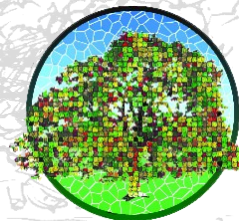


East Montrose

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

October 2026

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 2026 Calendar

10/6—National Night Out

**10/18—Neighborhood clean up, 9AM,
Peggy Shiffick Park**

10/24—Biennial Home Tour

11/17—Meeting, location TBD

**12/8—Annual Meeting/Elections and
Holiday Party, 7PM**

All EMCA meetings take place on the 3rd

Thank you to our contributors!

Karen Bohn

Mary Quinn

Bill Maxey

Penny Cerling

Betsy Anderson

Colin Gary-METRO

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The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

Heavy Trash and Tree/Yard Waste Pick Up Updates:

Friends and Neighbors:

Earlier this year, Houston news media reported that the City of Houston planned to replace its regular heavy trash collection schedule with an appointment-based system requiring residents to call 311 for pickup. While that change was announced, the appointment system did not ultimately take effect as planned.

The City has, however, changed its heavy trash collection schedule.

Under the previous system, tree waste and junk waste were collected on alternating months. Under the City's current schedule, heavy trash collection occurs **every other month** and includes both bulky/junk waste and eligible tree waste.

For East Montrose residents, heavy trash collection is scheduled for the **first Wednesday of every even-numbered month**.

For the remainder of 2026, our scheduled collection dates are:

- **Wednesday, October 7**
- **Wednesday, December 2**

There is no need to call 311 to schedule these regular collections. Residents should simply follow the City's scheduled collection dates.

Please also remember that heavy trash should not be placed at the curb weeks in advance. The City currently allows heavy trash to be set out beginning at **6:00 p.m. on the Friday before the scheduled collection day**.

We ask everyone to please note these dates on your calendars and wait until the appropriate set-out period before placing heavy trash, junk or tree waste at the curb. Keeping piles off the street between collection periods will help keep East Montrose looking its best.

Mary Quinn
Past President, EMCA



Tuesday, October 6, 2026

6:30-8:00 p.m.

East Montrose National Night Out

Organized by the East Montrose Civic Association

Come join your neighbors in enhancing Police/Community Relations
Outside Anderson Fair located at corner of Grant and Welch
2007 Grant Street, Houston, TX 77006
ALL AGES WELCOME

Interact with attendees from the Houston Police Department and local officials.
Activities for kids being provided by Houston METRO and Houston Library

Potluck – bring a dish to share if you are able – please try to mark your item so folks know what they are trying. Food donation by local business – Midtown Bar & Grill

Water provided - BYOB or beverages can be purchased at Anderson Fair.
Drink station being donated by Raising Cane's.

Special thanks go out to Tim Leatherwood & Cindy Shung of Anderson Fair for Logistical Support

Raffle Prizes for Current EMCA Members (must be present to win)

To check your membership status, contact treasurer.emca@gmail.com

Go to our website to renew or join EMCA - www.eastmontrose.org/about-us/membership/

Thank you to the following local businesses for supporting our raffle and/or providing food donations.

EMCA Member Businesses - Demi's Doghouse, Reeves Art and Design

Local Businesses – Art League Houston, Dirt Bag, Fletcher's Bike Shop, In Bloom, La Mexicana, Memorial Assistance Ministries, Pinot's Palette, Southwestern Paint

If you would like to join the above list or volunteer, please contact At-Large Board Member, Mary Dedeaux-Swinton at rep2.emca@gmail.com and President Karen Bohn at president.emca@gmail.com.

Things to do in Houston this Month

1. Houston Pumpkin Festival: Watch downtown Houston transform with corn pits, giant pumpkins, rides, games, and tons of activities.

Daily, Discovery Green

2. Deep in the Heart: Discovery Green is hosting a weekly concert series showcasing emerging and regional Texas artists for all types of music—Americana, Tejano, indie, blues, folk.

Every Friday at 7PM, Discovery Green

3. Greek Fest: Welcoming the 60th Annual Greek Festival to Houston—there will be tons of delicious food, music, artifacts, and fun!

