

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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Splish Splash—ECIA Pool to Open



Pool staff and lifeguards hope that the pool will open over the Memorial Day holiday. COVID guidelines allow 75% capacity.

It's almost time to pull out your swimsuits and towels, and get ready to swim in the ECIA pool. As of April 26, Santa Fe County remains in the Turquoise Phase of re-opening. This allows an outdoor pool to be open for lap swim and recreational swim at 75% capacity. The Facilities and Grounds Committee and Pool Staff are developing a pool schedule for all our community swimmers.

Rather than reservations, current plans are to have 1.5 hour recreational swim sessions each day—first come, first serve. Pool users can spend an hour and a half at the pool and leave when the session is over, allowing for a new group of residents to enter and enjoy the pool for the next session. There will be lap swim hours and recreational swim hours each day, with two lap lanes available during recreational swim. Lap swim users will be able to share lanes.

The pool schedule may change depending on the current COVID-19 restrictions. Parents and caretakers should

ensure that children are able to practice social-distancing and COVID-safe behaviors in the pool area. Masks will be required while in the pool area, except while in the water. Indoor showers will continue to be closed and no soap should be used in the outdoor shower as the plumbing is not equipped to handle such ingredients.

Guests are not allowed due to capacity limits.

Pool passes can be picked up and renewed during Community Center business hours in May. Look for eBlasts with details on dates. Please review the pool rules and sign a 2021 waiver.

Pool staff and lifeguards hope that the pool will open over the Memorial Day holiday starting Saturday, **May 29**. Look for eBlasts about the pool schedule, activities, and swim lessons and on the ECIA website www.eldoradosf.org.

We look forward to another wonderful pool season at ECIA.

See You at the 2021 Annual Meeting May 3

The ECIA Board of Directors cordially invites all residents to the 2021 Annual Meeting on **May 3** at **6:30 PM**. Weather and COVID restrictions permitting, the meeting will be held on the Community Center patio, chairs socially-distanced and masks required. The meeting will also be available via Zoom with limited participation.

Guest speakers include Justin Scott, CEO of HOAMCO and County Commissioner Hank Hughes. Election results and Volunteer of the Year will be announced. There will be door prizes and desserts for those who attend in person.

Agenda: <https://eldoradosf.org/document/2021Annual%20meeting%20agenda.pdf>. Hope to see you all!

—Nancy Sulzberg, ECIA Board President

Board Actions and Summary April 26

The April ECIA Board of Directors meeting was held via Zoom. President Nancy Sulzberg, Vice-President Melicent D'Amore, Secretary Carol Sanguinetti, Treasurer Sal Monaco, Director David Sorkin and Director Erika Penczer were present and a quorum was met. HOAMCO staff including General Manager Julie Navarro, Assistant General Manager Jessica Collins, Operations Manager Mike Rogers and Compliance Officer Mark Young and Michael Smith attended. The Board approved the Consent Agenda.

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS:

- To recommend that the Finance Committee move \$50,000 from the Operating Fund to the Reserve Fund as the first component of the transfer of \$209,679 allocated in the 2021 Budget;
- To affirm the electronic vote on April 8–9 approving a one-year Comprehensive Liability and Property Insurance Policy by Daniels Insurance of Santa Fe, NM in the amount of \$34,503.29.

THE BOARD APPROVED THE FOLLOWING VARIANCE:

- To modify an existing split rail fence by increasing its height to 4 feet at 5 Dulce Road.

Discussions were held regarding the new ECIA Insurance Package, the status of the 2021 summer season

Pool opening and activities, and ideas for Eldorado's 50th Anniversary; Pam Henline is working on a visual/written history of our community as a part of the event. If you have pictures or documents that might add to the history, please contact Pam at phenline@comcast.net. In addition, a member of the Bylaws Review Committee explained their purpose and called out for volunteers. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Amelia Adair at eciabylawsreview@gmail.com.

The meeting began at 5 PM and adjourned at 6:10 PM. The President's, Treasurer's and Committee Reports, along with detailed meeting minutes, are posted on the website at www.eldoradosf.org. Approximately 23 members of the community participated in the meeting. Recordings can be requested from the ECIA office at **505 466-4248**.

