

ELDORADO 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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March 2011

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NEW SOLAR AND WIND ENERGY STANDARDS

Architectural Guideline Updates Proposed

The ECIA Board has accepted a revised draft Architectural Guidelines for presentation to the ECIA membership. It is the first revision

to be proposed in over five years and is the work of the Architectural Advisory Committee and staff and an Ad Hoc Committee on Architectural Guidelines established by the Board.

The ECIA's Architectural Guidelines are authorized by the Association's Protective Covenants and Building Restrictions, and are intended to provide more precise rules for enforcement of the Covenants. Building permit applications meeting the Guidelines may be approved by the Architectural Committee; those falling outside the Guidelines can be appealed to the Board by a Variance Request. Guidelines may be adopted by vote of the Board, following formal presentation to ECIA members.

One new Guideline section sets standards for solar collectors, including fixed and tracking photo-

voltaic arrays, with provisions for notification to neighbors of proposed tracking installations. A second new section

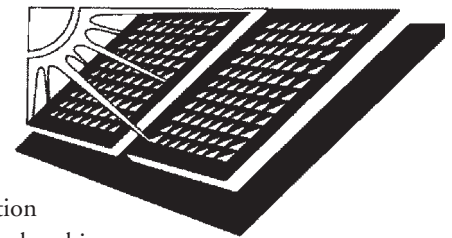
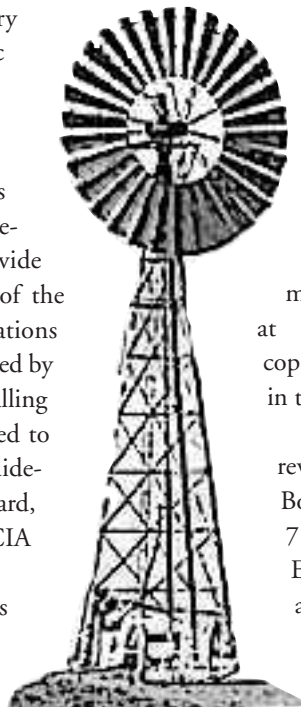
establishes guidelines for wind turbines.

Modifications to existing sections deal with security driveway gates and house doors, building exterior and roof materials and colors, video/wireless antennas, and definition/covering of RVs.

The complete set of proposed Guidelines, along with explanatory material listing changes, may be accessed at <http://www.eldoradosf.org/>. Printed copies are also available at the ECIA office in the Community Center.

A public forum to discuss the proposed revised Guidelines will be held by the Board on Wednesday evening, March 9, at 7 pm at the Community Center. All ECIA members are invited for comments and questions.

—Dan Drobnis



*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center, Thurs.,
March 17,
7 pm. Public
is invited.*

Architectural Committee Opening

At a recent meeting of the Architectural Committee, **Faren Dancer** tendered his resignation. The Committee accepted Faren's resignation and also elected **Jan Pietrzak** as the new vice-chair. We all want to thank Faren for his time and dedication while on the Architectural Committee.

There is now an open slot on the committee. If you or someone you know might be interested in joining this very important committee, please contact me at 466-4248 or ECIAAccr@aol.com.

—Mark Young

ECIA Covenant Compliance Representative

*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 e-mailed to ECIADiAna@aol.com. 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.

Community Garden Begins Year 3

It's not too late to join the El Dorado School Community Garden in time for spring planting! Individual beds and communal garden memberships are still available.

The Garden, begun two years ago as a collaboration between Eldorado residents and the El Dorado School, has transformed 1.5 acres of native landscape into a lush, organic growing and learning environment. Key projects this year include a greenhouse and completion of a drip irrigation system. The one-time new-member fee is \$30 per person, with an additional \$35 per individual bed rental or communal garden participation. Children under 18 are free. Contact **Marilynn Jacobs** at 466-6707 or e-mail at eldogarden@comcast.net.

YOUTUBE FILM CELEBRATES COMMUNITY GARDEN

Local documentary producer and El Dorado School Community Garden member **Debra Denker** has created a ten-minute film, "Community Garden: Many Hands Make Light Work," which has been posted on YouTube. The film shows the common ground between our local Eldorado gardeners and those in Acornhoek, a poor rural area of South Africa adjacent to Kruger National Park.

Both gardens are part of a worldwide community gardening movement, which has its roots in the human need to be close to nature and the practical need for fresh and affordable local food, and both are associated with local schools. The film was produced by Rainbow Lotus Productions in association with the Global Diversity Film Project, a program of the nonprofit SkySpirit Foundation.

