ELDORADO SANTAS

VOLUME IV, ISSUE 9 **SEPT 2002**

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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.eldoradocommunity.org

ON THE AGENDA

Highway to Tomorrow 285 Corridor Plan Draft Available

Editor's Note: The August cover started an informational series of local planning articles. September's cover is the 285 Corridor Plan. October's will be the Simpson Ranch Plan. November's issue will focus on our own Road Committee planning.

HE RECENT WIDENING of Highway 285 came as an opportunity in disguise for members of the 285 Coalition, including Eldorado and 21 other neighboring developments and communities. It provided a chance to develop a coherent plan for the area on both sides of 285 from Old Las Vegas Highway south to Lamy—only the third such plan to be done in Santa Fe County. Work began in late 1999. An initial draft was presented at a public meeting in Eldorado on August 14. Copies of an Executive Summary are available at the Agora Quik Send and the Vista Grande Library.

The 285 South Highway Corridor Plan, as it is formally called, will address: landscaping; locations, types and standards for development; and sign standards along a swath varying from about 100 to 1000 feet either side of the highway's center line. Particular attention has been given to intersections at Old Las Vegas Highway and Vista Grande, and to the rural highway stretches south of Eldorado Fire Station #3 toward Lamy. The plan will be the subject of further public input and comments and will then be presented to the Santa Fe Board of County Commissioners for adoption. Once adopted, the plan will be used to guide future legislation and policies affecting the Corridor.

The idea for the Corridor Plan developed during widening of 285 as part of the transportation corridor for WIPP (the federal nuclear Waste Isolation Pilot Plant project) near Carlsbad, and was a natural outgrowth of the efforts of the 285 Coalition of communities to address common issues. The oppor-

tunity for input was available to anyone who attended public meetings throughout the two-year development process. Over 50 individuals and organizations, including 13 from Eldorado, provided input to the plan.

Highway corridor planning is a recent development in New Mexico. Santa Fe County's first corridor plan for the Turquoise Trail—Highway 14 from I-25 south to Madrid—had a goal of preserving the scenic vistas and rural character of the highway. The

second corridor plan addressed issues surrounding the 599 Bypass, Veteran's Highway from I-25 to 285 north of Santa Fe. The 599 plan was a joint City-County effort and was developed at almost the same time as the highway's construction. It was particularly sensitive because of the development potential created by the brand new four-lane highway through mostly open countryside.

Experience in developing the 285 South Highway Corridor Plan will be valuable to the recently begun Simpson Ranch Contemporary Community Plan. This more comprehensive effort will involve long range planning for most of the 285 Coalition Communities. Eldorado is included in the Simpson Ranch Planmore on that plan next month.

The 285 Corridor Plan area extends from Old Las Vegas Highway south to Lamy, including Eldorado and 21 neighboring communities. ECIA Work
Study Meeting,
Community
Center,
Monday,
Sept. 16, 7 pm



Share your comments with us!

For policy and deadline, see below

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 8th day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or emailed to info@eldoradocommun ity.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.

Dogs...

THAVE TO CONFESS I do not often comment about my life or the lives of neighbors since I find life goes along just swimmingly. Recently I have noticed the Viewpoints section appears to be dominated by people who complain.

Ms. Jo Woods' letter complains of alleged packs of dangerous dogs that populate our neighborhoods. I am retired, very active and probably run, hike and bike as much as anyone in this area. I hardly ever see a loose dog; the ones I do see are unfailingly polite. I have no doubt the occasional unlucky person has a disagreeable experience with the odd canine, but this continuous litany against "man's best friend" strikes me as unhealthy paranoia, or worse, the lust to control one's neighbors' lives.

A friendlier and more neighborly approach when offended by a wayward hound would be to ascertain the owner and voice one's concerns instead of calling the law. After all, we all have to live together.

> Dave Berry Camerada Road

Dogs...

OGS. DOGS. The age-old Eldorado struggle between dog lovers and dog complainers. My copy of the SF County Animal Control Ordinance reads: "...when a dog is off its owner's premises, it must be under leash or under control of the owner." I allow my dog off leash when we walk. He obeys commands and is under control. When we meet walkers, I take hold of his collar and step aside. I find most dog owners try to be courteous.

