

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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ECIA's New Mobile Compatible Website Now Live

Over the past few weeks, ECIA has been rolling out a new website replete with most all the bells and whistles that encompass modern capabilities associated with newer technologies. The site, www.eldoradosf.org, is designed with smartphone, tablet and laptop/desktop resolutions so no matter what type of device you choose to use, it will be much easier to navigate and find what you're looking for. There are plans to implement a private section of the website for residents, secured by two-tier authentication for enhanced security in order to disseminate and store residents-only information.

The site will have two-way communication capabilities to voice concerns, complaints and suggestions. For a more inclusive method of responding to those queries, all forms will eventually be fillable and interactive. Metrics obtained from the site will be utilized to enhance the user experience.

The primary goal of engaging the new website is to increase communication for ECIA residents. By using existing tools already at our disposal such as eBlasts, *Vistas*, website updates, calendars and announcements for important actions that impact us all, we will continue to update and upgrade



The ECIA mobile compatible website is shown here on tablet and smartphone

our site to enhance user experience in the coming months. If anyone has comments, suggestions or questions, please email gm@eldoradosf.org.

—David Sorkin,
ECIA Board Vice President
and Garret Vreeland, Array Design Studio

Recycle Holiday Trees

Are you looking for a way to dispose of your tree and help the environment? ECIA recycles holiday trees by chipping them into mulch. Residents can use the mulch themselves or ECIA will use it to sustain community vegetation. Drop off your trees by **Feb. 15** in the NE corner of the Community Center parking lot (by the tennis courts).



Re-Envisioning Communications at ECIA



Over the past several months, a concern has been repeatedly expressed to the Board by multiple residents that we need to communicate more effectively. This issue has taken a variety of forms but generally can be characterized as a lack of

timeliness in getting the message delivered, insufficient reach or the clarity of the message. Consequently, our Board has recognized that improving communications is an important strategic initiative. It appears on our website under our goals as follows: “Expand and improve communications to better respond to ongoing needs of Eldorado residents” (the complete list of the Board’s initiatives is available on our website under “ECIA Governing Board > 2021–2022 Strategic Goals and Objectives”). Specifically, we plan to accomplish this by re-envisioning communications to become a professional staff function that includes production of *Vistas*, content management of our ECIA website, social media presence and member relations. Going forward we hope this new initiative will allow us to:

- Identify improvements or new amenities to better reflect community needs.
- Create more opportunities for resident input.
- Ensure transparency and that residents are well informed of all ongoing issues and Board actions.
- Provide a more welcoming community and foster engagement with new residents.

One way we hope to accomplish this is to leverage newer technologies to reach the diverse Eldorado community. The first step of this—creating a modern 21st century website—has launched, and over the next few months we hope to introduce a residents-only portal. This will provide a higher level of security while allowing residents access to Eldorado data and information and improve the way it is displayed with ease of access. The resident-only portal will require an email address for each resident which will allow us to provide important information through an email portal. Right now, we have emails covering only about 30% of homeowners which limits our reach on surveys and eBlasts.

Whether the functions of newsletter communications, web content, social media and member relations are all performed by one person or a team, we believe that to effectively manage and integrate these activities they must be placed in our full-time professional staff. The day-to-day management, interaction, and complexity required preclude these activities from being placed in a committee of volunteers—much the same way covenant compliance is handled. Consequently, at the October Board meeting we announced that we would be looking to hire a Communications Coordinator to lead these efforts. In addition to outstanding communications skills, some of the qualifications of this position include a professional degree (masters preferred), a minimum of 10 years’ experience in communications or a similar field, a proven track record in facilitation and client relations, and demonstrated ability to lead complex projects.

—Sal Monaco,
ECIA Board President

Eldorado at Santa Fe and its Board of Directors

The formal name of the subdivision in which we live is *Eldorado at Santa Fe*. The Eldorado Community Improvement Association, Inc. (ECIA) is the official name given the Association in which you are a homeowner.

Those owning property in *Eldorado at Santa Fe* have in their property deed a specific reference to this subdivision with its specific boundaries defined. Lot owners of record are Members of the ECIA. Ownership in a covenant protected community comes with responsibilities and each Lot Owner accepts these responsibilities as part of being a Member of the Association. The ECIA Board of Directors is composed of seven volunteer members. Each Director serves for a term of three years. The Director terms are staggered so that all positions will not be up for election at the same time.

