



Improvements at Cunningham Elementary Park

Community Spotlights!

Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) Adopt-a-Park team received a \$1,000 grant from the City's Parks and Recreation Department to plumb their Emerald Wood Community Garden's new water tap! This park team, including leaders **Sara Dunn, Tom Donovan, and Kate Mason-Murphy**, also received the National Wildlife Federation Certification to recognize how the Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) Park provides a healthy habitat for birds, butterflies and more backyard wildlife. This team also received a GAVA Community Mini Grant for \$2,400 to complete Phase One of the Emerald Wood Community Garden!

The new Cunningham Elementary Park Team has energetic leaders kicking the team off with a great start. Meetings with PARD and with the Austin Parks Foundation has moved the team closer to an Adopt-a-Park title, and the team secured two port-a-potties from PARD so that children and families can now stay at the park for longer amounts of time! Great work **Reverend Teresa Santanilla, Marilei Castaneda, Ms. Sherry Graham, Coach Connie Cantu-Arocho, and Principal Amy Lloyd!**

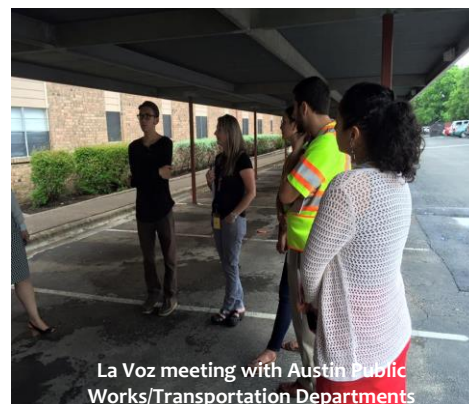
Thanks to **Mario Porras**, engineer with the Traffic Engineering Division of the Austin Transportation Department who after following up with the leaders from La Voz de St. Elmo, **Martha Ramirez, Yolanda Miranda and Mary Hernandez**, his department found the way to reduce the cost of the traffic calming devices. Thanks to the hard work and commitment of the leaders and Mario, St. Elmo Rd will have the traffic study this coming Fall when school year starts! La Voz is excited to keep working on next steps with the Local Area Traffic Management Program bringing a safer infrastructure to their neighborhood.

Recognition of the Month:

Cesar Lopez shows his passion for healthy food in his community every week at the Sierra Ridge Farm Stand, which sourced local organic vegetables from FarmShare, a farm near Bastrop. On Wednesdays, Cesar helps the farmer set up and stays to help with sales, always maintaining a positive and energetic attitude. Cesar loves delicious, healthy food and encourages more members of the community to participate. Cesar's passion and dedication has been very important in the success of this Farm Stand. Join the La Voz team to work with us!

Special thanks to Cunningham team leaders **Iliana Gonzalez, Teresa Santillana, Sonia Gomez, Marilei Castañeda, Sherry Graham, and Sarah Tanguy**. Their level of teamwork and leadership made their Farm Stand a big success!

NOTE: 78745 Farm Stands will be closed during the summer as we work on complimentary projects.



La Voz meeting with Austin Public Works/Transportation Departments

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 our children and community. More importantly, we are a neighborhood united for health through improved nutrition and physical activity.

Don't forget:

Deadline for Fuel up to Play 60 Grant Applications due:

June 16, 2015

Fuel Up to Play 60 provides funds to help schools implement healthy eating and physical activity plans from the 2015-16 Fuel up to Play 60 Program.

Apply at


<https://www.school.fueluptoplay60.com/fund/introduction.php>

Residents of the 78745 zip code are invited to attend the following meetings and events hosted by GO! Austin / VAMOS! Austin and its supporters.

June 2015

| | | |
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| La Voz Team Meeting Join us as we implement strategies for improving the health of the St. Elmo Neighborhood! | Thursday, June 11 6:00 -7:30 PM Sierra Ridge Learning Center 201 W. St. Elmo Rd. | Ivanna Neri GEO Team Organizer- 78745 512-998-3648 ivanna@marathonkids.org |
| National Trails Day: "South by South 1st, Active!" Join the Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) Adopt-a-Park team for a hike along the beautiful greenbelt. The event is followed by a party at the Roy G. Guerrero Park celebrating all of Austin Park Foundation's volunteers | Saturday, June 6 9am – 11am Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) 5120 South 1 st St. | Sara Dunn Greenbelt Co-Chair saradunn@juno.com www.austinparks.org |
| Physical Activity Sector Meeting (78745) This month's meeting will focus on neighborhood safety and how to form a neighborhood watch group, featuring guest speakers! | Tuesday, June 16 6:30-8:30pm El Buen Samaritano, 7000 Woodhue | Nevena P.W. Interim PA Sector Manager 713-419-6426 Nevena.pilipovic-wengler@contractor.msdf.org |
| Adopt-A-Park Summit coming up! Workshops on how to work effectively with city to improve parks. | Saturday, June 20th 12:30pm at the Carver Museum at 1165 Angelina St, Austin, TX 78702 | Ladye Anne Wofford Program Dir., Austin Parks Foundation and GAVA Physical Activity Sector Manager 512-477-1566 ext. 4 Ladye.Anne@austinparks.org |
| Austin Interfaith Leaders Meeting | Thursday, June 25 7:00 – 8:30 PM Abiding Love Lutheran Church 7210 Brush Country Drive, Austin 78749 | Kathleen Davis Lead Organizer with Austin Interfaith 512.944.43.44 kdavis@austininterfaith.org |

