



# Kessler Plaza News

September 15, 2002  
Volume 4, Issue 8-9

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

**Next Neighborhood Meeting:**  
Tuesday, September 24, 7 p.m.  
Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ



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## OOCL Announces Home Tour Fall Tour of Homes to Mark 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Event

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL) announces its 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Tour of Homes October 19-20. Each year the tour features a sampling of the diverse architecture found throughout Oak Cliff. This year's tour promises something for everyone.

Many exciting and surprising exteriors and interiors await tour participants. This year's homes range in age from the early 1900's through mid century, and showcase several neighborhoods including Stevens Park Estates, Stevens Park Village, the

Jefferson Boulevard business corridor, North Cliff, Kessler Park, Winnetka Heights, Wynnewood North, and Kidd Springs. Each property was selected for its unique and wide range

See **OOCL Home Tour**  
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## September Yard of the Month Selected



beautiful neighborhood yards, this yard is consistently well maintained. Neighbors are encouraged to stroll by and see this hidden treasure near the corner of our neighborhood. Be sure to congratulate our neighbors for taking pride in their beautiful yard!

Dallas enjoyed a relatively mild summer, with only one 100-degree day this year. In addition, frequent rainfall was most kind to neighborhood lawns. This month's Yard of the Month, however, owes its beauty to more than just a kind summer. The owners' hard work and delicate care definitely shows in their results.

As the weather gets cooler and you begin taking more neighborhood strolls, remember to contact Roman at 214.339.5679 or roman.smith@sbc.com to share your picks for October's Yard of the Month.

Congratulations to 2706 Duval for being selected Yard of the Month for September. Along with so many of our

### Dallas Code Officer to Address September Meeting

Plan to attend the next Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting and learn more about code compliance within the City of Dallas.

be address code compliance and code sweeps throughout the city and our neighborhood. In addition, she will be answer questions from concerned residents.

7:00 p.m. at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

Faye Williams, West District Manager for Code Compliance will be the featured speaker. She will

This informative meeting will be held Tuesday, September 24, 2002 at

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**

What a great success this year for National Night Out held at Moss Park! We had approximately 75 people showed up including the Dallas Police Mounted Patrol and Southwest Police Department, the Dallas Police Helicopter, McGruff the Crime Fighting Dog, and the Dallas Fire Department. Also, special visits from two elected officials, City Councilman Mark Housewright and Constable Mike Dupree. A very special thanks to all the police and fire departments and our local elected officials. It means a lot to the neighborhood to see such participation and support from the City of Dallas.

Special kudos to local residents who helped with the National Night Out: Rose Gomez for the use of her grill; Jason Green for cooking the hotdogs; Emily Glidewell, Ed Leveille, and Nola Rae Smith for keeping things running smoothly; Ron Carter for taking pictures; and Roman Smith for making sure everyone had some ice cream sandwiches. Also, for those who helped out that their names were not mentioned, a special thanks to you too—most especially the gentleman from Ravinia Heights who brought tables and chairs.

Of course, we can not forget the continued generous support from our local Tom Thumb store on Hampton

Road and its store director, Johnny Martinez. Thank you Johnny for donating hot dogs, buns, ice cream, and sodas in support of National Night Out. Also, thanks for donating cookies and sodas during Congressman Martin Frost's visit to our neighborhood association meeting.

Please remember to mark your calendars for our next two meetings that will feature Code Compliance and Dallas Water Utilities guest speakers. See more details throughout the newsletter.

See you at the meetings.

John

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*"...mark your calendars for our next two meetings that will feature Code Compliance and Dallas Water Utilities."*

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*"These grants inspire dynamic projects that preserve and enhance the unique fabric of Oak Cliff."*

## OOCL Supplemental Grants Awarded

Kessler Plaza was recently awarded a \$1300 grant from the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL). The grant was awarded for the purchase of a new swing set for Moss Park.

