

ELDORADO at SANTA FE VISTAS

VOLUME XVI, ISSUE 5

May 2014

IN THIS ISSUE

ECIA News.....	2-3
In the Community.....	4-5
Herrada Paving.....	6
Library News.....	6
Insects / Snakes / Mice.....	7

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 ▼ (505) 466-4248 ▼ www.eldoradosf.org ▼ Security 204-2945

Crude Oil in Lamy?

Pacer Energy Marketing, a Tulsa-based crude oil transportation company, wants to open a transloading facility in Lamy, New Mexico. The company intends to use the site to offload crude oil from trucks and transfer it to railcars. Pacer would lease the track siding from Santa Fe Southern Railway, which once operated the tourist train that ran between Santa Fe and Lamy.

ABOUT PACER

Pacer Energy Marketing is a privately held company with operations in Oklahoma, Wyoming, Kansas, and New Mexico. The company receives oil from approximately 600 wells in the Four Corners region of the state. Most is unloaded at a terminal in Thoreau, New Mexico. Pacer is interested in Lamy as a backup for this location.

LAMY PROJECT

The project involves tanker trucks traveling along Highway 285 and County Road 33 to Lamy's railroad wye (railway tracks arranged in a triangle) where employees would transfer crude oil to railroad tanker cars, using pumps and hoses. It takes 3.5 tanker trucks to fill up a railroad tanker car. A minimum of six trucks would roll into Lamy each day. From there, the oil would travel by rail to refineries south of Albuquerque.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Pacer representatives are interested in hiring locals for jobs such as security and rail loading.

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS

Derailment and Explosions: In January, several oil train derailments prompted the chairmen of the Senate Energy and Transportation committees to encourage the Obama administration to address safety issues surrounding the transportation of crude oil via rail. Currently, the rail industry successfully delivers oil without incident 99.99% of the time.

However, roughly 78,000 of the country's 92,000 oil tank railcars were constructed in accordance with safety standards that are outdated. These tank cars have a tendency to split open during derailments.

Recent derailments include a July 2013 event in Quebec that killed 47 people, and a November 2013 derailment and explosion in Alabama, in which 749,000 gallons of oil spilled.

Spills: Lamy's town well is approximately 100 feet away from the proposed terminal. Any water pollution from this project could also impact Galisteo and render one of EAWS's most productive wells unusable on an indefinite basis.

Emergency Response: County Road 33 is the only means of reaching or evacuating Lamy. Commissioner **Kathy Holian** commented: "If an accident were to occur that involved an explosion or combustion of the fuel to be transferred, it would be extremely difficult for emergency personnel to effectively deal with it."

According to **Mike Neely**, assistant chief of operations for the Santa Fe County Fire Department, "an expected response time to the proposed Lamy site would be 12-14 minutes" and "the approximately 1.5 mile road into Lamy *may* present a challenge in regard to access, egress and evacuation of the area."

Other Concerns: Residents have expressed concern about an increase in noise and light pollution, and the impact that a transloading facility would have on area property values.

ADDRESSING CONCERNS

Safety Measures: According to **Thomas Birkett**, Rail Asset Manager for Pacer, the company takes measures to prevent the static electricity buildup that can cause fires. These include grounding both trucks and railcars,

and submerging the load. Vapors are gathered during the loading process and returned to the oil fields.

Pacer has a formal spill and containment plan in place. "What little we have spilled, we have cleaned up within hours and replaced the gravel that was sullied with clean material," Birkett wrote in an email to a KOB reporter.

Safety Record: During the past two years, Pacer drivers have been involved in two crashes that resulted in injuries. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's safety profile for Pacer lists reportable crashes, but does not assign responsibility for the incidents. It is more challenging to obtain the safety records for railway operations, because current law allows such information to be exempt from Freedom of Information Act requests.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Pacer applied for an air quality permit from the State Department of the Environment, but the project is too small to necessitate regulation. It is unclear what additional permits the company needs.

INTERACTIONS WITH PACER

The Pacer website states: "we are committed to safety, protecting the environment, and actively engaging with the community we live and serve in." The company sent two representatives (**Dan Whitmarsh** and **Dave Tulk**) to meet with Lamy residents at the old Legal Tender Saloon, on January 18, 2014. Tom Birkett has also been in e-mail communication with KOB reporter, **Caleb James**.

