

ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 5
May 2011

IN THIS ISSUE

ECIA News.....	2-3
In the Community.....	4-5
Neighborhood Watch	6
Senior Center.....	6
SF Performance Exchange	7
Library News	7

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

20th Anniversary Studio Tour

The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association holds its Twentieth Anniversary Studio Tour May 14–15. With 110 artists displaying their work in 73 studios, the Studio Tour promises to be a spectacular celebration of genres: painting, sculpture, photography, digital collage, ceramics, jewelry, fiber arts, and glass art, among others.

The weekend begins with a gala Opening Night at the Preview Gallery, held this year at La Tienda, from 5 to 7:30 pm on May 13. (La Tienda is located just off Vista Grande on Caliente Rd.) At the opening night event, master classical guitarist **David Wescott Yard** and keyboardist **Doug Frantz** will play jazz medleys. Artists, sponsors, and guests will also enjoy refreshments donated by Whole Foods Market of Santa Fe and Eldorado Supermart.

The Preview Gallery will also be open on Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 5 pm so visitors can drop in to view an example of each participant's artwork. Brochures, with a tour map, will also be available there.

Eldorado holds the largest studio tour in New Mexico. The May event attracts visitors from all over New Mexico as well as others from out of state who plan their time in Santa Fe based on the dates of the Eldorado Tour.

Every year participating artists contribute a portion of their sales to a group of Eldorado organizations. Since 2003, local artists have donated over \$38,000. This year's donations will go to El Dorado Fire and Rescue, the El Dorado Community School, the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center, Vista Grande Public Library, and La Tienda Exhibit Space. The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization.

A tour website (www.eldoradotour.org) offers a downloadable map and further information on each artist, with links to the artists' individual websites.

*Public
is Invited:
ECIA Annual
Meeting, Mon.,
May 2, at La
Tienda, 7 pm*
◆
*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center, Thurs.,
May 19,
7 pm.*

Some of the art to be featured at the Studio Tour on May 14–15. Clockwise from left: **Jeanne Hyland**, watercolor; **Joretha Hall**, St. Francis, clay; **Maggie Beyeler**, ceramic vase; **Tim Roundy**, bronze sculpture.





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.

Eldorado Pool Gets New Shine

The first residents to move to Eldorado in the early 1970s were promised a pool as one of the community amenities. And they got one: a kidney-shaped pool that is shown in the original architectural plans by **William Lumpkins**, for **Mr. and Mrs. Frank Teal**, builders of the ranch house that is now our Community Center. By 1976, that pool was closed down, as authorities deemed it unsuitable for a "public pool"; talks then began with the ECIA (then still AMREP) for a new pool. In 1978, the new pool and pool house were opened.

This spring, the ECIA pool is being resurfaced during a month-long project, getting new white plaster and beautiful new blue tiling. New steps into the pool are being built in the southeast corner. The work will be completed for the opening on Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.

Residents in good standing (meaning that no money is owed to the Association) can obtain a photo-ID pool pass for a fee of \$2 in the ECIA office. Anyone who has a picture pass from last year can get a 2011 sticker to put on last year's pass. Renters need to bring their rental agreement to the ECIA office, and the lot owner must be a resident in good standing.

Dan VanWyck will be the Pool Manager again this year, with **Julie White** as Assistant Manager. All children under 12 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. A resident may bring two guests to the

pool. Later in the season, adults who are certified will be needed for lifeguards.

POOL HOURS, BEGINNING MAY 28:

Lap Swim: Every day 8–10 am; Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 6–8 pm

General Swim: Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays 10 am–8 pm; Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 10 am–6 pm

—Marilyn Farrell

ECIA Administrative Assistant



Photo: Mark Young

Garden Enclosures and Fencing

With spring now upon us, many Eldorado residents are looking forward to planting gardens around their homes. The Guidelines for Protective Covenants and Building Restrictions for Eldorado address garden fencing on page 13, Section 15. These are detailed as follows:

GARDEN FENCES:

A blanket approval is given to these types of enclosures, provided they meet the following requirements:

1. Garden enclosures are not to be higher than 3 feet, enclosing only the garden area.
2. Garden enclosures are not to exceed 1,000 square feet.
3. Garden enclosures are considered to be temporary in nature.
4. Materials shall be wood post and wire.
5. All property line setbacks specified in the covenants shall be observed for fences and walls. The exceptions include trees, hedges, or other plantings on or near the property line.

