

ELDORADO at SANTA FE VISTAS

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE 5

May 2015

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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.eldoradosf.org ▼ Problem calls 204-2945

24th Annual Eldorado Studio Tour

The Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association's annual Spring Studio Tour has come a long way since its inception 24 years ago, when a handful of resident artists banded together to open their working studios to the public. (A few of those artists have continually participated in the tour through the years.)

The classic mediums of painting, printmaking, ceramics, photography, fiber/textile, wood, stone, and glass, as well as newer art forms like digitally manipulated imagery and recycled sculpture, are all represented in the tour. This year, the work of 89 artists will be shown at 56 different studio stops along the tour.

All participating artists donate a percentage of their sales from the tour to support selected programs in the community. EACA as a whole donates an average of \$4500 each year to Eldorado nonprofit community organizations.

A great way to organize one's tour experience and to meet the artists is to attend the Artists' Reception at the Preview Gallery. This year the Preview Gallery is being held at the Eldorado Community Center. Tour brochures that include route maps will be available. The Preview Gallery will be open during the length of the tour as well.



*ECIA Board Meeting,
Community Center
Railroad Bldg. Thurs.,
May 21,
7 PM*



ARTIST RECEPTION: Friday, May 15, 5-7 PM
at the Preview Gallery at the Community Center

PREVIEW GALLERY HOURS

Saturday and Sunday, May 16-17, 9 AM-5 PM
Eldorado Community Center
1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, NM

OPEN STUDIOS

Saturday and Sunday, May 16-17, 10 AM-5 PM.
For information, visit www.eldoradostudiotour.org
or email eldoradostudiotour@gmail.com.

Pictured here are artworks by (left) Liz Faust, "Coyote Basket"; (above) Anthony Vigil, "Take a Hike"; and (right) Cris Nein, "Rain Maiden."





**Share your
comments
with us!**

*For policy and
deadline, see
below*

Editorial Policy

Vistas welcomes your letters on ECIA issues and activities, as well as your ideas, stories, photos, and art. Please include full name and contact information. The newsletter will not publish material deemed inflammatory, biased, or inappropriate. Submissions will be selected and edited at the discretion of the editor. Community announcements are welcome as well, along with accompanying photos.

DEADLINE: Newsletter deadline is the 5th day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or e-mailed to DiAna@eldoradosf.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.

Summer RV Courtesy

As Santa Fe is a major summer tourist destination, Eldorado residents frequently receive visitors who arrive in their RVs and end up parking in Eldorado's driveways and lots. When this happens, ECIA staff often hear from residents concerned that their next door neighbor has purchased an RV and has not submitted a screening plan for it.

The ECIA covenants address multiple or visiting RVs on lots in Eldorado, under Article II, Section 13, as follows:

Section 13. Storage and Screening of Vehicles and their Accessories. a) Recreational vehicles, such as motor homes, RVs, campers, camper shells, vehicle accessories, trailers, horse trailers, airplanes, boats and the like, when stored on a lot shall be located so as to minimize their visual impact on the surrounding neighborhood and roads, and shall be obscured by screening in a reasonable manner, for example by the dwelling house and/or with plantings or fencing. No more than three such vehicles shall be stored outside on any lot at any time. No more than one additional vehicle shall be parked tem-

porarily on a lot for a period not to exceed three weeks. This paragraph shall be applicable to recreational vehicle accessories, such as camper shells and the like.

As stated in the covenants, the ECIA does allow for visiting RVs to be on a lot for a period not to exceed three weeks, before it can be considered a violation of the covenants. That being the case, because three weeks can be a long time for a neighbor to have to look at an unscreened RV owned by a non-resident, we ask that residents notify their neighbors, as well as the ECIA, when a visiting RV is going to be on their lot.

Please include the anticipated dates of arrival and departure of the RV, as well as where it will be parked on the lot. This small consideration will likely result in much happier neighbors and will help eliminate extra work for the ECIA staff, as we will know which RVs are owned by visitors rather than lot owners. To notify the ECIA, please call us at 466-4248 or e-mail us at mark@eldoradosf.org with visiting RV information. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

—Mark Young, *Covenant Compliance Representative*
466-4248, mark@eldoradosf.org

VIEWS OF OUR MEMBERS

The ECIA Board of Directors recently requested that the Information Committee, which publishes both our community newsletter, *Vistas*, and its related website, www.EldoradoSF.org, make a greater effort to encourage ECIA members to communicate their views on issues affecting our community. We thus invite those residents with issues they feel should be made known or who have suggestions they would like to see adopted by the Board to email us at DiAna.EldoradSF.org. We will use both *Vistas* and our website to publish the letters we receive.

