Bend Woman Killed in Highway 20 Crash

by Cheryl McDermott

An 85-year old Bend woman died Friday afternoon when her station wagon pulled out into the path of a sports utility vehicle (SUV) at the intersection of Cooley Road and Highway 20 in northwest Bend, said police.

The two-vehicle crash occurred about 3:30 p.m. November 10 after Hettie Peck, 85, pulled out into traffic following a stop at the stop sign on Cooley Road, where her vehicle had been facing west. Peck pulled out to cross Highway 20 at the same time a 1998 Ford Explorer driven by 28 year-old Angelica Torress of Bend was traveling west on the highway.

An 85-year old Bend woman was killed in a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Cooley Road and Highway 20 in northwest Bend on Friday. OSP Photo. According to a news release issued by Oregon State Police (OSP), Torress was unable to avoid colliding with Peck's vehicle, and the front of her SUV struck the driver's side of Peck's 1999 Subaru Outback. Both vehicles spun clockwise before coming to a stop further west on Highway 20.

Peck was pronounced dead at the scene. Torress was checked by paramedics at the scene and released; as were her two children, ages three and nine, who were passengers in her vehicle.

OSP troopers from the Bend Area Command office, with the assistance from OSP and Bend Police Department crash technicians, investigated the incident. Oregon Department of Transportation assisted with traffic control while Highway 20 was closed for about two and a half hours during the investigation and clean-up.

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