# ELDORADO

VOLUME VI, ISSUE 7

July 2004

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ECIA Board

Work Study

Community

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

## A Place for Community

building a pavilion in support of community events and as a venue for performing arts.

The Concept: About a year ago, the Eldorado Community Band made a series of presentations to the ECIA Board and Finance Committee to build a bandstand. Since then, the proposal has grown to include a community pavilion that would support our community events, band concerts, schools, clubs and a summer performing arts series.

THE ECIA BOARD IS CONSIDERING

The Process: As with all ECIA capital improvement projects, an administrative process is initiated to evaluate the proposal. The proposal is presented to the Board and if approved conceptually, forwarded to the Finance Committee for further evaluation. The Finance Committee evaluates the project and returns a recommendation, pro or con, to the Board. Again, the Board evaluates the proposals, balancing the financial aspects against the added value to the community.

**The Current Status:** The Board created an adhoc committee to explore the concept and present to the Board and Finance Committee design drawings and projected costs.

The pavilion ad-hoc committee has met several times over the past few months and made presentations to both the Board Directors and the Finance Committee. Two significant concerns emerged: (1) costs, and (2) trying to determine the degree of community interest and usage of such an amenity.

The goal was for the pavilion committee to present the additional facts requested for the Board's consideration at the June ECIA Board meeting.

**The Preliminary Design:** The cornerstone and energy behind developing the pavilion design has been **Pedro Marquez**. Pedro is an architect, a professional musician and a long-time resident of Eldorado. On a pro bono basis, he has created design drawings for the pavilion.

The proposal locates the pavilion at the Community Center, west of the barn and directed towards the Community Center building to contain noise levels. The design is a combination of western

and railroad, to blend with the existing structures. Phase 1, the basic stage, will be approximately 750 square feet and enclosed on three sides, and the open front will have folding doors for security. Formal bids have not been received, but phase 1 is expected

JOHN REEDER

July 12, 7 pm

Artist's depiction of the stage front

to cost \$50,000 to \$55,000. Dressing rooms will be designed, to be added later in phase 2, if our community supports the addition.

**Opportunities for community input:** The pavilion committee members will present drawings during the 4th of July celebrations in the Community Center breezeway. Please stop by and provide your comments. As always, the ECIA Board appreciates community input in the decision making process. Please take the time. The pavilion can be a positive addition to the community and complement our existing amenities.

Board members names, phone numbers and email addresses are listed on page three of the *Vistas*, and the ECIA office's mailing address is on the cover. You can also attend Board meetings scheduled the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Community Center.

—John Reeder



## Share your *comments* with us!

For policy and deadline, see helow

## **Editorial**

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 info@eldoradocommunity.

#### Vistas" in your message. Mission

org. Please include "Attn:

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.

## Traffic View

HE ARTICLES IN VISTAS about traffic continually surprise me. My experience, along with others I speak with, is not about speeding or tailgating or drag racing. It is about those who pull out into traffic without giving themselves enough time to get up to speed and force those of us in the flow of traffic to jam on our brakes. Sometimes they stop at the designated stop sign before pulling out, often not. This is most aggravating and from what I've seen, the most common cause of tailgating and/or passing on a double yellow line.

There is a courtesy concept that in all the concerned articles I have read I have not seen mentioned once. I have found it to be incredibly useful-pull over. If someone needs to go faster than you-let them pass. If you misjudged your car's ability to get up to speed—let them pass. Perhaps they have a sick child in the car they need to get to the clinic in town before the doctor is gone for 2 days or 2 weeks. We do not know the needs of others, so let them pass and help keep the peace for you and them. It is amazing how good it feels to do this and to have it done for you! This is a common driving practice in many countries around the world. Let's take this valuable lesson and help to take another step towards creating much needed peace, at least here on our roads in Eldorado.

-Name lost by Editor

Note from Frank Schober: Vistas readers should be aware that pulling over for a driver who is speeding and possibly tailgating may pose a larger safety risk than continuing to maintain the posted speed limit.