Since then, **Senators Tom Udall** and **Martin Heinrich** and **Representative Ben Ray Lujan** wrote to Pacer, asking for an overview of the project, an outline of infrastructure

Continued on page 6



**Share your
comments
with us!**

For policy and
deadline, see
below

Editorial Policy

Vistas invites ideas, stories, photos, and art from the community at large. Please include full name and contact information. The newsletter will not publish material deemed inflammatory, biased, or inappropriate. Submissions will be selected and edited at the discretion of the editor. Community announcements are welcome; accompanying photos are welcome, too.

DEADLINE: Newsletter deadline is the 3rd day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or e-mailed to DiAna@eldoradosf.org. Please include "Attn: Vistas" in your message.

Mission Statement

The mission of Vistas, the monthly newsletter of the ECIA, is to inform the Eldorado community about issues before the ECIA Board and the membership at large. By so doing, the publication seeks to foster increased neighborhood pride and community participation in the decision making process.

Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on February 20, with five Board members present: **Karyn Mounsey** (Secretary), **Todd Handy** (Treasurer and Chair), **Jeanne Calzada**, **Pam Henline**, and **Dave Perlmutter**; **Dag Ryen** (President) and **Jan Pietrzak** (Vice President) were absent/excused. The following formal actions were taken unanimously, without the Chair voting:

- ▼ A variance was approved for 14 Ensenada Drive to allow three accessory buildings built from 1995 to 2004 without a permit to remain along with two cisterns.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 2 Raudo Road to permit a ground-mounted solar array more than 15 feet from the house.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 2 Cuesta Lane for a screening fence and shed 20 feet from the house.
- ▼ **Tom Brimacombe** was appointed to the Conservation Committee.
- ▼ **Karen Murry** was appointed to the Facilities and Grounds Committee.
- ▼ **Pierre Bovis**, **John Reynolds**, and **Felicia Probert** were appointed to the Roads Committee.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 3 Manzano Lane for an existing water diversion structure to remain, with conditions.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 102 Jornada Loop to allow an existing small structure and fence to remain.
- ▼ A variance was denied for 22 Chusco Road for a 9.5-foot-high metal shade structure because height and materials were not compliant with Architectural Guidelines.

The ECIA Board held a special meeting, with notice of a single agenda item, on Thursday, March 6.

The annual independent audit report was accepted by unanimous vote.

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on March 20, with six Board members present: **Dag Ryen** (President and Chair), **Jan Pietrzak** (Vice President), **Karyn Mounsey** (Secretary), **Todd Handy** (Treasurer), **Pam Henline**, and **Dave Perlmutter**. **Jeanne Calzada** was absent/excused. The following formal actions were taken unanimously, without the Chair voting, except where noted:

- ▼ Revised charters were approved for the Architecture, Facilities & Grounds, Stable, and Finance Committees.
- ▼ Revised Stable rules and regulations were approved. (3-2)
- ▼ A Board Affirmation Oath was approved to ensure that Directors meet attendance and responsibility requirements.
- ▼ **Dana Atkins** and **Steve Taratula** were appointed to the Architecture Committee.
- ▼ **Larry Lemmon** was appointed as an alternate to the Architecture Committee.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 3 Dulce Road for a fence located in the 20-foot required setback.
- ▼ A variance was approved for 5 Enebro Way for a pergola made of metal fashioned to resemble wood (4-1).

Regular Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Community Center and are open to the public. An open forum, community announcements, and reports from ECIA committees are normally included. Complete minutes and meeting agendas are available at the ECIA office or website: <http://eldoradosf.org>.

Vistas: Opting to Save Paper and Mailing

Vistas is the official newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association (ECIA) and is a principal means for the Board to communicate with all lot/home owners. However, costs are creeping up. A suggestion in March for saving labeling and mailing costs drew over 250 positive responses.

Those who would like to opt out of receiving their mailed printed copy of *Vistas* may do so by e-mailing **Marilyn Farrell** at the ECIA office: Marilyn@eldoradosf.org. Anyone making this request will be removed from the *Vistas* home delivery mailing list,

but will instead receive a monthly e-mail announcing the availability of, and link to, the next issue of *Vistas* on the ECIA website, in PDF format, ready to view and/or print at home—about a week before mailings are delivered! A limited number of extra printed copies will be available at the ECIA office.

