

ELDORADO VISTAS

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

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July 2009

IN THIS ISSUE

Letters / Plague	2
President's Desk	3
ERA News	3
In the Community	4-5
Home Security	6
Road Improvements	7
Say's Phoebe	7

The Fourth of July Parade

THIS YEAR Eldorado's Independence Day festivities will begin with the parade at 10:00 am. The parade will form on Moya Road between 9:30 and 9:45 am. The parade route will run from Monte Alto to the Community Center.

We invite all Eldorado residents and organizations to join the parade—build a float or dress up and march along with the kids, dogs and horses. The Eldorado Fire Department will lead the parade.

There will be balloons for the kids, and hot dogs, snow cones and popcorn for everyone. Eldorado's very own swing band will provide some wonderful listening music during the festivities at the Community Center.

Bring chairs, hats, your family, friends and neighbors and join us again this year. Let's celebrate!

**ECIA Board
Work Study
Meeting,
Community
Center, Mon.,
July 13, 7 pm**

NEED ECIA WEB HELP?

Would you like to take greater advantage of the new site, eldoradocommunity.org?

**Live Q & A
Training Session
Tuesday, July 14
5:30 – 7:30 PM**

Community Center Classroom

Bring your questions about:

- logging in to the site
- posting a classified
- posting a lost pet photo
- sending an email bulletin
- using any site feature

The first hour will be devoted to questions from the general community. The second hour will be for Committee Chairs, Association Heads, Board members and other people with secure IDs.

If you would like to give us advance notice of your question, please email it to hope@santafe-webdesign.com

eldoradocommunity.org

**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 emailed to ECIADebby@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.

Be an Energy Star

MARK YOUNG'S ARTICLE in the May *Vistas* concerning night sky protection was a welcome reminder of our neighborly responsibilities in sharing the night sky here in Eldorado. A number of issues concerning outdoor lighting are clearly delineated in our covenants, as Young's article indicated. However, if you actually do venture outside to take in the stars, you may sometimes wonder at the excessive lumens emanating from your neighbors' uncovered windows—or your own, for that matter. Big windows are a big deal here, whether for solar gain or vista appreciation. And while you may or may not feel that your interior lighting is anyone else's concern, perhaps you could consider your own comfort and your energy bill. Insulating window coverings will keep your home cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter, making you more comfortable and saving you money on heating and cooling. What's more, you can add some sparkle to the night.

—Beverly Weiss



M.S. WEISS RAISES A GOOD POINT.

Residential windows here in Eldorado, especially large picture windows, can be a major contributor to light pollution. While interior home lighting is not covered under the covenants, there are some steps residents can take to help reduce the light that emanates from your home:

1. Turn off unused lights at night when possible.
2. Reduce the size of the light bulbs used in fixtures that are in front of large picture windows.
3. Replace or upgrade large lighting fixtures in front of picture windows with ones that use less-bright bulbs and are more efficient overall.

bulbs and are more efficient overall.

4. Add insulating curtains to large picture windows, both to help with energy conservation and to reduce light pollution.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping to protect Eldorado's night skies.

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative

Plague Confirmed in Eldorado Pet

IN MAY the New Mexico Department of Health's Scientific Laboratory confirmed plague in a cat from Eldorado. Reports of dead rabbits and rodents from the Eldorado area may also be due to plague.

Plague, a bacterial disease of rodents, is generally transmitted to humans through the bites of infected fleas, but can also be transmitted by direct contact with infected animals, including rodents, rabbits, and pets. According to **Dr. Paul Ettestad**, the Department's public health veterinarian, "Most pets infected with plague are hunters who have eaten an infected rodent or been bitten by their fleas prior to getting ill. The pets can also transport the fleas back into the home where they can infect people."

Symptoms of plague in humans include sudden onset of fever, chills, headache, and weakness. In most cases there is a painful swelling of the lymph node in the groin, armpit or neck area. Plague symptoms in cats and dogs are fever, lethargy, and loss of appetite. There may be a swelling in the lymph node under the jaw. With prompt diagnosis and appropriate antibi-

otic treatment, the fatality rate in people and pets can be greatly reduced.