Thank you to all who participated and we hope to see you at the next regular Board meeting on **May 24 at 5 PM**. Please consider attending the Annual Meeting, **Monday May 3 at 6:30 PM** either via Zoom or hopefully a live meeting outdoors at the Community Center.

—Nancy Sulzberg,
ECIA Board President

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.

ECIA office and rest rooms are now open to public. For info call 505 466-4248.

Meet Jocelyn Rizo



Jocelyn Rizo, HOAMCO
Administrative Assistant

Jocelyn was born, raised and lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She graduated from Santa Fe High in 2017 and then attended Vogue College of Cosmetology and graduated in 2019. She also worked at Kohl's in the customer service department. Jocelyn is very excited to be a part of the ECIA team.

Recycle Myth or Fact?



MYTH: Rain barrels that are split or leak are useless.

FACT: They can be repurposed into flower pots or cut in half to make raised veggie beds.

—Eldorado/285 Recycles

ECIA Wants Your Photos

A HISTORY STORY LINE IS BEING PLANNED TO COMMEMORATE ELDORADO'S GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY.

Send us your memories, anecdotes and photos of Eldorado, from 1972 through 2021. As a part of celebrating 50 years of Eldorado at Santa Fe, ECIA will



select photos for permanent display in the Community Center and Railroad Building. Some photos will accompany a history story line. Photos should tell a story or illustrate life in Eldorado. Examples might be July Fourth Parade, VGPL Ice Cream Social, repairs being made

to Community Center windmill, construction of school, flood crossing Avenida Azul, dog park attendees wearing masks, Community Day at Stables. Dig through your old photos, even if all you have is a photo pasted into an album, take a photo of that picture; it might be a gem of history.

Send each photo with your name, description and date of event. Photos should be sent as a separate attachment (jpeg or png) with as much resolution as possible—above 2 Mb is best. Email to phenline@comcast.net.

—Pam Henline,
Chair Information Committee

FIRE—So Far So Good—Let's Keep it that Way



Fire disasters typically require a handful of conditions: dry fuels, extended drought, extreme winds and ignition sources. That perfect storm of events is happening more often. Climate change and the extreme drought throughout most of New Mexico exacerbate the problem.

By keeping your property as fireproof as possible you:

- Protect the environment, your house and all the native wildlife which lives nearby;
- Protect your neighborhood and your neighbors;
- Provide yourself with an escape route, should it be needed.

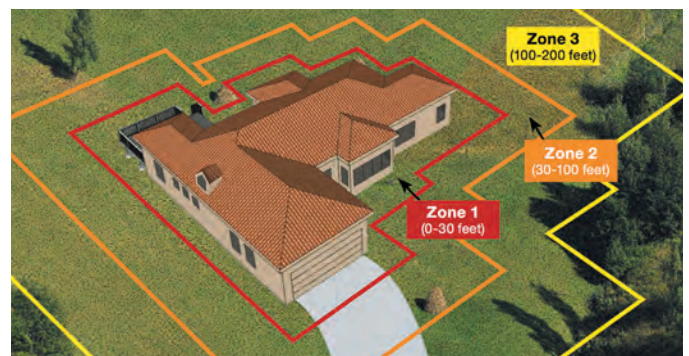
You can mitigate your risk, both inside and outside your house. Inside you should tidy up, including in the garage and have working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers available in several locations including the kitchen. Outside the house a zoned defense is preferred. A few quick tips include:

- Remove items/rubbish in your garage that can fuel a fire;
- Test your smoke alarms monthly. Smart smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms can be linked to your smart phone;
- Change the batteries in smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors;
- Clean up excess lint in the clothes dryer;
- Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away from the house;
- Use barbecue grills outside only. Place safely away from

buildings, windows, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units, or places with high/dead vegetation;

- Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks. Never store propane indoors;
- Make a fire escape plan and practice it with all members of the family.

Now is the time to start preparing your home for the potential threats of a wildland fire. Multiple resources are available on the Fire Department—Wildland web page at <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/fire/wildland>. Santa Fe County has an excellent *Ready Set Go—Your Personal Wildfire Action Plan* at <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/media/files/SantaFeRSGGuide2017.pdf>.



Zoned defense described in Ready Set Go.

