

# VISTAS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ELDORADO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 • 505 466-4248 • [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)

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## The Forty-Niners Come to Eldorado

**O**n January 24, 1848, James Marshall discovered a handful of shiny gold flakes at Sutter Mill, California. Although he wished to keep his discovery secret, that was impossible. Up to 300,000 people flocked to California. The people who left their homes in search of gold were later referred to as the “forty-niners,” simply because the year was 1849.

They also came to Eldorado. At least they passed through. Many of the forty-niners traveled the Santa Fe Trail; some left the trail at Cañoncito, a stagecoach and U.S. Mail stop. They traveled south through Apache Canyon and on to Galisteo and then to the Turquoise Trail. Aerial maps show the traces of many old roads and trails still visible in the Eldorado Conservation Area.

Others went to the western side of Apache Ridge. Here at Rock Corral they could get fresh horses and water from a natural well. You can still see that well today. To get there, take U.S. Highway 285 to Old Las Vegas Highway, turn left and then right at the site of Café Fina and then keep

bearing northeast. It is essentially an arroyo which continues south through Eldorado.



*A forty-niner peers into the silt of California's American River.*

The trail these men took was the same road as the soldiers' bridle path, originally from Spanish times and what is now Hwy 285 South.

Other evidence of 19th-century activity in the Conservation Area are some old coke ovens. Wood from the native juniper and piñon trees fired the ovens to make coke, a coal residue, which was then shipped out of Lamy to California via the railroad.

These prospectors did find some gold and some silver, as well as turquoise, but it was hard-rock mining as opposed to panning, and they were not real miners. As it became more and more difficult to extract the ore, they became more and more disgusted. Eventually most of them left the area to go further west.

Frances Kern writes about these miners in *Windmills and Dreams*, available on Amazon or at the Community Center.

—Pam Henline, Photo L. C. McClure / Public domain

## RESOURCES FOR ELDORADO RESIDENTS

UPDATE JULY 16, 2020. SEE A FREQUENTLY UPDATED VERSION ON [ELDORADOSF.ORG](http://ELDORADOSF.ORG) UNDER NEWS AND EVENTS.

**The ECIA office, open only by telephone and internet.** Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 8 PM; Saturday, 8 AM to 5 PM, **505 466-4248**.

**As of July 13, restaurants and breweries** now allowed only outdoor seating and takeout. **Some indoor businesses** like gyms, salons, etc. may operate at 25% capacity.

**Most ECIA amenities open** with restrictions: Tennis court, pool for lap swimming, pickleball court, basketball court, volleyball court, dog park. Some require reservations, **505 466-4248**.

**As of July 1, everyone in any public place inside or outside is required to wear a mask** (except medical,

eating, drinking). Many businesses and restaurants are at least partially open.

The **Senior Center is closed** but help is available through **Santa Fe County Senior Services**, call **505 992-3069**, or email **Esperanza Salazar, [emsalazar@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:emsalazar@santafecountynm.gov)**. Services include grocery shopping for high risk individuals and transportation for necessary doctor visits. Meal delivery can also be arranged for shut-ins and high risk seniors.

### IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE COVID-19:

**1-855-600-3453 before you go to an ER or MD**

### QUESTIONS AND NM HELP:

**1-833-551-0518 for all other questions & info**

# Board Actions and Summary July 20

All Board members were present at the July ECIA Board of Directors Meeting held via ZOOM. HOAMCO staff including GM Julie Navarro, Facilities Manager Mike Rogers, Pool Manager Jessica Collins, Executive Assistant Rachel Turnbough, and Office Assistant Sarah Skagen also attended.

The following architectural variance requests and motions were reviewed and approved:

## VARIANCE REQUESTS

- To allow for the existing shed at 23 Caliente Rd to be located 35 feet from the home;
- To allow construction of a new privacy wall 14 feet into the 50-foot roadside setback at 1 Esquila Rd;
- To allow for the encroachment of a coyote screening fence 13 feet into the 50-foot roadside setback at 7 Esquila Rd;
- To allow for the addition of a portal that does not match the existing roof style but is only slightly over the maximum size allowed at 136 Verano Loop.

