

Accidents keep Amity Twp. police busy on Friday

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Friday was a busy day for Amity Township police as they dealt with three separate accidents that wreaked havoc on Route 422 in the township and left several people injured.

The first accident occurred just before 10 a.m. Friday, with a three car accident at Limekiln Road and Route 422 West. According to police, a Honda Odyssey driven by 19-year-old Michael Smith of Royersford struck the rear of a Dodge Caravan driven by 35-year-old Debbie Berry of Oley that was stopped at the red light. Also stopped at the light was a Subaru Forester driven by Caroline Cable, 42.

Smith's vehicle flipped several times before coming to rest on 422 West. Smith was able to climb out of the vehicle and was taken to Pottstown Memorial Medical Center. Cable was transported to Reading Hospital. Berry and her three passengers refused treatment. Smith was cited for careless driving.

The accident closed both westbound lanes and one eastbound lane of Route 422 for about 45 minutes as traffic was detoured by police onto Route 724.

The second crash occurred at 12:42 p.m. Friday at Monocacy Creek Road and Route 422 East. In that accident, police said a Hyundai Elantra driven by Candy Messersmith, 40, of Exeter Township went through the red light at the intersection, striking a vehicle driven by 31-year-old Jamie Himmelberger as he was making a left from Route 422 West onto Monocacy Creek Road. Part of that vehicle then struck a third vehicle, driven by a 17-year-old juvenile.

According to Amity police, Messersmith was taken to Pottstown Memorial Hospital. She was cited for not stopping at the red light.

The third crash on Route 422 in Amity occurred at evening rush hour Friday.

According to police, a vehicle driven by 31-year-old Luis Valenzuela of Reading left the roadway in the 500 block of West Ben Franklin Highway, striking a sign in front of the Homeworks. The vehicle then struck a utility pole, flipped and caught fire. Valenzuela was pulled from the vehicle by passersby and taken to Reading Hospital by emergency personnel.

The accident closed westbound 422 for about an hour. Police said the accident remains under investigation.

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