



Kessler Plaza News

February 17, 2002
Volume 4, Issue 2

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

Next Neighborhood Meeting:
Tuesday, February 26, 7 p.m.



Inside:

- President's Corner.....2
- Yard of the Month.....2
- Nonprofit Status2
- Welcome Wagon2
- Preservation Dallas3
- OOCCL Membership.....3
- OOCCL Seeks Homes3
- Town Hall Meetings.....4
- Moss Park4
- Conservation Seminars4
- Fort Worth Ave. Summit....5
- Primary Elections5
- Early Voting.....5
- Block Captains5
- Treasury Report5
- Calendar of Events.....6
- About Kessler Plaza6

Miller Elected Dallas Mayor Housewright Captures Council Seat

Former Dallas City Councilperson Laura Miller easily won the mayoral runoff election to become the new Mayor of Dallas. Miller defeated insurance executive Tom Dunning in a hotly contested race for mayor of the nation's ninth largest city.

Ms. Miller captured 55% of the 132,999 votes cast in the special runoff election while Mr. Dunning received 45%. Voter turnout was heavy for the election with

almost 22% of the city's 610,648 registered votes casting ballots in the election, nearly 600 more than the January election.

Miller will be sworn in Wednesday, February 23, and then preside over her first City Council meeting. She fills the remainder of former Mayor Ron Kirk's term that ends in 2003. Kirk resigned in November to run for the U.S. Senate.

In the runoff to fill the vacant District 3 City

Council seat, Mark Housewright bested Joe Whitney. Housewright, publisher of the *Oak Cliff Tribune*, received 53% of the total votes compared to 47% for Whitney, a home builder.

The position became available when Laura Miller resigned to run for mayor. Mr. Housewright will represent the district – which stretches from north Oak Cliff to southwest Dallas – until the next scheduled election in May 2003.

Neighborhood Election Results

Kessler Plaza voters returned to the polls in heavy numbers for the special runoff election. 34% of the total registered voters in Precinct 4430 (which includes Kessler Plaza) cast votes in the election. Over one fourth of those votes were cast during the early voting period.

In the mayoral runoff, 459 of the 1,335 registered voters in Precinct 4430 cast ballots. Of those, 395 (approximately 86%) were cast for Laura Miller, while 63 (approximately 14%) were cast for Tom Dunning. 130 of the 459 total votes were cast during the early voting period.

In the District 3 City Council runoff, 367 of the 905 registered voters in Precinct 4430 residing in District 3 cast votes. Of those, 199 (approximately 57%) were cast for Mark Housewright, while 159 (approximately 43%) were cast for Joe Whitney. 90 of the 367 total votes were cast during the early voting period.

February Meeting to Feature Dallas Police Officer

Plan to attend the next Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting to learn more about crime statistics and trends for our neighborhood. Guest speaker for the February 26 meeting will be Officer Luis Villarreal from the Dallas Police Department, Southwest Operations.

Officer Villarreal is our community liaison to the Dallas Police Department. He will speak about crime and crime prevention within our neighborhood and the surrounding community.

This informative meeting will be held Tuesday,

February 26, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ. Remember to bring your Campbell's Soup labels and/or donations to the meeting. These are given to the church in appreciation for use of their facility.



President's Corner

by **John Cramer**

Happy Belated Valentine's Day to you all! Winter is leaving us fast...and Spring is just around the corner. How exciting!!

Please plan to attend this month's neighborhood meeting. We will be having Officer LuisVillarreal from the Dallas Police Department discussing crime prevention, statistical data and trends about our neighborhood. Also, Chad James, Park Committee Chairman, will be discussing updates on Moss Park, Plymouth median, and the restoration of the Pump House at the reservoir. I would encourage you to attend to hear what the City of Dallas has in store for Moss Park

and the Reservoir. You might want to get involved...after all, it is your neighborhood and community!

Also, we will be voting on four (4) key issues for the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association:

- Secretary/Treasurer
- Adopting updated By-Laws
- Extension of current elected executive members through December 2002
- Association joining the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce and Old Oak Cliff Conservation League.

