

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

May 2023

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 2023 Calendar

- 5/16—EMCA meeting, Bar Boheme, 7PM
 - 6/20—Summer break, no meeting
 - 7/18—Summer break, no meeting
 - 8/15—Summer break, no meeting
 - 9/19—EMCA meeting, location to be confirmed
 - 10/3—National Night Out with HPD and elected officials, family event
 - 11/21—EMCA meeting, location to be confirmed
 - 12/5—Annual elections and holiday party
- All EMCA meetings take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month unless noted otherwise.

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

[COH Curbside Collection Guidelines](#)



EMCA has a new Instagram account! Give us a follow @eastmontrose on Instagram 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 The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

East Montrose Neighborhood – Help Keep Our “Living Mosaic” Beautiful! Please put all trash, especially doggie poop bags in garbage bags before putting them in your trash bins. The garbage collection service is spilling trash on our streets when picking up the bins because not all trash is being put in garbage bags. Doing this will help keep our Living Mosaic cleaner. Thanks for your help on this!

City of Houston Trash Pickup

The Association has received several questions about our trash pickup. We wanted to take a few moments to provide some information to all new residents.

Our trash services is handled by the City of Houston Solid Waste Management Department. There are plenty of details online including pickup schedules at www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste/.

Residential Services

The Solid Waste Management Departments services consist of:

- Weekly residential garbage collection
- Weekly yard waste collection
- Once-per-month collection of Tree Waste/Junk Waste (in alternating months)
- Curbside Recycling (check service schedule for availability)
- Dead animal collection

In addition, the SWMD operates waste, recycling and materials handling facilities at no additional fee to residents.

- Neighborhood Depositories/Recycling Centers
- Environmental Service Centers
- Reuse Warehouse

One concern was regarding pickups not occurring on the assigned dates. Per the City this is due to several factors. First, there is a shortage of CDL truck drivers. The City is actively recruiting to fill these positions. The second issue is related to equipment shortages/break downs. Unexpected vehicle mechanical problems can cause delays.



Earth Day just passed a few days back, on April 20th, so this month we are featuring many of the efforts our fellow East Montrosians have undertaken to make our beautiful planet cleaner, safer, and livable for everyone—humans, animals, plants, bugs alike!

Read up on all of the work that is going on to protect our planet, and be inspired to do your part! Share with us what you're doing to keep our little corner of the Earth clean and green.

For my part, I am working on restarting a little vegetable garden—I've had great success with tomatoes, scallions, and peppers, but I want to expand into other produce to utilize at home. Eggplants, I think will be my next attempt. If you've got a green thumb, send me your tips for keeping other produce alive and thriving in Houston. My fruits, sadly, didn't do well with the freeze earlier this year.

But speaking of plants—my aloes are flourishing so if anyone is interested, let me know and I'll bring some for your garden too!

Cheers,

Sofie

Letter to the Editor

First let me tell you that I think you are doing a great job on the newsletter having taken over some months back!

Second, I want a shout out to Julie Young for the outstanding article in the March edition about East Montrose in years past! Brilliant! I WANT MORE!

Sincerely,

Mary K. Quinn | Attorney at Law



Neighborhood Clean-Up!

Seven volunteers met at Peggy Shiffick Park at 9AM on April 15th and spent 1-2 hours picking up trash in our neighborhood, covering all streets. There was a lot of trash scattered around, and much work to be done! Our next scheduled clean-up will be in September but we can all do our part to keep the neighborhood clean in the meantime.

Thanks again to our super volunteers for all your hard work!

Things to do in Houston this Month

1. **The Derby is back!** Head to Permission Whiskey or Julep for Derby themed events all day long. Wear your Derby finest for the occasion. Or head over to WineFest at Brenners on the Bayou for a more upscale Derby experience.

Saturday May 6

2. **Wild Game and BBQ Cook-Off** Benefiting the Yaga's Children Fund, the Cook-Off starts with a Sponsor Party, a 5K, and a beer-tasting. Spend two days enjoying tons of BBQ featuring wild game.

