

ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XII, ISSUE 9

September 2010

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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Field of Opportunity at El Dorado School

In the words of singer-songwriter Neil Young, “In the field of opportunity, it’s plowing time again.” The metaphor suggests that we celebrate our ability to restore and start fresh again, availing ourselves of opportunities as they arise.

Along with new school principal **Anne Darnton**, new opportunities, outlooks, and vistas are heading our way at El Dorado Community School. Darnton is looking forward to playing a role in the school’s growth and development as a true community school that serves learners from kindergarten through 8th grade. Darnton says, “I am very excited to get to know more of the great staff and students at El Dorado and to work with the school community on supporting the wonderful traditions it already has and also on expanding the vision of what the school can be.”

Darnton has had an impressive and diverse career that includes extensive administrative experience as principal, assistant principal, administrative intern, and special education consultant. During the early 1990s, she was a preschool teacher and a special education teacher. Most recently, she was the Small Learning Communities (SLC) Project Coordinator. When asked what she enjoyed most about that role, Darnton replied, “Being the SLC Project Coordinator was a real learning experience for me, as I was working with two federal grants that involved Capital High and Santa Fe High. I learned a good deal about grant management and report writing, which I think will serve

me well. I also truly enjoyed getting to work with teaching staff at both the high schools and learning about some of the challenges and unique academic and extracurricular opportunities at the two sites. My work as the SLC project coordinator should help me to support El Dorado students in making smoother transitions to the high school level, as I now have a better sense of what to expect at the high school.”

When asked if there was any particular subject, item, or interest that she would like to share with the Eldorado community, Darnton replied: “I encourage the community to be aware that we are about to embark on the construction process that will ultimately result in a great facility that will accommodate the school’s growth. There is information on the SFPS website about the next steps in the process.

“It is certainly no secret that I live in Eldorado. We have been residents for about 12 years and truly love what living here has to offer us. We are frequently running or biking on the trails, and if my son had his way, we would probably live outside!”

Katherine Diaz, former Language Arts and Social Studies teacher and after-school coordinator at Ortiz Middle School, will serve as Assistant Principal at El Dorado School.

—Teri Gallegos-Reynolds

ECIA Board Meeting, Community Center, Thurs., September 16, 7 pm. Public is invited.



New athletic field at El Dorado Community School.
Photo: Teri Gallegos-Reynolds

Fire Department Barbecue September 19

Featuring many of the things that have delighted and educated children and adults in the past 22 years, the volunteers of the El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service will hold their annual barbecue at the department’s Main Station on Avenida Vista Grande from noon to 4:30 pm on September 19.

There will be much to see at this free event and a great deal to learn about the volunteers who protect our community seven days a week, year-round, in all kinds of weather at any time of the day or night. In addition

to the critical tasks of firefighting and responding to hazardous material incidents and roadway accidents, our volunteer department has a number of well-trained emergency technicians (EMTs) who respond to medical emergencies in the 100 square mile area over which our fire department has responsibility.

All of the department’s equipment will be on display, and everyone is welcome to sit in the cabs and learn from our firefighters how they save lives and protect property when they respond to an incident.

Continued on back page >>



Photo: Dan Drobis



**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 e-mailed to ECIADiAna@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.

Architectural Committee Confirms New Members

The ECIA is excited to have four new confirmed members on the Architectural Committee. They were approved as new members at the June 17 ECIA Board meeting. They bring a wealth of experience, expertise, and concern for the community that will enable the Architectural Committee to effectively fulfill its role.

John Parker retired from the New Mexico Environmental Department in December 2009, after working for 25 years as an environmental scientist, then manager, involved with groundwater protection, hazardous waste and radioactive materials management. John has a B.S. in biology from UNM and an M.A. in biology from the University of Nebraska. He has lived in Eldorado since 1986 with his wife **Laurie** and their pack of miniature dogs. His hobbies include skiing and mountain biking. He is the chair of the ECIA Conservation Committee.

Faren Dancer, designer, builder, educator, and consultant, is the president of Sundancer Creations LLC, Custom Builders. He is also the chair of the Santa Fe Green Building Council, past president of the Santa Fe Area Home Builders Association, and a former co-chair of LEED for Homes New Mexico.

