



Kessler Plaza News

May 20, 2006
Volume 8, Issue 3

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association



THE LITTLE NEIGHBORHOOD
WITH THE BIG HEART.

Next Neighborhood Meeting:
Tuesday, June 6, 7:00 PM



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4th of July Parade Scheduled Fun-filled Event to Celebrate Patriotism and Pooches!

Plan now to attend the 1st Annual Kessler Plaza/Ravinia Heights 4th of July Parade! This fun-filled event will be held in Moss Park, beginning at 9:00 AM on July 4, 2006.

Get in the patriotic spirit and join in the fun with your friends, neighbors, kids, and pooches! The parade will follow the sidewalk around the park, complete with a special

grand marshal. Neighbors are encouraged to dress up in patriotic clothing and to decorate their bicycles, tricycles, wagons, scooters and strollers. And, not to be left out, there will also be a pooch parade featuring our favorite four-legged pets!

After the parade, marchers and spectators will gather for food, flags, and photos. Bring a lawn

chair or blanket and enjoy the parade. And fun is sure to abound!

Part of what makes this parade unique is that anyone can march in it; registration is not necessary. Meet in Moss Park at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, July 4, 2006. The parade around the park will begin at 9:30 AM and end by 10:30 AM.

Yard of the Month Selected for May



Congratulations to the home at 2740 W. Tenth St. which was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for May 2006. The landscape at this home was recently redesigned resulting not only with a beautiful lawn but

also a variety of perennial foliage and seasonal color. Yards like this are what make Kessler Plaza a beautiful place to live!

Remember, the Yard of the Month committee can use your help in selecting the Yard of the Month. Contact Roman Smith with your vote for June's Yard of the Month. Roman can be reached at (214) 212-4802 or roman.smith@att.com.

Next KPNA Meeting Scheduled for June 6, 2006

Plan now to attend the next meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, June 6, 2006. Featured speakers will be Raphael Arredondo, Regional Director of Texas for the Guardian Angels and Dwayne Jones, Executive Director of Preservation Dallas.

The Guardian Angels help make neighborhoods safer by teaching communities and schools to take control and responsibility of both their environment and their lives.

Preservation Dallas is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation and

revitalization of Dallas' buildings and neighborhoods. Mr. Jones will discuss the process and opportunities for a conversation district for our neighborhood.

The meeting begins at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, June 6, 2006 at the Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ.



President's Corner

By JOHN CRAMER

Howdy Neighbors!!

It's almost summer time in Kessler Plaza...just a month away! With that brings hot temperatures and kids out of school for the summer!

We have lots of great stuff coming our way this summer! First off, we have our next neighborhood meeting on a special night, Tuesday, June 6th, starting at 7:00 PM. Our guest speakers will be Dwayne Jones with Preservation Dallas and Raphael Arredondo with the Guardian Angels. Dwayne will be discussing our options as a neighborhood to provide for a conservation district. Raphael will be discussing what we can do to reduce crime in our neighborhood and possible volunteer opportunities. It should make for an interesting meeting. I really would like to see each of you there and take a vested interest in the future of our neighborhood and community.

Coming in July, we will be having our very first 4th of July Parade for Kids and a Pooch Parade. Uncle Sam and Lady Liberty are to be possible guest stars at the parade! Then we are into the August month for National Night Out on August 1st. The police and fire departments should be on hand as well as the K-9 Unit!! I hear that the Guardian Angels will be there as well. We will have hot dogs and sodas as always. So...let's get ready and bring all the kids for what will be another fun summer!

Now a little update on what is happening around our neighborhood:

Stop Signs—Several neighbors have gotten together to gather signatures for 4-way stop signs at four intersections (two along Plymouth and two along Franklin). We have almost completed the two-thirds requirement to get the stop signs

installed. We have just a couple of streets left to get signatures. I would look to have the stop signs installed by early this fall!

Wine Event—I am proud to say that our first wine event fundraiser for the year netted the neighborhood close to \$975. That is awesome and I am very proud of our neighbors, friends, and sponsors for making this event a success! The Events committee is planning another one for Saturday, September 30th. So mark your calendars now!!

