



# Kessler Plaza News

July 21, 2002  
Volume 4, Issue 7

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

**Next Neighborhood Meeting:**  
*National Night Out*  
Tuesday, August 6, 7 p.m.  
Moss Park



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## Officer Nominations Requested

Are you interested in being an active volunteer in the neighborhood association and community? If so, consider running for one of the neighborhood association elected position.

Nominations are being solicited for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary, and are open to

all residents of Kessler Plaza. Elections will be held at the neighborhood association's November meeting. Residents interested in one of these positions are encouraged to contact John, Emily or Ed or may nominate themselves at the September or October meetings.

In addition, various committee chair positions

are available. The positions are for Moss Park, Yard of the Month, and Fundraising committees. Residents interested in chairing one of these committees should contact John, Emily, or Ed.

While all the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association positions are volunteer,

See **Officers**  
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## July Yard of the Month Selected



Neighborhood yards in Dallas have enjoyed a relatively mild and wet June and early July. This wonderful weather has definitely helped keep all of the Kessler Plaza yards and gardens green and blooming. Choosing the winner for Yard of the Month of July proved to be especially hard because of all the beautiful yards in the neighborhood. Congratulations to 2720 West Tenth for making it above the rest to be selected July Yard of the Month!

If you haven't had an opportunity to see this yard, plan to do so soon. These neighbors planted over 250 impatiens of all colors that are in a wonderful bloom. It is definitely a sight to see. Again, congratulations and a thank you to 2720 West Tenth for making our neighborhood beautiful.

Remember to contact Roman by the 25th of each month to make your nominations for Yard of the Month. Roman can be reached at 214.339.5679 or via email at: [roman.smith@sbc.com](mailto:roman.smith@sbc.com)

## July/August Meetings Combined to Celebrate NNO

Plan to participate in the National Night Out celebration on Tuesday, August 6 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Moss Park.

The gathering will feature hot dogs and ice cream

sandwiches as well as appearances by several police units.

Please bring donations to help support Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association.

The National Night Out gathering is a combined meeting for the months of July and August. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m.



## **President's Corner**

**By JOHN CRAMER**

I hope everyone had a great 4th of July. For those of you who missed our combined meeting on July 2nd, we had a good turnout for our visit with Congressman Martin Frost, close to 30 members. It was also exciting to see two other elected officials at the meeting, City Councilman Mark Housewright and Constable Mike Dupree.

Mr. Frost discussed several key issues surrounding Oak Cliff and Washington DC ranging from economic development, immigration, and terrorism. He left time at the end for plenty of interesting questions

from neighbors. Thanks Congressman Frost!

Please make plans to attend this year's National Night Out at Moss Park. The date is Tuesday, August 6th, at 7:00 p.m. We will be grilling hot dogs and having ice cream sandwiches. Several units of the police department will be on hand: Mounted patrol, K-9, Helicopter, Constable office, and McGruff. Also, the fire department will be bringing a fire truck. Sparky the Fire Dog was requested but is too busy that night so will not be able to attend. Also, I have invited our City Councilman Mark Housewright to the event. So please

make plans to attend this exciting event.

Also, please note that we are changing our regular meeting, July 30th, to be the night of August 6th for National Night Out. Our next regular planned meeting will be Tuesday, September 24th, 7:00 p.m., when we will attempt to have Code Compliance as a guest speaker.

I look forward to seeing you at National Night Out on August 6th.

John

## **Officer Elections**

*Continued from Page 1*

each position requires tremendous of responsibility, commitment and dedication. Each position is for a one-year term unless re-elected.

Make plans now and consider nomination for either an elected or appointed position. By stepping up to the challenge, you will help Kessler Plaza continue the momentum that has been moving forward for years.

## **OOCCL Home Tour**

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCCL) will host its 27<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Tour of Homes October 19-20. This year's tour promises to be most intriguing and delighting

Creating a successful Fall Tour of Homes requires many hours of work and many volunteers. The league is currently recruiting volunteers to assist with this annual event.

Residents interested in volunteering for the Fall Tour of Homes should contact Dana Wright at [dana.wright@wnco.com](mailto:dana.wright@wnco.com), or Merril Curtis, at [mcurtis@lbrealty.com](mailto:mcurtis@lbrealty.com).

## **Moss Park Improvements Continue**

Have you visited Moss Park lately? Things are happening here in our neighborhood park! New benches, picnic tables, and trash receptacles are being installed. All of these improvements are expected to be completed by first week in August, weather permitting. The picture below shows the construction progress.

