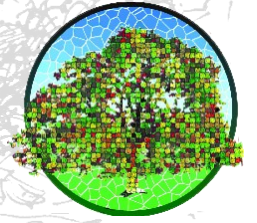


East Montrose

Civic Association Newsletter



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

December 2020

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 2020 HOLIDAY EVENT

Mark your Calendars for Tuesday, December 8, 2020 for the Annual East Montrose Holiday Party!

Join your Neighbors via Zoom starting at 7:00 pm for the festivities.
There will be time to meet, catch up, listen to live music and participate in raffles.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87620963828?pwd=ekF3VUxTNTVXdWJjQktuYitnNXZpUT09>
Meeting ID: 876 2096 3828 Passcode: 045627
One tap mobile [+13462487799,87620963828#](tel:+13462487799,87620963828#),[,,,,,0#](tel:+13462487799,87620963828#),[,045627#](tel:+13462487799,87620963828#) US ((Houston)
Dial by your location +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

To support the businesses which typically support EMCA during National Nite Out,
EMCA is streaming live music from Anderson Fair
and planning on purchasing raffle prizes from our local businesses.
Everyone is welcome! The party is free for members.

Your dues are being used to support our local businesses. We are asking each nonmember to contribute towards the cost of the party by donating at the "donate" button [here](#) or at <http://andersonfair.net/>. If you are not currently a member but would like to join EMCA ahead of the event, you can do so by contacting our Treasurer at treasurer.emca@gmail.com or joining online [here](#)

East Montrose Civic Association needs a few good souls to keep the wheels turning. We need nominations for:

- President
- Vice President
- At Large #2

It's fun to be a board member. Meet your neighbors, give back to the community, it doesn't take much time and looks good on resumes! (Former mayor Annise Parker got her start on the EMCA board).

Interested? Contact Bill Maxey bmaxey@mediadesigninc.com

And don't forget to vote on December 8th during our virtual holiday party to be held online from Anderson Fair. The nominating committee is working on collecting candidates. A complete slate will be posted at least three days prior to the election. More information from the nominating committee will be posted on the EMCA Website and in the December newsletter. Only members are allowed to participate in the election process.

RSVP not required but requested to plan for volume. Please respond to vicepresident.emca@gmail.com.



I was coming back from a bike ride, cruising down Elgin approaching Bagby. A familiar logo caught my eye. “Joe’s Place.” Joe with that fedora cocked jauntily over one eye. Yes, the logo from our own Joe’s Car Wash (Montrose at W. Drew). But, whaaaat the ?? What is Joe’s sign doing on St. Dane’s Bar? Come to find out, the folks at Joe’s own the property at Elgin and Bagby, St. Dane’s lease was up, and the Joe’s people decided to grab the opportunity. They are renovating and will soon open a new concept. First of all, it will be a bar. There will be food, with the main area serving typical bar offerings. But there will be another area serving much finer fare. Salmon, steaks, and other more chef-driven temptations. Construction is moving quickly, and it should open in the next few months.

Oh, and the people at the car wash remind us of their Wash Club, which gets you unlimited car washes for one initial payment. It’s pecan season, folks! Trees all over the neighborhood are dropping tasty nuts. I’ve got my secret path around the ‘hood, that leads me past a number of generous trees. These goodies are free for the taking! Remember – collect only from the street, the easement, or the sidewalk. No fair reaching inside a fence or yard.

By now you have heard of the muggings / robberies on at least two separate occasions of women who were followed after withdrawing money from their bank on W. Gray. Stay alert folks! It’s easy to think this will happen to someone else – but criminals target anyone. I had just made my customary Tuesday morning bank deposit, and thought I’d make a quick stop at Dollar Tree. But it suddenly dawned on me that I was leaving the same bank as the two victims, and I, too, had a chunk of cash. If I went to Dollar Tree, I would either a.) leave the cash in my vehicle (too easy to smash-and-grab break into), or b.) carry it on my person across the parking lot and in the store (too easy for a mugger to attack and grab). I hate that my mind works that way, but the point is, bad guys are out there, they are ruthless, and you need to be aware of what’s happening in the area and adjust your behavior and routines accordingly.