Each monthly copy not mailed saves about \$0.40 in labeling and postage. Anyone who later wants to reinstate receipt of the printed *Vistas* may do so with another e-mail to Marilyn. And as a footnote, copies of *Vistas* back to 2002 are downloadable and searchable from the website.

Message from the ECIA Board

In the midst of spring, there is a lot going on in Eldorado, beginning with the ECIA annual meeting. We hope that the vast majority of members of the association will have cast their ballots in the recent Board election. The results of that election will be announced at the annual meeting, and other important information about the activities of the board and committees will be conveyed. The meeting will be held at La Tienda on May 5 from 7 to 9 PM.

Later in the month, on Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18, the Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association will hold its annual studio tour, featuring the work of 90 local artists and craft workers. On Friday evening prior to the tour, there will be a reception with the participating artists in the Exhibit Space at La Tienda from 5 to 7 PM. Maps and brochures will be available to help visitors and neighbors plan their studio visits. Please be aware of the extra traffic expected during the tour and exercise caution when traveling around Eldorado.

After the studio tour, the spring construction season will begin in earnest. The Santa Fe County Department of Public Works will begin its surfacing project on Herrada Road before the end of the month. Resi-

dents in the area should be prepared for some delays as they travel to and from their homes. The county expects to complete the project within 10–12 weeks.

There is also construction and maintenance work slated for some of our multi-use trails. Additional crack sealing and coating will be done on the trails along Avenida Vista Grande and Avenida Eldorado, as well as at the Community Center parking lot, and the county will reconstruct segments of the multi-use trails along Avenida Vista Grande and Monte Alto. Motorists and pedestrians should use caution when approaching any work crews along our streets and trails.

Toward the end of May, schools will be letting out and there will be more children and youth in our neighborhoods. Among the projects in line to accommodate our younger residents is a complete reconstruction of the play equipment at Compadres Park.

Finally, but not least, the swimming pool will reopen on Saturday, May 24. We hope these and other improvements to our community will contribute to an enjoyable and rewarding warm weather season for everyone in Eldorado.

—The ECIA Board of Directors

Say No to Lattice

Over the past two years, the ECIA has noted an increase in the use of lattice as a building material for walls and screens. Under Section 7, line 6, of the Eldorado Guidelines, however, the use of lattice is not allowed as a construction material:

ELDORADO GUIDELINES FOR PROTECTIVE COVENANTS AND BUILDING RESTRICTIONS:

Item # 7 Non Approved Design Features:

Sections 4 and 5 of these guidelines list five styles of architecture to be used throughout Eldorado. Certain design features and structures are incompatible with those styles. To preserve the intent and continuity of those styles, the following features and structures are not considered compatible and are, therefore, not permitted. The list is not to be considered as all inclusive, but rather as examples of non-approved designs.

1. Metal gravel stops and edging unless pre-finished to be consistent with the dwelling stucco color.
2. Exposed corrugated fiberglass or plastic roof and wall panels unless blended with the existing structure.
3. Eyebrows unless they blend with the style of the principal dwelling.
4. Bay windows can be utilized if in keeping with the architectural style of the home.
5. Exposed wrought iron, steel or other metallic ma-

terials are permitted only on Mexican Colonial Style homes in Eldorado, with the exception of metal (other than chain link fence material) used to construct gates in walls or fences. Metal gates shall be of a design appropriate to the architectural style of the home and all such gates shall require review by the ECIA Architecture Committee. Metal security screen doors and entry doors may be used if they are colored or painted to match the color of the home.

6. Lattice work used as a construction material that is mounted vertically, diagonally, or horizontally.
7. Shutters except utilized in territorial style dwelling.
8. Awnings of a color not compatible with the dwelling.

Because lattice is considered a non-approved construction material, we ask that residents refrain from using lattice for any kind of fence, wall, or screen constructions. The only approved use of lattice is in a garden setting where plants and vines are growing onto it.

As stated on page 4 of the Guidelines, “The architectural styles and design motifs for Eldorado are, for the most part, a continuation of the architectural heritage of Santa Fe. Architectural approval of styles and design motifs in Eldorado is intended to preserve the predominant characteristics of this heritage.”