Contact Us

We want to hear from you! What goals do you have for creating a healthier Dove Springs? For more information about GAVA, to share your ideas or these meetings, contact: Ivanna Neri GAVA 78744 Geo-Team Organizer at ivanna@marathonkids or 512-998-3648 . Find us on  / GO! AustinVAMOS!Austin



Houston Elementary Wellness Team

Community Spotlights!

Congratulations to the leaders from **Houston Elementary Wellness Team** who worked several weekends in April, May and June to till and prepare the ground for the garden, spread the mulch donated by the city of Austin, and plant the first plants: chiles and squash. So exciting to see the involvement of the team with their community!

Widen Elementary Wellness Team had an amazing meeting with the community leaders: **María Reyes, Zuleyka Santander, Laura Bautista, Elena Rodriguez, Juan Díaz, María D Hernandez, Alice Rodriguez, Idalia Salinas** and also three staff members from Sustainable Food Center. There was a great discussion with the group on a possible garden at the school. Next Steps decided upon by the group was to have another parent meeting to further discuss their vision on a garden. They will come with energetic ideas of how to start a sustainable garden.

GAVA has been working with the Village Walk/Franklin Park Geo-Team in Dove Springs 78744. The leaders: **Hassan Abdullah, Erendira Morales, Pastor Edward Craig, Maricela Ruiz, Soloman Martinez, Sabas Hernandez and Emily Merritt, Eladio Tonche** have been addressing issues of safety in the neighborhood by encouraging a zip code wide Neighborhood Watch Training. The leaders will also be meeting with the Neighborhood Partnering Program through the City of Austin, to give their ideas on traffic improvements and beautification. The ideas for improvement include cross walks, and re-purposing of the Franklin Park sign green space. Residents are encouraged to get involved and share their ideas!"

Save the Date:



DOVE SPRINGS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TRAINING

Wednesday, June 17th 6 to 8pm

At Dove Springs Recreation Center

5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, TX 78744

District Representative Officer Rosie Perez and team will be hosting a 78744 Wide Neighborhood Training.

Come and work together with other families to make a safer neighborhood!



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| Village Walk Community Meeting Neighbors from Village Walk and Franklin Park areas will be gathering monthly to address issues such as pedestrian safety, crime reduction, safe play areas for children and more! | TBD Southeast Branch Library 5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd, Austin, TX 78744 | Estrella de Leon Geo-Team Organizer 78744 GAVA estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548 |
| National Trails Day Volunteers at all parks in the area will be restoring and creating trails that will bring a renewed commitment for families and residents to exercise. www.austinparks.org | Saturday, June 6 9:00 AM Onion Creek Greenbelt 7002 Onion Creek Dr. Austin, TX 78744 | Ladye Anne Wofford Program Dir., Austin Parks Foundation and GAVA Physical Activity Sector Manager 512-477-1566 ext. 4 Ladye.Anne@austinparks.org |
| GAVA Dove Springs Physical Activity Sector meeting Join park adoption teams from all over the neighborhood and learn about improvements, physical activity programming, beautification and other opportunities for the parks in 78744. | Monday June 8 6:30-8:00 PM Dove Springs Rec Center Meeting Room 5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, TX 78744 | Ladye Anne Wofford Program Dir., Austin Parks Foundation and GAVA Physical Activity Sector Manager 512-477-1566 ext. 4 Ladye.Anne@austinparks.org |
| Dove Springs Neighborhood Watch Training District Representative Officer Rosie Perez and team will be hosting a 78744-Wide Neighborhood Training. This training is free. Childcare will be provided. | Wednesday, June 17th 6-8PM Dove Springs Recreation Center 5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, TX 78744 | Officer Rosie Perez 512-974-5567 rose.perez@austintexas.org |
| Widen Parent meeting Join our meeting to discuss ideas of a possible garden! | Thursday, June 18th 8:30-9:30 AM Widen Elementary Cafeteria | Alejandra Gonzalez School Sector Organizer 512-482-6166 Alejandra.B.Gonzalez@uth.tmc.edu |
| Adopt-A-Park Summit coming up! Workshops on how to work effectively with city to improve parks. www.austinparks.org | Saturday, June 20th 12:30pm at the Carver Museum at 1165 Angelina St, Austin, TX 78702 | Ladye Anne Wofford Program Dir., Austin Parks Foundation and GAVA Physical Activity Sector Manager 512-477-1566 ext. 4 Ladye.Anne@austinparks.org |
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Find us on  / GO! AustinVAMOS!Austin