Oct 1-3, Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

4. Southern Smoke Festival: Presented by Sysco, this festival aims to bring more than 85 chefs from across the country to feature their best smoked meats with accompanying drinks and live music. This event supports the foundations mission to help food and beverage workers in need.

Oct 3, 4-8PM, Discovery Green

5. 4th Annual Houston Bluesfest: Generations of blues artists will come together for an afternoon of incredible music. Special guests include Mathias Lattin, Trudy Lynn, Jonn Del Toro Richardson, Leonard “Lowdown” brown, and Cris Crochemore Band.

Oct 4, 4-8PM, POST Houston

From the editor

October is here, bringing cooler mornings, festive gatherings, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy the season with friends and neighbors. There’s something especially fun about this time of year, as our neighborhood comes alive with fall spirit and, of course, a little Halloween magic! I’m looking forward to seeing all the spooky and creative decorations around the neighborhood as everyone gets into the Halloween spirit. From pumpkins and friendly ghosts to wonderfully elaborate displays, the decorations are always a fun reminder of the creativity and personality that make our neighborhood unique.

We also have two exciting community events to look forward to this month:

Biennial Home Tour & Art Walk

Come explore the neighborhood during our Home Tour & Art Walk. It’s a wonderful opportunity to enjoy beautiful homes, discover local art, and connect with friends and neighbors. We hope you’ll join us!

National Night Out

National Night Out is another great opportunity to bring our community together. Come out, meet your neighbors, and enjoy an evening of connection and fun. It’s a wonderful way to celebrate the strong community spirit that makes our neighborhood such a special place to live.

As we enjoy all that October has to offer, I hope you’ll take some time to get outside, say hello to a neighbor, and enjoy the sights and activities happening throughout our community.

Wishing everyone a fun, festive, and slightly spooky October!

Warmly,

—Sofie

2026 EAST MONTROSE HOME TOUR and ART WALK

The East Montrose Civic Association will host its 15th Biennial Home Tour and Art Walk on Saturday, October 24, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. East Montrose was platted in the early 1900's - back in the days when Houston's population numbered fewer than 300,000 and the GH&SA Railway ran down Montrose Blvd. Tour goers can glimpse how the architecture has transformed over the years, showcasing unique renovations characteristic of this distinctive, eclectic neighborhood.

The Art Walk is free, featuring nine local artists across seven studios, all within comfortable strolling distance. Step inside the spaces where artists find inspiration and see where and how their work is created.

This is our primary fundraiser for the neighborhood! Please support us by purchasing advance tickets at www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/home-tour/

5 Homes • 9 Artists • 7 Studios

410 W. Drew

Begin your tour at this 1910 Colonial Revival-style residence carefully restored to preserve its historic character while returning the property to a single-family home. Owner Lance McKnight acquired the house in 2023 after it had been converted into a triplex. Architect Mayra Guardiola, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, NCARB guided a renovation that restored the original interior stair, repaired structural damage from years of water intrusion and fire, and preserved defining details including the rounded porch columns, split-gable roof, traditional balusters and original front balcony.

The project also expanded the home toward the rear with additional living space, a new garage and a private primary suite, while reconfiguring the second floor. The addition was designed to complement the architectural language of the original residence, combining restored historic craftsmanship with contemporary safety, comfort and family living.

2101 Whitney

One of three residences known as the Metropolitan Lofts. The approximately 2,500-square-foot home rises three floors, with a fourth-floor terrace offering a sweeping 270-degree view of Houston. Open stairs connect the levels, while exposed struts and trusses give the main floor a dramatic 12-foot ceiling.

The home is furnished with family antiques from Ohio, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, along with artwork collected by the owners during travels to San Miguel de Allende, Taos and Santa Fe. Its corner location at Whitney and Welch also provides a fenced side yard, garden space and an owner-built patio for dining and cookouts. There is no elevator, but the terrace view rewards the climb.

Cont'd from page 4

2015 Crocker

Originally built in 1902 with a classic Victorian layout, 2015 Crocker has lived a colorful Montrose life, evolving from a Victorian home to a Craftsman-facaded bungalow and serving for decades as a neighborhood office space where local legend Nelle Stewart worked in the 1960s.

