
LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
NEWS RELEASE



CASE NUMBER: 11-7013

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT: 09/21/11 – 6:05 pm

DATE/TIME OF RELEASE: 09/22/11- 10:00 am

NATURE OF STORY: Fatal Traffic Crash

LOCATION: Row River Road at MP 4, southeast of Cottage Grove

VICTIM: Michele Portman, 61, of Cottage Grove

INVOLVED: Victor B. Pearson, 47, of Cottage Grove

DETAILS:

*****The Sheriff's Office can now release the name of the bicyclist killed in a traffic crash on Row River Road last night. The victim has been identified as 61 year old Michele M. Portmann of Cottage Grove.*****

On September 21, 2011, at approximately 6:05 P.M., Lane County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a traffic crash at MP 4 on Row River Road. First reports indicated that a vehicle had struck a bicyclist. Preliminary investigation by Sheriff's Office crash reconstruction experts suggests that an older model pickup truck being driven by 47 year old Victor Pearson of Cottage Grove was westbound on Row River Road, when his vehicle struck a bicyclist. The bicyclist had been traveling along an improved bicycle trail, approaching the point where the trail crosses Row River Road (at MP 4). Initial information suggests the bicyclist crossed Row River Road, in the path of the oncoming pickup. The bicyclist was pronounced dead at the scene by first responding rescue personnel.

Prepared by: Capt. Bill Thompson