

ELDORADO VISTAS

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Feb. 2007

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

Defense Against Residential Crimes

FIVE RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES

In Eldorado between December 7 and December 12 accounted for a third of the burglaries in 2006. For a community of 2,400 homes, that's a relatively low percentage. But when you are one of the victims (as we were), there's not much solace in those numbers. It's devastating to have your home ransacked by strangers and valuables stolen, followed by the tedious task of gathering information and negotiating with the insurance company. The sense of your home as a safe haven is one of the irreplaceable losses you suffer.

You ask yourself, "Why me? What could we have done differently?" Some things we personally can't change:

We live at the end of a cul de sac, down a long driveway and hidden from the road, which makes us more vulnerable than if there were continuous through traffic.

A new home recently had been built on our road. The comings and goings of construction crews can mask unusual traffic. We have been told that burglars often will case neighborhoods near a construction site.

We do have a list of things that we *can* change. At the top of the list is forming a Neighborhood Watch on our road.

Our investigating officer, **Sgt. Linda Ortiz**, of the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Department, told us that only 13% of home robberies are solved and half of those are solved by the victims who speak with neighbors, find witnesses or unusual sightings and report tips. "The Sheriff's Department covers the entire county, and they can't possibly be everywhere or respond immediately," says **Mary Uhl**, co-chair (along with **Marilyn Walker**) of the Neighborhood Watch Committee. "As a community, we have to help each other as much as possible."

The Eldorado Community website (www.eldoradocommunity.org) has a wealth of information on the Neighborhood Watch Committee, including how to form a group in your neighborhood, sign-up sheets, forms for reporting suspicious activity,

emergency numbers, links to local agencies and helpful tips on how to prevent burglaries. The Sheriff's Department sends a representative quarterly to Neighborhood Watch meetings held at the Community Center.

In the "Forms and Applications" section of the website you'll find a form for requesting Eldorado Security to check your home—every day or any combination of days—plus a detailed list of their procedures. A fee of \$3 a day seems a bargain for the extra security if you're away for an extended period.

A representative at ADT Security Services

said 95% of burglars enter through a door by busting through it or breaking locks. Sliding patio doors are particularly easy to break into; place a stick in the track.

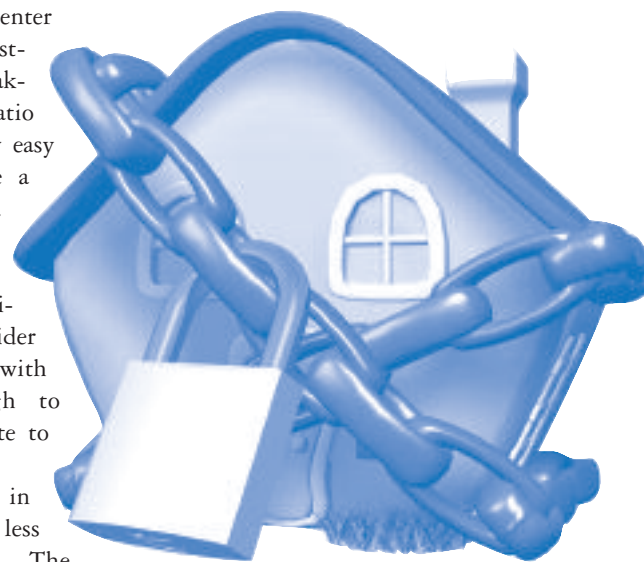
While an audible alarm is sometimes enough to deter criminals, you should consider installing deadbolts with screws long enough to secure the strike plate to the wall framing.

Most burglars are in and out of a home in less than 10 minutes. The Sheriff's Department's response time to Eldorado understandably might not be any faster than that, so consider measures that give the impression that you are at home—even when you aren't. The community web site has suggestions to minimize the opportunity for burglary, and there are more tips at www.burglaryprevention.org and www.statefarm.com.

No one thing will protect you, but a variety of techniques might. Don't wait until it's too late to take precautions. By working with your neighbors, you can help protect each other.

