

East Montrose

Civic Association Newsletter



Connect: [Facebook.com/groups/East Montrose](https://www.facebook.com/groups/EastMontrose) and www.eastmontrose.org or Mail: PO Box 131363 Houston, TX 77219

October 2022

It is the mission of East Montrose Civic Association to serve the interests of East Montrose, to promote the safety and welfare of its residents, to foster a sense of community, and to celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of the area. These goals are accomplished through the efforts of its volunteers and elected officers.

EMCA 2022 Calendar

General Meetings: 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm unless otherwise noted

10/4 - National Nite Out – HPD & Elected Officials - Anderson Fair 6:30P-8P

10/8 - Biennial Home Tour (rescheduled due to CV19)

11/15 – EMCA meeting / Speaker TBD

12/6 – Annual Elections/Holiday Party (date tentative)

2022 EAST MONTROSE HOME TOUR and ART WALK OCTOBER 8, 2022

The East Montrose Civic Association will host its 13th Biennial Home Tour and Art Walk on Saturday, October 8, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. East Montrose, referred to as “the Heart of Houston,” was platted in the early 1900s - back in the days when Houston's population numbered fewer than 300,000 and the GH&SA Railway ran down Montrose Blvd.

During the 1960s, East Montrose became a center for the counterculture and hippie communes, and in 1970, Anderson Fair, one of the oldest music venues in continuous operation in the United States, opened its doors.

Today a diverse mix of people and architecture, this pedestrian-friendly area exhibits a variety of architectural styles. These houses have original build dates ranging from the early 1900s to 2014. Tourgoers can get a glimpse of how the architecture has been transformed over the years, with results of unique renovations that are characteristic of this distinctive, eclectic neighborhood.

Also visit the working studios of nine local artists, all within comfortable strolling distance. You'll be invited in to the space where artists get their inspiration, and you'll see where and how their crafts come to life. The art walk is free of charge.

Home tour tickets can be bought in advance at <https://www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/home-tour/>

- ◇ Joan Son & Keiko Kinsey - paper art, origami & fine art beading - 904 Welch
- ◇ Cindy Shung – artist in residence at Anderson Fair – 2007 Grant St
- ◇ Constance Braden - charcoal drawings, portraits on paper - 920 Damon Ct.
- ◇ Photographer Valerie Owhadi hosted by Luc & Vero -- 315 Willard
- ◇ Penny Cerling and Robert Bowen - print making, pen & ink on paper & wood, Halloween special effects - 419 Willard
- ◇ Gerida Brown at Historic Welch Corner - paintings & sculpture - 915 Welch
 - ◇ Mike McHam - fused glass - 713 Bomar
 - ◇ JoAnn Gage - Front Porch Selfies with mural - 2006 Stanford
 - ◇ Bryan Haworth - watercolor - 2107 Morgan
- ◇ Josena Arquieta - paintings of East Montrose bungalows - 612 Peden

Details of the home tour can be found on the next page. This is one home tour and art walk you won't want to miss!



A glimpse at one of the homes which will be featured on the tour.

Area crime reports can be found at the excellent and current www.spotcrime.com. The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

2022 EAST MONTROSE HOME TOUR and ART WALK

OCTOBER 8, 2022

www.eastmontrose.org

◇ **908 Welch:** Start the tour at this turn-of-the century, four-square house which has been renovated with a modern flair by the current owner. A wide front porch, typical of the era, extends the full front width of the clapboard exterior. This gorgeous home retains its turn-of-the-century grandeur and the walls seem to whisper tales of carriages pulling up for evening rides, while art from local and international modern artists adorn the walls.

See work by Joan Son, Claire Richards, Isabelle Dupuy and Idalia Candelas.

◇ **2020 Crocker:** former home to Nell Stewart, who spent her first hundred years growing up in the home before recently selling to a young couple who are restoring it to its former glory. This is very much a work-in-progress, appealing to anyone who wants to see what goes into renovating an old home! Stewart was the local historian for years and regaled neighbors with stories as the neighborhood transitioned from the early 1900s, to the counterculture 70s, to present day. One tale regarding the First Pagan Church of Houston down the street “The children who lived there told fellow students they would turn them into black cats for lunch money”.