To view "Community Garden: Many Hands Make Light Work," go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAQeOXqfnOk>, or just go to YouTube and search for El Dorado School Community Garden.

LECTURES LEAD UP TO ELDORADO AREA GARDENING TOUR JUNE 4

A series of gardening lectures will lead up to the Second Annual Eldorado-Area Gardening Tour, set for June 4. March 12 brings "Growing Cactus in Eldorado"; April 2, "Perennials and Xeric Plants in Eldorado"; April 23, "Composting"; and May 14, "Vegetable Gardening in Eldorado."

This year's self-guided gardening tour includes seven private residential gardens and the El Dorado School Community Garden. Each garden will feature Master Gardeners and homeowners as docents. The tour is free, with proceeds from donations going to the Community Garden and Outdoor Classroom.

For more information, email JWO1959@aol.com, subject "Garden Tour Question."



A GARDEN WISH LIST

If you are a gardener and have tools and equipment you're not using, or if you simply want a way to feel part of the El Dorado School Community Garden without getting your hands in the dirt, we have prepared a "wish list" of items wanted or needed in the garden, for this year and the future. Items do not need to be new, but must be in usable condition or require only simple repairs. They can be brought to the Community Garden, behind the El Dorado School; or you can contact **Dana Simmons** for pickup: danagsimmons@gmail.com, or 505-216-6161. We thank you for your contributions. "Wish List" items include:

- ▶ 10-tine mulch forks
- ▶ Chicken wire
- ▶ Child-size garden tools and garden gloves
- ▶ Compost thermometer
- ▶ Drip-system components
- ▶ Garden rakes
- ▶ Hardware cloth
- ▶ Hoe
- ▶ Hoop materials, including electrical plastic pipe and cover cloths
- ▶ Hoses
- ▶ Pitchforks
- ▶ Quarter-inch rebar
- ▶ Seed-starting kits, trays, peat pots
- ▶ Shovels
- ▶ Soaker hoses (in good condition or repairable)
- ▶ Straw bales
- ▶ Vegetable seeds
- ▶ Weeding implements
- ▶ Wheelbarrows
- ▶ Wood chips not from construction sites or materials

—Diane Thomas

Election Application Deadline: March 11

Elections for ECIA Directors are coming up in April, and we are expecting a lively slate of candidates. We hope you will learn about the candidates and vote. It's an important time to have your say about the Association! If you would like to join

the Board, the election application is a simple process, requiring 25 signatures. The filing deadline is March 11.

—Tom Willmott, ECIA President

New ECIA Director Lynn Mortensen

Lynn Mortensen has spent time or lived in 48 countries, but after a visit to Santa Fe years ago, she vowed to make it her home one day. She built a house in Eldorado in 1998, and visited frequently over the years. Retiring from her work in Washington, DC, Lynn moved here last July.

"Not until you have lived here awhile do you begin to realize how rich this place is," she asserts. "The depth and variety of culture, the immense creativity—this place is a magnet for interesting, talented people."

Lynn herself is one such person. She worked on the U.S. Global Change Research Program and the President's Council on Sustainable Development as Education and Communications Director in the Clinton Administration. She lived and worked in Egypt for eight years directing USAID-funded projects on environment and education policy.

"I've spent most of my life working on national and international policy, and in retirement, would like to be more involved in local efforts," Lynn says. "I feel committed not just to sustainability, but to resilient communities," she adds.

Lynn has been surprised at the self-sufficiency of Eldorado, from the Preserve to commercial services available, to the activities for residents. She enjoys bridge at the Community Center, painting and pot-



tery classes at the Senior Center, and exercising at the Eldorado Gym.

In her early career, Lynn was a teacher at the junior high through college levels, and was on the graduate faculty at the George Washington University in DC and at the University of Nebraska.

Lynn has two sons, one in Florida and one in Idaho. Both agree that Lynn has chosen a remarkable place to live.

—Jack Arnold

ECIA NEEDS CELL PHONE NUMBERS TO CONTACT RESIDENTS IN EMERGENCIES

The ECIA would like to complete its database of residents' cell phone numbers, to be used only in the case of emergencies. Some residents have only mobile phones and no land line, which means their contact numbers are unavailable through the phone company. These are especially critical to have on hand.