## MOTIONS

1. To adopt the new records request form; [it is uploaded on the website under Forms and Applications]
2. To affirm AFJ Custom Paving as a Sole Source contractor as permitted in Section 8 of the ECIA Procurement Policy. AFJ has been the association's preferred provider for more than 10 years and has completed all work on the hike/bike trails in a diligent manner, consistently on time, within budget, and without change orders;
3. To accept resignations from Tana Monaco, Kathy Cashiola, Mary Lee Morgan, Melissa Smock and Sandra Young from the Welcome ad hoc Committee;
4. To accept the resignation of Mary Clark from the Conservation Committee;
5. To approve the Board of Director committee liaison role [it is uploaded under the Board and Committees tab on the website].

Sal Monaco reported on the management company selection process. Contract negotiations with HOAMCO will begin in the upcoming weeks. Residents can review the RFP on the website and will have access to the contract once completed. The Finance Committee and the association's attorney will review the contract before Board approval will be considered.

As of the date of the Board meeting, 97% of homeowner assessments have been collected. Those who have not submitted payments have been contacted via letters and phone calls. Most have agreed to a payment plan; accounts for homeowners who have not arranged payment will go into collections.

Mike Rogers reported on amenities. The pool's feeder barrel is to be removed from inside the mechanical room and a storage cabinet will house it adjacent to the building. Maintenance has removed old tanks and will backfill the holes with dirt. The parking lot lights are complete but need remote settings adjustment. The tennis courts will be getting a wind screen, new net and chip repairs. Jessica Collins announced that the lap sessions will remain at one hour. Once schools open, a pool schedule will be announced based on lifeguard availability.

Joseph Gutierrez, County Liaison for the Board reported the County will use \$150K for trail work on Avenida Vista Grande near the fire substation. With the \$200K from a 2019 request, the county will design right of ways, plan design and land acquisition to extend the hike/bike trail from Torreón to Rt. 285 on north side Avenida Eldorado. There is an additional \$150K for paving; once the money is absolutely confirmed the chosen road will be announced.

Amelia Adair, Chair of the Stable Committee presented an overview of the stable amenity. The presentation has been posted to the website in the Stable Committee tab. Pam Henline presented the findings of the recent logo survey. Though there was a clear preference, the Board has agreed to re-visit the RFP and send it to graphic design firms in Santa Fe. The logo must be chosen before the new website can be completed. Bonn Macy will assist with the request.

Sheila Sullivan updated the Board regarding the Dark Skies initiative. She will confirm ECIA's status with the International Dark-Sky Association. Once confirmed, residents will be asked to complete a survey regarding the process. The Board of Directors supports this initiative as long as all covenants are followed.

Additional Task Group and Committee reports are attached to the Board minutes on the website. Approximately 30 members of the community signed into the meeting. There were no questions for the Open Forum. The meeting was recorded and copies can be requested by calling the ECIA office at **505 466-4248**. They will download the video onto a thumb drive. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website: **[www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)**.

Thank you to all who participated and we hope to see you at the next meeting which will be held:

**Monday, August 24 at 5 PM.**

*Please note change in schedule.*

—Nancy Sulzberg,  
ECIA Board President

## Eldorado Residents Stay Ahead of the COVID Curve

I woke up this morning, (July 2, 2020) to the news of 50,000 new cases reported across the country of COVID-19. That is a record I know we are not proud of. We were on the path of flattening the curve, but by not following the expert advice of our scientists, we seem to be headed in the wrong direction.

Simple tasks such as wearing a face cover, social distancing, and washing your hands are all that is asked of us and frankly, the vast majority of residents in Eldorado have done just that. In spite of our efforts, infections in Santa Fe are on the rise. In fact, nation-wide, it's reaching epidemic proportions and some states are having to be reactive rather than proactive. This is not a political problem. It's a health issue that can be corralled if folks just use common sense.