To prevent plague:

- ▼ Avoid sick or dead rodents and rabbits, and their nests and burrows.
- ▼ Dispose of a dead wild animal by using a shovel to scoop it into double plastic bags; then seal it and throw it into trash; or bury the carcass where it will not be unearthed by pets or other animals.
- ▼ Treat pets regularly with an effective flea control product, and prevent them from roaming and hunting.
- ▼ Clean up areas near the house where rodents could live, such as woodpiles, brush piles, junk and abandoned vehicles.
- ▼ Take sick pets to be examined promptly by a veterinarian.
- ▼ See your doctor about any unexplained illness involving a sudden and severe fever.

For more information about plague, visit www.nmhealth.org/epi/plague.html.

From the ECIA President's Desk

A S PRESIDENT OF ECIA, I get many calls and emails from residents. As reported in other issues of *Vistas*, speeders and stop-sign runners are high on the list of concerns. Home security is another topic I hear a lot about from residents. We are all concerned about security, and Neighborhood Watch is doing a great job of watching out for you. The truth is, though, it is really up to you, the resident, to protect yourself and your property. To help you in that effort, the Board is sponsoring a Security Fair here in Eldorado at the Community Center, on August 8. Everything you might want to know about protecting your property will be available at the fair.

It is a traumatic experience to have your home broken into and your personal possessions stolen. I say enough is enough: Eldorado is a great place to live and raise a family, and we need to show the lawbreakers that our homes are not easy targets and we are doing what we can to protect our property. That is why it is so important that residents be fully informed about the best ways to ensure home security.

Although the ECIA Board is sponsoring the Security Fair, it will be an Eldorado community event

not only for our residents, but for everyone along the 285 corridor. The fair will feature speakers about security, law enforcement officers, and security vendors. Tables will be set up and demos will take place on security hardware. Information will be presented so that you can become thoroughly educated on security and safety in case of an emergency.

A fair this size needs volunteers to help make the event a success. Eldorado residents have always stepped forward in the past for our community, and the Board is asking you to get involved by volunteering for the Security Fair. Please contact **Marilyn Walker** at 466-2553 or **Frank Schober** at 1-505-310-8593 for further information.

—Ed Benrock, ECIA President



Do you know how to use your fire extinguisher? Bring it to the Security Fair on August 8th at the Community Center. Check the August *Vistas* for more information.

ERA News

THE ELDORADO RESIDENTS' Association (ERA) added new members to their Board of Directors at the April 6 annual meeting, and in June, the Board elected new officers for the coming year. ERA's quarterly membership meeting will be held July 6 in the Community Center's Railroad Building at 7 pm.

John White joined the ERA Board and was chosen as the organization's secretary. **Mary Anne Kenny**, re-elected at the annual meeting, was named vice-president for 2009. The Board returned **Marilyn Farrell** to her post as treasurer. **Bruce Blossman** retired as president of the Board for health reasons, and the board voted to place **Bill Dunning** in the president's chair for the coming year. Bruce Blossman remains on the board, designated as "president emeritus" in recognition of his long service to ERA and the community.

Board members **Eddie Marshall** and **John White** will report to the quarterly meeting on plans for summer events, including a possible entertainment at the Eldorado swimming pool.

Tom Brimacombe, a member of ERA and committee chair for finance, gave a preliminary report on the possibility that ERA may apply to become a 501(c)3 organization. If the board determines to take

this step, it would allow the ERA to secure donations for projects to benefit the community.

Another ERA member assisting the Board, former ECIA president **Tom Miller**, chairs the organization's Public Affairs Committee. He will help arrange special events, and plans to ask a speaker from the Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District Board to address the July 6 quarterly meeting, as part of ERA's efforts to keep the community current on water issues. The ERA Board named **Dolores Brock** to head an ad hoc liaison committee to attend meetings of the EAWSD board.

The Board also agreed to enter a float in the ECIA's annual Fourth of July parade this month.