We are a community organization, supported in the main by volunteers. We particularly encourage letters that report on good works in the community. Letters that provide human-interest stories and incidents related to our life in Eldorado are particularly welcome. At the recent meeting held to provide ECIA member input on the decision to select HOAMCO as our management company, the director of that firm pointed out that homeowner associations' staffs are, for the most part, engaged in responding to resident complaints. Responding to and adjudicating complaints is indeed an important task. Reporting resident complaints in the media we have at our disposal is equally important. The hope of the Information Committee is that those who write us will realize that Eldorado can be properly described as a "commitocracy"—that

Letter to the Editor

I was disappointed but not surprised to learn of the lawsuit brought against the ECIA for approving ground mounted solar arrays. I hope our Board of Directors sees the clear connection with its litigation against pet hen owners. The Board's own litigation against pet hen owners skipped the required step of mediation in resolving community disputes. Their litigious approach implicitly sanctioned the use of the courts to resolve community conflict. We can now see how counterproductive, destructive and expensive that decision was. I hope that, going forward, the new Board will discourage unnecessary litigation by opening their minds and hearts to neighborly resolution of disagreements. If we sow tolerance, open mindedness and rationality, perhaps we will reap less litigation.

Amy Bertelli

Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in the letters are not necessarily those of the editors or the ECIA Board.

it consists of just under 1% of our total population performing many hours of unpaid work to keep our community clean, safe, and beautiful—and that positive suggestions for keeping our Improvement Association improving our lives here are always welcome.

—Frank Schober

Message from the ECIA Board

Just a few days after you receive this issue of *Vistas*, the annual meeting of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association will take place. This is the one time each year that all members in good standing of the Association get together to review our fiscal and operational status. The results of this year's Board elections will be announced, and committees will report to the membership on their activities. This meeting will take place at the church space in La Tienda at 7 PM on May 4. Please make plans to attend this important session.

This year, only one candidate came forward to run for the ECIA Board, even though there were two vacancies. The Board will fill the vacant seat by appointment and will be interviewing interested members in the days following the annual meeting.

The arrival of spring means that more and more of us will be getting out and about to shake off the winter doldrums. There will be more cars on our roads and more people on our multi-use trails. We have been fortunate to get major improvements to some of our main roadways, including Herrada Road and the northern section of Monte Alto. But these smooth

roadways should not encourage speeding. Stay within the posted speed limits and help keep our community safe. By the same token, with more residents out walking their dogs, it becomes all the more important to pick up after our canine friends. New doggie bag stations have been installed at the corners of Vista Grande and Azul and Avenidas Eldorado and Compadres. Please dispose of pet waste responsibly and keep our multi-use trails clean.

Our beautiful Eldorado pool will also reopen this month. Throughout May, ECIA members will be able to renew pool passes during business hours and on three consecutive Saturdays (May 30, June 6 and 13) at the office. Lost passes can be replaced at a minimal cost. Renters in Eldorado will need a letter from their landlords confirming their eligibility to use the pool. (See the back page story for particulars.)

When you are at the Community Center, why not stop by and say hello to our new general manager, **Denise Villanueva**. The Board is thankful that the day-to-day operations of the Association are now in her competent, professional hands.

—ECIA Board of Directors

Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular monthly meeting on April 16, 2015. All seven Board members were present: **Dag Ryen** (President, presiding), **Pam Henline** (Vice President), **Todd Handy** (Treasurer), **Gershon Siegel** (Secretary), **Jeanne Calzada**, **Greg Colello**, and **David Yard**. The following formal actions were taken unanimously, without the Chair voting:

- ▼ A variance was approved for 28 Encantado Road for an addition to the home, partly two-story, with height exceeding 18 feet by 6 inches.
- ▼ Two variances were approved for 1 Azul Court for a ground-mounted solar array located 38 feet from the house, where 15 feet is the maximum Guideline distance; and for an 8-foot screening fence, where 6 feet is the Guideline maximum, for improved functionality and screening.
- ▼ An additional \$5,000 was approved for the Conservation Committee budget for reconstruction of a cross vane erosion control in the arroyo within the Community Preserve.

