



# NAACP

Lubbock Branch

# DEC 2023

## PUBLISHED MONTHLY NEXT YEAR!

NAACP  
Lubbock Branch

**HOLIDAY  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

Give the gift of community this year!

**\$25**



**DEC  
3-9**

[www.LubbockNAACP.org](http://www.LubbockNAACP.org)

NAACP  
Lubbock Branch

**HOLIDAY POTLUCK**

8240 BOSTON AVE.  
LUBBOCK, TEXAS

**DEC  
16**

LUNCHEON IS  
12 PM - 1:30 PM

BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH

## Amortization & Strategic Downzoning Study Committee Created

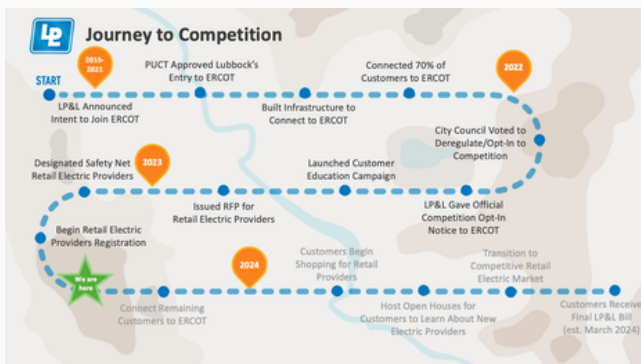
The Lubbock City Council approved of an Ad Hoc Committee to study amortization & strategic downzoning on November 7, 2023.

Appointees to the committee were selected by council members and the mayor: Mary Crites, Cole Shooter, Gordon Wilkerson, Robert Wood, Thomas Parker, Don Richards, and Mark Sanders.

The Ad Hoc Committee was created to assess the extent and negative effect, if any, of abandoned industrial blight or underutilized properties on the health, safety, welfare or quality of life of nearby residents, and further to determine whether and how such blight and properties might be remediated or otherwise repurposed into productive, more benign assets for the nearby communities.

If you have any comments or questions concerning amortization & downzoning, please contact Staff Liaison: Robert Wallace, 806-775-2080, [rwallace@mylubbock.us](mailto:rwallace@mylubbock.us)

Electricity choice in Lubbock will open January 5, 2024 and run through February 15, 2024. If you do not choose an electricity provider, you will be assigned to a default retail electricity provider. Your electricity transitions to your new provider on your meter read date in March 2024. The final Community meeting for Districts 3 & 6 will be on Tuesday, December 5 at 6pm at Green Lawn Church of Christ (5701 19th). More info linked below:



Recordings of past community meetings



Power to Choose, the official and unbiased electric choice website of the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

# Meet the Executive Committee



Lala Chavez

**Position:** Education Committee Chair  
**Where did you grow up?** California  
**Why did you join the NAACP?** I joined the NAACP seven years ago as a chicana activist and Lubbock ISD School Board Trustee.  
**If you could be present for any moment in history, what would you choose?** I would be interested in attending the JFK Presidential Inauguration.  
**What song will you never forget the lyrics to?** If This World Were Mine



11/16, Frenship ISD Board Meeting w/ Milton Lee, Charlotte Dunham, Phyllis Gant; others pictured have filed formal complaints

## Committee Updates

### Legal Redress

Committee chair, Phyllis Gant, shared that the committee met with community members on November 9 to discuss the next legal steps against Lubbock ISD and Frenship ISD. Parents and students were able to express the harrasment and racism suffered. Kenyon Andrews gave the legal documents to be completed and submitted to the OCR and DOJ by the end of the month. Unfortunately, we are receiving more and more horrific complaints from Lubbock, Midland, and Lamesa areas of West Texas.

### Membership & Life Membership

Committee chair, Debra Spencer, as of 11/18/2023, we have 157 members. There will be a membership drive the first week of December 12/3 - 12/9 with a discounted membership offer - \$25 to join.

