



News Release
Ashland Police Department
www.ashlandpolice.us
Douglas A. Goodman, Chief
Date: June 15, 2011

On Friday, June 3, 2011, Officer Foster Miles attended an assembly at Gandy Elementary School to educate the children on train safety. He shared important information through *Operation Lifesaver*, which is a program sponsored by train companies to promote safety on and around the tracks. The students and other participants thoroughly enjoyed the assembly.

As part of our responsibility at the Ashland Police Department we would like to remind you of a few important safety tips regarding rail traffic.

The following tips are provided by ***Operation Lifesaver***-

A train can extend three feet or more beyond the steel rail, putting the safety zone for pedestrians well beyond the three foot mark. If there are rails on the railroad ties always assume the track is in use, even if there are weeds or the track looks unused.

Trains have the right of way 100% of the time over emergency vehicles, cars, the police and pedestrians.

The train you see is closer and faster moving than you think. If you see a train approaching, wait for it to go by before you proceed across the tracks.

Freight trains don't travel at fixed times, and schedules for passenger trains change. Always expect a train at each highway-rail intersection.

It can take a mile or more to stop a train, so a locomotive engineer who suddenly sees someone on the tracks will likely be unable to stop in time. Railroad property is private property. For your safety, it is illegal to be there unless you are at a designated public crossing.

Please remember these important tips to help promote safety in the Town of Ashland.

For more information on rail safety and rail safety education please visit www.oli.org