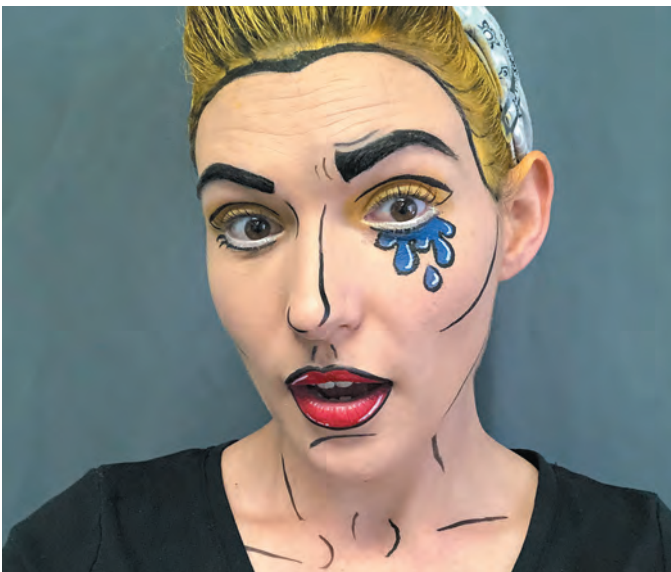
I wish that this would just go away but wishful thinking won't solve this epidemic. Our Eldorado residents have done an exemplary job of following the CDC and the Governor's

guidelines and staying safe. Through all of this, we've been able to open up our amenities albeit with restrictions. Probably the most challenging has been the pool. We can't thank our Pool staff enough for the amazing job they've done in ensuring the safety of our residents during these trying times. I'd also like to give thanks to all of our staff for their dedication and hard work involved in maintaining all of our amenities during this pandemic.

Other HOA's in Santa Fe have opted to have their pools remain closed entirely this season but we will continue to adhere to the guidelines offered and as they change, hopefully ease, so will we. These are strange times we're living in and we in Eldorado seem to be staying ahead of the curve.

—David Sorkin,  
ECIA Board member

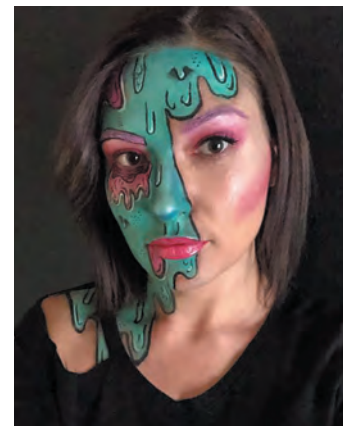
## COVID-19 Creative Faces Delight Colleagues



These makeup looks were done to bring smiles and break tension during a very uncomfortable time. My colleagues at the ECIA definitely broke out into broad smiles of wonder upon seeing me when they arrived at work. I tried to base the concept around the feelings which the stay-at-home order stirred up inside me. With all the new

restrictions and rules in place, there are days it seems everything is unraveling and about to fall apart. This inspired the stitched face—"Hanging on by a Thread." It also led to the melted zombie-esque face—"Having a Meltdown!" Change is scary. There have been times when I have needed to take a moment to try and collect myself because I felt a meltdown coming on. My last look was inspired by realizing that this is not real life so I morphed myself into a comic book character.

—Rachael Turnbough,  
ECIA Executive Assistant



### ECIA BOARD & MANAGEMENT

**Board:** President Nancy Sulzberg, Vice President Melicent D'Amore, Treasurer Sal Monaco, Secretary Carol Sanguinetti, Director David Sorkin. There are two Board vacancies at this time.

**Management:** The ECIA is managed by HOAMCO. General Manager Julie Navarro, jnavarro@hoamco.com  
Monthly report available at [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) under Resident Resources.



## Out of Sight, Out of Mind—and Into the Food Chain

**R**odenticides—rat poisons—are harmful ways to manage rodent populations. They not only impact the “target species” but also upset a perfectly designed natural order. The collateral damage from rodenticides is typically out of sight and out of mind. The suffering of victims is undeniable. Bleeding to death internally or succumbing to dehydration is painful. And slow.

For some, if the collateral damage is confined within the “wild kingdom” there is justification for using rodenticides. This can backfire, with our beloved dogs, cats and others, even children, becoming victims. We cannot afford to subject our families or wildlife, and the important food chain, to the consequences of poisons—however positioned as safe, convenient, and effective.

