

# The KIB NEWSLETTER



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VHA employees help to make Fritz Park a little more beautiful on their Annual Day of Service.

## KEEP IRVING BEAUTIFUL LOOKS FORWARD TO A BUSY NOVEMBER

KIB will participate in several activities during the month of November, including the following:

- Nov 12: Porter's Unite For Troops, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This will be our third year to make this a Green Event. Details at [www.unitefortroops.com](http://www.unitefortroops.com)
- Nov 18: City of Irving's Arbor Day Celebration at Farine Elementary. Farine was chosen as this year's host because they recycled the most paper last school year, at 78 pounds per student, for a total of 52,334 pounds!
- Nov 30 - Dec 2: Keep America Beautiful will honor KIB at its 58th Annual National Conference in New Orleans. The theme of this year's conference will be "Renew, Restore, Regrow." KIB will once again receive the President's Circle Award, and will also be honored with a 2nd Place National Affiliate Award in the 200,000 and above population category.

Congratulations, KIB!



## OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:

Oct 11: VHA Community Day. Every year, Irving-based VHA, Inc. sends their employees out into the community for a day of service with a variety of organizations. KIB was fortunate to have a group of 23 volunteers who gave over 80 hours by painting the playground area of Fritz Park. Not only did they paint approximately 200 feet of multi-rail fence, but they also painted two pavilions and the gazebo. Thanks, VHA, and we look forward to next year's project! Thank you also goes to John Page of the Parks Department and his staff for providing supplies.

### IT'S CARNIVAL AND FESTIVAL SEASON IN IRVING!

KIB's Service Learning students could be found helping at fall carnivals and festivals around town. A total of 39 volunteers gave 155 hours at these locations:

- Oct 20: Senter Park
- Oct 28: Irving YMCA
- Oct 29: Brandenburg Elementary

KIB will also be at Irving's newest school, Infinity Preparatory, on November 11 for their fall festival.



## KIB BOARD MEMBER ACTIVITIES

On October 14, KIB Board Members Margie Stipes and Rachel Moon, along with Rick Hose and Julie Schmitt, conducted the annual Community Appearance Index (CAI). KIB has performed this survey (formerly known as the Litter Index) since 2001, and it is one of the many requirements for maintaining the President's Circle level with Keep America Beautiful. The same routes are driven each year, with the participants scoring areas on a 1 to 4 scale based on the amount of litter visible. The scores are then compared to the original baseline data. Good news: litter in Irving has decreased by 38.4% from our original survey in 2001.

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