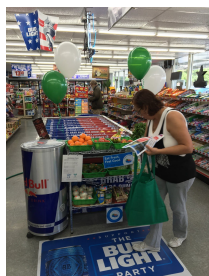


September 2016

Healthy Food Access!

Residents hosted two community events in August at stores participating in the Healthy Corner Store Initiative! Bread Basket, on Jones Rd and Westgate in 78745, welcomed their community to enjoy the variety of healthy foods now available at the store, participated in special event sales and activities. Councilmember Ann Kitchen attended and spoke with neighbors about their interest in the initiative. Texaco Food Spot, on S. Pleasant Valley and William



Cannon in 78744, also had a store event to promote the healthy items. Telemundo featured the event on their news station! The Texas Standard aired their story about the healthy corner store initiative at the end of August. Several residents were interviewed and spoke about the importance of healthy foods in their communities.



<http://kut.org/post/healthier-food-could-come-corner-store-near-you>

Leaders from both the Physical Activity (P.A.) Sector and Healthy Corner Store Initiative participated in an Austin Interfaith press conference to advocate for funding from the F.Y. 2017 City budget. Odom School Park team leader Angelica Robles spoke on behalf of PA teams about the need for lighting in parks. Resident Irene Castañeda, from 78744, also spoke about the importance to having access to healthy foods, through both the healthy corner store initiative and farm stands. Residents Gabriela Rodríguez (78744) and Sally Baulch (78745) attended the public hearings or sent video testimony to show their support for funding for both sectors. Congratulations to all GAVA teams for all your dedication to speaking up for your communities during this new budget cycle! [Photo: Team leaders Angelica Robles and Irene Castañeda at the press conference]



Reminder: Farm Stands

Leaders are working together with Sustainable Food Center to open two new farm stands, one in the Dove Springs neighborhood and one in the Armadillo Park Neighborhood Association area this fall! A farm stand is a unique and innovative way to bring fresh, local produce to the 78744 and 78744 residents of all ages. They are a great place for the community to buy fresh, local and organic produce at a low cost, and they accept SNAP and WIC. Contact Simone Benz, simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org to volunteer, gain service learning hours and be a food access leader!

Parks and Greenspaces!

The Houston School Park team held a Community Celebration and Appreciation event at the park that was attended by over 150 people! The team organized a meet-and-greet with Council Member Delia Garza and other



staff from the City of Austin's Parks and Recreation Department (PARC). Police Activity League and PARC provided family friendly activities and soccer teams kept the field busy!

Houston School Park team leader, Gloria Lugo, received an official

proclamation from the city in honor of all the work she has done for the park and community. Congratulations to Gloria for the recognition and to the Houston School Park team for your work in keeping the park activated and the community engaged.



Five GAVA teams participated in Austin Parks Foundation's Second Annual Adopt-a-Park Summit. Teams attended

park improvement workshops and networked with park adopters from all over Austin. Thank you to Armadillo Park, Franklin Park, Houston School Park, Ponciana Park, and Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt for your continued park improvements efforts!

Austin Parks and Recreation will begin construction of a playground at Ponciana Park in 78744, as part of the renovation of Ponciana Park. Special thanks to resident park adopter Alesha Larkins and other park leaders!

City Budget: Austin Interfaith leaders and GAVA residents spoke in person and by video at the 9/1 city budget hearing calling on the council to fund \$500,000 for parks lighting and \$147,000 for healthy corner store incentives, as well as additional funds to support neighborhood farm stands. Council members were supportive but faced a highly limited budget, and on September 14th made final votes to allocate partial funding for each initiative. Residents will be planning ahead in each sector. Contact Kathleen Davis for more information 512-944-4344.