## ECIA Board Vacancy

INCE NO CANDIDATES RAN in the recent election for the ECIA Board, there is one Board position vacant. According to the Association Bylaws, the Board can appoint a member to this position to serve until May 2006.

Although there is no hard deadline, the Board hopes to interview interested candidates shortly after July 15. Anyone interested in serving should submit a resume to the ECIA office by that date. The Board is particularly interested in candidates with some or all of the following qualifications:

- ▼ Experience in the ECIA, including work on ECIA Committees.
- Other experience in Eldorado community affairs.
- Experience with homeowner and resident affairs in other communities.
- Relevant professional and personal experience.

## Hike/Bike Trail Done



Along the 2.7 mile western hike/bike trail project, every effort was made to spare existing trees. Only about a dozen trees required extensive pruning, and only two were removed completely.

HE FINAL STAGE in the Eldorado's hike/bike path expansion has been completed with the paving of about 2.7 miles of trail along the western part of Avenida Eldorado, and along Avenida Casa del Oro from Avenida Eldorado to Avenida Vista Grande. This makes over 12 miles of paved hike/bike trail with two major loops available (three, when the County Rail Trail is included).

Hike/bike path expansion was authorized and begun in 2003 on Avenida Torreon and the central portion of Avenida Vista Grande, to link with previously existing paths along Avenida Vista Grande and Avenida Compadres. Work was funded from the ECIA Capital Improvement Fund, and totaled about \$340,000, including engineering. Thirty-five thousand dollars will be reimbursed by the state through the county for the portion along Avenida Torreon, which is heavily used by children attending El Dorado Elementary School.

ECIA capital funds are accumulated from the yearly lot owner assessments, with typical yearly budgeted amounts ranging from \$25,000 to \$50,000 per year. Additional contributions have also been made as a result of savings from operating funds in the years 2000-2002. Other capital improvements in recent years have included restoration of the Community Center's west athletic field; play equipment for Compadres Park; Stable arena, entrance and lighting improvements; swimming pool bathroom and water treatment upgrades; and Community Preserve signage and a wildlife drinker.

—Dan Drobnis

## Building Without a Permit...

LL STRUCTURES ABOVE the natural grade such as fences, walls, sheds, garages, additions or other exterior alterations require the submittal of an architectural plan and approval in writing from the ECIA. Remember, the Covenants are legally binding agreements between you and the Homeowner Association.

In the past four months, a dozen or so residents have built structures without approval by the ECIA. I am not sure what they are thinking or not thinking. This covenant violation can be difficult to correct, especially if the structure is located in the setback. Structures of an unapproved style, material or color are not easily corrected. In some cases, the structure may need to be moved or even removed. So, before you purchase materials or build a structure please submit an application and get ECIA approval.

Summer reminder 1... The summer night sky is much more enjoyable when everyone complies with our exterior lighting covenant. All exterior lights shall be fully shielded downward (bulb not visible), including landscape and security lighting.

Summer reminder 2... The barking dog problem is amplified in the warmer months. Everyone likes to have their windows open, and not everyone can afford air conditioning because you can't control your dogs obnoxious barking.

Try compliance... and please don't tailgate in the Land of Enchantment!

—Charles Smith. the ECIA CCR

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

**Bob Pritchard** 466-4248 ECommunity@aol.com

**Interim President** Jeanne Klein 466-2466

**Gretel Underwood** 466-7825

Wunderwood7@aol.com

Frank Schober 310-8593 fschober@att.net **Dan Drobnis** 

466-4781 Drobnisd@sdsc.edu

Chuck Montano 466-3417 pumbanm@cybermesa.com

Sandy MacGregor 466-0882 s.macg@earthlink.net

Finance: Gisela Knight Architecture: Bill Schwent Conservation: Ed Carlson Stable: Dina Sasson Election: Nancy Dayton Road: Vacant Information: Vacant Neighborhood Watch: Vacant

Ken McPherson kenzwork@hubwest.com Hope O. Kiah hope@webdesignbyhope.com **Debby Padilla** 466-4248

466-READ 204-2945 466-1204 424-2050

## In the Garden of Envy

THE GARDEN IN THE CENTER of our shopping center and meeting place, the Agora, is a unique and beautiful feature of life in the Eldorado Community. Put into place by the Caris family, the original developers of the site, the garden is a community treasure that gets a lot of care from the center's present managers, Pat and Nick Martin.