Dr. Julie Breer DVM at Smith Veterinary Hospital has nearly 30 years of treating hundreds of patients for primary and secondary rodenticide poisoning. “The biggest mistake is thinking pets won’t get into poisons,” she observes. “If you use them, your pets, a neighbor’s pet, or wildlife, can be poisoned—rodents move poisons. Unless you see your pet swallow the poison, poisoning can be difficult to diagnose; treatments can become complex and expensive. Anti-coagulants cause life threatening bleeding. Treatment options are severely limited for Vitamin D rodenticides causing kidney failure, and Bromethalin (a neurotoxin), causing lethal neurologic symptoms.

Rodents can be relocated. IF rodents are to be killed, they deserve a quick and painless death. Electrocutation and lethal bolt-driven devices are quick. Snap traps that usually kill

instantly are widely available. Poisons are painful and slow. Glue traps are pure torture. Whatever the means, traps do not discriminate between pests and pets.

Our most effective rodent control method is to protect and enable our indigenous natives (owls, coyotes, bob cats, ravens, snakes, badgers) to perform their highly successful efforts. For them to prosper and be effective, we must remove all rodenticides. Driving carefully benefits all residents while keeping snakes, mammals, and scavengers safe.



*Pack rats in live traps await release away from residences.*

When we move in, rodents will respond to the attractants (birdseed, water) we provide. Our best coping skills, practices, and creativity are prerequisites to coexistence. As one of the most progressive communities, we need to move past rodenticides.

—Article and photo by Joe Newman

## ECIA Builds Annex for Our Canine Companions



**E**CIA maintenance crew workers have built a new annex located on the east end of the Dog Park. On hot summer days, you may sit on a park bench in the shade of piñon trees. Although the annex is small in size, it is not just for small dogs, says H. M. Aragon. “This area is

reserved for dogs large, small, old, young, or handicapped,” she said. “If your dog is intimidated by the activity of highly active dogs in the large dog park, this is the perfect place to play.” Many of the adopted Rowe dogs fit this category.

All dogs that are not spayed or neutered are excluded from both parks. All dogs are required to have an updated county license, shots, and to be registered in the ECIA office. A tag will be given upon completion of registration, Aragon explained, adding, “Please bring water for your dog.”

—Marie Aragon,  
Dog Park advisory group

## Reserve Your Pool Lap Lane Online

**P**ool reservations can now be made online. Make a reservation from the ECIA home page, [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org). Reservations open at 8 AM Monday through Saturday, 48 hours in advance. On Sunday, reservations can be made only for Monday. Reservations for Tuesday and Wednesday are made Monday morning. Residents may hold one

reservation at a time in order to accommodate as many residents as possible. You may cancel your reservation online or by calling the office at **505 466-4248**. Please note that only Eldorado Members in Good Standing with a 2020 pool pass may make reservations and use the pool. Member status is checked before being allowed to swim.

## Eldorado Stable Attracting New Families

**E**xciting growth and increased use of the Eldorado Stable amenity benefits the entire Eldorado community. The Stable is a unique and popular amenity that attracts homebuyers from around New Mexico and out of state. Over the past four years, 18 barns have sold to new owners, bringing new horses, riders and energy to the Stable. Each of those new owners purchased homes in Eldorado specifically for the purpose of being able to buy or share a barn at the Stable Amenity.

At the time this article is written, one barn is currently for sale. Almost half of all barns are used by more than one family in Eldorado; approximately 60 families now regularly ride or are otherwise engaged with equines at the Stable. Twelve children under the age of 18 regularly ride at the Eldorado Stable, a significant increase in recent years. The number of families with children using the Stable has been growing consistently over the past several years.

The Stable offers recreational opportunities for all Eldorado residents, even if they don't currently own horses. So far in 2020 over 50 gardeners have picked up free manure from the Stable. The quiet roads and trails in the adjacent arroyo attract many walkers including parents with kids in strollers and people walking their dogs. Other regular visitors include painters, photographers and bird watchers.

Any Eldorado resident is welcome to visit the Stable during daylight hours, subject to Stable rules including the 10-mph speed limit.

The Stable does not offer public boarding. No assessment revenue is used to support any animals at the Stable, and



*Kids on horseback for the Friday Afternoon Ride.*

no ECIA staff handle, muck or provide any care for any equine. Instead, barn owners are solely responsible to pay for and provide all feed and care for their equines, including mucking. Barn owners originally built, and continue to maintain at their own expense, all barns and corral fences. They reimburse the ECIA for manure removal, fly predator program, water and property tax. There is no electricity service to any barn. Barn owners are also required to maintain liability insurance for the benefit of the ECIA. This structure results in a cost-effective amenity which supports everyone's property values in the Eldorado community.

