Sept. 2005

IN THIS ISSUE Pavillion Survey cont'd2 Why Have Guidelines?.....3 From the President.....3

In the Community4-5 Guidelines Revised6 Help the Firefighers......7

Meet the New Board7

Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

ECIA Pavilion/Performance Stage

Audience Interest Survey

ELDORADO

PLEASE RETURN BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2005.

♦ HE ECIA BOARD HAS ALLOCATED \$55,000 for a pavilion/performance stage to be located at the Community Center. The stage will accommodate activities like the Eldorado Children's Theatre, poetry readings, music events, reunions and weddings. The final design, site, and noise control measures are being evaluated now by a 15-member steering committee.

The Board wants your comments. With your ideas this amenity can be planned to best serve the needs and interests of our community.

Please fill out and return by website, fax, U.S. mail, or drop off. (See page 2.)

1.	I like to attend the following events/performances. (Check all that apply.)				
	☐ Instrumental music				
	□ Vocal music				
	☐ Theater				
□ Puppet shows					
□ Dance					
	☐ Other special events, such as				
	Comments:				
2.	I would attend events at the new pavilion: (Check one.)				
	☐ Often				
	□ Occasionally				
□ Never Please explain:					
	Comments:				
3.	I would attend pavilion events in Eldorado based on: (Check two most important.)				
	Cost				
	☐ Time held				
	☐ Activity for children				
	□ Convenience/nearby				
	☐ Suitable for friends, guests				
	Comments:				

Work Study Meeting, Community Center, Mon., Sept 12, 7 pm



Share your comments with us!

For policy and deadline, see below

E∂itorial 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 info@eldoradocommunity. 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.

▼ Fax: at 466-4248.

Pavillion Audience Interest Survey continued

1. My favorite activities to attend in Eldorado have been:						
Comments:						
The type of events space Eldorado most needs is: (Check one.) ☐ A covered band shell/pavilion primarily for outdoor, good-weather summer performances. ☐ An enclosed indoor/outdoor, multi-use facility for year-round events, performances, and theatre. (Seating 125)						
Other:						
Would you be likely to organize/host an event at the pavilion/stage?						
☐ Yes Describe						
□ No						
7. In the past I have been unable to hold an event (indoor or outdoor) at the Eldorado Community Center						
due to: (Check all that apply.) Space not available on desired date(s) Space size too large Space size too small Rental fee Bad weather forced cancellation						
Comments/Example:						
Commences Damingre.						
3. Would you be willing to donate your time or materials toward the construction of the pavilion/stage?						
Check one.)						
☐ Yes* (please describe)						
□ No						
. Would you consider making a tax-deductible donation to cover costs of some of the technical						
equipment needed? (Check one.) Yes* No * If you answered Yes to number 8 or 9, please let us know how to contact you.						
Name:						
Street or Email Address:						
Phone:						
Please fill out and return no later than Monday, September 12, 2005, using one of these methods:						
▼ Via website: go to www.EldoradoCommunity.org,						
follow the link to the pavilion survey, fill it out and submit it.						

▼ Drop Off: at the ECIA Suggestion Box at Community Center or at Quik Send (at the Agora).

▼ Mail: fold, put into envelope, stamp and mail to: #1 La Hacienda Loop 87508.



Why Have Architectural Guidelines?

OME ELDORADO RESIDENTS WONDER WHY we have Architectural Guidelines and a project application and review process. As with other community associations, we are legally bound to control the common elements and exterior appearance of dwellings, walls, fences and accessory buildings. Well-thought-out and consistently enforced architectural guidelines help maintain a consistency of quality, enhancing the natural beauty of our attractive rural setting while preserving our property values.