It gets dark so early! So many people are out enjoying these fall evenings, running, bicycling, walking dogs, or strolling to a restaurant. Some of these people I see – and some I don’t. Folks, if you are going to be moving about outdoors after dark, please take safety precautions. Make sure that drivers and other people can see you. ESPECIALLY if you are on a BICYCLE. Pedestrians in blue jeans and a dark shirt simply blend into the pavement. So wear light colored clothing. Reflective strips on shoes, clothing, and dog collars make you much more noticeable. I’ve seen a number of people using those strap-on headlamps. Very visible! And you need lights and / or reflectors on both the front and rear. Yes, even if you are on foot. Bicyclists should use a spot light in front and a red light in the rear. It’s much safer to bicycle or run on the sidewalk rather than in the street. Yeah, I know ... the law is that bicycles are considered “traffic” and belong in the street. And the sidewalks are so crappy it’s hard to run, or even walk on them. But at night, trust me, drivers simply cannot see dark, unlit objects in the roadways. So light yourself up, get out of the main lane, and enjoy your evening – safely.

RECAP OF THE MONTROSE RESIDENTS’ COALITION AND DISTRICT C COUNCILMEMBER ABBIE KAMIN MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 , ADDRESSING CAPITOL IMPROVEMENTS

There are 230,000 residents in our District C area. The council staff handles 150 open citizen requests every day. They react to calls and email – but they do not follow posts on social media, so they cannot take action on issues that are posted on Facebook or NextDoor. So if you have an issue, you should call or email instead.

Contact them at district@houstontx.gov or alternately, call 311.

The state (Gov. Greg Abbott) is “sitting on” \$4 billion in COVID relief money. This must be used by the end of the year, or it goes away.

CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP)

Durham / Shepherd / Greenbrair from I-1- to 610 will be reconstructed.

Dunlavy from Dallas to Peden will be redone

Audubon Place will receive a water line replacement

The Avondale Promenade Park is moving along, on Westheimer at Mason.

Promised upgrades to Lower Westheimer have been postponed, by at least five years. The City doesn’t have the money, and is hoping for some “partner financing.”

By 2024, we should see “noticeable improvements” in streets. Whereas, by decree, sidewalk maintenance is up to the homeowner, for the current project, the city intends to make improvements to our streets, but also to curbs, gutters, the easement, sidewalks, ramps, and even ditches.

More info at buildhoustonforward.com

Nell Stewart had her 100th birthday!!



Nell personally asked us to say to everyone: "

Thank you, East Montrose residents, for making my 100th birthday special. It was a great day." - Nell

Proclamation

Nell Jean Stewart
~ 100th Birthday ~

A 100th birthday is an important occasion and a joyous time to embrace the past with remembrance and celebrate and reflect on a century of accomplishments, memories and growth.

*On November 25, 2020, family and friends will gather to celebrate **Nell Jean Stewart's** birthday. They wish this to be a memorable day for a very special person in their lives and a time to rejoice in warm family ties, rich friendships and treasured accomplishments.*

*The City of Houston is thankful to **Nell Jean Stewart** for inspiring the community through wisdom and strength that can be passed down to enlighten younger generations and extends best wishes for a happy 100th birthday.*