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 and community announcements are normally included. Complete minutes and meeting agendas are available at the ECIA office or website: www.eldoradosf.org.

In addition, two informal (no votes) Board working sessions are held in the Community Center Conference Room each month. The first is held at 7 PM on the first Thursday of each month, and the second is held at 7 PM on the Monday before the third Thursday of each month. ECIA members are welcome to attend and may request to place, and/or speak on, particular items on the agenda by calling the ECIA office at 466-4248 three business days in advance.

ECIA E-Mail News Briefs

ECIA residents may sign up to receive e-mail bulletins on important community news. On the ECIA website (www.eldoradosf.org), page forward to about page 3 to see a sign-up notice and a place to enter an e-mail address. No logon or other information is necessary.

ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, NM 87508
466-4248, 466-4249
www.eldoradosf.org
Problem calls
204-2945

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Dag Ryen
D.Ryen@eldoradosf.org
Vice-President
Pam Henline
P.Henline@eldoradosf.org
Secretary
Gershon Siegel
G.Siegel@eldoradosf.org
Treasurer
Todd Handy
T.Handy@eldoradosf.org
Director
Jeanne Calzada
J.Calzada@eldoradosf.org
Director
Greg Colello
G.Colello@eldoradosf.org
Director
David Yard
D.Yard@eldoradosf.org
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Architecture:
Katherine Mortimer
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Election: **Kathie Graham**
Facilities & Grounds:
John Calzada
Finance: **Dan Drobns**
Information: **Frank Schober**
Roads: **Felicia Probert**
Stable: **Open**

ECIA STAFF

General Manager
Denise Villanueva
466-4248
gm@eldoradosf.org
Covenant Compliance Rep
Mark Young
466-4248
mark@eldoradosf.org
VISTAS NEWSLETTER
Editor & Designer
Carol Leyba
466-1158
cbsleyba@comcast.net
Webmaster:
Jack Arnold
webmaster@eldoradosf.org
Editorial Assistant:
DiAna Gutierrez
466-4248
diana@eldoradosf.org
COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Vista Grande Library
466-READ
Fire and Rescue
466-1204
eldoradofireandrescue.org
County All Purpose
820-CNTY (2689)



Lace 'em up!

The Eldorado Adult basketball season is here. Lace 'em, players, and c'mon out to the Community Center basketball court for fun and friendly pick-up hoops, Thursdays 6:30 PM–dusk.

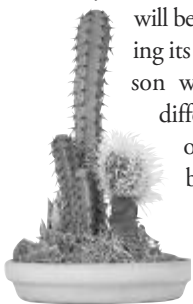


See *Midsummer's Night Dream* on May 15–17, performed by the Crows.

Cactus ID Class

Did you know that other than three state parks, the third largest cactus garden in the state is located at the Community Center of Eldorado? The Cactus Rescue Project will be holding a cactus identification class at the ECIA cactus demonstration garden May 23 at 10 AM. Come see and learn about the variety of cacti that can grow in our area. Learn how the garden was created and how you can create one for yourself. The garden

will be approaching its prime season with many different types of cactus blooming.



IN THE COMMUNITY

Author Diane Thomas Reading at Opcit

In Diane Thomas's second novel, *In Wilderness*, which she describes as "part literary thriller and part *very* dark love story," the lives of two lost, damaged individuals collide in an isolated southern wilderness. An Amazon "Best Book" for March, *In Wilderness* was recommended by *Library Journal* for "readers who also like the raw, honest writing of Amy Bloom and Amanda Coplin." *Publishers Weekly* hailed it as "lyrical . . . riveting and raw." And Jack Reacher creator Lee Child endorsed it as "altogether spectacular." Thomas will read Saturday, May 2, at 3 PM at Opcit Books, 500 Montezuma Ave.

Flea Market

La Tienda's Flea Market will begin its second season on Saturday, May 16, from 8 AM to 2 PM. To reserve a space, please call 428-0024.

Barns for Sale at the Stable

There are a few barns for sale at the Eldorado Stable. For more information, contact the ECIA at 466-4248.

Cactus Propagation!

