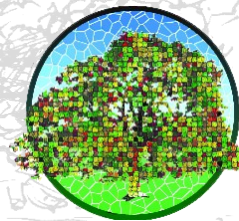


East Montrose

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

November 2024

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 2024 Calendar

10/19 Neighborhood clean-up,
Peggy Shiffick Park
9AM

10/26—Home tour and ArtWalk

12/5—Holiday party and annual elections
7PM-9PM

**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 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almost always out of date.



On Tuesday, October 1, 2024, neighbors from East Montrose as well as our next-door neighbors from North Montrose Civic Association came out in force to enjoy the beautiful weather, share wonderful food and interact with Houston Police Department officers and mounted patrol as well as local officials and fellow neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered to make the event a success. Special thank you to Mary Quinn for gathering raffle items and Betsy Anderson for coordinating the raffle table and to both for putting out signs for the event along with the assistance of Joel Dudley and Rachel Tucker. Thank you to our in-house photographer Bill Maxey for documenting the event. Finally, an enormous shout out and thank you to Tim Leatherwood & Cindy Shung for opening Anderson Fair for our use and providing tables and chairs for our comfort.

Please remember to visit the businesses which supported our National Night Out – Anderson Fair, Art League Houston, Boheme, Demi's Doghouse, Fletchers Bike Studio, Fusion Eats, Hungry's, Midtown Bar & Grill, Pottery by Lee Hudman, Southwestern Paint, Xiaolong Dumplings and Reeves Art Studio. If you won a gift certificate and have not received it, please contact president.emca@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year if not before at one of EMCA's other events. Remember the EMCA Holiday Event (including elections) on Thursday, December 5th. You can find out about these and other EMCA events at www.eastmontrose.org.



2024 EAST MONTROSE HOME TOUR and ARTWALK

The East Montrose Civic Association will host its 14th Biennial Home Tour and ArtWalk on Saturday, October 26, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Situated in the shadow of downtown Houston, East Montrose was platted in the early 1900's - back in the days when Houston's population numbered fewer than 300,000 and a street car ran down what is now Fairview St.

During the 1960s East Montrose became a center for counterculture and hippie communes. Today a diverse mix of people and architecture, this pedestrian-friendly area was recently named one of the ten great neighborhoods in America.

These homes have original build dates dating back to the early 1900s. Tour goers can get a glimpse of how the architecture has been transformed over the years, with results of unique renovations that are characteristic of this distinctive, eclectic neighborhood.

Also visit the working studios of local artists, all within comfortable strolling distance. You'll be invited in to the space where artists get their inspiration, and you'll see where and how their crafts come to life. Art work ranges from watercolor and abstract acrylic paintings, to photography, origami & paper art, books, drawings, sculpture and holiday gifts.

Plus Anderson Fair, the legendary Houston music landmark (since 1969) will be open with refreshments. The interior of this historic building is an art installation in itself.

615 Welch

Begin your tour at this charming 1910 Craftsman home, where classic architectural beauty meets timeless craftsmanship. From its original woodwork and built-in cabinetry to the inviting front porch, this home captures the essence of early 20th-century design. Period details like transom windows, original pine wood flooring, vintage light fixtures, and stained-glass offer a glimpse into the rich history of this era.

2020 Crocker

The childhood home of Nell Stewart, who lived there for a century and meticulously documented the neighborhood's transformation from the early 1900s through today; a young couple, now with a daughter, embarked on the journey of restoring it to its original splendor. Previously featured as a work-in-progress on our 2022 tour, the renovation has made impressive strides. It serves as a prime example of how historic homes can be thoughtfully preserved and revived.

609 Welch

A charming residence located in the heart of Houston's vibrant Montrose neighborhood. Built in 1900, this historic gem has gracefully stood the test of time, embodying over a century of character and elegance. The current owners have thoughtfully renovated key elements of the home, including a stunning staircase and refinished hardwood floors.

1909 Taft

An updated version of a classic Houston bungalow, 1909 appears to have been built around 1919. A major renovation was undertaken in 2019, doubling the size of the house to 3000 sq. feet. A pool, deck, outdoor shower, and seating area were installed to take advantage of the L-shape of the finished house.

608 Peden

Nestled in the heart of Montrose, Houston, this charming 1920s home is a true gem. As you approach, you'll be greeted by a serene fish and turtle pond, adding a touch of tranquility to the front yard. The property is graced by two majestic oak trees, each over a century old, providing ample shade and a sense of timeless beauty.

