

**5TH GRADE WINNER:  
JUNE  
NASHUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Hi, my name is June. We are talking Kindest Kansas Citian, and I have the perfect person for you. Her name is Liz Bean. She is kind, helpful, respectful, and responsible. Most people walk past people without a home, Liz walks toward them with love, hope, and scissors. In this essay you will see why Liz I. Bean deserves to be recognized. Liz owns a salon called REVILO — a Liz I. Bean salon. She even has a big bus she turned into a mobile home so she can drive around and give out free haircuts to houseless people. Inside the bus she brings her supplies and more. The most important thing she brings is love, support, and empathy. She does not just cut hair, but she shows people they matter.

Liz went through challenging times in her life. She told us that when she helps other people it helps her heal. Instead of thinking only about herself she focuses on others who are struggling. She said service work even helps her stay sober so she can be the best version of herself for her son. When life got better, she did not forget about people who were still having a challenging time. That is one of the reasons I chose her.

One of my favorite stories she told us was about a man who she gave a haircut to. When she finished cutting his hair, she held up her phone so the man could see. He started to tear up. He said he looked like his son, who also had red hair like Liz's son. They both cried together. This story made me feel emotional because I did not know a haircut could mean so much.

A haircut may seem small, but to a houseless person it may be dignity, confidence, and hope. Many houseless people have a tough time keeping up with self-care, so what Liz I. Bean does is give them a fresh start. And so should you. It can be in a different way, but try to help people in need or who are struggling. Liz looks them in the eyes and asks how they are doing so they feel "seen." She told us that most of them do not have a family, so they make a family with each other, and Liz becomes part of that family too. That is beautiful. Liz inspires me because she keeps going when life is hard. She uses her story to help others who feel alone. I learned that kindness is not just about giving something — it is about seeing people and caring about them.

That is why I think Liz I. Bean should win Kindest Kansas Citian. She shows kindness with her heart, her hands, and her stories.