



Newsletter – November 2023

Updated info of recent events and upcoming activities in Whiffletree.

- Second installment of **Notable Neighbors** is a story about Boots Blaquiere, written by our neighbor, Kelly Paschalis, and posted on the Whiffletree homepage (<https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/>).



“Be thankful and keep plugging.” Good advice from Boots Blaquiere, one of the first residents here in Whiffletree. After 37 years living in our neighborhood, she’s got stories...good stories. Throughout the afternoon I spent with Boots, she smiled, laughed, told a few tales and managed to completely charm me.

Delores Killion was born in Dallas, Texas on March 12, 1933. As a child, when people would ask her name, she would reply “Bootsie!” By middle school it had really caught on, but was shortened to Boots. During her years in school, Boots played cello in the Highland Park High School orchestra and continued playing with the orchestra at Southern Methodist University and even marched with the glockenspiel in band. Her musical talents were put to good use in the pit orchestra for several local productions in Chicago and at her church. Many afternoons she could be found playing piano for Life Care, a senior living center here in Plano.

In her lifetime, the 90-year young neighbor has lived in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, Chicago, Connecticut and Manhattan. She began working as a tailor doing custom work like suits, wedding and prom dresses. She kept at it for many, many years until a bout with Hepatitis in 1990 forced her to retire from tailoring. But that didn’t keep Boots down. She has kept active all through the years participating in church activities, walking, riding bikes with her daughter and square dancing.

You can read the *full* article by clicking on **Notable Neighbors** tab on our website (<https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/notable-neighbors>). We are planning *future* articles for Whiffletree **Notable Neighbors**. We have residents who have unique stories large and small; stories in business, academics, sports, charity, parenting, hobbies... If you know someone (or **are** someone!) who has an interesting story to tell, please don’t be shy. Send me a note and you or someone you know could be featured next. Thank you!

- We are seeking volunteers interested in serving on the WHOA board or committee for upcoming Fiscal Year that runs 4/1/2024-3/31/2025. If you have any interest, we would love the support. We can work with your existing work and family commitments. If interested, contact Jim Skelly at jimskelly15@gmail.com.
- Mark your calendar – We plan to hold our annual Winter Social on Monday, January 22, 2024, at Napoli’s Italian Restaurant at NE corner of McDermott & Independence. This event is for paid WHOA members and is adults only. Be on the lookout for more information & invitation to this event in the next few weeks. Space is limited so be sure to sign up early. Look forward to seeing many Whiffletree neighbors at this fun event.



Who's the fittest
of them all?

- During October, 52 Whiffletree neighbors (over 3X any other Plano neighborhood) participated in the Plano Neighborhood Fitness Competition. Jack Stevens of Leigh Drive was top male participant with an incredible 4.5 days of bike riding. Great work Jack and all Whiffletree participants!
- The Whiffletree Directory has been distributed to all paid Whiffletree HOA (WHOA) members. The Directory includes contact information for Whiffletree residents as well as valuable info about the neighborhood and City of Plano services (another reason the pay dues)! If you have not paid your dues for this year, you can still do so and receive the current Whiffletree Directory. You can go to <https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/pay-dues> and pay \$150 dues via credit card or you can send check for \$145 payable to WHOA and mail to PMB 288, 3948 Legacy Drive, Suite 106, Plano, TX 75024-8300. Your dues primarily are used to maintain our beautiful entrances and hold fun social events.
- We have switched from fall to holiday lighting at the entrances. Hope you enjoy them.
- As we have in the past, we will recognize 4 homes for best holiday decorations and award each winner \$100 gift card to Shades of Green Nursery in Frisco. You must be a paid WHOA member to qualify. The Yard of the Month team will be traveling around the neighborhood later in December to identify best holiday decorations. So, get those lights and decorations sparkling. Also, if you would like to join the Yard of the Month team to help select winners throughout the year, use the Contact Us page on Whiffletree website (<https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/contact-us>) to note your interest. We will gladly take the help.
- Just a reminder that Plano Winter outdoor watering guidelines are effective November 1- March 31, where residents are asked to **water only once per week**. Residential addresses with an odd number (1, 3, 5, 7 and 9) as their last digit can water on Tuesdays. Residential addresses with an even number (0, 2, 4, 6 and 8) as their last digit can water on Thursdays. Residents are encouraged to **water when needed and only on your assigned watering day**. You may not need to water if rain is in the forecast. Subscribe to WaterMyYard.org for weekly watering recommendations.
- Remember that Whiffletree website (<https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/>) is an excellent source of info about the neighborhood, upcoming as well as past events. Additionally, check out our Facebook page, @mywhiffletreeHOA (you can search it under "Whiffletree V, VI, VII") and don't forget to Like Us! Also, click on the Links tab on our home page or go directly to <https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/links> to view the neighborhood info as well as available services and support from the City of Plano.

Finally, Whiffletree HOA exists for the benefit of all residents. Your support and involvement are important and appreciated. We welcome your input. Feel free to contact me or any other WHOA board member.

Jim Skelly

Whiffletree HOA President