

# KEEP IRVING BEAUTIFUL



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Photos (clockwise from upper left): KIB table at the Heritage Senior Center Mardi Gras; Valentine's Cards delivered by Senter Park's Nancy Cedillo; Adult Day Therapeutic Program visit to the ICTN studio; KIB staff with Keep America Beautiful Innovation Award.

February was a month full of celebrations for Keep Irving Beautiful, starting with another Mardi Gras festival on Feb. 4. KIB Board members Karen Harmon and Rachel Moon represented KIB at the Heritage Senior Center event, which included a parade, vendors and lots of beads!

We can't talk about February without a mention of Valentine's Day, and KIB celebrated this in a big way with our second annual Valentine Card campaign. Via our social media pages, we asked volunteers to write Valentine's Day cards for local seniors. The response was outstanding, with 326 volunteers making 738 cards. We were able to "adopt" three different nursing homes to receive these cards. KIB had a special day with the Adult Day Therapeutic Program team who joined us at ICTN to make cards and then take a behind-the-scenes tour of the studio, provided by hosts Cathy Whiteman and Thomas Gandy.

We wrapped up the month by attending the Keep America Beautiful National Conference. Irving was well-represented in the awards this year, with KIB receiving two national innovation awards and our own Sammy Romero receiving the highest honor, the Lady Bird Johnson Award, given to the most outstanding volunteer in the nation.

**SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 1st**  
Registration for our big spring cleanup, the "Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off," is now open on the KIB website! It will be held at Trinity View Park on Saturday, April 1, 9 a.m. to noon. KIB will also offer a virtual/remote option as we have done the past two years. Check our social media pages for details.

## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

KIB staff – along with toucan mascot "Kirby" - will attend Career Day at Otis Brown Elementary on March 8. Staff will talk to students about volunteering, recycling and other KIB programs.

Springtime always means that things will soon be getting green, and we have two tree planting projects scheduled for the week of Spring Break. The first is with Irving Girl Scout Troops on March 13 at Towne Lake Park, and in the second we will partner with Abbott Labs employee volunteers on March 17 at Thomas Jefferson Park. Both groups will learn proper planting techniques and work together with our outstanding Urban Forestry Team.

And speaking of trees, join KIB and the City of Irving for the Arbor Day Celebration on Saturday, April 29, at Heritage Park.