



Kessler Plaza News

January 16, 2009
Volume 11, Issue 1

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
- Mardi Gras Parade.....2
- Recycle Old TVs.....2
- Crime Stats3
- Quilt Mania II3
- Calendar of Events.....4
- White Rock Marathon.....4
- About Kessler Plaza4



Digital TV Begins February 17 Converter boxes will be required for analog TVs

Big changes are coming to broadcast television. On February 17, 2009, all full-power broadcast television stations are required to stop broadcasting in analog and continue broadcasting in digital only. This is known as the digital television (DTV) transition.

What does this mean to you? If you receive your local broadcast stations through a paid provider such as cable or satellite TV, you are already

prepared for the DTV transition. However, if you have an analog TV with a rooftop antenna or "rabbit ears" on your set, you will not be able to watch full-power broadcast stations after February 17, 2009 unless you get a "digital-to-analog converter box."

A digital-to-analog converter box is a device that will convert the digital signals from a broadcast station to an analog format that your analog television can

display. If your existing antenna receives a good quality signal on VHF and UHF analog channels, it should work for receiving digital channels as well.

Digital-to-analog converter boxes are available in stores that sell electronics equipment and through various online retailers. The cost for a basic converter box is between \$40 and \$70. This is a one-time cost.

See **Digital Television**
Page 2

Uninsured Motorist Ordinance Takes Effect

Beginning January 1, 2009 the Dallas Police Department began enforcing the Uninsured Motorist Ordinance, approved by the Dallas City Council on May 28, 2008. Under this ordinance drivers stopped for a traffic violation who cannot show proof of auto insurance meeting state requirements will be issued a citation and will have his or her vehicle towed at the owner's

expense. The City already tows the vehicles of uninsured motorists involved in traffic accidents.

The new ordinance is in response to the large number of people driving in the City of Dallas without the proper state required auto insurance. These uninsured drivers place an unfair burden on those who comply with state law and maintain auto insurance. The Dallas

Police Department currently issues about 75,000 citations a year to motorists with no auto insurance. With the new ordinance, the city anticipates fewer of these citations as more drivers comply with the law to avoid having their vehicles towed.

Comply with state law: contact an automobile insurance provider and obtain auto insurance. It's the law.

Next KPNA Meeting Scheduled for January 27

Plan now to attend the next meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, January 27, 2009.

This meeting will be the kickoff meeting of the Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association for 2009, including the

election of the KPNA officers for 2009. 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 27, 2009 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,

Happy New Year to all, I hope that you had a great holiday season and are energized for the New Year.

I am looking forward to another year with our Kessler Plaza neighbors and being a part of the changing and growing Oak Cliff.

As always, I would first like to thank our volunteers that make this neighborhood association run. Without them we would not have our Wine Tasting Fund Raisers, Yards of the Month, National Night Outs, 4th of July parades, these newsletters and all of the other events that make Kessler Plaza what it is. Your hard work and sacrifice is much

Oak Cliff Mardi Gras Parade Planned

Amy Cowan, the Winnetka Heights resident who orchestrated the famous election-night party in Bishop Arts, has hatched the idea of a Mardi Gras parade in Oak Cliff!

The parade is scheduled to begin at 5:00 PM on Sunday, February 22, 2009 and will run from Methodist Hospital to the Bishop Arts district. If you are interested in participating, the organizers are looking for groups of any kind to enter a float, drive a

Recycle Old Televisions and Monitors

Do you have some old televisions you want to get rid of? Don't just trash them—recycle them! When old TVs are crushed in the garbage trucks and landfills, they can leach out up to eight pounds of lead, which can cause damage to the nervous system

Dallas e-cycling locations will collect old TVs and computer monitors from now through March 31 at the following locations:

Southwest (Oak Cliff) Transfer Station
4610 S. Westmoreland Road
Sunday, Wednesday or Saturday
7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

appreciated and does not go unnoticed. With that being said, we are always looking for new help and new ideas.

Along with the upsides and the entertaining things that we get to do as a neighborhood, we each also have an individual responsibility for neighborhood safety. Given the state of the economy and that we are on the heels of the holiday season, where crime historically is higher, I want to remind you all to be vigilant and call the police if you see anything or anyone suspicious. In addition to the immediate impact and response, these calls are also used by the police to monitor where patrolling is needed.

While we do rely on the police to provide a certain level of protection

decorated vehicle, march with banners to music, or push strollers in spirited formation. The \$50 entry fee will offset the cost of security and clean-up. There will be prizes and other incentives for excessive silliness. The group promises this will be PG-rated fun, reminding us this isn't really New Orleans!

For additional information contact David Spence at david@goodspace.com.