Now for a couple of thought provoking questions....

- Do you favor the sale of liquor, beer, and wine in Oak Cliff?

- Do you favor a \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20, or \$25 neighborhood membership dues per year?
- Do you favor a monthly newsletter or a quarterly newsletter?
- Do you favor a playing field, e.g. soccer/hockey, at Moss Park for the kids?

Please send your comments in writing to me: John Cramer, 2643 West Tenth Street, Dallas, TX 75211 or through email at john.cramer@sbc.com.

Hope all you use your Right To Vote in the March 12th Democratic and Republican primaries. See you at the meeting on Tuesday, February 26th at 7 p.m.

February Yard of the Month

Congratulations to the home at 2435 Sunset Marvin Ave. which was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for February.

This recognition is much deserved as this home has consistently received votes each month. This home's yard is consistently well

maintained and always features beautiful seasonal color. As most Kessler Plaza neighbors know, maintaining a beautiful yard in the middle of winter it is quite a challenge!

Congratulations and continued success to this month's honoree.

Wanted: Yard of the Month Nominations

25th of each month.

Nominate your favorite Kessler Plaza yard for Yard of the Month!

Roman Smith, Chairman of the Yard of the Month committee, is asking Kessler Plaza neighbors to submit nominations each month for the Yard of the Month voting. All neighbors' votes are important in selecting the Yard of the Month. With spring quickly approaching, there are sure to be many beautifully maintained yards to choose from, and the committee needs your help!

Neighbors can submit a nomination for Yard of the Month by dropping it off on a sheet of paper to 2643 West Tenth Street; by calling 214-339-5679; or via email to roman.smith@sbc.com. Nominations should be submitted by the

Nonprofit Status

Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association has received its federal tax number and is awaiting its official non-profit status from the Texas Secretary of State. It is expected within the next 30 days. Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

Welcome Wagon

Welcome to all new neighbors in Kessler Plaza!

Please remember to notify Joni Strickland when new neighbors move into the neighborhood. Contact Joni at 214.330.8982 or via email at Joni_r_strickland@uhc.com



Preservation Dallas Presents Awards

Preservation Dallas will present its Third Annual Preservation Achievement Awards on Friday, February 22, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Texas Discovery Gardens. The awards will honor individuals and firms with notable accomplishments in historic preservation.

This year's honorees include Rick Garza of Garza Hines Properties. Mr. Garza is receiving the award for the rehabilitation of The Homes of Kings Highway. These homes were featured on the 2001 Old

Oak Cliff Conservation League Fall Home Tour.

A self-guided tour of homes and nonresidential buildings recognized for outstanding achievement in preservation will be Saturday, February 23, 2002. The tour will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There is a \$10 admission for the tour. For additional information regarding the tour, contact Preservation Dallas at 214.821.3290

Preservation Dallas was founded in 1972 as a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to

the preservation and revitalization of Dallas' historic buildings, neighborhoods, and places in order to enhance the vitality of the city. Through education, legislation and the organization of volunteers and citizens' groups into effective advocates, Preservation Dallas works to rescue and protect Dallas' physical heritage. Additional information can be found at www.preservationdallas.org



OOCL Membership Rebates

The Board of Directors of the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL) recently announced a rebate program that benefits all neighborhoods in the Conservation League district. Under the plan, ten percent (10%) of all membership fees will be granted back to the respective neighborhood

of the joining member. What does this mean for Kessler Plaza? The more OOCL members we have, the more money that is returned to our Neighborhood Association!

In addition, the Board of Directors will announce and acknowledge each quarter the Neighborhood

with the highest percentage of OOCL membership – that could be Kessler Plaza!

Consider joining the OOCL. For more additional information, contact the OOCL by calling 972.606.3693, or visit www.oocl.org



OOCL Seeks Homes for Fall Home Tour

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL) is beginning its annual search for potential homes for the 2002 Fall Home Tour. The annual tour is one of the largest and oldest home tours in Dallas.

