

Four injured in head-on crash near Sandy

by Cheryl McDermott

A woman and three children were sent to the hospital Friday afternoon following a head-on crash between a passenger van and a commercial truck carrying propane tanks on Highway 26 just east of Sandy, Oregon, authorities said.

Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers said that Ann M. McMichael, a 42-year old Sandy resident, was traveling east in the left lane of Highway 26 near milepost 26 about 1:30 p.m. when the accident occurred.

McMichael's 2006 Toyota van crossed the centerline into the path of an oncoming Ferrell Gas Ford truck. James Sollis, 53, of Eagle Creek, attempted to avoid the collision by swerving the Ford into the eastbound lanes but McMichael at the same time swerved back into her lane and the two vehicles collided head-on.

After impact, the truck rolled onto its side in the ditch. Troopers reported the truck was transporting two propane tanks: an empty 500-gallon tank, and a 120-gallon tank that was about $\frac{3}{4}$ full. The van stopped in the middle of the highway.

McMichael and her three passengers, children of unknown age, received non-life threatening injuries and were transported by American Medical Response (AMR) ambulance to Legacy Emanuel Hospital.

The truck driver was not injured, troopers said, adding that all persons involved were wearing safety restraints.

McMichael will be cited for crossing the centerline, troopers said, although the investigation is ongoing by OSP, Sandy Police and Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies.

The Sandy Fire Department and AMR provided assistance at the scene. Oregon Department of Transportation established a detour using Vista Loop Road during scene investigation and cleanup, and reopened one lane in both directions about 3 p.m.

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