We love cactus! Learn how to divide it and then how to grow more. On Saturday, May 16, 9–11 AM at the SF County Fairgrounds Cactus Demo Garden, participants will receive tips on soil preparation, planting, and maintaining cacti. There will also be drop-in demos every half hour. For full information on the "Let's Grow!" series for the home gardener, visit sfmga.org.

Spanish Conversation Group Forming

Several locals are forming an Eldorado Spanish Conversation and Discussion Group to relax and converse in an easy atmosphere, meet some new people, brush up on your Spanish, and enjoy some good discussion. Conversations will include a wide range of subjects, from food, music, and literature, to families, travels, and others, at the suggestion of group members. Speaking skills can range from beginner to fluent. Emphasis will be on North and South American Spanish, but all speakers are welcome. Native speakers would be great!

Contact Jill Charboneau at fjcharboneau@gmail.com or 216-6065 if you would like to join. The group hopes to begin meeting this month or next.

Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players Musical Theater Workshop

Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players will be offering a musical theater workshop the week of July 13–17 taught by Lisa Lincoln with Lydia Madrick on piano. Kids ages 9–18 are welcome! For more information, email Lisa Lincoln at lisa@rancheros.com or go to www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org. Space is limited!

Menla Kids Summer Fun

Kid-oriented (ages 6–12 yrs) Yoga, Qigong, Tai Chi Fan and Sword, Games, Art, and Stories, led by certified instructors at the Menla Center in the Agora: June 8–12 and August 3–7 from 1 to 4 PM Monday–Friday. Register early for discount: www.menlacentre.org.

Coed Softball Anyone?

Anyone want to be on a coed softball team? I would like to put together a few teams who play each other at the Community Center in late spring through summer. Maybe a few Eldorado businesses could put their own team together, or La Tienda could put together one, the Agora another, the churches another, etc. Let me know if you are interested: eileenlifecoach@gmail.com.

As the Crow Flies

Upstart Crows of Santa Fe, the Shakespearean youth theater group, has been spreading its wings! Last December, three local young people (two from Eldorado) performed a selection of scenes from Shakespeare's comedy, *Twelfth Night*, at The Performance Space at La Tienda and Warehouse 21. The response was fantastic!

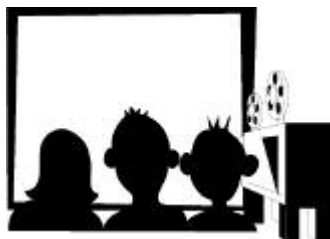
For the actors, the big question was: "What's next?"

Eldorado resident and Academy for Technology and the Classics teacher Dana Darby-Johnson invited the group to perform scenes and talk to classes about Shakespeare. Thanks to Dana's enthusiasm and the students' response, the company decided to mount a full-length production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which will perform May 15–16, at 7 PM, and May 17, at 2 PM, at the Scottish Rite Temple, 463 Paseo de Peralta. Tickets \$5 at the door.

Liam Mitchell, Roman and Helayna Bell, Olivia and Sterling White, Taylor Brady, Anna Hansen, and Joy Farkas are the Eldorado contingent in the cast. Most of them are new to both the stage and Shakespeare. The actors were asked to share their thoughts about their experience with the Crows:

"*Midsummer* is funny and very fun to rehearse, I think it's a wonderful play! (Taylor Brady, age 10); "I love the comedy and jokes. . . . It is witty and fun" (Olivia White, age 16); "I think the romance is very popular, but I find the humor drawing as well. The whimsical setting is also quite fun!" (Anna Hansen, age 13); "I like the characters and how they interact. . . . it is fun to really try to discover how the characters think and also to think about why Shakespeare created them like he did" (Sterling White, age 16); "The humor and the mix of romance and the magical part of it make it popular. Everything works out in the end, but it's like life because there was so much to overcome" (Joy Farkas 14); "I love all the passion and hard work you put into it and the play is so vivid" (Helayna Bell, age 10); "Puck and the whole 'Titania marrying a Donkey' part is my favorite" (Liam Mitchell, age 12).

Audience member Finn Clark-Brown remarked after seeing the fall show, "Shakespeare's ability to make life theater, and theater life, came alive in the hearts and mouths of the Upstart Crows. Slowly it dawned that I was experiencing my own inner child listening in to be part of a new generation in the arts, and it was wonderful beyond words." The cast encourages you to come see the play!