Advance tickets cost \$20 at www.eastmontrose.org

Day-of-Tour tickets are \$25. All proceeds benefit our civic association.

Contact: Mary Quinn 281-630-4487 MaryQuinn@MaryQuinnLaw.com

Things to do in Houston this Month

1. Dia do los Muertes Day of the Dead Market: Come enjoy the museum exhibits and learn about the customs and traditions of Dia de los Muertes, while shopping the wares of the 40+ vendors!

National Museum of Funeral History, November 1, 7-10PM

2. 71st Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show: Check out the amazing showcase of beautiful earthly treasures and educational activities over three days at this incredible event. There will be plenty of opportunities for holiday shopping, exhibits, kids activities, demonstrations on fossil identification, lapidary, and lessons on jewelry making and beading.

Humble Civic Center, November 8-10, 2024

3. Downtown Farmers Market For its FINAL date of the season, the Market Square Park market will be converted into a Friendsgiving-themed market and block party! In collaboration with Central City Co-Op (Houstons oldest, organic, sustainable food co-op) the party will feature art vendors, pop-ups, live music, and other entertainment.

Market Square Park, November 16, 2024

4. 2024 International Women's Polo Championship The Houston Polo Club will be hosting the Championship right here at HPC field by Memorial Park. Experience world class polo, a parade, live music, and a Champagne divot stomp at halftime.

HPC Field, November 17, 2024

5. Galveston ArtWalk Not quite the East Montrose ArtWalk, but just as creative—Galveston's art galleries, studios and businesses will open their doors to celebrate the talent and merchants local to Galveston.

Market Street, November 30, 2024

By the Editor... by Sofie Shoaib

It was a busy October here in the neighborhood! With NNO and the neighborhood clean-up earlier this month, we are grateful to everyone who participated and came to our events. The month isn't over yet though, with the Historic Home Tour and ArtWalk just around the corner—2022 was my first EMCA Home Tour and I can tell you, it was a delight. There is something so special about the unique homes in East Montrose (not to mention the artists who reside here!) Being able to meet with everyone and learn about the art and architecture really was a privilege. I highly recommend getting your tickets and coming out for the self-guided tours.

In other news, we have elections coming up so please make sure to submit your votes (you should find a ballot with nominee bios further within this newsletter). If you would like to nominate someone for an open position, there will be a space for write-ins. Votes will be counted at the holiday party in December. While we are on the subject of elections, please do your civic duty and vote in the national elections—you can submit a ballot by mail, vote early from October 21-November 1 at the Metropolitan MultiService Center on West Grey, or vote on election day, November 5, again, at West Grey (just follow the signs!). BallotPedia and BallotReady are great resources for comparing candidate platforms, and getting information on how to vote at your local polling center. We are fortunate to have one of the most popular voting centers in Harris county, right here by our neighborhood, so be sure to account for lines and wait times when you make arrangements to get out there.

Sofie

Recipe of the Month

Lets highlight pumpkin before diving into cozy winter recipes, with a Creamy Pumpkin Pasta Recipe by Chandra Ram

- 1 pound linguine, spaghetti, or fettucine
- 9 3/4 ounces thick-cut bacon, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 2 medium garlic cloves, grated (about 1 teaspoon)
- 1 can (15 ounces) pumpkin puree
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 teaspoon fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper



1. Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add pasta and cook until al dente, as directed on package. Drain pasta, reserving 1 1/2 cups of pasta water, and return pasta to pot. Cover pot with lid to keep pasta warm.
2. While pasta is cooking, cook bacon in a large, deep skillet over medium heat until browned and crispy, 9 to 10 minutes. Transfer bacon to a paper towel-lined plate to cool, about 5 minutes.
3. Pour off all but 1 tablespoon bacon grease in skillet. Add butter to pan and swirl pan until butter is melted. Add rosemary and cook until fragrant and crispy, about 1 minute. Use a spoon to remove about a teaspoon of rosemary from pan and set aside. Reduce heat to medium-low, add garlic. Saute until fragrant, stirring constantly, about 1 minute. Carefully add pumpkin puree (mixture will bubble), then add heavy cream, lemon juice, salt, pepper, cooked bacon, and 1/2 cup of the reserved pasta cooking water, and stir to combine. Simmer until sauce thickens slightly, about 2 minutes.
4. Pour pumpkin sauce over pasta, tossing to coat, adding more pasta water as necessary to coat pasta. Serve, topped with reserved rosemary.

