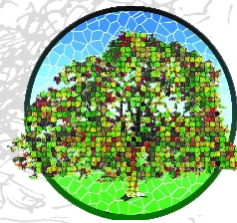


# East Montrose

## Civic Association Newsletter



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

April 2021

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 2021 Calendar

**April 20—  
Reg Meeting—via zoom  
SEE From the VP on page 5**

**May 15-  
Neighborhood Cleanup  
See page 5**

**May 18 -  
Reg Meeting—via zoom**

**June 15—No meeting  
—summer break**

**July 20—No meeting  
—summer break**

**August 17—No meeting  
—summer break**

**September 21—Reg Meeting  
—tbd**

**October 5—National Night Out**

**November 16—Reg Meeting  
—tbd**

**December 7—Social—Holiday  
Party / Elections**

### *My Life In Montrose—50 Years!...* by Annette M. Zinn



Thinking back to 1972...that was when my life in Montrose started. Tim Zinn had just exited from the U.S. Navy (San Diego)--we were dirt-poor--and, we were moving back to Texas (baby in tow)! We looked like hippies...lived like hippies...acted like hippies (but didn't do drugs)--so I guess we were hippies--Not sure that we met the strict definition! At any rate--we couldn't find a place to live--and ended up on California Street (California Street Apartments) since it was the most we could afford--at that time it was a one bedroom roach and rat infested property! Our treat was to walk to Felix's Mexican Restaurant on Friday night on Westheimer off Montrose (now closed). Thereafter we managed to move to Ridgewood Street parallel to Dunlavy. It was a nice--brick, two-story with hardwood floors and lots of windows. We found Esperanza the Outdoor School for Tara (first located on Hawthorne Street--now closed). We also were involved in KPFT, listener-supported radio (considered a hippie radio station). As life would have it...I graduated from U of H and Tim and I separated--I stayed on Ridgewood but moved next door to the downstairs apartment (same landlord--first building now a townhouse). At some point I realized I needed to forget about anthropology graduate school and needed to figure out how to pay rent/bills. I got accepted into the masters program University of Texas School of Public Health--doors started opening (later I graduated law school and began Ph.D.--all out of the Ridgewood house!). I made some really close friends on Ridgewood--for the most part they lived within a 2-house radius of my place--of note, Dr. Red Duke's daughter and two Silvia Garcia neighbors who were roommates--one now Congresswoman! We were all in school and struggling but had a great time--it was like the Big Chill!

I was the only single parent in the group--my theme song was Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive." When Tara was at her dad's I hit all the disco bars in Montrose (now closed except for Numbers)--sure was fun! Later we would go to the House of Pies on Kirby, sleep for a few hours, shower and go to school/work the next day. We always had lots of trouble in the neighborhood--there were drug dealers, prostitutes, peeping toms, and just lots of colorful characters mixed in with struggling students and artists! We were broken into many times--and we even think our house was haunted! Also, we were also scared of the HL&P power plant--it buzzed all the time and still does. What is now the city's multi-service center on W. Gray was a weed lot across from our Ridgewood house. There was a Shipley Donut at Dunlavy (now closed) and W. Gray--surrounded by another weed lot. What is now Kroger used to be Weingarten's. The River Oaks Theatre (now closing) was always there! In those days the theatre had a full balcony (no bar) and published a 3-month calendar of wonderful films--Harold and Maude was always a party!--later it was Rocky Horror and so many other wonderful films with themes...e.g., Thursday nights was Humphrey Bogart or a given week vintage science fiction. We have so many wonderful memories of Ridgewood Street--including our annual Halloween parties--we passed out flyers to everyone we knew or met.

(Continued on page 2)

Area crime reports can be found at the excellent and current [www.spotcrime.com](http://www.spotcrime.com)  
The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.



## From the President

by Mary Quinn



Members who attended the zoom general meeting of EMCA on March 16 were excited to meet Jessica Cohen and hear her talk about the new plant place we have in EM! Jessica learned that the building could be sold and was fearful that developers would scoop it up. So she took a leap of faith and opened the plant store. Jessica has joined EMCA as a business member and we hope that everyone stops by and says “hello” and welcomes her to our ‘hood. M. Quinn EMCA President.