It is obvious that a lot of care goes into keeping the New Mexican native plants, a feature of the garden's design, healthy and green in our dry climate.

Roses are a feature of the garden and are planted in each of its quadrants. According to Pat Martin, what one might think of as sensitive, hard-to-carefor plants, in reality do quite well in the area's altitude and low humidity. The major work with roses, according to Pat, consists in "deadheading" them on a regular basis to ensure a maximum blooming cycle.

A relatively unknown plant has become an Agora garden favorite and is often the subject of inquiry from residents and visitors alike. It is the purple flowered Pasque, which is the first to bloom in our short growing season. This plant puts out deep purple flowers in early March of the year and happily continues to bloom well into the growing season.

As with all good things, there is a downside to the Martin's Luther Burbank activity. Pat Martin describes it as the 10% thoughtless contingent that pass through and use the Agora, some bringing their garbage from home and stuffing the trash cans placed around the area's periphery. Another serious peeve are the parents who bring their skateboarding progeny, sometimes as early as 6:00 am, to illegally use the garden for that sport.

There are plans to improve the Agora's garden. Gary Boyle, the owner of the shopping center has plans to brick the sidewalks in and around the gardens and to put sunshields over the picnic tables

Another welcome addition to be added soon. according to Pat Martin, will be the Eldorado Master Gardeners who plan to set up a table in the garden and staff it with one of their number to answer residents questions on plants and planting in our home—high, dry and often windy New Mexico.







#### 1st Annual Eldorado Car Meet

Over 40 vintage, exotic and not-so-exotic cars and their owners participated in the first Annual Eldorado Car Meet on May 22. The drop-in car "show" was held in the Agora Center parking lot and hosted by the First National Bank of Santa Fe, Eldorado branch. Organizers were pleased with the large turnout and envision the event growing in future years as Eldorado car aficionados take advantage of the opportunity to show off their cars and view those of others.

The event was truly a community affair with the Eldorado Supermart contributing refreshments and nine additional Eldorado businesses contributing door prizes. More than 80 attendees participated in the drawings, with 18 lucky winners going home with more than just good memories and photos of the cars.

Along with the car meet, the bank hosted an exhibit of automotive photographs by Eldorado residents and photographers, Timothy Hearsum and Douglas Stewart.

#### Celebrating our Freedom

The 4th of July is a day of celebrating our freedom, country, friends and community. Since the mid-1980s, Eldorado has celebrated the 4th of July with our own parade. The parade has always focused on the children, teaching them this day is special and giving them the opportunity to participate in the festivities.

This year our parade will be on Monday, the 5th of July. This will provide the opportunity for our band and families to enjoy the festivities on the plaza and with their friends on the 4th.

As usual, the parade line up will be on Moya Loop, with the assistance of **Frank Schober**.

Parade line up will start at approximately 9:00 am. The parade will start at 10:00 am sharp, with the Eldorado Fire Department and their sirens leading the way down Ave. Del Monte Alto to the Community Center. The ECIA Board and staff will serve lemonade, popcorn and snow cones and the Eldorado Community Band will play our favorite patriotic tunes.

Jeanne Klein, ECIA Board President, will be the Master of Ceremonies with introductions and prizes for the kids.

This year's parade competition categories for the children are: Best Costume, Best Dressed Animal, Best Decorated Trike or Wagon, Best Decorated Bicycle and Youngest Participant. This year our judges will be **Anna Farrier** and **Bette Reeder**.

Following the activities around Community Center flagpole, our lifeguard staff will have games at the swimming pool. This is one of the highlights of the day for all the kids. Make sure they bring their swimsuits and please join us.

#### Spring Soccer Season Highlights

The Eldorado Soccer Club had a great spring season with 175 kids playing recreational soccer on 20 teams at the Eldorado fields. We also had 60 kids playing on four developmental and competitive teams. One of biggest assets is the west field at the Community Center where we practice and play our games. Thanks to the ECIA staff for keeping it in such great shape.