We are also one step closer to getting lots of money for playground equipment and walkways. If all goes well, we should start seeing some construction in early to mid-Fall. Stay tuned for exciting news forthcoming in September!



Installation of new benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles continues at Moss Park.

## Common Violations to City of Dallas Code Highlighted

With code inspection teams continuing to sweep the city in search of code violations, it's important to remember some of the more common code violations. These include:

**24 Hour Parking/Parking Violations.** A vehicle may be parked on the street as long as it is moved once every 24 hours.

**Animal – Loose.** Pets are to be kept in a fenced yard, or walked on leashes and may not run loose.

**Animal – Noisy.** Pet owners are required to quiet the excessive, loud barking or crying by dogs that can be disturbing to other neighbors.

**Animal – Pooper Scooper.** It is a violation for a pet owner to allow their animal to defecate or poop on another's property or failing to clean or pickup after their pets

**Bulky Trash Violations.** It is a violation of the Dallas City Code to place brush and bulky trash items at the collection point earlier than 7:00 p.m. on the Thursday proceeding the collection week.

**Garage Sale.** A city resident can only have two garage sales per year. Each sale is limited three days in

length.

**Graffiti Private Property.** Graffiti on private property such as a business or a residence including the fence around the property must be removed.

**High Weeds.** It is a violation for weeds or grass to grow over 12 inches tall on private property.

**Illegal Fence.** It is a violation to have a fence constructed of barbed wire; illegally placed (beyond the building line, 2ft set back required); too high (4 foot limit in the front, 6 foot in rear); or sub-standard/falling down.

**Illegal Garbage/Placement.** It is a violation to leave the garbage container in the front all the time.

**Signs – Political.** Political signs on private or public property may only be put up 30 Days before an election and must be removed 10 days after an election.

**Substandard Structure.** Buildings, including detached garages, storage buildings or carports must be painted and free from broken windows and torn screens.

**Water Conservation Violation.** It is a violation to water during any form of precipitation, and to water a landscape or lawn in a manner that wastes water or causes runoff. Watering lawns or landscapes is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. from June 1-Sept 30.

## Run the Cliff 5K

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCCL) is sponsoring the second annual Run the Cliff 5K fun run. The run is scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2002 and benefits DISD Children (DISD schools of Area 6).

The Run the Cliff 5K begins in the Bishop Arts District and winds through the neighborhoods and hills of North Oak Cliff and East Kessler.

Advance registration is \$15.00. Participants registering by August 31 receive an official Run The Cliff T-shirt. Registration race day is \$20.00. The run begins at 8:30 a.m.

Registration forms and packets are available two weeks prior to the race at B&B Bicycle at 900 W. Jefferson Blvd., and Run-On at 5400 E. Mockingbird Ln.

## Congressman Frost Speaks at Kessler Plaza Meeting



Congressman Martin Frost addresses the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association. Congressman Frost represents the 24th Congressional District of Texas, which includes Kessler Plaza.



Pictured above are John Cramer, President of Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association; Constable Mike Dupree; Congressman Martin Frost; and Mark Housewright, City Council Representative.



## Street Signs Downed Near Moss Park

The neighborhood has recently experienced a rash of drivers running down street signs near Moss Park. The pictures below show damaged signs at Moss Park and Sunset/Plymouth streets. Anyone with information about these

incidents is urged to call the Dallas Police and provide them information.

Special thanks to the City of Dallas Sign Department for quickly repairing the street sign with our sign topper.



## Voters Return to Polls for DISD Race

Dallas Independent School District voters will return to the polls July 27 for a special DISD Trustee election.

In District 7, which includes Kessler Plaza, incumbent Rafael Anchia faces Louis Trujillo for the opportunity to represent the district on the DISD board.

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on July 27, 2002. 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.

## Exhibit Features Oak Cliff History

"Oak Cliff: Past, Present, and Potential," a photographic exhibition focusing on Oak Cliff's rich history, opens July 23 at the Ice House Cultural Center. The exhibit, which runs through Aug. 24, highlights the events and moments of Oak Cliff's past and examines the misconception that the community has a high crime rate and distorted boundaries. The show also illustrates the potential revitalization of a community through the extensive renovation of Jefferson Towers and the Texas Theatre.

The exhibit is a follow-up to last year's successful show, "Oak Cliff, The City That Once Was." To develop the exhibit, the Ice House collaborated with Don Sala of the Oak Cliff Historical Society, Joe Whitney, Norma's Café, Dallas Historical Society, Oak Cliff Foundation, Dallas Municipal Archives in the City Secretary's Office, Nancy McCoy of ARCHITEXAS, and historian John Tinsley.

