

September 2017 Community Highlights

Healthy Corner Store Initiative and coupon program!



On Friday, August 18th, the 78744 Food Access Team hosted a Healthy Corner Store Event at the Texaco Food Spot, to promote the addition of the store's new healthy refrigerator. This new refrigerator allows the store to stock and sell more fresh and healthy produce! Congratulations to the

78744 Food Access Team for a successful event in the Dove Springs Community!

A Reminder to everyone that our Healthy Corner Store Coupon program is going on through the end of September (9/30). The program allows residents to purchase more fresh produce and healthy items. The current participating stores are Bread Basket (2623 Jones Rd) in 78745 and the Texaco Food Spot (6607 S. Pleasant Valley Rd) in Dove Springs/78744. Coupons can be found in-store for your convenience.



Early Childhood!

On Friday, August 18th, the little ones at Woodway Village Sweetbriar Child Development Center were able to cool off from the summer heat and celebrate their last day of summer camp during their End of the Summer Pool Party!



Thank you to Colin's Hope for providing water safety to all of the families that attended! Their activities included water science projects, life jacket fittings, and water safety materials giveaways. Thank you to our volunteer lifeguard, Evan Swedberg, for keeping the little ones safe while in the water! And thank you to Sweetbriar for working with our GAVA staff on promoting outdoor play and fresh healthy snacks!



Get ready! We're excited for **Texas Obesity Awareness Week**, coming up on September 11 - 16. We will kick this week off with the Community Health Feria at Berkeley United Methodist Church on Saturday, September 9th from 9:30am - 3:00pm. During the week, we'll feature resident stories and

share exciting events happening around town. Stay tuned for more details!



Community-led clean up at St. Elmo Park!

The St. Elmo Park team led a back to school clean up in August. Neighbors and residents came together to pick up litter around the park, allowing the park to be clean and beautiful for the new

school year. Be on the lookout for upcoming beautification events at St. Elmo Park in the fall!

GAVA Park Teams participated in City Council budget hearings throughout August to advocate for **funding for lighting in GAVA parks**, as well as other park needs. Approximately \$3.4M in Parks and Recreation Department priorities were added to the concept menu, which included many general park priorities that GAVA teams helped advocate for throughout the summer. Thank you to all park groups who helped advocate for their parks during this process. A special recognition to **Annie Harton** from the Onion Creek Greenbelt team; **Sally Baulch** from the Garrison Park and Joslin Park team; **Marisa Pereira**, **Bertha Hernandez**, and **Gloria Lugo** of the Houston School Park team, and **Sherry Graham** and **Principal Amy Lloyd** of the Cunningham School Park team for providing testimony to City Council. Stay tuned for updates about park funding within the coming months!

New Shiny equipment at Joslin Park!



The new fitness zone has now been installed at Joslin Park! The team was awarded approximately \$40,000 through an Austin

Parks Foundation Community Grant to create more opportunities for physical fitness at Joslin Park! Stop by the park and enjoy this new exercise equipment. Congratulations to the Joslin Park team!



Community Calendar

We invite residents from 78744 & 78745 to the following events!