Our fall recreational season will run from September 11 to October 30 and we should have teams for kids ages 4-13 years. We also have several developmental teams for 8- and 9-year-old boys and girls, as well as two competitive boys teams that play games in Albuquerque for 11-12 year olds and 16 year olds. Please visit our web site at eldoradosoccerclub.org or contact Jenny or Mike Landen at milanden@earthlink.net for registration information.

#### Artists' Shoptalk:

Wednesday, July 14, 10:00 am to noon, at the home of **Sonni Cooper**, 466-6661. Call for directions. We talk art and get to know fellow artists. Come see Sonni's recent, wild work in acrylics.

#### Art Tour Breaks all Records

The Eldorado Arts and Craft Association Studio Tour brought many visitors to Eldorado for the weekend of May 15th and 16th. More than 800 visitors stopped at the Eldorado fire station to see the preview gallery where a sample of each artists work was on display. A comprehensive brochure and map guided them to the studios of the 79 participating artists. According to Joretha Hall, co-chair for the event, the artists sold in excess of \$95,000 worth of art during those two days. This represented a 40% increase in sales over 2003.

Artists donated 5% of their art sales up to \$1,500. This year \$2,700 will go to the Eldorado Fire and Rescue Department; \$150 to the Community Band and \$150 to the Vista Grande Public Library.

The Eldorado Arts and Craft Association welcomes artists to our membership as there are monthly meetings, monthly shop-talks, and a weekly plein air and figure drawing group. For membership, contact George Henke 466-4988. (Studio Tour and Fall Show participation requires a fee and is limited to residents living within the three western entrances to Eldorado off 285.) For information, call Janet **Amtmann**, chair, at 466-3256.

#### Cleaning Up Our Avenidas

On May 15th, drivers along several of our avenidas saw some very effective teamwork between the Eldorado Roadrunners (RV) Club and members of Cub Scout Dens 2 and 7. Armed with large, sturdy garbage bags, members of those organizations were removing trash, debris and litter that had accumulated on 7 miles of our roads and on Hwy 285 between the 2nd to 3rd entrances to our community.

Five days later, Lillian Bodle, the president of the Roadrunners described herself as "astounded" that the beer and soda cans were back, along with paper debris of various types. Lillian's comment, "Have some Eldoradans no pride?"

## July Eyents

## Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

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



IIII Y SPECIAL EVENTS

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.

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July 5th - 4th of July Parade and Celebration on Monday, July 5 at the Community Center
beginning at 9:00 am

ECIA offices are closed on July 5th						
ERA Quarterly Meeting	Mon., July 12, 7-9 pm			CR		
COMMITTEE MEETINGS						
Neighborhood Watch		Frank Schober	310-8593	call		
Road Committee	Mon., July 5, 6-7 pm	Allen Larson	466-4792	CFR		
Board Work Study	Mon., July 12, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR		
Finance Committee	Tues., July 13, 10-noon	Gisela Knight		CFR		
Architectural Committee	Tues., July 13, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR		
EAW&SD*	Wed., July 14, 7-9 pm	Ray Nichols		CFR		
ECIA Board	Thurs., July 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR		
Information Committee	Mon., July 19, 7-8 pm	ECIA	466-4248	F		
285 Coalition	Wed., July 21, 7-9 pm	Kathy Pilnock	466-1598	CR		
Architectural Committee	Tues., July 27, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR		
Stable Committee	Tues., July 27, 7-9 pm			CFR		
MONTHLY MEETINGS						
Book Club	Sat., July 10, 1:30-3 pm	Barbara Rugg	466-2559			
Book Club/Pot Luck	call for date and time	Ken Fischer	466-2537			
Library Book Club	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636	Lib		
Search & Rescue	Thurs., July 8, 7-9 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765	CR		
Cub Scouts Pack 414	Call for date	Clay Williard	466-3909			
Arts Assoc. Program	Wed., July 28, 7-9 pm	Arlene Siegel	466-3274	LR		
WEEKLY MEETINGS						
AA	Tuesdays, 5:45-6:45 pm			CR		
AA	Thursdays, 5:45-6:45 pm			CR		
AA	Saturdays, 10:45-11:45 am			CR		
AA	Sundays, 5:15- 6:15 pm			CR		
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon., 1-4:30 pm			LR		
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958	CR, LR		
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	CR, LR		
Bridge	Wednesdays, 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR		
Bridge (Men's)	Thursdays, 1-4 pm	Bill Kapoun	466-8497	LR		
Boy Scouts Troop 414	Wednesdays, 7-9 pm	Paul Tuck	466-4815			
Community Band	Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm	Peg Johnson	466-1459	School		
Fire & Rescue Training	Wednesdays, 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station		
Fire & Rescue Work Duty	Saturdays, Call for time	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station		
Senior Lunch**	Wednesdays, 12-1 pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958	CR		
Wireless Assoc.	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	Scott Gerber	466-9333	CR		
Knitting Club	2nd & 4th Wed., 1-3 pm	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018			
*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District **Reservations Required			s Required			