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative

ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, NM 87508
466-4248, 466-4249
www.eldoradosf.org
Security
204-2945

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Dag Ryen
D.Ryen@eldoradosf.org
Vice-President
Jan Pietrzak
J.Pietrzak@eldoradosf.org
Secretary
Karyn Mounsey
K.Mounsey@eldoradosf.org
Treasurer
Todd Handy
466-3785
T.Handy@eldoradosf.org
Director
Jeanne Calzada
J.Calzada@eldoradosf.org
Director
Pam Henline
P.Henline@eldoradosf.org
Director
David Perlmutter
D.Perlmutter@eldoradosf.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Architecture:
Katherine Mortimer
Conservation: Jim Daniel & Cherry Payne
Election: Kathie Graham
Facilities & Grounds:
John Calzada
Finance: Dan Drobnis
Information: Frank Schober
Roads: Open
Stable: Gretel Underwood (Interim Chair)
Sustainability, Planning, & Education: Steve Rudnick

ECIA STAFF

General Manager
Bill Donohue
466-4248
bill@eldoradosf.org
Covenant Compliance Rep
Mark Young
466-4248
mark@eldoradosf.org
Community Services Mgr
Raven Hicks
204-2945
raven@eldoradosf.org

VISTAS NEWSLETTER

Editor & Designer
Carol Leyba
466-1158
cbsleyba@comcast.net
Webmaster:
Jack Arnold
webmaster@eldoradosf.org
Editorial Assistant:
DiAna Gutierrez
466-4248
diana@eldoradosf.org

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library
466-READ
Fire and Rescue
466-1204
eldoradofireandrescue.org
County All Purpose
820-CNTY (2689)

Judge Decides Poultry Case

For the decision and full story, go to our website, eldoradosf.org.

Cactus Garden Now Open

The ECIA cactus garden is now fully planted and open for visitors. You can expect blooming cactus between now and early July. Stop by the ECIA Community Center to check it out!

Reminder: Election and Annual Meeting

Ballots for the Directors election must be received at the ECIA office by 5 PM on Thursday, May 1, either by mail or in person. All seven director positions are open, and seven candidates are running, but terms of three years, two years, and one year will be determined based on the number of votes received.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Eldorado Community Church space in La Tienda at 7 PM, Tuesday, May 5. Committee annual reports will be given, a community forum will be held, and election results will be announced.

ECIA 2014 Pool Season

Our beautiful Eldorado pool will open Memorial Day weekend, May 24. As in the past two years, the pool manager will be **Julee White**. She and her crew of lifeguards are anticipating a wonderful season.

Pool passes can be obtained in the office beginning May 5. For those who can't get to the office during the week, we will be open for three consecutive Saturdays, May 31, June 7, and June 14, from 11 AM to 3 PM. If you have a pool pass from past years, you will get a 2014 sticker.

This year, everyone who gets a pool pass or sticker will be asked to read the pool rules and sign a statement agreeing to abide by the rules. To be eligible for a pool pass, a lot owner must be a "Member in Good Standing," which means all amounts owed the Association must be paid. Children thirteen and over will be issued a pool pass. Each Member in Good Standing with a valid pool pass will be allowed to escort a maximum of three (3) guests per day. The member will be asked to sign their guests in and will be responsible for them.

As stated in the Bylaws, members may delegate their pool rights to a tenant with a valid lease. The tenant must bring a copy of the lease to the office to obtain a pool pass.

Persons interested in being a lifeguard may pick up an application in the office or contact Julee directly at juleepatchoulee@yahoo.com.

Lace 'em up!

The Eldorado Adult basketball season is here. Lace 'em, players, and c'mon out to the Community Center basketball court for fun and friendly pick-up hoops, Thursdays 6:30 PM–dusk.



Horseshoes and Softball

By the time this issue is published, weekly horseshoe games will be underway at the Community Center pits on Wednesday nights, 5:30 PM. On Friday nights, also at 5:30 PM, there will be coed softball on the Community Center field. Join the fun!

Historical Information Sought

For a scholarly study of the development of Eldorado at Santa Fe, UT-Austin faculty member **Susan Rather** (a local homeowner) seeks memories, information and documents from residents, real estate agents, home designers/builders, and others involved in the community during its first two decades. More recent residents with older houses are encouraged to respond as well. Every interview so far has been fascinating, so don't underestimate what you can contribute. Contact: susanrather@mac.com or 512-484-4847.