## Committee Chairs Needed

Community Coordination: Chair needed

Environmental & Climate

Justice: Chair needed

Housing: Chair needed

Labor & Industry: Chair needed

Young Adults: Chair needed

Youth Works: Chair needed

## Gerald C. Rivers, Black History Month Special Event proceeds benefiting THE EDGE: A COMPANY OF FINE ARTISTS

The Edge Theatre Company has joined forces with leaders and organizations of the East Lubbock community to celebrate Black History Month 2024 with programming featuring Gerald C. Rivers, an actor, public speaker, and orator of over two dozen wholly committed to memory speeches of the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. ([Sample of work](#))

The Edge Theater Company hosted Mr. Rivers this past June as a part of our acknowledgment and celebration of Juneteenth, 2023. The impact and response of the event was resoundingly positive. So much so that we immediately recognized the importance of bringing him back for an encore performance and expanding the audience reach.

Not only will Mr. Rivers perform on February 18th at Lyons Chapel, but we also hope to offer two free master classes during the day: One for the Texas Tech theatre department and one for middle school and high school drama students throughout the local community.

We have a goal to raise \$10,000 by January 15, 2024. To reach our goal, we are contacting you and other organizations and kindly asking for your contributions as a sponsor. For further information, contact Stephanie Johnson - [steponkneej64@yahoo.com](mailto:steponkneej64@yahoo.com), 806-632-0869



### Sponsorship Levels:

- **Friend of the Arts - any contribution up to \$500**
- **Bronze - \$500+**
- **Silver - \$1000+**
- **Gold - \$2500+**
- **Platinum - \$5000+**

# Veteran's Day Parade



Rose Wilson & Milton Lee



Jean Anderson, Jasmine and Michael Lee, and Miss Rose Wilson



Rose Wilson

**Honoring our veterans! The NAACP Lubbock Branch proudly marched in the Veterans Day Parade on Saturday, Nov. 11th showing our support and gratitude to those who served our country.**

## 75th Anniversary of Racial Desegregation of US Armed Forces

LUBBOCK, TX, July, 26th 2023 --- The NAACP Chapter 6198 in Lubbock, TX is a leading advocate for equality and diversity in our city. We proudly commemorate the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9981, signed by President Harry S. Truman on July 26, 1948. This historic executive order marked a significant step towards ending racial segregation and discrimination in the United States Armed Forces.

Executive Order 9981, a groundbreaking milestone in our nation's history, aimed to ensure equality of treatment and opportunities for all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, within the military. This landmark decision not only challenged discriminatory practices within the armed forces but also paved the way for broader civil rights advancements throughout the United States.

Seventy-five years ago, President Truman made a courageous and pivotal decision that advanced the cause of civil rights and promoted unity within our nation. We commemorate this historic moment as a reminder that progress is possible when we embrace diversity, respect one another, and work towards a more inclusive future.

Throughout history, the U.S. military has been an embodiment of the nation's strength and unity. With the implementation of Executive Order 9981, the armed forces became a powerful force for change, leading by example and dismantling barriers that had long hindered the full potential of our society.

As we reflect on the significance of this anniversary, we call on all Americans to uphold the values of diversity and inclusion, not just within the military but in every aspect of our lives. By fostering an environment that embraces the richness of our differences, we can continue building a stronger, more compassionate nation.

Together, let us create a future where everyone can thrive, regardless of their background, and where the principles of equality and justice form the bedrock of our society.

Sincerely, Nellie Hopson- Armed Services and Veterans Affairs, Chair

# President's Message

Hello to all of You,

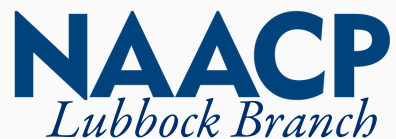
I hope you are enjoying this time of the year. The year is rapidly ending, and I would like to thank you for your support of the Lubbock NAACP. I have some of the brightest people in the

Lubbock NAACP branch, and I appreciate you all so much. Our membership has grown over the year and it's all because of you. Together, you and I have accepted the challenges that we have

been faced with this year. You, who have volunteered your precious time has not gone unnoticed. It is because of you, your intellectual knowledge and hard work, that makes me as your president

want to boast about you to everyone. As the new year approaches, let us continue to make progress by doing what we can as a united group. At this time, allow me to recognize each one of you, not by name, but as the Branch of the Lubbock NAACP with these words, (Well done thy good and faithful) servant).