—Fabian West

*ECIA Board
Work Study
Meeting,
Community
Center, Mon.,
Feb 12, 7 pm*



*Share your
comments
with us!*

*For policy and
deadline, see
below*

Editorial Policy

Vistas invites opinions, ideas, stories, photos, and art from the community at large. Please include contact numbers for fact checking purposes. The newsletter will not publish unsigned letters or material deemed inflammatory. Material will be printed at the discretion of the editors. Letters over 150 words will be edited for fit. Community announcements are welcome; accompanying photos are welcome, too. **DEADLINE:** Newsletter deadline is the 3rd day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or emailed to info@eldoradocommunity.org. Please include "Attn: *Vistas*" in your message.

Mission Statement

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



PHOTO BY LYNN MCPHERSON

Horse Crossing

THE NEW HORSE CROSSING SIGNS on Avenida Eldorado do alert motorists to the fact that horses may be present, but there still remains some ambiguity in my mind as to who has the right of way. Is it the several hundred cars driving on the road at a good speed or the very occasional horse appearing at the roadside? This must be made absolutely clear to all parties by more explicit signs, or a calamity is almost certain. In the meantime, would you please print a complete explanation of the rules regarding this crossing in *Vistas*?

—John Egle

At the Stable Committee's annual meeting, Officer Michael Martinez of the County Sheriff's Department emphasized the importance for riders to continue to be aware and alert of traffic despite the presence of the new crosswalk. Pedestrian crosswalk laws apply to horseback riders as well: vehicles must yield to people waiting at or already in the crosswalk.

RV Stable?

AN ECIA BUDGET ITEM includes a partial subsidy for the stables, for folks who need to "park" horses. Why not an RV "stable," similar to what Park Plazas, in town, requires in their covenant requirements? If the RV is a trailer, owners could drive to it for maintenance. If it's motorized, folks could call ahead and reserve a ride to it as part of the service in the fee.

I've heard that liability issues dissuaded ECIA, in the past, from getting involved in such a project. Yet, the stables must also involve liabilities that are apparently being covered. While there is a commercial storage venue for RVs and boats, the costs can add up compared to an ECIA supported—and mandated—storage locale. With an RV locale, covenant enforcement would be easy—no excuses or need to interpret when an RV was acceptably hidden, etc.

Time to review the possibilities?

—Karl Kregor

Lost Dogs on the Web

ON MY DAILY WALKS AROUND Eldorado I have encountered countless lost dogs. This often occurs in the evening. Usually the dogs are frightened and disoriented and will not allow me to see their tags. Can't we have a 24-hour hotline, or an internet bulletin board, where both owners and finders can immediately make reports?

—Patricia Greer

www.eldoradocommunity.org has a link to our community bulletin board. The bulletin board has a lost pets section.

At the Crossroads

AT THE DECEMBER ROAD COMMITTEE meeting, I was elected the new Chair. Our former Chair, Ed Benrock, who did a great job on his watch, will continue as Eldorado's representative on the County Road Advisory Committee, and as ECIA Board liaison to the Road Committee.

Repairing Eldorado Roads: Last month our Board appealed to our state legislature for capital funding to repair with new base course the 32 miles of through dirt roads in Eldorado not already funded for repair or improvement. We await the decision of the legislature on this request.

Maintaining Eldorado Roads: At least bi-monthly, Road Committee members will inspect the dirt roads, culverts and traffic signs in their assigned areas. Their findings will be consolidated and reported to county personnel responsible for maintaining our roads (ownership was turned over to them in 1996). This new process is expected to get the graders and repair crews to where they are most needed.

Improving Communications: On the web site, you will find a list of Eldorado roads scheduled for repair or improvement (paving) by the county. We plan to expand this information to include those roads identified as in greatest need of repair.

Greater Community Involvement: For many roads, especially high-traffic roads, base course will not last long. We are reluctant to recommend paving (either chip seal or asphalt) on any existing dirt road without the support of the residents of that road. There are two ways you can help: attend Road Committee meetings or contact a committee member with candidates for improvement or other road-related topics. Get your neighbors to sign a petition for improving your road; funding can then be sought for getting the improvement done.