◇ **2102 Stanford:** Built in 2014 by a longtime resident of the neighborhood, this townhome was custom-designed to maximize views of the downtown Houston skyline while preserving a native pecan tree on the tight site. The resulting interiors are tall, airy and somewhat quirky spaces with spectacular daylight. Exterior is stucco and hardy board, interiors include ‘gneiss’ countertops, custom cabinetry, Viking appliances, and hardwood floors throughout. Unique floorplan includes a separate entry library/office/guestroom, expansive bonus room, and a fifth-floor deck with 300-degree views of the city.

◇ **301 Welch:** Comprised of two shotgun shacks, built in 1915 and 1925, that were bolted together. Friends of the family bought the house for \$400 sometime around the 1930s. The house had an escape hatch in the floor of a linen cabinet – possibly for bootleggers. The cabinet was discovered in 1991, when the house was moved to its current, location here in East Montrose from Jackson Street (next to St. Joseph’s Hospital). In 2005, a three--story addition was added, which includes an apartment (designed to make the most of a small space) and an artist’s studio.

◇ **802 Peden:** Craftsman bungalow built in 1919 for a family of five. The place was a mess when the current owner purchased the home in 1997. A great deal of effort was made to update the look, yet restoring many original items and retaining its original brick walls, woodwork, flooring (oak in Living and pine in Bedrooms) and wavy glass windows--the foundation is an unusual combination of pier and beam with a chain wall perimeter. You will be surprised to find only one bathroom--and lots of red everywhere--different from the floral wallpaper of yesteryear!

Plan to spend the day, browse neighborhood shops, and stay for lunch or dinner at many local restaurants. Also, Anderson Fair, 2007 Grant at Welch, will be open with the opportunity to see inside this iconic music venue.

East Montrose is in the 77006 Zip Code and lies within the boundaries of Montrose, West Gray, Genesee, and Fairview. Drive or bicycle over, and look for the Home Tour signs.

Advance tickets cost \$15 at <https://www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/home-tour/>

Day-of-Tour tickets are \$20 and available at 908 Welch

Contact: Bill Maxey at 713-545-2909; bmaxey@mediadesigninc.com

East Montrose Security Initiatives

As ever, we strive to make East Montrose a safe and secure neighborhood for us all to enjoy. Here are some crime updates from the EMCA Security Committee over the last quarter, as well as new initiatives which are underway.

After three months of S.E.A.L. Security being in our neighborhood, the Security Committee is pleased to share that it has been **successful** at reducing crime! We have gathered statistics from May through July, comparing 2021 to 2022, that shows a 46% reduction year over year in all crime committed within the Greater East Montrose (GEM) boundaries. As we anticipated, employing an active security patrol deterred crime from occurring.

Since vehicular burglaries declined by 57%, we have noticed a reduction of broken glass in our streets and hope that this trend continues. While the security patrol will not be able to completely eliminate crime in our neighborhood, we are happy to report concrete statistics showing the large reduction of crime. As of now, the GEM has enough funds to cover S.E.A.L.'s contract for 80% of the year. **If you have not yet joined, you can still subscribe at <https://www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/security/>. Please help in the efforts to continue to prevent our neighborhood from being a soft target for crimes of opportunity.**

We also wanted to let our residents know that your very own EMCA members Hugo Ovalle and Pervez Agwan have been lobbying the city council and Councilwoman Kamin's office for increased pedestrian/bike safety, and newly engineered walkways throughout the neighborhood. They've been working closely with other concerned parents and residents of the NMCA (North Montrose), including Mehdi Rais, Allison Eskenov, and Kelly Turner. Together, they've formed a small coalition of Montrose residents petitioning for child and family friendly pedestrian cross-walks and walkways at:

- West Gray and Stanford Street
- West Dallas and Stanford Street
- Other key intersections along Columbus, Taft, and West Clay Streets

Given that there are dozens of children and families that walk over to the Wharton school, and that it is nearly impossible to cross over some of these intersections in a safe and effective manner, the East and North Montrose coalition will be meeting with TIRZ 27 at **Wharton Dual Language Academy on October 12 from 5-6PM** to detail the hazards faced by pedestrians trying to walk our neighborhoods and how we can work together to create low-cost, high-impact interventions in a timely manner. Please come out if you are able and show support for this cause.

If you are interested in joining the coalition and working to create a more pedestrian-friendly neighborhood, please reach out to Pervez Agwan at pervezagwan@gmail.com. Let's make our neighborhood more walkable and safer for street crossings – together!