Thanks Again!! ~ President Milton Lee



**Lubbock**

**Jane's Due Process** delivers free repro kits in Lubbock and the surrounding area. Each kit includes 2 emergency contraceptives (aka plan b), 2 pregnancy tests, condoms, and an info zine. To request a kit, text the Jane's Due Process Hotline (866-999-5263). The volunteer who replies will ask you for a safe address and time window to deliver the kit. Deliveries typically take 12-48 hours. If you need a kit sooner, you can pick one up by ringing the doorbell at Rock-Paper-Shears in downtown Lubbock during business hours. No questions asked.

Rock-Paper-Shears Address:

1103 Main St, Lubbock, TX 79401

**Donate**



**Become A Member**



## CITY OF LUBBOCK - BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Boards and Commissions are an important component of Lubbock government. Members have an opportunity to affect public policy, gain access to the highest levels of City government, and to develop networks. Members of Boards and Commissions are appointed by the City Council. Any citizen interested in serving on a Board should access the application on City of Lubbock Boards & Commissions Application website (below).

In addition to submitting a completed application, it would also be helpful to notify the Mayor, a Council member, staff liaison or an Appointments Advisory Board Member of your interest. The City Council encourages participation of qualified citizens and is committed to cultural diversity on all Boards and Commissions. Questions regarding Board and Commission service should be directed to the Office of the City Secretary at (806) 775-2028.



**LEARN MORE**

# Freedom Act Lubbock

The NAACP - Lubbock Branch endorsed Freedom Act Lubbock on Sept. 16th, 2023 due to the proposed ordinance's effort to return equity to some policing laws in our city.

The Freedom Act Lubbock petition initiative to decriminalize low level marijuana possession within the city of Lubbock collected 10,540 signatures from citizens who are in favor of changing local policing laws to reduce arrests and submitted those to the city on Nov. 17th.

The Lubbock City Secretary, Courtney Paz, certified the petition and a public hearing was held on Tuesday, Nov. 14th at Citizen's Tower. After public comments were given, the Mayor Payne and City Council voted unanimously against the ordinance 0-7. Since more than 4,800 valid signatures were collected and accepted by the City Secretary, the Freedom Act Lubbock initiating committee had the opportunity to ask that a special election be called on May 4, 2024.

Please make sure you are registered to vote prior to March 22, 2024 so that you can show up to have your voice heard on this important topic which disproportionately affects people of color in Lubbock.

Follow Freedom Act Lubbock on Instagram and Facebook at @freedomactlubbock

Political Action Committee  
Recommendation for action on the Lubbock Freedom Act  
September 10, 2023



The Lubbock Freedom Act is a movement to place on the May 2024 ballot a law to decriminalize low level marijuana use in Lubbock, Texas. The law would mandate that officers do not arrest or issue a citation for Class A or Class B marijuana possession, except in limited cases. Officers would be mandated to make enforcement of Class A or Class B marijuana possession their lowest priority.

This law is supported by the Lubbock County NAACP because marijuana arrests and convictions are unevenly applied to African Americans in the Lubbock Community. Over 3270 people in Lubbock have been convicted of possession of 2 ounces of marijuana or less between 2017 and 2021. The American Civil Liberties Union estimates that African Americans are almost 5 times (4.7) more likely to be convicted than are whites in Lubbock. This disparity is almost twice as high as the state average which is 2.6. Therefore, the enforcement of marijuana affects a higher proportion of the African American population.

African Americans, with a median per capita income in Lubbock of \$17,426, compared to \$35,315 for whites, are more likely to suffer financially from this disparity (<https://www.city-data.com/income/income-Lubbock-Texas.html>). The current law provides for a jail term of no more than 180 days and a fine of \$2000 for a conviction for low level possession. This can be a serious financial burden, especially for African Americans.

The Political Action Committee recommends that the Lubbock Chapter of the NAACP endorse the resolution stated below: Whereas between the years 2017 and 2021, 3270 people have been convicted of possession of 2 ounces or less of marijuana in the County of Lubbock; (<https://www.dps.texas.gov/section/crime-records/crime-records-reports-and-statistical-information>).

Whereas conviction for small amounts of marijuana can lead to serious economic and social liabilities such as loss of income and/or employment due to serving jail time, the cost of fines and penalties, and loss of eligibility for social assistance.