The reason we walk our animals is because we keep them confined. They are not running loose in the neighborhood. Almost daily dogs parade through my yard – frequently without collar or tags. I agree this is annoying. Owners should be warned or fined and the dogs impounded. Let's face it - it's hard to catch them. I ask we not all be tarred with the same brush. Give credit to those who try not to offend our neighbors and play by the rules.

> E.J. Evangelos Verano Loop

Wells...

ESIDENTS WHO get water from the community well have clear guidelines on what to do during the drought in Santa Fe. It's unfortunate that strict regulations can't apply to people on private wells, too.

Many residents think their private wells are different. They don't realize the water comes from the same aguifer. We see people watering midday, washing cars, putting down new sod and/or leaving their drip systems on continuously.

We've found we can thoroughly water all trees and plantings in our yard using gray water and water from rain barrels or other storage tanks. You don't have to have fancy systems - dish and shower water caught in buckets in the kitchen and bathrooms goes a long way. If you're not already doing this, please give it a try. The monsoons don't signify an end to the drought; conservation needs to be a year-round proposition. When private wells run dry, it will be up to individuals to find other water alternatives.

J.& T.H.



hoever owns a black cat in the Encantado Road area, please keep it in at night. It comes and "visits" my indoor cat and causes a lot of excitement in our home. A. Gilmore

Encantado Road area

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

THE HIGHLIGHT of July had to be the 4th of July Parade and the dedication of our new flag pole. Approximately 150 residents attended the event. Our patriotically decorated children, tricycles, bikes and wagons were the hit of the day. I hope you plan on attending next year.

At the Board's Work Study meeting July 15th, we brainstormed Board-sponsored capital and improvement items for the 2003 budget cycle. The following items will be evaluated along with all other requests: part time animal control officer; additional information signs at the second and third entrances; upgrade patio tables; refurbish the shuffleboard and horseshoe areas; and continue the effort to develop a hike-bike trail along Avenida Torreon. After the meeting, there was also discussion regarding the need to upgrade the swimming pool changing rooms.

SEE "NOTES" ON PAGE 7

Our 'Charming City'

((T N THE THIRTIES, SANTA FE, New Mexico had fifteen thousand people. [There were] a hundred and fifty artists and writers, which doesn't sound like many in figures, but it's an awful gob of genius...

"The town sits in a wide valley, close to mountains on the east. They are not the high sinister mountains of the northern Rockies; they seem more like neighbors. But sometimes you can stand in the bright sunshine in Santa Fe and see, not five miles away, an ominous blackish-gray snowstorm swirling down upon the mountain ridge. Or, if you visit a friend who lives a few miles out of town you can sit in his library and look through its big window and see a vastness of valley and mesa and far-off mountain chains that almost drive you crazy with their immensity.

"In all the time I have spent in Santa Fe, I have never seen the surrounding country or sky look alike on any two days, and I have yet to see it when it was not fascinating. Boston for beans, Seattle for rain, San Francisco for bridges, and Santa Fe for long, far looks at what God made...

"Most of the recent construction has been in this perfectly blended Santa Fe style...Santa Fe architecture is simply a modernization and a softening of the age-old Pueblo Indian style. Outer walls slant slightly inward as they go up; corners are rounded; second stories [if any] are always set back; you don't see any [pitched] roofs; the end of vigas, or roof poles, stick out of the adobe. The houses are made of adobe bricks and covered with adobe mud or smooth mudcolored stucco. Nothing [inside or out] is square; nothing is sharp...

"[Santa Fe] architecture would look hideous in New York or Memphis or on an Iowa farm. It has to be in the southwestern desert, under bright sun and

amid bare distances, blending with the earth and harmonizing with the mountainside, speaking in silent good manners with the personality of the Southwest....If I was dictator of Santa Fe, I would not allow even a doghouse to be put up in any



other style, and in fifty years we'd have the most charming city on the continent."

Excerpted from Home Country, Ernie Pyle (William Sloane Assocates, 1935).