## Composer and Audio-Video Designer Jim Oliver Vibrations of a Lifetime



Jim at peace in his recording studio.

HIS MONTH'S Personality is Jim Oliver, composer, sound system designer, audio-video equipment retailer, and recording studio owner. Jim lives with his wife, Jann, and their son, Jacy; daughter Maya attends the University of New Mexico. When Jim isn't writing and recording music, he loves to fly airplanes, and currently he is a mission pilot with Civil Air Patrol. Local author, Sarah Lovett. interviews him.

What brought you to Eldorado?

I came to Eldorado in 1982. My wife Jann had come to Santa Fe to attend massage therapy school. I wanted to explore the use of music in a more therapeutic modality rather than the entertainment focus that I had been involved in for twenty years. My background is in classical organ, which I studied at Hartt College of Music in Connecticut. I spent eight years on the road doing the Las Vegas-Lake Tahoe showroom circuit, all the while knowing that music has a much more profound capability to benefit people in their lives. I wanted to focus on wellness as an outcome.

When did you realize that music would be such a passion in your life?

I knew that from age three. My earliest recollection in life was about music. I was listening to my uncle play the organ at his house in Connecticut, and a sparkly gold energy came through the wall and straight into me. I knew at that moment what my life was about. It was a very mystical experience. The music touched me on a cellular level.

Can you tell me more about the ways you've used music as a tool for healing?

Right after coming to Santa Fe, I did quite a bit of research into specific frequencies and wave forms—the pitch of the note is the frequency, and the instrument sound is the wave form. When those sounds were played, they would balance acupuncture meridians and strengthen weak muscle tests using kinesiology, indicating that these sounds are restoring the harmony and balance to the specific

areas being focused on. I think of disease as disease, disharmony, distress, distortion, dissonance, disconnection. I would then take those specific frequencies and instrument sounds and compose a piece of music that became the person's "prescription". People experienced tremendous improvements in their wellness—everything from serious illness to relaxation and sleeplessness. Everything is vibration and music is a common denominator in relieving stress, which is a major cause of illness.

You have your own recording studio, you're a composer and performer—I happen to own all your CDs because I love to play them when I'm writing. What's next on the horizon?

More music! I'm going to be starting on a couple of new albums that I've always wanted to do. One will be a relaxation album and the other will be very dramatic and cinematic. I also want to do more performance in the context of creative workshops and healing seminars. I will continue to create personal healing music CDs and to produce and record client projects. I'm also expanding my audio-video business doing home theater and whole house audiovideo, which can include surround sound, stereo, high-definition television, lighting control and satellite systems. I can do everything from the basics to cutting-edge systems. Cutting edge means a fully integrated and automated home, which can be accessed from the Internet so you can monitor and control everything about your home, from temperature, appliances, lighting, and security to entertainment and game systems.

What's on your wish list for creative projects?

I'd love to compose and perform soundtracks for feature films. I would also like to create a series of healing music CDs for medical use and do some book and music projects and workshop/seminars with my wife Jann who is a wonderful massage therapist and a very creative, artistic person.