The 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.

Board Directors are elected each year through the voting process. Candidates file a Nomination Petition with intent to run and if validated the candidate(s) name is placed on the 2022 Ballot. The Nomination Petition is available after **Jan. 4** at the ECIA office and online (www.eldoradosf.org > Resident Resources > Forms and Applications > Board Nomination Petition). All Petitions must be submitted to the ECIA office by 5 PM on **Mar. 1**. Contact the GM at **505 466-4248** or email jnavarro@hoamco.com if you have any questions or need help downloading a petition. Petitions are available at the office.

Members in Good Standing who have an interest in running for the Board can contact any Director if there are questions. Committees are always looking for new members. Committee minutes and all Charters can be found on the ECIA website as well as all Board monthly meeting agendas and minutes. Your experience and expertise can be invaluable to your HOA.

—Election Committee

Bylaws Review Town Hall Scheduled for Jan. 13

All ECIA members are encouraged to join the town hall meeting to discuss proposed Bylaws revisions on **Jan. 13** at 6 PM, via Zoom. To attend, you must register at least one hour in advance of the town hall start time by following the procedure listed on the ECIA's Zoom Meeting schedule tab www.eldoradosf.org/upcoming-zoom-meetings/.

A redline version of the proposed changes to the Bylaws is available for review on the ECIA website at <https://eldoradosf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2021-DRAFT-Seventh-AR-ECIA-Bylaws-12.12.21.pdf>. Also available on the website for your convenience is a PowerPoint presentation prepared by the Bylaws Review Committee, summarizing the proposed changes and the reasons why the Committee recommends them <https://eldoradosf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/1.13.22-Bylaws-Town-Hall-Presentation.pdf>.

The town hall meeting is your chance to ask questions and provide feedback to the Bylaws Review Committee and the ECIA Board about these proposed changes. Most changes

were originally suggested by members during the public comment period in August. The Bylaws Review Committee has been reviewing these suggestions, and suggestions made by the ECIA's attorney, during our public meetings twice per month since July.

After the town hall, the Bylaws Review Committee will discuss the member feedback received, and if necessary make changes to the proposed amended Bylaws. That revised draft will be presented to the Board. Then the final version of the proposed Amended Bylaws will be on the ballot for a vote by the members as part of the 2022 annual meeting packet.

This process of reviewing and amending the Bylaws, which happens every two years, represents the ECIA's commitment to continuously improving the governance of the association. Member input is critical to the success of the process. The Bylaws Review Committee looks forward to hearing from you at the town hall on **Jan. 13**.

—Bylaws Review Committee

ECIA Annual Assessments Due Feb. 15

MAIL YOUR PAYMENT

If you would like to mail us a check:

Eldorado Community Improvement Association
HOAMCO
PO BOX 94346
Las Vegas, NV 89193-4346

ONLINE PAYMENT

For online payments, visit www.hoamco.com and select "Make a payment".

We accept payment through:

- E-Check (No fee)
- Credit Card (3% Fee)
- Debit (ACH: No fee)

IN-PERSON PAYMENTS

Residents can deliver their assessment check to the **ECIA Community Center, Mon—Fri, 9 AM–4:30 PM.**

PLEASE USE THE CANCELED CHECK AS A RECEIPT.

Welcome Pamela Villars, Communications Coordinator



Pamela Villars comes to HOAMCO with 25 years of non-profit experience, most recently with the American Cancer Society. (Ask her anything about tobacco cessation or cancer resources!) She holds a

BA in Liberal Arts from Bard College and a M.Ed. in Counseling from the University of Houston. Pamela specializes in organizational development, conflict resolution, coaching, training, and facilitation. Born in Albuquerque, she spent many years away and is happy to be back in her home state. Before finding her permanent home, she lived in Eldorado for two years. Outside of HOAMCO, Pamela volunteers for the Esperanza Shelter and Literacy Volunteers of Santa Fe. Her favorite things are New Mexico sunsets and taking daily walks with her two dogs.

ECIA BOARD & MANAGEMENT

Board: President **Sal Monaco**, Vice President **David Sorkin**, Treasurer **Joseph Gutierrez**, Secretary **Carol Sanguinetti**, Director **James Caruso**, Director **Erika Penczer**, Director **Johnathan Turkle**.