One topic that the guidelines do not address is raised beds and hoop-houses. In the absence of guidance in regard to these structures, we ask that residents who want to build such structures come to the ECIA and review their plans with me, the Covenants Compliance Representative.

While we want to encourage gardening and food self-sustainability in Eldorado, we also want to ensure that all property lines, rights-of-way, and easements are being respected. We also want to ensure that if the structure is going to be permanent in design, it adheres to either the large or small accessory building section of the guidelines, in terms of its location on the lot, height, materials, and design. Should the structure be of a permanent design, it will have to be reviewed by the ECIA Architectural Committee. If anyone has any questions regarding garden structures, please feel free to contact me at 466-4248 or via email at ECIACCR@aol.com.

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative

Recent Major Board Expenditures

The ECIA Board has recently approved the following from the Repair/Replacement and Capital Improvement funds:

In December, Repair/Replacement funds not to exceed (NTE) \$6,000 were approved to repair/rebuild the Association's landscaping tractor. This is in lieu of a complete replacement, which had been budgeted in 2010, and is projected to extend the life of the tractor until 2017. The tractor's replacement cost is estimated at \$24,000 (in 2017 dollars); it is used for landscaping, snow plowing, general hauling, and arena maintenance at the Stables amenity.

In January, Repair/Replacement funds NTE \$66,000 were approved to replace and upgrade the water distribution system for the Stables amenity, which was a relic from the AMREP era. Individual barn owners will reimburse 39% of this cost over the next two years. Despite difficulties of extreme cold weather, the project was completed on time and on budget in March.

Also in January, Capital Improvement funds for two phases of a Community Center landscaping improvement plan were approved NTE \$24,000. This includes two areas: (1) between the Community Center building and the playgrounds, which will be treated to new trees and shrubs, benches, mulch, path improvements, and trash receptacles; and (2) the front entry, which will receive cleaning, grading, sign-

age, benches, trash/recycling bins, trees, and shrubs. In April, a third phase was scheduled for approval for the arrival loop area (NTE \$6,000), which will include new trees, shrubs, barn fencing, and some tree removal. Professional landscape architect **David Lovro** volunteered his time with the Facilities and Grounds Committee to draw up the plan. Facilities and Grounds recommends additional future investment in this area.

In March, Capital Improvement funds NTE \$35,000 were approved for renovation of the rental house just north of the Community Center. This will bring the property, which has been vacant since January 2010, up to residential rental standards and allow the Association to again receive rental income from it. A Finance Committee report estimates a 15% return on funds expended and a payback period of seven years, after allowance for vacancies, maintenance, and depreciation.

Also in March, Capital Improvement funds NTE \$3,000 were approved for a water spigot at the Dog Park amenity. Most of the cost involves bringing water service underground several hundred feet from the Community Center.

Maintaining sustainable reserves for growing repair/replacement needs is an ongoing concern of the Finance Committee.

—Dan Drobnis

Prepare Now, Survive Later

Living in Eldorado, we tend to think we are immune from the natural and man-made disasters we see reported virtually every time we turn on our TV. We are not. Wildland fire starting up in our greenbelts and burning us out is a real and present danger in the dry and windy season we are now experiencing. Some of us think the dry plant growth surrounding and, in some cases, brushing the windows of our homes looks both natural and nice. Members of our volunteer fire department, the EFRS, will tell you that fire is natural too. They will also tell you that if your home has no "defensible space"—a place where weeds and other burnable vegetation have been cut down close to your house—they may have to bypass your home for those that can be defended.

We have regularly "dodged the disaster bullet" in Eldorado, but we may not be so lucky forever. Few of us know how close we came to suffering the same fate that befell Española and Taos during last winter's gas crisis. As pressure levels fell under the onslaught of

below-zero temperatures, Eldorado was next on the list to have its gas supply cut off.

We are more vulnerable than we think we are.

