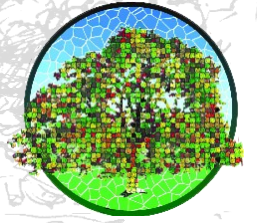


# East Montrose

Civic Association Newsletter



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

January 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

- 1/16—New board intro, annual update, security update
- 2/20—TBD
- 3/19—TBD
- 4/16—TBD, tentative Spring Social
- 5/21—TBD
- 6/2024—Summer break
- 7/2024—Summer break
- 8/2024—Summer break
- 9/17—TBD
- 10/1—National Night Out (HPD, elected officials)
- 10 or 11/2024—Home tour
- 11/19—TBD
- 12/5—Holiday party and annual elections

All EMCA meetings take place on the 3th 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](http://www.spotcrime.com). The City of Houston crime database is almost always out of date.

## Safe Routes to School Project APPROVED!

The Safe Routes to School application was approved by the Houston/Galveston Area Council (HGAC) on December 15, 2023 and they should start working on development of the plan in 2024. This was a long journey over three years that culminated in an \$8.5 million grant that will help reimagine crosswalks from our neighborhood all the way up to the bayou and sidewalks around three schools in North Montrose: Gregory Lincoln, Wharton DLA, and Vanguard. These schools represent the rich diversity that is Houston: multi-cultural and multi-socioeconomic. In addition, the remaining segment for the bicycle route on Waugh from W Dallas to Allen Parkway was approved as well. The next step is design. We should hear more in the coming months. We are incredibly grateful to our state and local partners: TIRZ 27, Abbie Kamin, Public Works, HISD, the Goodman Corp, Gauge Engineering, and most importantly all the kids and parents who worked so hard to have their voices heard.

Watch the meeting [here](#).

## EMCA 2023 Holiday Party and Election Results

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. As we roll into 2024, I wanted to share a recap of our last East Montrose Civic Association (EMCA) event of 2023.

Once again, the EMCA Holiday Party was a wonderful evening with neighbors and friends. On Tuesday, December 5th we gathered at the home of our past president to take care of some general business and to enjoy the very comical white elephant gift exchange.

First, I want to start off by thanking our host, Mary Quinn. Year after year she generously allows us to have the event in her amazing home. Thank you, Mary, for allowing us in to enjoy your wonderful holiday décor.

The first part of the evening took care of general business. Given the amazing turnout, we easily exceeded the quorum needed to hold our annual elections. Thank you to Malisa Galvan for keeping record and to Mary Quinn for volunteering to be the Nominating Committee Chair.

Congratulations to our newest board members:

- **Secretary – Jaime Flatt and Joey Zamora taking over for Rachel Tucker – secretary.emca@gmail.com**
- **Treasurer – Joel Dudley taking over for Malisa Galvan – treasurer.emca@gmail.com**
- **At-Large – Lewis Goldstein (incumbent) – rep2.emca@gmail.com**

Positions not up for election were President (Karen Brohn), Vice President (Hugo Ovalle), and At-Large (Alyssa Ketter and Katy Dunbar).

The current board wishes Rachel and Malisa all the best and thanks them for their years of service. I also want to personally thank everyone on the Board for giving their time to our little neighborhood in the 'hood. Each board member personally makes sacrifices to help keep East Montrose a wonderful place to live.

After the elections, the white elephant gift exchange took place. As always it was a good time with lots of laughs. I am not sure what Denise finally went home with but she obviously knew how to pick the most desirable gifts to unwrap. She won the honor for the most gifts taken away. Thank you to everyone

for the thoughtful and fun gifts.

If you are interested in helping out in any way, please reach out to any board member or come to our next association meeting. Our first association meeting of 2024 will be on Tuesday, January 16th at 7pm.

The location is currently TBD. The topic will be focused on general planning for 2024 including committee updates.

Updates will be posted on our website <https://www.eastmontrose.org/news-events/member-meetings/> as well as on our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EastMontrose/?ref=shareandmibextid=NSMWBT>.

May the New Year bring everyone peace and joy!

Karen Brohn, EMCA President

And of course, courtesy of Bill Maxey, highlights from EMCA's 2023 Holiday Party:



## **RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS GO DIGITAL**

This info relates to streets that currently have permitted parking –This is not a way to get permitted parking on streets that do not now have it.

Permitted Parking means that during certain hours of the day, as posted on signs, only vehicles with permits are allowed to park on the street in that block. This is a tool used by residents to cut down on parking by patrons of nearby businesses.

As of Nov 1, 2023, parking permits are digital with no more paper visitors passes or hang-tags. Permits are specific to license plate numbers. Parking Management has cameras that automatically scan license plates and will know if the license plate is registered to a valid parking permit.

If you have guests coming; get their plate number, go online and register that plate number as a one-day permit. The digital permit becomes effective 30 seconds after adding the license plate number in the app.