The ECIA would like to thank all Architectural Committee members who work hard to maintain our "charming city:" Bill Schwent, Ralph Heimberg, Helen Moser, Bill Pulley, Bernie Tuttelman, Babs Peck, Alexander Hale, and Praxedes Salazar. These bardworking folks meet twice a month to review plans and make recommendations to builders and Eldorado residents.



From left: Alex Hale, Babs Peck, Bernie Tuttleman, Bill Schwent, Norm Airey (ECIA Staff), Helen Moser, Ralph Heimberg, Bill Pulley (hidden), Praxedes Salazar.

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES Vista Grande Library

466-READ Security 204-2945



ECIA announces the annual budgeting process begins in September. Please see the article on page 5 for budgeting deadlines and more information.

MASTER GARDENERS

Santa Fe Area Master Gardeners presents "Diagnosing Backyard Plant and Tree Problems" featuring Santa Fe County Extension Agent Patrick Torres and Bob Cain, NMSU Extension Tree Specialist. This program will be held on Monday, September 9, at the Eldorado Railroad Depot from 7 to 9 pm. Bring samples of your own diseased or problem plants for diagnosis.

Call the Master Gardener Hotline at 471-6251 for help with home gardening questions. Volunteers are in the office on Mondays and Saturdays from 9 am to noon, May through October.

PRESERVE HIKE

Join us on Monday, Sept. 2, 9 am at the Community Center for a moderate morning hike. We'll probably do the upper Cougar Canyon hike because it's unusual and not on the map. Return about Noon. Great for the whole family. Bring hat and water. Leader - Cary Carlson 466-6073.

ARTS ASSOCIATION

Artists' Shoptalk, Wednesday, September 11, 10 am - noon, home of Ann Ortloff, 13 Dovela Road, 466-6490. Join fellow artists at each other's homes to network.

Artists' Program will be Wednesday, September 25, 7 pm at the Community Center. This month, Rich Wiseman, a licensing agent, will present. All artists (beginning and experienced) are welcome to join us. Call Arlene **Siegel** at 466-3274 for more information.

ERA FLEA MARKET IS EARLY SEPTEMBER

The Eldorado Residents Association Fall Flea Market will be Sept. 7th at the Eldorado Community Center. Check your closets, garage and storage for items to sell. Setup is at 7 am. Please note: no early setup or shopping! The sale runs from 8 am until 12:30 pm. A space costs \$7.00 for Eldorado residents, \$10.00 for others and \$15.00 for commercial vending. No firearms, weapons or food can be sold at the event. Contact Pat Kuhlhoff 466-4877 or Janet Amtmann 466-3256.

LIBRARY'S ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY

If you are looking for a family outing with sweet tasting ice cream, music and interesting auction items to purchase, the Vista Grande Library's Third Annual Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction is the place to be. Plan to attend Sunday, September 15th from 1 pm to 5 pm. at the Eldorado Community Center. Tickets will be available September 3rd to the 14th at the Agora Shopping Center and at the Library located on Avenida Torreon next to the El Dorado Elementary School. Cost is \$5.00 for adults, free for children two and under. Tickets will be available at the door the day of the event.

Auction items for this year's event include: 2 roundtrip tickets on Southwest Airlines to any destination; a beautiful buffet and hutch; and a stay at a 5 bedroom, 3 bath home in Lake Dillon, Colorado. Bidders can choose from many local restaurants, artwork, pottery, jewelry and other unusual items as well as an array of autographed books donated by nationally recognized local authors. These, along with many other items, will be up for bid.

The Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction fund-raiser is open to the public and benefits the Vista Grande Library, a non-profit organization. For adult and children's programs throughout the year visit the website: www.vglibrary.org. For tickets, call 466-3864.

8TH ANNUAL EL DORADO 5K **RUN/WALK AND 1 MILE FUN RUN**

Saturday, September 14th... Bring the whole family! Run course begins and ends at El Dorado Elementary School, 2 Avenida Torreon. Perfect for children and first time runners/walkers.