May 12-13 in Moody Gardens

3. **50th Annual Strawberry Festival** The annual strawberry fest returns to Pasadena, featuring a weekend of barbecue, carnival rides, a car show, mutton bustin', a kids zone, and more.

May 18-21 at Pasadena Fairgrounds

4. **Empty Bowls Houston** Empty Bowls is a unique lunch fundraiser and collaboration between Houston area ceramists, woodturners and artists working in all media and Houston Center for Contemporary Craft. Attendees can enjoy perusing hand-crafted bowls made and donated by Houston area artists, which are available for a donation to the Houston Food Bank of at least \$25 per bowl (100% goes to the food bank).

May 20 from 10AM-3PM at the Center for Contemporary Craft

Pet of the Month!



Hi, I am Bella!
I am a double doodle (labradoodle and goldendoodle mix) and am one year and 4 months old. I was born in a little town in east Texas called Sulphur Springs but am happy to call East Montrose my home. I love to jump in the car for a road trip or to run errands. My favorite toy is my rubber blue ball. I love

to play catch with my family. I have two human brothers, and they take care of me a lot. My dad says I am quite an athlete because I can catch most any ball he throws me. I should try out for the Astros! Air Bud has nothing on me. I have lots of friends in East Montrose and love to walk around the neighborhood visiting them and checking my pee mail. If you see me, say hi!



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.

Texas Master Naturalist—Gulf Coast Chapter

Our mission - "To develop a corps of well-informed volunteers to provide education, outreach and service dedicated to the beneficial management of natural resources and natural areas within their communities."

We promote and teach good stewardship from within our community all the way through our Gulf Coast region, and from within our amazing state of Texas all the way around the earth.

The Gulf Coast Chapter focuses mainly on our area which is all of Harris County. To find out more information about our chapter, go to <https://txmn.org/gulfcoast/>. To find out more about the Texas Master Naturalist program as a whole, go to <https://txmn.tamu.edu/>.

If you like more than just being outside, please take a look at our program. We have Spring and Fall classes that you can sign up for to become a certified Texas Master Naturalist. If you are not ready to make a full commitment without first seeing who we are and what we do, then just come and volunteer with us. You do not need to be certified to help us. We need lots of volunteers to plant native gardens that help populate bees, birds and butterflies, we need help collecting seeds so we do not lose any more species of plants, we need bird watchers, species finders, animal trackers, and beach cleanups to help our ocean creatures. There is a lot to do on this planet and we have a lot of fun doing it! Click on the gulf coast link above to find out what volunteer opportunities are coming up.

Interested in Outreach? Read on to learn what our Outreach Committee does.

The main focus of our Outreach Committee is not only to promote the Texas Master Naturalist organization, but also to teach members of our surrounding communities to promote and practice good stewardship and health of our earth. We do this sometimes by passing out knowledgeable brochures, but most of the time we're having fun setting up booths to show and teach with a hands-on project. We teach about composting, the importance of planting trees, bird nesting, and when an animal really needs to be rescued or not. Last year at Jesse Jones Park and Nature Center, we showed those of all ages the different animal tracks that they could see while walking through the woods. Earlier this year, we had a booth set up at the Klein ISD STEM to show girls in elementary and junior high the importance of Coastal Ecology.

The majority of our teaching projects are hands-on because it's more fulfilling and teaches those interested not only the importance of saving our earth, but how much fun they can have doing it.

We hope you'll join us!

Jill Johse

Gulf Coast Texas Master Naturalist

Director of Communications and Outreach.

Recipe of the Month

There are lots of beautiful produce in season this month, so we are featuring a lovely spring salad by Ambitious Kitchen. Add this delicious salad to your lunch or dinner rotation!

