

ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 4

April 2013

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This issue of *Vistas* is abbreviated in order to be mailed together with the 2012 ECIA Annual Report.

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 ▼ (505) 466-4248 ▼ www.eldoradosf.org ▼ Security 204-2945

Enjoying and Maintaining Our Amenities

From miles of hike/bike paths to horseshoe pits, the pool to the basketball court, children's playgrounds to 4,000 acres of wilderness preserve, Eldorado is blessed with a variety of amenities. Some residents think the tennis courts alone or access to the stables is worth their annual assessment; some use the dog park daily. Others rarely use our facilities but understand the value they add to the community. Well-maintained amenities support strong property values and help create a desirable community.

Recently, **Su Anne Armstrong** lent new support for **David Lovro's** landscape plan and designed a multi-year plan to rejuvenate the Community Center grounds. Aging landscape and extreme drought have taken a toll on the 28-acre property. The landscape recovery plan takes into account the difficulty of maintaining a heavy-usage, high-desert environment during a prolonged drought and includes rainwater harvesting and mulching as well as educating

our dedicated grounds staff in good xeriscaping practices and tree care.

This year the plan concentrates on the trees. **Jim Freeman**, a long-term Eldorado resident and professional forester and arborist, is assessing the condition of the trees and training the grounds staff. Much of what they will be doing is applicable to your home landscape as well. (See article, below.)

Other Eldorado amenities are due for facelifts this year as well. The Board has approved a major renovation of the tennis courts and is currently negotiating with potential contractors. The adjacent basketball court will be resurfaced, and work will continue on improving the athletic field. These projects and others will help ensure that Eldorado remains an attractive and active community.

—Dag Ryen, ECIA Board

*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center
Railroad Bldg.
Thurs.,
April 18,
7 pm.*

Eldorado Earth Day

The Eldorado Community Improvement Association is pleased to sponsor a community-wide Earth Day Cleanup Day on Saturday, April 20, from 9 AM to noon. The goal of this effort is for Eldorado residents and organizations to work together to clean up any debris located on the roadways, bike paths, and public areas in Eldorado.

The ECIA will provide garbage bags, gloves, and water, and will handle the pickup of all bags throughout Eldorado. Residents and organizations are encouraged to "adopt" a road for the day and clean it up. To sign up for the event, please contact **Mark Young** at the ECIA with the road(s) or areas that you want to clean up. He will ensure that your specific chosen area is still available for cleanup.

Our local Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have agreed to help, but more individuals, groups, and other organizations are needed in order to cover as many roads as possible. Residents who do sign up may pick up bags, gloves, and water at the ECIA before the event during regular business hours or on Saturday, April 20, at 8:30 AM.

Xeriscaping Tips

Here are some xeriscaping ideas to keep the trees and shrubs around your house healthy.

- ▼ Mulch your trees and shrubs with organic mulch to a depth of at least 3 to 4 inches. Leave the area within 1 foot of the trunk bare of mulch, but extend it beyond the drip line. This is where the feeder roots are, the ones that absorb water and nutrients.
- ▼ Test to see if you need to water by inserting a rod (rebar size) in the soil. It should penetrate fairly easily in moist soil.
- ▼ Water trees to a depth of 2 to 3 feet at the drip line and a bit beyond, not near the trunk.
- ▼ Create a berm outside the drip line to keep the water where the tree needs it.
- ▼ Apply water slowly so it penetrates deeply without wasteful runoff.
- ▼ Water established trees once a month in winter and twice a month in summer when rains or snows don't get the job done.

The New Mexico State Engineer's office (Bataan Building on Galisteo across from the Capitol) has excellent free brochures on water use and conservation or online at http://www.ose.state.nm.us/publications_brochures.html. Particularly helpful are "Water Wise Guide to Trees" and "Rainwater Harvesting."

Trees and shrubs are the foundation of a landscape and take a long time to reestablish if lost. Do what you can to keep them healthy while being conscious of the need to conserve water in our high-desert environment.

—Su Anne Armstrong

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Roads: **Michael Chester**
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ECIA: OUR HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Bylaws Changes Proposed

Proposed ECIA Bylaws changes are included in your 2012 Annual Report packet: a ballot has been added to either approve or disapprove of the changes. Read the proposed changes carefully and mark the ballot. Adoption of Bylaws requires 60% of those Association members voting.

The changes are shown in strikeout/underline format, to make identification of changes easy. In addition to corrections of typos, formatting and grammatical errors, there are changes in the following areas:

1. A requirement that Lot Owner shall mean and refer to the owner or owners of record of a fee-simple title to any lot situated upon The Properties.
2. Changes in the terms of Board members appointed and elected, so as to achieve and retain a 2-3-2 rotation.
3. A change in obtaining the written approval of Board members for emergency actions taken without a meeting.

