



Kessler Plaza News

September 23, 2006
Volume 8, Issue 4

The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association



THE LITTLE NEIGHBORHOOD
WITH THE BIG HEART.

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

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New Option for Recycling City to offer blue roll carts for recyclables

The City of Dallas Sanitation Services has expanded its recycling program to include blue roll carts. Residents may now register to receive a blue roll cart to be used for all recyclable material. The city should begin delivering the blue roll carts to registered residents in November. To register for a blue roll cart, simply call 3-1-1.

Residents may continue placing recyclable items in either blue or clear bags without registering for a blue recycle cart. Currently, recyclable items are picked up in

Kessler Plaza each Thursday and will continue to be picked up each Thursday until January 2, 2007, when the city will go to a twice-monthly pickup of recyclables in either carts or bags.

With the both the roll carts and the plastic bags, there is no need to separate items. Simply put everything into the same bag and place it out for collection on your recycling day. It couldn't be easier!

There are five good reasons to recycle:
1. Recycling conserves

- our valuable natural resources
- 2. Recycling saves energy
- 3. Recycling saves clean air and clean water
- 4. Recycling saves landfill space
- 5. Recycling can save money and create jobs

Following are the accepted materials that can be recycled: glass (all colors); plastics (#1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #7); newspapers; magazines; junk mail; telephone books; steel, tin, aerosol and aluminum cans; chipboard and corrugated cardboard.

Wine Tasting Fundraiser set for Sept. 30

The annual Kessler Plaza International Fall Wine Tour returns on Saturday, September 30, 2006! This event promises to be a fun-filled evening as neighbors and guests enjoy the taste of wines and foods from three different countries around the world in three beautiful Kessler Plaza homes.

The Wine Tour is a fundraiser for the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association. Proceeds will be used to complete neighborhood beautification projects planned for the year. Tickets for the event are \$20 each. Purchase your tickets now by contacting Roman Smith at

roman.smith@att.com or (214) 339-5679; or Kelly Garcia at krgarcia@hksinc.com or (214) 395-8075. Tickets will also be available at the door.

The event kicks off at the first home located at 2704 Sunset Ave. Plan now to attend this fun-filled event!

Next KPNA Meeting Scheduled for September 26

Plan now to attend the next meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, September 26, 2006. Featured speakers will be Dwayne Jones, Executive Director of Preservation Dallas and representatives from the Dallas Bond Campaign.

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 Dallas Bond Campaign will provide information about this fall's city bond election.

The meeting begins at 7:00 PM, Tuesday, September 26, 2006 at the Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ.



President's Corner

by **JOHN CRAMER**

Well, we all survived the summer months with Fall just around the corner with hopes of some well needed rain and cooler temperatures. I know that the autumn months bring friends and family closer together for football games and soon holiday festivities.

I wanted to bring you all up-to-date on a couple of things and get your thoughts at the next meeting on how to proceed with the median projects.

First off, we have finally completed the collection of signatures for stop signs at four key locations:

- Tenth/Plymouth
- Marvin/Plymouth
- Tenth/Franklin
- Marvin/Franklin

I am currently reviewing the required percentages before sending to the City for validation to ensure that we have enough required signatures to get the stop signs installed. So stay tuned.

Secondly, we need to make some decisions on which median to start

first with regards to the Plymouth Median Project. Andrew has received irrigation bids back and they are very expensive depending on which median we start with first. One median is in excess of \$11,000 for irrigation alone. We received grant money and have some money in the account...but nothing of that amount to complete irrigation and landscaping at the same time. We will also have to install a water meter and electricity to run the sprinklers. These are major upfront expenses with substantial monthly expenses for maintaining the landscaping, irrigation, and electric. So please be prepared to discuss and help in deciding the best course of action and use of our funds. Remember that there is some money earmarked to complete the remaining Sign Toppers that could be decided to use towards the median project. It is up to you to decide that at this upcoming meeting, September 26th.

Lastly, we are starting a fundraising/donation campaign. Included in the newsletter is a donation form requesting your

assistance as a neighbor and friend of our association to make a contribution to help with the Plymouth Median Project, irrigation, electricity, landscaping, and possible private security during peak holiday events, i.e., Halloween, and July 4th. We have approximately 432 homes within our neighborhood. If every resident would donate at least \$25 per year to the neighborhood association we would have enough money in our bank account to really make a difference in our "Little Neighborhood with the Big Heart!"

