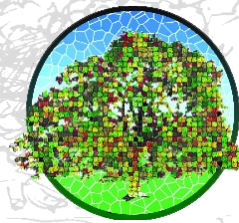


East Montrose

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

September 2025

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 2025 Calendar

09/16/2025—Meeting at Midtown bar & Grill, 7PM

10/07/2025—National Night Out Anderson Fair

11/18—TBD

12/11—Holiday party

More dates to follow.

All EMCA meetings take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month unless noted otherwise.

Security Survey Update:

Thank you to all who participated in the survey. We are analyzing your responses and will share an update on the direction of the SEAL patrol program in the weeks to come.

To learn how YOU can help make trash pick-up more efficient, please read the guidelines linked below:

[COH Curbside Collection Guidelines](#)



EMCA has an Instagram account! Give us a follow @eastmontrose for neighborhood updates, photos, and more!

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The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

TIRZ Board Meeting Updates

Montrose Blvd Improvement Project

1. Work is currently in progress on storm sewers, east side retaining wall, and pedestrian bridge.
2. There is a standing permit for road closures, so they can be executed in as little as one day in advance.
3. Projected finish date is mid to late January.

Westheimer

The raised crosswalk at Katz's, installed following car crashes that killed pedestrians, has been removed by Metro with the mayor's approval. We have no word on what is going to replace it, though a Metro proposal from July indicates it may be an (unraised) crosswalk with embedded LED lights.

West Alabama Improvement Project

1. There were 40 pages of comments collected from the open house. These and the Board's responses can be viewed on the TIRZ website at montrosehtx.org.
2. There is interest in burying power lines but a management district would need to be formed to partner with Centerpoint to fund it; the TIRZ is not currently allowed to fund this.

W. Dallas at Allen Pkwy

The stretch between Mecom Fountain and Westheimer is scheduled to begin repairs. Each stretch will take 3-5 weeks, estimated to be around 9 weeks in total.

NEXT MEETING: 9/15, 6:30 at St. Stephen's. Meeting will begin with a 30 minute presentation on the Safe Routes to School Project! Read more about the project at montrosehtx.org/projects/srts. Comments (max 3 min each) may be made at the meeting, or comment cards can be filled out to be collected. Comments can also be emailed to info@montrosehtx.org, all comments due 9/29.

Things to do in Houston this Month

1. Japan Festival Houston: A showcase of the beautiful cultures, traditions, and modern influences of Japan. Come enjoy the live music, dance performances, martial arts performances, and plenty of vendors offering Japanese bites. Origami, bonsai, ikebana, tea ceremonies and other demonstrations and exhibits will be available to partake in.

September 6-7 10A-6P at Hermann Park

2. Urban Harvest Farmers Market: LOCAL (to 180 mi of Houston) farm fresh produce, meats, and more! Support local farming and get your grocery items right from the source(s).

Every Saturday at 2752 Buffalo Speedway 8A-12P

3. World of Hans Zimmer: An immersive and emotional journey through Zimmers most iconic scores will come together in a multi-sensory experience unlike any other. Curated by the legend himself, this is a performance you do not want to miss.

September 9 at Toyota Center, 7:30P

4. Jeff Goldblum & the Mildred Snitzer Orchestra: You read that right, Jeff Goldblum and his jazz band will perform hits from their three previous albums, and possibly some sneak previews of their upcoming fourth album. They will also be playing contemporary arrangements of classical jazz, while playing rounds of trivia. Expect a night like no other!

September 14, Hobby Center at 7:30P

5. 2025 Night Nation Run: Supporting Stand Up 2 Cancer, this 5k run/party is a great way to support a good cause. Enjoy a night of dancing, multiple party zones, giveaways and a lineup of great DJs.

September 20th Sam Houston Race Park.