*—Article and photo by Amelia Adair,  
Chair, Eldorado Stable Committee*



### COST-EFFECTIVE WAYS TO SECURE YOUR RESIDENCE

#### AUGUST TIP: REALLY HIDE YOUR KEY

If you leave a key some place for emergencies, don't put it in a spot that's easy to guess. Under the front door mat or above the door trim are obvious places. Think of a less-obvious location, and change it every few months.

## Learn About Our Eldorado Roads

*Santa Fe Public Works (SFPW) helps residents understand the relationship between the County and Eldorado's roads. If you have questions for the PW Department, please send them to: [roadchair1@gmail.com](mailto:roadchair1@gmail.com) to be forwarded to the appropriate person in the SFPW Department. Diego Gomez and staff will be happy to answer your questions.*

### WHO OWNS THE ROADS?

**A**ll public roads in Eldorado, both paved and unpaved, are owned and maintained by Santa Fe County, explains project engineer Diego Gomez. "Santa Fe County road signs are royal blue with gold letters. Any other color road sign means the road is not county-maintained.

Most roads in Eldorado lie within a 50-foot wide right-of-way typically centered along the existing roadway, even though the existing road surface can be narrower." Santa Fe County has the legal right and jurisdiction to do road and maintenance work and make changes within the right-of-way of all roads in Eldorado.

*Information provided by Diego Gomez, Project Engineer,  
Santa Fe Public Works Department.*



## Protect Your Home and Pets: Fire Prevention Update

At the July 15 Fire Prevention Town Hall, Ignacio Dominguez, Santa Fe County Emergency Services Coordinator and Mike Feulner, Santa Fe County Wildland Fire Captain participated in a Question and Answer session with nearly 60 residents. They both shared important resources that Eldorado residents can access to mitigate against fire and to be more prepared in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Dominguez encouraged the participants to sign up for REVERSE 911 emergency alerts. In so doing, individuals submit information about themselves and others in the home (including pets) that will assist emergency responders. The website to do so is [www.santafecountynm.gov/public\\_safety/recc](http://www.santafecountynm.gov/public_safety/recc). For those with additional questions, Mr. Dominguez provided his phone number: 505 992-3072.

Captain Feulner shared his expertise about wildland fire prevention and strongly recommended that residents arrange a Home Fire Mitigation Assessment by calling Remington Gillum, Santa Fe County Fire Department Wildland Urban



Interface Specialist at 505 995-6532. Nort Phillips, Eldorado Firefighter, will also provide an assessment. He can be reached at 505 991-0693. Please note that COVID-19 guidelines (masks and social distancing) will be followed.

Thanks to Debra Denker, Chair of the Safety Education Task Group, there are additional resources available to Eldorado residents listed on [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org). Please take a few moments to watch the video “Your Home can Survive a Fire” and to download the “Ready Set Go” booklet.

—Nancy Sulzberg,  
ECIA Board President

## Osprey—An Unusual Visitor to Eldorado



You might not expect to see this distinctive bird of prey in Eldorado, since it almost exclusively eats fish. Much of the summer breeding territory, however, is in the northwestern U.S., Canada and Alaska. Migrating birds overfly New Mexico on their way to/from Mexico and Central America. Rene Laubach reported a sighting above Eldorado in October 2019.

The Osprey is a large bird, about 24 inches long with a wing span near 71 inches. In flight, the underside is white, tail and wing feathers have dark bars separated by light tan, and dark “wrists.” The tail is short and the wings are long and narrow. The upper side of its body and wings are dark brown. The distinctive face is white with a broad dark line passing from bill to neck and a black line at the top of the head. Eyes are yellow and the dark bill is heavy and hooked. Ospreys

may sometimes show a crest. Males and females are similar, although not exactly the same.

Open areas with artificial platforms, dead trees, utility poles and rocky outcrops near fresh or brackish water are used for nests, which may be reused over many years. Pairs are mostly monogamous. The male locates a new or old nest site and brings sticks which the female arranges. Nests are mostly lined with grasses and other vegetation. During courtship the male screeches as he hovers and swoops over the nest, sometimes clutching a fish.