If you have contractors coming to work at your home, you do not have to go online and register their license plate numbers as long as they have their logo displayed on the sides of their vehicles, and are parked in front of your house. No logo, or you have more than two service vendors? They'll need a one-day pass.

Some tips for filling out your registration: Do not use spaces in the license plate number. Do not use the letter "O" only use the number 0. Fun fact: Some toll scanners can't differentiate between the letter O and number 0, or the letter I and number 1. As a result, the Texas DMV will no longer issue plates with a 1 or 0.

Lots more information and tutorials on-line [here](#).

*From the Editor...*

by Sofie Shoaib



Welcome back to the newsletter after a short holiday break! We have a lot of great stuff planned for this year, and as always, are open to any content ideas you would like to share.

We are aiming to share plenty of easy-to-execute recipes (thinking as a toddler parent here, we need quick and freezable meals!), activities taking place around Houston, reviewing new exhibits/events/restaurants in the area you need to try, and plenty more.

Stay tuned and HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*Sofie*

We had a very successful neighborhood clean-up in November, thank you to all of our hardworking volunteers who came out to help keep our neighborhood looking great! Join us for our spring clean-up!



# Things to do in Houston this Month

**1. Night Market!** Celebrating Houston's AAPI community, the Texas Asia Society will be hosting a (free) night festival with tons of delicious foods, crafts, arts, home goods, apparel, and more. They have planned for Bollywood and K-pop performances, sumo wrestling, anime and manga cosplay, you name it and they have included it!

Check it out at the Asia Society, on November 3

**2. Houston Marathon** Now in its 52nd year, Houston's signature run event lines up registered runners for a meandering course that takes them through the city's districts like Montrose, Medical Center, the Galleria, Memorial Park and back again to finish at Avenida de las Americas.

January 13, route starting at Minute Maid Park.

### 3. Monster Jam

January 21 3-7PM at NRG Stadium

**4. 30th Annual MLK Parade** Black Heritage Society's 46th edition of the original Downtown parade will be led by City of Houston dignitaries, marching bands, floats, peaceful marches and more.

January 15, 10AM in Midtown

**5. Houston Auto Show** The auto show returns with five days of the latest and best vehicles available on land and sea. Check out the latest models from every major manufacturer, learn about exciting vehicles on the way, and bring home swag. \$20; free for ages 5 and under.

January 24, NRG Stadium

## Montrose Management District

After a few years' absence, the Montrose Management District has been resurrected.

The Management District was established to promote an attractive business climate in Montrose. It's funded by local businesses (which includes apartment complexes of a certain size) through a sort of tax levy. The District was responsible for things like the rainbow lights on the Hwy 59 bridges, the "M" gateway signs around the area, and removing trees and updating the esplanade on Lovett. There was also talk of creating a centralized parking lot to serve the general area. It was disbanded after pushback from some of the business community, and disagreement over the purpose of and funding for the entity.

Well, now it's back, and being run by the same company that was at the helm in the beginning. No info yet on what current / future projects might be, or if funding is in place or will



## Demi's Dog House

239 W. Gray, Houston, TX 77019

713-942-0688

[www.demisdoghouse.com](http://www.demisdoghouse.com)

Daycare 🐾 Grooming 🐾 Boarding

# Recipe of the Month

This year we're going to aim for easy but impressive recipes to share. Starting off with a beautiful **GARLIC CRUSTED RACK OF LAMB** by Kenny Rochford

## Notes from the chef:

Be sure to ask your butcher to French the racks, which means that all the excess meat, fat, and cartilage will be removed from the bones. You'll have a cleaner presentation after roasting the meat, and the meat and fat that would have been left on the bones won't burn while the meat roasts.

Since the seasoning here is so simple, this dish pairs well with a range of sides, from risotto to green salads to roasted vegetables. Mix and match your sides to your preferences — a main course recipe this easy gives you time to think about everything else.

## Ingredients

- 1/4 cup rosemary leaves
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 head of garlic, cloves peeled
- 2 racks of lamb, frenched (2 pounds each)
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper



## Directions

Step one Gather all ingredients.

Step two In a mini food processor, combine garlic, rosemary, and olive oil and process until garlic is finely chopped.

Step three Season lamb racks with salt and pepper and rub garlic-rosemary oil all over them. Set racks fat-side up on a large rimmed baking sheet and let stand for 1 hour.

Step four Preheat oven to 450°F. Roast lamb in upper third of oven for 15 minutes. Turn racks and roast for 10 minutes longer for medium-rare meat.

Step five Transfer racks to a carving board, stand them upright, and let rest for 10 minutes.

Step six Carve racks in between rib bones and transfer to plates. Serve immediately.

Suggest serving with a mushroom risotto.