Will you please consider making a donation of at least \$25 per individual or more, if you can? Please fill out the attached donation form and mail it back to the address shown.

Thank you for your continued support of our neighborhood and community. I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on Tuesday, September 26th, 7:00 PM.

Warmly,
John

Voters Return to Polls for November 7 General Elections

Voters return to the polls on November 7 for the general elections. Among the contested races are elections for U.S. Congress, U.S. Senate, Governor, District Attorney, and the Dallas bond program.

For citizens not yet registered to vote, October 10 is the last day to register in order to vote in the November election.

Early voting for the election begins October 23, 2006 and continues through November 3. There are numerous early voting locations

located throughout the county. Voters can vote at *any* of the early voting locations.

Following are the dates and times for early voting in Dallas County.

- October 23-27, 2006 (Monday thru Friday) 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- October 28, 2006 (Saturday) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- October 29, 2006 (Sunday) 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- October 30-November 3, 2006 (Monday thru Friday) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Early voting locations near Kessler Plaza include:

- Martin Weiss Recreation Center, 1111 Martindell
- Oak Cliff Sub-Courthouse, 410 S. Beckley Ave.
- Records Building, 509 Main St.
- West Dallas Multipurpose Center, 2828 Fish Trap Rd.

Kessler Plaza residents voting on election day will vote at the Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ. Polls will be open 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.



Construction Begins on Hampton Road/Bridge Project

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) recently began a construction project involving Hampton/Inwood Road. The project involves a complete reconstruction of Hampton/Inwood Road from Angela Street to Harry Hines Boulevard—including replacement of the Hampton Road Bridge over the Trinity River. The bridge will be replaced with a new bridge, which will have three lanes of traffic traveling in each direction. Construction for the entire project is scheduled to last thirty-one months, with current completion estimated for December 2008.

Enrique Guillen, Construction Engineer with TxDOT, says the plans call for building the bridge in two phases. Construction of the bridge has not started yet because of additional requirements from the Army Corps of

Engineers. These additional requirements have pushed back the bridge construction start date until early next year. He estimates that construction of the bridge will take approximately 1 ½ years to complete, assuming there are no weather delays and that the Trinity does not have any unusually heavy flow. When the Trinity floods the flood plain within the levees, all work must stop until the area dries sufficiently to get equipment back in the flood plain.

The bridge will be reduced to one lane in each direction during the entire process of building the new bridge and demolishing the existing bridge. Lanes will be diverted from the existing bridge to the newly-constructed bridge segments, so that construction is continuous, and the bridge is never fully closed. Lane closures will continue until

construction of the new bridge is complete and signage will warn motorists of lane closures in advance of construction operations. Motorists are encouraged to avoid Hampton/Inwood during peak rush hours.

The new bridge will be similar in appearance and construction to the existing bridge, with new concrete piers drilled into the riverbed, and with a wider deck to accommodate an additional lane of traffic in each direction.

Hampton and Inwood Roads will be fully reconstructed with new heavy-duty concrete pavement. In addition, there will be franchise utility relocation, storm drainage improvements, and one additional lane in each direction south of Irving Boulevard.

OOCL Announce Fall Home Tour

The Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCL) announces its 31th Annual Fall Tour of Homes October 14-15. The tour is Dallas' oldest and largest home tour.

Each year the tour features a sampling of the diverse architecture found throughout Oak Cliff. This year, ten homes have been selected for the tour, ranging from a Craftsman bungalow to mid-century modern to a unique contemporary. Some of the homes represent faithful period reconstruction, while others are examples of the creative reuse of older structures. An outstanding example of truly modern design and new construction will also be showcased.

Once again this year, ticket central will be in the Bishop Arts District, a hub of economic renewal and artistic achievement in Oak Cliff. Tour-goers will enjoy a self-guided tour of neighborhoods across Oak Cliff, including Winnetka Heights, Kings Highway and more.

Proceeds from the tour are used to make neighborhood grants to member neighborhoods. Recent grants have included neighborhood signage, pocket parks, and traffic abatement projects. This year, Kessler Plaza received a \$2500 grant for the Plymouth Road median beautification project!

Tickets are \$15.00 (\$12.00 for seniors) and are available at the Nodding Dog Coffee House (Bishop and 7th Sts) or at the Oak Cliff Mercantile (330 W. Davis St) prior to the tour and on Saturday and Sunday at all properties. Each property will be open from noon to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 14 and Sunday, October 15

For additional information, contact Vicki Fitzgerald, Tour Chairman at (214) 948-9809 or exec@occl.com.