Yard of the Season... by Betsy Anderson

Our Yard of the Season home for September through November 2024 is the 7-year-old townhome on the corner of Willard and Morgan, 308 Willard. The owners, Shea and Braden Parker, have lived in the home since it was built. The home is a modern townhome with a clean white and black color scheme. The always green grass and varied plantings show pride in their landscaping and add a bit of softness to the home.

The Parkers moved from Chicago in late 2016, knowing little about the city of Houston. Their first place was an apartment at Dallas and Waugh. They found their home with us a few months later, moving into the house in April 2017. They were lucky enough to be involved in some of the interior design since it was just being completed. They fell in love with it immediately. They feel that they were incredibly lucky to blindly find East Montrose, figuring out very quickly just how accessible our area is to everything.

The Parkers home is always full of activity, what with twin 4-year-olds, Emory and Oliver, a golden doodle dog named Piper, a Burmese cat named Hudson, and a recently added kitten, Tuk Tuk. Both Parkers work in the ER and have unusual schedules. You may see them coming and going throughout the day, either walking Piper or chasing after their twins, who can be seen riding their scooters all over the neighborhood. They love to travel as a family and hope to take as many trips as possible before the twins start school next fall.

The bench on their front porch with coordinating pillows, and the always-on LED lights hanging from their terrace, are evidence of their love of the home, and just how comfortable they feel living in East Montrose.



Montrose Musings... by Julie Young

Did you know that the Hot Bagel Shop on Shepherd has personal size pizzas? They're really good, too. They do an especially good job on the veggie option – just look at that photo! Generous toppings, tasty sauce, lots of cheese. The bagel dough lends a unique chewy texture, and the bottom is dusted with cornmeal, for a crunchy finish – watch for crumbs on your car seat! For at least a decade after I moved to East Montrose, the price stayed a bargain at 99c. Later it went up to \$1.99 for another many years. It's crept up since (and so has the size of the pizza!), so the other day I paid \$5.99 for enough for two people to share for lunch.



Annual East Montrose Civic Association Holiday Party and Election Night

The Annual East Montrose Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange will take place Thursday, December 5, 2024, from 7 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Quinn, EMCA Past President, 305 Fargo Street. The EMCA Board will provide some holiday munchies along with water and soft drinks. We ask everyone to bring their own adult libations and an appetizer, snack or food item to share.

Members will be entered into a drawing for a raffle prize. Non-members are welcome to attend with a \$5.00 donation.

Remember each person who wants to participate in the gift exchange must bring a wrapped (or at least disguised) white elephant gift for the gift exchange.

At the beginning of the evening, we will be electing a President, Vice President and an At-Large Director. If you would like to run for one of these positions, please email the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mary Quinn @ pastpresident.emca@gmail.com.

The nominating committee recommendations and a short bio for each candidate are as follows and are posted online at www.eastmontrose.org.

President – Karen Brohn

Karen Brohn is the current President of the East Montrose Civic Association, a position she has held for two years. She has been an active member of EMCA since moving into the neighborhood over 12 years ago including leading the Yard of the Season Committee, coordinating National Night Out, and being a Neartown Association representative. Outside of the EMCA Board, Karen is a Corporate Controller and enjoys the outdoors in her free time. She and her husband enjoy spending time with friends and family and their two rescue dogs. She enjoys participating in triathlons and volleyball leagues and is a longtime Houston Texans fan. Karen has enjoyed working on both the social and civic areas within East Montrose and getting to know its residents and business owners. If re-elected, she looks forward to staying involved to ensure that East Montrose remains a Living Mosaic.

Vice President – Hugo Ovalle

Hugo Ovalle is the current Vice President of the East Montrose Civic Association, running for re-election. He moved to East Montrose in 2020 with his wife Claudia, his children, Lucia, and Eric, and their three dogs Sansa, Red and Rocket. He has served the EMCA as part of the security committee and as the At-Large 1 Board Member. He enjoys working towards a safer, better neighborhood. He has actively advocated for safer routes to schools, a program which recently received a grant from the federal government and will start implementation here soon. Hugo is a Petroleum Engineer for a consulting company in downtown Houston.

At-Large Director – Alyssa Ketner/Katy Macalla

Alyssa Ketner is an active member of EMCA and has served as a part-time board member alongside Katy Macalla for the past two years. As a native Houstonian and mother to two daughters, she is deeply committed to the well-being and growth of the neighborhood. She has a strong connection to the area, having grown up close by, and is dedicated to maintaining the qualities that make it such a wonderful place to live.