The Eldorado Community Improvement Association (ECIA) architectural policy is important in developing an architectural design review process that provides homeowners (members) guidance in designing their project and navigating the review process. This process also provides guidance for consistent review by the Architectural Committee, the ECIA Board and any future review committees. The policy, Guidelines and process:

- ▼ help satisfy due process (legal) requirements of the Association,
- ▼ determine how the Architectural Committee (AC) is created, empowered, and staffed,
- determine the architectural review process and how it works,
- ▼ act as a guide for the AC to follow in the review process,
- create a review process that is user friendly,
- ▼ clarify the Covenants and Guidelines regarding architectural design issues and goals,
- ▼ identify the projects that require architectural review and approval,
- ▼ identify what is expected of the homeowner in the project planning and review process, and
- ▼ identify the owner deliverables, approved stucco colors, clear and accurate site plans, elevation drawings and dimensions that aid in facilitating the approval of projects.

So, if you are planning a structure such as a fence, wall, portal, addition or accessory structure, please remember that no additions or exterior alterations above the natural grade may be made until the design, location, exterior colors and building materials for such structures, additions and alterations have been approved in writing by the ECIA.

—Charles Smith, the ECIA CCR

From the President's Desk

The Community Pavilion

By this time, late summer, we thought we would hear the sounds of construction for the new Community Pavilion at the Community Center. But alas, all is quiet. The sounds of construction may not be there, but the sound of voices planning, rethinking and questioning can be heard.

On July 11, the ECIA Board met with the Eldorado Performing Arts Association and other interested residents to determine the next steps that need to be taken in order to build a pavilion that is viable for performers, audiences and neighbors. After much discussion, it was decided that the placement of the pavilion on the Community Center property, the acoustics for the pavilion and the effects of sound on the neighbors and the design would be reviewed. A subcommittee was formed and given until mid-September to report back to the Board. After the subcommittee's report, the Board will be ready to move toward completion of the project.

Many in the community will have had input into all aspects of building the pavilion. Some of us became impatient, wanting the pavilion sooner

rather than later, but we were reminded that it is important to get it right, because once built, we do not get, as the kids say, "do-overs."

Revised Guidelines

For several years, the Architectural Committee of the ECIA Board has been working to revise the Guidelines for the Protective Covenants and Building Restrictions for Eldorado at Santa Fe. The Board has reviewed the document and now is making it available to residents for review and comment. The Guidelines are posted on the Eldorado community website (www.EldoradoCommunity.org) and hard copies are available at the ECIA office.

On Tuesday, September 20, at 7 pm at the Community Center, there will be a public forum to discuss the new Guidelines. As a community, this is one of the most important conversations we can have. If we want to maintain our community as a viable, desirable place to live, then the Guidelines that are a clarification of the Covenants are our best way to fulfill that commitment to this community. Please join us. Your input is vital. (See page 6.)

- Jeanne Klein

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES Vista Grande Library 466-READ 204-2945

Fire and Rescue 466-1204 986-2430

Fiber Arts Program

The September Art Association program will feature several Eldorado artists who specialize in creating quilts, handbags, clothing and home accessories. During the September 29 monthly meeting of the Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association, the artists-Linda Robinson, Christine Drumright, Linda Knapp, and Marlene Bolotsky—will talk about how they achieve their creations. The meeting begins at 7 pm and will be held at the Eldorado Fire and Rescue Station on Avenida Vista Grande. The meeting is open to the public. For information, call 466-3256.

Flee to the Flea Market

The ever-popular bi-annual Flea Market is coming to Eldorado. September 17 is the day for the fall Flea Market to be held at the Eldorado Community Center on the paved area (back by popular demand). Vendors can begin to set up at 6:30 am and the Flea Market will

be open to shoppers from 8 am to noon. No reservations required. This sale is a first come, first served event and space is Vendors limited. should plan bring whatever they need to display their goods (tables, blankets, racks, etc.). Coffee and donuts will be on sale.

The cost to participate is \$10 per space for Eldorado vendors, \$15 for vendors from outside Eldorado and \$20 for commercial vendors. As usual, no food or weapons may be sold by vendors, and vendor spaces must be cleaned of all unsold items and debris by 1 pm.