After four decades in the building industry, Dancer has emerged as a national force for green, sustainable building practices and energy efficiency as expressed through his articles, classes, seminars, committees, public appearances, and projects. His recently completed Emerald Home project was the pilot for Santa Fe's new building codes, which he co-

wrote; he also received a United States Green Building Council educational grant to develop an online course on Green, Net-Zero Energy Building for Santa Fe Community College (available Fall 2010). Faren is currently designing an off-grid, net-zero energy home for Santa Fe County Commissioner **Kathy Holian**.

Jan Pietrzak and his wife purchased their home in Eldorado in 2007 and finally got here in 2008. Jan left teaching at the college level in 2008. In his teaching career, he taught photography and art in southern California. He worked for some 35 years as a commercial photographer of large product and architecture/design projects. In southern California Jan also spent some time working on conservation projects at a major library. He and his wife love Eldorado for what it is and what it can be.

Katherine Mortimar heads up the sustainability efforts for the City of Santa Fe and staffs the Sustainable Santa Fe Commission. Katherine has over 25 years of experience in environmental planning and design, mostly in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has a bachelor of architecture from the California College of the Arts and a masters in landscape architecture and environmental planning from the University of California at Berkeley. Her other volunteer efforts include serving as trustee of the Santa Fe Green Building Council, the chair of the Santa Fe City and County Food Policy Council, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area.

—Mark Young

Driveway Monuments in Eldorado

Over this past summer, the ECIA learned that a number of driveway monuments were in the process of being constructed or had been recently completed, but had not received the required approvals before beginning construction. When this occurs, the ECIA must note this as a violation and work with the resident to correct the violation and get the needed approvals. To prevent future unintentional driveway monument violations, however, we felt it was very important to address this issue in *Vistas*.

Driveway monuments are allowed but are considered permanent structures. They require not only Architectural Committee approval, but also a variance approval from the ECIA Board of Directors. The variance approval is needed because under our covenants, no structures are allowed within the front 50-foot prop-

erty setback without a variance approval by the Board.

The Eldorado Guidelines for Protective Covenants and Building Restrictions clearly define these monuments, as well as their location requirements, on page 4 (see the ECIA website for the full document). Specifically, they state the following:

Driveway monuments shall be: (a) Of solid construction such as finished stucco, fitted stone or exposed adobe. (b) No more than 4 feet in height and 10 feet in total length on one or both sides of the driveway. (c) Located inside the front lot line no closer than 10 feet to the property line. (d) No further than 20 feet from the property line common with the dedicated roadway.

Residents interested in building a driveway mon-

Continued on facing page >>

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Sound Policy Makes for Good Neighbors

The ECIA Board of Directors is developing new policies for private events at the Community Center, which will cover several areas, including amplified sound, alcohol, rental fees, and organizational events.

The new rules are intended to support Eldorado's emphasis on pleasant aesthetics, respect for the natural environment, and a spirit of neighborliness. The Community Center will continue to be used as it has been for many years, with the addition of certain rules to ensure that the Community Center behaves as a good neighbor, as we all desire and expect our neighbors to behave.

The Eldorado Community Center is the focal point for many community-oriented activities, events, meetings, and parties. Since 2008, the Board has imposed a moratorium on amplified music at the Community Center, not including ECIA-sponsored events. This came about because, in the preceding years, the number, frequency, and volume of private parties had increased, causing a noise and safety nuisance in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Faced with complaints by neighbors and a threat of litigation, the Board imposed the ban in order to prevent further impacts, study the issue, and to draft

a new policy. At that time, the Board made a commitment that no policy or facilities would be allowed to compromise nearby residents' ability to enjoy their properties in peace.

The policy that is being developed is based on a review of policies in use at popular venues in Santa Fe and at homeowners' associations around the country, and on input from the Facilities and Grounds Committee. The new policy will include these provisions:

- ▶ Amplified sound will be strictly monitored with clear consequences for violations.
- ▶ Events with amplified sound will be limited in number and required to comply with reasonable music cutoff times.
- ▶ Events with alcohol service must comply with New Mexico laws and may include security personnel.
- ▶ Allowance of, but different provisions for, residents' personal events vs. organizational events.
- ▶ Fees will be set that cover all costs of building management and security for events.

