



Community Spotlights!

● **The Odom Elementary Adopt-a-Park Team** is ready to work on a large, infrastructure project to improve its park. Community leaders **Lorena Solis** and **Angelica Robles** rallied their neighbors for a block-walk, while **Laura Bucaro** collected surveys online through the **Armadillo Park Neighborhood Association**. Together, they collected over 50 surveys! The projects that received the most attention were: lighting and repairing the track with a rain garden to mediate flooding. We can't wait to see this team's next moves!

● **Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) Adopt-a-Park Team** hosted its Clean Sweep with Keep Austin Beautiful and had 36 volunteers! Williamson Creek contributed to this annual city-wide service day, which spans 130+ sites in 31 zip codes throughout Austin and results in over 29 tons of trash removed by 4,000 plus volunteers who contribute 8,700 hours of service. The greenbelt park has gone from a neglected open field to a great neighborhood haven with hummingbird gardens, small gardens of native edible plants, and soon hopefully a community garden.

● Field Day at Cunningham Elementary was very exciting! **GAVA** Leaders gave away 400 GAVA water bottles to the students!

● **GAVA Mini-Grant Recipient: Deborah J. Fennell** is a Home Childcare Provider and received funds to construct a playscape/climbing. The playground now allows children to be physically active through free supervised playtime. Physical activity is an important part of the key strategies in the community action plan to keep children healthy through exercise. Deborah J. Fennell's Childcare is located at 8707 Gettysburg Drive, Austin Texas, 78745.

Fact of the Month:

A lack of exercise is now causing as many deaths as smoking across the world. Find an exercise buddy, visit Austin's hike and bike trails, do something active after work!



On-Going!

Cunningham Elementary is proudly hosting [Farmshare Austin's](#) farm stand **every Friday afternoon**. Come to the corner of Berkley and Buffalo Pass from 2:00pm to 4:00pm for fresh, delicious, organic vegetables!!

2200 Berkeley Ave, Austin, TX 78745

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.

May 2015

Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt) Celebration The Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt Adopt-a-Park team invites you to celebrate and visit its Greenbelt!	Saturday, May 2 10:00 am – 1:00 pm Williamson Creek (Central Greenbelt), Emerald Wood Dr & South 1st	Sara Dunn Greenbelt Co-Chair saradunn@juno.com
Budget In a Box Community Event District 2 residents will have a chance to speak their voice and ideas regarding City of Austin's services, performance, and budget.	Tuesday, May 12 6:00pm Pleasant Hill Library 211 E William Cannon Dr Austin, TX 78745	Katie Lust Senior Budget Analyst City of Austin (512) 974-7887 Katie.Lust@austintexas.gov
Cunningham Elementary's 45 Fest Color Run Students will pay \$5.00 to run around the school as part of a PTA fundraiser. There will be exhibits, music and an Art sculpture showing! FREE music from The White Ghost Shivers Band & Free art activity booths!	Saturday, May 16 1:00 – 3:00 pm Cunningham Elementary School, 2200 Berkeley Ave	Hilary Adamson Cherry Creek Central Neighborhood Association! cherrycreeksafety@gmail.com
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, May 19 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
Austin Interfaith Leaders Meeting & Leadership Training On leadership and individual relational meetings.	Thursday, May 28 7:00 – 8:30 PM Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway Austin 78751	Kathleen Davis Lead Organizer with Austin Interfaith 512.944.43.44 kdavis@austininterfaith.org
La Voz Team Meeting Join us as we implement strategies for improving the health of the St. Elmo neighborhood!	Wednesday, June 3 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

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 . Find us on  / GO! AustinVAMOS!Austin



Dove Springs /78744



Photo courtesy of Brenda Lopez, ACE

Community Spotlights:

- The students of Houston Elementary participated in the Roots, Rhythm and Drumming Family Dance Night with taught by master dancer and choreographer Jean-Claude Lessou on April 29th. Students, parents and teachers learned West African dances, ate healthy foods, and received prizes for participating.
- Mendez Middle School celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a Family Fun and Fit Fiesta on May 2nd. Students and families who attended received Free Health Screenings, Zumba classes, Cooking demonstrations, Bike Rodeo. 100 reusable GAVA water bottles were given away to families who visited the water cooler throughout the event!
- The Mendez Middle School Running Club had 8 students participate in the Dell Children's 5k on Saturday, April 18th thanks to sponsorship secured by Dr. Stephen Pont. Mendez also received sponsorships for running shoes for 12 students thanks to the Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation Board.
- With help from the Sustainable Food Center and the SEED, Mendez Middle School created their very own school garden over Spring Break. School gardens help children understand science and the natural world, but also how to eat healthier.

