



# the Mistletoe Express



A Publication of Historic Mistletoe Heights

February 2004

## Quick Bits

### Yard-of-the-Month Volunteer Needed

Mistletoe Heights is searching for a resident with landscaping experience (does not have to be an expert) to volunteer as our Yard-of-the-Month Judge. Anyone who feels they are qualified should be able to describe the types of plants, trees and shrubs used in the yard they have selected and give a brief description. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Mistletoe Express editor at carrk@charter.net or (817) 907-5759.

### February Calendar

- February 7 - Bond Election
- February 8 - Last Day - Stock Show
- February 10 - Potluck Association Meeting at Lily B. Clayton
- February 14 - Valentine's Day
- February 16 - Presidents' Day

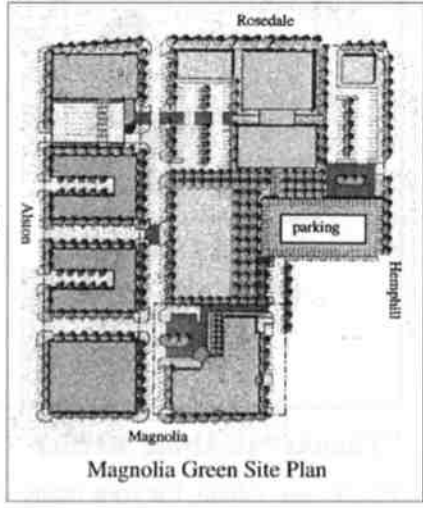
*Street Reps - please check your contact information on the back page and let the editor know if any changes are needed. Thank you.*

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## Fort Worth South Report

**Magnolia Green** - Pennsylvania Avenue L.P. planned to break ground in January on the first phase of a \$37 million mixed use development on the 11-acre site bounded by Rosedale, Hemphill, Magnolia and Alston. The project vision includes a bank-anchored office building, a medical office building, residential units and first-floor retail spaces with first occupancy scheduled for February 2005. Details on the tenants of the first two new structures were to be announced in January, as well. This is one of the original urban village projects envisioned by FWS as a catalyst for redevelopment of the area. We're grateful to the Darden family for embracing the vision, and being willing to develop their property in a mixed-use form.



**Rosedale** - The pros and cons of four alternatives to the current plan to rebuild Rosedale as a six-lane divided boulevard will be available for review in mid-February. FWS's Board of Directors requested a review of design alternatives following the recommendations of an outside consulting team invited to assess FWS's strategic plan. The objective is to prevent the construction of a roadway that would prevent pedestrian access from, and between, new residential neighborhoods, work locations and retail outlets. The six-lane design was originally proposed in 1990 to, in part, bypass the construction of the new I-30/I-35 interchange. Circumstances have changed since this design was considered. The revitalization of the medical district now envisions significant residential development. So, many favor a modified design with two lanes each way, dedicated left-hand turn lanes at median breaks, and wider sidewalks/parkways to accommodate pedestrians. Once the construction contract is let, it will take 785 construction days to complete the road between S. Main and Forest Park Blvd.



## You are invited to the annual Mistletoe Heights Potluck Supper

Tuesday, February 10, at 6:30 pm at the Lily B. Clayton cafeteria. Please bring a dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. Drinks and utensils will be provided.



*Don't miss this very special annual Mistletoe Heights event!*

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## A Mistletoe Heights Tale

Over the holidays at a dinner party, I chanced to meet Paul Allen of 1121 Mistletoe Drive. In the course of our conversation, I told him I walked by his house practically every day and although the architectural style was somehow familiar, I couldn't quite arrive at a conclusion as to what it was. Once he told me the history of his house, I, of course, instantly practiced the time-honored Hungarian tradition of slapping the palm of my hand smartly to my forehead and saying "Of course!". The following is the story as related to me.

During World War I, a young soldier from Fort Worth fought in France and, at the conclusion of the war, remained there for a short while and thoroughly enjoyed his stay. Upon returning to Fort Worth, he married his high school sweetheart and convinced her that she too would love France. As a result they honeymooned in the south of France and stayed for a year, both enjoying it tremendously. When they returned home (as everyone generally does), they built a duplicate of the French provincial cottage that had been their home in Provence at 1121 Mistletoe Drive where it still stands.

No wonder the style had been familiar to me; after enjoying "A Year in Provence" and "Toujours Provence" by Peter Mayle, the architectural style somehow resonated. Paul later gave me a brief tour of the house and I must say it is beautiful, from the mahogany floors to the exposed ceiling joists it is surely unlike any other home in Mistletoe Heights. An old television program, "Naked City" used to proclaim that there were "seven million stories in the Naked City"; to paraphrase that, I believe there are over 500 stories in Mistletoe Heights and this is one of them. Thank you, Paul, for sharing this story.

Tom Richey

## "Thanks" to Abbie Steffler

Thank you, Abbie, for your many years of service as the block rep for 1100 Clara. Jack and Lorri Kendrick, 1146 Clara, will assume the responsibilities as the new block reps.

## Mistletoe Heights

### Home Enhancement Tips #6

#### Special tips for home showings:

- Secure jewelry, cash, prescription medications and other valuables
- It is usually best if you can leave while your house is being shown
- Please save business cards of all agents who show your property
- If people who are not accompanied by an agent ask to see your property, please refer them to your agent who will pre-screen them



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