SUMMER STRAWBERRY AVOCADO SALAD:

Ingredients

For the salad:

1 package (5 ounces) organic spinach
8 ounces strawberries, halved (about 2 cups halved strawberries)

1 large avocado, sliced

1/2 small red onion, thinly sliced

1/2 cup feta crumbles

1/3 cup raw sliced almonds

1/4 cup chopped shelled roasted pistachios

For the balsamic strawberry vinaigrette:

3 tablespoon balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup olive oil

1 garlic clove, grated or finely minced

1/2 teaspoon dijon mustard

1/2 tablespoon strawberry jam (or jam of choice)

Freshly ground salt and pepper, to taste

Directions

In a mason jar or small bowl, add all of the dressing ingredients. Shake or mix well to combine. Taste and add additional salt/pepper, if necessary.

Toast the almonds on the stovetop: add the almonds to a pan and place over medium heat, stirring occasionally for 2-5 minutes until almonds are slightly golden brown. Remove from heat and allow to cool.

Add spinach to a large bowl, layer on the strawberries, avocado slices, red onion, feta, toasted almonds, and chopped pistachios. Feel free to add dressing now or set it out for individual servings. Top salad bowls with extra toasted almonds and drizzle each bowl with 1/4 of the dressing.

Serves 4.

ANDERSON FAIR SPRING 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/>

Spring 2023

May 4, Songwriter Showcase: Katie Rushing and Sergio Trevino

May 12, Tish Hinojosa Trio

May 19, Lynn Langham and Doug Gill

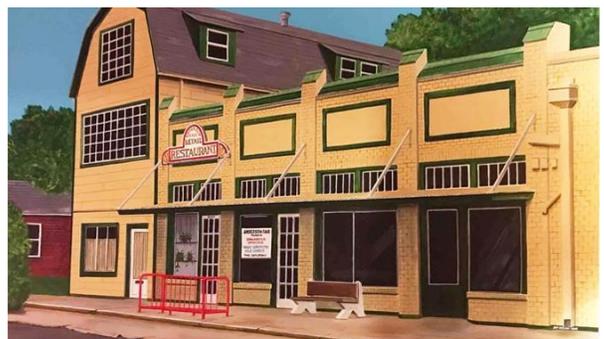
June 1, Songwriter Showcase

June 2, KPFT Fundraiser with Grant Peeples

June 9, Curtis McMurtry

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



The Art League, located in our neighborhood at Montrose & Willard, announced their *2023 Texas LifeTime Achievement, Patron and Artist of the Year* honorees for 2023.

The Life Time Achievement Award goes to **Wendy Watriss**, co-founder of Foto Fest International and it's Biennial, co-founded with her husband, the late **Fred Baldwin**, and the German art historian, **Petra Benteler**. Patron of the year goes **Cecily E. Horton**, whose patronage extends to local arts and culture organizations, helping the city's arts eco-system flourish. Artist of the year award goes to **Vincent Valdez**.

If you've never seen Vincent Valdez' work, you should! Valdez has a studio in Houston, which I was privileged to visit a few years ago. There will be a show of his work at the Art League September 15-December 2 and a reminder in the September EMCA newsletter since our neighborhood will be privileged to have his work so easily accessible. Put it on your calendars! Valdez focuses on tough social issues, highlighting the fact that many things which we would hope are safely in the past are still right here, existing in the present amongst us.



Neighborhood Sightings...

Updates on 711 West Grey:

The liquor license at 711 is a dead issue now because of proximity to Wharton and good letter writing neighbors. The actual owners of the property were scheduled to meet with City Inspectors at the property on April 11th but we haven't heard how that went or if it happened. The red tag is flying beautifully in the breeze so good so far. We would really like to thank everyone who wrote emails to the city council regarding this matter and made their voices heard.

Civic engagement and participation is how we get things done!

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

Please contact EMCA President Karen Brohn at President.emca@gmail.com or EMCA Vice President Hugo O'Valle at vicepresident.emca@gmail.com to volunteer.