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 open for business. Community Center closed for activities. For info call 505 466-4248.

Merlin, a Winter Visitor from the North

Ounce for ounce, the Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) is among our toughest raptors. Only slightly larger than the more familiar American Kestrel, the Merlin has a distinctly more robust build. It was once known by the moniker pigeon hawk, not because of its dietary preference, but rather owing to its pigeon-like appearance in flight. It prefers to dine on small songbirds and sandpipers.

In New Mexico the Merlin graces us with its presence during fall, winter, and early spring—in other words, outside the breeding season. Its range is truly staggering, occurring on every continent except Australia and Antarctica (in Africa, it is limited to north of the Sahara). In North America this bold little falcon breeds in northern woodlands and prairies as far south as central Wyoming. Beginning in the 1970s and 1980s, Merlins also began breeding in cities and towns, first in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and later in the Northeastern US. I recall the excitement generated in the birding community when a pair selected a nest site in a tall hemlock in a western Massachusetts town. Merlins choose conifers for nest sites but do not construct their own nests, relying instead upon old crow, magpie, and hawk nests.



Merlins visit our area from fall through early spring.

Like our other hawks and owls, females are considerably larger and heavier than males—up to 30% bigger in fact. But unlike most hawks, males and females are colored differently making it easy to distinguish between the sexes—males are

a shade of blue above and females a shade of brown. With a nearly worldwide range, it's no surprise that nine different subspecies of Merlin are recognized by ornithologists. Three subspecies are found on our continent, but only two have been confirmed in New Mexico. The most often seen here is the Prairie or Richardson's Merlin, a paler version of the other two subspecies. The Taiga or Boreal Merlin, which breeds in northern forests, is dark, but not as dark as the Black Merlin of the Pacific Northwest. This last subspecies has not yet been seen in New Mexico, not too surprising since most are non-migratory; but a bit more on that later.

My wife and I have been fortunate to encounter Merlins in Eldorado—some just passing through on their way south, others preferring to spend the winter in our grassland and piñon-juniper habitats. We've observed them here from September 26 to April 10, with most of our sightings occurring November to March. It's always a thrill to see one here, either teed up in a tree or chasing and snatching avian prey in mid-air. Thankfully, populations of this little raptor are holding steady or even increasing throughout most of its range. The same can be said for birds wintering in New Mexico, as evidenced by decades of volunteer generated Christmas Bird Count and migration count data at New Mexico hawk watch sites in the Sandias and Manzanos.

I would be remiss if I didn't point out that much of the information contained in this article can be found in *Raptors of New Mexico*, published by UNM Press in 2010. The chapter that covers the Merlin was written by wildlife biologist and Eldorado resident Dale W. Stahlecker. In that chapter Dale tells of his good fortune to have observed a "very dark" male Merlin in Eldorado four times from late January through February, 1996. He stopped short of calling it a Black Merlin, but encourages observers to carefully document any dark Merlin seen in Eldorado or elsewhere in New Mexico.

—René Laubach

Photo: Sharif Uddin/Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML 218806191)

News Corral

VGPL JANUARY NEWS

January 2-D Exhibit: Jasmine Quinsier, "Sacred Geometry/Visionary Art"

January 3-D Exhibit: Donna Boggins, "Artist Unearths Inspiration from the Ancients"
Presentation: Saturday, **Jan. 8**, 10 AM

Family Movie Night: Friday, **Jan. 21**, 7 PM. Free admission, popcorn and juice. Please contact VGPL **505 466-7323** for movie title.

January Board Meeting: Monday, **Jan. 17**, 5:30 PM

NEW BUSINESSES IN ELDORADO

Carmelita's

Restaurant / Agora **505 772-0450** Tues–Sat, 11 AM–8 PM

Quik Send Express

Postal Service / Agora **505 466-4604** Mon–Fri, 9 AM–5 PM

Native Wings

Coffee House / Agora **505 397-4748** Regular Hours Soon

El Dorado Post & Parcel

Postal Service / La Tienda **505 772-0976** Mon–Fri, 9 AM–6 PM
Sat, 10 AM–5 PM

What Can We Do About Climate Change?



Plant-based diets are one way to reduce climate change.