—Lynne Roberts

ECIA Officers

AT THEIR MAY Organization Meeting, the ECIA Board elected the following officers:

- ▼ President, Ed Benrock
- ▼ Vice President, Mary Ann Caldwell
- ▼ Treasurer, Ed Moreno
- ▼ Secretary, Lisa Robles

These officers will serve until the May 2010 General Meeting.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Finance: Dan Drobnis
Architecture: Bill Schwent
Conservation: John Parker and E.J. Evangelos
Stable: Bonita Mamp
Election: Ken Robinson
Roads: Nolan Zisman
Information: Frank Schober
Neighborhood Watch: Larry Eccard & Marilyn Walker
Facilities & Grounds: Fred Raznick

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library

466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204

County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)

Photo by Fred Raznick



Pronghorn antelope have been spotted lately in Eldorado (like this one snapped by Fred Raznick near Ladera Rd. while driving down Ave. Casa del Oro), and they can be a real hazard for motorists. So please be careful, drivers, especially after dark.

The Final Frontier

Vista Grande Public Library's summertime Night Sky Program continues on July 8 with "Space Atlas" by **Peter Lipscomb** of the New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance, who will show us how to identify and map our favorite stars and constellations. Presentation begins at 8:30 pm and concludes with telescopes and lawn chairs in the parking lot.

Trail Maintenance Day July 11

The ECIA Conservation Committee will be performing trail maintenance work in the community's Wilderness Preserve on Saturday, July 11. Community members are welcome. Meet at the Community Center at 9 am and bring a pair of gloves and something to drink.

Felt-making Classes for Teens & Adults

EACA member **Pamela Grob** is offering felt-making classes in Eldorado and Santa Fe in July. *July 23 & 24*: "Sculptural Felt Vessel" workshop, in Santa Fe. *July 25*: "Needle Felt Your Pet" (dog or cat), Chapala Rd., Eldorado; open to ages 13–adult (a great parent/child workshop). *July 27*: "Felt a Merino Wool & Silk Scarf," ages 15–adult. Call 466-4337 or www.grobsf.com.

The Eldorado Spiritual Coop

Eldorado Spiritual Cooperative is a non-hierarchical, meditative sharing that helps fuel the rest of the coops. Come join us on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 5:45–7:15 pm, in the school library. Be part of wave of change here in Eldorado, in a spirit-filled way! Call **Don McAvinchey** at 955-1847 to RSVP.

Doggie Days

Following their successful May 23 dog show/adoption (in which at least 10 dogs found new homes and a pug named Darcy won Best of Show), and their June 27 collaboration with Vista Grande Library and the Santa Fe Animal Shelter Reading to Rover program, the Eldorado Dog Club plans to participate in Eldorado's July 4th parade

and to host a doggie swim party this summer. The Eldorado Dog Club also wants to send a big thank you to all their supporters, who have been patient and appreciative in the face of tough weather during their events. The Dog Club holds regular meetings at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

Photo by Barbara Selnick



Darcy, Best of Show at the Eldorado Dog Club Dog Show.

Moon Phases for J



EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique)

You may have heard about EFT, commonly called "tapping," a new form of energy psychology that works on almost everything. Learn how you can eliminate your own limiting beliefs, fears, phobias, pains, stress, worries, etc., by using a simple technique based on cognitive behavior therapy and energy meridians (as recognized by Eastern medicine). This free class will be fun, beneficial and fast-paced on Tuesday, July 14, from 7:00 to 8:15 pm in the Railroad Bldg. For more information, contact **Andi Sutherland**, Advanced EFT Practitioner, 466-3207, or see www.andisutherland.com.

Meals on Wheels Seeks Drivers

If you have an hour a week—or even an hour every two weeks—and would like to join our group of drivers for lunch deliveries to seniors in Eldorado, Galisteo, or Arroyo Hondo, please call **Pat Laven-good**, the MOW coordinator, at 466-9765, or **Cathy Berkley**, Senior Center Manager, at 466-1039.

Adam Senior Center Has Job Openings

Santa Fe County has three jobs openings at the Adam Senior Center: (1) a full-time driver/cook's assistant, to drive seniors to events, doctors' appointments, and errands, and sometimes help the cook in the kitchen; (2) a part-time (as needed) substitute cook, to step in when the regular cook is out of town and to help the cook when there is a very large lunch crowd; (3) a part-time (as needed) backup to the full-time driver position mentioned above. For more information about these positions, go to the Santa Fe County website, www.co.santa-fe.nm.us/about_us/job_opportunities.php.