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Dove Springs Farm Stand Visit this resident led community farm stand for local, organic and low priced produce. Each farm stand takes SNAP and offers Double Dollars!	Weekly! Saturday's 10:30am -12:30pm Dove Springs District Park 5801 Ainez Dr. 78744	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center Community Outreach Coordinator simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
78745 Summer Farm Stand Visit this resident led community farm stand for local, organic and low priced produce. Each farm stand takes SNAP and offers Double Dollars!	Weekly! St. Elmo Rd. Wed. 4-6pm, 4320 Congress, 78745	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center Community Outreach Coordinator simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Fitness in the Park Free fitness classes are now available in 78744 and 78745! Come stretch, breathe and reach your fitness goals with a weekly bilingual yoga class at Dove Springs Rec Center! And visit Dittmar Rec Center for exciting and fun zumba classes. Classes are FREE, and first-come, first-serve.	Yoga: Classes are held every Friday at 9 AM at the Dove Springs Rec Center Zumba: Classes are held every Monday at 6:30 PM at the Dittmar Rec Center	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org 512-387-2998
Meet your Neighbors Parents of Sunset Valley Elementary will be hosting a gathering to meet their neighbors and active community teams!	Fri. September 8th 6pm At Sunset Valley Playground 3000 Jones Rd, Austin, TX 78745	Frances Acuña Geo Teams Organizer 78745 frances@marathonkids.org 512-300-9108
Berkeley Methodist Church 3rd annual Health Fair Join us for Health Education Workshops, and fun Activities like face painting, and music!	Sat. September 9th 9am- 3pm 2407 Berkeley Ave Austin, TX 78745	Frances Acuña Geo Teams Organizer 78745 frances@marathonkids.org 512-300-9108
Gava Team Meeting in the Early Childhood Center, Sweet Briar Child Development Center, at Woodway Village Apartments	Wed. September 13th 5:00-6:00pm 4600 Nuckols Crossing Rd, 78744	Laura Olson United Way - GAVA early childhood education laura.e.olson@uwatx.org Office 512-225-0357, 512-569-5880
Pleasant Hill Beautification Day Join parents and the Community in Action GAVA team to clean up and beautify the Pleasant Hill Elementary campus!	Thurs. September 14th 8:00 AM Pleasant Hill Elementary 6405 Circle S Rd, Austin, TX 78745	Frances Acuña Geo Teams Organizer 78745 frances@marathonkids.org 512-300-9108
Dove Springs/78744 Traffic Safety Meeting Join residents as they continue to take action on traffic safety priorities in the 78744. Translation provided.	Mon. September 18th 7-8pm Dove Springs Park Pavilion 5801 Ainez Dr, Austin TX 78744	Estrella de León Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548



Community In Action Monthly GAVA Geo team meeting Portable 4 Parent Support Specialist office Room	Mon. September 18th 10am Pleasant Hill Elementary 6405 Circle S Rd, Austin, TX 78745	Frances Acuña Geo Teams Organizer 78745 frances@marathonkids.org 512-300-9108
GAVA Physical Activity Sector Meeting (44 & 45) Join PA teams as they work to improve the parks and green spaces in 78744 and 78745! This month, park and creek adopters will be receiving training strategies to develop strong teams and continue various projects.	Tues. September 19th 6:30 - 8pm Dove Springs Recreation Center, 5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, TX 78744	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org 512-387-2998
Cunningham GAVA Monthly Meeting	Wed. September 20th 3:15-4:15pm Cunningham Elementary 2200 Berkeley Ave, Austin, TX 78745	Frances Acuña Geo Teams Organizer 78745 frances@marathonkids.org 512-300-9108
Gava Team Meeting in the Early Childhood Center, Sweet Briar Child Development Center, At Sandra Lane	Wed. September 20th 5-6pm 205 Sandra St, Austin, TX 78745	Laura Olson United Way - GAVA early childhood education laura.e.olson@uwatx.org Office 512-225-0357, 512-569-5880
Austin Interfaith City-wide Leaders' Meeting Join Austin Interfaith leaders from across the city to discuss how to organize for the issues that affect our families. The meeting will include a training on organizing strategies.	TBD	Kathleen Davis Lead Organizer Austin Interfaith kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100

About GAVA

Go! Austin/VAMOS! Austin (GAVA) is a partnership of residents, community leaders and nonprofit agencies who are devoted to improving the health of the communities in South and Southeast Austin (Dove Springs-78744 & 78745). We are united for health through improved access to and promotion of improved nutrition and physical activity.

For more information contact gava@marathonkids.org, or by phone: Carmen Llanes Pulido, GAVA Executive Director: 512-633-4312.

Thanks to our sponsors for making our work possible!
 ¡Gracias a nuestros patrocinadores por hacer posible nuestro trabajo!



The KLE Foundation