

VISTAS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ELDORADO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 • 505 466-4248 • www.eldoradosf.org

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2021 Assessment Due on February 15

Assessment bills for each lot were mailed in late November and should have reached everyone in early December. If you opted for electronic billing, your notification should have come by December 1. If you **HAVE NOT** received your bill, please contact GM Julie Navarro immediately **505 466-4248**.

The amount is the same as last year, \$550 per lot. Note that the **due date is February 15, 2021**. Please allow enough

time for your payment to be received and credited to your account. If mailing a check, remember that USPS deliveries have been slower than normal and ten days or more may be necessary for on-time delivery. Credit card payments made online also may take a day or two before being credited to your account. Checks can be delivered to the lock-box at the front door of the Community Center from Monday to Friday, 9 AM to 4:30 PM.



Please note the new due date for 2021 Assessment is Monday, February 15, 2021.

Pay online, by check mailed to HOAMCO, or by check at Community Center lock-box. Allow for processing time.

COVID-19 Update as of December 19, 2020

SUBJECT TO RAPID CHANGE. CALL OR CHECK FIRST.
eldoradosf.org > “News” > “COVID-19 Updates” > “Resources”

As of Jan. 4 the ECIA office is open by appointment only. Normal hours are Monday through Friday 8 AM to 5 PM, **505 466-4248**. To reach an individual in the office, the most reliable route is via email. See eldoradosf.org > “Contact Us” > “HOAMCO Staff” for email addresses.

ECIA facility usage as of Dec. 2: The **Dog Park** is open with no more than 5 masked humans allowed at any one time. The **Tennis Courts** are open with no more than five masked players allowed on the courts at any one time. **Pickleball and Basketball courts** are open but no more than five masked players are allowed on the courts at any one time. **No guests are permitted at these amenities at this time** and an amenity will close if its rules are not followed.

New Mexico began a 3-tiered system on Dec. 2, county by county, which will be re-evaluated every two weeks. For Dec. 16–30, **Santa Fe County is RED**, the most dangerous level. **Masks and social distancing are required at all times outside of your home for all tiers**. If rates of infection become

lower, counties may progress to **YELLOW** or **GREEN** with lower restrictions.

It is recommended that you call before going to any establishment. Details at <https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/120220-PHO.pdf>.

BELOW ARE SOME OF THE RESTRICTIONS FOR THE RED TIER:

Essential retail 25% capacity or 75 customers, whichever is smaller and can continue to offer delivery and curbside pickup. Essential businesses must limit business to absolutely necessary functions. Close contact businesses 25% occupancy or 10 customers, whichever is less. All other businesses, including non-essential retail stores: 25% of max occupancy or 75 customers, whichever is smaller. Restaurants outdoor dining at 25% capacity but no indoor dining and must close by 10 PM if serving alcohol, takeout allowed. Churches max 25% occupancy. **Gatherings limited to 5 or fewer**. Outdoor recreational facilities may operate at 25%. Bowling alleys and skating rinks closed. All state-operated museums and historic sites are closed.

2021

*Wishes for a happy
and healthy new year.*

A Vision for our Eldorado Community

This past September, the Board of Directors worked together to prepare a strategic plan for 2021. This plan will guide our actions and decisions and includes the following vision statement:

Eldorado will be a premier homeowner community in New Mexico, known as a diverse, family focused and welcoming environment offering outstanding amenities, fiscal strength and quality service for residents.

We will achieve our objectives by working collaboratively with HOAMCO, our management company, to identify and develop capital improvements that respond to members' needs and to adopt appropriate technologies that improve security, communication, compliance and collaboration.

THE GOALS WE WILL STRIVE TO ACHIEVE ARE THE FOLLOWING:

- Ensure ECIA is fiscally strong;
- Ensure governance reflects best practice;
- Advance the technological resources available for staff, volunteers and residents;
- Develop strong and sustainable working relationships with County and State;
- Respond to ongoing needs of Eldorado residents.

