

MAYOR

Paul Wm. Hoefert

TRUSTEES

Agostino S. Filippone

Terri Gens

John J. Matuszak

Richard F. Rogers

Colleen E. Saccotelli

Michael A. Zadel

**VILLAGE MANAGER**

Michael J. Cassady

CHIEF OF POLICE

Michael Eterno

Phone: 847/870-5656

Fax: 847/392-1070

www.mountprospect.org

Village of Mount Prospect Police Department

911 E. Kensington Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056

April 19, 2023

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Officer Greg Sill
847-870-5656**PRESS RELEASE****Juvenile Narrowly Escapes Being Struck By Outbound Commuter Train**

On April 18, 2023 at approximately 4:33 PM, the Mount Prospect Police Department responded to the Union Pacific Railroad Crossing at Emerson Street near Prospect Avenue for a report of a bicycle that was struck by outbound Metra commuter train #637. Upon arrival, officers located an uninjured 11 year old juvenile from Mount Prospect who had been riding the bicycle. Officers learned during the investigation that the juvenile was riding along Prospect Avenue approaching Emerson Street. At that time, the train gates were down and the warning devices were activated as an inbound commuter train was clearing the crossing. The juvenile then rode around the lowered train gates, as an outbound commuter train was entering the crossing on the southernmost track. The engineer activated the train horn and the juvenile was able to jump off the bike and get clear of the train, prior to it striking the bicycle. The juvenile was not injured. The crossing at Emerson Street was blocked during the investigation until approximately 6:45 PM.

The Mount Prospect Police Department is asking our community to use this incident to talk about railroad crossing safety with loved ones, especially children. When the red warning lights are flashing and the train gates are down, it means a train is coming into the crossing. Never pass flashing lights or go around lowered gates. Always wait until lights have stopped flashing and gates are completely raised. Disobeying the gates and signals is dangerous and illegal. And just like cars on a street, trains on the tracks run in both directions. When one passes, another may be coming on a different track. It is important to look in both directions and listen carefully before crossing. Please remember, "See Tracks? Think Trains!" More train safety information can be found on the Operation Lifesaver website: www.oli.org.

###

*With COURAGE we protect, with COMPASSION we serve.*