Each year the OOCL Neighborhood Supplemental Grant Program offers developmental guidance and financial assistance to member neighborhoods. These grants inspire dynamic projects that preserve and enhance the unique fabric of Oak Cliff. Funds for the program are

raised from the OOCL Annual Tour of Homes proceeds. Over the last five years, OOCL has awarded over \$55,000 in neighborhood grants.

The 2002 Grant Committee awarded a total of \$10,100 to neighborhoods whose applications met established criteria promoting League goals. In addition to Kessler Plaza, the following neighborhoods were also awarded grants:

- Elmwood, \$1000 for additional street sign toppers
- El Tivoli Place, \$1100 for

- street sign toppers
- Lake Cliff, \$R1550 for trashcan installation
- North Cliff, \$1400 for sidewalk ramps
- Stevens Park Estates, \$700 for Annie Stevens Park improvements
- Winnetka Heights, \$1250 for a streetlight in the new park
- Wynnewood North, \$1800 for median sprinkler systems

For additional information, visit the OOCL web site at [www.oocl.org](http://www.oocl.org)



## Lida Hooe “Recognized” from TAAS Tests

Lida Hooe Elementary School was recently rated "Recognized" by the Texas Education Agency for its TAAS scores and dropout rate.

During the 2001-2002 school year, the state tested students in grades 3 through 8 and grade 10 using a test called the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS). TAAS is a "standards-based" test, which measures how well students are mastering specific skills defined for each grade by the state of Texas. The goal is that 100% of students pass the TAAS at each grade level. Students in the graduating classes of 2003 and 2004 must pass the Exit TAAS in

order to graduate from high school. The area's two biggest districts, Dallas and Fort Worth, were both rated "Acceptable".

Although collective marks for individual campuses, including Lida Hooe, were up over last year, overall performance ratings for Texas school districts declined for the first time in several years as middle-school students came up short in their knowledge of government and history.

86% of Lida Hooe students passed the TAAS reading test, compared to a state average of 91%. In math, 92% of the Lida Hooe students passed, compared to a state average of 93%

To receive a "Recognized" rating, at least 80 percent of students and 80 percent of each student group must pass the reading, writing and mathematics sections of the TAAS. In addition, at least 80 percent of all students must pass the social studies TAAS, and the annual dropout rate must be 2.5 percent or lower overall and for each student group.

Ratings earned this year will be in place for two years while the state develops new accountability standards based on a new test to be administered next spring, the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills.

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*"TAAS is a 'standards-based' test, which measures how well students are mastering specific skills."*

## Polls to Open for November 5 Elections

Texas voters return to the polls on November 5 for county, state and federal elections. For citizens not yet registered to vote, October 7 is the last day to

register in order to vote in the November election.

Early voting for the election begins October 21, 2002 and continues through

November 1. There are numerous early voting locations located throughout the city. Voters can vote at *any* of the early voting locations.

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*"October 7 is the last day to register in order to vote in the November election."*

## Neighborhood Officer Nominations Sought

Neighbors interested in being an active volunteer in the neighborhood association are encouraged to run for one of the neighborhood association elected position.

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.

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

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.

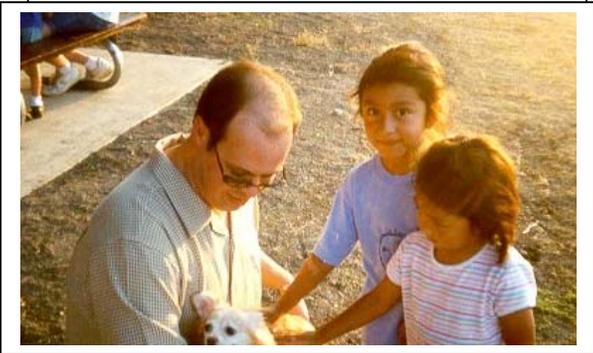
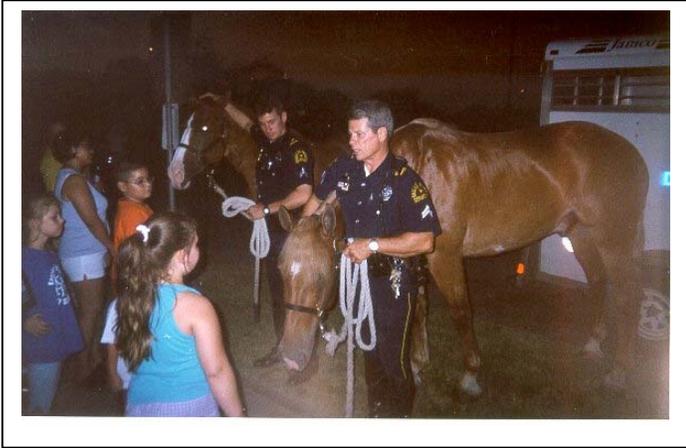
While all the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association positions are volunteer, each position requires tremendous of responsibility, commitment and dedication. Each position is for a one-year term unless re-elected.