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League was founded in 1974 and today has 25 member neighborhoods. A non-profit organization, the League is dedicated to preserving the architectural, cultural, and historical heritage of Oak Cliff. The Fall Home Tour is the primary fund-raiser for the League and its grants program.

To suggest homes for consideration for the tour, contact Chad James, Kessler Plaza's OOCL Representative at 214.339.3608 or dfwboy@swbell.net



"These meetings are designed to gain citizen input regarding the city's next proposed General Obligation Bond Program."

"The committee has some very exciting things planned in the coming few months."

"...create a beautiful landscape that requires little or no supplemental watering."

Town Hall Meetings Scheduled

The City of Dallas is hosting a series of Town Hall meetings to discuss the city's 2002 bond program. These meetings are designed to gain citizen input regarding the city's next proposed General Obligation Bond Program.

Residents are encouraged to attend the meetings to help identify potential construction projects for the city.

Each meeting is hosted by a Dallas City Council representative. In the Kessler Plaza area, Dr. Elba Garcia, District 1 City Councilperson, is hosting meetings on February 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Jaycee/Zaragoza Recreation Center, 3114 Clymer St.; and February 28 at 6:30 at the North Oak Cliff Library, 302 W. Tenth St.

The meetings will provide

residents an opportunity to speak with a unified voice regarding projects such as Moss Park and the Plymouth Greenbelt that are important to Kessler Plaza as well as Oak Cliff.

A complete list of dates, times, and locations for all scheduled town hall meetings can be found at www.dallascityhall.com/dallas/eng/html/town_hall_meetings.html

Moss Park and Plymouth Greenbelt

The Moss Park and Plymouth Greenbelt Committee is seeking individuals to participate on the committee.

The committee has some very exciting things planned in the coming few months. Residents are encouraged to join in and have some fun with this

committee as they work to improve Moss Park and the Plymouth greenbelt.

In addition, it will soon be time to resume watering the trees in Moss Park. Volunteers are needed again this year to help ensure the

trees receive the water they need to become fully established.

Interested neighbors should contact Chad James at 214.339.3608 or dfwboy@swbell.net to volunteer for these activities.

Seminars Promote Water Conservation

Dallas Water Utilities and the Texas Agricultural Extension Service are presenting two free Water Wise seminars on Saturday, March 9, 2002. The seminars will provide information about water conservation and landscape design appropriate for Dallas neighborhoods.

Xeriscape Landscape Design 101 will be presented from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This informative program teaches the basics of good

landscape design with emphasis on how to create a beautiful landscape that requires little or no supplemental watering and helps prevent water pollution.

Fantastic Plants for North Texas will be presented from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This presentation focuses only on quality native and adapted plants that are recommended for and easily available in this area. Participants will learn when, where and

how to plant each of the recommended plants, their size and height at maturity, seasonal color, and texture.

The seminars will be conducted at the Texas A & M Research and Extension Center Auditorium, 17360 Coit Rd., Dallas, TX.

Additional information can be found at www.dallascityhall.com



Fort Worth Avenue Summit

The Fort Worth Avenue Development Group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2002. The meeting will be held at the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce, located at 660 S. Zang, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The summit will focus on the vision for a neighbor-friendly urban corridor and will provide neighbors and current (or potential) Fort Worth Avenue property and business owners information they need to operate within code.

Primary Elections set for March 12

Dallas County voters will return to the polls on March 12, 2002 for the Democratic and Republican Party Primaries. The primaries are for various Federal, State and County positions.

Each party conducts their own primary election. Registered voters can vote in only one party's primary. To win the primary, a candidate must receive 50% of the vote. If no candidate receives 50% of the vote, the top two finishers will square off in a runoff election on April 9. Winners from the two primaries will then face each other in the November general election.

Races scheduled for the primary elections include: U.S. Senator, U.S. House of Representatives, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney

Early Voting for March Primaries

Early voting for the Democratic and Republican Primary Elections for County, State and Federal elections will begin on Monday, February 28, 2002. There are numerous early voting locations located throughout Dallas County. Registered voters can vote at *any* of the early voting locations.