For your own benefit, and that of your neighbors, please contact the ECIA and provide us with your cell phone number. Call 466-4248.

—Bill Donohue, ECIA General Manager

Save the Date

ECIA ANNUAL MEETING MAY 2

This is a reminder that coming up on May 2, the ECIA will be holding its annual meeting.

This is when the new Board members are announced and introduced. It is also a great opportunity for residents to talk to the Board and to Committee Chairs.

So, if you would like to get to know the folks who are managing the community on your behalf, please save the date and join us on May 2.

—Ed Moreno
ECIA Vice-President

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Director

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Finance: Dan Drobnis

Architecture:

Katherine Mortimer
Conservation: John Parker &
E.J. Evangelos

Stable: Lisa Bessone &
Deena Joseph

Election: Jean Crawford

Roads: Nolan Zisman

Information: Frank Schober

Neighborhood Watch:

Marilyn Walker

Facilities & Grounds:

Jeanne Calzada

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library

466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204

eldoradofireescue.org

County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)

ENERGY-SAVING TIP OF THE MONTH

Just One Thing!

Cars and Trucks

Maintaining the recommended air pressure in your tires is a key way to save \$\$ and energy. To do that during cold weather, though, you have to add air because cold air contracts. When the pressure drops, the rolling resistance increases and you burn more fuel. So check your tires and add air more frequently during the winter months—you'll add life to your tires and burn less gas.

— Eldorado Energy Coop



Master Gardeners meet at VGPL on March 19.



ECLECTICS Art Gallery opens in La Tienda.



Fiber Arts Show at La Tienda March 23–April 26.

Interested in Sustainability in Eldorado?

The Sustainable Eldorado Residents Alliance (SERA), formerly The Greening Eldorado group, holds its next town hall meeting, Saturday, March 19, 10 am–1 pm, at Santa Fe Performance Exchange (formerly Mike's Music Exchange) in the La Tienda Center. Coffee, pastries, and neighborly socializing will be available for the early birds at 9:30! On the agenda are reports of progress in moving Eldorado toward being a resilient and sustainable community; updates from our Energy and Food Coops; a look at some key challenging pieces of climate change that may impact New Mexico; input on how to proceed on alternative energy systems for our homes and our community; and announcement of the 2011 Energy Educational Film Series. To stay informed about developing sustainability activities and issues in Eldorado, contact **Marilynn Jacobs** at 466-6707.

20th Anniversary Studio Tour

The 20th Anniversary Studio Tour is set for May 14–15, with 112 artists showing in 74 studios this year. Thanks to La Tienda, the Preview Gallery will be located at the shopping center rather than the school this year. A gala celebration is planned for Friday, May 14, from 5 to 7:30 pm. Artists, sponsors, and the public are invited to come enjoy the art of artists represented in the Tour. For information: 466-6245

The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association is now meeting in the ECIA's Community living room for its monthly meetings, which occur on the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome. For membership information, email **George Henke** at images_garden@yahoo.com or call **Cynde Christie** 204-7007.

Santa Fe County Mobile Health Van

Free Health Screenings will be offered on Wednesday, March 23, from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center.

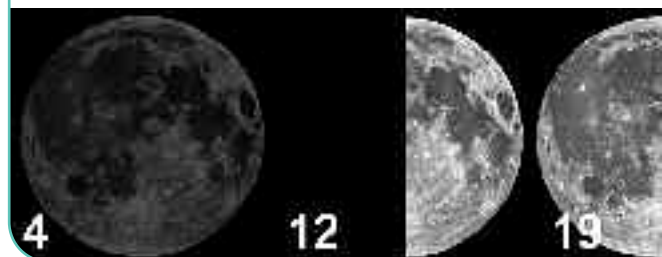
Facilities Worker Needed at ECIA

The ECIA is looking for an individual to assist with all work required to operate, maintain, clean, and improve the facilities of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association. The job requires experience in general facilities maintenance, equipment repair, housekeeping, and grounds-keeping. Supervision experience is also required. Send your resume to **Bill Donohue**, ECIA General Manager, via email to gmbill1@aol.com or by regular mail at 1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, NM 87508.

