



Since the early 1880's the railroad has been an integral part of the Northwest Arkansas community with the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad carrying on that tradition since 1986. As a nod to our history, the A&M has operated an excursion train since the early 1990's as a way to give back to the community.

We have never been so thankful to be a part of this community as we were on Thursday, October 16th, when our excursion train was involved in an incident. From the time the first 911 call went out, first responders were on the scene within 15 minutes, demonstrating their professionalism and training. With the Washington County Department of Emergency Management, taking the lead, the following organizations took part in ensuring that all injured persons were examined and determined who needed further evaluation and treatment: Washington County Sheriff Department, Washington County Urban Search & Rescue Team, Arkansas State Police, Arkansas Game & Fish, Air Evac Lifeteam 4, Central EMS, West Fork Police Department, Greenland Police Department, Fayetteville Fire Department, Springdale Fire Department, West Fork Fire Department, Rogers Fire Department, Bella Vista Fire Department, Bentonville Fire Department, Siloam Springs Fire Department. Patients were transported to the following area hospitals: Washington Regional Hospital, Physicians Specialty Hospital and Northwest Medical Center, where their respective emergency departments with skilled doctors, nurses and staff provided expert and timely care. We would also like to recognize our own show conductors, train crews and managers who provided aid and direction even while injured themselves.

Most of us in this area may never have a need for this level of response to an emergency situation, but we can all rest peacefully knowing that there is a plan in place to take care of us. All of us at the A&M wish to thank everyone who responded to this emergency and our thoughts and prayers remain with those riders and employees who were injured in this incident. We are also grateful for the support of the communities that we serve and are committed to make our entire operation safer for customers, riders and employees.

Brent McCready
President