One to four eggs are laid in a single brood per year. Incubation lasts about 40 days and young stay in the nest up to 55 or 60 days. Hatching is staggered by up to five days, which means the oldest nestling may get most of the food, especially when prey is not abundant. Young hatch with eyes open, covered in down and with limited movement. Males bring food to the incubating female and for the first weeks after hatching. Osprey can dive as deep as five feet to catch fish in the half-pound range—most of the food for adults and chicks.

Ospreys declined during the 1950's and 1960's but have somewhat recovered after DDT was banned. Artificial nesting platforms have increased nesting success and allowed more pairs to raise young. Reproduction begins between ages of three and six years, somewhat dependent on available nesting places. The average age of an osprey is between seven and ten years. A bird banded in Virginia in 1973 and found in 1998, was at least 25 years old.

Thanks to Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Wikipedia for information.

—Pam Henline

# August 2020 Meetings

Community Center closed indefinitely. Meetings may be suspended or held via Zoom.

ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesday	18	3–5 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com
	Board Meeting	Monday	24	5 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday	4	7–9 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Paul Butt	conservationchair@gmail.com
	Election Committee	Suspended during COVID-19			Bette Knight	electionchair1@gmail.com
	Facilities & Grounds	Wednesday	5	10 AM–12:30 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Kathy Ritschel	fandgchair@gmail.com
	Finance Committee	Tuesday	11	9:30 AM–12 Noon <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Dan Drobnis	financechair1@gmail.com
	Information Committee	Monday	10	7–9 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Pam Henline	informationchair@gmail.com
	Road Committee	Wednesday	5	5:30–7 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	James Mason	roadchair1@gmail.com
	Stable Committee	Next Meeting: Sept. 10		7–9 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Amelia Adair	stablechair1@gmail.com
Monthly/Semi-Monthly	Bridge	Suspended during COVID-19			DiAna Gutierrez	505 699-3555
	EACA	Suspended during COVID-19			Kim Crickard	VP@eldoradoarts.org
	Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wednesday	19	3–5 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net
	Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tuesday	11	4–6 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Karen Sweeney	505 466-9797
	El Dorado School Community Garden	Suspended during COVID-19			Carol Robles	info@eldoradoschoolcommunitygarden.com
	Healing Arts Practitioners	Suspended during COVID-19			Laurie Sandman	lsandman9@comcast.net
	Life Drawing	Suspended during COVID-19			Mavis Murphy	505 466-8189
	MELT	Suspended during COVID-19			Maureena Bivins	info@maureenabivinsacupuncture.com
	Neighbors Helping Neighbors	1st Tuesday	4	6–7 PM <a href="#">Conference Call</a>	Nancy Merz	nmmerz@msn.com
	Santa Fe Model Railroad Club	Suspended during COVID-19			Bob 505 466-4970	santafemodelrailroadclub.org
	Spinning Group (Fiber)	Suspended during COVID-19			Ellen Higgins	casaladerabe@gmail.com
Weekly	AA	Tuesdays		5:45–6:45 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA (Women Only)	Thursdays		6–7 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA	Fridays		6–7 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	Al Anon	Suspended during COVID-19			505 989-3995	nmal-anon.com
	Breathing Meditation	Mondays		10:30–11 AM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Penny Russell	505 466-3137 sprussel@sjc.edu
	Eldorado Hikers	Suspended during COVID-19			Terry Gibbs	505 466-6914 trgibbs@comcast.net
	Knitting Club	Suspended during COVID-19			Joyce Hanmer	505 466-3018 joycehan@msn.com
	Overeaters Anonymous	Tuesdays		10 AM <a href="#">Comm. Ctr. Patio</a>	Barb	505 954-1533
	Ukulele Class	Suspended during COVID-19			Hazel Jordon	ukehazel@gmail.com
	Yin Yoga	Mondays		5:30–6:45 PM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Wednesdays & Fridays		9–10:15 AM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Tues., Thurs., & Sat.		9–10:15 AM <a href="#">Zoom</a>	Mary Horst	505 490-2790

Send calendar event information to GM@eldoradosf.org.