Fiber Arts at La Tienda Art Gallery

The Weavers and Fibre Artists of Northern New Mexico present an exhibit of fiber work, including wall hangings, tapestries, clothing, table linens,

MOON PHASES FOR MARCH



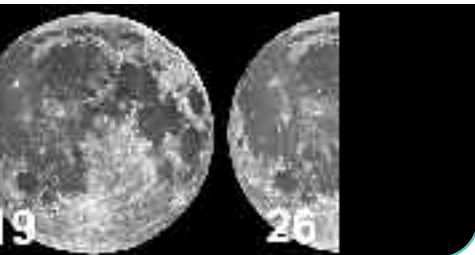
pillows, hand-painted silks, handspun, hand-dyed yarns, and felting. The show opens on March 23 and runs through April 26, Wednesdays through Saturdays, 11 am–5 pm at the La Tienda art gallery. A reception will be held on Saturday, April 2, 4–7 pm, where there will be demonstrations of spinning alpaca, dog hair, silk, wool, and buffalo hair. You can also try your hand at spinning lint from your dryer and cotton from your pill bottles. Also, there will be a display of antique (200+ years old) and modern spinning wheels, spindles and other fiber craft tools. Weather permitting, we will have some special guests: alpacas, a miniature horse, a golden retriever, and an angora bunny. All of them will be having their fur/wool spun.

March Events at the Library

The Family Night Movie on Friday, March 11, will feature "Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time," the story of a rogue prince who joins with a mysterious princess against the dark forces to safeguard a very ancient and special dagger. Jake Gyllenhaal stars in this Walt Disney epic action-adventure film based on the popular video game. Show starts at 7 pm.

Shop Amazon and support VGPL: You can shop on Amazon and benefit VGPL at no extra cost to you. Go to www.vgplibrary.org, scroll down and click the "Amazon" button on the right, then shop as usual. A percentage of your purchase price will then go to Vista Grande Library.

Other VGPL dates to remember: **After School Reading** on Thursdays from 3–4:30 pm at VGPL, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31; ages K-5. Word games, plays, read aloud, or read silently. **Book Donation Day**, Saturday, March 5, 9 am–noon. Bring your gently used CDs, DVDs, children's materials, and books published from 2004 or later to VGPL to be added to our collection or sold at the next book sale to raise money for the Library. **Creative Writing Group for Teens**, 2nd and 4th Saturdays (March 12 and 26) at 10 am; led by **Alexandra Diaz**, author of young adult fiction. **Golden Rose Storyteller Project**, Saturday, March 19, 10:30 am, celebrating the kingdom of childhood through storytelling, puppetry, singing, games, handwork, home-baked bread and rose tea; led by a Waldorf early childhood educator. **Master Gardeners** at VGPL Saturday, March 19,



ASTRONOMY CORNER

March 2011



MARCH 20: The March Equinox occurs at 5:21 PM (Mountain Time). The sun will shine directly on the equator, and there will be nearly equal amounts of day and night throughout the world. This is also the first day of spring (vernal equinox) in the Northern Hemisphere.

Protect Our Night Skies: Lights left carelessly on may spoil the views of our night sky.

noon–6 pm. Bring your questions about gardening in Eldorado, get answers from the pros, and examine new gardening books acquired through a grant from the New Mexico Library Foundation. **VGPL Book Group** meets Monday, March 21, at 7 pm at VGPL. This month's book is *Provenance*, by Laney Salisbury and Aly Sujo. You need not have read it to attend.

New Art Gallery in Town

ECLECTICS Art Gallery has opened in the La Tienda Shopping Center in Suite B-7. Owner Dr. **Mekah Gordon** is a multi-medium and innovative artist who has worked in handcrafting gold and silver jewelry for 40 years.

ECLECTICS gallery carries only the work of New Mexican artists. Every week, one Gallery Artist will be selected as Artist of the Week, announced in La Tienda's weekly email. Professional jewelry repair is also offered through the gallery. Phone: 603-8811.

March Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email info@eldoradosf.org with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 3rd 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

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

MARCH SPECIAL EVENTS

Architectural Guidelines Forum	Wed., March 9, 7-9	RR
TGIF	Fri., March 18, 5-7 pm	LR

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Neighborhood Watch	No March Mtg	Marilyn Walker	466-2553	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., March 1, 4-6 pm	Fred Raznick	466-2305	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., March 1, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
Road Committee	Mon., March 7, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., March 9, 9:30-11am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Architectural Committee	Tues., March 8, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., March 14, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
ECIA Board	Thurs., March 17, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Information Committee	Tues., March 21, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Stable Committee	Wed., March 30, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., March 22, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer

MONTHLY MEETINGS

La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs, 7 pm	santafesar.org		CR
Library Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Eldorado Dog Club	4th Saturday 9:30 am	Freddi Fullington	466-2005	Dog Park
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Pam Henline	466-4781	VGPL
Conservation Com Hike	3rd Sat. of month	Eleanor Gossen	466-1949	CC Prk Lot
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Fire Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	John Kieling	466-4232	Sm Gym
EACA Meeting	Last Thurs of month		204-7007	LR
MOMS Club	Call for dates & times	Tracey Mitchell	670-6508	

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:30-6:50 pm			CFR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
AA	Wed., 5:45-6:45 pm (Men Only)			CFR
AA	Thurs. 5:30-6:30 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			CFR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			LR/CFR
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Boy Scout Pack 414	2nd & 3rd Thurs., 6:30-7:30	Johnny Boggs	466-3680	RR
Girl Scouts 286	Fri., 4-6 pm	Lisa Engeldinger	466-0077	CR
Girl Scouts 295	Every other Fri., 5:30-7 pm	Michelle Jäschke	466-2422	CR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon, 1-4:30 pm	Kate Kaulbach	466-1465	LR
Bridge	Every Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:30 & 11 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	
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
Knitting Club	Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	Richard Robinson	466-7319	RR

*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District **For other religious/spiritual services, go to <http://santafe.areaconnect.com/churches.htm> ***Reservations Required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradosf.org

At the Crossroads

NEWS FROM THE COUNTY

Verano Loop and its feeder roads (any other road with “Verano” in its name) will be re-chip-sealed sometime between May and August 2011. Residents should be reminded that snow *plows* (not graders) are used only on paved roads. If, and when, conditions dictate, the County may also send out graders to smooth out snow-covered or badly rutted or washboarded dirt roads.

The Road Committee has some vacant seats and would welcome volunteers. The commitment is for six 90-minute meetings and two 90-minute inspections per year. If you are interested in serving your community on the Road Committee, please contact me at pnzisman@aol.com.

—Nolan Zisman
Chair, ECIA Road Committee

Senior Center News

WATER WATER EVERYWHERE...

As you may have heard, we had several pipes break during February’s extremely frigid weather. As a result, the entire Center was flooded with several inches of water. However, thanks to some hard work by volunteers and Center staff, we were able to clean up the water before permanent damage was done. The pipes are now fixed and everything is back to normal. We apologize for having to close for a week or so, but we are now back in business – so come join us!

TRIPS

We will be going to the Lamy Train Display and Museum on Monday, March 7. The model train display is remarkable, and the building is full of interesting

historic pieces. Space is limited, so call the Center (466-1039) to sign up for this excursion. It will be a lot of fun!

PAINTING CLASS

Janet Amtmann is once again offering painting classes starting on Tuesday, March 22, and running through May 3. There is space for eight students in the beginning art class and for twelve in the continuing art class. The classes will run for seven consecutive Tuesdays from 1:30 to 3:30 and focus on pastels, acrylics, and watercolor media (but no oil paint). There is no charge for these terrific classes, but you must call the Center (at 466-1039) to sign up!

—Cathy Berkley

Black-headed Grosbeak (BhG)



The Black-headed Grosbeak is a chunky bird, 8.25 inches long, with a wingspan of 12.5 inches and a very thick bill. The breeding male has a black head and black back; the top of his wings is black with a large white patch, and his under-wing is yellow, with black on the wing edges and with a large white spot. His tail is black with white sides, and his chest, neck, and back are bright orange. The female is drab brown and has a white eye stripe, light brown-gray chest, and dark brown wings and tail. The female may appear a light yellow on the chest. The BhG is resident in Eldorado during the summer. The male is very bright and at first glance may appear to be an oriole. The adult breeding plumage comes when the bird is two years old. The female may be easily confused with other backyard birds. The BhG is found through the western states in summer, and winters mostly in central Mexico.

BhGs can be found around thickets, open woodlands, backyards, and gardens. It prefers large trees over coniferous vegetation. The male courts the fe-

male by flying above her, displaying his colorful underside. The female builds a bulky nest of sticks in a tree in a few days. The BhG is difficult to flush from the nest—staying quiet to protect the eggs/chicks. Three or four eggs are laid by the monogamous pair (monogamy lasting just one season). Both male and female tend the egg and chicks. Hatching takes place in 12 to 13 days. The helpless young are ready to leave the nest in 12 to 14 days but may not be able to fly for several more days. Diet consists of seeds (especially in winter), bugs, spiders, and buds. It is one of the few birds that can safely eat the poisonous monarch butterfly.