Customer Convenience Recycling Center at McCommas Bluff Landfill
5100 Youngblood Road
Monday - Saturday
5:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Northwest (Bachman) Transfer Station
9500 Harry Hines Blvd
Sunday – Saturday
7:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Northeast (Fair Oaks) Transfer Station
7677 Fair Oaks Avenue
Sunday, Wednesday or Saturday
7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

and prevention, it is also our responsibility to supplement their service. At our next meeting, we will be discussing opportunities that we have to do so.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can do anything for you and I look forward to another great year in Kessler Plaza.

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 and I will get you added so that you can stay informed.

Until next time,
Kevin

Digital Television

Continued from Page 1

The federal government is offering each U.S. household up to two \$40 coupons that can be applied toward the cost of eligible converter boxes. The "TV Converter Box Coupon Program" is being administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, which is part of the Department of Commerce. The number of coupons available is limited and applications for coupons must be received by March 31, 2009 and expire 90 days after mailing.

Coupons may be requested in one of four ways:

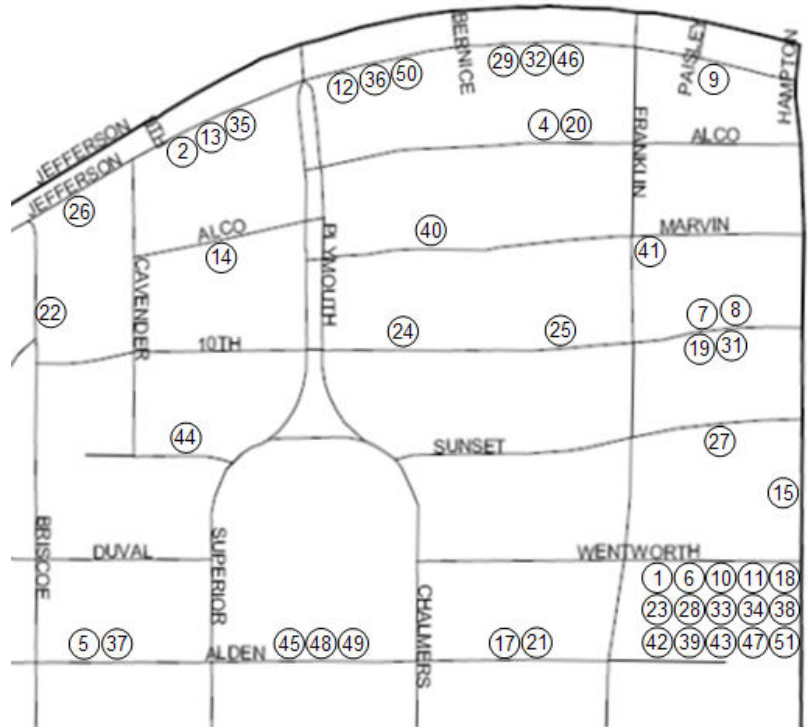
- Call the Coupon Program's 24-hour hotline at 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009), TTY: 1-877-530-2634 (English TTY) or 1-866-495-1161 (Spanish TTY)
- Apply online at www.dtv2009.gov
- Mail a coupon application to PO Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000
- Fax an application to 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632)



Sept. – Dec. 2008 Crimes Reported for Neighborhood

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

Date	Time	Crime
1. 9/8/2008	1:01 PM	Theft, tools
2. 9/13/2008	12:00 PM	Theft, auto parts
3. 9/13/2008	8:00 AM	Vandalism
4. 9/14/2008	2:12 PM	Other Assault
5. 9/16/2008	5:00 AM	Burglary, misc.
6. 9/17/2008	8:00 AM	Theft, motorcycle
7. 9/19/2008	11:00 PM	Vandalism
8. 09/23/2008	10:00 AM	Burglary, misc.
9. 9/26/2008	12:10 AM	Vandalism
10. 9/29/2008	1:00 AM	Auto Theft, vehicle
11. 9/29/2008	9:00 AM	Theft, food
12. 10/1/2008	3:02 PM	Robbery, currency
13. 10/3/2008	4:35 PM	Robbery, jewelry
14. 10/4/2008	8:00 PM	Vandalism
15. 10/6/2008	1:45 PM	Other Assault
16. 10/10/2008	10:30 AM	Burglary, televisions
17. 10/11/2008	11:10 AM	Robbery, clothing
18. 10/11/2008	12:00 PM	Theft, motorcycle
19. 10/12/2008	5:00 PM	Vandalism
20. 10/15/2008	9:30 PM	Theft, radio/stereo
21. 10/22/2008	9:30 AM	Other Assault
22. 10/22/2008	11:00 AM	Burglary, misc.
23. 10/26/2008	3:00 PM	Theft, motorcycle
24. 10/31/2008	4:55 AM	Robbery, currency
25. 10/31/2008	9:30 AM	Burglary, jewelry
26. 11/1/2008	1:01 AM	Vandalism
27. 11/1/2008	7:32 PM	Robbery, other
28. 11/3/2008	10:40 PM	Theft, radio/stereo
29. 11/4/2008	8:00 AM	Burglary, televisions
30. 11/7/2008	10:30 AM	Other Assault
31. 11/10/2008	12:00 AM	Theft, tools
32. 11/12/2008	11:40 AM	Theft, motorcycle
33. 11/14/2008	8:30 AM	Theft, auto parts
34. 11/15/2008	3:55 PM	Theft, motorcycle
35. 11/15/2008	8:30 PM	Auto Theft, vehicle
36. 11/16/2008	3:55 AM	Burglary, food