4. An additional cause for removal of a Director by the Board for a Director derelict in committee and liaison assignments.
5. A requirement for each Board officer to adhere to Covenants, Articles of Incorporation, and Bylaws.
6. A requirement for all committee appointees to be and remain Members in Good Standing.
7. A requirement that examination of Books and Records be for Association and/ or noncommercial use.
8. 8. Changes made in format for clarity and ease of reading.
9. A Table of Contents was added..

The existing Bylaws require review every two years, and whenever this review identifies a need, changes are proposed. The present revisions are the first proposed in over a decade.

Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on February 21, with Board members present: **Ed Moreno** (President and Chair), **Jeanne Calzada** (Vice-President), **Nolan Zisman** (Secretary), **Todd Handy** (Treasurer), **Dag Ryen** and **Jan Pietrzak**. **Paul Jacobs**'s absence was excused. The following formal actions were taken unanimously, without the Chair voting:

- ▼ The Bylaws Committee arranged a March 11 public hearing for review of proposed Bylaws changes.
- ▼ The report of the Election Committee regarding the formal tally for the Household Pets Covenant vote in August/September 2012 was accepted.
- ▼ The Board certified the results of the Household Pets Covenant vote.
- ▼ Funds spent in 2012 from the 2013 Replacement Reserve Schedule for the recreation field were re-

moved from the 2013 Replacement Reserve budget.

▼ Ed Moreno, Jeanne Calzada, Todd Handy, and **Bill Donohue** were authorized as check signers for the Association's account at the First National Bank of Santa Fe.

▼ A variance was approved for 3 Antigua Lane for a small accessory building (child playhouse) to be placed 75 feet from the dwelling, where 15 feet is the Guideline distance, because of screening by existing vegetation, with conditions.

Regular Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Community Center and are open to the public. An open forum, community announcements, and reports from ECIA committees are normally included. Complete minutes and meeting agendas are available at the ECIA office or website: <http://eldoradosf.org>.

The Walking School Bus Pilot Program

The El Dorado Community School is starting a "Walking School Bus" pilot program this spring. The program objectives are to promote student health, wellness, and academic performance, and to reduce school traffic congestion. Eldorado residents will see students led by adult volunteers walking each Wednesday morning starting April 17 until the end of the school year on the paths adjacent to Avenida Vista Grande and Avenida

Torreon. Please be supportive and safe as our school children embark on their fun walking adventure to school. The pilot program will be evaluated at the end of the school year.

—Mike Schneider, Walking School Bus Program





NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FLORA & FAUNA WORKING GROUP

Spring is Here!

Alas, we have so little space in this issue and so much to cover! A few quick reminders and, then, on to gophers.

- ▼ Begin to rabbitize your gardens by putting protective coverings around them, either netting or fencing.
- ▼ No see'um time is approaching. While they may not bother some of us, others are highly allergic, especially with numerous bites that may be infected. Please douse yourselves with Skin So Soft (Avon and not a commercial plug) and wear protective clothing. We know of at least one of our new residents who was hospitalized last year due to numerous bites.
- ▼ Our serpent friends will begin to emerge from hibernation.

Gophers are on the move. For our newcomers, we have pocket gophers in Eldorado in varying degrees of abundance. You likely will never actually see one but will notice mounds of dirt appearing in your yards, and then, perhaps, your rose bush will fall over one day for lack of a root system. Entire heads of lettuce may totally disappear from your garden: pocket gophers!

These are small, subterranean rodents who rely mostly on roots of plants for water and food. They are territorial and primarily solitary, except for annual mating.

Controlling pocket gophers is difficult, and methods often conflict with one's morality or may threaten other burrow-sharing critters. Gophers can be live-trapped and released elsewhere (good luck with that!), poisoned (either do-it-yourself or hire a professional), which may lead to the possible poisoning of beneficial snakes and burrowing owls (not to mention residents' pets). For a gentler precautionary way to gopher-proof one's garden, plant tons of daffodils and fritillaria, as the bulbs repel rodents. Place fine-mesh wire in the bottom of raised beds to protect the roots of your vegetable crop: gophers do not like the feel of metal on their teeth (of course, this does nothing for the aboveground assault from rabbits and other grazers, but that's another discussion.)

—Nina Harrison, N815@aol.com



IN THE COMMUNITY

Dead on the Web? Free Q&A

On Tuesday, April 2, award-winning web marketing author and long-time Eldorado web designer **Hope Kiah** is presenting her free monthly Q&A session (the first Tuesday of every month) at the Zia Financial Group in La Tienda. Bring your website questions and/or your URL for review (first-come-first-served) at 6:30 PM.

Spring Garden Fair April 27

Santa Fe Master Gardeners again present the 9th annual Spring Garden Fair. Don't miss the best plant sale in town, plus lectures, clinics, demonstrations, exhibitors, great food vendors, and kids' activities. Bring your gardening questions to Ask a Master Gardener. Admittance is FREE! Saturday, April 27, 10–4, at the County Fairgrounds on Rodeo Road. Details at sfmga.org.

