

La Pine man involved in fatal crash

by Cheryl McDermott

Police are looking for witnesses to a two-vehicle collision on Highway 30 near Cornelius Pass Road that took the life of one driver from Scappoose, Oregon, but left the other 59-year old driver from La Pine uninjured on Tuesday evening.

According to a Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) news release, Lonny Gene Friberg, 52, of Scappoose was pronounced deceased at the scene. He was driving a minivan on Cornelius Pass Road and was preparing to turn left onto Highway 30 when the accident occurred, deputies reported.

John Edwin Whitney, 58, of La Pine was driving an older model Ford pickup towing a camper trailer, headed toward Portland on Highway 30. His vehicle was involved in the crash, but Whitney was not injured, MCSO said.

The investigation is ongoing and the cause of the crash has yet to be determined. As of Wednesday, police do not believe that road conditions were a contributing factor, but said that it is possible one of the drivers failed to obey a red light.

A third vehicle was struck by debris from the crash, the news release stated, but no damage or injuries were reported.

Anyone who may have witnessed the accident is asked to contact the sheriff's office at 503.255.3600.

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