From the Editor...

by Sofie Shoab



Hello hello!

October means...pumpkin season! As we welcome a much awaited autumn, it is time to dust off your fall décor and unpack your favorite soup recipes (I know its still in the high 80s by day, but a girl can dream!) Crisp mornings mean we can start looking for those leaves to start changing colors and what a sight it is when they really do start. Let me know your favorite leaf peeping locations! I'll keep you all posted on what I find. I've gone apple-picking plenty of autumns past, but here in Texas, persimmons and pears are the fall fruits to pick. Check out the pick-your-own farms just outside Houston for a great family-friendly activity and low-budget way to stock up on delicious fall fruits.

There is so much to see and do outdoors, and as the weather begins to cool down here in Houston, definitely take advantage of this opportunity to be outside! I know I will! Speaking of being outside, don't forget National Night Out is this Tuesday October 4th just outside Anderson Fair from 6-30-8PM! Bring a dish to share, and spend some time meeting your neighbors, sheriff deputies, and local officials. See you all there!

Cheers,
Sofie

Things to do in Houston this Month

- 1. The Greek Festival Returns** Coming to our very own Montrose, check out amazing Greek food and drinks, dancing, games, and family-friendly activities at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral.
Thursday October 6-Saturday October 8
- 2. Bayou City Art Festival** The 50th anniversary of the BCAF will take place in Sam Houston Park with two days of art features and shopping. Take part in the community art project and watch plenty of live performances.
October 8-9 from 10A-6P
- 3. Nature Connects by the Houston Botanic Garden:** Sean Kenny's award-winning exhibition creates whimsical works of art using simple Legos to explore the balance of ecosystems and mankind's relationship with nature. The exhibit aims to invoke discussions regarding conservation efforts and inspire others to create something for themselves.
Located at the Houston Botanic Garden starting September 24th
- 4. Texas Renaissance Festival** Who doesn't love a good Ren Faire filled with kings, queens, knights, fairies, elves and more? Take in the performances, eat amazing foods, and shop unique goods and crafts. Costumes are encouraged!
The fair opens October 8 in Todd Mission.
- 5. Oktoberfest 2022** It wouldn't be October without Oktoberfest! Enjoy wide selections of German beer and foods, costume contests, competitions, carnival games and more at King's Bierhaus.
October 14-16 at King's Bierhaus in the Houston Heights
- 6. 2022 KBR Kids Day** Buffalo Bayou Partnership hosts its annual family fun festival, full of activities, entertainment, performances, face painters and more. Free to the public! Come in costume with your kids.
October 22 from 11A-3P
- 7. CAF Wings over Houston** Will showcase vintage WW2 aircraft alongside modern aviation with high-flying acrobatics, reenactments and air spectacles. Definitely worth checking out, it will certainly be a spectacle!
Taking place October 29-30 from 8A-4P

Restaurant Features... by Malisa Galvan



Cuchara is one of my favorite spots in the neighborhood, and I was so excited to find out that Cuchara will have a new little sister, **Cucharita**, that will focus on the most important meal of the day...breakfast!

They have a full coffee bar with tacos, egg dishes, quesadillas, pan dulce, and fun boozy (and non-boozy) breakfast beverages. This will be just the spot to meet friends for an intimate breakfast/brunch experience or to come and grab a quick bite in the morning.

The restaurant has just opened at Morgan and Fairview!

Please support our local businesses, and maybe I will see you there having a cafecito or Bloody Maria and pan dulce!

Buen provecho!



Demi's Dog House

239 W. Gray, Houston, TX 77019

713-942-0688

www.demisdoghouse.com

Daycare 🐾 Grooming 🐾 Boarding



NOTE: Deadline for submission of newsletter content is ALWAYS the 20th day of the previous month. Email your content to newsletter.emca@gmail.com.

