



Newsletter – May 2024

Updated info of recent events and upcoming activities in Whiffletree.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS – As you have likely seen in recent news stories, Plano ISD Long Range Facility Planning Committee recommended to PISD Board of Trustees closing 2 elementary schools (Davis and Forman) and 2 middle schools (Armstrong and Carpenter) due to declining enrollment across the district (55,700 students at peak in 2012 to current 47,800 student). There is still possible selection of additional school closures announcements later this year in the district as it considers possible action in school feeder system to Plano West Senior. PISD Board of Trustees is scheduled to vote on the current Committee recommendation in June. If approved, the closures will take effects after conclusion of the 2024-2025 school year. Mathews Elementary School remains on the remain open list.



NOTABLE NEIGHBORS – Latest Whiffletree *Notable Neighbors* has been published. This fascinating story written by Kelly Paschalis is about **Lucy Lorenzo**, who lives on Snidow Drive with her husband, Armando, and children, Oliver, and Amelia. Here is a short excerpt from the story: “Moving is never easy. Trust me, our family just moved to Texas from the west coast and it was NOT fun! Now just imagine moving internationally not once, but several times. That sounds exciting and scary at the same time, but according to Whiffletree resident Lucy Lorenzo, each move brought her to where she is today with a loving and supportive husband, two children and ownership in her own executive recruiting firm.” For the entire story go to <https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/notable-neighbors>.



Like Lucy, 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. Special thanks to Kelly Paschalis and Kim Stockberger for taking the time to speak with the Whiffletree neighbors and then write the amazing stories.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – we have a couple of major upcoming fun activities:

- **July 4 – Independence Day Parade and Picnic.** This annual event typically starts with parade ~11:30 AM led by Plano Fire and Police vehicles and is followed by great lunch provided by the Hamburger Man. All Whiffletree neighbors are invited to join in the parade where you can walk, push/pull stroller or wagon, or ride bicycle. To participate in the delicious lunch, you do need to be a paid Whiffletree member.
- **October 1 – National Night Out.** This event, which is held starting ~6:00 PM, is intended to allow neighbors to get to know neighbors and to meet with Plano Police that cover our neighborhood. As in prior years, we expect to be joined by Plano Mayor, John Muns, Police Chief, Ed Drain, multiple

Plano City Council Members, as well as numerous Plano PD officers. This is an enjoyable event where you have a relaxed environment in which to meet fellow Whiffletree neighbors as well as Plano PD and several of our City leaders. All Whiffletree neighbors are invited to attend this event, which we typically hold jointly with our friends from Estates of Forest Creek neighborhood.

- More information to come on these and other events as we get closer.

LANDSCAPING AT ENTRANCES – As planned, we replaced a number of bushes at Marchman and Harvey entrances that have succumb to harsh Texas weather. This project is funded in large part by a Neighborhood Beautification Grant from the City of Plano. Additionally, the City of Plano plans to replace the screening wall along Independence from Clymer to Caravan. This will include new landscaping at Clymer and Caravan entrances. Timetable for this renovation project is TBD but is still expected in 2024. Will keep you updated.

ROAD REPAIRS – You can't miss the ongoing road repairs to Legacy that will span Custer to Coit and Independence that will run Spring Creek to 121. These are multi-year projects that will culminate in the thin asphalt overlay to extend the life of the roadways and as a side benefit, provide smoother and quieter ride. The City of Plano has advised us that there is possibility of damage to our landscaping and irrigation systems as the road and curb repairs take place. We will monitor the construction and alert the City of any damage that will be repaired by the City.

YARD OF THE MONTH – In April we recognized our first 2024 Yard of the Month (YOM) winners, **Sandra and Bill Ballentine of 3300 Langley Drive**. As monthly YOM winner, they receive award \$100 gift card to Shades of Green Nursery, located in Frisco. There were numerous homes in the neighborhood that looked beautiful, but Sandra's & Bill's stood out as the best. As you can see from the photo, they have done a fantastic job of planting so many beautiful flowers. Their yard looks fantastic for so early in the growing season. Take a drive or walk past



to see what an incredible job they have done. Congratulations Sandra and Bill. Great job!

Our next YOM winner will be in May. The YOM committee is conducting their review. So, keep working on getting yards looking beautiful. You could be a YOM winner! Please note that YOM winners need to be paid Whiffletree HOA (WFOA) members. Also, thanks to Robert Simmons and the entire YOM committee for contributing to the selection process! If you would like to join the YOM Selection Team, contact Robert Simmons at r.simmonsdfd@gmail.com. The team would love the assistance.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE – Our annual membership drive continues for our fiscal year 2024-2025 that runs April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025. As of May 18, 277 out of 477 homes in the neighborhood have paid the annual dues. If you have paid your dues, thank you. If you have not yet paid, please know that we need your support. Your dues go to maintaining our entrances and holding enriching & fun social events. Despite increases in costs for many of the services that we utilize, annual dues for this fiscal year remain unchanged at \$145 via check and \$150 paid via credit card on our website (due to the online transaction fees we incur). Whiffletree dues remain the lowest compared to surrounding

neighborhoods. You can pay your FY 2024-2025 dues at any time by check for \$145 payable to WHOA and mail to PMB 288; 3948 Legacy Drive, Suite 106; Plano, TX 75023-8300 or go to <https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/pay-dues> to pay via credit card. Your support is greatly appreciated.

WATERING GUIDELINES – Just a friendly reminder that Plano spring & summer watering guidelines are in effect April 1-October 31. You can view these guidelines at <https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/> (in right column about half way down the home page). **Homes ending with even number can water on Monday & Thursday**, and **homes ending in odd number can water on Tuesday and Friday**. Irrigations systems should be operated before 10 AM or after 6 PM to minimize evaporation. Be sure to turn off your sprinkler system if you don't need to water. Also, for weekly watering recommendations, subscribe to Water My Yard app on your phone or sign up on the web at <https://watermyyard.org/#/Location>.

ROAD/ALLEY REPAIRS – If you observe streets or alleys needing repair within Whiffletree, you can advise the City of Plano via the **Fix-It Plano** app or website. You can report issues with roads and/or alleys (or other issues such as trash/recycling, animal services, water/sewer, and more) by downloading Fix-it Plano App onto your phone or going to <https://www.plano.gov/1096/Fix-It-Plano>. The City is responsive to Fix It Plano reports. As we have seen in Whiffletree, road patch repairs are usually completed promptly. More significant, longer-term road repairs are also addressed as seen recently with road repair on Marchman near Leigh. Fix-It-Plano App and website are excellent tools to report issues to the City. The City listens & takes actions on these reports.

WHIFFLETREE WEBSITE (<https://www.mywhiffletreehoa.com/>) – Remember that our Whiffletree website is an excellent source of info about the neighborhood, upcoming as well as past events. 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 available services and support from the City of Plano. Additionally, check out our Facebook page, @mywhiffletreeHOA (you can search it under “Whiffletree V, VI, VII”) and don't forget to Like Us!

SUMMARY – 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.

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