## Art and about...

by Penny Cerling

Holiday décor was aplenty in East Montrose! Hope you all had the chance to go out and view the beautiful homes in our neighborhood. Here are a few winter doors to appreciate!



## Montrose Musings...

by Julie Young

With much of my mind occupied worrying about the TIRZ's plan this spring to chop down scores of majestic, decades-old live oaks and other trees for a project to add drainage and a 10' wide sidewalk on Montrose Blvd, I realized how fortunate we are to have our own tall and spreading live oaks right here in East Montrose. I was walking to pick up carry-out Thanksgiving dinner from the Midtown Bar & Grill (fantastic, BTW), and caught this sight of intertwined, long, twisted branches reaching across the street, and the cavern-like canopy they create. You'd think you were walking through Hansel & Gretel's Enchanted Forest. This shot was taken in the 1700 block of Stanford, looking southwest toward Peden.



Speaking of Thanksgiving, two days after, our friend and Neighborhood Historian Nell Stewart turned 103! Nell was born in her house on Crocker, and lived there for more than 100 years. She's moved to another place now, but often asks about her East Montrose home, and mentions her wish for the house to be filled with parties, laughter, and children, as it was when she was young. Well, she's gotten the start of her wish ... New owners have welcomed baby Scarlett!

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](http://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](mailto: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!

**Mayor's Assistance Office: Jack Valinski**  
[jack.valinski@houstontx.gov](mailto:jack.valinski@houstontx.gov), 832-393-5958

**Our District C City Council Member: Abbie Kamin**  
 Contact Ngan Nguyen  
[districtc@houstontx.gov](mailto: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](mailto:Matala.idi@cp1.hctx.net)—346-286-1900

**Council Member At Large #5—Sallie Alcorn**  
 Contact: Mike Watkins  
[Mike.watkins@houstontx.gov](mailto:Mike.watkins@houstontx.gov)—832-393-3017

## East Montrose C/A Contacts

President: Karen Brohn —[president.emca@gmail.com](mailto:president.emca@gmail.com)  
 V-Pres: Hugo Ovalle—[vicepresident.emca@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresident.emca@gmail.com)  
 Treasurer: Joel Dudley—[treasurer.emca@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.emca@gmail.com)  
 Secretary: Jamie Flatt, Joey Zamora—[secretary.emca@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.emca@gmail.com)  
 Past Pres.: Mary Quinn—[pastpresident.emca@gmail.com](mailto:pastpresident.emca@gmail.com)  
 At Large 1: Katy Macalla and Alyssa Ketner —[rep1.emca@gmail.com](mailto:rep1.emca@gmail.com)  
 At Large 2: Lewis Goldstein — [rep2.emca@gmail.com](mailto:rep2.emca@gmail.com)  
 Neartown Liaison: OPEN  
 Newsletter: Sofie Shoaib—[newsletter.emca@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.emca@gmail.com)  
 HPD's PIP: OPEN  
 Security: Hugo Ovalle—[safety.emca@gmail.com](mailto:safety.emca@gmail.com)  
 Trees for EM: Josh & Helen Dubach - [jsdubach@gmail.com](mailto:jsdubach@gmail.com)  
 Peggy Shiffick Park: Gloria Lyons—[globella@icloud.com](mailto:globella@icloud.com)  
 FB Admin: Bill Maxey - [EastMontrose@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/EastMontrose/groups)  
 Yard of the Season: Betsy Anderson — [bsatexas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsatexas@sbcglobal.net)  
 Clean up Crew: George Boos —[george.boos@att.net](mailto: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!**

November, 2023 Treasurer's Report				
For the period November 1, 2023 - November 30, 2023				
<b>EMCA</b>				
Beginning Balance				\$ 7,794.53
Monies In	Membership	\$	330.00	
	Donation	\$	25.00	
Monies Out	Storage			\$ 50.00
	Newsletter			\$ 426.25
	Quickbooks			\$ 31.98
	Paypal Fees			\$ 13.98
Ending Balance				\$ 7,627.32
<b>Security</b>				
Beginning Balance				\$ 48,993.98
Monies In	Security Reserve	\$	-	
Monies Out	Paypal Fees			\$ 4,213.50
	SEAL Payments			\$ 4,213.50
Ending Balance Subscription				\$ 44,780.48
Combined Ending Balance				\$ 52,407.80

### TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

January 1	Wednesday	Regular Trash & Lawn
January 3	Monday	Tree Waste
January 8	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
January 15	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn
January 22	Monday	Regular Trash & Lawn & Recycle
January 29	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](mailto:newsletter.emca@gmail.com). All submissions are welcome, but submission does not guarantee that the submission will be published.

**Total EMCA Members: 192**  
**Total Greater EM Security subscriptions : 174**  
**2023 Great EM Security Subscribers: 117**

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](http://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