Whereas African Americans are 4.7 times more likely to be convicted of possession of 2 ounces or less in Lubbock County. (<https://graphics.aclu.org/marijuana-arrest-report/TX>)

Therefore, marijuana convictions unfairly affect African Americans in Lubbock.  
Resolved that the NAACP supports the Lubbock Freedom Act and urges NAACP members and supporters to sign the petition to place the Lubbock Freedom on the ballot in May 2024



Endorsed by the Lubbock NAACP Political Action Committee, Charlotte Dunham, Chair

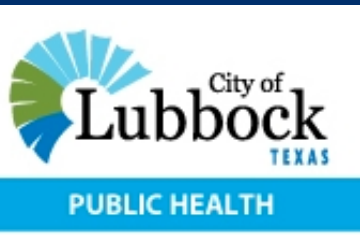
# lubbockPRIDE

This Saturday is our Holiday Pop-Up event! Come support local small business while you do some holiday shopping. Visit our website to see a list of vendors and their products!



We will have our last AMEND Culinary Class of the semester on December 6th, 2023. The event will take place at YWCA on University from 5:30-6:30 p.m. This event is free for young men in grades 6th and UP. Young men are welcome to invite a friend or a mentor to join them. Chef Jeff will have stuffed calzones on the menu.

December 8th, AMEND Together will host our Pizza & Progress at Sun 'N Fun from 5:30-7:00 pm. This event is open for young men grades 5th and UP. During this event, young men will focus on improving their reading, or on any homework that is nearing completion date.



## Open Enrollment - Marketplace Coverage

If you don't have health insurance, please take advantage of the open enrollment window to get a health care plan as low as \$0/month! A health care navigator from the South Plains Community Action Partnership can work with you to find the best plan for your needs! For more information, call 833-314-2373 or go to the website.



## Community Survey

Keep your eyes open for community listening sessions! The City of Lubbock Health Department is working on a comprehensive community needs assessment. This will help determine how to provide services in the city to help improve the health of our community. Listening sessions will start as early as January all over the city. Stay tuned for more info!

# The Legal Legend, Mr Fred Gray

The luncheon and conversation with legal legend Fred Gray at LCU this afternoon was phenomenal!

Our branch President, Milton Lee, and Dr. Scott McDowell moderated the discussion with Mr. Gray who grew up in Montgomery, AL, a segregated city, and attended the Alabama College for Negroes where he graduated with Honors.

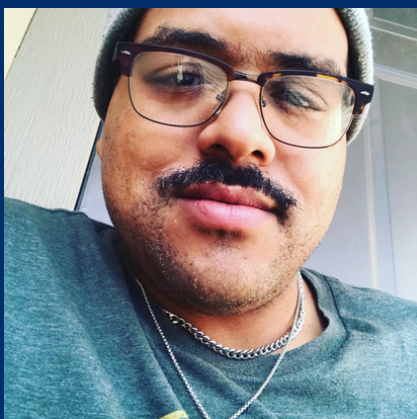
Since Black people were not allowed to attend Alabama State University at the time where the law school was located, he had to apply to law school in another state.

He went on to pass the bar exam in Missouri and Alabama, and he returned home to Montgomery to fight against anything involving segregation or racism.

During his time working to create equity in Alabama and the south, he represented and worked alongside civil rights icons such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr.

It was an honor to listen to and learn from Attorney Gray. He encouraged everyone to come visit the Tuskegee History Center in Tuskegee, AL.

Thank you, Attorney Gray for everything you've done to help fight injustice and racism in America. It was an honor.



## East Lubbock Native to Run for Local Office

“I am running for Lubbock County Democratic Party chair because it’s time to do it different in Lubbock. While Do-Nothing Republicans in Lubbock County remain unopposed by a single Democrat, our party is distracted and many are disillusioned . It’s time for NEW leadership—dare I say homegrown Black leadership, to shake the table and do the hard work to WIN again for Democrats in Lubbock. I’d be honored to have your vote for county chair on the March ballot.” ~ Stuart Williams

# UPCOMING DATES

- General Membership Meetings - 11am on the third Saturday each month at Life/Run (8240 Boston Ave)!
  - 12/16 - Next meeting - Potluck!
- Flyers: p.6 Pride Holiday Popup Market | Pride 50/50 Raffle | Jazzy Christmas Concert | Home for Holidays | Eastside Community Event | ELAH Gingerbread House Competition & Candlemaking Workshop

