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POLICE DEPARTMENT
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Mayor & Council
Borough of Roselle Park
Roselle Park, New Jersey

Police Chief's Monthly Report for January 2018

On January 18, 2018 security exercises were conducted at the Middle school, Robert Gordon School and the high school. The exercises were conducted by the Police Department in conjunction with the Office of Homeland Security, and the New Jersey State Police. There were several purposes for the exercises one of which was to observe how school staff members would react when an unknown subject would request to enter the school during school hours. The exercise also explored how school officials and staff members reacted to an intruder who was discovered in the school. I am pleased to report that during the security drills at all of the aforementioned schools the school officials and staff members responded appropriately and followed all security procedures pertaining to intruders and possible active shooter situations. The visits to the schools were unannounced and the school administrations had no knowledge that the situations they had encountered were "staged" drills by law enforcement officials. The Police Department along with the accompanying agencies also had discussions with school officials on the subject of school security and discussed additional measures that could be put in place to further enhance security procedures within the schools. The security exercises were very well received by the superintendent of schools as well as the school officials and staff members. The Police Department has always worked very closely with our school officials to ensure the best possible security within our schools to ensure the safety of the students and staff members, the Police Department will continue to update and enhance security measures within all Roselle Park schools.

On January 23, 2018 at approx. 6:15 pm a 16 year old female was struck by a motor vehicle as she was crossing Valley Road at the intersection of Beechwood Avenue. The vehicle involved was traveling

south bound on Valley Road approx. 200 feet south of Woodside Avenue when the accident occurred. The pedestrian was struck just as she was stepping up onto the curb on the west side of Valley Road, the vehicle was rounding the bend in the road and did not observe the pedestrian prior to the impact. The victim was transported to University Hospital in Newark with head trauma and internal injuries and is expected to survive her injuries. The operator of the vehicle submitted to drug and alcohol testing which were negative with no indication of drug or alcohol use, there was no initial indication that vehicle speed was a contributing factor of the accident. An assessment of the location where the incident occurred did indicate that the area is poorly lighted and there are no sidewalks or pedestrian walkways in the area. The Police Department has met with PSE&G officials at the accident site and has made recommendations for additional street lighting on the west side of Valley Road. The Police Department is also recommending pedestrian signage and a pedestrian walkway along the wooded area of Valley Road. A traffic study will also be conducted on Valley Road for north bound and south bound traffic to determine average vehicle speeds as well as the volume of vehicle traffic during various hours throughout a 24 hour period. A search of Police Department records has indicated that there have not been any other pedestrian accidents at the location in question, however the Police Department will move forward with additional traffic measures to improve safety for pedestrians walking or crossing the roadway in the aforementioned area.

Very truly yours,

Paul W. Morrison
Chief of Police