

Redmond teen dies in crash on Highway 97

Spokesman staff

A Redmond teen died Sept. 16 in a four-car crash south of Redmond that closed Highway 97 for hours.

According to Oregon State Police investigators, the 16-year-old female was driving southbound in a 2003 Jeep Liberty about 8:15 a.m. about five miles south of Redmond when she tried to change lanes and lost control of the vehicle. The car drove through the highway median into oncoming, northbound traffic where it struck a black Jeep Renegade that was traveling northbound.

The northbound Jeep, driven by Araceli Rodriguez Giles, 21, of Bend, slammed into the shoulder and rolled multiple times. Giles, as well as passengers Braylan Olvera, 23, and Victorina Giles, 53, both of Bend, were transported to an area hospital with non life-threatening injuries. A 16-year-old minor also traveling in the Jeep Renegade and was hospitalized.

The teen's southbound Jeep then collided with two more cars: a northbound white GMC Yukon and a southbound Toyota Camry.

The teen driver of the Jeep Liberty died at the scene, according to OSP.

Bradly Pearce, 43, of Bend, was driving the Yukon and was uninjured.

Amie Gassner, 39, of Central Point, was driving the Camry. She, along with passengers Jamie Richmond, 39, and a 12-year-old female were transported via ambulance with non life-threatening injuries.

Oregon State Police were assisted at the scene by the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office, Deschutes County Medical Examiner's office, ODOT, Redmond Fire and Rescue, Department of Human Services and the Deschutes County Chaplain's service.

Reporter: ttrainor@redmondspokesman.com



Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

A highliner pulls himself along the "Blue Dream" highline at the Smith Rock Highline Gathering on Sept. 16 outside Terrebonne.

A good time up high

Slackline festival returns to Smith Rock

BY NICK ROSENBERGER • Redmond Spokesman

Stretched a few hundred feet over hikers tracing the winding path of the Crooked River, Hannah Ed-

mond stood briefly on a one-inch nylon line before falling headfirst toward the chasm below.

Her blue Black Diamond harness tightened around her as the ropes and highline rigging, anchored into the outcroppings at Smith Rock, pulled taught. They swung her body left and right before safely coming to a stop.

She smiled, then pulled herself up and back onto the thin line to try again.

This scene played out through-

out the weekend as dozens of people from across Oregon and beyond met up for the Smith Rock Highline Gathering from Sept. 16-18. The event drew dozens of highliners to Smith Rock who aimed to balance across flat lines — known as slacklines — suspended in the air, some as long as 225 meters.

See **Slackline** / A9



Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

Hannah Edmond slides out on the "Overdose" highline at the Smith Rock Highline Gathering on Sept. 16 outside Terrebonne.

LOCAL



Award winners

Two Redmond High School teachers receive honors, **A3**

SPORTS



Unbeaten

Ridgeview Boys win over Hood River, **A8**

CITY OF REDMOND

Council candidates face off in forum

Candidates share platforms, address homelessness, psilocybin and rec center

BY NICK ROSENBERGER
Redmond Spokesman

All five Redmond city council candidates summed up how they would address homelessness, a proposed \$49 million RAPRD recreation center and psilocybin services before diving into

a Q&A session on Sept. 14 at Highland Baptist Church.

While there were some disagreements, the majority of candidates held similar positions and gave a mostly unified view of Redmond's future.

Redmond City Council has three open seats up for election in November with five candidates vying for the spots. The candidates include current city councilor and real estate bro-

ker Cat Zwicker, professor and researcher Bill Trumble, credit union manager John Nielsen, Redmond Athletic Club owner Branegan J. Dixon and digital marketing coordinator Kathryn Osborne.

Attendees included Deschutes County Treasurer candidate Trevor Lewis, current Redmond city councilor Clifford Evelyn and Michael Sipe, candidate for Oregon House District 53.

RAPRD BOND AND LEVY

A contentious issue, the RAPRD bond and levy on this November's ballot will be ask voters to fund the construction and operation of a new 74,500-square-foot recreation facility.

Each candidate said they supported the new rec center, however, all recognized it was a heavy lift for taxpayers and questioned the financial viability of it.

See **Forum** / A6

WEATHER FORECAST

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TUESDAY
Partly cloudy
73/43



WEDNESDAY
Partly cloudy
68/41



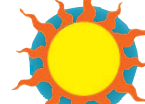
THURSDAY
Partly cloudy
71/38



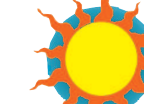
FRIDAY
Sunny
78/42



SATURDAY
Sunny
82/44



SUNDAY
Sunny
86/46



MONDAY
Sunny
84/47

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