Early voting sites will be open February 25-March 1 from 8:00

The Fort Worth Avenue Development Group is an all-volunteer, neighbor-led effort to bring economic development, code enforcement and planning to the Fort Worth Avenue corridor. Summit attendees should RSVP to Randall White at 214.946.4600.

The summit is sponsored in part by Pinnacle Park, Bank One, the Southern Dallas Development Corporation and the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce.

General, Texas Comptroller, Texas Land Commissioner, Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Texas Railroad Commission, Texas Supreme Court, Texas Court Of Criminal Appeals, State Board of Education, State Senate, State House of Representatives, District Judge, District Attorney, County Judge, County Commissioner, County Court-At-Law, County Criminal Court, County Criminal Court of Appeals, District Clerk, County Clerk, County Treasurer, Justice of the Peace, and Constable.

Registered voters living in Kessler Plaza will vote at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ, located at the corner of Jefferson Blvd. and Franklin St. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2002.

a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; March 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; March 3 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and March 4-8 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Democratic and Republican Primary Elections are March 12.

Additional information as well as a complete list of early voting locations can be obtained at <http://www.dalcoelections.org/>

Block Captains

Following are the block captains for the neighborhood.

Alco Ave. (2400 and 2500/2600 blocks): Bret and Alan, 214.331.2011

Alco Ave. (2700 block) John and Roman, 214.339.5679

Alden Ave.: Aurelio and Brenda, 214.770.8998

Cavender St.: James (interim), 214.339.3160

Duval Dr.: Don and Janie, 214.337.1064

Marvin Ave. (North side): Nola Rae, 214.330.0557

Marvin Ave. (South side): Wade, 214.467.3400

Sunset Ave. (2400 and 2500/2600 blocks): Scott and Chris, 214.337.4107

Sunset Ave. (2700 block): James, 214.339.3160

Wentworth St.: John, 214.331.5449

West Tenth St. (2400 block): George, 214.330.9557

West Tenth St. (2500/2600 blocks): Emily, 214.339.3433

West Tenth St. (2700 block): John and Roman, 214.339.5679

Treasury Report

Beginning Bal	2438.65
Deposit	-0-
Withdrawal	-0-
Ending Balance	2438.65

Special Reserves

Moss Park	2000.00
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Grant

OOCCL	3850.00
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Expires 2003



Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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Ron Carter
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Calendar of Events

- February 21** (Thursday) – Fort Worth Avenue Summit
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce, 660 S. Zang
- February 25-March 8** – Early voting for March 12 Democratic and Republican Primary Elections for County, State and Federal elections. Registered voters can vote at any of the early voting locations throughout Dallas County. Locations can be found at <http://dalcoelections.org/march122002/EARLYVOTING.htm>
- February 26** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ
- February 26** (Tuesday) – 2002 Bond Program Town Hall Meeting, hosted by Dr. Elba Garcia
6:30 p.m. Jaycee/Zaragoza Recreation Center, 3114 Clymer
- February 28** (Thursday) – 2002 Bond Program Town Hall Meeting, hosted by Dr. Elba Garcia
6:30 p.m. North Oak Cliff Library, 302 W. Tenth Street
- March 7** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside
- March 9** (Saturday) – Water Wise seminars presented by the City of Dallas Texas A & M Research and Extension Center Auditorium, 17360 Coit Rd. Dallas, TX
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Xeriscape Landscape Design 101
1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Fantastic Plants for North Texas
- March 11-16** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza
- March 12** (Tuesday) – Democratic and Republican Primary Elections for County, State and Federal elections. Registered voters living in Kessler Plaza can vote at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.
- March 26** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ
- April 1 – April 5** – Early voting for April 9 Democratic and Republican Primary runoffs for County, State and Federal positions.
- April 4** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside
- April 9** (Tuesday) – Democratic and Republican Primary runoff elections for County, State and Federal positions.
- April 8-13** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

About Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza is bounded on the North by W. Jefferson Blvd., the South by 12th St., the East by Hampton Rd., and the West by Cavender St. The neighborhood association meets the last Tuesday of each month at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

**KESSLER PLAZA RESIDENT
DALLAS, TX 75211**