From the Editor...

by Sofie Shoaib

New book alert! Something about warm summer days just gets me back in a reading mood. And this one is such a great read—The Women by Kristen Hannah, chronicles one newly graduated nurse's journey as she volunteers for the Army Nurse Corps in 1967, during the Vietnam War. The story takes place in two parts: first, her time in the war. The horrors she sees and very quickly learns to deal with, the immense training she receives as she becomes a surgical nurse treating both soldiers and Vietnamese villagers alike. We as the readers, are right there feeling everything as she holds soldiers hands as they lay dying, inoperable, as she promises to write home to their families, as she treats Vietnamese elderly, women, children, and even babies, coming in as burn and napalm victims. The second part of the story takes place as she returns home after two tours, to an America no longer in support of the war, suspicious of the government and media, angry at veterans for their part in the war. There is no hero's welcome for these veterans, no services available or even words to describe their trauma. And worse yet, the women unacknowledged completely. There were no women in Vietnam, she hears from everyone—doctors at the VA, friends and family, even vets who returned home without injury. Many veterans turned to drugs, alcohol, and spiraled hard with undiagnosed (and unnamed at the time) PTSD. This was truly an eye-opening story of patriotism, resilience, and fighting to create spaces that don't exist. I walked away with a better understanding of PTSD and what both soldiers and the Vietnamese faced during the war. Chilling, but entirely worth it. Give this one a try.

Cheers,

Sofie

Long time East Montrose residents may remember Daniel Williams, who ran a lawn maintenance company, serving many residents here. He went to Afghanistan and served in a supervisory role for a civilian company for some years. Well, he's back in Houston and has taken up a new hobby – quilting. Yes! A 6' tall guy sitting amongst a gaggle of ladies, chatting, needle and thread in hand, piecing scraps of fabric into bed covers that tell stories. And his work is on display!

Patterns Of Liberation: The Code Of The Underground Railroad shows how fiber artists of the time worked secret codes into their quilts, that directed runaway slaves to safe havens along their journey to freedom.

The exhibit runs through September 21, at the Glassell School of Art at 5101 Montrose Blvd, across the street from the Museum of Fine Arts. There's an artist's discussion on September 18 at 2:00. And you can meet Daniel at the closing reception, September 19, 3:00-5:00.

New Public Comments Timings!

Houston City Council has passed a 15-1 vote to host public comment sessions in the evenings on the last Tuesday of every month. This test run will take place August-December of this year, with adjustments to be made thereafter. If you would like to attend or provide comments, please attend at the council chambers at Downtown Houston at 6PM. Alternatively, daytime public comment sessions are held every Tuesday at 2PM.



UPDATES ON TRASH AND RECYCLING PICK UP

While delays remain, the city is working on finding effective solutions, including utilizing an improved customer service team to handle the calls and requests put in to 3-1-1. The backlog of tickets is also being addressed. The container team is being strengthened for optimization, and new routes for recycling pick up are being evaluated to improve efficiency. The fleet sizes are also under evaluation to best service the city. New trucks have been ordered, but it will take around six months for delivery and to enter operations. We should see the changes go into effect towards the end of this year and early next year.

Yard and tree waste that is collected will not be going to landfills, but rather will be processed and mulched. IF you have bags ready before the tree waste pick up dates, you can also deliver them to recycling centers (see city website for details)—from there, they will be collected for mulching.



Tuesday, October 7, 2025

6:30-8:00 p.m.

East Montrose National Night Out

Organized by the East Montrose Civic Association

Come join your neighbors in enhancing Police/Community Relations

Outside Anderson Fair located at corner of Grant and Welch

2007 Grant Street, Houston, TX 77006

ALL AGES WELCOME

Interact with attendees from the Houston Police Department and local officials

Joint event with the North Montrose Civic Association

Potluck – bring a dish to share if you are able – please try to mark your item so folks know what they are trying

Water provided - BYOB or beverages can be purchased at Anderson Fair

Raffle Prizes for Current EMCA Members

Special thanks go out to Tim Leatherwood & Cindy Shung of Anderson Fair for Logistical Support

Membership table where you can join EMCA

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Karen Brohn via email at president.emca@gmail.com.

Last month's newsletter featured an article about the inviting hobby of bird watching in Houston. And they weren't kidding. It's not all house sparrows and grackles – there are plenty of interesting birds to observe and hear, right here in East Montrose. I'm lucky to have a large Live Oak, plus a trio of pine trees, right outside my windows. Oh, and, yes - telephone wires. Here are some of what I've been delighted to encounter here on Stanford.

Early June, I heard chirping other than the usual street avians. I looked up to see some small, slim-bodied birds sitting on the overhead wires. Definitely not chickadees or house sparrows. Looked like wrens, or maybe finches. Both of these are inhabitants of our area. Mid-May, very conspicuous in my live oak tree, a bright red cardinal. A little better camouflaged was his mate, the light brown female. I've seen blue jays, too, usually scolding and dive-bombing my cat while she's enjoying a (supervised) foray onto the front porch steps. But never managed to get a photograph.