If people want to get in touch with you, how can they do that?

My home office phone is: 466-9991; www.JimOliverMusic.com; Jim@JimOliverMusic.com.

—Sarah Lovett

Sarah Lovett has written more than 25 books, including award-winning children's nonfiction and internationally bestselling fiction. She also teaches writing and works privately at a consultant and coach. Her email: sarah@sarahlovett.com

## SPECIAL INTERESTS

## Gardens Alive!

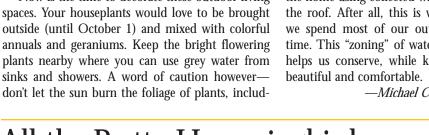
UMMER IS HERE, and once again our homes have expanded to our portals, patios and ramadas. These areas of our homes are in full use at least seven months of the year, if not more. Keeping in line with xeriscape principles, these living spaces can support plants with higher water use. The further you move away from the house, the drier your landscapes should be.

Now is the time to decorate these outdoor living outside (until October 1) and mixed with colorful sinks and showers. A word of caution howeverdon't let the sun burn the foliage of plants, including cacti that have been inside all winter. Houseplants might need extra water, due to the wind. Now is also a good time to repot plants where needed. Summer is the time for increased growth of plants, so increase fertilizing as well.

Create lush living areas close to the home using collected water from the roof. After all, this is where we spend most of our outdoor time. This "zoning" of water use

helps us conserve, while keeping our living areas

-Michael Clark, Tropic of Capricorn



## All the Pretty Hummingbirds

HE HUMMINGBIRD SEASON is upon us. Here in Eldorado, most HBs are seen in July and August when they have started their southward migration. Three species are quite common. The Rufous HB is the most aggressive, defending flowers and feeders relentlessly, and the easiest to identify. The male is mostly a bright rufous brown with a white half moon on its throat. The female is greenish with rufous feathers on the tail. The male Black-chinned HB has a blackish looking head with deep purple on the throat. The male Broad-tailed HB is greenish with a rosy or purplish throat. The smallest (3.25 inches long, .1 oz) and least common is the Calliope HB. Males are greenish with a magnificent pinkish-purple gorget. Females of these last three species are quite similar, with light green color and light tan or light gray undersides. Surprisingly, the females of these four species are larger than the males.

If you see an unusual bird, sporting yellow on the head and neck, it could be a hummer who has recently been feeding and wears yellow pollen. HBs feed on flower nectar and small insects and invertebrates including spiders and aphids. Nectar for feeders should be one part sugar to four parts water, with no food coloring. More sugar is not better as the small long beaks and long tongues cannot handle it.

The distinctive iridescent markings are sometimes hard to see because of feather structure. Small barbules in the feathers have a V-shaped structure. Within the barbule are layers of microscopic disks filled with tiny air bubbles. Each disc has an optical thickness half the wavelength of the reflected color. Light of the correct wavelength is added together and intensified (thanks to Sibley, The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior). You need to be directly in the path of the reflected light, and bright sunshine also adds to the brilliance of the iridescent color.

Females brood and raise two young, which hatch in about 20 days and are downy and helpless. They fledge around 20 days. HBs have a very high metabolism, forcing them to feed almost constantly. Their body temperature is 104 to 111 degrees F and heart rate is 250 beats per minute up to 1,250 while flying and foraging. The HB wing has only one joint at the shoulder; rigid wing bones and wing muscles make up 24-30% of their body weight enabling them to hover, fly backwards and sideways, and even upside down. They can fly as fast as 60 mph and males typically use all their skills zooming up and diving down during courting (each pattern unique to a species). A lesser-known

fact is that HBs lower their body temperature to survive during cool nights. In this state of torpor, body temperature lowers to 55 degrees F, and the heart rate to 50 bpm.

There are 120 species of HBs, all in the New World (N. America, Central America and S. America.) I am glad that Eldorado is on their migration path so that we can enjoy these fiery little birds.

P.S. Our great horned owls produced three babies this year, who wandered around our front yard for most of May, preening and pecking before flying off each evening with a parent.

—Pam Henline



Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508

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