—Nolan Zisman, Chair, Road Committee

Snow Days

WRITE THIS AS OUR COMMUNITY, the county and city continue to struggle with snow removal and to question how we can be better prepared if another snow emergency descends upon us. I know this information is too late now, but we know what needs to be done and I want to pass that information to you now.

The names and numbers of people who can plow driveways will be available at the ECIA office. If there is a medical emergency, the Fire and Rescue Department is well prepared to deal with it, and you should call 911. If there is a non-medical emergency (i.e., medicine needs or low food and fuel supplies), the county has an emergency number to address that. The number is 428-3700. This information will be available on the Eldorado web site or at the Association office.

It was very disconcerting to be snowed in without resource information. Many of you turned to the ECIA. The staff gave you the best information they had at the time. If there is another emergency, we will be better prepared. But you do need to know that the county maintains the roads and will not allow the ECIA to plow. Nor can we plow individual driveways. Those are big hindrances but legally our hands are tied.

Winter Challenges

S NOW EVENTS POSE CHALLENGES to emergency service providers as they do for everyone. When snow levels are measured in feet rather than inches, those challenges become more substantial. Regardless of weather or road conditions, 911 emergency calls continue to come in, equipment must be maintained, supplies must be restocked, personnel must be available, radios must work and the fire department must be ready to respond.

During the most recent snow storm, El Dorado Fire & Rescue Service (EFRS) received an unusually high number of 911 calls and responded to all of them. It may have taken us a bit longer to get to any particular call but we responded to every emergency. EFRS also responded to several calls in the neighboring communities of Hondo and Galisteo to provide mutual aid, as the fire departments in those communities would respond if additional assistance were needed in Eldorado.

EFRS prepares in advance for snow or other special situations and adapts as conditions change. Both EFRS ambulances are 4-wheel drive vehicles, as are one structural fire engine and one brush/rescue

vehicle. By the time you read this, the roads may be a muddy mess. Please know that the Road Committee with the support of the Board of Directors has petitioned the legislature to fund road repair for all of our dirt roads. We are asking for \$1.5 million to base course the dirt roads. **State Rep. Peter Wirth** may sponsor our request and **County Commissioner Jack Sullivan** is in support. You can help by calling, emailing or writing our legislators.

Dog Leash Policy

You can continue to comment on the proposed dog leash policy. The Board may be ready to vote on the policy at its regularly scheduled business meeting February 15. Your comments are welcomed.

—Jeanne Klein



PHOTO BY LYNN MCPHERSON

Here is an idea of how much snow fell.

vehicle. In addition, some EFRS members own 4-wheel drive vehicles, which have been used to respond to calls when necessary. As situations dictate, we move vehicles and other equipment to provide better response during adverse or unusual conditions. EFRS personnel work together to ensure that firefighters can get out of their driveways and streets to respond to emergency calls.

You can help too. First, make sure that house numbers are visible at all times. In good weather or bad, emergency response is delayed if EFRS has difficulty finding your home. Second, shovel or clear snow from fire hydrants located on or near your property so they are visible and accessible to the fire department. Third, always be prepared with ample supplies of food, liquids and necessary medicines to sustain you and your family for several days, if needed. Finally, be extra careful when you drive in adverse conditions, when you use wood stoves or fireplaces and when you are out in cold weather. The best response is the one that wasn't made because the emergency was prevented. But rest assured, EFRS will respond whenever you need us.

—Stephen Tapke

ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, NM 87508
466-4248, 466-4249
info@eldoradocommunity.org
www.eldoradocommunity.org

General Manager
Bill Donohue
466-4248
ECommunity@aol.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Jeanne Klein
466-2466
Jpkeducate@aol.com
Vice President
Ed Benrock
466-2088
Francesced@msn.com
Treasurer
Sandy MacGregor
466-0882
s.macg@earthlink.net
Secretary
Philip Balcombe
466-2982
pgbalcombe@cybermesa.com
Director
Johnny Martinez
466-0696
Jmartinez54@comcast.net
Director
Su Anne Armstrong
466-4067
suanneinsantafe@msn.com
Director
Richard Anderson
466-4635
richardeanderson@comcast.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Finance: Dan Drobni
Architecture: Bill Schwent
Conservation: John Parker
and E.J. Evangelos
Stable: Dina Sassone
466-6441
Election: Pat Lavengood
Road: Nolan Zisman
Information: Ken McPherson
Neighborhood Watch:
Mary Uhl and Marilyn Walker

