

# KEEP IRVING BEAUTIFUL NEWSLETTER



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## EVENTFUL FALL SEASON BEGINS FOR KIB

September was full of opportunities for KIB staff to spread the good word about our programs and volunteer activities. Three of these occurred on the same day, September 10. It started with the Vizient Showcase, where employees visited tables of nonprofits who will be participating in the annual "Community Day," and decide which activity they want to participate in. That evening, KIB staff attended the Irving Arts Center Volunteer Fair, where approximately 35-40 Irving-based organizations were available to speak with prospective volunteers. At that same time, staff was presenting at the Nichols Park Neighborhood Association meeting.

We closed the month with our biggest volunteer event of the year, the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Trash Bash, on September 28. 490 spirited volunteers gathered at TW Richardson Grove Park and set out to clean the park and keep litter from reaching the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. After the cleanup, where they collected 580 pounds of trash and 540 of recyclables, they were served a lunch of hot dogs (meat or veggie) and chips (thank you, Frito-Lay!) by volunteers from Calvary Church. Attendees also had the opportunity learn about water conservation, fossils and artifacts, play some disc golf, and even climb a tree with the assistance of Parks Department staff. Volunteers also brought 864 non-perishable food items as part of the canned food drive to benefit Crisis Ministries food pantry.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Three corporate service projects are on the agenda for October, including:

- Oct 11 – American Standard, our 2nd year working with this Grand Prairie-based company. Employee volunteers will be beautifying Trinity View Park
- Oct 19 – Fluor and Canon employees will be joining forces for a cleanup project at Bird's Fort Trail Park
- Oct 22 – Vizient's annual Community Day will be a paint project at the Irving Soccer Complex. This is KIB's 11<sup>th</sup> year to be a partner in this program.

Each fall, KIB conducts the annual Litter Index survey, driving the same routes we have done since 2001, and assessing the state of litter in our city. Board and staff will do this on October 18 and compare to data from previous years. The Litter Index is a Keep America Beautiful program and is one of the requirements for an affiliate to be in good standing. Participants in the survey score areas from 1 to 4, with 1 being the best score and 4 being extremely littered. Last year's results showed that overall litter in Irving has decreased by 36% since the first survey.



*Top to Bottom: Vizient employees visit the KIB table at the showcase; Irving Cares was one of the organizations at the Volunteer Fair; KIB staff at the NTCRA Awards luncheon; Singley Police Explorers at the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Trash Bash.*

