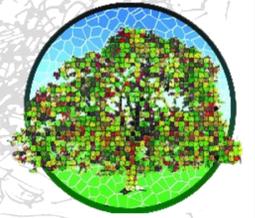


East Montrose

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

June 2020

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.



**CLASS OF 2020
UNDER QUARANTINE**

**CONGRATULATIONS
EAST MONTROSE GRADS!**

We're so proud of each & every one of you.

Yard of the Season...

by Betsy Anderson

Our Yard of the Season winner for the months of May through July 2020 is located at 409 Fargo, the corner of Whitney and Fargo. The owner, **Janette Nunn**, has lived in the home for almost four years, having rented on Crocker first, before becoming an East Montrose homeowner. Janette lived in Australia for 6 years before returning to the US and, luckily for us, after her close friend in the East Montrose area introduced Janette to our community, she knew she wanted to live here.

Janette's partner, **Scott**, is actually the landscaper in the house, but Janette is learning to cultivate a green thumb, and is enjoying working in the yard. They recently changed the paint color of their home and they, along with their neighbors, are excited about the difference a color can make. The trough gardens in the yard allow for year around colorful plantings, so watch for changes there as the summer heat arrives. Stop by and say hello to Janette and Scott, and to the neighborhood cat who often frequents their garden. Not only do both Janette and Scott enjoy walking the neighborhood and taking advantage of the restaurants, but also they "appreciate living around awesome people and in such an interesting, walkable neighborhood!" And we, in turn, appreciate their efforts to beautify East Montrose.





Wayne Wilkerson and Ken Gaines have been performing at Anderson Fair for over 20 years. Their Thursday night Songwriters in the Round has introduced many new and familiar musicians. We can hardly wait to have them back. Stay tuned.

After being in continuous operation since 1970 (except for summer vacation closures) ANDERSON FAIR is looking towards a possible June opening. This update from Tim Leatherwood, proprietor of the Fair...

CORONA COMA UPDATE

Hello to all our fans and friends. We have missed everyone!

Well it looks like the state of Texas says that we can start waking up from of this Corona Coma we have been living in for the last several months. We hope that everyone has stayed safe and healthy. We are going to take a cautious approach and not resume any full scale operation quite yet.

We do have a few shows that are scheduled in June. No surprise that all of the artists' schedules have been thrown into disarray and it may take a while to get things sorted out. We want you and them to not be jeopardized by trying to start up too quickly. We are still speaking with the musicians to get their feeling on what they may feel comfortable with.

We will probably try opening at first just on Saturdays to see how it goes. Of course, it is very possible that the early opening of many businesses may plunge us back into another cycle of extreme physical distancing. Stay tuned. We'll let you know as things progress.

If you would like to be contacted through email send your address through the EMAIL SIGN UP FORM at the web site... *Anderson-Fair.net*

If you have not seen the film about Anderson Fair, FOR THE SAKE OF THE SONG, catch up with this award-winning music documentary which features Lyle Lovett, Lucinda Williams, Robert Earl Keen, Nanci Griffith, Guy Clark, Townes Van Zandt and a who's who of Folk, Americana and Alt-Country music telling the story of how a devoted community of artists and volunteers transformed a politically subversive little coffee house and restaurant into a unique American music institution. On Amazon and with several trailers to view on line.

Thanks to all our patrons for supporting live music!

Anderson Fair, featuring original singer-songwriters from Texas, the US, and the World since 1969.... 2007 Grant Street, 77006