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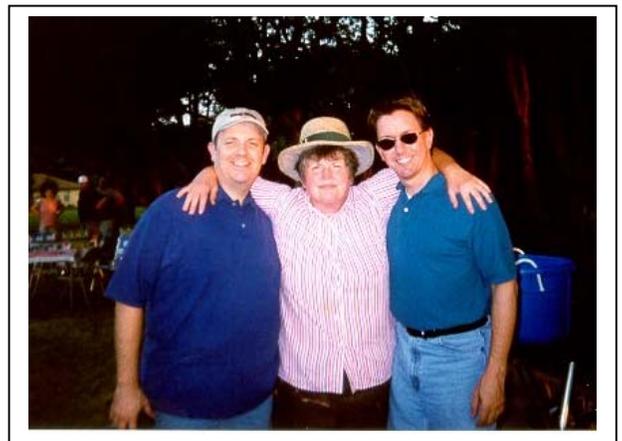
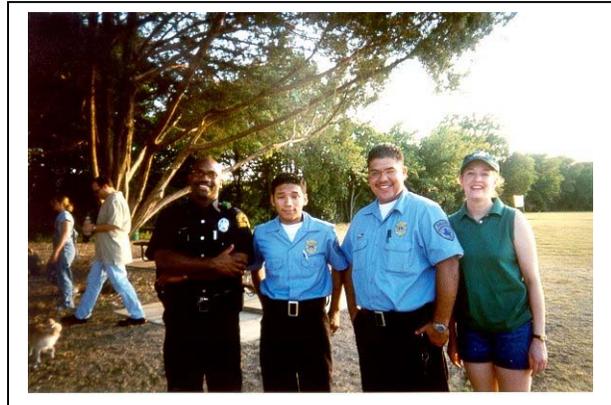
*"Residents interested in one of these positions are encouraged to contact John, Emily or Ed."*



# Kessler Plaza Neighbors Gather in Moss Park for an



# Evening of Food and Fun to Celebrate National Night Out



## City Council Meetings Broadcast

*"...broadcast live on WRR Classical Radio (101.1 FM) and on AT&T Cable channel 6B (digital channel 66."*

Want to see or hear the Dallas City Council in action? Two meetings each month are broadcast live on radio and television.

The Dallas City Council has regularly scheduled meetings on the first four Wednesdays of each month beginning at 9:00 a.m. These meetings are open to

the public, but many residents can't attend because the meetings occur during the regular business day.

The agenda meetings, held on the second and fourth Wednesday s of each month, are broadcast live on WRR Classical Radio (101.1 FM) and on AT&T

Cable channel 6B (digital channel 66) in Dallas. If you miss the "live" broadcast on 6B, there is still an opportunity for you to see local government in action. The meeting is re-broadcast several times over several days. Tune in to cable channel 6B for the playback schedule.

## Animal Control Cautions Contact with Bats

*"Persons who have physical contact with a bat should call 3-1-1."*

Dallas Animal Control officials are warning residents to avoid contact with bats following a positive rabies test on a bat found recently by a Dallas resident.