Recipe of the Month

October means GOURDS! This month we are featuring a fan favorite, butternut squash soup! Give it a try, and let us know how yours turned out. Recipe by Cookie and Kate

Ingredients

- 1 large butternut squash (about 3 pounds), halved vertically and seeds removed
- 1 tablespoon olive oil, plus more for drizzling
- ½ cup chopped shallot (about 1 large shallot bulb)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 garlic cloves, pressed or minced
- 1 teaspoon maple syrup
- ⅛ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 3 to 4 cups (24 to 32 ounces) vegetable broth, as needed
- 1 to 2 tablespoons butter, to taste

Instructions—yields 6 servings

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees and line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Place the butternut squash on the pan and drizzle each half with olive oil (about ½ teaspoon each). Rub the oil over the inside of the squash and sprinkle it with salt and pepper. Turn the squash face down and roast until it is tender and completely cooked through, about 40 to 50 minutes (don't worry if the skin or flesh browns—that's good for flavor). Set the squash aside until it's cool enough to handle.

Instructions—yields 8 servings

Meanwhile, in a large soup pot, warm 1 tablespoon olive oil over medium heat until shimmering (if your blender has a soup preset, use a medium skillet to minimize dishes.) Add the chopped shallot and 1 teaspoon salt. Cook, stirring often, until the shallot has softened and is starting to turn golden on the edges, about 3 to 4 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute, stirring frequently.

Transfer the contents to your stand blender

Use a large spoon to scoop the butternut squash flesh into your blender. Discard the tough skin. Add the maple syrup, nutmeg and a few twists of freshly ground black pepper to the blender. Pour in 3 cups vegetable broth, being careful not to fill the container past the maximum fill line (you can work in batches if necessary, and stir in any remaining broth later).

Securely fasten the lid. Blend on high (or select the soup preset, if available), being careful to avoid hot steam escaping from the lid. Stop once your soup is ultra creamy and warmed through.

If you would like to thin out your soup a bit more, stir in the remaining cup of broth. Add 1 to 2 tablespoons butter or olive oil, to taste, and blend well. Taste and stir in more salt and pepper, if necessary.

Ladle it out because it is ready to serve!

ANDERSON FAIR FALL SCHEDULE

Since 1970 this iconic music venue, right here in our East Montrose neighborhood, has been presenting original singer/ songwriters LIVE in our vintage listening room. If you've never been, make it your first time this year. All shows are live streamed as well... at no charge, though donations are appreciated. The link is posted the evening of the concert on the website. www.andersonfair.net But the very best way to experience the music is live in the listening room. You'll be glad you came! You can also watch the documentary about Anderson Fair at <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1537279/>

FALL 2022

Thursday, October 6 - Mary Bragg

Friday, October 7 - Pat Byrne

Thursday, October 13 - Alice Howe & Freebo

Friday, October 14 - Buddy Mondlock

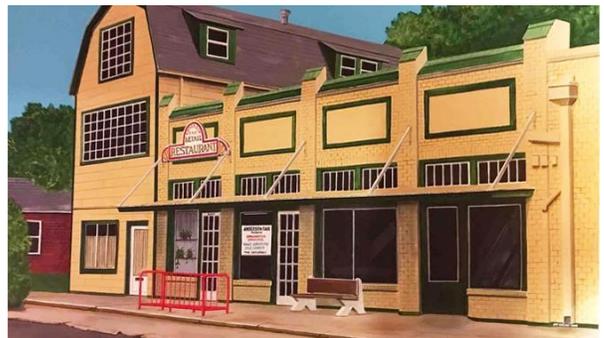
Thursday, October 20 - Ken Gaines & Wayne Wilkerson with Sarah Golden

Friday, October 21 - Bob Livingston

Friday, October 28 - Lynn Langham and Doug Gill

Friday, November 4 - Matt Harlan & Brian Blake

Friday, November 18 - Matt the Electrician



Doors open at 7:30 and shows start around 8:45
2007 Grant Street, Just off Montrose behind Texas Art Supply.

All shows are live streamed at no charge, though donations are appreciated. The link is posted the evening of the concert on our website. More info will be announced on the website as more concerts are booked. 2007 Grant Street.
www.andersonfair.net



We have a Bookstore in the neighborhood! Basket Books & Art. What a surprise! It's in the old telephone building with the David Adickes sculpture at one corner. I walked in thinking that it would be focused on art - but there is an excellent selection of a wide variety of books, including children's books. We're happy to welcome them to the neighborhood. Upstairs is an art gallery. Late September through early October is a group show CHRRCH BZRR organized by Lisa Lapinski (Rice U Associate Professor of Sculpture) benefiting TYGAR (Texas YounG Artists Resource). Ask to be put on the Basket Books mailing list for notices of future shows.