MOON PHASES FOR M



Spring Garden Fair

On Saturday, May 3, from 10 am to 4 pm, the Santa Fe Master Gardener Association will host the 10th Annual Spring Garden Fair at the Santa Fe County Fairgrounds at 3229 Rodeo Rd. Admission is free for this day of exciting speakers, demonstrations, and exhibits. On offer will be tool sharpening, food vendors, plus an "Ask a Master Gardener" station for answering your gardening questions. Youngsters will have fun at the Jr. Gardener Corner, while a "Garden Shop" browse might uncover a treasure. Of course, the "Best Plant Sale in Santa Fe!" returns, so come join the fun. For more information, visit SFMGA.org.

Adam Senior Center News

The Adam Senior Center is seeking volunteer drivers for the Meals on Wheels program that serves local seniors who are homebound. Volunteers may sign up for one day a week or one day a month, depending upon availability. Stop by the center or call **Kathleen Roybal**, Adam Senior Center activities director, at 466-1039.

There are many activities ongoing at the center, including the Indoor Garden Club, whose members have been busy growing seedlings of vegetables, herbs, and some houseplants. The Garden Club will offer the plants for a cash donation to the Adam Senior Center beginning Friday, May 9, and continuing May 12 through May 16 from 9 AM to 2 PM at the center.

A new teacher, Trillian, will be giving yoga classes on Fridays at 9:30 AM at the center. Other exercise classes at the center are listed on the monthly calendar.

Two trips are planned for May: a fishing trip to Sandia Lakes on May 7, and on May 26, a trip to Corrales to visit the historic Casa de San Isidro and the nearby San Isidro church. Check the trip bulletin board to sign up for this event. Space is limited.

Other activities at the center include Scrabble, crafts, chess, and a monthly movie. Lunch is served each weekday from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Reservations are required at least 24 hours ahead of the lunch date. Cost is a donation of \$1.50. Monthly menus are available at the center.

–Janet Amtmann



Artist Maria de Echevarria is participating in the Spring Studio Tour. See details on back page.



Green Café: Make Every Drop Count / Build a Rain Barrel!

Did you know that 1000 square feet of roof will shed 600 gallons in only one inch of rain? What if you knew how to build your own rain barrel to catch that precious water and store it so you could direct the water to your thirsty plants and landscaping during the dry months? In a Green Café workshop on Saturday, May 10, from 9 AM to 12:30 PM (at La Tienda), you will learn about the water situation in Santa Fe and why you should care about it. There will be a brief discussion on rainwater capture, followed by a hands-on instruction on how to build an inexpensive rain barrel. Five barrels will be built in class, so each participant will be able to see how it is done. Participants will have the opportunity to purchase a finished barrel at the end of class. Workshop instructor: **Doug Pushard**, founder of HarvestH2o; sponsored by SERA and HarvestH2o.

This workshop is free. Donations to SERA are welcome. For participants who want to purchase a finished rain barrel, the cost is \$30, payable by cash or check. Space is limited to 15! To register, email diane@harvesth2o.com or call 512-698-8763.

Changes on Your Road?

What permits or architectural changes is ECIA considering in your neighborhood? Check out the Architecture Committee agenda at <http://tinyurl.com/ljdmreo> or the ECIA Board agenda at <http://tinyurl.com/lkxxdmw>.

May Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email marilyn@eldoradosf.org with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 3rd of the month for publication in the following month's Vistas. Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. **Type of Event**
2. **Location**
3. **Date & Time**
4. **A Resource Person** (one who can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.

Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

Note: All meetings are at the Community Center, unless otherwise noted.

LR=Living Room, F=Foyer, CFR=Conference Room, CR=Class Room, RR=Railroad, K=Kitchen

SPECIAL EVENTS

ECIA Annual Meeting	Mon., May 5, 7-9 pm	466-4248	La Tienda
Pool Opens	Sat., May 24, 8-8 pm	466-2511	

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architecture Committee	Tues., May 13, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architecture Committee	Tues., May 27, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Thurs., May 1, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., May 12, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., May 6, 7-9 pm	Jim Daniel	466-7513	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Thurs., May 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., May 7, 4-6 pm	John Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., May 7, 9:30-11:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., May 20, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee	TBA		466-4248	CFR
Stable Committee	Wed., May 28, 7-9 pm	Gretel Underwood	466-7825	CFR
SPE Committee	Thurs., May 8, 7-9 pm	Steve Rudnick	466-1335	CFR