This is an ECIA and PTA sponsored event. Funds raised will benefit El Dorado Elementary's Physical Education and Arts programs. \$10 registration fee (per person) includes T-shirt, refreshments, door prizes, first aid, and water at halfway points. Every child receives a

Registration begins at 6 am. The 5K Run/Walk starts at 7:30 am. The 1 Mile Fun Run starts at 8:30 am. Registration forms can be picked up at the school. For more information, call Enita Pendleton, 466-1344.

2003 BUDGETING **CALENDAR**

This month the ECIA Finance Committee will start working on the 2003 ECIA budget. The deadlines have been set as follows:

Friday, Sept. 13

Budget proposals/requests are due at the ECIA manager's office. Include as much documentation as possible.

Tues., Sept. 17, 10 AM

(Plus one evening meeting to be announced on the ECIA web site): The Finance Committee conducts hearings at which committee chairs, the General Manager, and ECIA members present and document their budget requests.

Mon., Oct. 21, 7 PM

Joint working session of ECIA Board and Finance Committee. The General Manager and committee chairs/representatives are invited to explain their proposals.

Mon., Oct. 28

The draft budget will be available at the ECIA office.

Sat., Nov. 2, 10 AM - Noon

The ECIA Board conducts a public hearing on the proposed 2003 budget to inform members and solicit comments. Copies of the budget will be available.

November Board Meeting.

ECIA Board adopts the final 2003 budget at its regular monthly meeting.

ECIA members are invited and urged to participate in the budgeting process. It is your assessment money we are budgeting. The Finance Committee welcomes your input. Call your Board members, ECIA staff at 466-4248, or the Finance Committee Chair, Gisela Knight, at 466-2568 with comments or questions.

> Gisela Knight Finance Committee Chair

September Events

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:



MONTHLY MEETINGS

1. Type of Event 2. Location

3. Date & Time

4. A Resource Person (one that 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.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS					
ERA's Annual Flea Market	Sat., Sept. 7, 8 am-12:30 pm	Pat Kuhloff	466-4877		
Budget Proposals Due	Fri., Sept. 13	ECIA Offices	466-4248		
5K Run/Walk & 1Mile Run	Sat., Sept. 14, 6 am-12 pm	Enita Pendleton	466-1344	School	
Library Fundraiser	Sun Sent 15 1-5 nm	IIRRARV	466-BEAD		

	5K Run/Walk & 1Mile Run	Sat., Sept. 14, 6 am-12 pm	Enita Pendleton	466-1344	School
	Library Fundraiser	Sun., Sept. 15, 1-5 pm	LIBRARY	466-READ	
	Finance Comm. Hearing	Tues., Sept. 17, 10 am	ECIA	466-4248	
	_				
	COMMITTEE MEETII	NGS			
	Road Committee	No Meeting This Month	Allen Larson	466-4792	
ı	Recreation Committee	Tues Sent 3 7-9 nm	Flaine Nann	466-2023	

Road Committee	No Meeting This Month	Allen Larson	466-4792	
Recreation Committee	Tues., Sept. 3, 7-9 pm	Elaine Napp	466-2023	
Finance Committee	Tues., Sept. 10, 10-11:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 10, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	
EAW&SD*	Wed., Sept. 11, 7-9 pm	Don Dayton	466-2411	
Board Work Study	Mon., Sept. 16, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 24, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	
Information Committee	Wed., Sept. 18, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	
Neighborhood Watch		Lyn deMartin	466-1237	call
207 2 11:1	144 6 4 40 7 0	B 14 : B :	. 466 0755	

285 Coalition	wed., Sept. 18, 7-9 pm	Roseiviarie Bagioni	466-0755
ECIA Board	Thurs., Sept. 19, 7-10 pm	ECIA	466-4248

Preserve Hike	Mon., Sept. 2, 9 am	Cary Carlson	466-6073	
Book Club	Sun., Sept. 8, 7-9 pm	Ken Fischer	466- 2537	
Master Gardeners	Mon., Sept. 9, 7-9 pm	Beverly Hafner	466-0261	
Arts Assoc. Shoptalk	Wed., Sept. 11, 10 am-12 pm	Cary Carlson	466-6073	
Vista Grande Book Club	Thurs., Sept. 12, 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636	Library
Search & Rescue	Thurs., Sept. 12, 7-9 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765	
Book Club	Sat., Sept. 14, 7-9 pm	Barbara Rugg	466-2559	