2006 State Fair of Texas to Open

It's Fair time! The 2006 State Fair of Texas opens September 29 at Fair Park, a 277-acre entertainment and recreation complex owned by the City of Dallas, located two miles east of downtown.

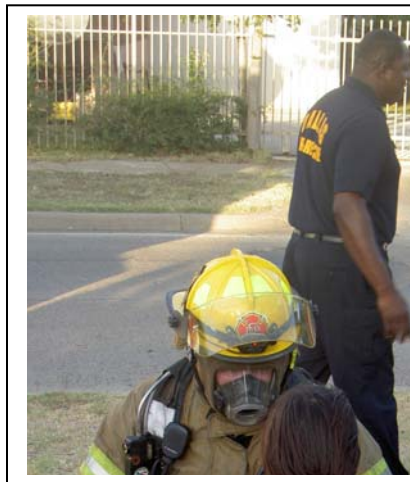
The Fair's 24 days of family fun are rooted in annual favorites, including livestock events and shows, Marine bands, the nightly parade, cooking contests and football games.

The 2006 State Fair of Texas runs September 29 - October 22. Exhibit buildings are open from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

Kessler Plaza Neighbors Gather in Moss Park for an



Evening of Food and Fun to Celebrate National Night Out



Citizens to Vote on City of Dallas 2006 Bond Program

On November 7, Dallas citizens will go to the polls to vote on the 2006 City of Dallas bond program.

The \$1.3 billion bond package—the largest in Dallas history—will go toward improving public safety facilities, replacing and upgrading park facilities, resurfacing roads and providing other safe enhancements, improving library facilities and parks and investing strategically to promote tax growth.

The measure will appear as twelve separate items on the ballot:

1. The issuance of \$390,420,000 general obligation bonds for street and transportation improvements.
2. The issuance of \$334,315,000 general obligation bonds for flood protection and storm drainage facilities.
3. The issuance of F \$343,230,000 general obligation bonds for park and recreation facilities.
4. The issuance of \$46,200,000 general obligation bonds for library facilities.
5. The issuance of \$60,855,000 general obligation bonds for cultural arts facilities.
6. The issuance of \$34,750,000 general obligation bonds for City Hall, city service and city maintenance facilities.
7. The issuance of \$1,500,000 general obligation bonds for land acquisition under the land bank program for the development of low and moderate income single family homes.
8. The issuance of \$41,495,000 general obligation bonds to promote economic development in the Southern area of the city, and in other areas of the city in connection with transit-oriented development, by providing public infrastructure and funding the city's economic development programs for such areas.
9. The issuance of \$6,635,000 general obligation bonds for Farmers Market improvements.
10. The issuance of \$22,550,000 general obligation bonds for acquisition of land in the Cadillac Heights are of future location of city facilities.
11. The issuance of \$7,945,000 general obligation bonds for court facilities.
12. The issuance of \$63,625,000 general obligation bonds for public safety facilities including police facilities, fire facilities and emergency warning systems.

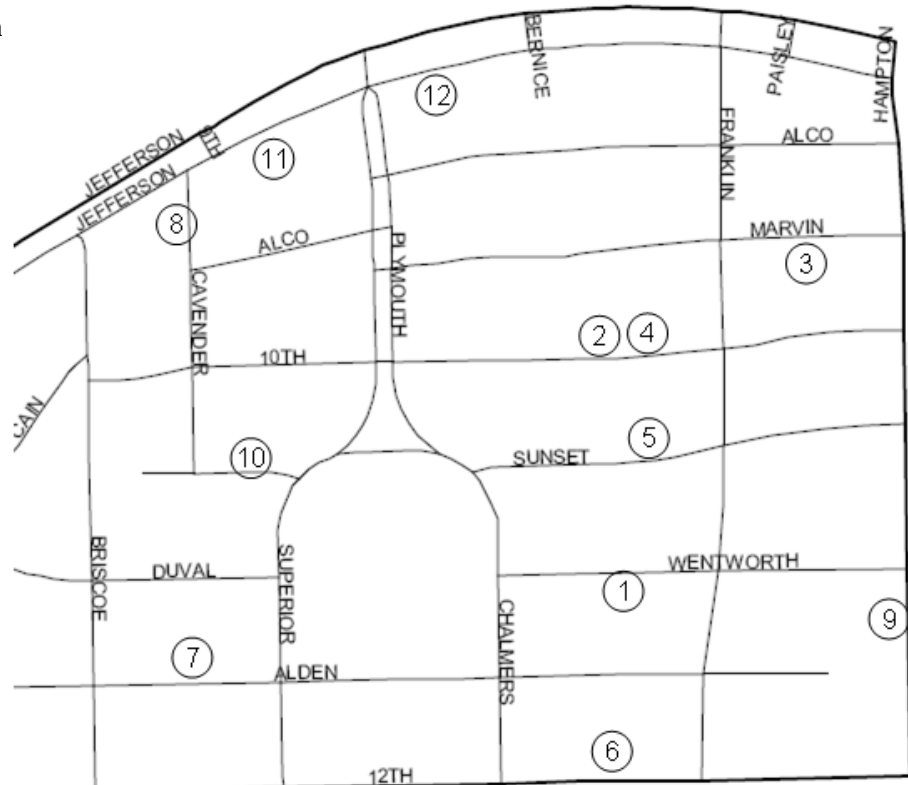
For additional information, visit http://www.dallascityhall.com/html/2006_bond_program.html.