Summer Classes for Seniors

Lynne and **Bob Coyle** are offering their popular weaving and clay classes again, starting in July, on Tuesday afternoons, 1:30–3:30 at the Senior Center. Space is limited, so please stop by the Adam Center or call 466-1039 to sign up. Also, chair yoga classes are offered at 10:30 am on Mondays and 1:30 pm on Fridays; tai chi classes are held Wednesdays at 10:15. All classes are free to seniors 60 and older.



Fridays at the Agora

The merchants of the Agora welcome the entire community of Eldorado to "Fridays at the Agora," a community event being held throughout the summer (through September) every Friday afternoon from 4 to 7 pm at the Agora. Local farmers and local artists will be on hand, displaying and selling their products and creations. Entertainment is provided in the courtyard by local musicians from 5 to 7 pm. Come have fun, enjoy some delicious food, listen to some terrific music, and support our local farmers and artists. Details each week can be found on our website, www.TheAgoraShoppingCenter.com. If you want to see what is happening at the Agora in real time, we are installing a webcam in the courtyard. By simply logging onto our website, you can see what is taking place in the courtyard at that very moment.

Preschool Now Enrolling

Children's Garden Montessori School, for kids ages 2-1/2 to 6, is now enrolling for the 2009-10 school year. To learn more, call 466-1251 or visit childrengardensantafe.com.

POOL: Through Labor Day

Lap Swim: 8-10 am daily; 6-8 pm Monday, Wednesday, & Friday.

General Swim: 10 am-8 pm Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, & Sunday; 10 am-6 pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

FOOD & BEVERAGES IN SNACK AREA OR PATIO AREA ONLY!

—Debby Padilla

July Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email info@eldoradocommunity.org with your meeting/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:



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

JULY SPECIAL EVENTS

4th of July Parade	Sat., July 4, 9 am	ECIA	466-4248	
Trail Maintenance Day	Sat., July 11, 9 am	John Parker	466-7513	CC
Website Training Q & A	Tues., July 14, 5:30 pm	Hope Kiah	466-4447	CC

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

285 Coalition	Wed., July 1, 7pm			CFR
Road Committee	Mon., July 6, 6 pm			CFR
Finance Committee	Mon., July 6, 4-6 pm	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., July 7, 4 pm	Fred Raznick	466-2305	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., July 7, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	LR
Architectural Committee	Wed., July 8, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., July 13, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
ECIA Board	Thurs., July 16, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Information Committee	Tues., July 21, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Stable Committee	Tues., July 21 7-9 pm	Bonnie Mamp	466-4271	LR
Architectural Committee	Wed., July 22, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Search & Rescue	Thurs., July 9, 6:30-9:30 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765	CR
La Canada Wireless	Mon., July 13 & 27, 7-9	lcwireless.org		Library
Eldorado Dog Club	Tues., July 14, 7 pm	Freddi Hetler	466-2005	LR
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636	VGPL
Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	John Kieling	466-4232	Sm Gym
Bird Walk	1st Sat., 8:30 am	Ron Duffy	466-6398	
Conserv. Comm. Hike	3rd Sat. of month	Eleanor Gossen	466-1949	
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues of month	Bill Bodle	466-3011	Fire
EACA Meeting	Last Thurs. of month		466-6245	Fire
EAW&SD*	Thurs, July 2 & 16, 7-9 pm		466-2411	CR
Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:30-6:50 pm			LR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/RR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			LR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			CFR
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Ramon Quintana	757-6424	RR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon, 1-4:30 pm	Kate Kaulbach	466-1465	LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm			CR, LR
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	CR, LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Community Church	Sun., 9:30 & 11 am	David McPherson	466-2495	CC
Community Band	Thurs., 6:30-8:30 pm	Joel Hopko	466-8412	New gym
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
Senior Lunch**	M, W & F, 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Knitting Club	Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Softball Practice	Sundays 10 am	Tom Miller	553-5888	CC
Adult Basketball	Thursdays, 7-dusk			CC court

*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

**Reservations Required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org

Neighborhood Watch, Tested and Working

I WAS ASSIGNED to interview **Marilyn Walker**, chair of the ECIA Neighborhood Watch Committee, to ask about her startling success in recruiting block captains for this very effective crime-fighting program. She now has 100 captains on her membership list. Each captain represents ten homes, which means a thousand people looking out for one another and reporting suspicious people and situations to law enforcement.

