June 2017 Community Highlights!

**Palomita Early HeadStart Development Center** in 78744 hosted a healthy end-of-school Hawaiian Splash Day including sprinkler and water play, bubble fun, and ball play. Fresh fruit was provided by the center’s families.

**Sweet Briar Child Development Center** at Woodway Village in 78744 partnered with Soccer Shots to provide weekly soccer lessons for their 3-5 year old children.

Families and young children from **Sweet Briar Child Development Center** at Sandra Lane harvested their homegrown carrots to sell at their Carrotpalooza Market at Texas Medical Foundation!

**Dove Springs Community Garden team** and the Maverick Green STEM Academy students worked hard in the month of May. Raymond Construction donated all the building materials for the community garden entryway, which was designed by Mendez students Mayde and Moises Macias; structural engineer Ron Rope; an architect; and the Austin Ed Fund! The entryway columns were poured by TAS concrete, and the team also started building the community garden shed.

**Healthy Corner Store Initiative**

We are pleased to welcome our technical assistant from **The Food Trust**, Juan Vila, who will be visiting at the end of June to offer trainings to our residents and store-owners. The community is planning corner store events in July, so stay tuned!

On Thursday, May 4th, the **Mendez Coordinated School Health team** and The Austin Project’s Family Resource Center partnered with the Mexican Consulate—Ventanilla de Salud and many other partners that form part of the BHW planning committee to engage with parents about their views and concerns on health. The Community Forum on Health conversations were riveting and families were connected to many resources.

**Ponciana Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Join 78744 resident leaders for the long awaited grand opening of the new playground at Ponciana Park! The park adoption team, Austin Parks Foundation, GAVA and Parks and Recreation are excited to celebrate this long-awaited success for the community, which will increase access to physical activity for youth and families! The event will happen on June 24 at 10:00am. The team also hosted a beautification day in May and a mulching event on June 17!

**GAVA teams participated in National Trails Day**, a nationwide annual event devoted to the care and maintenance of trails. The **Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt team** hosted a nature walk for the community and the **Onion Creek Greenbelt team** beautified and maintained the Onion Creek Trail.

GAVA park and green space teams also participated in the **Third Annual Adopt-A-Park Summit**. Thank you to all teams who attended! A special thank you to the **Cunningham School Park team**, who created a visual aid and spoke with other teams about the work their group has done; to **Tom Donovan** from the Williamson Creek Central Greenbelt for his presentation on wildflower meadows; and to **Lorena Solis** from the Odom School Park team for her participation on the advocacy panel.

Residents **Irene Castañeda**, **Anna Perez**, **Frances Acuña** and **Evita Cruz** testified before the Environmental Commission on GAVA’s priorities regarding **CodeNEXT**. Their testimony heavily influenced recommendations to ensure adequate drainage improvements to prevent flooding, as well as action to address the economic displacement of families who have worked so hard to improve the health of 78744 and 78745. There will be more opportunities to learn about CodeNext and to offer testimonies. Contact Frances Acuña and Estrella de León for more information!
# Community Calendar