This is an important question for us Eldoradoans. We may face short and long term consequences if our planet continues to heat up. With our arid environment, every drop of water counts. Year upon year of droughts spells disaster for New Mexico. The most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Report predicts that, “unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to close to 1.5°C or even 2°C will be beyond reach.”*

In 2010, UNESCO produced an often cited report concluding industrialized meat and dairy production have many negative externalities.* The biggest being the impact

on our planet’s climate. According to this working group, only the energy sector beats livestock production in global contribution to greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions. In 2009, they calculated that “at least 32,562 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalents or at least 51% of all GHG emissions are attributable to livestock production” (pg. 17)*. The star-studded documentary *Eating Our Way to Extinction* illustrates, in stunning detail, how the rate of emissions has not reduced in the last twelve years.

So what can we, as individuals, do about climate change? While many initiatives are beyond our scope, one idea is right in front of us: Change our eating habits to reduce meat, poultry, dairy, and egg consumption. There are many resources to help us learn about plant-based nutrition. Check out the local PlantPure Pod de Santa Fe on Facebook to find like-minded folks. Learn cooking techniques and options by taking classes—some are here at our community college. Food for Life is a program that offers virtual cooking demonstrations. Forks Over Knives offers plant-based meal plans. And there are tons of willing coaches to provide one-to-one individualized assistance to implement plant-based diets. A small dietary change can make a big difference. For more information: www.saludicious.com.

*Citations available through the ECIA office.

—Evelyn Eigner-Herrera

How to Reduce Plastic Pollution in Our Oceans

While recycling of metal and paper remains viable, the major problems with plastics remain the hot topic in the recycling community. Only 9% of the world’s plastic waste actually gets recycled!

Plastic pollution made the headlines of major media in the beginning of December as The National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released a report entitled “Reckoning with the U.S. Role in Global Plastic Waste”. This nonprofit committee of academic experts wrote the report at the request of Congress to help the country formulate a strategy to deal with this environmental crisis that is polluting our oceans.

Here in New Mexico this is a big concern even though we have no ocean frontage. Our plastic waste makes its way out of landfills, illegal dumps, litter sites, and mismanaged plastic transfer facilities into our waterways to eventually wind up in the oceans. Think about the Rio Grande flowing into the Gulf of Mexico. The health of our oceans and its denizens affects the health of our planet and all of us.

According to the report, at least 8.8 million metric tons of plastic waste enters the world’s oceans each year, which is the equivalent of dumping a garbage truck of plastic into the ocean every minute. The U.S. generates more plastic waste than any other country, exceeding that of all European Union member states combined. The amount of plastic waste that we produce in our country is 287 pounds per person! The



main recommendation of the report is to **produce less plastic**. The recycling system is incapable of keeping up with the ever increasing production of plastic due to a lack of markets for recycled plastic and technical difficulties of recycling plastics.

What can we do? As consumers we can use our purchasing power to choose alternatives to single-use plastic containers and bags. That means buying consumable products packaged in metal cans or glass jars, fresh fruit and vegetables not packaged in plastic packaging like “clam shells”, and bringing your own non-plastic bags or containers to the market to buy in bulk. Certain items like soaps and detergents that only come in plastic bottles can be refilled at a refill store.

To learn more go to: <https://eldorado285recycles.org/>

For a short, informational documentary: <https://nmtakingaction.org/>.

—Gary Stoller
Eldorado/285 Recycles

Eldorado Open Space: Tread Softly

Eldorado's amenities include almost 4,100 acres of open space in the Community Preserve and another 987 acres of greenbelts within the subdivision. Their health is vital to our ecology.

These areas are vegetated by a mosaic of piñon-juniper ecotypes which are primarily piñon-juniper woodlands and piñon-juniper savanna. Biological soil crusts (BSC), sometimes referred to as cryptogamic or microbiotic soil crusts, are a key part of the ecology of these areas, but they are barely noticeable until you begin to look for them. Chances are, you can find patches of BSC on your property where the ground is relatively undisturbed. They are biologically active only when moisture is present, so much of the time they look "dead", but are merely dormant.



An example of a biological soil crust.

Biological soil crusts are communities of algae, fungi, lichens, mosses, and bacteria that live at and just below the soil surface. They occur on every continent. Cyanobacteria

(blue-green algae) are often the first member of the BSC biotic community to colonize a patch of soil. They secrete a sticky "sheath" which helps glue soil particles together. When left undisturbed, algae, fungi, lichens and mosses will develop from the spores that fall on the cyanobacteria patch. As the patch grows, the different organisms work together to improve soil fertility by improving the availability of phosphorus for plant growth, fixing atmospheric nitrogen, and capturing carbon. In arid areas, BSC may be the dominant source of soil nitrification. In our desert environment, these inputs to soil fertility are especially important.

