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Historical

Calendar



The 9000-9599 series buses, delivered in 1975-1976, featured air-inflated or "balloon" bumpers, air-conditioning and anti-skid brakes. Pictured here is an impressive line-up of the buses ready for service. The #125 Water Tower Express route had just been instituted by CTA in 1975.



# January

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cta	<p>Asterisk (*) after date: Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed</p>	cta	<p><b>DECEMBER 2004</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		cta	<p><b>FEBRUARY 2005</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28						<p>E 1* New Year's Day</p>
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C 16	D 17* Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	E 18	F 19	G 20	A 21	B 22																																																																																				
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In the transition from then-conventional design to "new look" buses, CTA took delivery of prototype #8499 in 1960. While the rest of the bus body looks like a 1950s Fixible bus, the "new look" front with large fishbowl type windows anticipates buses to be delivered for many years thereafter. Serving CTA as both a diesel and a propane bus, it is retained as an historical vehicle that makes occasional appearances at events such as CTA's Bus Rodeo Competition.

# February

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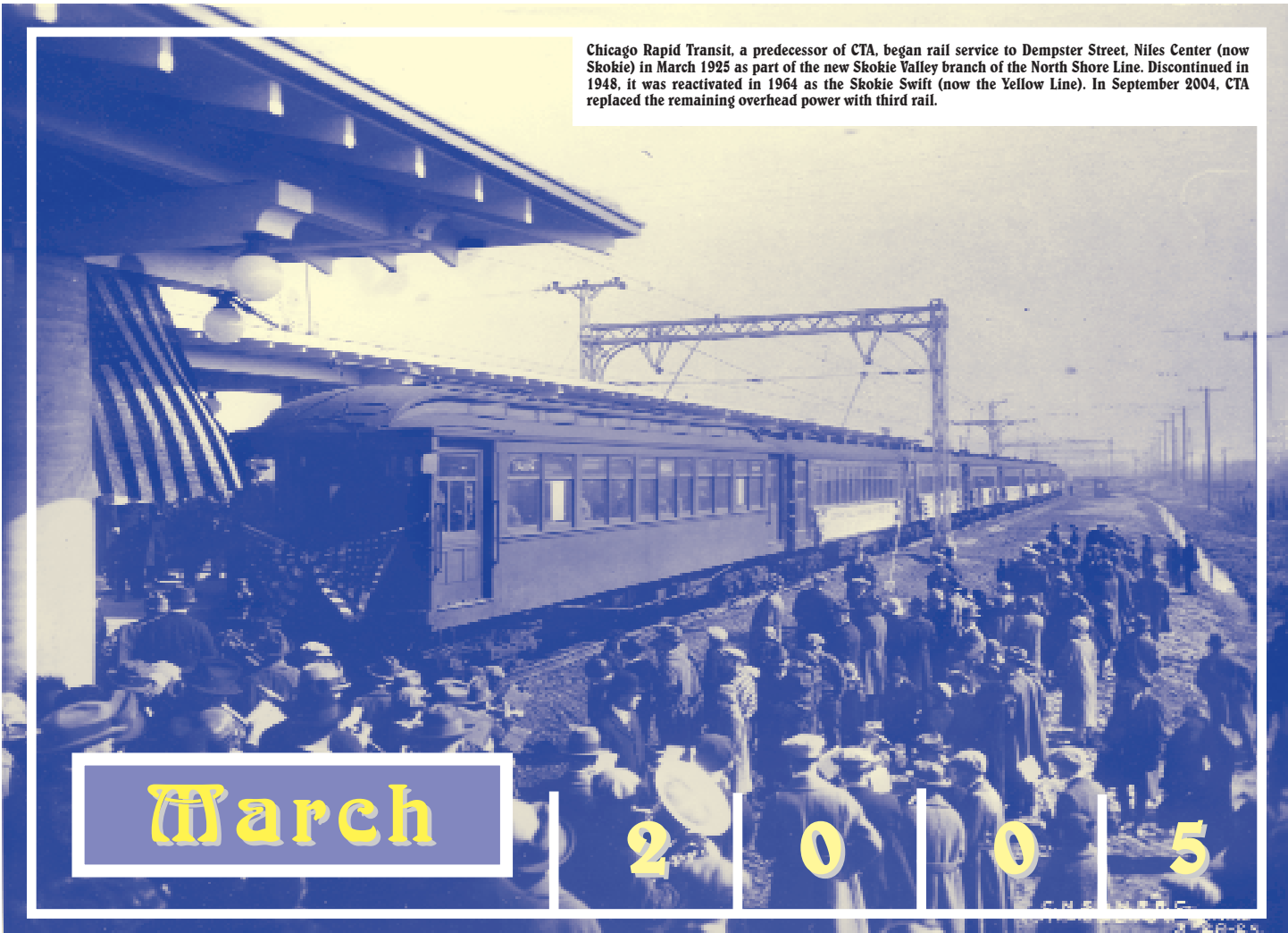
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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<b>JANUARY 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>C</b> 1	<b>D</b> 2	<b>E</b> 3	<b>F</b> 4	<b>G</b> 5
<b>G</b> 6	<b>A</b> 7	<b>B</b> 8	<b>C</b> 9 Ash Wednesday	<b>D</b> 10	<b>E</b> 11	<b>F</b> 12 Lincoln's Birthday
<b>F</b> 13	<b>G</b> 14 Valentine's Day	<b>A</b> 15	<b>B</b> 16	<b>C</b> 17	<b>D</b> 18	<b>E</b> 19
<b>E</b> 20	<b>F</b> 21 Presidents' Day	<b>G</b> 22 Washington's Birthday	<b>A</b> 23	<b>B</b> 24	<b>C</b> 25	<b>D</b> 26
<b>D</b> 27	<b>E</b> 28		<b>MARCH 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		<b>Asterisk (*) after date:</b> Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters</b> <b>over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed	