Volunteers are needed to help with parking, etc. To volunteer call Joe Auburg at 466-1484 or Pat Kuhlhoff at 466-4877.

September Library Event

Ken Simonsen, retired educator, activist and Eldorado resident, will present a lecture and slide show entitled Shooting Elephants in Zimbabwe on Thursday, September 15, 7-9 pm. Ken's presentation addresses the current plight of these magnificent creatures coupled with the political crisis and human tragedy in Africa. Ken's interest in this subject resulted from his participation in a Fulbright study in Zimbabwe.



Talking Art

September's Artists' Shoptalk will be Wednesday, September 21, 10 am to noon, at the home of Catalina Perez-Lacey and Dorothy Nadel, both oil painters. They will host our monthly gathering for coffee and conversation. If you are a local artist, come by. Call 466-8428 if you need directions.

Budgeting Calendar

The ECIA Finance Committee has begun work on the 2006 ECIA budget. The General Manager has drafted the operations part of the budget. ECIA committees and residents are encouraged

> submit written budget requests with documentation and cost estimates to the

> > ECIA office by Friday, September 2. A packet containing guidelines and forms is available the office. Budget meetings have been set as follows:

Wednesday, September 14, 9:30 The Finance am

Committee begins review of proposals at its regular monthly meeting. Residents are welcome to attend for discussion of proposals. Venue: Conference room

Tuesday, September 20, 7 pm - The Finance Committee continues review of proposals for evening attendees. Venue: Living room.

Monday, October 24, 7 pm - Joint meeting of ECIA Board and Finance Committee. Committee chairs and residents are invited to further explain their budget requests if necessary. Venue: Conference room.

Wednesday, November 2 - Tentative 2006 budget available at ECIA office.

Saturday, November 5, 10 am - The Board conducts a public hearing on the proposed 2006 budget. Copies will be available at the hearing. Venue: Railroad station.





Astronomy Corner

Becoming a Better Observer

Your unaided eyes are incredible light sensors; you can see the Milky Way, the dark and light areas on the Moon, comets and many more celestial objects. But you can train your eyes to see even more. The next time you are looking at the night sky, try to draw any patterns that you see, such as the Big Dipper. Does your drawing look different than the real thing? It can be difficult to discern the actual shapes, especially with some constellations such as Ursa Major.

Here's an exercise you can do to train your eyes: place a white egg against a white background and try to draw it. Don't just draw an oval; try to draw the full egg with details, such as the subtle contrasts in shading. This exercise should help you in recognizing and drawing lowcontrast objects. Keep track of all your drawings and you should eventually see an improvement. Sooner or later you will see much more of the night sky.

Missing Stars

If you were at the stargazing event at the Community Center on August 11, you may have gotten wet. Since the event was rained out, the Conservation Committee has rescheduled the event for September 6, at 8 pm. Details are in the August issue of Vistas.

Next time: Choosing Binoculars

—Juan Alvarez Jalva88610@aol.com

Thursday, September 17 - The Board adopts the final 2006 budget at its regular meeting.