Hazardous Waste Cleanup

Spring cleaning in the garage? What should you do with leftover pesticides, herbicides, paint and other household hazardous wastes (HHW)? HHW can now be properly disposed of at the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center, located at the Buckman Road Recycling and Transfer Station (BuRRT), on Fridays and Saturdays 8 AM–4:45 PM (except holidays). For more information, call 424-1850 or go to <http://www.sfswwa.org/>.

Senior Scene

Spring Greetings from your friends at Adam Senior Center. Our new hours of operation are 8 AM–3 PM. Special and new activities for April include: **Monday April 1, 12:45 PM:** Book Club meets the first Monday of every month. **Thursday April 4, 12:45 PM:** Guest Speaker **Nina Alexander** (U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Indian Arts & Crafts Board) on "Buying, Collecting, and Supporting Native American Arts & Crafts." **Friday April 12, 12:45 PM:** **Dr. Charlotte Warren**, graduate of Westchester Conservatory of Music, presents part of her graduation recital, playing works by Debussy, Chopin, Bach, and Beethoven. **Thursday April 18, 12:45 PM:** Guest Speaker **Eileen Levy** shares her experiences "Traveling in China." **Friday April 26, 9:00 AM:** Field Trip to Albuquerque's "Gathering of Nations."

Congregate meals are served Monday–Friday from noon to 1 PM. Meals on Wheels are available for anyone homebound and in need of this service. Many other activities and exercise classes are held every day. Come by to pick up a menu and an activities calendar. It only takes 10 minutes to become a member and it is free. Call **Carol Branch** at 466-1039 to set up an appointment.



Lifeguards Needed

ECIA is looking for certified lifeguards for summer pool duty. Applicants must show their Social Security card, driver's license and Red Cross certification. To apply, get an application at the ECIA Office or call 466-4248.

ECIA Seeks Seasonal Maintenance Employees

ECIA is seeking two (2) full-time seasonal general facilities maintenance persons for April through September. Please contact the ECIA Office for application.

Reel New Mexico, April 11

On Thursday, April 11, Reel New Mexico is proud to present *Globalized Soul*, a film by **Cynthia Lukas** and **Kell Stearns**, whose *Rumi Returning* drew a capacity crowd last year. The program starts at 7 PM at La Tienda. *Globalized Soul: Stories from the Tipping Point to a New World* presents a mystic tour of humanity's longing for love and peace. It features the spiritual wisdom of the Dalai Lama and sacred activists such as Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bukhari. A lavish visual odyssey, it was filmed in India, Turkey, Morocco, Israel, Mexico, the U.S. and the Parliament of the World's Religions in Melbourne, Australia and set to the music of Philip Glass and Ravi Shankar. Producers Kearns and Lukas, of Heaven on Earth Productions in Santa Fe, will introduce the film and lead a discussion with the audience after the screening. A contribution of \$5 is suggested at the door. Directions to the venue are at www.reelnewmexico.com.

Studio Tour Preview

To kick off its Studio Tour, EACA is holding a preview reception. Enjoy musical entertainment while visiting with the artists at La Tienda's Exhibit Space. Friday, May 17, 5–7 PM. For details visit www.eldoradostudiotour.org.

ELDORADO**VISTAS**

Eldorado Community Improvement Association
#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508

www.eldoradosf.org



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April Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email eciamarilyn@aol.com 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**
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

SPECIAL MARCH EVENTS

Eldorado Earth Day	Sat., April 20, 9-noon	Mark Young	466-4248	See p. 1
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architectural Committee	Tues., April 9, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., April 23, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., April 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., April 2, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Thurs., April 18, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., April 2, 4-6 pm	Jean Crawford	466-1000	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., April 10, 9:30-11:30	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., April 23, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee	Mon., May 6, 6-8 pm	Michael Chester	975-6930	CFR
Stable Committee	Tues., April 30, 7-9 pm	Gretel Underwood	466-7825	LR
SPE Committee	Thurs., April 11, 7-9 pm	Steve Rudnick	466-1335	CFR

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR/CR
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Tues. of month	Barrie Brown	466-3035	CC
Eldorado Camera Club	4th Wednesday, 7-9	biordi@aol.com		La Tienda
La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Library Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Pam Henline	466-4781	VGPL
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs, 5-9 pm	santafesar.org		CR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
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
Bridge	Every Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Jim Davidson	670-6949	LR
Bridge	Every Other Fri., 9-noon	Natalie Bernet	466-6118	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:00 & 10:30 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
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., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Jack McCarthy	466-9601	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri., 1-4:30	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Kate	216-5302	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	David Lovro	466-0540	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