Chicago Rapid Transit, a predecessor of CTA, began rail service to Dempster Street, Niles Center (now Skokie) in March 1925 as part of the new Skokie Valley branch of the North Shore Line. Discontinued in 1948, it was reactivated in 1964 as the Skokie Swift (now the Yellow Line). In September 2004, CTA replaced the remaining overhead power with third rail.



# March

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<b>FEBRUARY 2005</b> <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	F 1	G 2	A 3	B 4	C 5
C 6	D 7	E 8	F 9	G 10	A 11	B 12
B 13	C 14	D 15	E 16	F 17 <small>St. Patrick's Day</small>	G 18	A 19
A 20 <small>Palm Sunday First Day of Spring</small>	B 21	C 22	D 23	E 24	F 25 <small>Good Friday</small>	G 26
G 27* <small>Easter</small>	A 28	B 29	C 30	D 31	<b>APRIL 2005</b> <small>S M T W T F S</small> 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>Asterisk (*) after date:</b> Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters            over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed

Beginning in 1974, CTA began repainting many of its buses and trains in a special paint scheme to commemorate our nation's Bicentennial in 1976. Early in the program, the vehicles were named in honor of various patriots and events during the American Revolution. Later on, additional vehicles were painted in a modified paint scheme with the logo "I Will—The Spirit of Chicago." Here #9040, part of CTA's largest single order of diesel buses from one builder, participates in a Chicago parade.