Plymouth Greenbelt Median Project—We are in the process of applying for grant money and matching funds from the Oak Cliff Conservation League and the City of Dallas *Mowmentum* program. We will be installing irrigation, large rocks, walking trails, trees, shrubs, flowers, benches, trash receptacles, and neighborhood signage throughout the five medians between Jefferson Blvd and Moss Park. Each median will be done in phases and designated as its own project! It will take a couple years to complete the entire project but we hope to start the dirt flying during the winter months and have the first phase completed by June 2007. It is going to cost a LOT of money...probably well over \$50,000 to complete this entire project.

We need your help and donations! We hope to get several thousands of dollars in grants and matching money but it will not cover all the cost. So, please support your neighborhood and give generously when you can. We will continue to have fundraiser events so any new exciting ideas to assist are always welcomed.

Non-Profit Status—The neighborhood is in the process of working with the Oak Cliff Conservation League to obtain a non-profit status through an umbrella

policy that the league is trying to establish. We will continue to update you as soon as it comes to reality. Hopefully within the next couple of months...so all your donations can be tax deductible based on the rules governing through the IRS.

Well, that is a wrap for now! As always, if you have any questions, concerns, comments, ideas, want to volunteer, or whatever...please do not hesitate to contact me directly. My contact information is available on this newsletter and through our website: www.kesslerplaza.com.

WE NEED each of YOU in helping to ensure that our neighborhood continues to build on its progresses and successes! Please join me at the next neighborhood meeting! GET INVOLVED!!!

Warmly,
John

Xeriscape Tour

Want to have a lush green landscape during the drought? Come see how on a free self-guided tour as the Dallas Water Utilities presents their 11th annual xeriscape tour on Saturday, June 3, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Xeriscape is common sense, quality landscaping that conserves water, saves money and protects the environment. Visitors will see firsthand how using the principles of xeriscape in a landscape can transform outdoor living areas into stunning water-wise gardens.

The first 150 visitors at each of the three tour headquarters will receive a free rain gauge. Maps for the self-driving tour are available at www.savedallaswater.com and at all three tour headquarters. Additional information can be obtained by calling (214) 670-3155 Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.



Kessler Plaza Wine Tour Nets \$975



The 2nd Annual Kessler Plaza International Wine Tour was held on Friday, April 28, 2006! This fun-filled evening was a fundraiser for the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association, and \$975 was raised that will be used to complete neighborhood beautification projects. Special thanks to Tom Thumb who provided cheese trays for each of the homes.

The next wine tour is planned for Saturday, September 30, 2006. If you would like to be a host or sponsor for this event, please contact Roman Smith at roman.smith@att.com or (214) 212-4802; or Kelly Garcia at kgarcia@hksinc.com or (214) 395-8075.

Dr. Garcia to Host Bond Meetings

A series of Council-hosted town hall meetings has been scheduled for citizens to learn more about the 2006 Capital Bond Program. The purpose of the meetings is to allow citizens an opportunity to learn more about what is included in the recommendation and provide feedback to the Council. The bond proposal will be placed on the November ballot.

There are two meetings hosted by Dr. Elba Garcia, who represents District 1

which includes Kessler Plaza:

- Monday, June 5, 2006, 6:30 PM at Methodist Hospital, 1441 N. Beckley
- Tuesday, June 13, 2006, 7:00 PM at Martin Weiss Recreation Center, 1111 Martindale

For additional information about the bond program including a needs inventory for District 1, visit:

http://dallascityhall.com/html/2006_bond_program.html

Stop Sign Petition Signatures Needed

Kessler Plaza neighbors continue to gather petition signatures aimed at installing four-ways stop signs at four intersections in the neighborhood (two along Plymouth and two along Franklin).

If you have not signed the petition and wish to do so, contact John Cramer at (214) 212-6865 or john.cramer@att.com; or Emily Glidewell at (214) 339-3433 or e.glidewell@worldnet.att.net.

Safeguard Your Home While on Vacation

It's summer vacation time again, and many residents will be enjoying vacations. Before leaving, take a few precautions that can help safeguard your home while you are away.

