



Kessler Plaza News

March 22, 2003
Volume 5, Issue 3

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

Next Neighborhood Meeting:
Tuesday, March 25, 7 p.m.
Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ



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Future of Bronco Bowl Uncertain

Negotiations continue regarding the future of the Bronco Bowl.

Recently, owners of the property placed filed for Chapter XI bankruptcy to protect their assets after failing to renegotiate their mortgage.

Subsequently, a group led by Carlos Quintanilla has been in discussion with the property owners to convert much of Bronco Bowl and the vacant tract across Bahama Dr. into a multi-use complex. This group has proposed a 250-merchant mercado, a bus terminal in the

existing Bronco Bowl and a used car sales lot on the tract across Bahama Dr.

The proposal has met considerable opposition from neighborhood groups and the Fort Worth Avenue Development Group (FWADG). Although a contract had been discussed, it had not been executed as of Monday, March 17, according to Mark Housewright, Dallas City Councilmember.

Councilmember Housewright has been meeting with representatives for both

Mr. Quintanilla and the FWADG and reports that both groups have indicated a willingness to discuss matters of concern to FWADG and area neighborhoods. In addition, Councilmember Housewright has discussed the situation with Mayor Laura Miller and Councilmembers Elba Garcia and Ed Oakley. All report receiving numerous communications from constituents and exploring all options available for dealing with this matter.

City Selling Bagged Grass Collection Tags

Dallas residents can dispose of bagged grass clippings March 17 through April 19 by marking bags with special use tags that are now on sale.

Tags cost \$1.50 each and can be purchased through

April 7 by calling the City's non-emergency number, 3-1-1, or logging onto the City's Web site, www.dallascityhall.com. Charges will appear on water bill statements. Cash purchases can be made at the Sanitation Services Department, 3112

Canton St., and weekdays, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Bagged grass clippings will not be collected after April 19. Residents can always drop off bagged

See **Grass Clippings** Back Page

Groups to Make Presentations at March Meeting

Plan to attend the next Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting and learn more about Preservation Dallas and the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL).

Scheduled special guests are Dwayne Jones from Preservation Dallas and

George Briggs from the OOCL. They will be speaking about their respective organizations and their efforts to revitalize older neighborhoods in Dallas.

This informative meeting will be held Tuesday, March 25, 2003 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

As the United States and our Allies head into war with Iraq, let's show our support for the women and men of our armed services by displaying the American Flag throughout our neighborhood. Regardless your thoughts on the war and the current administration's position, showing support for the armed services is the right thing to do.

Look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on Tuesday night.

John

Additional Scholarships Available

Rafael Anchia, DISD Trustee, has provided information regarding the following available scholarships.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) is awarding scholarships to Latino students who have a history of exercising leadership in their community and who are committed to continue contributing in the future for the betterment of all Latinos.

The scholarship recipients receive either \$5,000 to attend a four-year or graduate-level academic institution or \$1,500 to attend a two-year community college. There is no GPA or major requirement. Except for graduate-level recipients, awards are disbursed over the students' remaining semesters in school.

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be enrolled full-time at an accredited community college or four-year university.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- Be of Hispanic/Latino heritage.
- Have a history of public service.
- Show evidence of leadership potential.
- Be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident.

Applications for these scholarships are available at www.chciyouth.org or by calling (800) 392-3532. Applications must be postmarked by April 15, 2003.

City of Dallas Bond Election to Feature 17 Propositions

Dallas voters will vote on 17 separate bond propositions as part of the May 3 City of Dallas elections. Following is a brief summary of the 17 bond propositions.

1. Streets. \$199 million to upgrade and improve 80% of the major streets and aging thoroughfares across Dallas.
2. Parks. \$57.3 million to improve existing parks and build new neighborhood parks and sports fields.
3. Libraries. \$55.5 million to build eight new branch libraries throughout Dallas and upgrade the city's main downtown library to provide high-tech learning capabilities.
4. Flood Control. \$16.4 million for flood protection and drainage improvements, with a strong focus on protecting older neighborhoods in Dallas.
5. Arts. \$11.3 million to fund the basic design and infrastructure for the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts.
6. Service Centers. \$16.8 million to assist with improving basic services by renovating two city service and maintenance centers and build a new one in Northwest Dallas, near Love Field.
7. Animal Shelter. \$11.8 million for 57,000-square-foot animal shelter to aid in providing homes for stray or unwanted animals, and finding lost pets.
8. Workforce Housing. \$3 million to purchase land for the development of affordable, owner-occupied single-family homes.
9. Solid Waste Management. \$24 million to build a levee to separate the McCommas Bluff Landfill from the Trinity River.
10. More Streets. \$67.9 million for additional street projects specified as "high priority" by each individual Councilmember, including renovations to reduce traffic and protect neighborhoods along LBJ Freeway.
11. Zoos & Parks. \$43.2 million for additional major improvements to citywide parks including the Dallas Zoo, the Arboretum, and Fair Park.
12. Community Arts. \$17.7 million to stretch interest for the arts beyond downtown with the Dallas' Artist Square, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, South Dallas Cultural Center and a new Oak Cliff arts facility.
13. Economic Development. \$6 million for major infrastructure improvements for business parks in the southern sector of Dallas.
14. Fire Facilities. \$19.8 million to build one new and four state-of-the-art replacement fire stations.
15. Farmers Market. \$3.2 million to renovate a section of Farmer's Market.
16. Police Facilities. \$23.5 million to purchase land in Cadillac Heights for a new police academy build a new police substation and renovate two substations.
17. Homeless Facility. \$3 million for a 24-hour intake shelter designed to reduce panhandling, get the homeless out of intersections and provide support, counseling and job search assistance.