Basket Books & Art - 115 Hyde Park - 281-846-6017

Closed Sunday & Monday.

Basket Books & Art - note the David Adickes sculpture in the upper right corner

Open Tuesday-Saturday Noon - 6P



Interior of Basket Books (above)



Close up of a portion of the Children's Section (right)

A great find! the Complete First Edition of Brothers Grimm - just in time for the holidays! (left)

If you would like to get more involved in keeping East Montrose a great place to live—then here is your chance!

Volunteers are needed for the following positions:
Block Captains / Clean Up Crew / Home Tour

Please contact EMCA President Mary Quinn at [Presi-
dent.emca@gmail.com](mailto:President.emca@gmail.com) or
EMCA Vice President Karen Brohn at
vicepresident.emca@gmail.com to volunteer.

106 Avondale
Houston, TX 77006

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Extra printed newsletter copies can be found in the mailbox at Peggy Shiffick Park. Digital PDF versions are on the "files" tab of the East Montrose Facebook page and on Eastmontrose.org. Newsletters are normally printed only four times per year. Digital issues are available every month. Send your name, address and email to treasurer.emca@gmail.com for a PDF newsletter receipt by email each month including print months. Deadlines for newsletter article submissions is always the 20th day of the previous month. Article submissions are always welcome. No self promotion please!

Mayor's Assistance Office: Jack Valinski
jack.valinski@houston.tx.gov, 832-393-5958

Our District C City Council Member: Abbie Kamin
 Contact: Ngan Nguyen
districtc@houston.tx.gov—832-393-3004

City of Houston Community Liaison
 Carl Davis—832-393-4063

Harris County Precinct One—Commissioner Rodney Ellis
 Contact: Matala Idi
Matala.idi@cp1.hctx.net—346-286-1900

Council Member At Large #5—Sallie Alcorn
 Contact: Mike Watkins
Mike.watkins@houston.tx.gov—832-393-3017

East Montrose C/A Contacts

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 FB Admin: Bill Maxey - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/EastMontrose/)
 Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — bsatexas@sbcglobal.net

The following volunteer positions are currently open:

Block Captains: **OPEN**—block captains are needed for each street in the boundaries of East Montrose

Cleanup Crew: **OPEN**

Home Tour: **OPEN**

Please contact the EMCA Pres or VP to volunteer. We need you!

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

October 3	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
October 5	Wednesday	Junk Pick-up
October 10	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
October 17	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
October 24	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
October 31	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
November 2	Wednesday	Tree Waste

This trash schedule comes from the Rollout! app and is subject to change. ***holiday schedule / not confirmed

August, 2022 Treasurer's Report			
For the period August 1, 2022 - August 31, 2022			
EMCA			
Beginning Balance			\$ 4,963.20
Monies In	Membership	\$ 115.00	
Monies Out	Storage Unit		\$ 53.00
	Quickbooks		\$ 63.96
	Paypal Fees		\$ 3.84
Ending Balance			\$ 4,957.40
Security			
Beginning Balance			\$ 46,826.29
Monies In	Security Reserve	\$ 896.00	
Monies Out	S.E.A.L.		\$ 7,000.00
	Paypal Fees		\$ 25.47
Ending Balance			\$ 40,696.82
Combined Ending Balance			\$ 45,654.22

Total EMCA Members: 165

Total Greater EM Security subscriptions as of 8/31/22: 171

Want to submit an article for the newsletter? Please email your article to newsletter.emca@gmail.com. All submissions are welcome, but submission does not guarantee that the submission will be published.

The treasurer's reporting month is being changed to coincide with the newsletter being created prior to month end.



Join EMCA Today!

Membership is open to neighborhood residents or business owners/operators. Payment of dues will apply to current year.

Single or Guest \$15.00 Household \$25.00 Business \$30.00

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail to: PO Box 131363 Houston, TX 77219

OR pay via PayPal at www.Eastmontrose.org

I would like to help in the following way:

Safety and Security: Promote safety and security in East Montrose through HPD's Positive Interface Program (PIP), Crime-Out activities, and Citizens Crime Patrol.

Membership: Encourage membership enrollment, maintain records.

Volunteer: Database Administrator

Volunteer: Newsletter Team

Volunteer: Biennial Home Tour