The Ice House at 1004 W. Page St. (one block south of Twelfth Street at the corner of Page and Polk Streets) is closed Sunday and Monday. Gallery hours are noon-6 p.m., Tuesday-Friday and 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free.

The center, funded by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, provides a community-based venue to present art and cultural programs in Oak Cliff and West Dallas.



## West Nile Virus Confirmed in Dallas

Local health officials confirmed last week that dead blue jays found in Far North Dallas and Richardson in late June contained the West Nile virus. Officials are being inundated with reports of dead birds and requests for more mosquito spraying as public concerns grow over the spread of West Nile virus into North Texas. The virus is harbored in birds but can be spread to people by infected mosquitoes.

Mosquitoes also can spread the virus to horses, birds, and some other animals (cats, bats, chipmunks, skunks, squirrels, domestic rabbits, and raccoons), but animals cannot spread the virus to other animals or to people.

Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. The virus is stored in the mosquito's salivary glands; infected mosquitoes transmit West Nile virus to humans and animals while biting to take blood. The virus then multiplies in the blood and travels to the brain. It interferes with normal central nervous system functioning and causes inflammation of brain tissue.

To reduce the chance of mosquito bites, stay indoors when mosquitoes are active, at dusk and dawn. When going outside, wear long-sleeve shirts and long pants and apply insect repellent.

Also keep mosquitoes outside. Make sure that all of the windows and doors in your home have tight-fitting screens and are free of holes.

The best defense against mosquitoes is getting rid of stagnant water. Mosquitoes need stagnant water to breed and lay eggs that hatch and mature into adults. Getting rid of the water reduces the chance of being

bitten. Following are tips for ridding mosquitoes from your yard.

Check your home and yard for places where water can collect, including: tin cans, pet dishes, plastic pails, ceramic pots, boats, pool covers, old tires, tire swings, trash cans and empty flower pots.

Frequently change the water in birdbaths, fountains, and wading pools.

Make sure roof gutters drain properly and do not have small pools of water. Roof gutters are easily clogged with leaves and debris and should be cleaned to ensure proper drainage.

Drain unused swimming pools and hot tubs. Also regularly drain the water off the covers.

Check tree stumps and sumps. Older trees sometimes have hollowed areas from lost limbs that hold stagnant water.

Dallas-area officials are warning against an exaggerated fear of the virus, which is harmless to most people although it can cause serious illness or death in very rare cases. Report dead blue jays and crows, the birds most commonly killed by West Nile, by calling 214.670.1733. Not all of the birds will be sent for testing, but their locations will be mapped to determine where the virus may be spreading..

For the additional information on the spread of the virus, visit [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm).

## Block Captains

Following are the block captains for the neighborhood.

Alco Ave. (2400 and 2500/2600 blocks): *vacant*

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

Alden Ave.(North side 2500 block): Daniel, 214.339.5733

Alden Ave.(South side of 2500 and 2600 blocks): Aurelio and Brenda, 214.770.8998

Alden Ave. (2700 block): Don and Janie, 214.337.1064

Cavender St.: James (interim), 214.339.3160

Duval Dr.: Don and Janie, 214.337.1064

Hampton Rd.: Jennifer, 214.333.8333

Jefferson Blvd. (2700/2800 blocks): Laura and Rhonda, 214.330.3676

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

Marvin Ave. (South side): Wade, 214.467.3400

Sunset Ave. (2400 block): *vacant*

Sunset Ave. (2500/2600 block): Scott, 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



# Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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## Calendar of Events

**July 27** (Saturday) – DISD School Board Elections  
Registered voters living in Kessler Plaza can vote at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

**August 6** (Tuesday) – National Night Out  
Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting  
7:00 p.m. Moss Park  
Hot dogs and refreshments will be provided.

**August 8** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

**August 12-17** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

**September 14** (Saturday) – Run the Cliff 5K Fun Run  
Presented by the OOCCL

**September 24** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting  
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ

**October 19-20** (Saturday - Sunday) – OOCCL Fall Tour of Homes

## About Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza is bounded on the North by W. Jefferson Blvd., the South by 12<sup>th</sup> 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. For additional information visit [www.kesslerplaza.com](http://www.kesslerplaza.com)

**KESSLER PLAZA RESIDENT  
DALLAS, TX 75211**