



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2024

Contact: Steve Thomas
sthomas@easttroyrr.org
414-702-6257

Celebrate Milwaukee Day on August 3rd at the East Troy Railroad!

Alderman Bob Bauman to Speak – Enjoy a Ukulele Concert and Sing-along too!

EAST TROY, WIS: On Saturday, August 3rd, the East Troy Electric Railroad will feature historic Milwaukee railroad equipment and family-friendly activities designed to put smiles on the faces of kids from two to 92. Take a train ride on an historic Milwaukee streetcar or a coach that ran between Milwaukee and Chicago. *Alderman Bob Bauman*, from Milwaukee, will speak at 10:45am and 1:45pm about the early years of the museum in East Troy (where he was a young volunteer from 1978 to 1982) and also about his work to develop a new Milwaukee streetcar line (The Hop). North Shore Car 228 – our latest restoration project – will also be on display!

Kids of all ages will enjoy a concert and sing-along from the *Plinkers Ukulele group*, performing railroad-related songs starting at 1:00pm. *Free popcorn and balloon animals will be available for everyone in the Depot throughout the day.*

During Milwaukee Day, you'll experience what it was like to ride streetcars and interurban trains in and around of Milwaukee 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. Tickets can be purchased in advance for specific departures. Walk-up tickets are also available for most trains.

The East Troy Electric Railroad operates on 7 miles of track that has been in continuous operation for 117 years. The first train from Milwaukee arrived in East Troy in December of 1907. The Village of East Troy purchased the line between East Troy and Mukwonago in 1939 and operated the railroad as a freight line for many years. Tourist trains started running 1972 on the only remaining electric interurban railroad in the state of Wisconsin. 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.*

About Bob Bauman: Alderman Robert J. Bauman was first elected in April 2004 after a 27-year career as an attorney and businessman. A native of Chicago, Alderman Bauman received his B.A., cum laude, from Marquette University in 1974 and his J.D., cum laude, from Northwestern University School of Law in 1977. Alderman Bauman has been an advocate for improved and expanded public transportation and land use planning in Milwaukee and southeastern Wisconsin.

- MORE -

About North Shore Car 228: Car 228 is a Merchandise Dispatch car built by the Cincinnati Car Company for the Chicago North Shore & Milwaukee Railroad – best known as the North Shore Line – in 1922. The North Shore Line ran frequent high-speed passenger trains between downtown Chicago and downtown Milwaukee from 1916 through early 1963. The North Shore Line also operated a thriving cargo business, using powerful electric locomotives to haul carload freight and Merchandise Dispatch cars to haul less-than-carload (“LCL”) freight to any station along the line or for transfer to other railroads or steamship lines. The merchandise cars were essentially self-propelled boxcars that carried packages, newspapers, furniture and other items. Small packages could be brought to any North Shore Line station for shipment, and larger items were processed through freight houses, where transfers could be made from trucks.

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 or call 262.642.3263.

Suggested Photo Captions:

Milwaukee Alderman Robert Bauman. Photo courtesy of Robert Bauman.

Car 846 along the line near East Troy. Photo by Tom Fleming

Car 228 with Paul Averdung at the controls. Photo by Eric Zabelny

Car 761 with Eric Zabelny at the controls. Photo by Jenny McCarthy