Nothing in these policies will affect the traditional community-wide gatherings such as the flea markets, 4th of July, the Ice Cream Social, and similar events.

—Ed Moreno, ECIA Vice President

ECIA Appoints New Board Member

The ECIA Board has appointed **Gregory Bundrick** as a new member to fill the director vacancy created by the resignation of **Lisa Robles**. His term extends until May 2012.

Gregory and his wife are eight-year residents of Eldorado. A licensed independent social worker, he works with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families as a counselor and behavior consultant under New Mexico's Medicaid waiver program.

From 2003 to 2008, Gregory worked at the Esperanza Shelter for Battered Families, supervising the emergency crisis shelter and counseling offenders of domestic violence. Prior to that, he worked with the Department of Health and helped write policies and procedures for the state Medicaid waiver program.

Gregory is interested in helping to plan for Eldorado's future through collaboration with others and believes it is important to be part of solutions and to contribute to the community.

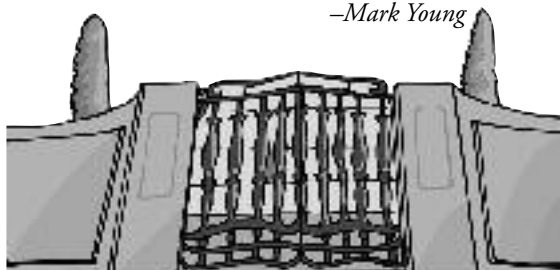
—Dan Drobnis

Driveway Monuments, *continued from p. 2*

ument on their lot are required to complete the Architectural Plan Submission form, as well as a Variance Request form, both of which can be obtained from the Eldorado website or at the ECIA offices. Completed forms should be submitted to the ECIA offices for review at the next Architectural Committee meeting. Residents with questions concerning driveway monuments are encouraged to contact me,

Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative, at 466-4248 or eciaccr@aol.com.

—Mark Young



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Gregory Bundrick COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Finance: Dan Drobnis
Architecture: Vacant position
Conservation: John Parker & E.J. Evangelos

Stable: Bonita Mamp

Election: Jean Crawford

Roads: Nolan Zisman

Information: Frank Schober

Neighborhood Watch:

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library

466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204

eldoradofireescue.org

County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)



NCRTD Bus has expanded schedule for Eldorado. And it's free!

ERA News

FALL FLEA MARKET

September 11, 8 am–noon, in partnership with the Eldorado People's Coop. Community Ctr parking lot. Vendor Fees: Eldorado Residents: \$15; Non Residents: \$20; Commercial: \$25. Vendors can set up at 7 am.

TGIF

September 17, 5–7 pm, Community Ctr Living Rm. A potluck in partnership with the Eldorado People's Coop. Bring an appetizer, main dish, salad or dessert. We will provide food set-ups, wine, beer & soda. Call **Marilyn Farrell** with questions: 466-4469.

All Eldorado residents are welcome to both of these events. Come out, meet someone new, let your voice be heard, get involved in exciting new things happening in the community.



Ming Franz's ink with watercolor

IN THE COMMUNITY

Let Blue Drive For You

The North Central Regional Transit District (NCRTD), commonly known as the "Blue Bus," has served the Eldorado community for the past four years by providing bus transportation. Recently, the Santa Fe County Regional Planning Authority directed the NCRTD to provide a midday service run from Eldorado into Santa Fe. The newly implemented bus schedule began on July 1. Schedules can be found online at www.ncrtd.org, or folks can call the NCRTD directly at 866-206-0754. The bus service is FREE and is available for the public Monday–Friday. The NCRTD is partly funded through gross receipts taxes.

Personal Safety Presentation

ECIA Community Services is presenting a workshop at the ECIA Community Center, September 13 at 7 pm. Learn simple and easy ways to protect your home, your car, and yourself; how to use verbal communications to de-escalate potential conflicts; what items in your normal environment can be used as weapons to protect yourself and loved ones; how to use barriers and distance to give yourself an opportunity to escape a violent confrontation; things you can do in your everyday life to minimize the possibility of becoming a victim; the difference between surviving and winning. Join us to learn lots of safety tips for you and your family. For further information, contact **Raven Hicks**, Community Services: 204-2945.