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAW&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR/CR
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs., of month	Barrie Brown	466-3035	CC
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed., 3:00 pm	Susan Aylward	shaylward@gmail.com	
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues. of month, 4-6 pm	Karen Sweeney	466-9797	CFR
Library Book Group	2nd Sat., 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm	santafesar.org		CR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
AA	Thurs. 5:30-6:30 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			CFR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			LR/CFR
Adult Basketball	Thurs., 6:30 pm - dusk			BB Court
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	Every Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Jim Davidson	670-6949	LR
Coed Adult Softball	Fri. nights, 5:30 pm	Tom Miller	466-6059	CC
Community Church**	Sun., 9:00 & 10:30 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
Fire & Rescue Training	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Work Duty	Sat., Call for time	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Horseshoes	Wed 5:30 pm	Tom Miller	466-6059	CC
Knitting Club	Tues., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Jack McCarthy	466-9601	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri., 1-4:30	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Kate	216-5302	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30-12:30 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	David Lovro	466-0540	RR

* Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

**For other religious/spiritual services, go to <http://santafe.areaconnect.com/churches.htm>

*** Reservations Required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradosf.org

Herrada Road Paving

On March 20, Herrada Road Paving Project Manager **Chuck Vigil** attended the ECIA Board meeting to discuss the upcoming paving plan. Herrada Road intersects Avenida Casa del Oro, crosses Avenida de Compadres, and terminates just before the railway tracks.

The new roadway will have 6 inches of base course and 3 inches of asphalt. Each lane (one in either direction) will be 10 feet in width. While there is neither space nor funds for designated walking paths, a 2-foot area will be left between the edge of the pavement and the grading, to accommodate pedestrians.

The proposed schedule calls for bids to be in by April and the contract to be awarded at the end of May. Construction begins in June—after the Eldorado Studio Tour—and is expected to last for up to 60 working days, weather permitting.

The New Mexico Gas Company plans to move affected lines in April, as does PNM (which has only a

few relocations). Comcast and Century Link have already started work. County representatives have been in communication with EAWSD General Manager **David Chakroff** about water lines that are within the county right-of-way, and EAWSD will handle any necessary modifications or relocations. Homeowners on Herrada Road are not responsible for the cost of the work on culverts or for moving their mailboxes.

The benefits of this project include a reduction in noise, dust, maintenance, and wear and tear on vehicles. Paving should also result in better drainage and emergency vehicle response times.

The Herrada Road speed limit will remain at 25 MPH. If speeding becomes an issue, the first step is to contact the Traffic Division and request a Traffic Calming Initiation Packet. This launches a process that involves petitions, traffic studies, and the possible installation of traffic calming devices.

Plans for the Herrada Road project are available at the ECIA office. *—Juliet White*



At the Library

It's been a long process, but the construction on the Vista Grande Public Library addition is complete. The 4,000-square-foot addition nearly doubles the library's size. The new space includes a meeting room available for the community to use, a quiet seating area (with views) for patrons to sit and read in comfort, new carrels for computers, and three tutoring cubicles for private study sessions. Visitors can also expect to find more shelves and a processing room for new materials. In the existing section, the space will be rearranged to separate the circulation desk and the youth areas from patrons who want a little less noise.

The official ribbon-cutting ceremony has not been scheduled, but keep checking the library website, www.vglibrary.org, or Facebook page, for the date.

Registration for the Summer Reading Programs has begun. This year's theme is "Fizz! Boom! Read!"

The programs, for children from pre-K to grade 4, begin June 12 and will run until August 1. The library is also hosting the Zoo to You Van on July 30, as well as other summer science presentations. Children can sign up for the Reading Contest even if they are not able to attend the program sessions. Stop by the library for more information and to register.

On May 6, VGPL is participating in Give ¡Grande! NM. This is part of a national day of community giving, sponsored by The Community Foundation Coalition of New Mexico. The 24-hour online event (midnight to midnight) provides a way for New Mexicans to donate to nonprofits they feel contribute to their quality of life. Go to www.givegrandenm.org, and support your community.

Residents are encouraged to come in to see all the new things going on at VGPL—and, if you are looking for volunteer opportunities, to sign up!