VISTAS NEWSLETTER

Editor:
Ken McPherson
466-4161
kenzwork@hubwest.com
Designer:
Hope O. Kiah
hope@webdesignbyhope.com
Editorial Assistants:
Lynn McPherson
Debby Padilla
466-4248

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library
466-READ
Security
204-2945
Fire and Rescue
466-1204
Animal Control
992-1621



Rehearsing for their upcoming play *Honk*: **Greg Garcia**, age 15 (Drake), **Clayton Lobaugh**, age 15 (Ugly Duckling) and **Antonio Marquez**, age 15 (Cat).

PHOTO BY TOM BRIMACOMBE

Honk, If You Love Musicals

Eldorado Children and Teen Theatre presents, *Honk*, the musical comedy based on the story of the ugly duckling on January 26, at 7 pm; January 27, 28, at 2 pm; February 2, at 7 pm and February 3 and 4, at 2 pm at the James A. Little Theater in Santa Fe. This show won the award for best musical in London, beating *The Lion King*! Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under. Tickets are available at Outback Video for \$1 off each child's ticket for all shows (and \$1 off for adult tickets during the first weekend only). Tickets are also available at the door or you can call 466-4656 for reservations. This show features a live professional orchestra and sound system. No matter what your age, if you haven't seen a production of Eldorado Children's Theatre lately, you're in for an incredible treat. The production value and talent are the best in Santa Fe!

Mark Your Calendar!

Earth Works Institute and The Quivira Coalition are sponsoring a workshop on "Practical Strategies for Rainwater Harvesting and Gray Water Utilization" on Saturday, March 10, from 1 to 3 pm at the El Dorado Elementary School.

For more information, call 820-2544 or visit www.quiviracoalition.org.

Moratorium Hearing

The County Commission has approved a publication to hear three ordinances to be discussed in the upcoming months related to the current Eldorado moratorium ordinance. The first proposed ordinance would rescind the existing moratorium; the



second would impose a new moratorium on master plans, subdivisions and land divisions that rely on water supply from the EAWSD for a 6-month period. The third ordinance would prohibit the use of domestic wells for land divisions and subdivisions that create any lots smaller than allowed by the current hydrologic zones, which are 12.5 acres in the Basin fringe zone, 20 acres in the Mountain zone and 40 acres in the Homestead zone.

The Board will hear these ordinances in public hearings on February 13, 2007 and March 13, 2007. Public comment will be taken during these meetings. For additional information, copies of the draft ordinances or to submit any comments, you may contact Penny Ellis Green at 986-6336 or pengreen@co.santa-fe.nm.us. (Excerpted from Commissioner Sullivan's letter—see page 8 of this *Vistas*.)

At the Library

Thursday, February 15, from 7 to 9 pm, a poetry reading is slated for Vista Grande Public Library as part of its ongoing Adult Programs. **Sheila Cowing**, **Barbara Rockman**, and **Donald Levering** will recite from their own poetry.

Get Involved

The students and teachers at El Dorado Elementary School need your help! This is a time of federal and state mandates that are focused on improving student achievement. However, we cannot overlook one of the most important components for raising the performance of schools—*community involvement*. We are in need of volunteers to assist with school and classroom activities. We are also in need of tutors to work with students either after school or during the day. Subject areas are math, science and reading. Spanish speakers are always welcome to assist our monolingual and bilingual students. We are also looking for volunteers interested in our science initiative, computer technology, art projects (educational murals) and gardening. Please call 467-4901 for more information.

Thank you,
Yann Lussiez, Principal



ASTRONOMY Corner

TERRAFORMING MARS

Theoretically, one way to make Mars a good place for human exploration is called Terraforming, which is an attempt to make the Martian environment more like Earth's. Terraforming Mars is a scheme fraught with technical difficulties—if not impossibilities—and is not being seriously considered.