Fact of the Month:

Studies show that children who watch an hour of television or more a day are more likely to be overweight or obese than those who spend this time doing other activities. Try spending that hour taking a walk with the family this week! This is an on-going study sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).



Mendez Middle School Running Club

Save the Date:

Budget In a Box Community Event!

District 2 residents will have a chance to speak their voice and ideas regarding City of Austin's services, performance, and budget.

Tuesday, May 12

6:00 PM

Pleasant Hill Library
211 E. William Cannon Dr.
Austin, TX 78745

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.



Michael & Susan Dell
FOUNDATION



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.

Residents of the 78744 zip code
are invited to attend the
following meetings and events
hosted by GO! Austin / VAMOS!
Austin and its supporters.

May 2015		
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!	Saturday, May 16 Southeast Branch Library 5803 Nuckols Crossing Rd, Austin, TX 78744	Estrella de Leon Geo-Team Organizer 78744 GAVA estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
Park Improvement Education Series is coming to Franklin Park! Join us for mulching and root collar clearing!	Saturday, May 16 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m. Franklin Park 4800 Copperbend Blvdl, 78744	Pastor Edward Craig (512) 577-4832 or Volunteer@AustinParks.Org to register!
Houston Elementary CATCH Night Come join us for an evening of healthy activities, food and prizes for the whole family!	Wednesday, May 20 6-8 PM Houston Elementary 5409 Ponciana Dr, Austin, TX 78744	Alejandra Gonzalez GAVA School Organizer 512-482-6166 Alejandra.B.Gonzalez@uth.tmc.edu
Widen Elementary School Garden Parent meeting Come meet with parents and faculty at Widen Elementary and hear from GAVA partner, Sustainable Food Center, to create a plan for a school garden on Widen's campus.	Thursday, May 21 8 AM Widen Elementary 5605 Nuckols Crossing, Austin, TX 78744	Idalia Salinas Parent Support Specialist at Widen Elementary 512-414-2541 eisalina@austinisd.org
Sustainable Food Center's FREE Community Garden Leadership Training Find out how to contribute to the economic, social, and environmental vitality of your neighborhood by starting a community garden! <i>*translation and childcare upon request</i>	Saturday May 23, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Sustainable Food Center 2921 E. 17 th St. Bldg C Austin, TX 78702	Simone Benz Community Outreach Coordinator Sustainable Food Center 2921 E. 17th Street, Building C Austin, TX 78702 512-220-1146
Austin Interfaith Leaders Meeting & Leadership Training Receive trainings on leadership and individual relational meetings.	Thursday, May 28 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Trinity United Methodist Church, 4001 Speedway Austin 78751	Kathleen Davis Lead Organizer with Austin Interfaith 512.944.43.44 kdavis@austininterfaith.org
Soccer Tournament for Police Activities League It's the end of the spring season for Dove Springs Children's Soccer!	Saturday, May 30th Onion Creek Soccer Complex	Officer Paula Aguilar Police Activities League 512-974-4723 paula.aguilar@austintexas.gov
National Trails Day Participate in trail work projects, educational opportunities to take guided hikes at some of Austin's favorite and hidden trails. Come out and work to improve the trails, or come discover some of Austin's most beautiful places!	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

Contact Us

We want to hear from you! What goals do you have for creating a healthier Dove Springs? To share your ideas or for more information about GAVA or these meetings, contact: Carmen Llanes Pulido, GAVA 78744 Community Director at 206-293-9548.

Find us on  / GO! AustinVAMOS!Austin