Reel New Mexico

Playing on Thursday, May 14 at 7 PM, "Sweet Land" (2005, 110 minutes) is a poignant, sweet, and often funny, lyrical celebration of land, love, and the immigrant experience.

When Lars Torvik's grandmother Inge dies, he is faced with a decision: sell the family farm on which she lived since 1920, or cling to the legacy of the land. Seeking advice, he turns to the memory of Inge and the stories that she had passed on to him.

Inge arrived in Minnesota in 1920 to marry a young Norwegian farmer named Olaf, but her German heritage and lack of official immigration papers makes her an object of suspicion in the small town, and she and Olaf are forbidden to marry. Alone and adrift, Inge goes to live with the family of Olaf's friend and neighbor Frandsen, and his wife, Brownie, where she learns the English language, American ways, and a hard-won independence.

Against the backdrop of endless farmland and cathedral skies Inge and Olaf fall in love, united by the elemental forces of nature. Still unable to marry, they live together openly, despite the scorn of the neighbors and the disapproval of the local minister.

Based on Will Weaver's short story "A Gravestone Made of Wheat" and shot in Minnesota, "Sweet Land" is that rare independent film that uses painterly images and understated performances and music to tell a universal story of love and discovery.

Food and drink can be purchased at La Plancha and brought into the auditorium. There is a \$5 suggested donation for the film screening. For more information, contact Jeff Berg at 466-1634 or check reelnewmexico.com.

May Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email marilyn@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

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Meeting	Mon., May 4, 7 pm	Church at La Tienda
Cactus Talk	Sat., May 23, 10 am	RR
Pool Opens	Sat., May 23 (See back page for schedule.)	Pool
Memorial Day-Office Closed	Mon., May 25	

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architecture Committee	Tues., May 12, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architecture Committee	Tues., May 26, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Thurs., May 7, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., May 18, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., May 5, 7-9 pm	Jim Daniel	609-941-4527	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Thurs., May 21, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Election Committee	Wed., May 13, 2-4 pm	Kathie Graham	466-2133	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., May 6, 4-6 pm	John Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., May 13, 9:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	TBA	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee	Not scheduled	Felicia Probert	466-1563	CFR
Stable Committee	Not scheduled	Alice Griffin	795-6424	CFR

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

EAW&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR/CR
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs, 7 pm	Mary Fredenburgh	466-1035	CR
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed., 3:00 pm	Trudy Scott	luvnickolas@msn.com	
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues. of month, 4-6 pm	Karen Sweeney	466-9797	CFR
Library Book Group	2nd Sat., 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Gordon Groff	699-7680	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm	santafesar.org		CR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 7-8 pm			CFR
AA	Thurs., 6:00-7:00 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			Courts
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Jackie Vaughn	466-2558	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	Tues., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Duty Sections	Sat., 8-12 noon	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	Barb	954-1533	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30-12:30 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Spinning Group (yarn)	1st & 3rd Thurs., 9:30-11:30	Ellen Higgins	970-201-4776	LR
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

At the Library

Vista Grande Public Library has a full calendar of events coming in the next few months. Here is what is planned for this summer.

Author Talk: The next one is on May 14, and features **Mary Coley**, author of *Ant Dens*. The book is a mystery centered on the disappearance of a young woman in Las Vegas, New Mexico, and how her vanishing might be tied to secrets from her father's past.

Wags and Words will continue through May and into the summer vacation months. This popular program pairs a canine pal (the "wags") with beginning and reluctant readers (the "words"). The children practice their skills reading to the assistance dogs, and develop confidence. Currently there are open sessions on Saturday mornings. Interested parents should contact the library staff at 466-7323 or come by to see about scheduling an appointment.

Family Movie Night is on Friday, May 8, at 7 PM. The film is the third installment following the adventures of Katniss Everdeen in a repressive future society and is based on a popular young adult series. It is rated PG 13, so younger children might find it too intense. As always, there is no charge and popcorn is included. Next month, Family Movie Night is scheduled for June 5.

Summer Reading Programs: Registration has begun! The theme for this year is "Every Hero Has a Story." The Summer Reading Club will meet on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 PM starting on June 24, and is for children in grades K to 4. The Story Time club for children 5 and under (with their caregivers) will meet on Fridays at 11 AM starting on June 26. All programs are free but registration is required. Forms are avail-

able on the website (www.vglibrary.org) and at the circulation desk. There will also be a reading contest for all ages.