Decades later, current owners David and Kindra LeFevre worked in that exact building before purchasing it and returning it to its residential roots. A 1999 renovation added the second story and restored some of the home's historic stature, setting the stage for a comprehensive 2026 renovation. The recent transformation blends Victorian and Edwardian heritage with modern family functionality, including a reconfigured upstairs layout, custom kitchen and bathroom redesigns, and restored period details paired with contemporary comforts.

419 Willard

Built in 1913, the house at 419 Willard has gone through several transformations. At one point it was converted into two apartments, probably during the 1980s or 1990s.

In 2007, present owner Penny Cerling and her late husband, Jeff Skarda, purchased the house in need of extensive renovation. Working with a contractor who was also a fellow artist, they created an upstairs apartment with a downstairs studio, library and guest room. In 2020, the lower floor was reworked into an apartment and the couple moved downstairs.

314 Peden

Leonard McDonald purchased 314 Peden in the late 1990s. At the time, it was a two-bedroom 1923 bungalow typical of the Montrose area. After a brief period as a rental, Dave Walling and Leonard moved back into the bungalow in 2004. Faced with a failing foundation, they ultimately razed the structure in 2013.

The custom contemporary-modern home that replaced it was designed around their modern art and wine collection, which includes vintage pieces and one of the original signs from the former Tower Theater on Westheimer. The new residence provides more space and modern conveniences, including a foodie kitchen and wine cellar supporting the owners' love of good food and entertaining.

Advance tickets are \$20 www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/home-tour/

Day-of-tour tickets are \$25 and only available at 410 W. Drew

METRO Announcement: Updates to the Community Connector

Colin Gary, METRO

The Community Connector is now a permanent part of METRO's transit network and, starting September 28th, service hours in all zones will be expanded two additional hours each evening to run 5 days a week from 7 AM to 7 PM. Two additional hours of service! More info here:

[METRO Community Connector | Microtransit | Rideshare | Houston, TX](#)

Beginning September 28th, the service will also transition to METRO's standard fare structure (\$1.25), just like our other transit services. This will ensure the long-term sustainability and future growth of a service customers value.

If you haven't downloaded the new app, it is called METRO On Demand and can be found in your app store. The app is pictured to the right along with the [link](#) to download.



TOGETHER FOR A CLEANER, GREENER
EAST MONTROSE

EAST MONTROSE CLEANUP



**SUNDAY
OCT 18TH
AT 9:00 AM**



**PEGGY SHIFFICK PARK
700 BOMAR ST**



*Many Hands
Make Light Work!*



GLOVES
PROVIDED



VESTS
PROVIDED



TRASH GRABBERS
PROVIDED



BAGS
PROVIDED



LET'S COME TOGETHER FOR A CLEANER, GREENER COMMUNITY!



MONTROSE TAX INCREMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE (TIRZ) 27 SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS (SRTS) CONNECTION PROJECTS UPDATE

By Karen Brohn,
President, East Montrose Civic Association

Matt Brollier, Chair of Montrose TIRZ 27, attended our Member Meeting on Tuesday and provided an update on the SRTS Connection Project, as well as other TIRZ 27 initiatives.

This is a dynamic project covering areas not only in East Montrose, but also in North Montrose and Hyde Park. At the time of the meeting, construction was still estimated to begin in September 2026. Since then we have received notification construction has been pushed to begin in early October 2026. Given the scope of the overall project, it is important to note East Montrose may not see construction activity begin in at project onset.

HR Green, the project engineer, has been asked to coordinate with the contractor and our civic associations so that residents have current information regarding the overall project schedule and planned work. As information is received it will be shared via the East Montrose Civic Association facebook page, newsletter, website and email.

For those interested in more detail, the latest project plan can be found online at:

<https://montrosehtx.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Montrose-SRTS-Presentation-corrected.pdf>

Pages 10 and 13, which are reproduced below, show the proposed sidewalk improvements planned for East Montrose.

Planned improvements in front of residences include replacement of existing sidewalks with new 5- to 6-foot-wide sidewalks; replacement of driveways, where needed, with ADA-compliant driveways; preservation of fences and landscaping where possible; individual tree protection; and replacement of intersection ramps. Homeowners will be contacted in advance when work is expected to affect fences, landscaping, or driveways.