Date	Time	Crime
37. 11/25/2008	10:30 PM	Auto Theft, vehicle
38. 11/28/2008	7:27 PM	Family
39. 12/3/2008	11:00 AM	Vandalism
40. 12/4/2008	11:41 AM	Vandalism
41. 12/15/2008	8:30 AM	Burglary, misc.
42. 12/16/2008	4:00 PM	Theft, motorcycle
43. 12/16/2008	7:08 PM	Theft, motorcycle
44. 12/18/2008	8:00 AM	Burglary, tools
45. 12/20/2008	2:00 AM	Theft, auto parts
46. 12/21/2008	1:40 AM	Theft, clothing
47. 12/23/2008	4:00 PM	Theft, tools
48. 12/25/2008	2:00 AM	Vandalism
49. 12/27/2008	2:44 AM	Vandalism
50. 12/30/2008	6:30 PM	Burglary, televisions
51. 12/31/2008	4:00 PM	Theft, motorcycle

Quilt Mania II Exhibit at the Ice House Cultural Center

Quilt Mania II is the largest collaboration of quilt exhibitions ever mounted and includes the participation of 17 cultural institutions in the Dallas area. The Ice House Cultural Center in Oak Cliff is one of the participating institutions and presents Men of the Cloth in Quilting, an exhibition featuring works by four professional male quilters that explore the use of colors,

textures and patterns to make each of their quilts unique and inspiring.

The event takes place at the Ice House Cultural Center located at 1004 W. Page Street in Dallas. The gallery is open Tuesday-Friday from 6:00 – 6:00 PM and Saturday from 12:00 – 6:00 PM. Admission is free. The exhibit runs through February 28, 2009.

The Ice House Cultural Center provides venues and programs that include visual arts exhibitions, dance, and theater workshops. The IHCC works in collaboration with Arte Oak Cliff to bring a season of programs to the community.



Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association

President

Kevin Block
(214) 333-0001
kevin_c_block@yahoo.com

Vice President

Chance Spiker
chancespiker@yahoo.com

Secretary

Mary Ellen Phares
(214) 908-3013
mep75254@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Emily Glidewell
(214) 339-3433
eglidewell@att.net

Yard of the Month and Events Committees

Kelly Garcia
(214) 395-8075
kgarcia@hksinc.com

Moss Park and Plymouth Median Committee

Andrew Garcia
(817) 313-9249
andrew.garcia4@med.va.gov

Crime Rep. Liaison

Gene Kriska
(972) 739-9516
jpierce@dallascounty.org

OOCL Representative

Nola Rae Smith
(214) 330-0557
nola49@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Ron Carter
(214) 330-6108
rcarter214@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

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

February 5 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

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

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

February 19 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

March 5 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

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

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

March 19 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

March 31 (Tuesday) –Kessler Plaza Neighborhood Association meeting
7:00 PM Jefferson Boulevard Church of Christ.

April 2 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

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

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

April 16 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

April 30 (Thursday) – Curbside recycling pickup in Kessler Plaza

Kessler Plaza Team Races in White Rock Marathon



A team from Kessler Plaza raced in the 5-Person Relay of the 2008 Dallas White Rock Marathon Presented by NexBank. The event took place on Saturday, December 14, 2008.

The 5-person relay course began and ended in Victory Park at the American Airlines Center near downtown Dallas and ran to and around scenic White Rock Lake. The 26.2-mile certified course was mostly flat with some rolling hills. Along the way, runners passed through the wooded Turtle Creek area, prestigious Highland Park, around White Rock Lake, through beautiful Lakewood and down the Swiss Avenue historical district.

The Kessler Plaza team—named *Cliff Dwellers*—consisted of Camilla Harris, Mario Reyna, Deanna Shelton, Jay Smith, and Nola Rae Smith. The team finished the race in 4 hours, 59 minutes and 28 seconds!

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