Arlene Siegel 466-3274 Arts Assoc. Program Wed., Sept. 25, 7-9 pm

WEEKLY MEETINGS					
Al-Annon (open to all)	Tuesdays, 4:30 pm & Fridays, 9-10 am				
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fridays, 1-4:30 pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958		
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fridays, 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765		
Bridge (Beginning)	Wednesdays, 9-12am				
Bridge (Mens')	Thursdays, 1-4 pm				
Boy Scouts	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, 12-1pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958		
*Eldorado Area Water and	d Sanitation District	**Reservations Rec	quired		

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org

You and Your Garbage Disposal

Vistas and the website are looking for pictures of Courteous Elдогадо Canines and other pets. Drop off your pictures at the ECIA office. Please mark them Attention: Vistas and provide the owner's name, phone number and the pet's name.

HE FOLLOWING ARE SOME TIPS for getting your garbage disposal back into action if it stops working one of these days. First turn it off at the wall switch. Look under the sink and find (usually by touch) a little button at the base of the unit. This is the unit reset button. If your unit seems and sounds dead (it doesn't hum), the overload circuit has been tripped. Push the button to reset your disposal motor.

Turn on the water and turn the unit on. If it hums but doesn't run, turn the unit off immediately. You have a jammed unit. (Even if you have turned the unit off, never put your hands into the disposal unit.)

Check under the sink for a little L shaped wrench. It is probably taped somewhere on the unit or in a plastic envelope stapled to the side of your undersink cabinet. One end of this little tool will fit into a hole in the bottom of your disposal. Work this wrench back and forth until it moves freely for several revolutions.

If you can't find the service wrench described above, go to a local hardware store where the clerks answer questions. Tell them you are looking for a hex wrench that fits at the bottom of a garbage disposal unit.

Make sure your unit is off. (In most cases, you can unplug it under the sink.) Check to be sure any foreign objects have been removed from the garbage disposal unit. Use a pair of tongs—not your hand to perform this task.

Run the water. Connect and start the unit. Congratulate yourself on a successful repair. You did not have to call on the expensive services of a plumber.

If you don't use your garbage disposal unit frequently, regularly run the unit with water running. This simple maintenance tip will prevent the disposal from permanently freezing and becoming

Is Your Dog a CEC*?

LDORADO RESIDENTS live a bit away from each other but close enough to get to know their neighbors. One value we all share

is that we want other people's pets to respect our space and to be courteous. What is a courteous canine? The answer is that it depends. A dog will be only as polite or rude as its owner allows.

There are regular, unfortunate examples of dogs on the loose in our community. Worse, there are instances in which out-of-control animals have bitten people, fouled driveways and indulged in nuisance barking.

A CEC (*Courteous Eldorado Canine) is one that is leashed or absolutely under the control of its leash holder whenever it is out of the home of its master/mistress.

Santa Fe County's animal control regulations are clear. Dogs must be leashed and/or under control at all times. If they

injure someone, they can be humanely euthanized.

ELDORADO VISTAS

Common courtesy requires that dog 'droppings' should not be left on our roads or on the driveways of our fellow residents.

Recent court cases have emphasized owner's responsibilities with respect to control of their pets. In San Francisco, an owner—not at the scene when his dog mauled and killed a person-was found guilty and will be sentenced soon for involuntary manslaughter. The court's determination was that the owner had the responsibility to ensure his dog was under control and not a public threat. The defendants in the case swore their dog was basically friendly. It is well-known that a loose dog, whatever its personality at home, can be very aggressive to other dogs and people if it is allowed to run loose.

No child deserves to grow up to be emotionally scarred by the actions of an out-of-control dog. No person in our community should ever walk in fear of being bitten by someone's pet anywhere at any time. Every well-behaved dog and every considerate dog owner is a good-will ambassador for dog owners everywhere.