Finding Art in a Pandemic

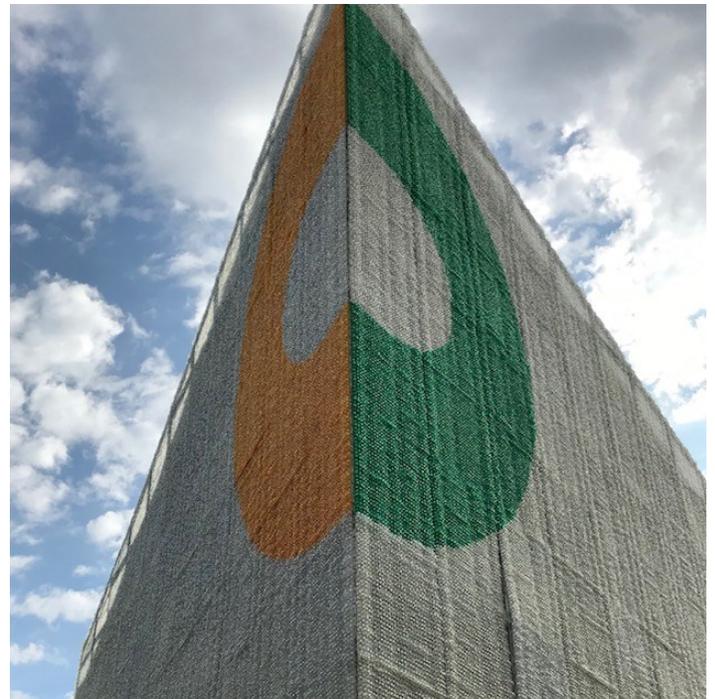
Galleries might be closed, but artists appear everywhere - like weeds in a sidewalk - if one pays attention.

On a recent walk along Fairview/Tuam to the new Whole Foods, Covid 19 graffiti was spied at the burned out Late Night Pie.

Artist and clothing designer Selvin Jarmon works in Houston and South Africa. He was intrigued with bead designs throughout Africa and a few years ago made a proposal to the Art League to bring South African beaders to Houston to make a monumental beading project which would cover the entire Art League building. The idea was so wonderful that the Art League went ahead, bringing beaders here, to live in our neighborhood and work on the project. When it was finished they realized that the whole thing was so heavy it would collapse the building. After way too many years and multiple engineering consults, the decision was made to incorporate a portion of the bead project over the Art League door at the corner of Montrose & Willard.

There's some great artwork in neighboring neighborhoods: Does anyone know who made the mosaics on the giant chairs in the little park on a corner in Freedman's Town?

Next month we'll check out some of the great murals in our neighborhood and nearby.





While this article isn't directly connected to East Montrose, it is a life story that I hope readers will find interesting:

Curve Balls

Sometimes life throws you curve balls. Sometimes you dodge them. Sometimes you catch them. Sometimes you win the game with them.

This is a story, a true story, about life throwing curve balls when you least expect it. Besides being EMCA President, I am also President of Zonta Club of Houston. Most of you will have never heard of Zonta. We often work quietly, behind the scenes.

Zonta has been around since 1919 when it was formed in Buffalo, NY by a group of professional women who wanted to empower other women through service and advocacy. Zonta is a Lakota Indian word that means "trustworthy". Amelia Earhart was a member. Since our beginning we have grown into a world-wide organization in 63 countries with thousands of members. We are one of the few NGO's with a seat at the United Nations. Zontians, as we are known, are all volunteers, all ages, all races, all kinds of women (and some men). This year we celebrate our Centennial, but like many other organizations, we had to cancel our international convention because of Covid-19. And then the curve ball came.

In late April, we got a phone call from a lawyer in Austin who said he had something Zonta Club of Houston may want back. Simultaneously intrigued and skeptical, we bade him continue. A client had brought the lawyer a "thank you" gift. The lawyer surmised that the client viewed the attorney as part of the judicial system so he gave the lawyer a wooden gavel with a brass plate inscribed with the words "Presented to the Zonta Club of Houston by its first President Libbie J. Masterson, May 26, 1939." Goodness! Much of our early history had been lost. ** This was indeed a treasure!

Turns out our first ZCH President was a woman to be reckoned with, a woman of substance, a mover and shaker. The Masterson family was and is a well known philanthropic family here in Houston. Libbie's son, Harris, donated the River Oaks mansion Rienzi to the Houston Museum of Fine Arts in 1997.

The Masterson gavel helps us remember those that have gone before and paved the way for those to come. And while we are unable to celebrate our Centennial in person with those around the globe, we can celebrate finding a piece of our history. Gotta love those curve balls.

** As I type, we are still trying to determine how the client came to possess the gavel... the case is ongoing so there are privilege issues which we may not be able to resolve until final disposition. But if we ever are able to ascertain the gavel's journey back home, I will let you know the story.



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.