In addition to her personal ties, she has had the pleasure of hosting the Annual Spring Fling event with Katy Macalla and assisting with the upcoming Home Tour. She enjoys spending quality time with family and friends, exploring everything East Montrose has to offer. Whether it is enjoying the local restaurants, visiting nearby museums, or simply taking in the unique charm of the neighborhood, she is constantly reminded how special our community is. Alyssa is eager to bring her dedication, local knowledge, and community involvement to the EMCA and looks forward to the opportunity to continue contributing to our neighborhood's growth and success.

Candidate Bio's Continued

Katy Macalla, a proud native of Houston, has been an engaged part-time board member of EMCA alongside Alyssa Ketner for the past two years. Together, they have been instrumental in launching and hosting the beloved Annual Spring Fling, a highlight for the community each year. Outside of her board responsibilities, Katy embraces life with enthusiasm. She is an avid fitness enthusiast, revels in the creative art of needlepointing, and treasures quality time with friends and family. A passionate advocate for animal welfare, she dedicates her efforts to supporting local rescue shelters, embodying her commitment to making a meaningful impact in her community. With a unique blend of professional expertise and genuine passion, Katy is dedicated to bringing her skills and vision to better our civic association and our community.

All members in good standing (meaning your dues are up to date) are eligible to vote. You can check your status by reaching out to Joel Dudley at treasurer.emca@gmail.com.

If you are unable to attend the Holiday Party, you can complete an absentee/proxy ballot and drop it off at 2101 Whitney Street or email it to pastpresident.emca@gmail.com.

Reminiscing...

Prelude:

Many of you remember Nell Stewart, who at 2000 Crocker from 1920 until a couple of years ago. She saw scores of residents come and go, and kids grow up, and she witnessed many changes to East Montrose over the years. One of which is her cherished home of 100+ years, now updated and freshened, and was featured on the Homes Tour last month.

Nell is living off Gessner now, still as witty as ever, and turns 104 right around Thanksgiving.

Here is a recollection of hers from a Thanksgiving in East Montrose decades ago

"In the early years of the twentieth century, many of the customs of earlier times still prevailed. So Houston had a City Market located near the City Hall, in the northern section of town. Many things were available there that could not be found in the smaller neighborhood grocery stores. Around Thanksgiving, one of the offerings was live turkeys. A neighbor was determined that he would have a turkey. He prepared a coop in his back yard to keep the bird until the time came for the slaughter. He did not own a car, so his only means of transportation was the street car. Undaunted, he went to the market, purchased his bird, and carrying his victim, boarded the streetcar which traveled along Fairview, several blocks from his house. He placed the bird in the coop he had prepared. Obviously, his efforts fell short, because the turkey found a way of escape and with its new-found freedom enjoyed roaming the neighborhood. The word went out that Mr. K's bird was loose. What a great excuse for a little excitement as neighbors turned out to capture the hapless creature.. It was caught and returned to captivity until it met its fate at the appropriate time."

-Submitted by Julie Young

Update on the Montrose Safe Routes to School Project:

The project is currently in the design phase. There is a current cost estimate of \$6M, where the TIRZ will provide 10% of the budget and the rest will come from federal funds. The project includes 4.5 miles of sidewalk reconstruction, expanding them to 5-6 ft sidewalks from West Dallas to Fairview, and Taft to Montrose Blvd. Tree preservation has been accounted for with narrowed sidewalks around tree roots, steel plates to span uneven root systems, and individualized tree protection. Pedestrian signals have been proposed at Stanford and W Grey, as well as Stanford and W Dallas. The design phase will continue through spring 2025, with construction projected to begin in next summer.

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: Lewis Goldstein — 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

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

November 4	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
November 6	Wednesday	Tree Waste
November 11	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn& Recycle
November 18	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
November 25	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn& Recycle
December 2	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn

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

***holiday schedule / not confirmed

Total EMCA Members: 225

Total Greater EM Security subscriptions : 174

2024 Greater EM Security Subscribers: 58

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.

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 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

East Montrose Civic Association Proxy Ballot

December 5, 2024

Election of Officers in Accordance with By-Laws

I, _____ being a member in good standing of the East Montrose Civic Association, hereby vote for the following named persons to serve as officers of the Association from January 2025 – December 2026.

Please accept this as my absentee vote for the below-named candidates being considered on December 5, 2024.

Signature _____ Date _____

Roster of Candidates:

President: Karen Bohn

Write-In Candidate: _____

Vice President: Hugo Ovalle

Write-In Candidate: _____

At Large: Alyssa Ketner/Katy Macalla

Write-In Candidate: _____

Note: Please complete and email to pastpresident.emca@gmail.com or complete and mail or drop off at 2101 Whitney Street by 5 PM on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.