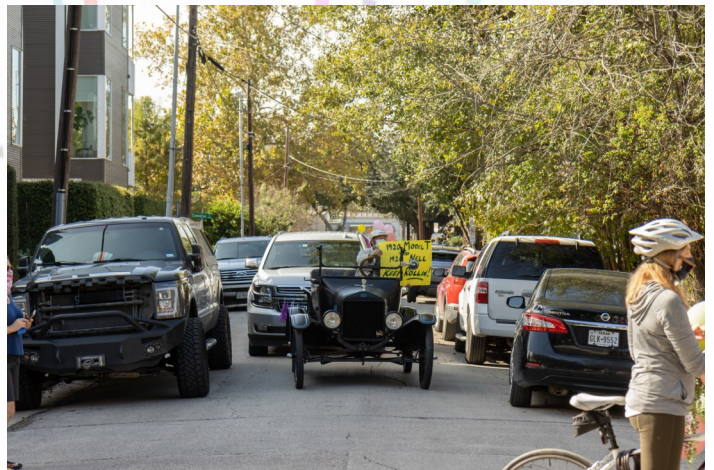
Therefore, I, Sylvester Turner, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim November 25, 2020, as

Nell Jean Stewart
~ 100th Birthday ~

in Houston, Texas.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 12th day of November, 2020.

Sylvester Turner
Mayor of the City of Houston







Continuing Art Walks close to our small neighborhood are two lovely parks built on old church sites in Freedman's Town.

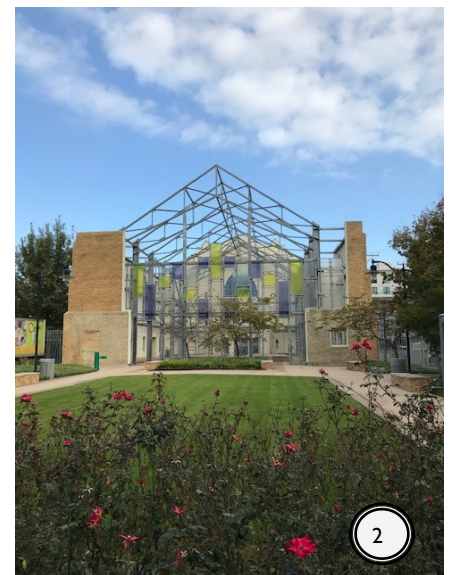
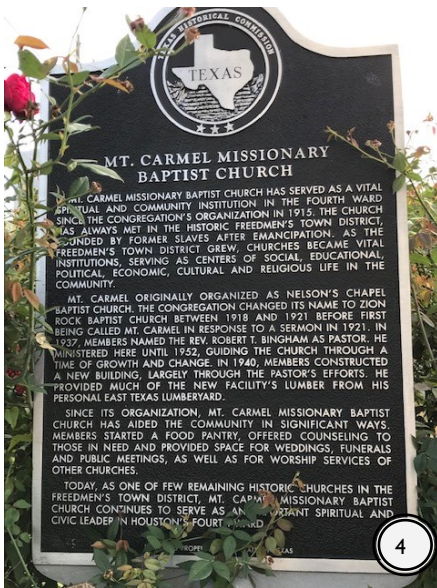
Bethel Baptist Church is a Houston City Park. The church burned some years ago, but architects and engineers were able to salvage much of the structure to make a wonderful outdoor sanctuary, located at Crosby & Andrews. If there were a way to park nearby it would be heavily used for weddings and other life celebrations, but parking is little to none.

The site where the historic Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church stood at Ruthven & Valentine has been turned into a Prayer Garden, also known as Historic Freedman's Town Labyrinth. It features large mosaic chairs situated around a labyrinth and a colorful mural along the fence.

Walk in the Greater Neighborhood & Look at Art! How lucky we are!

Photos:

- 1 - Bethel Baptist Church Texas Historical Marker - Andrews & Crosby
- 2 - Bethel Baptist Church - Houston City Park - view of back of church at Ruthven & Crosby
- 3 - Bethel Baptist Church - sidewalk
- 4 - Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church Texas Historical Marker - Ruthven & Valentine
- 5 - Labyrinth & Chairs & Mural along back fence
- 6 - Close up of one of the Mosaic Chairs



ANDERSON FAIR

has decided to postpone live indoor concerts for a while out of an abundance of caution!.

