



# Kessler Plaza News

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The Newsletter of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association



THE LITTLE NEIGHBORHOOD  
WITH THE BIG HEART.

**Next Neighborhood Meeting:**  
Tuesday, January 29, 7 p.m.

**Inside:**

- President's Corner.....2
- Anytime Fitness.....2
- News for Pet Owners .....2
- Common Code Violations...2
- Crime Stats .....3
- Calendar of Events.....4
- About Kessler Plaza .....4



## Adjust Outdoor Watering

### Lower usage results in lower sewage charges all year

The weather is changing and Dallas Water Utilities urges residents to adjust their outdoor watering to fit the season. Shorter days and cooler temperatures mean less water is needed to maintain landscapes. Additionally, saving water now lowers bills throughout the year.

Because wastewater is not metered, sewer rates are estimated by customers' average water use during the months of December, January, February and March. Thus, lower water usage during these months results in a lower

sewage charges all year long.

Below are some helpful tips for saving water and money:

- Add mulch around plants to reduce the watering frequency and provide protection from freezes.
- For Bermuda and St. Augustine grasses, apply one-half to one inch of water every four to five weeks, including any rainfall during the period. These grasses are dormant in the winter, so it is natural for them to turn brown

until spring.

- Avoid over seeding lawns with winter grass, such as Rye grass, as more water and energy is needed to maintain it.
- Winterize outdoor spigots or exposed pipes when temperatures dip to 20 degrees to prevent pipes from bursting or freezing.

These simple steps can add up to significant water savings and learning to save water now ensures we have enough water for future generations.

## Dr. Garcia Receives National Honor

Following an eight-month search with input from over 1,000 business, political, and civic leaders, the Aspen Institute has identified Mayor Pro Tem Elba Garcia as one of the nation's top young elected officials. The Institute also selected Dr. Garcia for a fellowship program honoring public leaders identified as "the true rising stars" of American politics.

"I am honored to be among this esteemed group of upcoming leaders," said Dr. Garcia. "I am especially proud that the panel recognized my ability to remain focused on the ideals that originally led me into public service

Drawn from the ranks of federal, state, and local governments and representing 22 states, the

program will address broad issues of democratic governance and effective public service. Participants represent the best hope for America's future—upcoming leaders committed to working together for the common good.

For more information on the program, visit [www.aspeninstitute.org/rodel](http://www.aspeninstitute.org/rodel)

## Next KPNA Meeting Scheduled for January 29

Plan now to attend the next meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, January 29, 2008.

This meeting will be the kickoff meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association for 2008, including the

election of the KPNA officers for 2008. Bring your neighbor and learn more about upcoming plans/projects, crime statistics, and trends for our neighborhood. Meet new neighbors at the meeting!

This informative meeting will be held Tuesday,

January 29, 2007 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 KEVIN BLOCK

Dear Neighbors,

Dear Neighbors,

I'd like to wish everybody a happy new year. I hope that everybody enjoyed their holidays and that 2008 treats you well.

Next, I would like to give my thanks to all who make this neighborhood and association run. I would also like to thank a couple of people in particular who really do help make Kessler Plaza a great place to live.

First, I want to thank Kelly Garcia. Arguably, Kelly's contribution makes one of the largest impacts on the neighborhood. Kelly spends a lot of time planning and organizing all of the Kessler Plaza Wine (and beer) Nights that we use as fundraisers. This is our main source of funds that we use for our operating costs and neighborhood projects (such as the new sign toppers that we recently installed). In addition to being the

source of our income, they are an avenue to help keep our neighbors connected.

Next, I would like to thank Jennifer Pierce for her continued work as the Crime Rep Liaison for KPNA. Additionally, Jennifer has spent a lot of time and effort recently organizing the plan and campaign for the Extra Neighborhood Patrol (ENP) program. While we missed out on this great opportunity to aid in our effort against crime in KPNA due to lack of neighborhood support, her effort and contributions are greatly appreciated. Jennifer attended many hours of meetings and had more administrative tasks than I'm sure that she expected.

I am very thankful for both of their hard work and volunteering to help Kessler Plaza.