In a recent meeting, Marilyn briefed **Sheriff Solano** and his Chief of Detectives on the technology her committee has adopted for Neighborhood Watch. It includes the use of Google Earth, which permits block captains to see satellite photos of the homes in their group. It also includes email "bursts" in which block captains get timely information on crime incidents or suspicious activity in or around their neighborhoods.

It may be due to her very obvious, hard-working idealism, but Marilyn Walker will not be satisfied until there are block captains for every group of ten homes in Eldorado and there is no crime of any sort in our community. Her committee is a major portion of the way there.

I found out just how well Neighborhood Watch works when I interviewed Marilyn for this article. Just before I drove up to her house, I received a cell-phone call. I parked on the road a few yards from her mailbox to answer my phone. As I was talking on what was turning out to be a lengthy call, I saw Marilyn walking down her driveway and gesturing to me. As I ended my conversation and greeted her, she informed me that a member of her Neighborhood Watch group had just called her to report that "a man in a strange white car was parked on the road outside of her house and gesturing wildly as he spoke to someone on a cell phone." This experience convinced me how well Neighborhood Watch can work for all of us in Eldorado.

When I got the chance to interview Marilyn, she informed me of some statistics worth knowing with respect to law enforcement in our community.

- ▼ We have the lowest crime rate in Santa Fe County.
- ▼ The burglaries that do occur here are most often "crimes of opportunity." Too many of us leave doors to our homes and cars unlocked and garage doors open when they don't have to be and have valuable items in plain view.

Law enforcement officers from the Sheriff's Office and the State Police attend every Neighborhood Watch meeting. They have given members of the Neighborhood Watch Committee some valuable crime-fighting advice and information, including the following:

- ▼ Burglars are looking for an "easy mark." Don't become one. They scout our neighborhoods; they knock on doors and when nobody answers, they might kick them in. If strangers ring your doorbell, let them know you are home but don't open your door to them. Talk to them through the door and say something like, "I can't open the door; I'm giving my Rottweiler a bath."
- ▼ If you are away from home, your very best hope is a neighbor—one who looks out for you in a Neighborhood Watch group.

For information on protecting your home by joining a Neighborhood Watch group, contact **Lyn de-Martin** at lyndemartin@hotmail.com or **Marilyn Walker** at lightwalker2@comcast.net.

Finally, as noted elsewhere in this issue, the ECIA and the Neighborhood Watch Committee are planning an Eldorado Community Home Security, Safety and Emergency Preparedness Fair. It will be an all-day event at the Community Center on August 8.

—Frank Schober

NEXT NW MEETING: August 3 at 7:00 pm, Community Center Classroom

NW TIP OF THE MONTH: Summer is here, and we may want to leave our doors and windows open. Also, there may be more vendors going door-to-door. Please remember the observation skills we outlined in the June *Vistas*. (Previous issues of *Vistas* are available at www.eldoradocommunity.org.)

LOST PET?

Post a picture on the new site at eldoradocommunity.org. If you don't have a login yet, choose Login > Request Login and fill out the form. Once you are approved, you will have a username and password. Log in and follow the link to post a picture of your lost pet.

NEED HELP WITH THE SITE?

Come to our Live Training Session
Tuesday, July 14
5:30 – 7:30 PM

Community Center Classroom



eldoradocommunity.org

Sheriff's Substation in Eldorado?

ON MAY 27, Commissioner **Liz Stefanics** held a town-hall meeting in Eldorado, as many of you know. Since I was unable to attend that evening, I sent Sergeant Joseph McLaughlin in my place. He reported to me that there was some discussion over an issue that crops up almost every year: the question of a Sheriff's Office Substation in Eldorado.

Many people who raise this issue seem to envision

deputies sitting in a substation building, waiting for the phone to ring and rushing out to their car to render help whenever someone calls. In my view, however, what we really need is for deputies to be patrolling the area, addressing speeding issues and making preventive rounds to deter burglaries, vandalism and other crimes. The deputies need to be a presence in the community, not sitting in a building waiting for the phone to ring.