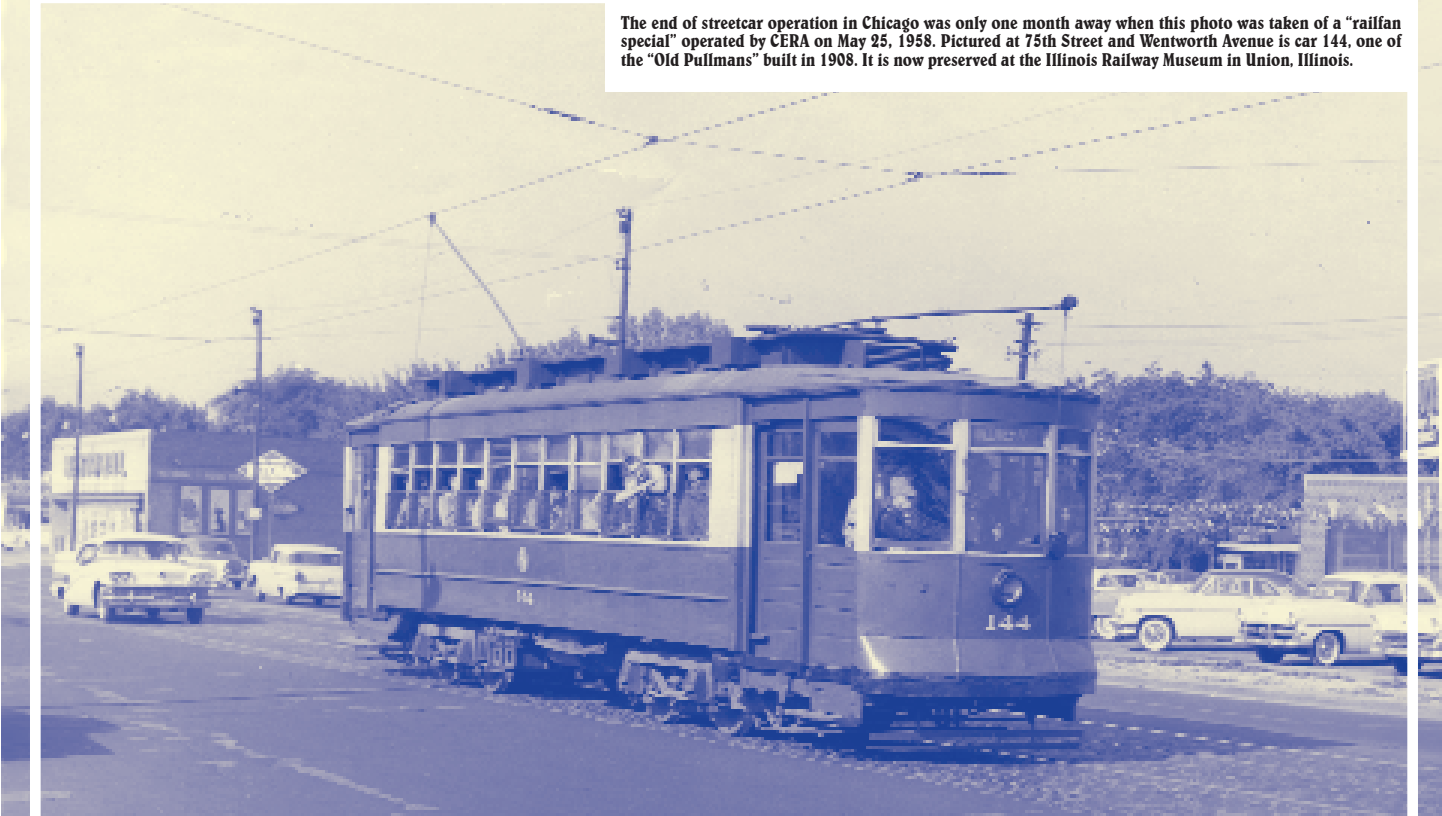


# April

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<b>F</b> 3 Daylight Saving Time Begins	<b>G</b> 4	<b>A</b> 5	<b>B</b> 6	<b>C</b> 7	<b>D</b> 8	<b>E</b> 9
<b>E</b> 10	<b>F</b> 11	<b>G</b> 12	<b>A</b> 13	<b>B</b> 14	<b>C</b> 15	<b>D</b> 16
<b>D</b> 17	<b>E</b> 18	<b>F</b> 19	<b>G</b> 20	<b>A</b> 21	<b>B</b> 22	<b>C</b> 23
<b>C</b> 24 Passover	<b>D</b> 25	<b>E</b> 26	<b>F</b> 27	<b>G</b> 28	<b>A</b> 29	<b>B</b> 30

The end of streetcar operation in Chicago was only one month away when this photo was taken of a "raiffan special" operated by CERA on May 25, 1958. Pictured at 75th Street and Wentworth Avenue is car 144, one of the "Old Pullmans" built in 1908. It is now preserved at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois.



May

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
B	C	D	E	F	G	A
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Armed Forces Day
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30* Memorial Day	31	<b>APRIL 2005</b> S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		<b>JUNE 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
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CTA began its initial testing of high-performance equipment on cars 6127-6130 in 1955. Following this pilot program, cars one through four, pictured below, were delivered in 1960. These cars could attain a speed of 79 miles per hour, and were further distinguished by their attractive maroon, white, and orange appearance.