One final note, although the holidays are a major period during the year when those in our neighborhood leave town, it is still important to focus on

this for the remainder of the year too. If you are leaving town, remember to take the preventative steps necessary to make sure that your house and your belongings are safe while you are gone. Things such as putting your mail on hold, putting your lights on a timer and others are small things that can be done but are helpful. Do not forget to tell a neighbor or two who can look after your house while you are gone. As always, if you are in town, please keep an eye out for and report anything suspicious. The responsibility for crime prevention does not just lie with the DPD but within our own neighborhood.

For those of you who would like to be on the neighborhood email distribution list and are not, please email me at [kevin\\_c\\_block@yahoo.com](mailto:kevin_c_block@yahoo.com) and I will get you added so that you can stay informed.

Until next time,  
Kevin Block

## Anytime Fitness Opens in Bishop Arts

Anytime Fitness is now open in the Bishop Arts District! Anytime Fitness is a co-ed adult gym that is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week offering state-of-the-art strength and cardiovascular equipment and exercise classes such as pilates, yoga and boot-camp-style workouts.

Co-owners Jacqui Bliss and Renee Reed point out that Anytime Fitness is different from other gyms in that they cap their membership in order to keep crowds low. "We are different than the clubs that just sell, sell, sell at low prices without regard to how many of those members will use the facility," Jacqui says. "We are a limited membership facility."

Jacqui also recommends another amenity: "Members wishing to tan

can add unlimited tanning during staffed hours to their membership for a small monthly fee."

The club has a state-of-the-art video surveillance and security system to help members feel safe and secure anytime of the day or night. All members receive key cards to access the club 24 hours a day yet the door remains locked to non-members. The keys work at other Anytime Fitness clubs, giving members free reciprocity at nearly 1,000 clubs throughout the nation.

Anytime Fitness is located at 611 N. Bishop Ave. in Dallas. For more information, call (214) 948-6161 or visit [www.anytimefitness.com/clubs/dallastx](http://www.anytimefitness.com/clubs/dallastx).

## Important News for Pet Owners

Dr. Garcia's office offers the following information to help decrease the number of loose animals in our neighborhoods:

- Animal owners are in violation of city code if they do not restrain their animals at all times; in a fenced yard, enclosed pen or structure, or by tether or leash. Code Compliance staff is authorized to impound animals that are not properly restrained.
- City ordinance requires that all dogs and cats be vaccinated against rabies and be registered with the City of Dallas.
- Dallas residents who receive public assistance (such as Lone Star card, WIC, etc.) may qualify for free spay/neuter surgery for their pets. Call (214) 670-8246 for details.



## Common Code Violations and City Ordinances

Following are some common code violations and city ordinances:

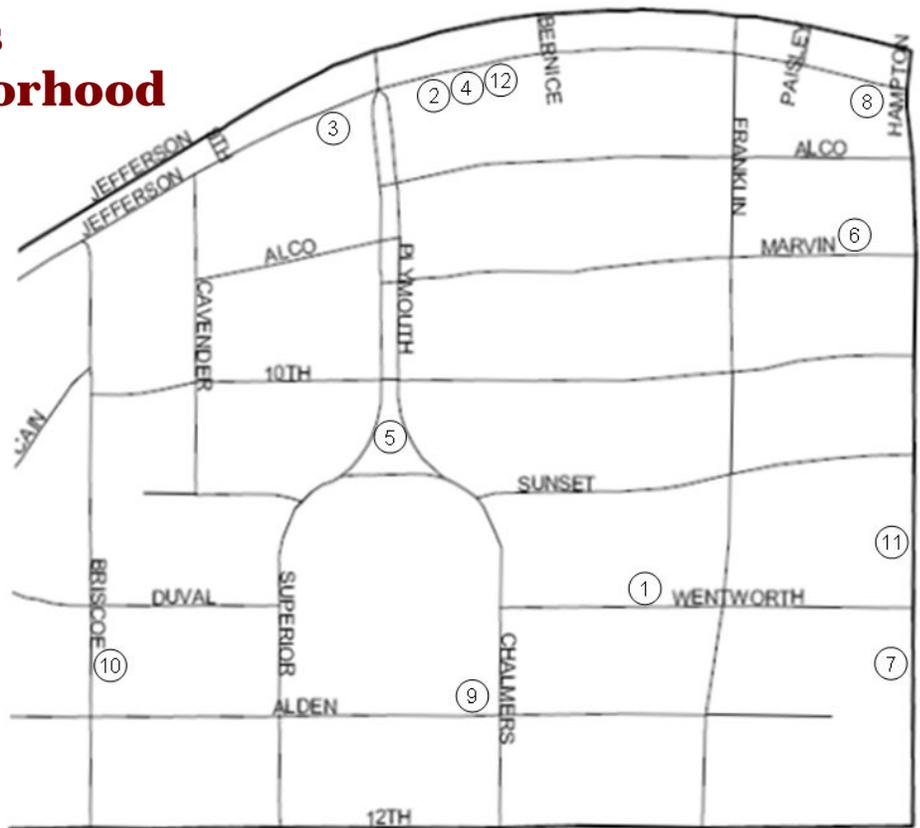
- **Litter/Trash:** A person is responsible for litter/trash on their property, the gutter or parkway next to the property and half of the alley. (Litter is trash that is not disposed of properly in a trash can. When it is in the can, it becomes garbage. Anywhere else, it is litter.) The fine: \$100 - \$2,000.
- **Bulky Trash:** Oversized brush and bulky trash **MUST** be placed just behind the curb line of the street where the trash originated, not earlier than the Thursday preceding the collection week or later than 7:00 AM on Monday of the collection week. The fine: \$50 - \$2,000.
- **Loud and Disturbing Noises:** A person commits an offense if he makes or causes to be made any loud and disturbing noise in the City (at any hour) that is offensive to the ordinary sensibilities of an inhabitant of the City (i.e., loud music, car horn, etc.) The fine: up to \$2,000.
- **Garage Sales:** A person shall not have more than 2 garage sales during any 12 month period on the same property. The garage sale **MUST** be inside a building or garage or on the patio **ONLY** and **ONLY** on a single family or duplex property. The fine: \$200 - \$2,000.
- **Random Gun Fire:** A person commits an offense if he discharges a firearm or other weapon that discharges a shell or cartridge, in a place not customarily open to the public. The fine: up to \$500.
- **Graffiti:** The property owner is responsible for removing graffiti. It must be re-moved from sidewalks, walls, fences, signs and other structures visible from the property line. The fine: \$200 - \$500.
- **Stray Animals:** A person who harbors an animal commits an offense, without regard to his mental state, if he fails to restrain the animal in a fenced yard or an enclosed structure, or by a leash. The fine: \$500 - \$2,000.

## October 2007 Crimes Reported for Neighborhood

The following crimes were reported in Kessler Plaza during October 2007. Unfortunately these were the most current statistics available at press time.

1. Theft, 10/1, 1:30 AM
2. Theft, 10/3, 6:00 PM
3. Auto theft, 10/4, 10:00 AM
4. Burglary, 10/5, 5:13 AM
5. Vandalism, 10/6, 10:00 PM
6. Theft, 10/19, 8:00 AM
7. Burglary, 10/20, 5:00 PM
8. Burglary, 10/20, 5:29 AM
9. Burglary, 10/29, 8:00 AM
10. Burglary, 10/29, 7:00 AM
11. Theft, 10/31, 5:40 PM
12. Theft, 10/31, 6:00

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



# Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

## President

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## Treasurer

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## Yard of the Month and Events Committees

Kelly Garcia  
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## Moss Park and Plymouth Median Committee

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## Crime Rep. Liaison

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## OOCCL Representative

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## Code Compliance Committee

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## Newsletter Editor

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## Calendar of Events

**January 24** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

**January 27** (Tuesday) – Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting  
7:00 PM Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

**February 7** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

**February 7** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

**February 11-15** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

**February 19-29** (Tuesday) – Early voting for March 4 Primary Elections  
For additional information, visit [www.dalcoelections.org](http://www.dalcoelections.org).

**February 21** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

**March 4** (Tuesday) – Primary Election Day  
Registered voters in Kessler Plaza will vote at the Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ. Polls are open 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM.

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

**March 6** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

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

**March 20** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

**April 3** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

**April 10** (Thursday) – First day brush and bulky trash may be placed curbside

**April 14-18** – Brush and bulky trash pickup for Kessler Plaza

**April 17** (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

## About Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza—the little neighborhood with the big heart—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 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](http://www.kesslerplaza.com)