

# KEEP IRVING BEAUTIFUL



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Photos (clockwise from upper left): Verizon volunteers at T.W. Richardson Grove; Avanade volunteers at Bird's Fort Trail; members of the PPUMC "Heavenly Threads" group; KIB accepting the Community Friend Award from Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas.

We started the month with a cleanup at T.W. Richardson Grove Park on May 2 with 31 employee volunteers from Verizon, who gave 62 hours of service in collecting 174.5 pounds of trash and 62 pounds of recyclables. Later that week, on May 5, eight volunteers from new partner Avanade gathered at Bird's Fort Trail Park, where they combined for 16 hours and a collection of 58 pounds of trash and recyclables.

We celebrated our seniors on May 12 at the Heritage Senior Center's "Older Americans Month" event. At the KIB table, there were many giveaway items and we promoted recycling and clean public spaces.

The Parks and Recreation/Aquatics "Water Safety Day" event was on May 20 at the North Lake Aquatic Center, where KIB staff had the pleasure of cooking and serving hot dogs (beef and veggie) for the participants and staff.

KIB was well-represented at Irving ISD Career Days this month. Along with toucan mascot Kirby, we visited Gilbert on May 12, Barton on May 19, Hanes on May 24 and Brandenburg on May 26. Thanks to all the schools who invited us.

KIB received a lovely donation from the "Heavenly Threads" group at Plymouth Park United Methodist Church. This included several 'no-sew' blankets, crocheted and hand-sewn items like shawls, blankets and hats. Thank you to these ladies who use their talents to help others.

The Girl Scouts of Northeast Texas – Service Unit 123 presented KIB with the "Community Friend Award" at their annual dinner on May 22.

## KIB NATIONAL HONOR

Keep America Beautiful (KAB) has announced Keep Irving Beautiful as their May 2023 "Affiliate of the Month." KIB was chosen for this honor because of its innovative partnerships and programs, specifically the "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off," and the environmental mascot skit.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Here is a sampling of the many things KIB has scheduled:

June 7 – a visit to Hackberry Vacation Bible School where the children will first conduct a cleanup of the grounds, then paint birdhouses.

June 8 - a second project with Verizon, this time a cleanup and paint project at Running Bear Park.

June 12 – the first of several Recreation Center Summer Camp events, potting tree seedlings at Mustang Park.

June 16 – our third year to partner with Nexstar for their Founder's Day of Caring. Trinity View Park will be bright and shiny after this group's paint and cleanup project.

June 23 - SLPS Youth Group cleanup at Sam Houston Park

June 26-28 – we end the month at the Keep Texas Beautiful State Conference - learning, networking, and accepting a Sustained Excellence Award.