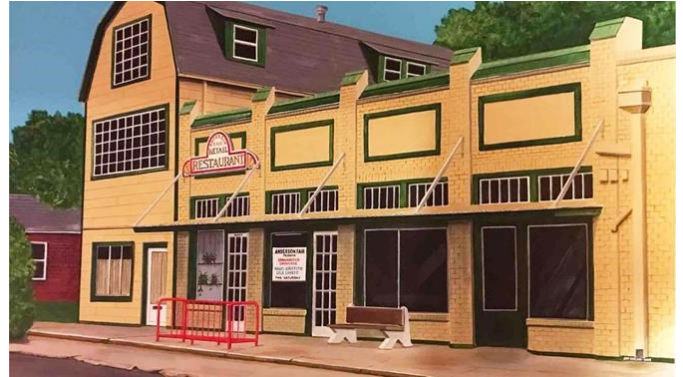
There may still be live streaming which will be posted on the website.

This historic music venue will return when the Covid-19 numbers have settled down.

In the meantime, we are taking care of the building and rebricking the entire place.

Thanks for your support over the past 50 years!

www.andersonfair.net



JOAN'S HOLIDAY SALE 2020

2 DAYS Friday, Dec. 11 • noon to 6pm
Saturday, Dec. 12 • noon to 6pm

904 Welch

(Mostly Outside)

Soulful artist gifts... Light House Glass, Texas Honey, Pocket Hearts, Crazy Quilts, Fancy Aprons, Origami, Paper Art, Crochet, Beaded Jewelry, Ceramics, Cutting boards and... Paintings fresh from the 1970's Westheimer Arts Festival! Wear your MASK and join us for a safe Holiday Sale!

www.joanson.com • joanson23@gmail.com

Let's show our pride and identity for East Montrose!

The EMCA board is excited to be working on implementing a street sign topper community beautification project. The sign toppers will be installed on 29 street signs along the boundaries of our neighborhood (Montrose, Fairview, Genessee, W. Gray and along Stanford). Our neighbor, **Perry Jackson** has designed the sign topper which complements our East Montrose Living Mosaic Signs. We will be applying for a City of Houston Department of Neighborhood Matching Grant to offset 50% of the cost. We'd love to hear your input or if you'd be interested in purchasing a sign topper for your corner, please let us know. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting community beautification project for East Montrose.

UPDATE: The City of Houston Public Works & Engineering Department has approved our application for our street sign topper project! The signs will be installed on existing street signs at prominent intersections within our neighborhood's boundaries and along Stanford. The sign toppers will help build community identity and pride by cultivating an awareness that you have arrived in East Montrose! We are in the process of applying for a COH Department of Neighborhoods Matching Grant. Stay tuned for more updates.

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
or EMCA Vice President Karen Bohn at vicepresident.emca@gmail.com to volunteer.

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.

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



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.



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
www.maryquinnlaw.com

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: Mary Quinn —president.emca@gmail.com
 V-Pres: Karen Bohn —vicepresident.emca@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Julia Schafer -treasurer.emca@gmail.com
 Secretary: Mike McHam—secretary.emca@gmail.com
 Past President: Sherry Weesner—pastpresident.emca@gmail.com
 At Large 1: Bill Maxey—rep1.emca@gmail.com
 At Large 2: Malisa Galvan — rep2.emca@gmail.com
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 Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - jsdubach@gmail.com
 Peggy Shiffick Park: Ellen Yarrell - ellen@eayatty.com
 FB Admin: Lee Hudman - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com)
 Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — bsatexas@sbcglobal.net

November Treasurer’s Report

Beginning Balance			\$9305.11
Monies In:			
	Membership	25.00	
Monies Out:			
	Storage Unit	(\$61.00)	
	Zoom Meeting Subscription	(\$15.98)	
Ending Balance:			\$9,253.13)

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!

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

November 30	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
December 2	Wednesday	Heavy Trash— JUNK
December 7	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
December 14	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
December 21	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
December 28	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
January 4	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn

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!

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

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.