The Chess Program will continue to meet on Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 3 PM through May. Starting in June, they will meet from 3 to 5 PM. This change is to accommodate more adult players. The change will remain in effect into the next school year, with the goal to allow older, more dedicated students to take part and begin to build their skills, as well as to increase adult participation.

Of course, this means that there is no longer anyone to lead a program for the younger students who have early release on Friday afternoons. It would be wonderful to continue the program for this age group, but it requires someone to keep it going. Perhaps there are parents or community members who might be interested in working with the fifth grade and under group at the 12:30 time. If so, come by and talk to Julia, VGPL's librarian.

Spring Book Sale: If you are looking for great books for summer reading, the library's annual Spring Book Sale is coming June 11-13. There are lots of titles in adult fiction and nonfiction, as well as books for youth, music CDs, and other miscellaneous items donated by our generous community. The hours will be 12 to 6 PM on Thursday and Friday, and 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday.

Spring Appeal: Community donations provide over 50% of VGPL's operating budget. Watch for information on our spring appeal this month, and thank you in advance for all your support.

Save the Date! The Ice Cream Social Fundraiser will be back on August 9.

—Tracey Mitchell

Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic for Dogs



Since rattlesnakes are found in most parts of Eldorado, the chances of my dog Ollie (a Brittany) encountering a rattlesnake were pretty high. In 2014, two large rattlers showed up together in our fenced-in yard.

This was Ollie's first encounter with rattlesnakes since his arrival here in 2007. Previously when he encountered a snake, he would let out a rapid, continuous bark, enabling me to issue voice commands backing him away from danger. I thought he would repeat this behavior when I took him to Terry Chandler's Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic last May sponsored by the Central New Mexico Brittany Club. Nope. Ollie walked directly to

the rattlesnake without uttering a sound! We were both surprised, as Ollie was being startled by a jolt administered by Terry via an "e-collar."

Proper preparation is critical to render the rattlesnake harmless, including milking and removal of the multiple sets of fangs. This is done with care to ensure the protection of the snake and the dogs.

Terry strives to achieve the "perfect interaction" with the dog scenting, hearing, seeing, and touching the snake. The "touching" can be coming in close proximity to the snake. The e-collar stimulation is administered on the "touch."

After stimulation, the dogs are circled back to see the snake to embed the association of what caused the frightening shock. Several minutes later, the dog is brought back without the e-collar to see if it will ap-

CONTINUED >>>



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FLORA & FAUNA GROUP

Trees

Sometimes referred to as “a rolling Juniper savannah,” Eldorado, like most communities in the area, lost some of its native plant variety a number of years ago when many piñon pines (our official state tree!) died off due to the bark beetle infestation. Of course, junipers, which are associated with powers of protection in Native American myth, provide their own beauty. But many Eldoradoans like to have a variety of trees on their property.

When my family first moved here from out of state, we were not sure which trees would do well in Eldorado. None of us on the Flora and Fauna team claims to be a tree expert, so we asked some local professionals for advice. Danny from Payne’s Nursery and information from the Botanical Garden were both especially helpful.

We all want trees that can withstand our weather, and we try to avoid plantings that are overly “thirsty.” Some trees fare better than others here, given the altitude, temperatures, wind level, and moisture. Good trees for Eldorado include maple, ash, honey locust, Austrian pines, crabapples (some species are hardier than others, ask your nursery), some juniper (especially Spartan and Rocky Mountain), desert willow (but not globe willow), golden raintree, and piñon pine.

Because Austrian pines continue to grow roots all winter, they should be fed a winterizing grow-power fertilizer in the fall. Since it has been so dry, the trees should be watered twice a month; then, for rapid, healthy root growth, apply an iron-based fertilizer in the spring. Also, adding mulch around the tree and working it in helps retard evaporation.

Rattlesnake Avoidance

CONTINUED FROM P. 6

proach the snake. None of the dogs wanted anything to do with that rattlesnake. Commonality of scent among the 30-some species of rattlesnakes make this training work for dogs irrespective of the type of rattler.

Several handlers/owners from Eldorado enrolled their dogs in Terry’s clinic. To a person, all were very pleased, and their dogs acted as if nothing happened, except for learning to avoid rattlesnakes.