Volunteers are the strength of Eldorado. The Board of Directors and Committees (over 55 of your neighbors and friends) strive to maintain and improve the quality of your life here in Eldorado. Participation is rewarded by major accomplishments, strong ties to the community and new friends and associates. Please consider joining us as we move into the new year.

—ECIA Board of Directors

Meet Newest Board Member Erika Penczer



ERIKA PENCZER
Director

the annual fire department BBQ, spend most summer

Erika Penczer and her husband moved to Eldorado in 2007 when their two children were young enough to attend Eldorado Community School, dress up for the Fourth of July parade, grow veggies in their own plot at the community garden, watch movies at the Vista Grande Public Library, enjoy

afternoons at the pool, drive around to all the art studios on the tour, and take full advantage of all that Eldorado offers for families. Now that the children are grown and she has a little more time, she would like to give back to the community that helped her raise her family.

Originally from Maine, Erika earned a BA from Colby College in Biology/Environmental Science. After many years of science teaching and school leadership experience, she earned her MA in Educational Leadership at the Teachers' College at Columbia University. Since then, she has continued to teach and serve students in school leadership roles. Currently, she is a full-time science teacher at Monte del Sol Charter School.

The community was saddened to learn of the death of Dag Ryen in December 2020. He served Eldorado for many years as a volunteer and Board member and as Board president from 2013 to 2017.



New Way to Obtain Signatures for Board Candidates

There is now an additional way available for collecting signatures if you are running for a Board position. The Nomination Petition form will be available to Members on **Jan. 4, 2021**. The Board has made the process easier during this time of COVID-19.

A Petitioner may obtain signatures in one of two ways:

1) Lot Owners may sign the Petition in person. A physical signature on the Petition must still be accompanied by a legibly printed name and Eldorado mailing address or



2) Lot Owners may send their nomination TO THE PETITIONER via an email containing their name, Eldorado mailing address, date and a statement of support (e.g. "I Eldo Doe, support the candidacy of NewMex Smith for the Board of Directors").

If an email nomination is submitted in lieu of physical signature, the supporting email must be attached to the Petition. The Nomination Petition and all the candidacy requirements can be found on the ECIA web page (eldoradosf.org > "Resident Resources" > "Forms and Applications" > "Nomination Petition") with copies also available at the ECIA office. Submit all information to office by **Mar. 1**. You may need to call office to pick up or drop off materials, **505 466-4248**.

Members who have an interest in running for the Board of Directors should research the responsibilities and time requirements of a Director. If there are questions, contact a current Board member. Eldorado is made better by all its volunteers.

—Election Committee

Eldorado at Santa Fe and its Board of Directors

All lots in *Eldorado at Santa Fe* are recorded by Santa Fe County and your property deed will have this designation. The Eldorado Community Improvement Association, Inc. (ECIA) is the name of the homeowner Association which administers the business relative to these lots. All Lot Owners are Members of the ECIA. Each Lot Owner has agreed to abide by the covenants which regulate ownership in *Eldorado at Santa Fe*.

The ECIA Board of Directors is composed of seven volunteers. Each Director serves for a term of three years. Directors are bound by the Governing Documents and hold a fiduciary responsibility to act in the best interests of the Association and its members in managing the monies, properties and the affairs of the Association. As of January 2021, there are six members on the Board of Directors. The Board may fill the one vacant position by appointment. Members can call the GM to get further information about the application process to apply for appointment.

Each board member is elected to a three-year term. The Directors' terms are staggered so that positions will not all be up for election at the same time. This means at least two board

members are up for election each year. Our current board has the following makeup with term expiration date: (D'Amore 5/2021) (Monaco 5/2021) (Sulzberg 5/2022) (Sanguinetti 5/2022) (Sorkin 5/2023) (Penczer 5/2023) (unfilled position 5/2023). The terms of D'Amore and Monaco expire this year and any member in good standing can run for one of these two positions which will expire May 2024.