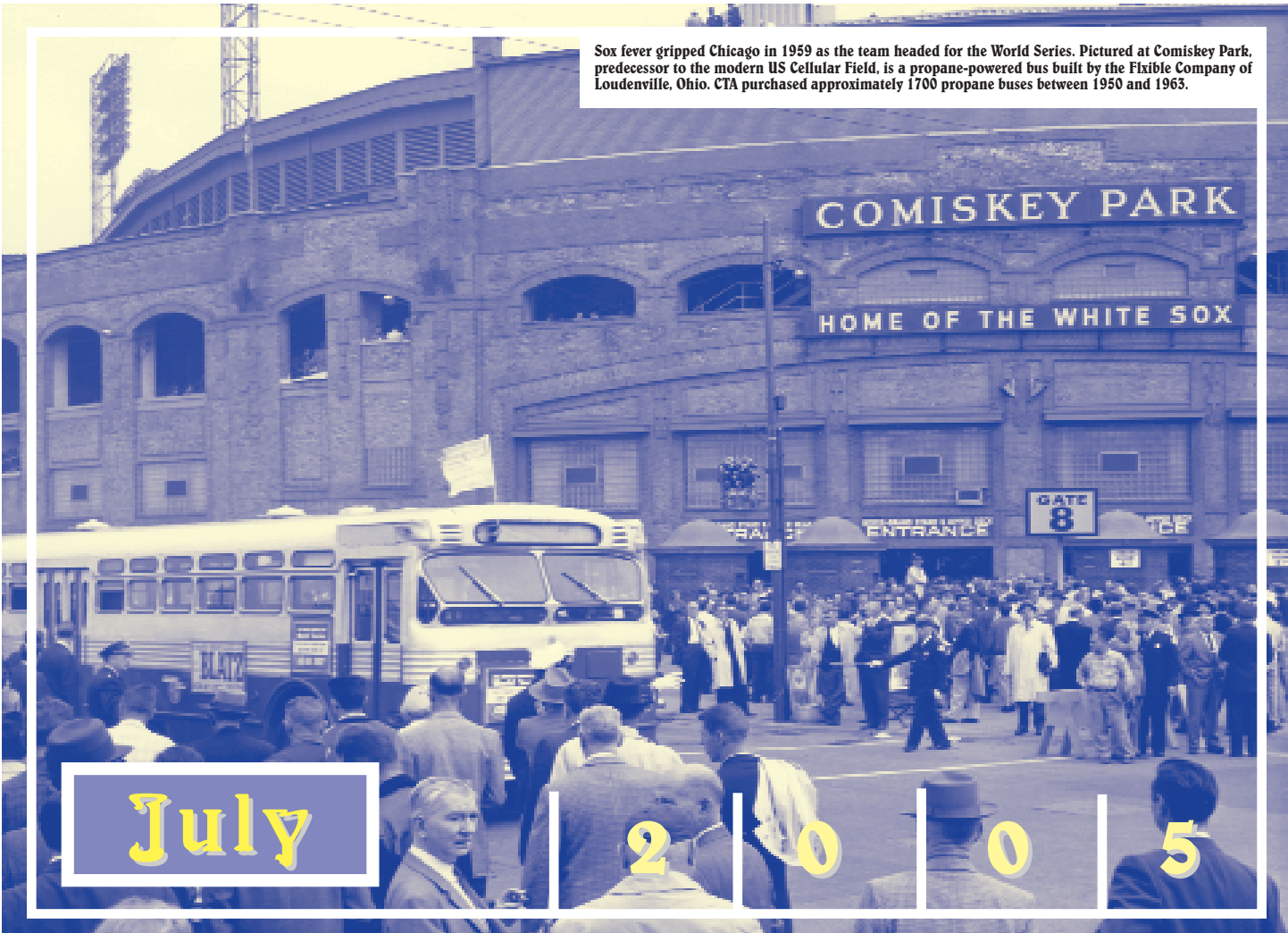


June

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D 5	E 6	F 7	G 8	A 9	B 10	C 11																																																	
C 12	D 13	E 14 Flag Day	F 15	G 16	A 17	B 18																																																	
B 19 Father's Day	C 20	D 21	E 22	F 23	G 24	A 25																																																	
A 26	B 27	C 28	D 29	E 30	<p><b>JULY 2005</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							
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31																																																							

Sox fever gripped Chicago in 1959 as the team headed for the World Series. Pictured at Comiskey Park, predecessor to the modern US Cellular Field, is a propane-powered bus built by the Flxible Company of Loudenville, Ohio. CTA purchased approximately 1700 propane buses between 1950 and 1963.



July

2005

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
cta	Asterisk (*) after date: Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters                      over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed	cta	<b>JUNE 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>AUGUST 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	F 1	G 2
G 3	A 4* Independence Day	B 5	C 6	D 7	E 8	F 9
F 10	G 11	A 12	B 13	C 14	D 15	E 16
E 17	F 18	G 19	A 20	B 21	C 22	D 23
D 24 31 c	E 25	F 26	G 27	A 28	B 29	C 30



In 1941, construction of the Dearborn Street subway was underway in this view south of Washington Street. The 5000-series Brill streetcar operated on the Wallace/Racine line.