Abbie Kamin

Council Member, District C



Make a Plan. Build a Kit. Stay Informed.

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As Houstonians, we know that the next major storm is not a question of "if" but "when." The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) continues to monitor major incidents, crisis events, and weather incidents each and every day to provide residents with trusted, critical information. While active in the fight against COVID-19, the department is also planning for the upcoming hurricane season.

We encourage you to download the Disaster Preparedness Guide at <https://www.houstonoem.org/> and sign up for Emergency Alerts at <https://houstonemergency.org/alerts>.

Even in the midst of COVID-19, the City stands ready for anything that mother nature brings our way. Standard storm and hurricane procedures are in place. The National Weather Service will continue to provide updated information. The Office of Emergency Management will coordinate resources needed and provide the public with timely emergency information. Houston Fire and Houston Police, along with our City's Public Works Department, stand ready to deploy high-water rescue vehicles and boats, as well as stand up barricades in high-water locations. All other City department are ready to assist as needed.

While COVID-19 has added a few challenges, law enforcement and OEM have already been training on new assistance and rescue protocol.

We want to remind each of you to make sure you and your family are preparing for hurricane season as well. Here are a few quick tips:

- Have a Plan: <http://www.readyhouston.tx.gov/prepare-today/make-a-plan/>
- Build a Kit: <http://www.readyhouston.tx.gov/prepare-today/build-a-kit/>
- Stay Informed: <http://www.readyhouston.tx.gov/prepare-today/stay-informed/>

As a reminder, the District C office remains open and we are ready to answer your questions and follow up on constituent cases. The best way to reach us is by email at districtc@houston.tx.gov, or you can call our office 832-393-3004 and leave a voicemail with your name and call-back number. For more frequent updates you can also follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

We are here to serve you and connect you throughout.

City Updates

Through a partnership with the City of Houston and BakerRipley, nearly \$15 million in rent relief was committed to thousands of Houstonians in need on May 13 when the application portal opened. We need additional funding to continue and expand the rental assistance program. The City is urging Congress to provide additional federal dollars for rent relief and economic aid. You can help us advocate for our city by contacting your congressional representative and senators.

After hearing public comments from constituents with the Houston Heights Association and Greater Heights Super Neighborhood, City Council passed an ordinance establishing a special minimum lot size area in the Houston Heights neighborhood. I'm grateful to the hard-working neighbors who knocked on doors, got signatures, and successfully moved this designation forward to the Planning Commission and City Council.

The 2020-2021 Fiscal Year proposed budget was released Tuesday and is available at <https://www.houstontx.gov/budget/21budprop/index.html>. The General Fund budget (largely funded by property tax revenues) reflects a decrease in spending by \$22.17 million. Although this is an extremely financially challenging year for the City, I remain committed to advocating for proper funding of public safety, cybersecurity, and essential services such as solid waste, recycling, and addressing dangerous buildings in neighborhoods. Share your thoughts and priorities by contacting our office at districtc@houstontx.gov.

Council Member Sallie Alcorn and I submitted recommendations to Mayor Turner this week regarding the regulation and storage of hazardous materials. This is a result of our joint committee meeting on April 30 to follow up on the Watson plant explosion. We believe our proposal will make Houston a safer place to work and live. The complete recommendations can be found at <http://bit.ly/3butkr7> and are summarized below:

- Amend the city's Hazardous Enterprises Ordinance in Chapter 28 to establish similar storage thresholds for indoor and outdoor storage of hazardous chemicals.
- Adopt the new 2015 International Fire Code with local amendments requiring third-party inspections of interior and exterior storage vessels, with mandatory reporting to the City.
- Aggressively pursue grant funding for a second HAZMAT unit for the Houston Fire Department. Right now we only have one unit for the entire City, located near the Port.
- Advocate for changes in state law to strengthen right-to-know laws during the upcoming legislative session.
- Increase the City of Houston's involvement with the Greater Houston Local Emergency Planning Committee. This committee is volunteer-based and meets every other month; they told us in the committee they could benefit from improved communication and collaboration with OEM, police, and fire departments.

