

OcTrolleyFest to celebrate heritage of transportation

DARBY — With gas prices going through the roof, eastern Delaware County residents are getting ready to celebrate a mode of transportation from the past that is an important asset today.

OcTrolleyFest on Saturday, Oct. 15, will celebrate transportation heritage and community with a vintage streamlined rebuilt PCC trolley making a continuous loop between Colwyn, Darby, Elmwood and Yeadon beginning at Darby Library, 1001 Main St. in Darby, at 10 a.m.

Tickets to ride the trolley running from 11 a.m.-3 p.m are free and available on a first come-first served basis at Darby Library and at Yeadon Library.

"For nearly 150 years trolleys have connected us with the wider world and with each other," said John Haigis who is helping coordinate the event. "The Route 11 trolley which goes to Ninth

and Main is the area's oldest surviving trolley line and started as a horsecar line in 1858. These first-ring suburbs made sense when they developed around trolleys because they were so convenient. That is still true today."

Other attractions along the route passing through 300 years of history include the site of Pennsylvania's first water-powered mill (Printz's Mill, 1646), the nation's second oldest library (Darby Library, est. 1743) and the site of Hilldale Park, home of the 1925 World Champion Hilldale Giants of the Negro Baseball League.

Other events will include a visit from W.C. Fields (reputed to have been born in Darby), the Ghost of the First Librarian, TrolleySongs, Pumpkin Man and much more.

The event is free and open to the public and will run from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information call (610) 583-0788; or visit www.darbyhistory.com.