East Montrose
Civic Association Newsletter

Connect: Facebook.com/groups/East Montrose and www.eastmontrose.org or Mail: PO Box 131363 Houston, TX 77219

August 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

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 The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

Update from EMCA President

On Tuesday, July 25th , the Neartown Assocation ("NTA") hosted a member meeting with guest speakers from the developers of the proposed Hyde Park Hotel. The Hyde Park Hotel is a six-seven story boutique hotel to be located between the blocks of Fairview, Stanford, Hyde Park and Crocker. Information about the development can be found on the development's website at www.hydeparkhou.com.

The developer met with NTA to discuss the project and the variances being requested in order to build the hotel. The City of Houston Planning Commission met on Thursday, July 27th , to consider granting these variances. While the hotel is not within the boundaries of East Montrose but within Avondale, it is close enough to gain interest of our residents. Therefore, the East Montrose Board of Directors has been following the matter at the request of some of our members. As always, we have heard comments for and against the development.

We have heard from the President of Avondale and were told the members of Avondale supported the variances after consideration of a few facts. Following are the key facts which were mentioned. The parking lot will be placed where there is an existing parking lot. The new development will replace existing empty lot and rundown buildings which will bring improvements to the area. The area is already home to a diverse set of businesses including multiple bars, restaurants, smoke shop and others.

The decision to discuss this matter was delayed at the July 27th Planning Commission Meeting until August 10th . This will be the second deferral of this matter and will allow further discussion between the parties.

EMCA will continue to attend NTA and our super neighborhood meetings and provide our residents with key updates.

The Neartown Association ("NTA") is a membership group for the civic associations of the Neartown area of Houston. Board members of those associations and their delegates who participate in NTA are invited to attend a variety of meetings on key topics impacting our neighborhoods.

Things to do in Houston this Month

1. **46th Annual Harvest Festival** Taking places Fridays and Saturdays all month long, Messina Hof will be holding their annual harvest fet, which includes events such as grape stomping (!!), grape picking, wine tastings, BBQ luaus, murder mystery dinners and much more.

   Friday and Saturday all throughout the month of August

2. White Linen Night 19th Street takeover! Join the sip and shop with vendors, shops and restaurants hosting events all along 19th in the Heights. Also partaking will be White Oak, 20th Street and more. Check it out!

August 5 in the Heights

3. Landry's Dining through History Continuing from last month, there will New York in the 1920s, a Texas Two Step feature, and finally a grand ballroom dinner to close out this incredible series. Dine through history!

The Palm, King Ranch Texas Kitchen, Post Oak Hotel Aug 2, 9, 12

4. The Barbie Dreamhouse Boutique Café Barbieland Takeover! Experience the lifesized doll house, themed menues, photo ops, cosplay and trivia. Barbiecore to the max for three straight weeks at Popfancy!

August 1-20 at Popfancy Dessert Bar

5. 4th Annual Mariachi Festival Celebrate Mariachi music and Hispanic culture with tons of food, events, and of course Mariachi music!

August 18-20 at the Wortham Center

From the Editor... by Sofie Shoaib

In a *still* boiling summer, I have been looking for even more to do indoors and the answer has finally appeared. WE'RE BACK AT THE MOVIES BABY!

What a phenomenal lineup. Enough movies to stay glued to the big screen (or bigger screen, looking at you IMAX) for the rest of this heatwave. First Mission Impossible, then the greatest weekend opener in a very long time—Barbenheimer—and a great lineup of films to come. A new Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (animated, obvi), Gran Turismo for all of your racing meets gaming needs, Challengers spiking to new dramatic heights in the world of tennis, the Haunted Mansion just in time to get ready for spooky season, and the Blue Beetle which is tentatively looking like a DC redemption.

And if you make it through the summer at the cinema, there is a great fall line up waiting for you as well.

Sounds like Hollywood finally heard us all saying *"Kenough with the remakes!"* I think its safe to say 2023 has reignited the spark we were dearly missing from the film industry.

Stay cool, get your pink on for Barbie, and settle in for a long dramatic evening with Nolan's Oppenheimer.

Sofie

East Montrose Civic Association Elections

In December we will be voting on three positions –

- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Treasurer
- ⇒ At-Large

A nominating committee will be handling the elections. If you are interested in participating in the nominating committee or have interest in volunteering on the Board of Directors, please send an email to president.emca@gmail.com and/;or pastpresident.emca@gmail.com.

Recipe of the Month

Late summer always has the sweetest of stone fruits. Lets highlight them with a beautiful cobbler.
Here is a fruit cobbler with vanilla mascarpone biscuits by Paige Grandjean

Ingredients

2 ½ pounds prepared fresh or thawed frozen fruit (about 10 cups)
1 ¾ cups granulated sugar, divided
1 ⅓ cups all-purpose flour (about 5 3/4 ounces), divided
3 tablespoons aged sherry vinegar or white balsamic vinegar
2 teaspoons grated lemon zest plus 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 ½ teaspoons kosher salt, divided
1 (8-ounce) container mascarpone cheese, crème fraîche, or sour cream
¼ cup unsalted butter, melted and cooled
6 tablespoons heavy cream, divided
1 tablespoon vanilla bean paste or 1 vanilla bean, seeds scraped
½ cup fine semolina flour or fine cornmeal (about 2 3/4 ounces)
2 ½ teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons turbinado sugar
Vanilla ice cream, for serving

Directions

Preheat oven to 375°F. Toss together fruit, 1 1/2 cups granulated sugar, 1/3 cup all-purpose flour, vinegar, lemon zest and juice, and 3/4 teaspoon salt in a large bowl. Transfer fruit mixture to a 3-quart baking dish (such as a 13- x 9-inch dish), and spread in an even layer. Set aside.