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September 2016

78745 Calendar

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Weekly soccer game in 78745 Let's play soccer, meet neighbors, build soccer activities and a park adoption team for our neighborhood park!	Every Sunday! 4:00 PM St. Elmo Park, 4312 S 1st	Mariano Di Vincenzo GAVA Community Organizer at FC mariano.divincenzo@foundcom.org , 713-854-2627
Weekly Farm Stands Stop by every week for fresh, affordable, in-season produce! Now offering double dollars for SNAP purchases. Also inquire about volunteer opportunities!	Wednesdays @ Sierra Ridge Apartments 3:00 - 5:00 PM, 201 W St. Elmo Rd Fridays @ Cunningham Elementary 2:45 - 4:00 PM, Berkeley and Buffalo Pass	Simone Benz Sustainable Food Center Community Outreach Coordinator simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org 512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell)
Weekly walking group Come join La Fuerza Walking Group and get active for 1 ½ hr!	Every Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-7pm Sunset Valley Elementary Park	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
GAVA Physical Activity Sector Meeting 78744 & 78745 Join PA teams as they work to improve the parks and green spaces in 78744 and 78745! This month teams will be receiving training strategies to develop strong park/green space teams and will also continue to work on park projects.	Tuesday, September 13th 6:30 - 8pm Southeast Branch Library Tuesday, October 11th 6:30 - 8pm, Pleasant Hill Library	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
Join the Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt team in creating a .75 mile recreation/nature trail along Central Williamson Creek. Many volunteers are needed to help spread mulch, rake, or help with set-up and support. To participate, register here: https://austinparks.givepulse.com/event/20741-Mulching-the-trail-Central-Williamson-Creek-Greenbelt	Saturday, September 24 9-12pm Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt (enter at the Emerald Wood Community Garden) 611 Emerald Wood Dr., Austin, TX 78745	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
La Fuerza Meeting	6:30-7:30 pm Location TBD	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Cunningham Neighborhood School Meeting	Monday, September 12 Cunningham Elementary School 4-5:30 pm	Ivanna Neri Geo Team Community Organizer 78745 ivanna@marathonkids.org , 512-998-3648
Austin Interfaith City-wide Leaders' Meeting Agenda is to have small group "house meeting" conversations to build our agenda of issues affecting families and identify leaders to work on those issues.	Thursday September 22 7:00 to 8:30pm Mt Olive Baptist Church 1800 E 11th St, Austin, TX 78702	Kathleen Davis kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100
Little Dudes Sandra Lane Team Meeting	Tuesday, September 20 5:00 pm 205 Sandra Lane, Austin, TX 78745	Laura Olson United Way - GAVA Early Childhood Education laura.e.olson@uwaitx.org Office 512-225-0357, Cell 512-569-5880
La Fuerza Early Childhood Committee	Sunday, September 25 3:00 pm Sunset Valley Elementary School Park, 3000 Jones Rd	Laura Olson United Way - GAVA Early Childhood Education laura.e.olson@uwaitx.org Office 512-225-0357, Cell 512-569-5880





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September 2016

Dove Springs - 78744 Calendar

Meeting / Event	Date	Contact
Yoga at the Library SE Branch Library presents Pure Action Yoga! Free for the community!	Every Wednesday September 7, 14, 21, 28 6PM SE Branch Library 5803 Nuckols Crossing	SE Branch Library 512-974-8840
Paisano Mobile Homes Traffic Meeting Join residents at the Paisano mobile homes to discuss safer routes for walking/biking students along Friedrich Ln, Ponciana Dr. and Teri Rd.	Thursday, September 8 6-7pm Paisano Mobile Homes Main Office 5400 Freidrich Ln	Estrella de León Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
GAVA Physical Activity Sector Meeting 78744 & 78745 Join PA teams as they work to improve the parks and green spaces in 78744 and 78745! This month teams will be receiving training strategies to develop strong park/green space teams and will also continue to work on park projects.	Tuesday, September 13 6:30 - 8pm SE Branch Library	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998
E. Williamson Creek Work Day Join neighbors along E. Williamson creek off of Creek Bend to continue the process of clearing a space for a future trail head, tree planting, and more!	Saturday, September 17 9-11am Between 5001 & 4907 Creekbend	Estrella de León Geo Teams Organizer 78744 estrella@marathonkids.org 206-293-9548
Austin Interfaith City-wide Leaders' Meeting Agenda is to have small group "house meeting" conversations to build our agenda of issues affecting families and identify leaders to work on those issues.	Thursday September 22 7:00 to 8:30pm Mt Olive Baptist Church 1800 E 11th St, Austin, TX 78702	Kathleen Davis kdavis@austininterfaith.org 512-916-0100
Palomita School Gardening Work Day Come join staff and families as they revitalize their school and community garden! Volunteers welcome!	Saturday, September 24 9am-12 Palomita Early Head start Development Center 4905 Maufrais Lane	Laura Olson United Way - GAVA Early Childhood Education laura.e.olson@uwatx.org Office 512-225-0357, Cell 512-569-5880
Franklin Park, Senior Appreciation Day Join the Franklin Park team as they host the Second Annual Senior Appreciation Day at the park! Zumba and other family friendly activities will be provided.	Saturday, October 1st, 2016 9:00 - 1:00 PM Franklin Neighborhood Park 4800 Copperbend Blvd., Austin, TX 78744	Cynthia Rodriguez Austin Parks Foundation GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer cynthia@austinparks.org , 512-387-2998

GO! Austin/VAMOS! Austin (GAVA) is a partnership of residents, community leaders and nonprofit agencies who are devoted to improving the health of children and community in Dove Springs and 78745. We are neighborhoods and organizations united for health through improved nutrition and physical activity.

For more info on GAVA Dove Springs, or to give your input, contact Carmen Llanes Pulido, GAVA Dove Springs Community Director at 512-633-4312 or carmen@marathonkids.org, or Alba Sereno, 78745 Community Director at (214) 799-3767 or alba@marathonkids.org.

Find us on Facebook at facebook.com/GO!AustinVAMOS!Austin and on the web at GoAustinVamosAustin.org