District C Updates

This weekend, we distributed protective masks at the Jewish Community Center in Meyerland, in partnership with the JCC staff, the Jewish Federation, and Super Neighborhood 31. We also provided masks to essential workers and organizations in need, such as the Service Employees International Union, Seafarers International Union, the Montrose Center, and Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in the Heights.

We continue to urge residents to stay home whenever possible. Please follow social distancing and wear a mask when you are outside the home. It is up to each one of us to keep our city's infection and death rate down. Together we can show the rest of the country what #HoustonStrong is all about!

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Everyone reacts differently in stressful situations. I encourage you to check in with loved ones, neighbors, and friends to see how they are coping during this time. COVID-19 can have a strong emotional impact on wellbeing. Creating a routine, exercising regularly, and remaining hopeful may help you keep calm during this time. Visit our office's guide to COVID-19 resources at bit.ly/houcovid19 to find resources related to mental health. Please remember help is available. The Harris Center COVID-19 Mental Health 24/7 Hotline is 833-986-1919. For emergencies, call 911.

EMCA Sponsors and Advertisers

EMCA would like to thank our sponsors and advertisers!
The best way to show appreciation is by supporting their businesses!



Chef Soren Pedersen - www.chefsorenpedersen.com



Speedy Printing
3433 W. Alabama Ste. C
713-877-8466



Midtown Bar & Grill
415 W. Gray
713-528-2887



Cowboys & Indians Tex-In Kitchen
1901 Taft Street

Voted #1*

INNER LOOP REAL ESTATE AGENT

*by my Mom
**only my Mom was surveyed



Lee Hudman,
ABR CLHMS CNE GPA
713-449-1888

A portrait of Mary K. Quinn, a woman with red hair, wearing a red jacket over a black top.

106 Avondale
Houston, TX 77006

FAMILY LAW / LITIGATION
Mary K. Quinn
Attorney at Law

Phone: 713.225.0094
Fax: 713.225.0099
Email: maryquinn@maryquinnlaw.com
www.maryquinnlaw.com

An icon of an envelope, indicating contact information.A globe icon with the text "www" below it, indicating a website.

Our District C City Council Member: Abbi Kamin

Contact Ngan Nguyen
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

East Montrose C/A Contacts

President: Mary Quinn —president.emca@gmail.com
 V-Pres: Karen Brohn —vicepresident.emca@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Julia Schafer -treasurer.emca@gmail.com
 Secretary: Mike McHam—secretary.emca@gmail.com
 Past President: Sherry Weesner—pastpresident.emca@gmail.com
 At Large 1: Bill Maxey—rep1.emca@gmail.com
 At Large 2: Malisa Galvan — rep2.emca@gmail.com
 Home Tour: **OPEN**
 Neartown Liaison: Julie Young—wallpaperlady@att.net
 Newsletter: Lee Hudman—newsletter.emca@gmail.com
 Newsletter Coordinator: Natalie Holder—nnavellier@gmail.com
 HPD’s PIP: Julie Young—wallpaperlady@att.net
 Security: Mark Weesner mdwpsbn@gmail.com
 Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - jsdubach@gmail.com
 Peggy Shiffick Park: Ellen Yarrell - ellen@eayatty.com
 FB Admin: Lee Hudman - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/EastMontrose/)
 Webmaster: **OPEN**
 Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — bsatexas@sbcglobal.net

May Treasurer’s Report

Beginning Balance			\$10,845.25
Monies In:	Membership	\$175.00	
Monies Out:	Storage Unit	(\$61.00)	
	P. Shiffick Park Plants	(\$23.77)	
	Neighborhood Clean-up Supplies	(\$63.48)	
	Website Maintenance	(\$90.00)	
	PayPal Fees	(\$2.06)	
Ending Balance:			\$10,779.94

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

June 1	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
June 3	Wednesday	Heavy Trash—JUNK
June 8	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
June 15	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
June 22	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
June 29	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
July 1	Wednesday	Heavy Trash— TREE WASTE
July 6	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn

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

Extra printed newsletter copies can be found in the mailbox at Peggy Shiffick Park and on the “files” tab of the East Montrose Facebook page in digital PDF format.

Newsletters are normally only printed in March, June, September and December. 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!



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

Want to submit an article for the newsletter? Please email your article to newsletter@eastmontrose.org.