"Bats are migrating throughout the Dallas area now but you probably won't

see one up close," Dallas Animal Control Manager Sam Rice said. "Bats can carry rabies, so never touch them. If you find a sick or injured bat, leave it alone and call 3-1-1."

Persons who have physical contact with a bat should call 3-1-1 so that animal

control officers can attempt to catch it for rabies testing. Any person having contact with a bat is urged to seek medical attention.

## OOCCL Fall Tour of Homes Scheduled

*"Volunteers are the backbone of the tour."*

*Continued from Page 1*

appeal as well as being crafted with each owner's personal taste and style.

Each property will be open from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20. Tickets will be available at

area merchants prior to the tour and on Saturday and Sunday at all properties.

The OOCCL also welcomes interested individuals and neighborhoods to support the tour by volunteering. Volunteers are the backbone of the tour. Without volunteers, the Fall

Tour of Homes can not occur. If you are interested on volunteering, contact the OOCCL at [hometour@ooccl.com](mailto:hometour@ooccl.com) or visit the OOCCL web site at [www.ooccl.com](http://www.ooccl.com).

## October Neighborhood Meeting Date Set

*"...present remodeling plans for the Moss Park/Sunset Discharge Pump Station."*

The October meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association will be moved to Tuesday, October 22. The scheduled guest speaker for the October meeting is Charles Stringer from Dallas Water Utilities.

Mr. Stringer will present remodeling plans for the Moss Park/Sunset Discharge Pump Station.

Plan now to attend this important meeting to voice your opinions and learn what plans the Dallas Water

Utilities has in store for our neighborhood pump station.



## Neighborhood Block Captains

Following are the block captains for the neighborhood.

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

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): Mary, 214.337.8252

Sunset Ave. (2700 block): James, 214.339.3160

Wentworth St.: John, 214.331.5449

West Tenth St. (2400 block): Sally and Dori, 214.333.9520

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

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

*If you are interested in volunteering as a Block Captain for the neighborhood, contact John Cramer.*

## 2002 State Fair of Texas Set to Open

It's Fair time! The 2002 State Fair of Texas opens September 27 at Fair Park, a 277-acre entertainment and recreation complex owned by the City of Dallas, located two miles east of downtown.

As the State Fair of Texas readies for "World in Motion," premium cars will whet visitors' appetites for elegance when the Auto Show lineup expands with a brand new luxury car showroom. The Midway is getting bigger, too, with 14 to 15 new attractions, plus the brand-new Pibb Xtra Thrillway – guaranteed to

keep 'em screamin' with four new *X-treme* rides. Finally, there's something on tap that may just eclipse all the rest: The milestone birthday of a *certain someone*. It's the Big Five-O for Big Tex! The beloved icon and State Fair ambassador first appeared in 1952. He'll enjoy all kinds of attention this year, including a special celebration, just for him.

The Fair's 24 days of family fun are rooted in annual favorites, including livestock events and shows, Marine bands, the nightly parade, cooking contests and football games.

The 2002 State Fair of Texas runs September 27 - October 20. Exhibit buildings are open from a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

*"...24 days of family fun are rooted in annual favorites, including livestock events and shows, Marine bands, the nightly parade, cooking contests and football games."*



# Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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## Calendar of Events

**September 24** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting  
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ  
Special Guest: Faye Williams, West District Manager for Code Compliance  
will discuss code compliance and code sweeps.

**September 27-October 20** – 2002 State Fair of Texas  
Fair Park, two miles east of downtown  
Exhibit buildings open 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**October 10** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

**October 14-19** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

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

**October 21** (Monday) – Early voting begins for November 5 County, State and  
Federal Elections

**October 22** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting  
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ  
Special Guest: Charles Stringer from Dallas Water Utilities will discuss  
remodeling plans for the Moss Park/Sunset Discharge Pump Station.

**November 5** (Tuesday) – County, State and Federal Elections  
Registered voters living in Kessler Plaza can vote at the Jefferson Boulevard  
Church of Christ.

**November 7** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

**November 11-16** – 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 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**