Terry will hold a clinic for all breeds Sunday, May 17, in Eldorado, beginning at 8 AM. For more information on the May 17 Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic in Eldorado, contact **Tom Mauter** on 466-6511 or at tjmauter@comcast.net. —Tom Mauter

(Opposite page): Santa Fe County Animal Control officer removing one of two rattlesnakes from the garden in the author’s side yard in 2013.

Some trees do not do as well in our area. Aspens are fragile and require a lot of water. They can be successful here if they are positioned inside a protected courtyard, sheltered from harsh, dry, westerly winds. Likewise, some pines with soft, long needles that lose moisture, such as Bosnian pine and Van der Wolf pine, can be difficult in this area. If planted, they need to be in areas sheltered from western winds.

Millions of Russian olive trees, likewise known for being water guzzlers, were originally planted by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during Franklin Roosevelt’s administration in the 1930s. The plantings were designed to help hold down soils from blowing winds. Although it is now illegal to plant new Russian olive trees in New Mexico, they provide food for many animals; we’ve watched robins, rabbits, and rodents eating the seeds.

References for this article are available upon request. Contact us at EldoradoFloraFauna@yahoo.com. We love hearing from you!

Eldorado/285
Recycles News

AWARD! Sustainable Santa Fe presented Eldorado/285 Recycles its 2015 solid waste reduction award for its “Compost in Every Backyard” program. Over 40 vermicomposting systems installed in 2014 will keep an estimated 12 tons of food scraps out of the landfill each year. Contact **Joe Eigner**, 570-0583, if you wish to participate.

NEW RECYCLING. There is a new recycling opportunity at La Tienda, Bldg. B. It’s the Personal Care and Beauty Brigade sponsored by Garnier and TerraCycle. You can now recycle tubes, containers, and cases and their caps, triggers, and dispensers for items ranging from eyeliner or lip pencils to hair care, skin care, and cosmetics products.

MAY 9 ECC EVENT. Stop by the Eldorado Convenience Center (formerly Transfer Station), May 9, from 10 AM to 2 PM, to learn about new recycling options, see the refurbished recycling area, and have a chance to win local merchant gift certificates. Non-recyclers will learn the value and ease of recycling to comply with the county ordinance that prohibits recyclables in the trash.



Ann V. Wood



Above, top: Raintree;
bottom: locust tree.
Photos: Ann V. Wood.

VISTAS

Eldorado Community
Improvement Association
#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508
www.eldoradosf.org

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Scan this code with
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versions of *Vistas*



Scan this code to get
to our online video
about Eldorado by
Jack Arnold

Road Repair (SF County) 992-3010
[www.santafecountynm.gov/publicworks/
road_concern](http://www.santafecountynm.gov/publicworks/road_concern).

Problem calls 204-2945
Sheriff 428-3720 • Crime Stoppers 955-5050
Neighborhood Watch: <http://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com>

C'mon, Jump In! ECIA 2015 Pool Season



End-of-season doggie pool party, October 2014

Our beautiful Eldorado pool will open on Memorial Day weekend, May 23, 2015. Hours of operation will be 7:30 AM–8 PM Monday–Friday, and 8 AM–8 PM Saturday and Sunday. As in the past several years, the pool manager will be **Julee White**. She and her crew of lifeguards are anticipating a wonderful season. Pool passes can be obtained in the office beginning May 4, 2015. For those who cannot get to the office during the week, we will be open for three consecutive Saturdays: May 30, June 6, and June 13, from 11 AM to 3 PM. If you have a pool pass from previous years, you will get a 2015 sticker. This year, everyone who gets a pool pass or sticker will be asked to read the pool rules and sign a statement agreeing to abide by the rules.

To be eligible for a pool pass, a lot owner must be a “Member in Good Standing,” which means that all amounts owed the Association must be paid. Children 13 and over can be issued a pool pass. Each Member in Good Standing with a valid pool pass will be allowed to escort a maximum of three guests per day. The member will be asked to sign their guests in and will be responsible for them. As stated in the Bylaws, members may delegate their pool rights to a tenant with a valid lease. The tenant must bring a copy of the lease to the office to obtain a pool pass.

Persons interested in being a lifeguard may pick up an application in the office or contact Julee at juleepatchoulee@gmail.com. Pool phone: 466-2511. —Denise Villanueva