For life-saving preparedness information, check out the links on our website, www.EldoradoSF.org. For more information that will protect your home and family from fire danger, see www.firewise.org.

—Frank Schober

ECIA STILL NEEDS PHONE NUMBERS TO CONTACT RESIDENTS IN EMERGENCIES

The ECIA continues to compile its database of residents' phone numbers—land lines as well as cell phones—to be used only in the case of emergencies. For your own benefit, and that of your neighbors, please contact the ECIA and provide us with your phone numbers. Call 466-4248.

—Bill Donohue, ECIA General Manager

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E.J. Evangelos

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library

466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204
eldoradofirerescue.org
County All Purpose
820-CNTY (2689)

ENERGY-SAVING TIP OF THE MONTH

Just One Thing!

Gas Savings

Car manufacturers don't publicize this, but if your car or truck is a 1996 model or later, it may be a flex-fuel engine (you can confirm this by checking your owners manual or reading the inside of your gas cap). A flex-fuel engine can use any blend of gasoline and ethanol. Ethanol offers three advantages. It produces 25% to 85% fewer emissions than regular gas, it can improve your engine's performance, and it can have a cleaning effect on your engine. While it is somewhat more expensive than regular gas, the savings in maintenance costs and carbon emissions make it a good investment. Ethanol can be purchased at two Giant stations at 1229 and 4359 Cerrillos.

— Eldorado Energy Coop



SAVE THE DATE:
Eldorado Garden Tour, June 4,
10 am –4 pm.

Thom Ross' installation will be on view at the Wild West Celebration at La Tienda, May 14.

Summer Jobs

Certified life guards may apply for pool jobs at the ECIA office.

Cartridges for Kids

La Tienda and Eldorado Computer Works are teaming up with the local community to get needed school supplies into the classrooms at El Dorado Community School. Want to help? It's easy! Drop your empty ink and toner cartridges in the recycle box in front of Gene's Sandwich Shop in La Tienda. Each one is worth \$2–\$3 in credit for school supplies. Unused excess cartridges can also be recycled. Please bring them from home and work to help out our local school. For more information, call **Steve Ewers** 466-1262

Free Health Screenings

Free health screenings, referrals, and information will be offered at the Santa Fe County Mobile Health Van on two days in May: Saturday, May 7, at Lamy Legal Tender, Lamy, NM, 10 am–3 pm; and on Tuesday, May 24, at the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center, 10 am–2 pm. For more information, please call **Angela Thorndyke**, RN, BSN, at 505-231-2382.

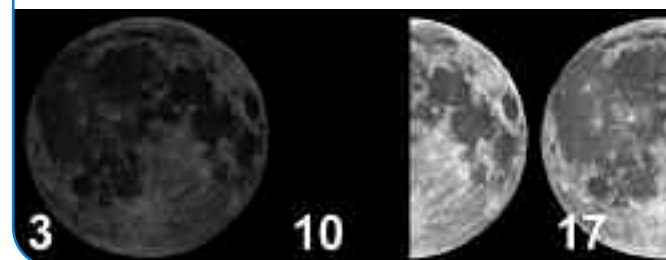
Community Garden Events

A free lecture on "Vegetable Gardening in Eldorado" will be presented at La Tienda at 10 am on Saturday, May 14. El Dorado School Community Garden tee shirts and mugs are available by emailing eldogarden@comcast.net or phoning 466-6707. Anyone interested in joining the Garden should act now. The communal part of the Garden is already full. Several individual beds are still available, but they're filling up fast. Coming June 4: Eldorado Garden Tour.

Wild West Celebration at La Tienda

A free community event is being held on Saturday, May 14, 11–5 pm. Artist **Thom Ross** will be showcasing his 100-piece installation, "Buffalo Bill and the Indians," which attracted more than 40,000 people when it was displayed in San Francisco in 2008. In addition to the installation, there will be stagecoach rides, antique blacksmith demonstrations, lasso demonstrations, horseback rides, a horseshoe tournament, and live music on the patio featuring Byrd and Street (all the way from Austin, TX). Also on May 14, La Tienda Exhibit Space will be holding an opening reception of western art,

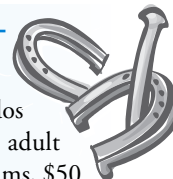
MOON PHASES FOR MAY 2012



and art lovers can get a peek at the EACA Studio tour in the Preview Gallery at La Tienda.