September 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							
SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS							
Flea Market Sat., Sept. 17, 8 am – noon in Community Center parking lot							
COMMITTEE MEETINGS							
Conservation Committee	Tues., Sept. 6, 7-9 pm	Stephen Wust	466-0436	LR			
Perform. Arts Assoc.	Tues., Sept. 6, 6 pm			RR			
285 Coalition	Wed., Sept. 7, 7-9 pm	Kathy Pilnock	466-1598	CFR			
Road Committee	Mon., Sept. 12, 6-7 pm	Ed Benrock	466-2088	CFR			
Board Work Study	Mon., Sept. 12, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR			
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 13, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR			
Finance Committee	Wed., Sept. 14, 9:30-11 am	Gisela Knight	466-2568	CFR			
EAW&SD*	Wed., Sept. 14, 7-9 pm		466-2411	CFR			
ECIA Board	Thurs., Sept. 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR			
Information Committee	Mon., Sept. 19, 7-8 pm	Ken McPherson	466-4161	F			
Neighborhood Watch	Mon., Sept. 19, 7-9 pm	Sandra Vreeland	466-6079	CFR			
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 27, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708	CFR			
Stable Committee	Tues., Sept. 27, 7-9 pm	Dina Sassone	466-2516	LR			
MONTHLY MEETINGS							
Book Club	Sat., Sept. 10, 1:30-3 pm	Barbara Rugg	466-2559				
Book Club/Pot Luck	call for date and time	Ken Fischer	466-2537				
Library Book Group	4th Thurs., 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636	Lib			
Search & Rescue	Thurs., Sept. 8, 7-9 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765	CR			
Troop 414 Committee	1st Wed., 7:30-9 pm	Bruce Blossman	955-0880	CR			
Venturing Crew 414	2nd & 4th Wed., 7-9 pm	Vera Hayduk	466-1726	C			
Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	Ty Ransdell	466-2579	Sm Gym			
La Canada Wireless	Mon., Sept. 12, 7-9	lcwireless.org		LR			
MOMS Club	Call for date and time	Shannon Ratcliff	986-9050				
WEEKLY MEETINGS							
AA	Tuesdays, 5:45-6:45 pm			LR			
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			LR			
AA	Fridays, 6-7 pm			CFR			
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			LR			
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			LR			
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wednesdays, 7-9 pm	Paul Tuck	466-4815	RR			
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon., 1-4 pm			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	Wednesdays, 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR			
Community Band	Thursdays, 6-8 pm	Joel Hopko	466-8412				
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	Therese Janowski	466-1397	CR			
Knitting Club	2nd & 4th Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	F			
Adult Volleyball	Wed., 7-9 pm	Arlene Mayer	466-6641	School			
*Eldorado Area Water an	*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District **Reservations Required						

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org



Revised Architectural Guidelines

SET REVISED Architectural Guidelines has been proposed by the ECIA Architectural Committee and is being presented to Association members for comment. A public forum for the Board to hear comments is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, at 7 pm in the Railroad building at the Community Center.

The Association's Covenants empower the Board to adopt "rules, regulations, and guidelines" for Covenant enforcement. The last full Guidelines revision was done in 1996, and times-and the community—have changed since then. The proposed revision incorporates some changes to better



serve the Covenants' intent, and has been reformatted for clarity.

The ECIA office has printed copies of the new Guidelines, and they will also be available at the meeting. They may also be viewed or downloaded from the ECIA website at http://www.eldoradocommunity.org (click on Hot News, then Proposed Guidelines). Adobe Reader is needed on your computer; it is available free at http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html.

Some of the changes to the Guidelines include:

- ▼ A list of information to be included with an application
- ▼ Clearer definition of a corner lot
- ▼ Clearer definition of the five architectural styles approved for use
- ▼ Better definition of what constitutes a "minor element" of a second approved style
- ▼ Notes for solar features such as clerestories and collectors
- ▼ Non-approved features such as exposed plastic walls/roofs, latticework
- ▼ Clarification of exterior lighting rules
- ▼ Updated colors for walls and roof panels
- ▼ Design standards for ramadas and pergolas
- ▼ Increase in size limit for most large accessory buildings from 600 sq. ft. to 800 sq. ft., and limits on height
- ▼ Small accessory buildings must be within 15 feet of house and meet stricter screening requirements, but height may increase from 8 ft. to 10 ft., if matching style of house
- ▼ No chain link or brightly colored wire fencing
- ▼ Only two different styles of fences/walls on a single property
- ▼ Garden fences continue to be allowed without a permit, but subject to limitations
- ▼ Additional information on elevations, for evaluating the effects of privacy screening fences on a neighbor's view
- ▼ Screening or painting requirements for above-ground cisterns greater than 120 gallons
- ▼ An additional home occupation nameplate at building entrance
- ▼ Definition of trash nuisances such as abandoned vehicles, appliances, construction materials, etc.
- ▼ Table summarizing various height restrictions

New guidelines will not change any conditions for existing, approved construction permits. In addition, some things that are not proposed to change include:

- ▼ Recreational vehicle screening guidelines as adopted in September, 2004
- ▼ Satellite TV antennas smaller than 39 in. in diameter still need no permit

Comments may be presented in person at the September 20 public forum, by email to ecommunity@aol.com, or by mail to the ECIA, 1 Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe NM 87508.