# August

2005

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>JULY 2005</b> S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	D 1	E 2	F 3	G 4	A 5	B 6
B 7	C 8	D 9	E 10	F 11	G 12	A 13
A 14	B 15	C 16	D 17	E 18	F 19	G 20
G 21	A 22	B 23	C 24	D 25	E 26	F 27
F 28	G 29	A 30	B 31	<b>SEPTEMBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		<b>Asterisk (*) after date:</b> Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters            over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed

Gasoline powered motor buses were still in operation on CTA until 1963. This 1958 view at Wacker and State looking northeast shows a 3500-series bus built by the White Motor Company in 1947.



# September

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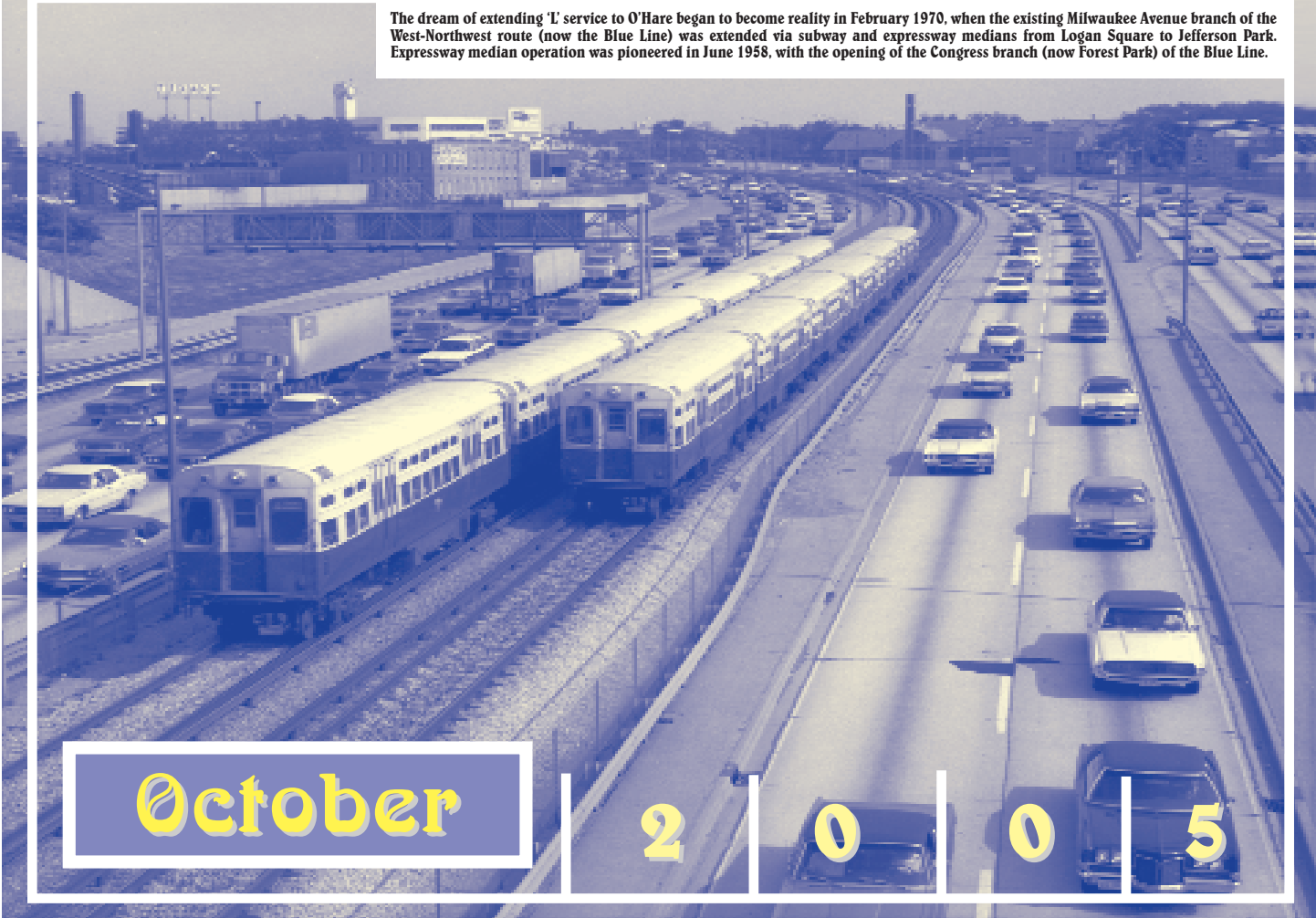
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E 4	F 5* Labor Day	G 6	A 7	B 8	C 9	D 10
D 11	E 12	F 13	G 14	A 15	B 16	C 17
C 18	D 19	E 20	F 21	G 22	A 23	B 24
B 25	C 26	D 27	E 28	F 29	G 30	<b>OCTOBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

