

One Killed, Three Injured in Linville Crash

Written by Steve Frank

Sunday, 30 September 2012 17:48

A Forsyth County man was killed, three from a second vehicle injured in an early Sunday morning crash in Avery County. The 1:20am wreck was actually two crashes, starting with a single-vehicle crash that occurred when 41-year old Gregory Alan Harper, of Clemmons, approached US 221 on Linville Avenue coming out of Eseeola, failing to even slow, according to investigating trooper Daniel Boone. Harper's 2005 Honda SUV slammed into the guardrail across the intersection and landed back out in the south-bound lane of 221 facing north, his vehicle on its side. Two witnesses stopped along US 221, but the driver of the other vehicle involved, a Lincoln Navigator, was watching the two vehicles pulled off the road and failed to see the overturned SUV. Gregory Alan Stanley, 54, of Dovic Drive, in Watauga County, slammed full-speed into the Honda of Harper. Witnesses said there was little way for Stanley to see Harper's SUV in the darkness, and trooper Boone said the second impact between Stanley's SUV and the Honda caused the most damage to the first vehicle. Gregory Alan Stanley and two passengers were taken to Cannon Memorial, as was Gregory Alan Harper, but Harper was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. Trooper Boone said that alcohol was a factor in the first wreck, but he had not filed charges as of late Sunday, but would confer with the DA's Office.