



TROLLEY CAR SOLD ON E-BAY

The Asheville Citizen-Times recently reported that the Asheville trolley car that was offered up on eBay will stay in Asheville, well, Woodfin, to be precise, but it will stay in the mountains. “We were thrilled to get it, and we’re thrilled to keep it in town,” said Rocky Hollifield, whose nonprofit group, the Craggy Mountain Line, bought the car for \$5,000. The Craggy Mountain Line hopes to open a train museum on three miles of track it owns in Woodfin. They will completely refurbish the Asheville trolley car, a 1927 “Birney Safety Car” manufactured by the J.G. Brill Company of Philadelphia.

Hendersonville resident David Burns, 19, put the car on eBay and plans to use the proceeds to pay for college tuition. His grandmother, Barbara Rouser, acquired the car about a decade ago when she bought a home and property in south Asheville. At the time, a couple was living in the trolley car, which remains in fairly good shape, although it could use some roof repairs. Carolina Power & Light Company purchased 10 of these cars to operate on the streets of Asheville, which had one of the country’s earliest trolley systems. Service began in 1888 but had ended by 1940. Hollifield said he’s aware of three Asheville trolley cars still in town. “This is the best one,” he said. “Cosmetically, the car is mostly intact.”

(note: picture of present condition in the Asheville Citizen Times shows it will require much TLC during restoration)