Wet My Plant began as a lifestyle blog offering growth and maintenance tips for plant lovers on Instagram back in 2018 and has since evolved into a retail concept in the Houston area. Wet My Plant seeks to connect plants and people. Whether you’re a plant enthusiast or not, the human body instinctively resonates with plants and “green” environments in an effort to reduce stress, help the mind and body relax, and function efficiently. ‘Interior landscaping’ has a substantial effect on our wellbeing; making us happier, healthier and more productive. Did you know that simply living among plants or having them in your work space will boost your attention span and help you focus? Without effort, the body will naturally gravitate to plants to help it recalibrate and stimulate the body in a positive way. Not to mention eating plants -- there are soooo many documented fruits, veggies, and herbs that can help boost brain function, prevent dementia, increase memory, reverse degenerative diseases and so forth. Wet My Plant aims to reacquaint plants and people, one house plant at a time. Stop by the plant shop, located off of West Gray in the Montrose District to learn more. Plant vibes guaranteed. 🌿

Wet My Plant  
(713) 485-0380  
wetmyplant@gmail.com  
www.pleasewetmyplant.com  
701 W Gray Street, Houston TX 77019

(Continued from page 1)

At some point Tara moved out. I believe it was 1997 when I realized that I was going to be 50 and had always been a renter—time for a change (partially motivated by my landlord hiring a management company--raising the rent—cooking on a one-burner stove, no oven, no heat and an air conditioner about to fall out of the window AND I was making some money!). I knew I wanted a 2-bedroom, brick, hardwood floor, bungalow in Montrose and didn’t expect to live on the East/“seedy” side of Montrose where I swore I would never live--802 Peden!

There was a lot of work to be done—and in 2007 my little bungalow was selected to be on the homes’ tour!—In 2018 our San Jacinto High School (now HCC) Class of 1968 reunion committee met to plan our 50th reunion—I couldn’t believe how many stories there were about our classmates who lived in Montrose—and at 802 Peden!

Looking back, things have really changed--more and more bungalows have been torn down and townhouses and other buildings have popped up. In fact, it sometimes feels like I live in the suburbs--lots of stores, restaurants and businesses have added another layer to the pre-existing charm of years past. I am so lucky that I’ve experienced these 50 years in Montrose!

p.s. I sure hope someone can save the River Oaks Theatre!

# SPRING SALE!

gifts of art for all occasions

.....

**Friday & Saturday**

- April 30 & May 1
- 904 Welch Street at Joan Son’s Studio
- noon to 6pm
- Local Artists
- outside & inside (masks please)
- 23rd Year!

jewelry. ceramics. glass. metal. crochet. fancy aprons. origami. wind chimes. cutting boards. quilts. MORE!





## Art Walk

We have a new park at Whitney & Westheimer! Avondale Promenade Park, which is A Texas Local Park Grant Project funded in part from sales tax on sporting goods. The park contains adult exercise equipment as well as a discrete dog run. We walked a dog in to check out the dog part of the park, but the smells were so interesting the dog never looked anywhere but down & under. This is a great addition to the neighborhood.



## ANDERSON FAIR CONCERTS

Please join us as we reopen slowly. Doors will **open at 7:30** and seating will be limited and masks required. Music starts around 8:45 on Friday. Concerts will also be LIVE STREAMED through our website. Advance tickets and streaming information can be found at our website.

[www.andersonfair.net](http://www.andersonfair.net)

**Thursday, April 8**

Ken Gains & Wayne Wilkerson (music starts at 8pm on Thursday)

**Friday, April 9**

Lynn Langham & Doug Gill

**Friday, April 16**

Ginger Leigh

**Friday, April 23**

to be announced

**Friday, April 30**

Matt Harlan

Featuring original singer-songwriters from Texas, the US and the world since 1969.  
2007 Grant Street around the corner from Texas Art Supply





## A Typical Day on Our Urban Streets

1) Coming home late one night after a way-too-long workday, I passed a garage with the door up and the lights on. This caught my attention, because I'm ever-paranoid about opportunist street thieves. But what I saw was even more unexpected than a creep making off with a garden hose. On the driveway, facing the house, was a man with a drawn bow and arrow! No fears ... It was the homeowner himself, enjoying a little late-night R&R, shooting into a nicely outfitted target range on the back wall of his garage.