106 Avondale
Houston, TX 77006

FAMILY LAW / LITIGATION
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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!

EMCA Safety Update

The East Montrose Civic Association (“EMCA”) is kicking off their 2023 S.E.A.L. Security campaign to rehire S.E.A.L. Security through the end of December 2023. S.E.A.L Security will cost ~\$7,000 per month. We need to have a minimum of 170 neighbors sign up before we can rehire S.E.A.L. Security.

To help protect your neighborhood, please sign up by completing one of the payment options below. Once you have subscribed, please email safety.emca@gmail.com your contact information (name, address, email, phone number). This information will help us in providing you with updates, including when we reach the 170 subscribers!

Payment Options:

(Please include your name, address, email and phone number with all payments)

1. Send a \$500 payment via Zelle at treasurer.emca@gmail.com
2. Drop a check for \$500 payable to EMCA in the (locked) mailbox at 402 Welch Street.
3. Pay via PayPal or credit card using one of the options below:

3 Month Subscription*



12 Month Subscription*



*Subscriptions can be cancelled by the subscriber via PayPal at any time. Additional PayPal fees of 3.5% are included in the subscription prices.

Additional Security Information:

Our EMCA boundaries will stay the same: Genesee Street to the east, W. Gray Street to the north, Montrose Street to the west and Fairview Street to the south. The patrol area would be defined in the contract post orders, focusing on the areas around those who have subscribed and may include coverage for subscribers immediately outside the boundaries of EMCA.

Subscribers receive the following benefits:

1. 24 Hour Hotline Number (a card will be delivered to each subscriber at their designated address)
2. Vacation Watch
3. Welfare Checks
4. Yard Sign indicating support for the program
5. [Click here for Q&A with S.E.A.L. COO James Alexander on Saturday, Feb 5th, 2022.](#)

All questions and concerns can be sent to safety.emca@gmail.com.

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

Our District C City Council Member: Abbie 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: Karen Brohn —president.emca@gmail.com
 V-Pres: Hugo Ovalle—vicepresident.emca@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Malisa Galvan—treasurer.emca@gmail.com
 Secretary: Rachel Tucker—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: Lewis Goldstein — rep2.emca@gmail.com
 Neartown Liaison: Julie Young—wallpaperlady@att.net
 Newsletter: Sofie Shoaib—newsletter.emca@gmail.com
 HPD's PIP: Julie Young—wallpaperlady@att.net
 Security: Hugo Ovalle—safety.emca@gmail.com
 Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - jsdubach@gmail.com
 Peggy Shiffick Park: Ellen Yarrell - ellen@eayatty.com
 FB Admin: Bill Maxey - EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com
 Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — bsatexas@sbcglobal.net
 Clean up Crew: George Boos —george.boos@att.net

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

May 1	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
May 3	Wednesday	Tree Waste
May 8	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
May 15	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
May 22	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
May 29	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
June 5	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn

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.

March, 2023 Treasurer's Report
 For the period March 1, 2023 - March 31, 2023

EMCA			
Beginning Balance			\$ 9,565.49
Monies In	Membership	\$ 175.00	
	Donation	\$ 1.00	
Monies Out	Storage Unit		\$ 60.00
	Paypal Fees		\$ 7.08
	Quickbooks		\$ 63.96
	Newsletter		\$ 438.48
	Director & Officer Insurance		\$ 868.00
Ending Balance			\$ 8,303.97
Security			
Beginning Balance			
Monies In	Security Reserve	-	
	Security Reserve 2023	\$ 21,476.22	
Monies Out	Check Fees		\$ 34.80
	Paypal Fees		\$ 145.46
Ending Balance Original Subscription			\$ 2,980.45
Ending Balance New Subscription			\$ 38,088.25
Combined Ending Balance			\$ 49,372.67

Total EMCA Members: 187
Total Greater EM Security subscriptions : 174
2023 Great EM Security Subscribers: 77

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