Horseshoe Tournament May 14

As part of the Wild West Celebration at La Tienda, May 14, there will be a fun day of horseshoes to benefit Bienvenidos Outreach Inc. Donations of food and adult clothing are encouraged. Two person teams, \$50 per team. Formatted to play 6 games! Limited to the first 24 teams to register and pay. Pre-register via email. Food and beverages from local merchants. For more information, contact **Tom Miller** at events@miller91.com.



Horse Manure Available

Now scheduling Eldorado Stable horse manure deliveries. Please email eldostable@gmail.com or call Su Anne at 660-1996 for information.

Flea Market at Community Center

The Sustainable Eldorado Residents Alliance (SERA) is sponsoring a Spring Flea Market on Saturday, May 21, from 8 am to noon at the Community Center. The 100 vendor spaces are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Setup begins at 7 am. Fees are \$15 for Eldorado residents, \$20 for non-residents, and \$25 for commercial vendors. Come to buy and sell, recycle and reuse, and bring that stuff that you have been storing up over the winter so it can be put to good use again. Please call **Gregory Bundrick** at 699-5670 for more information.

Like to Play Piano?

Eldorado Children's Theatre is looking for PIANO PLAYERS to accompany rehearsals and performances for the 2011/2012 year. If you are interested, please e-mail Lisa at lisa@rancheros.com.

Free-Form Book Group/New Time, Place

Eldorado's Free-Form Book Group meets Thursday, May 12, at 7 pm at Vista Grande Public Library. This is a change from our previous dinner-meeting format to accommodate more members. We don't read the same book and every-





ASTRONOMY CORNER

May 2011

MAY 4-7: Eta Aquarids

Meteor Shower. The Eta Aquarids are a light shower, usually producing about 10 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower's peak is expected on May 5-6, but viewing should be good on any morning May 4-7. A thin, crescent moon will set early in the evening, leaving dark skies for what could be a good show. The radiant point for this shower will be in the constellation Aquarius. Best viewing is usually to the east after midnight, far from city lights.

MAY 16: Full Moon Hike at White Sands, 7:30 pm. Take a trip down to White Sands National Monument in Tularosa Basin, 15 miles southwest of Alamogordo, and see one of the world's great natural wonders, the world's largest gypsum dune-field, under the glow of the moon.

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

one is invited. Come prepared to talk for five minutes about one or more books you have recently read. This open format leads to spirited discussions of books and ideas. Info: dianethomas814@gmail.com.

New Skin Care Shop Opens

ECIA member **Dawn Carter** has recently opened a new shop in La Tienda shopping complex at 5 Caliente Road. Dawn, a registered skin care professional, can be reached at 505-819-7210. Her shop provides a variety of in- and out-call facial and waxing services to the Eldorado area.

May 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

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

MAY SPECIAL EVENTS

ECIA Annual Meeting	Mon., May 2, 7-9	La Tienda
SERA Flea Market	Sat., May 21, 8 am-1 pm	CC Parking Lot
Pool Opening Day	Sat., May 28, 8 am-8 pm	ECIA Pool

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Conservation Committee	Tues., May 3, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
Neighborhood Watch	Mon., May 9, 7-9	Marilyn Walker	466-2553	CR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., May 10, 4-6 pm	Jeanne Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., May 11, 9-11am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Architectural Committee	Tues., May 10, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., May 16, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
ECIA Board	Thurs., May 19, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Information Committee	Tues., May 24, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Stable Committee	Wed., May 31, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., May 24, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Road Committee	Mon., June 6, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	CFR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR
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	
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
Adult Basketball	Thurs., 6:30-dusk	Eddie Marshall	660-2172	CC Ct
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Cub Scouts	2nd & 3rd Thurs., 6:30-7:30	Johnny Boggs	466-3680	RR
Fire Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	John Kieling	466-4232	Sm Gym
Girl Scouts 286	Fri., 4-6 pm	Lisa Engeldinger	466-0077	CR
Girl Scouts 295	Every other Fri., 5:30-7 pm	Michelle Jaschke	466-2422	CR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon./Wed, 1-4:30	Kate Kaulbach	466-1465	LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm			LR
Bridge	2nd & 4th 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., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Ann Sharp	466-4733	RR
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

El Dorado Fire and Rescue helped battle a fire on Rabbit Road earlier this year.