Crude Oil in Lamy, *Cont. from p. 1*

changes, lists of permits sought and obtained, a timeline, and information regarding any community benefits. They also offered to help Pacer to identify a different location for the terminal.

Jennifer Talhelm, communications director for Senator Udall's office, said: "as of this writing, [April 1] Senator Udall and the other members of the delegation who signed the letter have yet to hear from Pacer in response to their questions." The original letter was dated February 12, 2014.

INFRASTRUCTURE

County Road 33 (aka Old Lamy Trail) provides access

to Lamy, and it was repaved just last summer. Santa Fe County, which is responsible for its maintenance, had an engineering firm assess the road. The core testing results revealed that, by instituting a 26-ton weight limit on vehicles, the road could last for twenty years.

County commissioners voted unanimously to publish a draft ordinance that restricts vehicle weight to 26 tons on Old Lamy Trail; the vote on the actual ordinance is scheduled for May. According to public works director **Adam Leigland**, "the Ordinance will allow Santa Fe County to place a weight limit on CR33 . . . to preserve the County's investment in that road, in line with our pavement preventative maintenance practices." *—Juliet White*



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FLORA & FAUNA GROUP

Insects and Toxins

Several years ago, while jogging early on an autumn day, I was amazed to find a large number of “walking stick” insects. Since then, I’ve seen a few here and there, but never as many at one time. Walking sticks have always fascinated me. Closely resembling leafless twigs (hence their name), they are usually still during the daytime (blending into their surroundings) and more active at night when they feed on vegetation.

We have another remarkable insect here in Eldorado, the praying mantis. Our version is the Obscure Ground Mantid, which can grow up to several inches in length. Like walking sticks, mantids typically move slowly. However, since they carry their front legs close to their heads (resembling a position of prayer), they are able to quickly grab insects. Their favorite food? Ants!

Unlike walking sticks and the praying mantis, the termite can cause structural damage. Termites are pale in color, with soft bodies and no waist, whereas ants (with whom termites are often confused) are darker, have a hard exoskeleton, and a waist. Termites in our area are likely *Heterotermes aures*, found throughout the Southwest deserts.

Some Eldorado residents use pesticides to kill these and other pests – including rodents or even weeds. It’s tempting to reach for a poison spray or granules, especially when we see undesired insects or rodents. Once toxins enter the environment, however, they accumulate in the food chain and negatively affect all beings, both human and wildlife.

Mouse Encounters

Like others, I believed that finding mice in the home was not unusual, and the need to clean up after them was just a fact of life. That opinion was based on my experience in homes in Massachusetts, Texas, Vermont, and New Mexico. When I spotted this little gray creature in our home in Eldorado, it was not a surprise. It did surprise me to find their droppings in a light fixture, and then on the washing machine below it. I almost had admiration for the resourceful little critters.

My wife saw it differently, and she started bugging me to do something about it. I put out some traps and soon caught three mice. But the droppings kept appearing; even worse, they started to invade the car. We found a nest behind the back seat in an area you can’t see unless you fold it halfway down. This was not acceptable.

She wanted to take some positive action to stop these uninvited guests. I argued that since it was an impossible task, we shouldn’t waste money on such a proj-

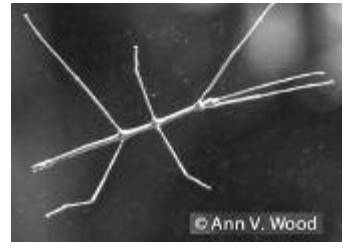
ect. Undeterred, she hired a local pest control company, who sent a man over. He started work on the roof, putting metal screening around all the vents for the heating and plumbing systems. Then he inspected the outer walls for spaces around windows, doors, vigas, and canales. When he found one, he sealed it off. Around the garage he blocked any openings and put brush-like barriers at the base of the door. For the car, he had a different but equally effective solution, a set of little cloth packets containing a mixture that smells like balsam (and like a Christmas tree). Apparently, mice can’t stand it. We put the packets in the car interior, the trunk, and the engine compartment. Then we went away for several months. On our return, I was expecting some of the usual mouse signs. Nothing! This was amazing. That was 2009, and we have had no mice since in either the house or the car. The traps have been set, but all are empty.

