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CRASHES

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Meadows Campground. Upon arrival at about 11:30 p.m., crews found the involved truck heavily damaged and its passenger seriously injured. The passenger was flown to Sacred Heart Medical Center in Springfield with serious injuries, and the driver, identified by Gilbert of OSP as 24-year old Mahlon Nowak of Cottage Grove, was taken into custody on charges of driving under the influence and Assault III. An investigation into the incident is ongoing, and there was no word as to the condition of the passenger by Sentinel press time Monday.

Meanwhile, a rollover crash involving a Jeep on Gowdyville Road occurred early Saturday morning. Crews responded to a crash at Milepost 6 at about 12:30 a.m. Saturday and pulled the driver of the Jeep from beneath the vehicle, which Carrie Carver of the Lane County Sheriff's Office said had come to rest half-submerged in a creek. The driver was subsequently transferred to RiverBend, where he succumbed to his injuries. He was identified as 27-year old Christopher Howell of Lorane.

Raade said that just prior to the above incidents, South Lane Fire was busy searching for an

injured motorcyclist in a rural area between the Bennett Creek and Saginaw West areas outside Cottage Grove. A helicopter was enlisted in the search, Raade said, which eventually located the motorcyclist when he was able to signal to the search party using a flashlight. The man reportedly refused medical care at the scene.

Cycle wreck at rest area claims life of driver

A Cottage Grove man was killed in a motorcycle crash at the Gettings Creek Rest Area north of Cottage Grove on Interstate 5 on Tuesday, July 14, Sgt. Gilbert of Oregon State Police said. Gilbert said the motorcyclist, identified as 32-year old Daniel Wayne Asquith, Jr. of Cottage Grove, was traveling southbound on I-5 and exited from the freeway to the rest area, where he navigated between two semi trucks. Gilbert said that witnesses observed Asquith "trying to bring the motorcycle to a stop or manipulate something on the bike" when he traveled through the rest area's parking lot and crashed into a grassy area beyond. Asquith

was transported to Sacred Heart Medical Center in Springfield, and he later succumbed to his injuries.

Rollover on Row River Road kills passenger; driver cited for DUII

A rollover crash involving a pickup carrying a number of passengers — three in its bed — took the life of a 20-year old Cottage Grove woman on Monday, July 13 and injured three other passengers.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office responded to the accident at Milepost 13 on Row River Road at about 6:30 p.m. Raade of South Lane Fire and Rescue reported that the agency discovered a GMC pickup on its side with bystanders attempting to resuscitate a female, later identified as 20-year old Amber Cobiskey of Cottage Grove. Cobiskey later died of her injuries. A Facebook page belonging to Cobiskey indicates that she studied at Lane Community College and worked at Goodwill Industries.

Preliminary information indicated that Bond was travel-

ing westbound toward Cottage Grove when, for unknown reasons, he traveled off the roadway and veered back onto it, causing him to lose control of the truck, which struck a concrete embankment and overturned, ejecting the three passengers riding in the truck's bed.

Police say passengers Tyler J. Stuner, age 18, Jonathan M. Bellone, age 21, and Forest Cobiskey, 18, (all of Cottage Grove) were transported to the Sacred Heart Medical Center at Riverbend in Springfield for serious injuries. Police say a 16-year old passenger was not injured, though family has since contacted the Sentinel to state that the young man was in intensive care after being seriously injured in the crash.

The pickup's driver, 25-year old Kyle Bond of Eugene, was arrested and lodged at the Lane County Jail on charges of Manslaughter in the Second Degree, two counts of Assault in the Third Degree, five counts of Reckless Endangering and DUII. An attorney representing Cobiskey's family told the Eugene Register-Guard last week that the passengers in the vehicle had been swimming in a nearby swimming hole while Bond fished.

FAIR

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councilors about the same subject. While she shared elements of a potential disaster that would most certainly impact Cottage Grove — a worst-case scenario involving a break in the Cottage Grove Reservoir or Dorena Reservoir dams could potentially find Cottage Grove largely underwater, for example — the Emergency Fair appears designed more to connect those responsible for the community's safety with community members themselves than to outline doom-and-gloom possibilities. Partners for the event include Life Flight, South Lane County Fire and Rescue District, Lane County Emergency Management, Cottage Grove Community Development and Emergency Management, Cottage Grove Community Hospital, Peace Health Medical Services, Lane County Public Health, Pacific Power, EPUD, StoveTec, NW Natural and the Oregon National Guard.

"This family-friendly event will have lots of hands-on, fun, educational activities that teach you how to ensure your family is prepared for the worst," according to a recent press release. "Activities will include: prizes and games, helicopter and fire

"This will test us as a community — how we work together."

CG City Planner Amanda Ferguson, discussing the possibility of a major earthquake

truck displays, hands-on fire extinguisher training, a disaster obstacle course (for all ages), a disaster wheel, Sparky the Fire Dog, an electrical safety panel, 72-hour emergency kit raffle and more.

Professionals across the field of emergency management will be available to answer your questions, supplying a wealth of personal and professional experience in preparing for and responding to emergencies."

Ferguson said it's personal connections that could make the difference between Cottage Grove weathering an unfortunate situation and struggling for its very survival.

"A 9.0 earthquake will effectively leave Lane County isolated," she said. "We will effectively have to take care of ourselves for a number of days before anybody gets here to help. Aid coming from anywhere else will fly into the Eugene Airport and will not come to Cottage Grove first."

As such, Ferguson said the City and other agencies are "encouraging people to understand the personal risk involved and how to take care of themselves for at least three days to a week."

The City's first priorities will be search and rescue, then clearing local roads for passability.

"This will test us as a community — how we work together," Ferguson said. "I think small towns will fare much better than larger cities because a lot of us know our neighbors here and can speak to those who are actually doing the work."

The City is also working to update its own Emergency Operation Plan, which aims to create a new level of consistency with Eugene-Springfield, Lane County and cities and counties across the State. Ferguson said the final draft of the new Emergency Operations Plan will be presented to the City Council this fall.

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