Wildfire Danger in Eldorado

It has been five years since we have seen such a dry winter, and the vegetation around our homes reflects the scant precipitation. The Eldorado area is in the wildland/urban interface which is where wildland vegetation and houses coincide. This, coupled with the spring winds, increases the likelihood of wildfires. To keep our homes safer, El Dorado Fire Chiefs **Steve Tapke** and **Glenn Saums** suggest residents implement the following precautionary measures:

- ▶ Defensible space is the single most important preventive measure you can take to protect your home. Clear all vegetation around your house to a perimeter 30 to 70 feet from the structure.
- ▶ Keep trees trimmed a minimum of 10 feet away from your home.*
- ▶ Summer is grilling season. If you have a gas grill, check all the connections to ensure there are no leaks. If you prefer a traditional barbeque, keep a connected water hose nearby. Store briquettes in a metal bucket until cold.
- ▶ Store firewood and other outdoor combustibles away from the house.
- ▶ Keep your chimney clean and make sure a spark arrestor is in place.
- ▶ Fireworks and outdoor burning are significant causes of wildland fires.

- ▶ Be aware of your surroundings. Report smoke plumes at once. Call 911.
- ▶ If you are asked to evacuate, do so and follow the instructions of emergency response personnel.
- ▶ Finally, have an escape plan. Discuss with your family how to exit from various points around the house and where you will meet so you can count heads.

FIREWISE COMMUNITIES RECOMMENDS:

Keep the first 3 to 5 feet from your house clear of plantings, unless you have noncombustible siding; and in that case, plant only widely spaced foundation plantings of growing shrubs or other Firewise plants. Do not plant directly beneath windows or next to foundation vents. Be sure there are no areas of continuous grass adjacent to plantings in this area. Frequently prune and maintain plants in this zone to ensure vigorous growth and low-growth habits. Remove dead branches, stems, and leaves.

www.firewise.org/usa/files/newmexico.pdf

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MTG: MAY 9

—Raymond Bolton, *Neighborhood Watch*

Senior Center News

New at the Adam Senior Center is a large garden hoop-house erected over the kitchen garden. Its construction was a collaborative effort by students from Pojoaque High School's horticulture class and their teacher **Joe Matteson**. **Cindy Barreras**, the center's chef, was instrumental in spearheading this project. The hoop-house allows the garden to begin producing herbs and vegetables earlier in the growing season as well as after the early frosts. Raised beds were first introduced here last summer and produced well through the summer, delivering great veggies for our daily lunch menu.

ACTIVITIES

Painting classes finish in early May, and future classes in drawing are planned for June, taught by **Jack McCarthy**, an Eldorado printmaker and participant in the Eldorado Studio Tour.

A new activity at the Senior Center is play-reading, under the direction of **Etain O'Malley**, an actress and playwright living in Eldorado. The first reading will occur sometime in May. Anyone interested should stop by the center and pick up a script.

Two trips are planned for May. One will be a day



VISIT HISTORIC LAS VEGAS, NM

trip to Taos, the other a guided walking tour of the historic buildings of Las Vegas, New Mexico. As always, a van and driver are available for trips to doctors' appointments and grocery shopping for those who are unable to drive themselves. Call to arrange a time for transportation.

Volunteers are needed at the center to answer phones in the mornings and help maintain the garden. To volunteer or to inquire and sign up for activities, call 466-1039.

—Janet Amtmann

Community Performance Space

The Santa Fe Performance Exchange in La Tienda is a non-profit venue for live music, performing arts, community-based events, and educational programs that support the arts and artists, and promote community.