Every now and then, you'll hear a woodpecker, drilling away at a tree – or a telephone pole. Got to wonder what dinner item he's expecting to find in a long-dead, creosote-soaked shaft. The sound may be distant and faint, but it's undisputable. It echoes off buildings, and carries for blocks. But what the heck is a woodpecker doing smack in the outskirts of downtown Houston? According to David Attenborough, of PBS nature series programs, woodpeckers drum to find food, yes. But also to establish territory, attract mates, and, once said meet-ups have been fruitful, to drill cavities into trees for nesting places.

Hearing the occasional woodpecker is cool enough. But, one day, I was cleaning up fallen branches under my pine trees, and noticed holes in some of the sticks. Equally-sized, rhythmically spaced, perfectly round holes, lined up in a row. These were the handiwork of a resident woodpecker! What a treasured find.

Discovering proof of a woodpecker is exciting. But nothing tops the rare and heart-stopping sound of an owl trilling outside your window! Yes, deep woods sounds, right here in East Montrose. In 35 years of living here, I've probably heard him fewer than a dozen times. Right outside the window of my 3rd floor home office, nestled into the branches of my Live Oak. Or sometimes from across the street. He makes an extended trill. Followed by another trill, in a higher octave, sort of whinny. Enchanting, eerie, mesmerizing. Singular, as Sherlock Holmes would say. But fleeting. I've run down the stairs and ever so stealthily opened the front door. But he/she always knows, and stops calling. One night, I would love sit on the steps and hear the owl call through the branches of my tree.

I never got a photo of the elusive guy, so included is a picture of the moon through the branches of his live oak home.

It's an Eastern Screech Owl. Listen to the magic [here](#).



Photographed here are some of the cardinals seen on Stanford St.

Our Yard of the Season for the months August through October 2025 is the town home at 115 Welch Street. The homeowners, Larry and Joe, decided on their home when it was just being built in 2014. They already knew that they loved East Montrose, having lived in apartments and condos in the neighborhood, but they fell in love with the floor plan, design and importantly for them, the home's great neighborhood. For years they had been enjoying the amazing array of restaurants, clubs, and coffee shops (huge coffee fans), as well as the mix of old and new architecture. Most of all they appreciated the small-town feel of Montrose - an oasis to escape the swirl of Houston.

Being right in the heart of Montrose/Midtown, their townhome offers fantastic views of downtown from the rooftop deck where sharing music under the stars on cooler nights is a plus. They also find East Montrose to be a beautiful place to take walks – with its quiet leafy streets, history, and many styles of architecture. Larry and Joe have no pets, but when taking walks, all the cats of East Montrose recognize them as “cat people” and some of them come up to greet them like neighbors.

As far as personal information is concerned, Larry has been a lawyer his entire career and, until recently, served as a professor at Rice University for 22 years, teaching business-related courses. He is trying to semi-retire from his law practice, but it is hard to say no to the long-term clients. Joe loves photography and is the prime force behind their landscape and gardening efforts. He hopes to inspire East Montrose neighbors to see what a difference some gardening effort can make in our neighborhood.

They both love to travel and recently visited the Grand Canyon. A sojourn to New York City is a highlight every fall – there is nothing like Autumn in Manhattan. Interestingly, they try to incorporate a train trip into as many vacations as possible to see the scenery at ground level. Stop by their place to see ground level annual flowers which are still blooming despite our Houston heat!



Recipe of the Month

We are exploring seasonal veg this summer, with a crustless zucchini pie. Of course, if you prefer to top your pie with a crust, no one is stopping you! After all, you are the Picasso of your zucchini pie. Recipe by Ambitious Kitchen