PROPOSED SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS



Cont'd from Page 8

Please keep in mind that this is a fluid project and plans may change. While the project documents identify sidewalks that are scheduled for replacement—and those that are not—there may be exceptions. For example, if a new sidewalk has been installed since the original survey and it meets current City of Houston standards, it will likely not be replaced.

If you have questions about work planned for your specific area, please contact info@montrosehtx.org. We also ask that you copy president.emca@gmail.com so the East Montrose Civic Association can stay informed and help support residents with any questions or issues that may arise.



Annual East Montrose Civic Association Annual Elections

The Annual East Montrose Member Meeting (Holiday Event) will take place Tuesday December 8, 2026, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the home of Charles Lambert and Aaron Sonnier, 611 Peden. More details on this event to follow.

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

All members in good standing (meaning your dues are up to date) are eligible to run. You can check your status by reaching out to Betsy Anderson, Co Chair of the Nominating Committee and EMCA treasurer at treasurer.emca@gmail.com.

Art and About... by Penny Cerling

Our neighbor *Basket Books and Art* is located in the old telephone building at Hyde Park & Mason with the distinctive telephone sculpture by David Addicks on the roof.

The bookstore and gallery opened in May of 2022 and quickly became the go-to place for book lovers and artists. Owners and EMCA members are Laura Hughes with a PhD in French Literature and Edwin Smalling, painter and designer. *Basket Books & Art* got its name from Basket, the poodle who lived with Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, listening in on important conversations in literature and art.

There are 4 Book clubs available at *Basket Books & Art*:

- "Web Club" (in person)
- "Off Shoots Poet" (Poetry)
- "Theory Social" (Theory)
- "Future; Social" (sci-fi)

The work in the upstairs gallery at *Basket Books & Art* sometimes earns long and thoughtful reviews in *Glasstire*, the major art criticism venue in Texas..

Presently on view from September 12 - November 1 is "*Billy Budd*" by Ben Browne. Photo below of one of the pieces on view.

Basket Books & Art Hours: Monday-Saturday 11am-6pm
[115 Hyde Park Blvd.](#) Sunday 11am-3pm

[281-846-6017](tel:281-846-6017)

info@basket-book.com



Mayor's Assistance Office:

James Ronje—832-393-5958

James.ronje@houstontx.gov

Our District C City Council Member: Joe Panzarella

Contact Anna Smith

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 Bohn — president.emca@gmail.com

V-Pres: Hugo Ovalle—vicepresident.emca@gmail.com

Treasurer: Betsy Anderson—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: Mary Dedeaux-Swinton— rep2.emca@gmail.com

Neartown Liaison: Karen Bohn — president.emca@gmail.com

Neartown Alt Liaison: Jamie Flatt—secretary.emca@gmail.com

Newsletter: Sofie Shoaib—newsletter.emca@gmail.com

HPD's PIP: OPEN

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

Oct 5	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
Oct 12	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
Oct 19	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
Oct 26	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
Nov 2	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.

FY 2026 Treasurer Report			EMCA
As of August 31, 2026			
Beginning of year balance			\$ 5,210.74
Monies In			
	Membership		\$ 2,630.00
	Ads		\$ 160.00
	Living Mosaic Sales		\$ 75.00
	Donations		\$ 40.00
Total In			\$ 2,905.00
Monies Out			
	PayPal Fees		\$ 68.63
	US Post Office Box Rental		\$ 230.00
	Go Daddy Subscription		\$ 46.38
	Near Town Donation		\$ 100.00
	Zoom Subscription		\$ 159.90
	Storage		\$ 325.00
	Newsletters		\$ 424.40
	Insurance		\$ 2,162.00
	Spring Fling		\$ 966.99
	Miscellaneous Reimbursement		\$ (145.00)
Total Out			\$ 4,338.30
YTD Income			\$ (1,433.30)
August 31 Bank Balance EMCA			\$ 3,777.64
August 31 Reserve in Security Account			\$ 2,938.02
Combined Ending Balance			\$ 6,715.66

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 \$25.00 ___ Household \$50.00 ___ Business \$75.00

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