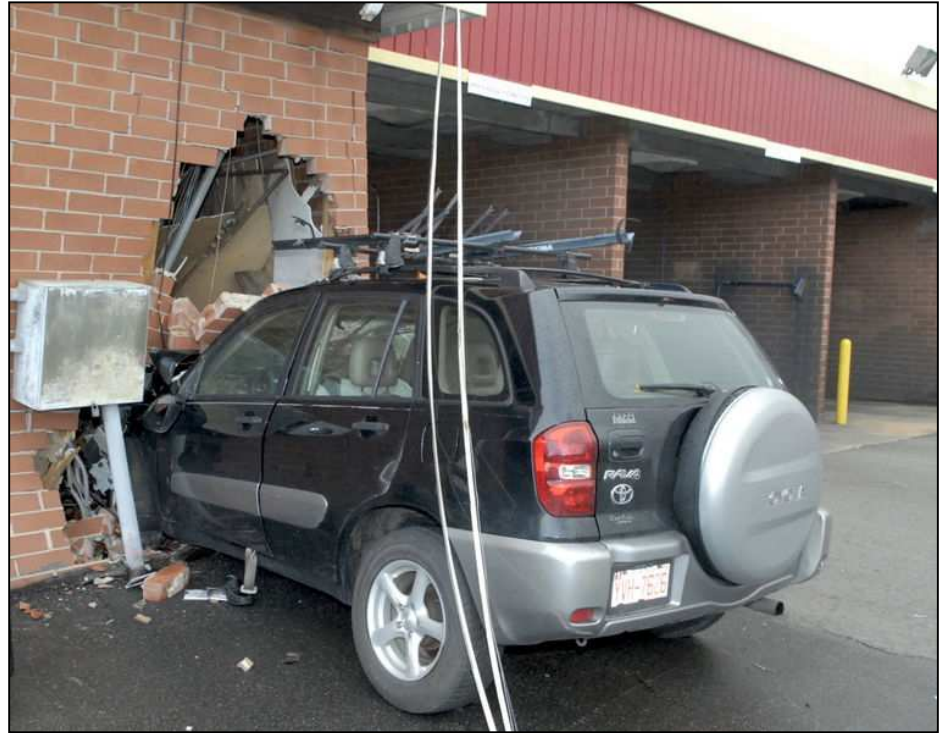


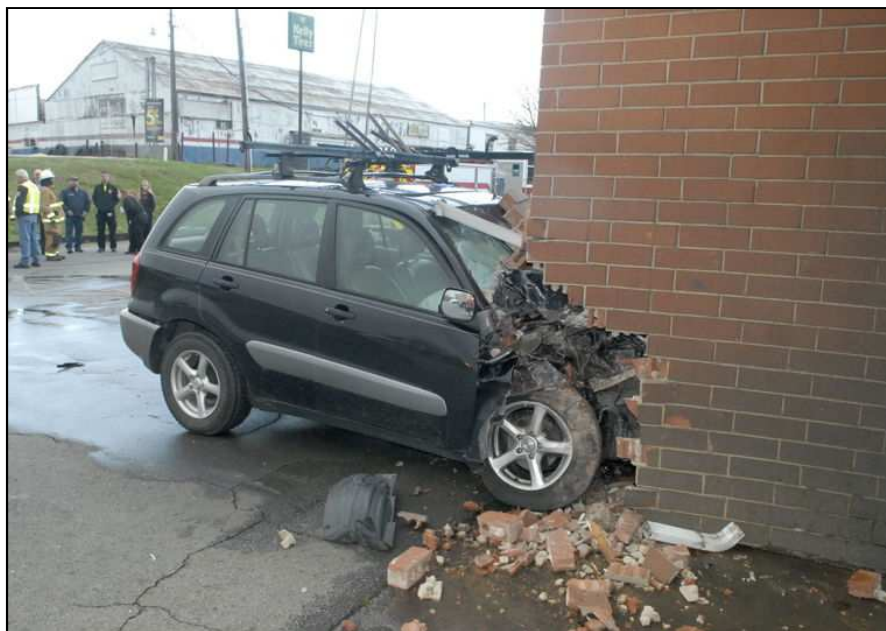
Car Crashes Into Brick Wall Of North Wilkesboro Car Wash Wednesday

UPDATE: Major Scott Teague of the North Wilkesboro Police Department identified the driver of a 2005 Toyota RAV4 that struck the Ride With Pride Carwash Wednesday morning as Brandon Michael Thomas of Lenoir. Teague said the Toyota initially struck a 2008 GMC driven by Sandra Mason Collins of Ronda at the intersection of Wilkesboro Avenue and Wilkesboro Boulevard, traveled through the parking lot of the Little Market Basket at 300 Wilkesboro Avenue and continued down an embankment and through the car wash parking lot before it hit the car wash and stopped. Thomas' car had about \$8,000 in damage and Collins' vehicle had about \$500 in damage. Teague said Thomas appears to have suffered some type of medical problem while driving.



Wilkes Emergency Medical Services transported the driver of a Toyota RAV4 to Wilkes Medical Center after the car slammed into a brick wall between two bays of a North Wilkesboro car wash about 7:15 a.m. Wednesday.

The eastbound Toyota struck a Chevrolet Suburban before it hit the brick wall at Ride With Pride Carwash on Wilkesboro Avenue, near the Independence Avenue intersection, said North Wilkesboro Fire Chief Jimmy Martin at the scene.



The car was lodged in the hole in the wall but the driver's side door could still be opened, said Martin, adding that the driver was unconscious when he was removed from the car.

The North Wilkesboro Police Department also responded and is investigating the incident. No additional details were immediately available.