



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **The East Troy Railroad's Chicago Elevated Cars are 100 Years Old!**

*Join the Birthday Celebration at Chicago Day on Saturday, July 13th*

EAST TROY, WIS: In 1924, the Cincinnati Car Company delivered 205 modern, new, steel-bodied cars to Chicago Rapid Transit for use on its elevated lines. One hundred years later, three of those cars continue to carry passengers on the East Troy Electric Railroad between East Troy and Mukwonago. Join us on July 13<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of Cars 4420, 4439 and 4453. Cake and punch will be served in the East Troy Depot around noon. Special souvenirs will be available for sale in our gift shop in honor of these cars.

Rangers from the National Park Service and volunteers from Indiana Dunes National Park will also be on hand, helping to tell the story of another set of cars: those from the Chicago South Shore and South Bend Railroad. The East Troy Railroad Museum owns nine South Shore cars, with six of them in regular service, and a seventh being restored now. Visitors will have the chance to ride on the restored South Shore cars, several of which were donated to the museum by the National Park Service in 2010. *Younger visitors can earn a Junior Ranger award and East Troy Electric Railroad pin after completing a Junior Ranger program during the event.*

During Chicago Day, you'll experience what it was like to ride interurban trains in and out of Chicago 100 years ago. Electric interurban trains were a very common way to travel between cities before the automobile became affordable and roads were improved for travel. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$10.00 for children and \$13.50 for seniors. Children 2 and under are free.

The East Troy Electric Railroad operates on 7 miles of track that has been in continuous operation for over 116 years. The tourist railroad has been in operation since 1972 and is the only museum in the country that regularly operates historic South Shore Railroad Cars on an electric interurban line. The 2024 operating season extends from April through October.

The East Troy Railroad Museum is located at 2002 Church Street in East Troy, Wisconsin, approximately 15 miles north of Lake Geneva via Highway 120 and 35 miles southwest of Milwaukee via I-43. *When traveling to East Troy from Milwaukee on I-43, please use the Highway 120 exit, since the Highway 20 exit is under construction.*

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**About Indiana Dunes National Park:** Indiana Dunes National Park is one of 429 units of the National Park System ranging from Yellowstone to the Statue of Liberty. Located in Northwest Indiana, the park includes 15 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and 15,000 acres of biodiverse beaches, woods, prairies, and marshes. Over 3 million visitors come to the Indiana Dunes each year.

**About the East Troy Railroad Museum:** East Troy Railroad Museum offers 14-mile round trip rides each weekend from our East Troy depot and museum to Indianhead Park in Mukwonago, with a stop at the popular Elegant Farmer store and deli. This year the railroad is celebrating 117 years of electric railroading through Southeast Wisconsin's Kettle Moraine countryside.

This 501(c)(3) not-for-profit railroad museum is operated and managed by over 140 volunteers committed to the operation and preservation of historic trolleys and interurban railcars. For more information, visit [www.easttroyrr.org](http://www.easttroyrr.org) or call 262.642.3263.

**Suggested Photo Captions:**

*100-year-old Chicago Elevated Cars at the East Troy Barn.* Photo by Jee Micheel.

*Chicago South Shore Car 33 at the Elegant Farmer Station in 2021.* Photo by Tom Fleming.

*Loading Chicago Elevated Car 4439 at East Troy.* Photo by Steve Thomas