

***Recognize, React, and Recover. . . Using Rumble Strips to Prevent Run-off-Road Crashes***

***Stories of Run-off-Road Victims and Their Families***

***Presley Melton, Peggy and Bruce Melton.***

Presley Melton was 15 years old when she was involved in a horrific run-off-road (ROR) crash on Neely's Creek Church Road in York County. Her best friend, who was driving the car, was killed in the crash. The crash occurred when the driver ran-off-the road, went into a ditch, came back out, overcorrected and hit a tree. Both girls were ejected through the rear window of the vehicle. Neither was wearing a seat belt. Presley survived with life-threatening injuries. She was in the hospital for 56 days and in a coma for two weeks. Trauma unit personnel told her parents on multiple occasions that they did not believe she would survive. She sustained traumatic brain injuries, broke every bone in her face and almost every bone in her body. She has undergone countless reconstruction surgeries and months of physical therapy. She has had to re-learn how to perform basic life skills, such as swallowing, chewing, eating, speaking, walking, etc. Parents Peggy and Bruce Melton and her older sister Kendell never left her side and have been with her in recovery and rehabilitation every step of the way. Presley and her parents speak to high school and other groups frequently, sharing with them the dangers of a run-off-road crash and the importance of seat belt use at all times.

***Alan Moffett.***

Alan Moffett was involved in a run-off-road crash in Edgefield County. He had just finished his third shift job and was on his way home. He was very tired, but continued to drive. Before he realized what was happening, he fell asleep at the wheel and ran-off- the road. It was hours before anyone found him. He was in critical condition and was taken to the trauma center in Augusta, Georgia. He suffered numerous severe injuries, and was near death on several occasions. After weeks in the hospital and over a year of various surgeries, physical therapy and rehabilitation, he was able to walk again. He is now employed by the Richmond County Sheriff's Office in Georgia. He hopes his participation in the educational DVD will help individuals who work on third shift or who may try to drive tired or fatigued to realize the serious risk they are taking. He encourages all motorists not to drive if you are tired or fatigued.

***Cindy and Mike Sease, Family of Kelsey Mead Schumpert.***

Kelsey was fatally injured in a ROR crash on I-20, while returning home from a trip to the beach. She was a passenger in the rear seat of the vehicle and was not wearing a seat belt. The teen driver of the vehicle lost control, ran off the road, overcorrected, and eventually struck a tree. The cruise control on the vehicle was still set at 70 mph when the vehicle came to a stop. Kelsey was the only child of Cindy Sease. Cindy has had to adjust to life without her precious child. She and her husband Mike are willing to speak to groups about the importance of paying attention behind the wheel, not using cell phones or doing anything that would distract from the driving task, and the need to buckle up at all times. Through the educational DVD that SCDOT, the Roadway Safety Foundation and their partners are producing, Cindy and Mike hope to help prevent ROR crashes and save other families from having to face a tragedy such as theirs.