August Crimes Reported for Neighborhood

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

1. Burglary, 8/1, 8:00 AM
2. Other Aslt, 8/1, 3:45 AM
3. Theft, 8/5, 11:15 PM
4. Auto Theft, 8/12, 10:00 PM
5. Theft, 8/15, 1:00 PM
6. Auto Theft, 8/18, 6:00 PM
7. Vandal, 8/20, 12:40 AM
8. Vandal, 8/20, 1:00 PM
9. Theft, 8/23, 10:25 AM
10. Theft, 8/25, 10:00 PM
11. Tel Harassment, 8/28, 1:09 PM
12. Theft, 8/30, 8:30 PM

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



Kessler Plaza Homes Recently Selected Yard of the Month

Congratulations to the Kessler Plaza homeowners whose homes have recently been selected as Yard of the Month. Yards like these 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.



The home at 2507 Marvin Ave. was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for September 2006.



The home at 2732 Alco Ave. was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for August 2006.



The home at 2638 Alden Ave. was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for July 2006.



The home at 2618 W. Tenth St. was selected as Kessler Plaza's Yard of the Month for June 2006.

Hampton-Illinois Public Library Opens in New Facility

The Dallas Public Library recently held the grand opening of the new Hampton-Illinois Branch. The library is located at 2919 S. Hampton Road. The 24,000 square-foot facility is co-located with the Jimmie Tyler Brashear Elementary School.

The branch shares an auditorium and Black Box Theater, a minimal performance space with overhead

lighting and movable seating. Four months out of the year, the 120-seat theater is used by the Office of Cultural Affairs to present programs and productions. The rest of the year, the library uses the theater for community and library events.

The branch is the city's newest replacement branch library and features wireless Internet access,

curbside book/video drops, express checkout, more computer workstations and a children's story time area.

For more information including hours of operation, visit:

<http://www.dallaslibrary.org/hampton.htm>.

Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

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Fundraiser Planned for Neighborhood Association

The Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association (KPNA) will host a Pampered Chef fundraiser on Saturday, October 14 at 9:30 AM at Moss Park.

Up to 15% of your Pampered Chef purchase will benefit the neighborhood association. In addition, muffins and juice will be provided.

If you would like to place an order and are unable to attend please contact Kelly Garcia for more information at 214-395-8075 or pchef_garcia@yahoo.com.

Calendar of Events

September 26 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 PM Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.
Special guests: Dwayne Jones, Executive Director of Preservation Dallas and representatives from the Dallas Bond Campaign.

September 29-October 22 – 2002 State Fair of Texas
Fair Park, two miles east of downtown
Exhibit buildings open 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

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

October 5 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

October 9-14 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

October 10 (Tuesday) – Last day to register in order to vote in the November general election.
Visit <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml> for additional information.

October 14 (Saturday) – Pampered Chef fundraiser benefiting KPNA
9:30 AM at Moss Park. Muffins and juice will be provided.

October 14-15 (Saturday - Sunday) – OOCCL Fall Tour of Homes
Visit www.ooccl.org/hometour.htm for additional information.

October 23 (Monday) – Early voting begins for November 5 County, State and Federal Elections. Visit <http://www.dalcoelections.org> for additional information.

November 7 (Tuesday) – County, State and Federal Elections
Registered voters living in Kessler Plaza can vote at the Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

November 9 (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

November 13-18 – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

December 5 (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 PM Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

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