Now You Can Help Them

HEY PROTECT YOU, your homes and your community against structure and brush fires. They respond at all hours of the day and night to bring you high-quality emergency healthcare and hospital transportation. Their efforts, training and equipment save you and the community millions of dollars in lower insurance rates due to an improved ISO rating. The "they" of whom I speak, are the men and women volunteers of the El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service (EFRS). Because of a true sense of community service, they do this work without any direct compensation.

The service is always grateful for the community's generous support, which allows it to continue to provide valuable assistance to you and your neighbors. But there is a crisis looming in Eldorado and every community that depends on this volunteer fire service. Membership in these departments is diminishing. The ability to recruit and retain members has become increasingly more difficult.

There is a possible solution—a resolution that is presently in the House Ways and Means Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance in the U.S. Senate. The bill is called Supporting Emergency Responders Volunteer Efforts Act (SERVE ACT, SR 625, HR 934). These resolutions request that active members of volunteer fire departments be given a \$1,000 tax credit during their time of service. This plan will provide a small incentive to aid in the recruitment

and retention of volunteers. The cost of the incentive is small compared to the estimated \$37.2 billion annual cost saving provided by volunteer emergency services nationwide according to the National Volunteer Fire Council.

You can help. The bill is now in the Senate Committee on Finance, of which Senator Jeff Bingaman is a member. Please write, call or email by using the information below, and urge him to support this bill. If it gets out of this committee, it would go to the Senate Appropriations Committee and you would then urge Senator Pete V. Domenici for his support.

Present and future volunteer firefighters in Eldorado and all over the United States would be very grateful.

Senator Jeff Bingaman

Senate Committee on Finance 119 East Marcy Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 988-6674 senator bingaman@bingaman.senate.gov

Senator Pete V. Domenici

Senate Appropriations Committee 120 S. Federal Place Santa Fe, NM 87501 (505) 988-6511 domenici@senate.gov/contact

—Jay Selnick



Meet the New Board Members

D MAY BE A NEW FACE on the ECIA Board, but he is an experienced hand at the Association. He has served on the Road Committee, and more recently as its chair, during which time he was the ECIA's representative on the County Road Advisory Committee.

Ed came to Eldorado, like many of us, from southern California, where, among other things, he served on the board of the Silver City Chamber of Commerce, was Vice Chair of the City of Montclair Planning Commission, and Board President of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum. He was educated at Wayne State University in Detroit, and served in the

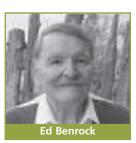
Andrea Cohen was born in Boston and grew up in San Francisco. She first moved to New Mexico in 1996, living in and around Las Vegas and Mora for several years. During this time Andrea grew to appreciate the area not just for its scenic beauty, but also for its unique history and culture. After a few years back in San Francisco, she returned to New

Mexico in 2002 and purchased her first home in Eldorado in 2003.

Andrea is an avid bird watcher and leads monthly bird walks at the Randall Davey Audubon Center. She has long been interested in real estate and recently began working for a title and escrow company, a job she really enjoys. She lives with her partner, two dogs, and two cats on one of our lovely greenbelts.

Johnny Martinez's family has been in the Santa Fe area since the 1600s, and except for his military service time, he has been a lifelong resident of Santa Fe County. He served in the Air Force and the Defense Nuclear agency as a computer and data systems specialist, and earned a Bachelor of Business Administration/Information Technology degree.

Johnny retired from the Air Force as a Master Sergeant, and has served the Little League as umpire, league treasurer, vice-president and president. His wife Carol has been with the El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service for the past 20 years as both a medic and firefighter.









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