The newly formed non-profit carries on the vision of **Mike Engledinger's** "Mike's Music Exchange," and the transformation was supported by the owners of La Tienda. Since its transition to non-profit status, the Exchange has held a number of fundraising campaigns which have received tremendous response. Musicians donated their time and talent during the Exchange's 10-day Winter Fiesta in February. Many local residents and businesses came forward as founders, sponsors, and volunteers, and the Exchange successfully staged over 20 concerts and community events, drawing over 1,000 audience members since the opening on February 1, 2011.

A "Student Salon" program is being developed to provide performance opportunities for local music

students of all ages; the first event is May 14. Space is limited, so please sign up early with **Sandy Szabat** (466-6702). The Exchange is also in the process of creating a dynamic educational initiative with the Contemporary Music Program of the Santa Fe University of Art and Design.

Residents are encouraged to get involved—as audience members, sponsors (a great way to advertise a business), and volunteers. They particularly need assistance with marketing and operations.

A Patron's Program is also being developed that will offer discounted tickets to patrons in exchange for their support of this new venture. For more information, and to receive the Exchange's newsletter, go to www.santafepformanceexchange.org or call 466-3116.

—Carrie Ishee

Fundraising Chair, Santa Fe Performance Exchange



The stage at Santa Fe Performance Exchange in La Tienda.

Library May Events

"NIGHT SKIES" RETURNS MAY 20

The Night Skies program is back at VGPL. **Juan Alvarez**, director of the Santa Fe Community College Planetarium, again leads the popular program, which this year will run from May through October, beginning May 20. All programs start at 8 pm and include a talk and telescope viewing, weather permitting. VGPL will provide telescopes, but everyone is welcome to bring their own.

MAY MOVIE ON FRIDAY THE 13TH

This month, the Library's Family Movie Night falls on Friday the 13th, and "Despicable Me" is a perfect film choice to celebrate this inauspicious day. Showtime is at 7 pm and admission is free; however, donations to the library are greatly appreciated.

TEENS READ THEIR WORKS MAY 21

Tales of mystery, alternate worlds, and other fascinating subjects are the order of the day, along with film and munchies, when veterans of VGPL's Creative Writing Group for Teens read and discuss their works on May 21 at 4 pm at the Library.

MASTER GARDENERS AT VGPL IN MAY

Summer's on the way, and Santa Fe Master Gardeners will be staffing an "Ask a Master Gardener" table at VGPL three times each during May, June, and July. Bring your questions about plant identification, seeds, raised beds vs. sunken beds, how to grow fruits and veggies, garden pests, soil and other gardening is-

sues for these experts' advice. Dates and times for May are Saturdays, May 7 and May 21, from 1 to 3 pm, and Wednesday, May 25, from 5 to 7 pm.

EAT AT COPA DE ORO TO BENEFIT VGPL

Eat heartily at Copa de Oro in the Agora shopping center on Tuesday, May 10, and support VGPL. A percentage of all sales that day at the restaurant will go to benefit the Library.

SHOP AMAZON AND SUPPORT VGPL

Shop on Amazon and benefit VGPL at *no extra cost to you*. Just 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, May 5 and 12, from 3 to 4:30 pm at VGPL. Ages K-5.

Book Donation Day, Saturday, May 7, from 9 to 11:30 am. Bring your gently used CDs, DVDs, children's materials, and books published from 2004 or later.

Creative Writing Group for Teens, 2nd and 4th Saturdays (May 14 and 28) at 10 am at the Library.

VGPL Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 17, at 7 pm at VGPL. Open to the public.

VGPL Book Group, Monday, May 21, at 7 pm. This month's book is *Dissolution*, by C. J. Sanson. You need not have read it to attend.

Free-Form Book Group, Thursday, May 12, at 7 pm. General discussion of books recently read.



*Security 204-2945
Sheriff 428-3720
Crime Stoppers 955-5050*

The Weed Eaters Are Back!

Photo: Dan Drobnis



Homeowners interested in contacting goatherd
[Amanita Thorp](#) can call 505-917-9885. To read her blog,
go to <http://hornedlocustgoatscaping.blogspot.com/>;

or visit her Facebook page at
<http://www.facebook.com/HornedLocustRemediation>.