To run for these positions, candidates must file a Nomination Petition and if validated the candidate(s) name is placed on the 2021 Ballot. The Nomination Petition is available **after Jan. 4** at the ECIA office and online (eldoradosf.org > "Resident Resources" > "Forms and Applications" > "Board Nomination Petition"). All Petitions must be submitted to the ECIA office by **5 PM on March 1, 2021**. For further questions or information contact Election Committee chair Bette Knight at electionchair1@gmail.com or the GM at **505 466-4248**, jnavarro@hoamco.com.

All of the information about board positions, responsibilities, terms and election can be found in the 2020 Bylaws posted on the Eldorado website, eldoradosf.org.

ECIA BOARD & MANAGEMENT

Board: *President Nancy Sulzberg, Vice President Melicent D'Amore, Treasurer Sal Monaco, Secretary Carol Sanguinetti, Director David Sorkin, Director Erika Penczer.* One Board vacancy at this time.

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

Get Help with Housing and Food

Eldorado/285 Local Support provides short term housing and food assistance to people in the Eldorado/285 corridor (from Galisteo to Old Las Vegas Highway). People at risk of losing their home, accumulating excessive back rent debt, and experiencing food insecurity during the COVID crisis may apply for limited assistance from the fund.

Recipients must be able to demonstrate that funds received are essential and will be used to make permanent

solutions possible. Unused funds will be donated to the Santa Fe County Housing Assistance Fund.

Applicants must supply proof of financial hardship. Contact Destiny Allison for complete details utopiasantafe@gmail.com or go to <https://latiendaeldorado.com/eldorado-covid-19-resources/>.

Funds will be disbursed on a first come/first serve basis to qualified applicants as long as the money lasts. Donors and recipients will remain anonymous.

Wood Smoke and COVID-19—Safer Air Tips

Some homes in Eldorado use wood stoves especially during the winter. Wood smoke contains fine particles that can be inhaled into the lungs and trigger asthma, heart attacks and strokes. It also contains toxic air pollutants like benzene and formaldehyde, which are carcinogenic. New findings by the CDC suggest that if you have had COVID-19, you may be at increased health risk from exposure to residential wood smoke. The following will reduce wood

smoke pollution, making our air safer for all residents:

1. Burn the right wood and burn it hot: never put garbage, plastics or pressed or damp wood in your stove
2. Have a certified chimney sweep inspect and service your stove EVERY YEAR
3. Upgrade your wood stove, especially if it is more than 25 years old

—Mary Uhl

Eldorado Students Create Art in Challenging Times



William Trefor is a seventh-grader who took a photo of his personality from objects he gathered in his home. These items represented things he likes and focuses on. He loves playing basketball, his cello, playing video games, and reading. His friends and family inspired the pop in the colors. The pop means how they help him get through these hard times.

around them.” Her 6th, 7th and 8th grade students fill in the spaces, she explains and “they take agency and create in new and bold ways during this challenging time.”

Eldorado Community School’s Virtual Studio in the Sky, designed by teacher Roni Rohr for student artists, teaches young people how to behave and make choices the way artists do. “Artists tell stories,” she says. “Artists communicate. Artists take risks and explore. Artists create within limitations, yet think expansively. Artists are advocates. Artists participate in the world

She challenges her students to look at everything as an art supply. “Safety first and foremost, I don’t want my students out shopping for art supplies, so drawing, recycled art, photography, and turning personal items into visual art has been our focus. Most students do not have at home the plethora of art supplies I have in the classroom. But creativity happens through choice-based programming, skill-based lessons and visiting artists,” she says. “Our students are incredible and they love making art. This is a time that art speaks very personally to us, working from home. Expressing ourselves is critical in the virtual art room. I see hope and creativity in their work.”



Will Sterling is a sixth-grade student who loves art. This graffiti was inspired by gratitude for friends and teachers. Will likes doing graffiti because he can personalize words with color and shape. When not drawing Will is biking, reading, or playing piano, marimba, or drums.

Become an Information Provider

The ECIA Information Committee (IC) provides information to our community, primarily through *Vistas*. A major task is to produce a monthly newsletter. Do you like to take photographs, report news, interview fascinating people, write articles about subjects that



interest you, or help assemble a newsletter? You, yes you, can become a regular provider. You don't have to be an IC member. As a provider or as a committee member, you join others actively keeping Eldorado a place we all enjoy. You will learn more about how our community and Board of Directors function so that *Eldorado at Santa Fe* remains the place where we want to live.