2) I was heading up Taft not long ago and passed an idyllic view – a father on his bike, pulling one of those baby stroller / trailer contraptions, complete with soft seating and zippered sun screens. It was a double-wide. I could see two tiny tots secured inside. Twins, I mused. Lucky to get out in the fresh air, take a look at new scenery, and to spend time with Dad. Then I noticed that both kids had on helmets. What the Heck?! *Overprotective parents*, I thought. Then I realized, *The two children's heads were smacking together!* In fact, despite seatbelts and shock absorbers, their whole bodies were tossing about like driftwood on a stormy sea. Double What the Heck?! In that brief second driving past them, I had time to assess where we were. Oh, yeah, right – Taft. *Pot-holed Taft. But it could have been any street in East Montrose.*

Isn't the state of our streets and sidewalks atrocious?! There is lots of talk about getting our streets safe and drivable. But little commitment from the City. In fact, there actually is a plan for upgrades to Taft ... but they are only things like restriping lanes and painting crosswalks ... And there is no funding for it yet. But here is one group – headed by our own Nelson Vergel – that is persistent in hounding the city to improve infrastructure such as our streets and sidewalks. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MontroseCitizens>

Take a walk along Willard and see if you can spot my nomination for Fairy Garden of the Season.

Let's make it a Challenge. Show us yours!!



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 [President.emca@gmail.com](mailto:President.emca@gmail.com)  
or EMCA Vice President Karen Bohn at [vicepresident.emca@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresident.emca@gmail.com) to volunteer.



## East Montrose Civic Association April 2020 Member Meeting

Tuesday, April 20th, 7PM

Join us via Zoom

Guest Speaker - Trudi Smith Director of Programming - Buffalo Bayou Partnership

Come hear what our area of Buffalo Bayou has to offer.

Current active members in attendance will be registered in a raffle from a local business. Must be present to win.

To join EMCA go to East Montrose Civic Association : Membership

Buffalo Bayou Partnership (BBP) is the non-profit organization revitalizing and transforming Buffalo Bayou, Houston's most significant natural resource. BBP's geographic focus is the 10-square mile stretch of Buffalo Bayou from Shepherd Drive to the Port of Houston Turning Basin. Buffalo Bayou Partnership protects land for future parks and trails, coordinates other natural and built bayou enhancements and sponsors wide-ranging events to attract thousands to the banks of the bayou.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83653425483?pwd=NVNZNkltRG1oN0tQSmhPYS9oMlpaQT09>

Meeting ID: 836 5342 5483

Passcode: 227339

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83653425483#,,,,\*227339# US (Houston)

Dial by your location: +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 836 5342 5483

Passcode: 227339

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83653425483?pwd=NVNZNkltRG1oN0tQSmhPYS9oMlpaQT09>



## East Montrose Neighborhood Cleanup

Come help keep our "Living Mosaic" beautiful!

Saturday, May 15th

9:00am

Meet at Peggy H Shiffick Park (Bomar Street)

Supplies Provided

Please email [mikemcham@gmail.com](mailto:mikemcham@gmail.com) if you plan to help out!



## 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](http://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 713-485-6724  
<http://www.cni713.com>

### Lee Hudman, ABR CLHMS CNE GPA

Your East Montrose Neighborhood Realtor®

Why should you call me when it's time to buy or sell a home or investment property?