Both males and females sing: a pleasant series of ascending and descending notes, ending with a “chink.”

In the central plains, the BhG hybridizes with the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, creating some difficulty in identifying individuals. The population of the BhGs seems to be stable. A group of grosbeaks are collectively known as a “gross” of grosbeaks.

—Pam Henline

Avoid Becoming a Prime Target for Burglars

Most of us consider our home our haven. Every year, more than 2 million homes are violated by burglars. That's a burglary every 15 seconds. Many times, the victims are careful people who think they're doing all the right things. According to a career burglar who spent 11 years in prison, here are the mistakes people make most often (source: *Bottom Line/Personal* magazine).

Mistake #1: Leaving the burglar alarm off when you are going out for just a few minutes. Nearly all the houses he robbed had alarm systems; more than half were turned off.

Mistake #2: Posting detailed alarm signs. When you post a sign that identifies the alarm company, the burglar now has the information he needs to disable the alarm. Buying generic signs from home supply stores is a good deterrent.

Mistake #3: Hiding valuables in the bedroom. It's the first place burglars look. Keep money and jewelry you rarely wear in a safe-deposit box. Hide other valuables in places where burglars don't think to look—in the garage or the freezer. Don't hide valuables in one place. That way, they are unlikely to find everything.

Mistake #4: Getting a big dog. A 100-pound rottweiler or German shepherd might look scary, but burglars know better. Most large breeds, unless they are trained as guard dogs, aren't barkers. What you want are "yappers," small dogs that make lots of noise. Breeds such as chihuahuas are better deterrents than large dogs.

Mistake #5: Hiding windows with landscaping. Tall bushes and shrubs allow burglars to jimmy windows without being seen.

Mistake #6: Leaving the lights on. A light that stays on all the time is no more of a deterrent than a dark house. In fact, it helps burglars see better once they are inside. Use timers that turn lights on and off in different parts of the house at different intervals.

Mistake #7: Having newspapers and mail delivery stopped when you are out of town. You may trust your mail and newspaper carriers, but the fact is that you don't know who else is getting the information. "We used to get tips all the time about homeowners going on vacation," our burglar says. Have a friend or neighbor pick up your paper and mail. The more activity burglars see, the less likely they are to target your house.

If you see any suspicious persons or vehicles, call the Sheriff's Department at 428-3720.

JANUARY CRIME STATISTICS

No crimes reported.

Source: www.crimereports.com

NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING:

May 9, 2011, at the ECIA. For information on how to join Neighborhood Watch, please email **Marilyn Walker** at lightwalker2@comcast.net.

—Lisa Smith, lisasmithsantafe@gmail.com



Meals on Wheels, Feeding the Spirit Too

The Eldorado volunteers who deliver meals to the elderly home-bound (and to others who may be younger but who are for various reasons in need of meal support) will all tell you the same thing: they bring more than food to their clients. They offer a bit of human contact, which may be as important as the nutritious meals they provide.

Eldorado resident **Pat Lavengood**, who also serves as a member of the ECIA Board, has been chief of the Meals on Wheels program for the past decade. She began as a volunteer driver and deliverer and now leads a dedicated group of individuals who use their private vehicles one day a week at lunchtime to deliver hot meals prepared by the cooks of the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center in Eldorado to individuals and couples in Eldorado, Hondo, Lamy, and Galisteo.

Meals provided to those on the program are calorie balanced and typically include an entree, salad, beverage, and dessert, kept at the correct temperature with

the use of the special containers the volunteers pick up at the Senior Center at the beginning of their runs.

Applying to get into the Meals on Wheels program is a simple process. It can be initiated by a family member or professional caregiver by calling the Adam Senior Center, which sponsors the program, at 466-4029. All application information is kept confidential, and one does not have to live alone to be a part of the program. The service is provided Monday through Friday of every week.

Like many worthwhile volunteer programs in our community, Meals on Wheels provides an important service that government agencies may lack the funds or the employees to support. The home-bound and the handicapped need your assistance. To be a part of a service to others that will deliver hot meals to those in need—and also warm your heart—call Pat Lavengood at 466-9765.

—Frank Schober



ELDORADO
VISTAS

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www.eldoradosf.org

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