- Strive to make your home look as lived-in as possible while you're away.
- Let one of your neighbors know that you are going to be away so that they can keep an eye on your home for you. Give them a spare key to your home and an emergency telephone number to reach you.
- Arrange to have your mail and newspapers either stopped or picked up daily.
- Have your neighbor remove any flyers or advertisements that are left on your front door.
- Ask your neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway. If you are leaving a vehicle parked outside, have the neighbor move it periodically so it looks as though you are home.
- Use automatic timers to turn on a radio and lights at different intervals to hide the fact you aren't home.
- Turn down the ringer on the telephone. An unanswered telephone is a dead give-away. Don't indicate you are on vacation on your answering machine message.
- Leave your blinds like you normally would if you were home. Only close them all the way if that is what you would normally do.
- Have someone mow your yard or rake the leaves so your house looks lived-in.
- Be sure to close and lock the garage as well as any storage sheds, gates, etc.



Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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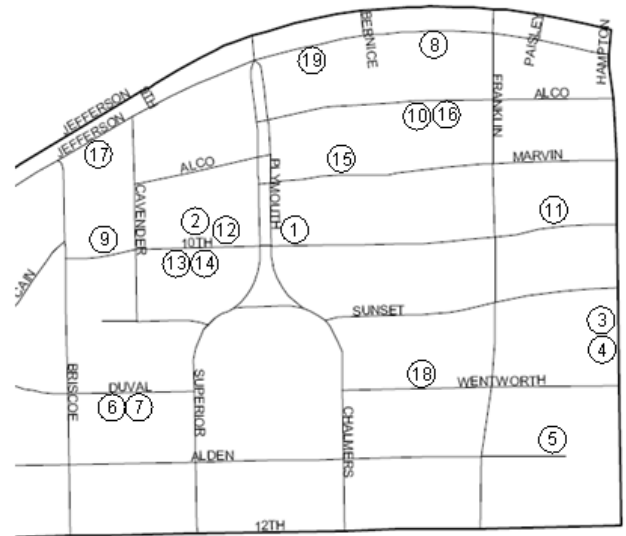
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April Crimes Reported in Kessler Plaza

The following crimes were reported in Kessler Plaza during April 2006.

1. Theft, 3/21, 3:30 PM
2. Theft, 3/28, 8:00 PM
3. Theft, 4/3, 1:22 PM
4. Theft, 4/3, 12:10 PM
5. Theft, 4/4, 9:15 AM
6. Theft, 4/10, 11:30 AM
7. Theft, 4/10, 7:00 PM
8. Auto Theft, 4/13, 1:00 PM
9. Theft, 4/13, 10:10 PM
10. Tel Harassment, 4/13, 3:00 AM
11. Vandal, 4/14, 1:00 PM
12. Ag Assault, 4/14, 4:00 PM
13. Other Aslt, 4/15, 3:30 PM
14. Ag Assault, 4/15, 3:30 PM
15. Theft, 4/17, 6:30 PM
16. Other Aslt, 4/18, 6:00 PM
17. Robbery, 4/19, 10:18 PM
18. Theft, 4/19, 2:00 AM
19. Auto Theft, 4/21, 12:20 PM



Remember, if you see suspicious activity in the neighborhood, call 9-1-1 to report it!

Calendar of Events

June 6 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 PM Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

Special guests: Raphael Arredondo, Regional Director of Texas for the Guardian Angels and Dwayne Jones, Executive Director of Preservation Dallas

June 8 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

June 10 (Saturday) – Dallas Historical Society tour: Rose-Mary Rumbley's "What's on the Other Side of the River in Historic Oak Cliff". Tour reservations are \$35 for members and \$45 for others. The tour leaves Fair Park at 9:00 am. Call (214) 421-4500 for additional information.

June 12-16 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

July 4 (Tuesday) – 1st Annual Kessler Plaza/Ravinia Heights Fourth of July Parade
9:00 AM in Moss Park

July 6 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

July 10-14 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

August 1 (Tuesday) – National Night Out
Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 PM Moss Park
Hot dogs and refreshments will be provided.

September 30 (Saturday) – KPNA Fall Wine Tour Fundraiser
Watch for more details.

October 14-15 (Saturday - Sunday) – OOCCL Fall Tour of Homes

About Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza—the little neighborhood with the big heart—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 generally meets the last Tuesday of every other month at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. For additional information visit www.kesslerplaza.com