**Jazzy Christmas Concert**  
 Tom Braxton - Chantelle Stubblefield Bagley - Joy Harris - Sheena Fadeyi Flores

Tickets:  
 \$80 Single  
 \$150 Couples  
 \$600 Table

December 9th, 2023  
 3301 4th Street  
 TTU Museum/Helan  
 DeVitt Jones Auditorium

Doors open 5:30pm  
 Scholarship Presentation 6pm-6:30pm  
 Mixer/Raffle/Drawing 6:30pm-7pm  
 Concert 7pm-9pm

886.535.2475  
 www.selectseatlubbock.com

YOU ARE INVITED TO  
*Home for Holidays*

Grace Campus Residents Gift and Meal ( Turkey & Dressing with Trimming ) Gift Bags for all the residents ( Hygiene& Christmas Gifts )

PRESENT BY BRITTANY AND DEVINS ANGELS  
 9 DECEMBER,  
 SATURDAY 2023 5:00PM  
 1301 AVE A LUBBOCK 79401

**2nd Annual Eastside Community Event**

Hosted by Errthing U Need+ Tee's & Chapa's Cleaning Service

Live broadcast by 104.9 Da Beat  
 Music by 104.9 Da Beat  
 Special Appearance by Pancho Clos

Vendors & Food Trucks on site

Mae Simmons Community Center  
 Sat. Dec. 16th 11 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Bringing The City 2 Tha E  
 Our Hood, Our Kid's, Our Families, Our City!  
 & Showing Love At The Same Time!

Special Guest  
**Lubbock Ballet Nutcracker**

Sponsors: CHAPA'S CLEANING SERVICE, EL ROBI, Women's Home 100

We accept donations, Toys, clothing, food items anything in need to make someones Christmas Drop off donations at 1704 E. 4th St. ErrThing U Need + Tee's shop

EAST LUBBOCK ART HOUSE  
**GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION**

ALL SUPPLIES INCLUDED  
 DRINKS  
 LIVE MUSIC  
 DINNER

WINNERS RECEIVE A GIFT BASKET WORTH \$300

DEC 14TH  
 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM  
 405 MLK JR BLVD  
 \$100 PER TABLE (2-4 PEOPLE)

REGISTER @  
 EASTLUBBOCKARTHOUSE.ORG

East Lubbock Art House  
**Candlemaking Workshop**

TICKETS: \$35  
 All supplies & dinner provided

DEC 13 | 6 PM - 8 PM  
 405 MLK JR BLVD

Register @ eastlubbockarthouse.org

Contact **Kim Gonzalez** or **Morgan Kirkpatrick** to add announcements to the next newsletter

## Local School Board Meetings

Lubbock ISD (7am)

Regular Meeting & Workshop  
 Dec 14 | Jan 25 | Feb 8 | Feb 22

Lubbock Cooper ISD (7pm)

Dec 11 (5pm) | Jan 18 | Feb 15 | Mar 21

Frenship ISD (7pm)

3rd Monday of every month

## Neighborhood Association Monthly Meetings

West End Neighborhood Mtg

- 1st Monday @6pm
- Elks Lodge 3409 Milwaukee Ave
- Dunbar Manhattan Heights Mtg
- 2nd Saturday @10am
- Mae Simmons Community Center
- Yellowhouse Canyon Neighborhood
- 2nd Saturday @10am
- First Progressive Baptist Church
- Heart of Lubbock Neighborhood Mtg
- 2nd Monday @7pm
- Hope Community of Shalom
- Guadalupe Neighborhood Mtg
- 3rd Tuesday @6pm
- Catholic Charities 102 Ave J
- Parkway Cherry Pt Mtg
- 3rd Tuesday @7pm
- Patterson Library
- Chatman Hill Neighborhood Mtg
- 3rd Thursday @5:30pm
- Maggie Trejo Supercenter
- North Lubbock Neighborhood Mtg
- 3rd Saturday @11am
- Southwest Digest 902 E 28th St
- Bayless Atkins Neighborhood Mtg
- 4th Sunday @6pm
- YWCA of Lubbock - University