Please contact informationchair@gmail.com or call the ECIA office at 505 466-4248.

—Pam Henline,
Chair Information Committee

Recycle—Good for You and the Planet

Here are a few reasons to incorporate recycling into your regular routine:

1. It can save you money. Up to 40% of household waste is recyclable, so, if you use the Eldorado Convenience Center, by recycling you'll use fewer punches on your permit card or need fewer bag stickers.
2. It saves our landfill money. Reducing waste bound for the landfill extends the life of the landfill. Building a new landfill "cell" can cost taxpayers as much as \$5,000,000.
3. It saves the county money. The county pays a tipping fee at the landfill of \$40 per ton of trash. It pays \$0 per ton of recyclables at the Buckman Road Recycling & Transfer Station (BuRRT). We, the taxpayers, save by recycling.
4. It is good for the environment (the planet we all depend on), because recycling saves natural resources, water, and energy compared to manufacturing goods from new raw materials.

5. Recycling is also the law at County Transfer Stations. Recycling can save you the time and money that potential court appearances and fines might require.

To learn more about recycling and how you can make a difference, visit eldorado285recycles.org.

—Eldorado/285 Recycles



RECYCLE MYTH OR FACT?

MYTH: Plastic utensils can be recycled.

FACT: Plastic utensils are not recyclable in our system. Compostable utensils only break down in a commercial composting system.

—Eldorado/285 Recycles

Vista Grande Public Library Service is COVID-19-Safe

Vista Grande Public Library continues to serve the community. Owing to safety concerns, they are still only providing curbside/door-pick-up service. Patrons may reserve items online or by contacting VGPL. Once notified that reserved items are ready, patrons may come to the door to pick up materials, or call when near to request that items be checked out and left on the picnic table for contactless pick-up. VGPL also offers grab bag options, where patrons can fill out an interest form and library staff will

make selections based on that. Newly offered are Binge Bags, backpacks holding nine books or related items on the same topic. Please see the website at www.vglibrary.org for more details on any of these options. VGPL offers new craft bags for young children every two weeks.

Curbside/door pick-up continues barring changes in the Public Health Orders. Contact the library at 505 466-7323 to ask about the status of in-library computer use and book donations.

Dark-eyed Juncos Wear Coats of Many Colors

One of the most familiar birds in our yards this time of year is a little, mostly gray sparrow called the Dark-eyed Junco or *Junco hyemalis* in scientific speak. “Dark-eyed” because there is a related species in Mexico and southeastern Arizona that has yellow eyes—the aptly named Yellow-eyed Junco. But “dark-eyed” tells us precious little about this modest bird’s appearance. Indeed, it is one of the most variable bird species of North America, with fully 15 recognized races or subspecies according to Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Of those more than a baker’s dozen, some six are quite easily recognizable to non-scientists. One trait stands out and makes juncos identifiable at a glance. Although not the only birds with white outer tail feathers that flash as they take flight, it’s a diagnostic plumage feature in juncos. Ornithologists considered them all—from Alaska to northern Mexico—to be separate species until the 1980s. Enter DNA analysis and the avian world has never been the same. Of course the juncos themselves always knew what we just found out. They are truly one species because they readily interbreed in places where they meet. The hallmark of a “proper” species of course, as Charles Darwin pointed out, is sexual isolation from similar species.



Gray-headed Junco

or distinctive feature. And so it is in this case. Gray-headed birds have a handsome chestnut patch on their backs—a pretty good diagnostic character. Here they breed in forested mountain habitats. This is the only type of junco you are likely to come across in our area during the summer. But note that young birds of all junco subspecies have streaked breasts, further complicating matters.

