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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Friends of Reverchon Park, Heritage Auction Galleries to Host Kickoff Party**

*New Nonprofit Organization to Continue Restoration Efforts of 46-acre Historic Park*

**(DALLAS, Feb. 22, 2006)** – Heritage Auction Galleries will host a kickoff party for Friends of Reverchon Park, a new nonprofit organization dedicated to continuing restoration efforts of the 46-acre historic park on Feb. 23.

The evening celebration will introduce Friends of Reverchon Park, which was established to unite the community in support of the historic park and to assist the City of Dallas with implementing the Reverchon Park Restoration and Development Plan. Supporters will also learn ways to get involved in restoration efforts.

“We are thrilled about the new organization and the opportunities it brings to the community,” said Linda White, chairman of Friends of Reverchon Park. “We are really looking forward to the kickoff event. This celebration would not be possible without the generous support of Heritage Auction Galleries.”

Heritage Auction Galleries will be hosting the event at its corporate headquarters adjacent to the park.

“We are sincerely thrilled with this opportunity to get involved with the restoration of one of Dallas’ most important historic parks,” said Greg Rohan, president of Heritage Auction Galleries. “Heritage believes strongly in being a good neighbor, and the park is an important element in this neighborhood. In a ‘new’ city like Dallas, our historic parks and sites especially need our continuing efforts. We are also pleased to be working with Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, where our staff and family currently volunteer.”

Other supporters of the kickoff celebration include Caven Enterprises, Goody Goody Liquors Inc., Victory Promotions, The Mansion on Turtle Creek and Howard Okon and The Brick.

Reverchon Park, which was named for well-known botanist Julien Reverchon, was designed to be the Central Park of Dallas. In the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration built a working well, iris

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garden, stone pathways, steps and vistas that are still present today. More than 30,000 people use the park each year.

Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC) initiated the Reverchon Park Revitalization Project in 1998 to help make the park cleaner and safer for members of the Dallas/Fort Worth community. In 2002, the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, TSRHC and the City of Dallas built a state-of-the-art playground accessible to children of all levels of ability.

“Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children has been an active supporter of the Reverchon Park revitalization efforts for many years, and we are excited that the Friends of Reverchon Park will be able to help move the restoration efforts to the next level,” said Alexia Griffin, TSRHC’s assistant administrator of volunteer services and external relations and vice chairman of Friends of Reverchon Park. “We are thankful that neighbors, area businesses and friends such as the City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department have shared this same vision.”

The City of Dallas Park and Recreation Department - West Region, PlainsCapital Corporation, Dr Pepper Bottling Co. of Texas, The Mansion on Turtle Creek, The Melrose Hotel, Starbucks, Arborilogical Services, Inc., Founders Garden Club of Dallas and the Dallas Police Department have been key sponsors of the annual park cleanup, Reverchon Roundup. This year, Reverchon Roundup is planned for 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 4. To volunteer, please call (214) 559-7825.

### **About Friends of Reverchon Park**

In 2005, a group of concerned citizens formally established Friends of Reverchon Park as a nonprofit organization to unite the community in support of this historic Dallas landmark. Friends of Reverchon Park is dedicated to educating the community about the 46-acre park and raising funds for the restoration efforts. The group is currently working with the City of Dallas to implement the Reverchon Park Restoration and Development Plan.

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