Meanwhile, we learned that mice attacked the ignition wires of a neighbor’s car. We told her about our solution. Now her car smells like a Christmas tree, too.

–H. W. Von Letkemann, hvonletkemann@earthlink.net

References for this article are available on request. Contact us at EldoradoFloraFauna@yahoo.com.

WATCH FOR SNAKES! Springtime means our snake co-habitants are reemerging. The Eldorado Snake Relocation Volunteers (working for The Wildlife Center) are available again to serve you and protect our snakes. If you would like a snake relocated from your yard, contact one of these organizations (if you have the snake(s) in sight): *The Wildlife Center* 505-753-9505, 8 AM–3 PM, Monday–Friday; *ECIA* 466-4248, 8 AM–5 PM, Monday–Friday; *Neighborhood Watch* 466-2553, 5–7 PM daily. –Julia Kinney



For more on insects, visit [The Harrell House Bug Museum in Santa Fe \(in the DeVargas Mall\): 505-695-8569 www.harrellhouse.com](http://www.harrellhouse.com)



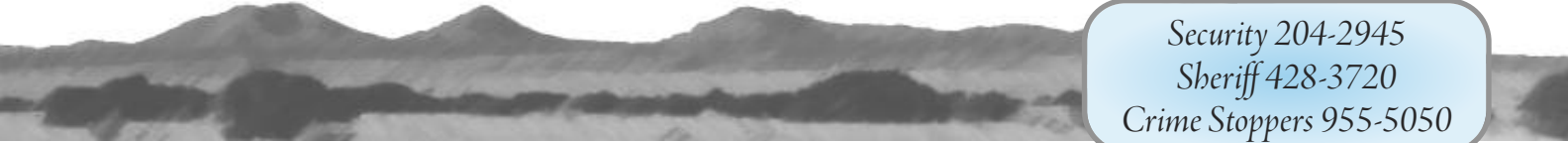
VISTAS

Eldorado Community Improvement Association
 #1 La Hacienda Loop
 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508
www.eldoradosf.org



Scan this code with your phone to take you to the online versions of *Vistas*

PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Permit No. 173
 Santa Fe, NM



Security 204-2945
 Sheriff 428-3720
 Crime Stoppers 955-5050

Eldorado's Annual Studio Tour May 17-18

The 90 professional artists who will participate in the 23rd annual Spring Studio Tour are gearing up, as the Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association's yearly event approaches. On the weekend of May 17 and 18, the streets of Eldorado will be dotted with orange signs pointing the way to the artists' studios and homes, marked by fluttering flags that welcome visitors during the two-day event.

EACA's tour has long been New Mexico's largest such happening, and many of the artists now team up with fellow members to share spaces so that visitors can explore several artists' work in single stops. This year there will 57 stops on the tour.

Those who have enjoyed this tour in previous years will appreciate seeing the ever-evolving array of work by the seasoned participants, as well as the inspiring work of new presenters. Newcomers to the tour will be happily surprised by the profusion of artists and the variety of artwork that is to be found in our community. Exhibited work will include painting, ceramics and clay sculpture, drawing, glass, jewelry, photography, and printmaking. Also to be seen will be woodworking, dig-



ital images, fiber and wearable art, mixed media, and recycled art.

This year's tour has captured the interest of the local TV station KASA, Channel 2. On May 15, their shows "This Morning" and "Style" will both include features about the tour and its artists. Check EACA's website eldoradoarts.org for further details as that date nears.

To better plan the Studio Tour weekend, you can visit the Tour's Preview Gallery in the La Tienda Exhibit Space, where samples of the creative works of the artists will be displayed. The preview gallery will be open for two weeks prior to the tour; its doors will open early on the actual tour days.

Brochures will be available at the gallery, so folks can mark their favorite stops. The public is invited to join the Artists' Reception in the Preview Gallery on Friday, May 16.

—Margaret Nelson

Works by artists Kimberly Gray (left), Mary Ann Onstott (top right), and Kris Palek (bottom right).



Preview Gallery: May 3-16, noon-6 PM, Monday-Saturday;
 May 17-18, 9 AM-5 PM, La Tienda Exhibit Space, Suite A-6
 Artist Reception: May 16, 5-7 PM
 Open Studios: May 17-18, 10 AM-5 PM
www.eldoradostudiotour.org eldoradostudiotour@gmail.com