Ingredients

- Cooking spray
- ½ tablespoon olive oil or avocado oil
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 bunch green onions, diced (reserve some green scallions for topping)
- 1 cup sliced baby bella mushrooms
- ¾ cup grape or cherry tomatoes, halved
- ½ small red bell pepper, diced
- ½ cup sweet corn, fresh or frozen
- 1 medium zucchini, sliced into ¼ inch rounds
- Freshly ground salt and black pepper
- 6 large eggs
- ¼ cup unsweetened almond milk (or any milk)
- 2 tablespoons sifted coconut flour (or sub 1/4 cup regular flour)
- 3-5 large basil leaves, julienned
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Grease a 9 inch deep dish pie pan (or a 9 inch springform pan) with nonstick cooking spray.
2. Add olive oil to a large skillet and place over medium high heat. Once hot, add garlic, green onions and sauté until fragrant. Then add in mushrooms, tomatoes, red bell pepper and corn; season with a little salt and pepper and cook for a few minutes until the mushrooms begin to soften. (We're not cooking the zucchini!) Remove veggies from heat and set aside.
3. In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, almond milk, flour, basil, 1/2 cup shredded cheese and a little salt & pepper.
4. Add all of the veggies (including the zucchini) to the greased pie pan and spread out evenly. Next pour your egg mixture over the top of the veggies. Sprinkle the top with remaining 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese.
5. Bake for 35-50 minutes or until egg sets, puffs up, and becomes slightly golden. Remove from heat and allow to cool for 10 minutes before cutting into 6 slices. Allow pie to completely cool before covering and storing in the fridge.

Mayor's Assistance Office:

James Ronje—832-393-5958

James.ronje@houstontx.gov

Our District C City Council Member: Abbie Kamin

Contact Kate Dentler

districtc@houstontx.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@houstontx.gov—832-393-3017

TIRZ 27

email info@montrosehtx.org website montrosehtx.org

Representative, CD7

Lizzie Fletcher—713-353-8680

<http://fletcher.house.gov/contact>

East Montrose C/A Contacts

President: Karen Brohn — president.emca@gmail.com

V-Pres: Hugo Ovalle— vicepresident.emca@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joel Dudley— treasurer.emca@gmail.com

Secretary: Jamie Flatt, Joey Zamora— secretary.emca@gmail.com

Past Pres.: Mary Quinn— pastpresident.emca@gmail.com

At Large 1: Katy Macalla and Alyssa Ketner — rep1.emca@gmail.com

At Large 2: Beth Shook — rep2.emca@gmail.com

Neartown Liaison: Karen Brohn — president.emca@gmail.com

Neartown Alt Liaison: Jamie Flatt— secretary.emca@gmail.com

Newsletter: Sofie Shoaib— newsletter.emca@gmail.com

HPD's PIP: OPEN

Security: Hugo Ovalle— safety.emca@gmail.com

Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - jsdubach@gmail.com

Peggy Shiffick Park: Gloria Lyons— globella@icloud.com

FB Admin: Bill Maxey - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/EastMontrose/)

Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — bsatexas@sbcglobal.net

Clean up Crew: George Boos — george.boos@att.net

Home Tour: Bill Maxey — bmaxey@mediadesigninc.com

2025 Treasurer's Report				
For the period January 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025				
EMCA				
Beginning Balance				\$7,411.00
Monies In	Membership	\$1,155.00		
	Advertising Revenue	-		
		\$1,155.00		\$1,155.00
Monies Out				
	Paypal Fees	\$42.95		
	Insurance	720		
	Newsletter	671.2		
	Spring Fling	520		
	Storage Fees	300		
	PO Box	226		
	Zoom	159.9		
	Neartown Association Dues	100		
	Quickbooks	-2.31		
	Billsby	111.24		
		\$2,848.98		\$2,848.98
Ending Balance				\$5,717.02
Security				
Beginning Balance				\$28,219.64
Monies In	Security Reserve less Fees	\$16,337.68		\$16,337.68
Monies Out				
	SEAL Payments	\$23,173.00		
	Insurance	1,442.00		
	Billsby	472.58		
		\$25,087.58		\$25,087.58
Ending Balance Subscription				\$19,469.74
Combined Ending Balance				\$25,186.76

Total EMCA Members: 248

Total Greater EM Security subscriptions : 199

2024 Greater EM Security Subscribers: 91

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

The following volunteer positions are currently open:

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

Please contact the EMCA President or VP to volunteer.

We need you!

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

September 1	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn& Recycle
September 3	Wednesday	Tree Waste
September 8	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
September 15	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn& Recycle
September 22	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
September 29	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn& Recycle

This trash schedule comes from the Rollout! app and is subject to change.

***holiday schedule / not confirmed

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.



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 or via Zelle to treasurer.emca@gmail.com

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