OOCCL to Partners with Oak Cliff Chamber for People Helping People

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCCL) is partnering with the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce to participate in the City of Dallas' People Helping People program. People Helping People was established in 1984 by the City of Dallas Housing Department to help low-income, elderly, and disabled Dallas citizens obtain minor exterior home repairs.

This year, the groups will focus their efforts on two homes on Catherine Street, assisting with painting, minor repairs, and yard clean up—all with no cost to the homeowner. The City of Dallas provides materials and safety equipment while the groups'

volunteers work as a team to improve the community and the quality of life for residents. In addition, the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce will offer lunch for the volunteers at mid-day.

The People Helping People project coincides with Texas Trash-Off—a statewide effort by volunteers all over the State of Texas to clean neighborhoods, parks, and business communities.

This year's workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2003. To volunteer, contact the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce at (214) 943-4567.

Early Voting to Begin April 16

Early voting for the May 3 City of Dallas elections begins on Wednesday, April 16, 2003. There are numerous early voting locations located throughout the city. Voters can vote at *any* of the early voting locations.

Early voting sites are scheduled to be open April 16-18 from 8:00 a.m. to

5:00 p.m.; April 19-24 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; April 25 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and April 26-27 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The special election is May 3.

Additional information can be obtained at <http://www.dalcoelections.org/>

Yard of the Month Nominations

Dallas yards are beginning to take shape gardens beginning to bloom. As spring weather returns, the Kessler Plaza Yard of the Month award will return in April.

As enjoy leisurely walks through the neighborhood, remember to contact Roman at 214.339.5679 or roman.smith@sbc.com to share your picks for March's Yard of the Month.

February Crime Statistics Reported

The following crimes were reported in the neighborhood for the month of February. This crime summary is provided by the Dallas Police Department.

Crime	Date	Address	Item(s) Stolen
Theft	02/08/03	28xx Duval Dr.	Art Collections
Theft	02/15/03	24xx W. Jefferson Blvd.	Auto Parts
Other Assault	02/16/03	24xx Marvin Ave.	Assault/Battery
Vandalism	02/16/03	25xx Alden Ave.	
Theft	02/20/03	28xx Claudette Ave.	Motorcycle/Minibike
Vandalism	02/21/03	28xx Alden Ave.	
Auto Theft	02/23/03	27xx Alco Ave.	Vehicles
Vandalism	02/26/03	3xx Chalmers St.	
Vandalism	02/27/03	26xx W. Jefferson Blvd.	

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.(2500 block): Daniel, 214.339.5733

Alden Ave. (2600 block): Irene, 214.337.1919

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): Jennifer, 214.333.8333

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



Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

John Cramer
President
Moss Park Committee
214.339.5679
john.cramer@sbc.com

Emily Glidewell
Vice President
OOCCL Representative
214.339.3433
e.glidewell@worldnet.att.net

James Dickey
Treasurer
214.339.3160
jbd2@mindspring.com

Nola Rae Smith
Secretary
OOCCL Representative (Alt.)
214.330.0557
nola49@aol.com

Roman Smith
Yard of the Month Committee
214.339.5679
roman.smith@sbc.com

Joni Strickland
Welcome Wagon Committee
214.330.8982
Joni_r_strickland@uhc.com

Ron Carter
Newsletter Editor
214.330.6108
rcarter214@yahoo.com



Grass Clippings Tags Sold by City of Dallas

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grass clippings, free of charge, throughout the year at the three transfer stations and the McCommas Bluff landfill.

Tagged grass clippings should be placed at regular garbage collection points by 7 a.m. on either day of the two service days per week.

The Dallas City Council instituted a ban on grass clipping collection in April 1993. The ban was instituted to comply with state and federal guidelines. The tagged collection service was authorized in response to citizen requests for a spring “scalping” collection period. Scalping is a landscaping practice that involves cutting grass very close to the ground.

The City encourages residents to mulch or compost grass clippings.

Calendar of Events

March 25 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ
Special Guests: Dwayne Jones from Preservation Dallas and George Briggs from the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League.

April 3 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash to be placed curbside

April 5 (Saturday) – People Helping People work day, sponsored by the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League and the Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce
Contact the OOCCL for additional details and volunteer opportunities.

April 7-12 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

April 16 (Wednesday) – Early voting begins for City of Dallas elections. Additional information and early voting locations can be obtained at www.dalcoelections.org

April 29 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 p.m. Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ
Special Guest: Dr. Elba Garcia, Dallas City Councilmember

May 3 (Saturday) – City of Dallas elections. Registered voters in Kessler Plaza may vote at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

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. For additional information visit www.kesslerplaza.com

**KESSLER PLAZA RESIDENT
DALLAS, TX 75211**