The Santa Fe County Fire Department has developed a comprehensive Community Wildfire Protection Plan to identify and mitigate wildfire hazards to communities. View the plan at <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/media/files/CWPP%20Online%20Version%20with%20signatures.pdf>.

Nort Phillips, a volunteer firefighter with the Eldorado Fire and Rescue Team, is available to make free home site assessments, call 541 991-0693. You may also request a property assessment by contacting Remington Gillum at rgillum@santafecountynm.gov.

—Pam Henline

Stage 1 Water Use Restrictions in Effect as of May 14

The ongoing “exceptional drought” conditions in New Mexico require that the ELDORADO AREA WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT (EAWSD) issue STAGE 1 Water Restrictions, effective **May 14**, 2021, as there is a significant chance that water supply may not keep up with peak summer demand. Restrictions will likely remain in effect throughout the summer and possibly into September. Customers are required to diligently follow the STAGE 1 water conservation measures on EAWSD’s website at <https://www.eawsd.org/drought-management-restrictions>, minimizing their water usage, with particular focus on suggested days and times for outdoor watering.

You can self-monitor your water use by using EYE-ON-WATER (EOW) and LEAK ALERT NOTIFICATION (LAN) app(s) that are part of the latest BEACON® meter technology. You can set up a LAN to send you an email or text notification if a leak is detected. It is highly recommended that you set up the EOW and LAN, or you will not be eligible for a leak adjustment, should a leak occur. Before trying to set up your EOW and leak alert notification account, call EAWSD to verify that you are one of the 96% of EAWSD customers that has a BEACON® meter transmitter installed.

Here’s how to access and set up your EOW and Leak Alert Notification Account:

1. Go to the EAWSD home page <https://www.eawsd.org>.
2. On the upper right hand side of the homepage, click on the blue EYE-ON-WATER® ACCOUNT button.



3. If you are a new user, have your account number from a recent bill available. Enter your email address and click on “Create Account”.
4. Once you have an account, log in and you will be directed to an internet page where you can access water consumption data from your water meter. On the left side of that page you can set up a leak notification, which is the second part of setting up your overall account.
5. Tabs at the top of the graph allow for examination of usage over minutes, hours, days, weeks or years. Examination of previous days by hours or minutes can provide insight into usage for various activities such as bathing or watering.
6. You may bookmark this site, or add it as a tab to your browser for convenient access.

For more information about the BEACON® meters and EYE-ON-WATER® see <https://www.eawsd.org/water-meters>.

This page includes several short how-to videos. If you need help, contact EAWSD at **505 466-1085**, Option 1.

—Pam Henline

Library Offers Concierge Service & Summer Programs

Masks are required. Patrons will not be allowed in the building without one. **Masks must be worn at all times while using the facility.** Pick up at the door continues.

VGPL continues to offer computer reservations and browsing appointments. The number of available appointments will be expanded if demand grows. Call **505 466-READ** to set up a half-hour appointment and be sure your time has been confirmed.

VGPL has an online bookstore. Go to the website (www.vglibrary.org) and click the “Shop” button. Put items in your basket and submit the order. VGPL will contact you when items are ready for pickup. There is no pay online option at present. Cash, checks and credit cards are all accepted at the door. Thanks for shopping at VGPL! And for hands-on, VGPL’s first book sale in a year is planned for Saturday, **May 22**.

The Summer Reading Programs and Contests are in the planning stages. An online Reading Contest will definitely be offered—learn more as the date gets closer! This year’s theme is Tails and Tales, which has us so excited to talk about animals of all kinds.

Activity Grab Bags include craft kits, ideas for home projects, color pages and so on with themes that change every two weeks. These are available for families to pick up during our open hours—no library card required!

Try our **“Grab & Go Bag”** concierge service. Simply fill out a form that details what kinds of books (or DVDs) you like to check out, and staff will put together a selection of items. Patrons can specify what age the items are for, what subjects they are interested in and even what their favorite books are. Forms are available on our website and at the curbside pickup table during open hours. You need a current library card.

“Binge Bags” include a selection related to a single topic or theme. These can help with projects and reports as well as just keeping minds busy. Please feel free to suggest ideas for these bags! We will change the themes and the selected books periodically. Potential themes are: Travel–Europe (adult), Women’s History (adult and youth), Local author (adult), Local History (adult), Newberry Award Winners (youth), Space (youth), Cat in the Hat (children), coming soon—poetry.