February Sky:

Mercury and **Venus**, visible low in the west-southwest dusk for the first week of this month; bright **Jupiter** and fainter **Mars**, on the mornings at dawn; and **Saturn**, to the right of the sickle of Leo and close to the moon on February 2.

Next time: Constellations, figures in the night sky

—Juan Alvarez
Jalva88610@aol.com

See the light—follow outdoor lighting rules so we can all enjoy the stars.

Avoid Dog Bites

On Thursday, February 22, at 7 pm in the Depot Room, dog trainers will give residents information on reading dog body language and how to act appropriately. The cost is \$10. No registration is necessary.



February Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email info@eldoradocommunity.org with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 8th of the month for publication in the following month's *Vistas*. Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. Type of Event

2. Location

3. Date & Time

4. A Resource Person (one who can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.

Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

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

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

FEBRUARY SPECIAL EVENTS

ERA T.G.I.F.	Fri., Feb. 16, 5-7 pm	LR
President's Day	Mon., Feb. 19 all day	offices closed

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Road Committee	Mon., Feb. 5, 6-7 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	
Conservation Committee	Tues., Feb. 6, 7-9 pm			CFR
EAW&SD*	Tues., Feb. 6, 7-9 pm		466-2411	LR
285 Coalition	Wed., Feb. 7, 7-9 pm	Kathy Pilnock	466-1598	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., Feb. 12, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., Feb. 14, 9:30-noon	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Architectural Committee	Wed., Feb. 14, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR
ECIA Board	Thurs., Feb. 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Information Committee	Mon., Feb. 19, 7-8 pm	Ken McPherson	466-4161	F
EAW&SD*	Tues., Feb. 20, 7-9 pm		466-2411	LR
Stable Committee	Tues., Feb. 27, 7-9 pm	Dina Sassone	466-6441	CFR
Architectural Committee	Wed., Feb. 28, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Book Club	Sat., Feb. 10, 9-10:30 am	Joan Lamarque	466-6000	
Book Club/Pot Luck	call for date and time	Ken Fischer	466-2537	
ERA Coffee Social	Tues., Feb. 6, 10-11 am			F
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636	VGPL
Search & Rescue	Thurs., Feb. 8, 7-9 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765	CR
Venturing Crew 414	2nd & 4th Wed., 7-9 pm	Vera Hayduk	466-1726	C
Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	Ty Ransdell	466-2579	Sm Gym
La Canada Wireless	Mon., Feb. 12, 7-9	lcwireless.org		LR
MOMS Club	Last Fri. of month	Nichole Anaya	466-2590	
Shakespeare Group	Tues., Feb. 13, 2-4 pm	Mary Denison	466-6657	CFR
ERA Coffee Social	Tues., Feb. 20, 10-11 am			F
Bird Walk	1st Sat., 8:30 am	Ron Duffy	982-2890	
Spanish Conversation	Every other Sunday	Gail	466-3370	CFR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:30-6:50 pm			LR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			RR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			LR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			CFR
Al-Anon	Thurs., 7:15-8:15 pm			LR
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Paul Tuck	466-4815	RR
Men's Bridge	Wed., 6:30-9 pm			LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm			CR, LR
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	CR, LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Community Band	Thurs., 6-8 pm	Joel Hopko	466-8412	
Fire & Rescue Training	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Work Duty	Sat., Call for time	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Senior Lunch**	Wed., 12-1 pm	Therese Janowski	466-1397	CR
Knitting Club	Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Adult Volleyball	Wed., 7-9 pm	Arlene Mayer	466-6641	School

*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

**Reservations Required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org

A Wealth of Talent

ANYONE WHO SAW THE Eldorado Children's Theatre's last show, *Seussical, the Musical*, knows that this is no average children's theater; someone with vision and passion is pulling off full-scale productions of top-notch quality with talented, passionate kids. That someone, the group's founder, drama and voice teacher and director of all of its shows, is **Lisa Lincoln**. While one may be rightfully impressed with all she does, Lisa is quick to share the credit, saying, "It takes a village to put on a show. I'm like the mayor of the village, but I couldn't do it without the help of so many." This includes her husband, **Tom Brimacombe**, who designs, paints, and helps build the sets.