Beginning in late September, a slew of other subspecies arrive, enlivening the birding scene. These include Pink-sided Junco (sporting subtle pinkish flanks), Oregon Junco (with snappy, dark gray to blackish heads), and to a lesser extent Slate-colored Junco (all slate-gray or grayish brown above depending on their sex) and white below; often known colloquially as “snow bird” (If you are of a certain age like me, you may well remember the popular song by Ann Murray). It is the only eastern breeding subspecies. Rarely, White-winged Junco adds spice to the mix, but mostly in northeastern New Mexico where they are year-round members of the avifauna.

All six appear annually in New Mexico during the cold months—September through April. In Northern New Mexico, the summer breeding subspecies is the Gray-headed Junco. A standing joke among birders is that some birds are named after their least conspicuous



Above, top: Pink-sided Junco; bottom: Oregon Junco

These gray and white birds have two crisp white wing bars. A “Red-backed Junco” looks almost identical to the gray-headed subspecies, but has a two-tone bill with a dark gray upper mandible and a light-colored lower one. Finally, a subspecies with the moniker “Cassiar” looks like a cross between slate-colored and Oregon. Consider yourself a junco aficionado if you are able to pick out that one. In any event, just enjoy observing these engaging creatures.



Red-backed Junco

So look closely at these little juncos. You might also consider taking photographs of these ground-nesting and ground-feeding little sparrows so that at your leisure you will be able to tease out the details needed for their identification. Field guides (both print and digital) of course are very helpful in this regard.

—René Laubach

Photos: Gray-headed Junco, Joe Aliperti / Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML282299791); Pink-sided Junco, Tripp Davenport / Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML28082959); Oregon Junco, René Laubach; Red-backed Junco, Matthew Grube / Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML278794151)

January Meetings—Community Center Closed

Meetings may be suspended or held via Zoom, please check eldoradosf.org.

ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesday	12, 26	3–5 PM Zoom	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com
	Board Meeting	Monday	25	5 PM Zoom	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday	5	7–9 PM Zoom	Paul Butt	conservationchair@gmail.com
	Election Committee	Wednesday	13	3–5 PM Zoom	Bette Knight	electionchair1@gmail.com
	Facilities & Grounds	Wednesday	6	10 AM–12:30 PM Zoom	Kathy Ritschel	fandgchair@gmail.com
	Finance Committee	Tuesday	12	9:30 AM–Noon Zoom	Dan Drobnis	financechair1@gmail.com
	Information Committee	Monday	11	7–9 PM Zoom	Pam Henline	informationchair@gmail.com
	Road Committee	Wednesday	6	5:30–7 PM Zoom	James Mason	roadchair1@gmail.com
Monthly/Semi-Monthly	Stable Committee	Monday	18	5:30–7:30 PM Zoom	Amelia Adair	stablechair1@gmail.com
	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	20	3–5 PM Zoom	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net
	Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tuesday	12	4–6 PM Zoom	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			Maurena Bivins	info@maureenabivinsacupuncture.com
	Neighbors Helping Neighbors	1st Tuesday	5	6–7 PM Conference Call	Nancy Merz	nmmmerz@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 Zoom	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA (Women Only)	Thursdays		6–7 PM Zoom	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA	Fridays		6–7 PM Zoom	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	Al Anon	Suspended during COVID-19			505 989-3995	nmal-anon.com
	Breathing Meditation	Mondays		10:30–11 AM Zoom	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 Comm. Ctr. Patio	Barb	505 954-1533
	Ukulele Class	Suspended during COVID-19			Hazel Jordon	ukehazel@gmail.com
	Yin Yoga	Mondays		5:30–6:45 PM Zoom	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Wednesdays & Fridays		9–10:15 AM Zoom	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Tues., Thurs., & Sat.		9–10:15 AM Zoom	Mary Horst	505 490-2790

Zoom meeting information is online at www.eldoradosf.org > News & Events > Zoom Schedule

Events are verified as of December 18, please sign up for ECIA Newsbriefs by emailing jcollins@hoamco.com to be notified of changes.

Send calendar event information to GM@eldoradosf.org.