—Julia Kelso,
Director, Vista Grande Public Library

Reduce Tumbleweeds—Russian Thistle and Kochia

This month we turn our attention to a Western icon, the tumbling tumbleweed. The two most common and troublesome tumbleweeds in Eldorado are Russian thistle, *Salsola tragus*, and kochia, *Kochia scoparia*, both in the Goosefoot family.

CHARACTERISTICS:

- Both plants are annuals introduced to North America from Eurasia in the 19th Century;
- They reproduce by seed, dispersed by wind-driven tumbling. Russian thistle can produce up to 200,000 seeds per plant;
- Both favor loose or disturbed ground like leach fields, construction sites, roadsides, railroad grades, and overgrazed pasture. They do well in alkaline soils and are very drought resistant. Eldorado, therefore, provides ample opportunities for these weeds to proliferate;
- Mature Russian thistle is barbed and spherical and can grow up to six feet in diameter. Mature kochia is conical and can grow to over five feet high;
- Russian thistle has stems that are striped with purple;
- Both species have inconspicuous flowers (which means inconspicuous seeds).



Left, young Russian thistle; Right, Russian thistle tumbleweed

REASONS THESE SPECIES ARE A THREAT:

- Russian thistle and kochia outcompete native perennial grasses and forbs for water, light and nutrients;
- The US Department of Agriculture considers them noxious;
- When dead and tumbling they are both dry, light and flammable; Russian thistle is worse. They accumulate against junipers and structures and can serve as a

ladder fuel. This can turn a minor grass fire into something far more serious. Standing dead kochia can also be a fire hazard;

- Allergic reactions to pollen and skin contact are common;
- A property with tumbleweeds will attract unwanted attention for Eldorado Covenants compliance.



Left, young kochia; Right, kochia tumbleweed in leach field

HOW TO MANAGE THEM:

- Russian thistle is very easy to identify in its early growth stage, so can simply be pulled. Tamp down the soil after pulling. Young kochia can be more difficult to identify, however; take care not to mistake immature prairie asters for immature kochia when weeding;
- Before they produce seeds, pull immature plants by hand or trim with a weedwhacker. Wear heavy gloves and cover exposed skin;
- One can effectively manage large patches of tumbleweeds, like on leach fields, with a weed whacker with rigid blades. If you are certain seed has not been produced yet, this can add organic matter and returns nutrients to the soil without exposing the subsoil; otherwise, dispose of them. The weeds will grow back so repeated whacking is required throughout the growing season;
- Promptly capture, crush and dispose of any dry weeds that tumble on to your property;
- Instead of landfilling them, establish a second compost pile just for weeds. Manure and worms are locally available.

—Thomas Bredenberg, Conservation Committee

Photos: Left, young Russian thistle by Mary Ellen (Mel) Harte, Bugwood.org; Above right, mature kochia by Carol Beidleman; All other photos by Thomas Bredenberg

SFO Previews Continue on Eldorado Local Radio



Eldorado radio listeners can prelisten to more of the 2021 Santa Fe Opera (SFO) summer this month as ELDORADIO 1660 AM broadcasts

Tchaikovsky's *Eugen Onegin* **May 22** on its noon *Saturday Matinée* feature, with SFO artist Neil Shicoff as Lenski. The following Saturday, *Matinée* features music recorded live in St. Francis Auditorium by the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. As summer daylight hours lengthen, *Sunset News Headlines* move later, about half an hour before actual sunset each day. The station's easy-listening mix of classical, jazz and world music continues day and night, with special features including *BreakTime* and *Retro Radio*.

Birding During a Pandemic and for a Lifetime

For outdoor enthusiasts like me, one of Eldorado's main attractions is the significant amount of open space available to residents. The Eldorado Community Preserve (aka "Eldorado Wilderness") boasts nearly 4,100 acres of wild land protected in perpetuity for wilderness recreation. The presence of this sizable land holding east of US 285 in addition to 1,000 acres of greenbelts situated throughout the community represented a major appeal for my wife and I when we relocated to New Mexico in 2017. We'd been avid hikers and naturalists for decades, so having these accessible natural areas at our disposal was what sealed the deal for us.