Events are verified as of July 24, please sign up for ECIA Newsbriefs by emailing [rturnbough@hoamco.com](mailto:rturnbough@hoamco.com) to be notified of changes and to receive information on how to join each Zoom meeting.

## News Tid-Bits

### JOIN OR CONTRIBUTE TO INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Published authors, wannabes and everyone else in the Eldorado Community are invited to join or just contribute to the **Information Committee** and the monthly *Vistas* newsletter. Time commitment is small to help with just some of these activities: proof final *Vistas* draft; review and edit submitted articles; write an article; gather community information; take photographs of Eldorado events and places; bring new ideas to the community. E-mail [phenline@comcast.net](mailto:phenline@comcast.net) or [informationchair@gmail.com](mailto:informationchair@gmail.com) and ask for the short *Guide to Writing for Vistas*.

### COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR ELDORADO

This information will continue to change and accumulate over the foreseeable future. It will be updated online regularly with details concerning Eldorado and available services. Go to [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org) > News and Events > COVID-19 for the latest.

### EXTREME FIRE DANGER

With exceptionally hot dry weather and persistent breezes, the fire danger is very high. Please be careful handling



anything that could start a fire: cigarettes, chain saws, hot automobile engines, barbecues, lawn mowers, open fires, fireworks. Keep our green belts, wildlife and residents safe. Santa Fe County has a guide for home owners found at [https://www.santafecountynm.gov/fire/emergency\\_management\\_division/protecting\\_your\\_home](https://www.santafecountynm.gov/fire/emergency_management_division/protecting_your_home)

*Sun may come up late,  
but it never fails to rise:  
an obligation.*

**Mission Statement** The mission of the monthly newsletter, *Vistas*, is to inform members of the ECIA about issues before the Board of Directors, various committees, and the office staff. Any interesting events happening in Eldorado or the surrounding areas may be included. The publication seeks to foster increased neighborhood pride and community participation in the decision-making process.

**Editorial Policy** *Vistas* welcomes factual and objective submissions, which will be selected and edited at the discretion of the Information Committee and Board of Directors. Community announcements and articles of interest to homeowners are welcome, along with photos. Submissions are due on the fifth of the month preceding publication. For help with any article, see the *Vistas* Style Guide posted on ECIA website, [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org).

## Eldorado Station Celebrates 10 Years of Service



*Bill Dunning spinning vinyl in his Eldorado studio.*

Ten years ago this month, Bill Dunning, who retired to the “golden village” at 65 a decade earlier, built his dream. After a career across New Mexico and Arizona, at dozens of radio stations, teaching, editor for *Pasatiempo* at *The New Mexican*, several years at KSNM, the city’s first FM station, then establishing KSFR as a fine-arts public radio station for Santa Fe, he missed the ol’ microphone.

And did something about it. FCC station licenses were (and still are) not available for Eldorado, but rules that cover cordless phones and garage-door openers permit unlicensed

low-power broadcasting. In 2010, in a room surrounded by record shelves and full of CD-changer automation, he went on the air with a micro-station located in the exact center of Eldorado. Since the FCC regulates, but does not assign call letters to, these operations and frowns on “inventing” them, the station, at 1660 AM, identifies as ELDORADIO. Coverage falls off at sundown, but the CDs spin all night long: an easy-listening mix of classics, jazz, pop and folk standards without commercial chatter. It’s also a “politics-free zone,” by choice.

Soon Bill was waking up before dawn for *Good Morning Eldorado* at 7 AM. The wake-up show includes Eldorado weather forecasts, news headlines and a local events calendar. A listener suggested *BreakTime*, quarter-hour talk features at 10:30 AM Monday through Friday.

A year or so ago, ELDORADIO’s weekends added two noontime features. *Saturday Matinée* recreates concerts recorded live. *Retro Radio*, on Sundays, replays network shows from the pre-TV “golden age,” 1930 to 1960. August’s *Matinées* feature the Benny Goodman Orchestra, Oscar Peterson Trio, singer Betty Buckley, Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and pianist Jorge Bolet.

Bill’s son Carl is learning the ropes and wires to take over ELDORADIO if Dad needs to retire one more time.

*—Photo by Carl Dunning*



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