don't Miss

## Whiskey Gulch Gang's DEMOLITION DERBY

### Sat., July 23, 2016

## Grant County Fairgrounds

# Top Prize \$2000

For more info call Hugh Farrell  
at 541-575-0329,  
visit [www.grantcountyfairgrounds.com](http://www.grantcountyfairgrounds.com)  
or email [farrellhugh@yahoo.com](mailto:farrellhugh@yahoo.com)