The dream of extending 'L' service to O'Hare began to become reality in February 1970, when the existing Milwaukee Avenue branch of the West-Northwest route (now the Blue Line) was extended via subway and expressway medians from Logan Square to Jefferson Park. Expressway median operation was pioneered in June 1958, with the opening of the Congress branch (now Forest Park) of the Blue Line.



October

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
cta	<p><b>Asterisk (*) after date:</b> Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed</p>	cta	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	cta	<p><b>NOVEMBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	1
A 2	B 3	C 4 Rosh Hashanah	D 5	E 6	F 7	G 8
G 9	A 10 Columbus Day (Observed)	B 11	C 12	D 13 Yom Kippur	E 14	F 15
F 16	G 17	A 18	B 19	C 20	D 21	E 22
E 23 30 Daylight Saving Time Ends D	F 24 31 United Nations Day Halloween E	G 25	A 26	B 27	C 28	D 29

This view at CTA's Hamlin Yard in 1964 shows three distinct types of equipment that had operated on the Lake Street 'L' (now the Harlem branch of the Green Line) from the beginning of its operation. At left, air-conditioned car 2011, built by Pullman, represented the state of the art rail car of the time. Car 4145, center, represented the steel cars that had served the line since 1924. At right, car 3146, by then in work service, had served the route from 1893 to 1954.



# November 2005

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>cta</b>	<b>OCTOBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	F <b>1</b>	G <b>2</b>	A <b>3</b>	B <b>4</b>	C <b>5</b>
C <b>6</b>	D <b>7</b>	E <b>8</b> Election Day	F <b>9</b>	G <b>10</b>	A <b>11*</b> Veterans Day	B <b>12</b>
B <b>13</b>	C <b>14</b>	D <b>15</b>	E <b>16</b>	F <b>17</b>	G <b>18</b>	A <b>19</b>
A <b>20</b>	B <b>21</b>	C <b>22</b>	D <b>23</b>	E <b>24*</b> Thanksgiving Day	F <b>25*</b>	G <b>26</b>
G <b>27</b>	A <b>28</b>	B <b>29</b>	C <b>30</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2005</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>cta</b>	<b>Asterisk (*) after date:</b> Alternate day off if you work on this day <b>Alphabetical letters            over dates:</b> CTA Operations Division Group Days Off <b>Shaded Bubble:</b> Central offices closed

Chicago's Midway Airport has undergone massive expansion and renovation in recent years, but even in 1972, an improvement was made when CTA rerouted its 54B South Cicero buses to provide direct access to the terminal.



# December

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
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<p><b>F</b> <b>4</b></p>		<p><b>G</b> <b>5</b></p>		<p><b>A</b> <b>6</b></p>		<p><b>B</b> <b>7</b></p>		<p><b>C</b> <b>8</b></p>		<p><b>D</b> <b>9</b></p>		<p><b>E</b> <b>10</b></p>	
<p><b>E</b> <b>11</b></p>		<p><b>F</b> <b>12</b></p>		<p><b>G</b> <b>13</b></p>		<p><b>A</b> <b>14</b></p>		<p><b>B</b> <b>15</b></p>		<p><b>C</b> <b>16</b></p>		<p><b>D</b> <b>17</b></p>	
<p><b>D</b> <b>18</b></p>		<p><b>E</b> <b>19</b></p>		<p><b>F</b> <b>20</b></p>		<p><b>G</b> <b>21</b></p>		<p><b>A</b> <b>22</b></p>		<p><b>B</b> <b>23</b></p>		<p><b>C</b> <b>24</b></p>	
<p><b>C</b> <b>25*</b> Christmas Day</p>		<p><b>D</b> <b>26</b> Hanukkah Kwanzaa</p>		<p><b>E</b> <b>27</b></p>		<p><b>F</b> <b>28</b></p>		<p><b>G</b> <b>29</b></p>		<p><b>A</b> <b>30</b></p>		<p><b>B</b> <b>31</b></p>	