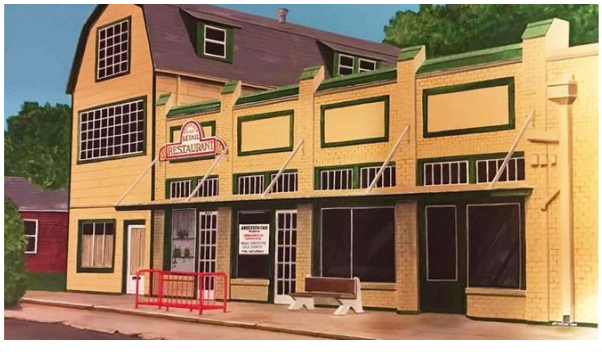
Whisk together mascarpone, butter, 1/4 cup cream, and vanilla bean paste in a medium bowl until mostly smooth; set aside. Whisk together semolina flour, baking powder, remaining 1 cup all-purpose flour, remaining 1/4 cup granulated sugar, and remaining 3/4 teaspoon salt in a large bowl. Add mascarpone mixture to flour mixture; stir with a fork until a shaggy dough forms.

Using a 2 1/4-inch scoop, divide dough into 9 mounds (about 1/4 cup each), and arrange on top of fruit filling. Brush dough mounds with remaining 2 tablespoons cream; sprinkle with turbinado sugar.

Bake in preheated oven until biscuits are golden brown and cobbler is bubbly and thickened in center, 1 hour to 1 hour and 10 minutes. Let cool on a wire rack 30 minutes. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

ANDERSON FAIR SUMMER 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/



Summer concerts are officially over!
Check back for the September schedule next month.

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

Art & About...

by Penny Cerling

Lighbulbs Unlimited puts up murals on the sides of their building.

The latest mural, on the Commonwealth side, has gotten a lot of attention since it is dedicated to Americans wrongfully detained in foreign prisons including 3 Houstonians: Luke Denman (Venezuela since 2020) - Austin Tice (Syria since 2012) - Zack Shahin (UAE since 2008). The "Love our Troops" mural is on the east side of the building.

The Ukraine mural was photographed last Fall.

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.

Demi's Dog House

239 W. Gray, Houston, TX 77019

713-942-0688

www.demisdoghouse.com

Daycare Grooming Boarding

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 promo-

Montrose Musings...

By Julie Young

Our trash truck came down the street late Monday, and the gal was having trouble with cans falling over, or being too close together. I saw her put it in park and get out several times to straighten out the cans, so the machine could grab them and dump them in the truck. The workers don't have to get out and do that, so I was really impressed. In fact, they're not supposed to get out of the truck. So, when she got up to my house, I flagged her down and told her I noticed, and that we appreciate her efforts. I think that made her feel good. When I got inside, I called 311 (city help line) and reported it, too. A few months back I saw a man driver doing the same thing. When I talked to him, he actually said, "This is my route, and I want to treat it as if it were my own home." ??!! I also reported that guy. For some reason, that time I got personal communication from their boss. He said that compliments like that really make the workers happy and motivated. You know that most of the time, people are prolly bitchin' them out.

I hardly ever drive east on Fairview, because of the completely awful minefield of pavement that has plagued that stretch, particularly the 200 block, for decades. But when I remember that recent repairs have left the road smooth now, I find it more pleasant than many of the other neighborhood streets.

Fewer stop signs, too. 😊

So last Saturday, I took Fairview to get on Hwy 59. This was about noon, mid-July, and approaching 100*. I was amazed at the activity and the throngs of people! Along the south side, clubs Buddy's, Barcode, Ripcord, and George, one after the other, were all jammed with patrons - and outside on the patios, too. Heading east toward the restaurants, Cucharita had a wait line … interspersed with 20-something gals in colorful summer attire. Bohemе's clients were spilling out the doors. Reeve's Antiques (but it's actually mostly cool mid-century artwork!) was abuzz with people passing in and out the door. Across the street, the new restaurant coming to the old Ziggy's / Gratify was announcing it's soon opening. Cuchara was a riot of color and activity, with its mini-Mexican marketplace, and scores of people dining and chillin' on the patio. Yes, even in scorching heat. Two blocks further, the brand new Elro is already attracting masses of people; the patio was full! You'll see this place described as a pizza joint. But don't go expecting red sauce, Italian sausage and green peppers. We have Pepperoni's for that. At Elro you'll want a translation guide to decipher the ingredients, and your plate will showcase a drizzle of this and a snipped garnish of that. Reviews have been overwhelmingly thrilled with the place.
So, grab a shade umbrella and take the occasion soon to walk down to our east segment of Fairview.

So vibrant and full of life!

Next month, maybe my van will turn west and we'll see what's up at La Mexicana and Tex Chick. And good old dependable Lola's!

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

June, 2023 Treasurer's Report
For the period June 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023

EMCA			
Beginning Balance			$ 8,341.17
Monies In		$ -	
Monies Out	Storage Unit		$ 72.00
	Quickbooks		$ 31.98
	Storage		$ 50.00
	Newsletter		$ 430.00
Ending Balance			$ 7,757.19
Security			
Beginning Balance			$ 54,085.10
Monies In	Security Reserve 2023	$ 2,020.00	
	Sales Tax Refund	$ 3,848.80	
Monies Out	Paypal Fees	$ 20.12	
Ending Balance Original Subscription			$ 612.45
Ending Balance New Subscription			$ 59,933.78
Combined Ending Balance			$ 68,303.42

Total EMCA Members: 191
Total Greater EM Security subscriptions : 174
2023 Great EM Security Subscribers: 115

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

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: OPEN
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: PENDING
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

August 2	Monday	Junk
August 7	Wednesday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
August 14	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
August 21	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
August 28	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
September 4	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

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