At the Crossroads

ROAD WORK should have been or is being performed as you read this article. As of the end of May, the County advised us that the start of repaving Avenida Vista Grande (funded through a bond issue passed in November 2008) was “imminent.” It is expected that much of this work, particularly that part of the road closest to US 285, will take place in the evenings to minimize traffic delays.

Additionally, Verano Loop will receive a new chip-seal surface. This project has been scheduled for this time because core samples taken by the County indicated that the underlying layer of base course was still intact but in danger of being lost if filling of pot holes were to continue. Because the existing chip-seal will be recycled (ground up and relaid), the project will cost less than it would with new base course. Verano Loop and Avenida Vista Grande are among the eight roads identified in the County’s long-range planning as needing paving.

Finally, the County advised us that there was some base course material left over from the October 2008–January 2009 base course project funded by \$749,000

of legislative appropriations in 2007 and 2008. Since we received no new funding from the Legislature in 2009, we hope the County will spread the remaining material over those sections of road reported by our residents as “slip-sliders” when wet. If this happens, the worst portions of approximately 10 roads will benefit from receiving some of this material.

—Nolan Zisman, Chair,
Road Committee



Say's Phoebe

THE SAY'S PHOEBE (SP) is in the family Tyrant Flycatchers, a rather harsh-sounding name for this pleasant little bird. The SP is 7.5 inches long, has a wingspan of 13 inches, and is slender with a relatively small head. Its head, back, and upper breast are gray. The bill is small and pointed. Black coloration runs from bill to eye, the belly is a pale rufous color, and the tail is very dark to black. Males and females are similar.

This hardy bird spends its summers from central New Mexico through Alaska. Some individuals may winter in southern New Mexico, with others going to southern Mexico. They migrate at night! So far as is known, similar flycatcher species have distinctive wintering areas. According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the SP breeds farther north than any other flycatcher, seemingly limited only by the lack of nest sites. It breeds north past the tree line, and may be

following the Alaska pipeline even farther north, nesting on the pipeline itself.

SPs lives in open woodlands, savannas and scrub areas. Mating display is not known. A small cup nest is built along a wall or building ledge and four or five eggs are laid. The female incubates the nest for 12 to 14 days. Young are fed insects by both parents and fledge in 14 to 16 days.

The SP is a flycatcher, and its food consists almost exclusively of insects, which are caught on the wing. Birds perch overlooking an open area and swoop out gracefully to pick off insects which they locate with their acute eyesight. Insects are generally swallowed whole, and the hard exoskeletons are regurgitated in a small dry pellet. These pellets help ornithologists identify a bird's particular diet.

—Pam Henline



Photo by Len Blumin

SHERIFF'S SUBSTATION? CONTINUED FROM P. 6.

Every year we do our best to increase the numbers of deputies on the streets. When I became sheriff in 2003, we had 69 deputies, including the sheriff and undersheriff. Today we have 80 deputies, and we have a pending federal grant that would add three more. The city annexation of land in the county, when complete, will allow 12 more deputies to be moved from the urban areas of the county to the more rural areas such as Eldorado.

Undersheriff Robert Garcia and I continue to work with ECIA, Eldorado Neighborhood Watch, and surrounding associations to ensure the safety and security of the area. In closing, I have to say your Neighborhood Watch and ECIA are the most active and enjoyable groups to work with in the whole 2,000 square miles of Santa Fe County, and we look forward to continuing to work together.

—Greg Solano, Sheriff, Santa Fe County

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

Eldorado Community Garden

Photo by Dan Drobnis



Marilynn Jacobs shows off her raised bed plot in the Eldorado School Community Garden. The garden, located on school property, consists of individual raised and sunken plots, a communal garden, a cactus garden, and a labyrinth designed by school students. Students are also building benches and enclosures and doing landscaping. Water is provided from the school and will eventually come from harvested rainwater. Work was begun in April, and the first formal "showing" will be in August.

For further information, contact Marilyn at 466-6707 (eldoradogarden@comcast.net), or Eleni Cahn, 466-1558 (elenicahn@msn.com).