"Splash Ink" Demonstration

The Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association (EACA) has invited **Ming Franz** to demonstrate an innovative style of painting at their September 30 meeting. The "Splash Ink with Watercolor" technique begins with a blending of Asian black ink and primary watercolors splashed onto rice paper. After studying the resulting abstraction, the artist adds touches to draw out rocks, mountains, trees, waterfalls, birds and trees, creating haunting landscapes. Ming's artwork, book, and DVD will be on hand. Those interested in learning more about this imaginative art form, as well as the Association, are invited to attend the meeting. Call 466-6245.

EACA holds monthly meetings, featuring various art-related presenters, the last Thursday of every month at the Fire House on Ave. Vista Grande.

Greening Eldorado

The Second "Greening Eldorado" town hall meeting will be held Saturday, September 25, 9:30 am to noon at Mike's Music Exchange (coffee, goodies, and socializing 9:30–10 am). There will be a Powerpoint presentation on the information gathered at the first meeting, where Eldorado-area residents shared their visions of a sustainable Eldorado. New committees are forming so everyone can have an

MOON PHASES FOR SEPTEMBER 2010



opportunity to affect positive changes in our community. There will also be an update on the efforts of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Renewable Energy, Sustainability and ECIA Guideline Revisions to develop a resolution on greening Eldorado. This committee, made up of community partners, ECIA Board and staff, Architectural Review Committee members, and the general public, will be used to foster dialogue among stakeholders and to provide language and direction for revising current guidelines. Contact chair **Dana Richards** at 690-5500 for meeting times, locations, and further information.

The town hall meeting is open to ALL Eldorado-area residents, including the 285 and Las Vegas Highway corridors. Contact **Marilynn Jacobs** 466-6707 or eldogarden@comcast.net.

Artist's Day at Eldorado Stables Oct. 9

The Eldorado Stables is hosting Artist Day at the Eldorado Stables on Saturday October 9, from 9 am until noon. Bring your whole family and come visit the horses. There will be organized events for artists and activities for children. Bring your camera, your pencils and paints, or just your inner artist, and join the fun. Save the date!

"The King & I" Theatre for Kids/Teens

Last chance to sign up your child or teen for this special production. Participants will learn acting, singing, and movement while building confidence and having a great time putting on Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The King and I" with a live professional orchestra, including Broadway pianist **David Geist**, at the James A. Little Theater December 3–12. Classes begin Aug. 31 and Sept. 7 in Eldorado for ages 6–18! Visit www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org or call 466-3302 for information and registration. Space is limited!

Women's Council of Realtors-Santa Fe

The Women's Council of Realtors-Santa Fe Chapter, a not-for-profit organization empowering women to exercise their potential as entrepreneurs and industry leaders, is hosting a fund-raising event Saturday, September 25, at 11:30–2:30 pm at the Community Center. There will be several prize-winning booths and various contests throughout the afternoon. This is a free event open to all adults, children, and their pets. There will also be booths selling burgers, hot dogs, and drinks; 10% of all proceeds will go to benefit Kindred Spirits, a non-profit organization animal sanctuary serving as a hospice and eldercare for dogs, horses, and poultry. WCR's mission is to create opportunities for local organizations by providing donations, supplies, and support through volunteerism.

ASTRONOMY CORNER



September 2010

September 21: Jupiter will be closest to earth in its orbit. This is a great time to go out and see Jupiter get as big as it gets. The four moons will be visible in regular binoculars, but use a telescope to see spectacular bands around its surface. You should see at least five alternating gray and white bands (two gray, three white) in even a small telescope, though a larger one will show color.

September 22: Uranus will be closest in its orbit to the earth. You won't be able to make out any detail on this faraway planet, but you may be lucky enough to see its blue-green color tinge the sky. The blue color is due to methane in its upper atmosphere, which absorbs the red color from the sun, leaving blue.