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

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<th>Event</th>
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| **Dove Springs Farm Stand!**  | Weekly! 10:30am - 12:30pm | Simone Benz  
Sustainable Food Center  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org  
512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell) |
| Visit this resident led community farm stand for local, organic and low priced produce. Each farm stand takes SNAP and offers Double Dollars! |
| **78745 Farm Stands** | Weekly! St. Elmo Rd, Wed. 4-6pm, 4320 Congress Odom, Thurs. 1:30-3:30pm, 1010 Turtle Creek Blvd. | Simone Benz  
Sustainable Food Center  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
simone@sustainablefoodcenter.org  
512-220-1146 (work), 214-449-9957 (cell) |
| Visit these resident led community farm stands for local, organic and low priced produce. Each farm stand takes SNAP and offers Double Dollars! |
| **Free fitness classes** are now available in 78744 and 78745! | 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 |
| 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. |
| **The Odom School Park team** will be hosting a park beautification day! The group will be cleaning up litter and painting. There will also be Zumba! | Saturday, June 10th 8 - 11 AM  
Odom School Park  
1010 Turtle Creek Blvd  
78745 | Cynthia Rodriguez  
Austin Parks Foundation  
GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer  
cynthia@austinparks.org, 512-387-2998 |
| **Mobility Bond Pop-Up Meeting** | June 15th  
Information and city staff available from 3 - 7 pm  
Pleasant Hill Branch Library  
211 E. William Cannon Drive | Mónica Guzmán  
GAVA Operating Consultant  
monica.guzman@msdf.contractor.org  
Information from City of Austin:  
2016Bond@austintexas.gov  
(512) 974-7840 |
| Safety and improved mobility are they key focus of new mobility plans the city is developing for Slaughter, William Cannon, and Brodie as part of the 2016 Mobility Bond. If you haven’t attended one of the open houses or participated online, stop to take the survey and map your comments. www.AustinTexas.gov/BSWCorridors |
| **Movie in the Park!** | Thursday, June 15th 9:00 PM  
Dove Springs District Park  
5801 Ainez Dr, Austin, TX  
78744 | Cynthia Rodriguez  
Austin Parks Foundation  
GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer  
cynthia@austinparks.org, 512-387-2998 |
| Austin Parks Foundation will be hosting Aladdin in Spanish as part of the Movies in the Park Series. Bring a picnic and some lawn chairs and join us for our first ever Spanish movie in the park! |
| **Join the Ponciana Park team** for a summer mulching event! The team will be mulching trees in preparation for the summer and in advance of the ribbon cutting ceremony. | Saturday, June 17th 8 - 11 AM  
Ponciana Park  
Freidrich Ln, Austin, TX  
78744 | Cynthia Rodriguez  
Austin Parks Foundation  
GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer  
cynthia@austinparks.org, 512-387-2998 |
| **Dove Springs/78744 Traffic Safety Meeting** | Monday June 19th 6-7:30pm  
SE Branch Library  
5803 Nuckols Crossing | Estrella de León  
Geo Teams Organizer  
estrella@marathonkids.org  
206-293-9548 |
<p>| Join those who live and work in 78744 to discuss and strategize on traffic safety priorities in 78744! |</p>
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| GAVA Physical Activity Sector Meeting 78744 & 78745 | Tuesday, June 20th 6:30 - 8 PM | Berkeley United Methodist Church 2407 Berkeley Ave | Cynthia Rodriguez  
Austin Parks Foundation  
GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer  
cynthia@austinparks.org, 512-387-2998 |
| The Food Trust Visit | June 21-23th  
Details to follow on GAVA Facebook! | | Sergio Ramirez  
Healthy Corner Store Initiative Organizer  
sergio@marathonkids.org  
512.605.9234 |
| Ponciana Park Ribbon Cutting Ceremony | Saturday, June 24th  
10 AM  
Ponciana Park  
Freidrich Ln, Austin, TX 78744 | | Cynthia Rodriguez  
Austin Parks Foundation  
GAVA Physical Activity Community Organizer  
cynthia@austinparks.org, 512-387-2998 |
| Community In Action Geo Team Meeting | Monday, June 26  
10-11am  
Pleasant Hill Branch, Austin Public Library, 211 E William Cannon Dr.  
78745 | | Frances Acuña  
Geo Teams Organizer 78745  
frances@marathonkids.org  
512-300-9108 |
| CodeNEXT Spanish Language Meeting | Wednesday, June 28th  
7-8:30 pm  
Carver Library 1165 Angelina St.  
78702 | | Frances Acuña  
Geo Teams Organizer 78745  
frances@marathonkids.org  
512-300-9108  
&  
Estrella de León  
Geo Teams Organizer 78744  
estrella@marathonkids.org  
206-293-9548 |

**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 healthy food and nutrition and physical activity. For more information contact gava@marathonkids.org, or by phone: Carmen Llanes Pulido, GAVA Community Director: 512-633-4312.
Thank you to our sponsors for making our work possible!