- ◆ Fifth-generation native of Houston.
- ◆ Full time Realtor® for 30+ years.
- ◆ Resident of East Montrose since 2002.
- ◆ EMCA President 2006 and 2007

**Because I know this city, I know this business, and I know our neighborhood!**

**CALL ME TODAY at 713-449-1888**

I'd love to add your address to this list of homes that I've sold in the neighborhood: 19xx Whitney - 4xx Pacific - 20xx Converse - 24xx Whitney - 7xx Bomar - 24xx Whitney (2nd time) - 9xx Willard - 9xx Bomar - 20xx Converse - 5xx Peden - 24xx Whitney (3rd time) - 10xx Peden - 24xx Whitney (4th time) - 9xx Damon Ct. - 26xx Hopkins - 9xx Welch - 8xx Hyde Park - 25xx Whitney - 4xx Pacific - 5xx Peden (2nd time) - 1x Hyde Park - 9xx Willard (2nd time) - 3xx Bomar—6xx Drew—17xx Grant—8xx Hyde Park—8xx Damon Ct—24xx Whitney (5th time) - 9xx Bomar (2nd time) - 3xx Peden—23xx Mason



Call me or use the media icon links above.

Each HomeSmart Office is Independently Owned and Operated—If your property is currently listed, then this is not a solicitation of that listing.

A portrait photograph of Mary K. Quinn, a woman with short brown 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](mailto:maryquinn@maryquinnlaw.com)  
[www.maryquinnlaw.com](http://www.maryquinnlaw.com)

## Our District C City Council Member: Abbie Kamin

Contact Ngan Nguyen  
[districtc@houstontx.gov](mailto: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](mailto:Matala.idi@cp1.hctx.net)—346-286-1900

## Council Member At Large #5—Sallie Alcorn

Contact: Mike Watkins  
[Mike.watkins@houstontx.gov](mailto:Mike.watkins@houstontx.gov)—832-393-3017

## February Treasurer's Report

|                   |                |            |            |
|-------------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| Beginning Balance |                |            | \$8,511.28 |
| Monies In:        |                |            |            |
|                   | Membership     | \$25.00    |            |
| Monies Out:       | Storage Unit   | \$(64.00)  |            |
|                   | Zoom Meeting   | \$(15.98)  |            |
|                   | PayPal Fees    | \$(1.03)   |            |
|                   | PO Box Renewal | \$(166.00) |            |
|                   | Quickbooks     | \$(13.33)  |            |
| Ending Balance:   |                |            | \$8,275.94 |

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

## TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

|          |           |                                |
|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| April 5  | Monday    | Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle |
| April 7  | Wednesday | Heavy Trash—JUNK               |
| April 12 | Monday    | Regular Trash & Lawn           |
| April 19 | Monday    | Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle |
| April 26 | Monday    | Regular Trash & Lawn           |
| May 3    | Monday    | Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle |
| May 5    | Wednesday | Heavy Trash—TREE WASTE         |

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



## 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](http://www.Eastmontrose.org)

East Montrose Civic Association Newsletter

## East Montrose C/A Contacts

President: Mary Quinn —[president.emca@gmail.com](mailto:president.emca@gmail.com)  
V-Pres: Karen Bohn —[vicepresident.emca@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresident.emca@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: Malisa Galvan—[treasurer.emca@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.emca@gmail.com)  
Secretary: Mike McHam—[secretary.emca@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.emca@gmail.com)  
Past President: Sherry Weesner—[pastpresident.emca@gmail.com](mailto:pastpresident.emca@gmail.com)  
At Large 1: Julia Schafer—[rep1.emca@gmail.com](mailto:rep1.emca@gmail.com)  
At Large 2: Dan Ritchel — [rep2.emca@gmail.com](mailto:rep2.emca@gmail.com)  
Neartown Liaison: Julie Young—[wallpaperlady@att.net](mailto:wallpaperlady@att.net)  
Newsletter: Lee Hudman—[newsletter.emca@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.emca@gmail.com)  
HPD's PIP: Julie Young—[wallpaperlady@att.net](mailto:wallpaperlady@att.net)  
Security: Mark Weesner [mdwpsbn@gmail.com](mailto:mdwpsbn@gmail.com)  
Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - [jsdubach@gmail.com](mailto:jsdubach@gmail.com)  
Peggy Shiffick Park: Ellen Yarrell - [ellen@eayatty.com](mailto:ellen@eayatty.com)  
FB Admin: Lee Hudman - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](mailto:EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com)  
Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — [bsatexas@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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!

Total EMCA Members: 133

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](http://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](mailto: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!

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

Want to submit an article for the newsletter? Please email your article to [newsletter@eastmontrose.org](mailto:newsletter@eastmontrose.org).