BSC provide an improved substrate for the deposition of plant litter (mulch), seeds, and the capture of nutrient-rich mineral dust carried by wind and water. Where present, they maximize penetration of precipitation into the ground, reduce erosion, and provide a bed for seeds to germinate and survive the critical early weeks of growth. Plants and animals are critically dependent on the ecological role BSC play in piñon-juniper habitats.

Unfortunately, these crusts are not always visible at the surface. When foot or bicycle traffic breaks the crust, it dies and the processes of desertification accelerate. It may take decades before BSC regenerate on a damaged site.

In order to protect the BSC in the Preserve and in the greenbelts, we ask that you stay on existing trails. If you must go off-trail, please tread softly.

More information on BSC is available in the "Field Guide to Biological Soil Crusts of Western U.S. Drylands," available from the BLM knowledge Resource Center here:

<https://www.ntc.blm.gov/krc/viewresource.php?courseID=258>.

—Paul Butt
Conservation Committee

Power Outage Tips, Part 1

LIGHT

- Keep a flashlight by your bed and in logical places easy to find in the dark.
- Buy LED lanterns and test them once a month to make sure that the batteries are still good. Keep them in obvious places easy for you and your family members to find in the dark.
- Battery backup lightbulbs are available that charge while the lamp is on and will provide up to 6 hours of light in an outage.
- Plug-in emergency lights are always charging and will come on in the event of an outage. These are useful in hallways and garages in particular.
- If you must use candles, use those that come in a glass. Put them in a fireplace if you have one and aren't using it for warmth. Be very careful of open flames.

- Clip-on book lights are handy if you want to read your way through an outage.

HEAT

- Your gas boiler will go out during an outage. It is not recommended to heat your home with a gas oven, for both fire safety and indoor air pollution reasons.
- If you are using a fireplace, you can make the area you need to heat smaller by tacking up blankets or sheets over openings to other parts of the house that don't already have doors.

You can sign up for power outage alerts with PNM at <https://www.pnm.com/0316-ew-outage-alerts>.

For more tips, please go to www.eldoradosf.org > Resident Resources > Power Outage Tips.

—Debra Denker
Chair, Safety Education Task Group

January Meetings—Community Center Closed*

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

ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesday	11, 25	3–5 PM <i>CFR & Zoom</i>	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com
	Board Meeting	Tuesday	18	5:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
	Bylaws Review Committee	Thursday	13	7:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Amelia Adair	bylawsreviewchair@gmail.com
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday	4	7–9 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Paul Butt	conservationchair@gmail.com
	Election Committee	Wednesday	12	3–5 PM <i>CR & 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>		financechair1@gmail.com
	Road Committee	Wednesday	5	5:30–7 PM <i>Zoom</i>	James Mason	roadchair1@gmail.com
	Stable Committee	Monday	17	6:30–8:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Amelia Adair	stablechair1@gmail.com
Monthly	Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tuesday	11	4–6 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Karen Sweeney	505 466-9797
	Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wednesday	19	3–5 PM <i>Patio</i>	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net
Weekly	Eldorado Hikers	Tuesdays		8:30 AM <i>NE corner CC Pkg.</i>	Terry Gibbs	505 466-6914 trgibbs@comcast.net
	Knitting Club	Tuesdays		10 AM–Noon <i>CC Patio</i>	Joyce Hanmer	505 466-3018 joycehan@msn.com
	Overeaters Anonymous	Tuesdays		10 AM <i>CC Patio</i>	Barb	505 954-1533

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

Calendar info collected and verified by ECIA office, GM@eldoradosf.org. Sign up for ECIA Newsbriefs, jcollins@hoamco.com to be notified of changes.

