

Projects



THE CAVIEL MUSEUM

The Caviel Museum of African American History and Culture - The building was donated by Alfred and Billie Caviel to the Lubbock Roots Historical Arts Council. The museum was opened in 2015 and is open to the public.



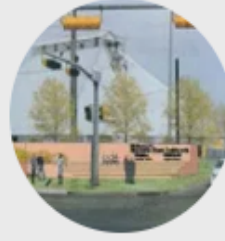
FIRST FRIDAY ART TRAIL

The First Friday Art Trail is held the first Friday of each month at the Caviel Museum. Join the Lubbock Roots Historical Arts Council for this fun event!



CAPROCK JAZZ FESTIVAL

The annual Caprock Jazz Festival aims to bring high-quality contemporary jazz performers to the South Plains. The festival is also a major fundraiser for the Roots Historical Arts Council and the Caviel Museum of African American History in Lubbock, TX.



EAST END GATEWAY

When completed, the East Lubbock Gateway will consist of a gated area of walking paths, meandering through landscaped vistas filled with kinetic wind sculptures and performance platforms designed to create an outdoor arts and entertainment tourists destination within East Lubbock.



THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Booker T. Washington Park Community at Chatman Hill which grows fresh veggies to share with volunteers, neighbors, local food pantries and churches. The garden is under the direction of gardeners, Shonta Folkner, Kenneth Castillo, and Jessica Tullar Caroom. The garden is open MWF from 11-12 and every other Saturday. For more information you can find the "Roots Booker T. Washington Community Garden on Facebook and Instagram. You can also call (806) 535-2475 to find out more information or set up a volunteer time for your group.



COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION CENTER

The center is home to five nonprofits seeking to enhance the quality of life in East Lubbock through service, beautification, arts, or culture. Current tenants include Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association, the Martin Luther King Commemorative Council, the Parkway-Cherry Point Neighborhood Association, My Brother's and My Sister's Keepers, and the Victory Boys and Girls Sickle Cell Association.



TAKE PRIDE IN THE EAST SIDE

The photo contest is celebrating its 11th anniversary. Photographs showcase the beauty of people, places and things in East Lubbock. The competition is open to all photographers regardless of skill level.



ERIC E. STRONG MEMORIAL GROVE

The Eric E. Strong Memorial Grove is a tree memorial dedicated to the late Eric E. Strong, former director of the Lubbock Roots Historical Arts Council.

Our Roots



The Roots began as the Roots Committee in 1978. At that time the organization's desire was to share the African American experience in the Early American West. This led to the committee to organize the first-ever reenactment of Nolan's Staked Plains Expedition of 1877, where a troop of 10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers survived on the parched West Texas Plains by drinking the blood and urine of their dying horses. The success of the reenactment and the group's desire to share the African American historical and cultural experience with the region led to incorporate as a nonprofit arts and humanities organization.

The Council's first director was Dr. Rudolph Davis. Following his departure in the early 1990's, the organization engaged in very limited arts programming and was almost dormant from 1995 until 2007. The council presented numerous successful arts and humanities programs in the 1980's and the early 1990's. The activities included the State-Wide Tour of the Forgotten West Monument Replica, the Springfusion Talent Showcase, More Sky City Jazz Celebration, and numerous art exhibits. The organization awarded various arts and humanities scholarships to high school graduates.

In February of 2007, upon the event of his university retirement of organizational founder Eric Strong, the council was reactivated. Strong became the new director. Under his leadership, the council has engaged in numerous arts and humanities activities and recommitted to itself the original mission and a new strategic plan.

Mission

The Lubbock Roots Historical Arts Council seeks to enrich life by promoting a greater understanding of the African American experience through the practice and appreciation of the visual and performing arts and through the study, interpretation, and preservation of the history of the African American in the Early American West.

1719 Ave A
Lubbock, TX 79401

Caviel Museum of African American History



Alfred and Billie Caviel were the first African-American husband and wife in the United States to own and operate their own pharmacy, in the eastside “Flats” neighborhood of Lubbock, Texas. Caviel’s Pharmacy operated at the corner of Avenue A and 17th Street in Lubbock for 49 years, from the early Civil Rights era in 1960 to 2009.

The Caviels’ donated the building to the city’s Roots Historical Arts Council in 2011 with hopes that one day it would become a museum to represent African-American culture. In 2015, their dream became a reality, when the museum opened its doors, becoming the first African-American museum in West Texas.

Exhibits include legacies of African American medical practice, education, and other aspects of community life. (texasplainstrail.com) . An understated building as you come upon it, the Caviel Museum of African American History soon becomes a testament to the power of the impact of African American leaders as you gaze upon the incredible mural on its south facing side. These faces of legends include: (From Right to Left on the mural)

- TJ Patterson (former City of Lubbock City Council Member)
- C. Struggs (former Principal at Dunbar Middle School)
- Mae Simmons (former Principal at Isles Elementary and a community center is named in her honor)
- George Woods, (George Woods Park is named in his honor)
- Eric Strong (Community leader and founder of Roots and Director of the TTU Upward Bound program)
- Ted Phea (Theodore) (the Boys and Girls Club named their east Lubbock Center after him)
- Billie Caviel (owner of Caviel Pharmacy)
- Alfred Caviel- (owner of Caviel Pharmacy)

The Museum is an outgrowth of the Lubbock Roots Historical Arts Council and is a preservation project for a local pharmacy which was owned by the Caviel family. The purpose of the Roots Historical Council is simply to be a beacon to the community of East Lubbock. They host a number of events throughout the year including the Caprock Jazz Festival and various arts exhibits featuring African-American artists in the Museum. The Museum is part of the First Friday Art Trail – which is sponsored by LHUCA attracting thousands of art lovers every month. A willing partner to collaborate with other organizations including the East Lubbock Art House, the Museum is often a key venue for special exhibitions and events. To schedule a tour for the Museum, call them at 806-773-6046.