It all began seven years ago when a friend suggested that Lisa teach drama classes. Since then, Lisa has taken the Eldorado Children's Theatre from classes and performances in a little gym at the Agora called "La Vida Fitness" to performances at the James A. Little Theater, with professional choreographers, orchestras and sound systems that cost a lot of money. "I want a feeling of a professional experience for both the audience and the performers," she says.

The group had been financed solely by tuition and ticket sales until 18 months ago, when it became a non-profit corporation. It can now also receive grants and tax-deductible donations. Lisa also offers scholarships for kids who have passion and talent but can't afford the tuition. "Passion" is a word that comes up a lot talking to Lisa. "Theater changed my life, and I want that for the kids," she says. "It's a real confidence-builder. And the thrill of performing in front of people—there's nothing like it, except directing."

Lisa herself "got the bug" at 16, when as a shy teenager she was coerced by a teacher not to drop her drama class until she had tried performing the first assignment—a monologue and a song. She did it and was hooked. That same year, her singing won the high school talent show, and she landed the lead role in the school play. She began singing lessons at 17 and studied voice seriously from ages 22 to 37. She's been in over 40 musicals, most of them in community theaters and one semi-professional group.

"I was always doing a show," she says. At the same time, she worked full-time in radio (in advertising, as a sales manager, doing voice-overs, singing jingles and doing radio dramas). At 28, she took a directing course in Los Angeles and directed her first show. After directing a couple of additional small shows, she took some time out to have children, **Alli** and **Ben**, who are both in the current show. She resumed directing in 1999, founded the Eldorado Children's Theatre and has been directing ever since.

Lisa also has extensive experience teaching voice privately and teaching drama at El Dorado Elementary and the Girl's Ranch. She also is acting as vocal director for



Lisa Lincoln brings her passion for theater to Eldorado's children and teens.

musicals and the chorus at Santa Fe Prep.

The kids who are part of her theater group can now be a "triple threat," with voice lessons from Lisa, her beginning and advanced drama classes and now dance lessons (taught by **Kristie Karsen**). Lisa started a teen group last spring. The current show, *Honk*, will be performed by a group of children and teens, the Eldorado Children and Teen Theatre. It's a musical comedy that won Best Musical in London. It will show at the James A. Little Theater the weekends of January 26-28 and February 2-4. As soon as it's over, rehearsals begin for an all-teen production of *Godspell*.

Lisa had much to say when asked what she enjoyed the most about running the Eldorado Children's Theatre. "The last minute pulling it all together gets really stressful. With *Seussical*, I kept thinking we'd never pull it off. So when we did, it made it all the more incredible. When you see everyone up there enjoying themselves and the audience loving it, that's the moment that brings tears to my eyes. Making the kids feel excited about what you feel passionate about—it doesn't get much better than that as a teacher."

—Lynn McPherson

The Evening Grosbeak

I HAVE SEEN THE EVENING GROSBEAKS

(EG) just a few times in Eldorado (always at a feeder), although they may be seen here any time of year. The male of this finch family member makes you sit up and take notice. EGs are round and large looking, their bodies eight inches long, wingspans of 14 inches, with large heads and substantial light yellow beaks that turn light green during spring. The male is yellow on top of his head, with a dark neck and breast quickly becoming light gray and then bright yellow. Males have a large white wing patch that is visible from below or above. The tail is short and dark, or black. Male EGs are quite flashy. Sexual dimorphism has relegated the female to shades of yellowish-gray, with a bit of white on mostly dark wings. In winter, some birds may travel as far south as Oaxaca, Mexico. EGs make many types of squawks, but do not have a recognizable song.

