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City celebrates Streetscape

Early planner is pleased with work

By ELIZABETH WOODS
Gainesville, Texas

When Peter Horvitz left Chillicothe three years ago, Streetscape was merely a cloudy vision of dreams and aspirations.

Friday, the city is celebrating brightly on their drive is a sign that blossomed into a reality for the Streetscape Commission and the city of Chillicothe.

"A lot of the Horvitz design that was dreamed at the time became a reality," said the former Chillicothe Gazette publisher. "It's much clearer now, which allows me to focus on the great architecture."

During his tenure in Chillicothe, Streetscape organizers say Horvitz was instrumental in the project's preliminary planning stages.

In 1986, Horvitz helped obtain a \$100,000 General Foundation grant for Streetscape.

Horvitz is now publisher of the Independent Journal in Marin County, Calif. The Independent Journal and the Chillicothe Gazette are both owned by Gazette.

An earlier publisher from July 1984 to October 1987, he said he rarely attended the project. When he drove into Chillicothe Friday, the newly trucked sidewalks and flag-lined streets were a pleasant surprise.

Only the installation of historic-style streetlights was confirmed when Horvitz left Chillicothe for California.

The new Ross County Chillicothe Law Enforcement Center was the biggest surprise to Horvitz.

"The drawings were more abstract when I left," he said. "No real decisions were made at that time."

Talk about renovations for the Market Theater was also in the air when Horvitz left in 1987.

It is a similar project that was just starting when I left. It is so credible that I've been so impressed."

Horvitz lives in Marin County, California, where he lives with his wife, Peggy.



Chillicothe actors dressed in 18th-century clothing distributed literature Friday. From left are Katie Thompson, George Bond and Ruth Kendall.



People milled around the Public Square even after the Streetscape Dedication Ceremony Friday afternoon.



James Matthew, 9, shields his eyes from the bright afternoon sun with a program from the Streetscape Dedication Ceremony. Beside him is his father, Jeff Matthew, who is a member of the Adagio Band.

Photos by Tim Johnson
Gazette Photo Editor

It all came together

1980
Streetscape organizers meet to discuss Streetscape potential in basement of the Chillicothe Gazette.

1981
Streetscape organizers received \$20,000 from Small Corp. and two \$25,000 grants from General Foundation.

1985
Streetscape Commission forms.

1986
Council gives nod for formal plan.

1987
Streetscape receives \$400,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission.
Streetscape Commission begins selection of places to highlight.
General Foundation gives \$100,000 boost to Streetscape.
Preliminary architect's drawing unveiled.

1989
Historic fence removed.
Festal lighting illuminates downtown.
Street paving begins.

May 18, 1990
Streetscape Dedication Celebration.

Zane Trace must return '85 tax windfall

Self and wife report

COLUMBUS — Zane Trace public school district must return \$48,000 to the state, the Ohio Department of Taxation announced Friday.

The decision stems from a challenge filed with the board by Galia County Auditor Ronald S. Conroy concerning the audit of personal property taxes paid by the Ohio Power Company and the Ohio Valley Electric Corp.

The Ohio Board of Tax Appeals made the ruling.

It's the first time that Zane Trace Superintendent Pete Doublet has such a decision. But as the school district's budget of \$4.2 million, the loss won't make much difference, Doublet said.

"The windfall funds had been used for general fund expenses that much more," Doublet said.

The board ruled that the method used by the state's Taxation Commissioner James Linsbach was incorrect in the division, and that taxes for that year must be recalculated. Some 275 public school district revenues were affected, with 270 of them in 47 separate counties losing money.

Galia County was the big winner, gaining \$1.2 million. Washington County's Wolf Creek district was the only other district in the state to benefit from the ruling.

"Although, I'm sure, it will be small consolation to the school experiencing a negative impact from this decision, we want them to understand that this is a one-time-only loss."

—James Linsbach, Ohio Department of Taxation

"Although, I'm sure, it will be small consolation to the school experiencing a negative impact from this decision, we want them to understand that this is a one-time-only loss," said Linsbach.

Legislation was enacted in 1985 to correct the valuation dispute that precipitated the court case.

The 1985 tax dispute and resulting change in law involved how the state sets the values of coal pits and whether taxes derived from the coal storage maintained by the two utilities should be paid to a single district or apportioned among all districts where the utility owns property.

Briefs

Registration for summer classes at OUC to begin

Registration for summer quarter classes at Ohio University-Chillicothe will be from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m. June 1. Classes begin June 11. For more information or a brochure of classes contact the registration office at 774-7241 or 774-7240.

Carnation Sale set for June 1

June 1 is the American Heart Association's annual carnation sale. Carnations will be sold on June 1 and 2 in front of Big Bear at General Center, at Jack N. Stone, Park Square, Elder Brethren, McWhorter's, K. A. Smith, Hills and Heights, on the 8th street plaza. Carnations may be ordered prior to the street sale, see to May 22, for all cash from the organization, 308 Park Ave., Chillicothe, Ohio 45601. They will be delivered on May 31.

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