



# Keep Irving Beautiful Newsletter



## KIB Starts 2022 with Service Project

Volume 13, Issue 2  
February 2022

Cistercian Preparatory students, along with staff and parents, partnered with KIB and the City of Irving Urban Forestry Team for an afternoon of service Jan. 17 for the Martin Luther King Holiday. The group of 81 gave 162 hours of service by distributing mulch at the city's tree farm at Mountain Creek Preserve. This will help maintain the health of the trees so that they can be transplanted in public spaces as needed.



Father Anthony Bigney (L) and Cistercian Preparatory Students at the Tree Farm

The King Holiday and Service Act, passed by Congress in 1994, designated the MLK Holiday as a **National Day of Service**. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to make the holiday "a day on, not a day off" by engaging in volunteer activities. The Cistercian team is a great example of this spirit of volunteering.

If you were not able to participate in KIB's Christmas and holiday season card project, you have another opportunity. KIB is asking volunteers to make Valentine's Day cards or letters and bring them to the KIB office no later than 5 p.m. Feb. 9. Staff will deliver these to local nursing homes. Anyone can participate, and the residents love getting the cards. KIB has already received cards from the children at several City of Irving Recreation Centers.

KIB staff paid a visit to our friends at the Heritage Senior Center (HSC) on Thursday, Jan. 27 to promote the "three R's" - reduce, reuse, recycle. We encouraged curbside

recycling by distributing blue bags and discussing what items can be placed in them. To promote "reuse" we partnered with the Friends of the Irving Public Library, who donated books to the HSC members. The seniors also registered for prize drawings, with the lucky winner receiving a vintage Keep Texas Beautiful ornament.

KIB volunteers have been busy with a variety of projects which have helped many people during this time of year. No-sew blankets and "blessing bags" that our volunteers made have been distributed to several different organizations who will see that they get to those in need. Volunteers are also hard at work constructing birdhouses from kits that were donated by the Parks Department, Irving Girl Scout Troops, the Dawoodi Bohras, and the "Leos" youth group from the Irving Everest Centennial Lions Club all have participated.



Sylvester from Northwest Park delivering Valentine's cards



Heritage Senior Center members visited the KIB table for a photo

## Coming Up in February

KIB is happy to partner again with the Lively Pointe Adult Day Therapeutic Program and the Irving Archives and Museum. On Feb. 10, we will meet at the IAM's Smithsonian Spark!Lab to make Valentine's Cards for Irving nursing home residents. We can't wait to see the creativity they show in these cards! We have another project with this great group planned for March, where we will make model sailboats.

February is the month to submit KIB's nominations for the Keep Texas Beautiful "Beautify Texas" Awards. We will be nominating several partners for these prestigious honors. KIB staff has already submitted the Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA) nomination on behalf of Irving, and we will await the results in March.



Irving Everest Centennial Lions Club "Leos" making birdhouses