News Tid-Bits

CERRADO LOOP ROAD WORK

The Santa Fe County Public Works (SFPW) road crews have worked on grading and improving culverts on Cerrado Loop for several months. They have tried to spare trees along the roadside. SFPW has been collaborating with residents and the ECIA Road Committee (RC) in this effort. They will not be able to complete paving before winter as originally planned. The RC has suggested placing crushed rock in some areas to provide positive traction for winter driving. Spring paving will greatly improve access in and out of Cerrado Loop. Locally contact the RC, roadchair1@gmail.com.

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREES AND GREENS

Starting **Jan. 15**, your tired and dry trees and greens can be put to good use. Just bring them to the Community Center where they will be processed into wood chips and reused.

HOLIDAY LIGHTING EXTENDED

Enjoy your holiday exterior lighting for two more weeks. Exterior holiday lights may glow through **Jan. 31, 2021**.

NEW COMMUNITY CENTER COVID-SAFE INFO

As of **Jan. 4**, the Community Center will be open to residents by APPOINTMENT ONLY. To schedule a meeting, please call **505 466-4248**.

ELDORADIO WELCOMES THE NEW YEAR

ELDORADIO 1660 AM, Eldorado's airwave amenity, begins the New Year every **Jan. 1** with an all-day Viennese celebration of waltzes, polkas and live excitement. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, recorded in the Muzikverein during past years' celebrations, brings this international celebration right into your home. Our local no-commercial station is on the air 24 hours every day, but the low-power signal may fade in parts of the community after dark.

*New year, new vaccine,
but keep on wearing that mask,
your turn will come soon.*

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.

Houses in Eldorado—Then and Now

AMREP (American Real Estate and Petroleum, now Amrep Southwest) has been a land developer in New Mexico for many years. One of the first areas they began developing was Rio Rancho. They purchased the Lamy Ranch from the Simpsons in 1969. Rio Rancho Estates, Inc., entered into the real estate business using AMREP as the builder of homes in their new community of Eldorado. Santa Fe County was concerned about water availability when the development, known as *Eldorado at Santa Fe*, was being considered. The County did not want Eldorado to be as crowded as the already-in-progress buildings and lots in Rio Rancho. For this reason, Eldorado lots were made much larger, all over one acre.

AMREP tried many ways to entice folks to this new and rather empty area. Arrangements for special package trips were made available to land purchasers to see the land and the model homes available for purchase and building. The prospective landowners were picked up by limousine from the Albuquerque airport, were provided accommodations at Rio Rancho's motel in Albuquerque, and wine and dined in the best restaurants of the sunny land of enchantment of Santa Fe and Eldorado. Included was Lamy's Legal Tender.

First built were several tiled-roofed western style and stucco pueblo-style homes as models. Some of the model homes were rented. The first house to be designed, contracted and constructed for early landowners was the home for Jordan and Julia Weills. Jordan relates in an interview in *Windmills and Dreams*, "In 1960, Rio Rancho lots were being advertised for \$300 or \$400. We paid \$29,000 for this, plus \$7,000 for the lot at 12 Verano Loop." Their home was completed in 1973.

Time and the coronavirus have made Eldorado a very desirable place to live. The house at 12 Verano Loop has been updated and expanded and is valued at many times its initial price. Real estate here is hot. No need to wine and dine potential buyers and escort them around the community. There are relatively few properties on the market and many are bought sight unseen, using virtual tours on the internet. Most have multiple bids shortly after they are listed.

Lots of space, clean air and clear skies make Eldorado a good place to live—we can all enjoy our hometown.

—Pam Henline

Windmills and Dreams is available from Amazon and the ECIA at the Community Center.



NEWSBRIEFS: For the latest information from ECIA, please sign up for newsbriefs, (ECIA's electronic mailing system) by contacting jcollins@hoamco.com.



RECYCLE: Help ECIA go green! Save on paper and mailing costs by opting out of receiving a mailed copy of *Vistas*. To sign up, email jcollins@hoamco.com. You will be sent an email once a month with a link to the next issue of *Vistas* on the ECIA website, in pdf format, ready to view and print at home. Past issues are also available online. This paper is recyclable. Please recycle after use.