Courtesy makes Eldorado a great place for us to live. If our dogs are courteous it is because we are.



Recreation Committee's Elaine Napp Elaine's Invitation to You

HEN HER YOUNGEST CHILD finished 6th grade at El Dorado Elementary in May, Elaine Napp felt as though she herself had just graduated from grade school. Having been involved with the school for 7 years, the change for Elaine was welcome. "All of us are continually growing (up). It's time to happily move on"

Originally from Wisconsin, Elaine and her husband, Chris, a Forest Service employee, have been in New Mexico for 17 years. They moved from Santa Fe to Pecos and finally, in 1995, to Eldorado and have no plans to move again. "We bought the land in 1985 and built our home in 1995. The house took nine months to build—it is, essentially, our third child." In addition to their house, Elaine and Chris have two daughters: Erin, 15, and Margaret, 12.

Through her children Elaine found the inspiration to become actively involved in the Eldorado community. "Children are wonderful ambassadors. Through our children, their friends, and activities we find new friends for ourselves." In addition to being a member of the Soccer Club, Elaine enjoys volleyball, swimming, and evening walks around the neighborhood. She volunteered her time with the community in many ways since her arrival. She was on the Maintenance Committee for two years and on the Board of Directors for one. Now she heads the Recreation Committee comprised of Elaine and one other member, **Julee Coffman**.

"This is a new committee and we really need people to help. We need energy—we have the ideas and funding but not enough help."

This lack of help is discouraging to Elaine, who would like to see so many more organized activities in Eldorado.

"We have this wonderful community center with a swimming pool, tennis courts, sand volleyball, a soccer field, baseball diamond, playgrounds, and indoor space for meetings and get-togethers, and so many people don't use the space." Or know much about it. Elaine recently fielded a call from a resident who suggested that the community create a baseball diamond. "Well, we already have one."

Despite her frustration with the lack of help, the recreation

committee is important to Elaine. "It will work and I'll try to be there. We have a community full of creative people with ideas and energy to contribute; we just have to find them. The more we each give to our community, the more we all will benefit."

Volunteering, being active, playing, having fun, and being given the chance to do it with friends and neighbors is Elaine's idea of a good time for everyone. She invites anyone interested in making new friends and having fun to get involved with the Recreation Committee. Call her at 466-2023 to find out how you can help.





Elaine Napp taking a breather.

Notes FROM PAGE 2

If you know of items to be included in our annual budget evaluation, please contact **Bob Pritchard**, General Manager, at 466-4248 or myself at 466-4909.

The emphasis of the July Board meeting was the midyear budget review. It appears we may be slightly under our operating budget this year. We are also protesting the Santa Fe County taxation of the stables. I think we have a good case based on our success in defeating the nature preserve tax. This would result in an annual savings of \$900.

The arbitration of a screening covenant violation is completed. Arbitrations cost approximately \$7,000 for ECIA's legal fees. Arbitration is a lengthy and costly way of having to enforce our covenants. Fortunately,

this is the exception and not the rule.

I continue to receive positive comments about the new *Vistas* format and content improvements. If you have additional ideas for improvements, please contact us. Also note a section titled "Viewpoints." This is an opportunity for you to express your thoughts regarding community issues.

Please let me know how you feel about hiring a part time animal control officer. It may be expensive, but current input indicates loose and barking dogs are a community concern.

John Reeder ECIA President



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org



ack to School

The halls of El Dorado Elementary are once again bustling with students. Many families are still trying to switch gears from the summer schedule (or lack of one) to the demands of school. To ease this transition and make school fun for your child, offer to help out in the classroom or on a field trip. The teacher and your child will appreciate your efforts. Also, be patient as your child gets used to the new routine. Talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns.

We have a new principal this year. Make a point to introduce yourself if you haven't already - to **Andrea Hamilton**. Andrea was El Dorado Elementary's assistant principal during the 2000-2001 school year.

The Vistas will publish school news and pictures in most issues. We would also like to feature poetry and art created by kids – preferably about the beauty of New Mexico and Eldorado. The submissions may be published online or in print. Please call 466-2660 for more information.