Breeding pairs live in coniferous or mixed coniferous-deciduous forests. The heavy beak marks them as seedeaters, but fruits and insects are also part of their diet. Pairs court by bowing, puffing their feathers and occasionally feeding each other. It is thought a pair is monogamous. An insubstantial nest is built high in a tree and three or four eggs are laid. The female incubates the eggs for 11 to 14 days. She rarely leaves the nest and depends on her mate for food. Male and female feed the helpless young, which grow quickly and fledge in about 14 days.

Some years you may see many EGs, in other years very few. EGs and other northern seed-eating birds have sporadic (year-to-year) southward autumn invasions, called irruptions. Ornithologists speculate these are a result of food shortages (e.g., the lack of Piñon seeds after our large die-out). If shortage of seeds follows an abundant year, then there are many birds looking for food in an unproductive area.

—Pam Henline



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Jeepers, Jeepsters

THE JEEP IS AN AMERICAN ICON,

immortalized in the heat of World War II and commercialized by its chief manufacturer, Willys-Overland Motors, Inc., in a bid to break into the rapidly expanding postwar civilian automobile market.

One of the civilians who wound up with an early commercial version of the vehicle, the Jeepster VJ, is **Clark Carboneau** who lives with his wife, **Diane** and two sons, **Luke** and **Kyle**, on Eldorado's Monte Alto Road. He bought the red 1948 ragtop for \$1,800 in 1998 from a guy in North Platte, Nebraska. It's insured for \$17,000 today.

"I had never heard of the Jeepster," Clark said. "It's kind of a cool-looking car—not a muscle-car kind of cool, but cool anyway."

The U.S. government must have figured the Jeep was cool, too, because Willys and the Ford Motor Co. turned out 663,427 of the quarter-ton vehicles during the war. The four-cylinder Jeeps cost \$738.74. Production halted with war's end in the summer of 1945.

Willys rolled out the first civilian version in 1945 for farmers and construction workers, the CJ-2A. The Jeepster came along in 1948, but it didn't catch on with the public and production halted in 1950.

Clark, originally from Rutland, Vermont, may not have heard of the Jeepster, but he quickly became very familiar with the car when he learned

"it needed everything...I figured I was hosed." But he didn't give up. Clark said he found someone in Cleveland who had parts for his Jeepster. He paid \$450 for them, drove them home and eventually sold most of them for \$8,000.

But the maintenance never ends, especially

with vintage cars. The Jeepster's puny 63-horsepower engine blew a rod on Route 66 in New Mexico about a year ago. Clark found a six-cylinder Jeep engine in Kansas that was built in 1949, paid \$1,000 for it and another \$300 to have it shipped to his home. El Dorado Automotive installed it.

"For the guys who collect Jeeps, it's the Jeepster they want," Clark said. "But I always liked the wagons and the pickup."

—Richard C. Gross

PHOTO BY CLARK CARBONEAU



Clark Carboneau's 1948 Jeepster VJ with his two sons, Luke and Kyle, inside.

*Security 204-2945
Sheriff 428-3720*

Excerpt of Message from County Commissioner Jack Sullivan

(printed in its entirety at www.eldoradocommunity.org)

Typically, our Public Works Department maintains 585 miles of roads throughout the county. When Governor Richardson declared a State of Emergency, it enabled us to help residents living on private roads; however, road mileage then increased to 2,688.

A process of triage had to be initiated and enacted to ensure first and foremost 1) life safety, 2) property and then all other problems/issues.

As a citizen of Santa Fe County...I can assure you that we can not afford to be staffed and equipped for such a response 24/7, 365 days a year. Our personnel have been working 16- to 18-hour days with little sleep, rest and/or personal comfort, and most times at the personal sacrifice of their own family situations. Because of this, we appreciate those who have been patient during this emergency.

Weather-related issues can be handled at 995-1842 if our Emergency Operations Center is activated. If you fail to get a response, call County Dispatch at 428-3700. Please call these numbers only when events such as the last storm or a major disaster occur. At any time, you may contact my Constituent Services Liaison, **Jennifer Jaramillo** at 986-6293 or jjaramillo@co.santa-fe.nm.us.



PHOTO BY LYNN MCPHERSON

Eldorado resident, Andy Gomm, found a way to enjoy the snow—cross-country skiing on Verano Loop.