CFR: Conference Room; CR: Classroom; CC Patio: Community Center Patio; CC Pkg.: Community Center Parking Lot

Canine Health Risks at the Dog Park: Parasites

Yes, canine health risks occur at the dog park. A 2020 study of dog park attendees analyzed 3,000 canine fecal samples from nearly 300 U.S. dog parks and found parasites at 85% of the locations and in 20% of the dogs. Parasite exposure can occur in a variety of situations, but dog parks with high numbers of visiting dogs are a concern. Opening our dog park to non-members increases the number of dogs at the park and may increase attendance by dogs from other states. This increases the risk of seeding our park with microscopic eggs and cysts that can be transmitted to our dogs as they play. Parks where people don't pick up their dog's feces are an even greater concern.

Health risks may include transmission between dogs of internal and external parasites, and infectious diseases. The ECIA requires a current rabies vaccine per state law, but does not require:

- core distemper, adenovirus, parvovirus, and parainfluenza vaccine
- non-core (risk-based) vaccines for canine influenza or *Leptospira*
- oral or intra-nasal *Bordatella* vaccines for the common agent(s) of “kennel cough” or
- monitoring or monthly preventive for internal or external parasites

Internal parasites include common canine “worms” such as whip, hook, tape and roundworms, and the parasites *Giardia* and *Isospora*, among others. Occasionally, you may see worms in the feces or egg packets on fur (tapeworms), but this is unusual and only in severe infection. Most “worms”

remain hidden in the animal and shed large numbers of microscopic eggs in the feces. Eggs contaminate the ground and complete their lifecycle after being ingested. Hookworms are unique and can penetrate the intact skin of both people and dogs. *Giardia* and *Isospora* shed environmentally resistant cysts in the feces.

To learn more about parasite life cycles, prevention, and treatment, visit the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPCvet.org). Their regional parasite prevalence maps show that humidity, rainfall, vegetation, and weather, as well as community adherence to veterinary advice for prevention and control, affect parasite prevalence. Parasites can be found anywhere, especially with the inter-state movement of people and dogs.

PROTECT OUR PARK (GREENBELTS, AND ELDORADO PRESERVE) BY:

- Cleaning up your dog's feces
- Not bringing an ill dog to the park
- Seeing your veterinarian for annual internal parasite screening and prevention advice
- Preventing non-resident dogs from park access

—Heidi Hamlen, DVM, MS, DACVPM
Board Certified in Veterinary Preventative Medicine

Next issue: Bacterial and viral agents shed in urine and feces of affected dogs.

All dog owners should visit their veterinarian for comprehensive canine health care.

*Resolutions start—
wishing much success to all.
Welcome the new year.*

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 Board of Directors. Community announcements, photos, and articles of interest to homeowners are welcome. Submissions are due on the 5th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may be submitted to articles@eldoradosf.org. For help with any article, see the *Vistas* Style Guide: www.eldoradosf.org > News & Events > *Vistas* Newsletters.

Adopt a Furry Companion in the New Year

Many families believe it a wonderful surprise to gift a pet for the holidays. However many people do not realize the true responsibility this “gift” may entail. Once the excitement of the season winds down, many animals are abandoned and returned, increasing the numbers at the already-at-maximum shelters.

If you are aware of, ready for and understand the realistic responsibilities of owning a pet, the Santa Fe Animal Shelter has a dog, cat, kitten, puppy, ferret, rabbit, guinea pig, or other fuzzy critter that will match your home and lifestyle.

Adoptions are now open to the general public with no appointment needed: Mon—Sun, 11 AM–6 PM, with the last adoption at 5:30 PM.

Before choosing your new companion, think about how much time you have to spend with him or her. Consider the time involved: a healthy puppy or kitten can live for 15 to 20 years! Remember that settling in a new four-legged family member can take some time and adjustment. Bear in mind that just like us, your companion animal will need food and supplies and have to visit a doctor from time to time.

You can view available animals first on the website, visit sfhumanesociety.org. If you have questions about a specific animal or the adoption process, call 505 983-4309 ext. 1610 10 AM–6 PM daily.



Zuma and Armani are looking for their furever homes.

All animals are spayed or neutered and microchipped before leaving and receive required age-appropriate vaccines. For your convenience, the required licenses for City and County residents are available at the Shelter as you adopt.

DONATIONS

There are so many ways you can support our mission to *save lives, support animals, spread compassion*. The average cost for each animal's care is \$650. We rely on donations of time, goods, and cash to be there for every homeless animal in need. Please consider donating online, in person, or by mail: 100 Caja del Rio Rd, Santa Fe NM 87507, 505 983-4309. We will make your dollars matter!



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.