Chief among those nature pursuits, for me at least, is birding (what used to be called "bird watching"). I've been enthralled by the beauty of birds since a teenager (*addicted*, my wife would say). No matter where you are, the dazzling plumages, musical virtuosity, and fascinating behaviors of the feathered clan make life that much more special, at least in my opinion. During the past year, the pandemic has made the enjoyment of some of life's simple pleasures challenging. Enter birding! Statistics tell us that more people than ever are watching birds—some 50 million in the U.S. and growing, by some estimates. Many gain immeasurable pleasure from observing birds at backyard feeding stations ranging from a single feeder to an officially certified backyard wildlife habitat boasting water features, fruiting trees and shrubs, shade trees, and multiple and varied feeders—mini habitats if you will that attract both resident and migrant birds, and provide the three key elements—food, water and cover.

For others, regular outings to area parks and wildlife preserves in a quest for birds and other wildlife fills a deep-seated human need to connect with nature. And for a relatively small, but growing number of "all-in" birders, the entire state, country, or even planet, serves as a birding playground. While some birders simply enjoy observing our avian neighbors, others keep copious lists of species seen—yard lists, county lists, state lists, country lists, world

lists, year lists, and the ultimate—a life list: How many of the world's roughly 10,500 avian species one has encountered and identified during one's lifetime. And now of course the internet and social media make it much easier to maintain multiple lists (via eBird for instance) and to stay in touch with other similarly afflicted souls.



Left, Mountain Bluebird, male, Gallina Park Greenbelt; Right, Townsend's Solitaire, ECIA Preserve

New Mexico's state bird list currently numbers 558 species—sixth among all US states for bird diversity. Thanks to a wide range of vegetation and habitat types, our state—while not as well known to avid "listers" as say neighboring Arizona and Texas, has much to offer. Here in Eldorado, our greenbelts and community preserve provide ample opportunities for birding. My wife Christyna and I have spent considerable time exploring our home Gallina Park Greenbelt and community preserve where we have tallied 153 species so far. Ranging from the diminutive Calliope Hummingbird to the regal Golden Eagle, we've gained tremendous enjoyment from finding, and often photographing these splendid creatures. Indeed, our nature forays during this pandemic have kept us grounded in reality and cognizant of the beauty of all life. If you haven't yet given birding a try, all you'll need is a pair of binoculars and a field guide to birds. For a modest investment of money, you too may become hooked as I did. And once you do, the world will never look (or sound) quite the same!

—Article and photos by René Laubach

Yes, You Can Recycle These Unusual Items

Eldorado/285Recycles, a volunteer-led recycling advocacy organization, collects unusual items for recycling at La Tienda, as a service to residents and to reduce the landfill. These items are not accepted at the Eldorado Convenience Center on Hwy 285.

LA TIENDA BUILDING A

- wine-bottle corks
- toothbrushes, empty toothpaste and floss containers
- non-aerosol deodorant containers and caps
- empty hair-care, skin-care and other cosmetics containers
- pens, mechanical pencils, markers
- rubber bands
- disposable razors and blades

- seasonal holiday lights, electrical cords

LA TIENDA BUILDING B

(near Eldorado Fitness Studio)

- athletic shoes

Oil-based stain/paint is hazardous waste and should be taken to BuRRT, the Buckman Road Recycling & Transfer Station in Santa Fe.

For more detail on local recycling information, please take a flyer from the wall in the La Tienda recycle area. Our website, eldorado285recycles.org, and the Santa Fe Solid Waste Management Agency website, sfswwa.org, are excellent resources.

—Eldorado/285 Recycles

May Meetings—Community Center Open*

*Meetings may be suspended, held via Zoom, or in-person: please check eldoradosf.org.

ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesday	10, 24	3–5 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com
	Board Meeting	Monday	24	5 PM <i>Zoom</i>	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday	4	7–9 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Paul Butt	conservationchair@gmail.com
	Election Committee	Wednesday	12	3–5 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Bette Knight	electionchair1@gmail.com
	Facilities & Grounds	Wednesday	5	10 AM–12:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Kathy Ritschel	fandgchair@gmail.com
	Finance Committee	Tuesday	11	9:30 AM–Noon <i>Zoom</i>	Dan Drobnis	financechair1@gmail.com
	Information Committee	Monday	10	7–9 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Pam Henline	informationchair@gmail.com
	Road Committee	Wednesday	5	5:30–7 PM <i>Zoom</i>	James Mason	roadchair1@gmail.com
Monthly/Semi-Monthly	Stable Committee	Monday	17	5:30–7:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	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	19	3–5 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net
	Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tuesday	11	4–6 PM <i>Zoom</i>	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	4	6–7 PM <i>Conference Call</i>	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 <i>Zoom</i>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA (Women Only)	Thursdays		6–7 PM <i>Zoom</i>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA	Fridays		6–7 PM <i>Zoom</i>	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	Al Anon	Saturdays		11 AM–12 Noon <i>Zoom</i>	505 473-0101	al-anon.org
	Breathing Meditation	Mondays		10:30–11 AM <i>Zoom</i>	Penny Russell	505 466-3137 sprussel@sjc.edu
	Eldorado Hikers	Suspended during COVID-19			Terry Gibbs	505 466-6914 triggbs@comcast.net
	Knitting Club	Suspended during COVID-19			Joyce Hanmer	505 466-3018 joycehan@msn.com
	Overeaters Anonymous	Tuesdays		10 AM <i>CC Patio</i>	Barb	505 954-1533
	Ukulele Class	Suspended during COVID-19			Hazel Jordon	ukehazel@gmail.com
	Yin Yoga	Mondays		5:30–6:45 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Wednesdays & Fridays		9–10:15 AM <i>Zoom</i>	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Tues., Thurs., & Sat.		9–10:15 AM <i>Zoom</i>	Mary Horst	505 490-2790

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

Events are verified as of April 16, 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

VISTA GRANDE PUBLIC LIBRARY SPRING SALE

A special one-day mega sale Saturday, **May 22**, from 10 AM to 6 PM at the Vista Grande Public Library on Ave. Torreon features a large inventory of books and materials. The sale will be held outdoors in the library parking lot. Face masks are required. Your friends at the VGPL look forward to seeing you there.

FREE FIRE RISK HOME SITE ASSESSMENTS

In an effort to mitigate fire risk, Nort Phillips, wildland fire specialist and a volunteer firefighter with the Eldorado Fire and Rescue Team, is available to make home site assessments for residents. The service is free and easy to arrange. To set up an appointment please contact Nort at **541 991-0693**. He suggests this is an excellent way for Eldorado residents to help the community stay safe.

BLOOMING BEAUTIES AT COMMUNITY CENTER



Visit the ECIA cactus garden, located behind the Railroad Building. From mid to late May it will be a beautiful sight with most of the cactus in bloom. And it's COVID-safe with lots of space and fresh air.

—Photos by Sandra Vreeland

*Honor your mother,
birth and earth: both need your love
for each one loves you.*

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.

Eldorado Arts & Crafts Assoc. Emerges from Pandemic



Eldorado is a fortunate community to have such a valuable and longstanding organization. The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association (EACA) promotes the talents of our local artists by providing three shows per year, though sadly, this was not the case last year due to the pandemic. The EACA has been in existence since 1990 when Arlene Siegel started it with seven other artists. The first Studio Tour was in 1992, with 14 participating artists who showed their work for one day. The present-day Studio Tour has had over 100 artists, and has been the largest in all of New Mexico.

In spite of the cancellation of the 2020 Tour last year, the EACA board was determined to resume Studio Tours as soon

as possible. With the changing conditions and restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, determining safe dates for a 2021 tour has been difficult. EACA is planning on having a safe and successful tour later this year—rescheduled from the middle of May to **Oct. 23 and 24**.

We couldn't be more thrilled to be back and I'm sure the artists feel the same.

This year, our former President, Evie Gauthier, has volunteered to be the Director. (Thank you Evie!) It will again be an exciting event. The artistic talent in Eldorado is mind blowing, and we hope you reserve the dates for our long awaited Studio Tour.

Applications from EACA members start on **June 4** at www.eldoradoarts.org. The website includes dates of events on EACA's calendar, a list of artist members, the EACA blog, how to become a member, and of course, Studio Tour information.

We hope to see you either as an artist or an art appreciator of this terrific event hosted by the EACA.

—Kim Crickard,
EACA President



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.