September 23: Autumn equinox = first day of fall (when the lengths of day and night are the same).

Protect Our Night Skies: Small lights left carelessly on may spoil the views of our night sky.

ENERGY-SAVING TIP OF THE MONTH

Just One Thing!

It's amazing how much water and money you can save just by:

- Reducing the volume of flow from the faucet in the kitchen or bathroom sinks;
- Turning off the water in between dishes being rinsed; while rubbing your hands with soap when washing them; and while you're lathering with soap in the shower.

These actions may seem a bit awkward at first but quickly become second nature!

– Eldorado Energy Coop

Budget Meeting Change

The Finance Committee has canceled its previously scheduled September 14 evening budget meeting. It has been replaced by a Saturday morning meeting September 18 with the ECIA Board and committee chairs.

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 3rd of the month for publication in the following month's *Vistas*.

Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. Type of Event

2. Location

3. Date & Time

4. **A Resource Person** (one who can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.

Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

Note: All meetings are at the Community Center, unless otherwise noted.

LR=Living Room, F=Foyer, CFR=Conference Room, CR=Class Room, RR=Railroad, K=Kitchen

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

ERA Flea Market	Sat., Sept. 11, 7-12	Marilyn Farrell	466-4248	CC
Personal Safety	Mon., Sept. 13, 7-9	Raven Hicks	466-4248	CR
ERA TGIF	Fri., Sept. 17, 5-7	Marilyn Farrell	466-4248	CC
Eldorado Trails Day	Sat., Sept. 18, 10 am	Mark Young	466-4248	Preserve

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Facilities & Grounds	Tues., Sept. 7, 4-6 pm	Fred Raznick	466-2305	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Sept. 7, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	Foyer
Finance Committee	Wed., Sept. 8, 9:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., Sept. 13, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 14, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
ECIA Board	Thurs., Sept. 16, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Information Committee	Tues., Sept. 21, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	Foyer
Stable Committee	Mon., Sept. 27, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 28, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Road Committee	Mon., Oct. 4, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	CFR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR
La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs, 7 pm	santafesar.org		CR
Library Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Eldorado Dog Club	4th Saturday 9:30 am	Freddi Fullington	466-2005	Dog Park
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Pam Henline	466-4781	VGPL
Conservation Com Hike	3rd Sat. of month	Eleanor Gossen	466-1949	CC Prk Lot
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Fire Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	John Kielling	466-4232	Sm Gym
EACA Meeting	Last Thurs. of month		466-6245	Fire
MOMS Club	Call for dates & times	Jackie Camborde	466-0094	CR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:30-6:50 pm			CFR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
AA	Wed., 5:30-6:30 pm			Annex
AA	Wed., 5:45-6:45 pm (Men Only)			CFR
AA	Thurs. 5:30-6:30 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat., 10:45-11:45 am			CFR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			CFR
Adult Basketball	Thurs., 6 pm-dusk			CC Court
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon, 1-4:30 pm	Kate Kaulbach	466-1465	LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm			LR
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Buddhist instruction**	Thurs., 5:30-6:30 pm	Tushita Buddhist Ctr	820-2226	LaTienda
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
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	
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
Life Drawing (EACA)	Mondays, 10 am-noon	Sande Anderson	466-4688	RR
Knitting Club	Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Senior Lunch**	Mon.-Fri., 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	Richard Robinson	466-7319	RR

*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District **For other religious/spiritual services, go to <http://santafe.areaconnect.com/churches.htm> ***Reservations Required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradocommunity.org



Weeds got your goat? Goats got your weeds!

If you drove past the Community Center last month, you may have noticed the goats—nearly 200 of them, browsing on grass, weeds, even piñons! Eldorado has contracted with the folks from SunStar Farms, near Madrid, to control overgrowth in the weed-choked north greenbelt. Over a few weeks in August, owner **Dave Thorp**, his daughter **Amanita**, and several of their ranch hands herded the goats down the greenbelt, covering about 3 acres per day. Dave makes it clear that there is a significant difference between sheep—which he terms “grazers”—and goats, which are “browsers.” “Sheep will eat grass right down to the roots if you let them, and a lot of things they won’t eat,” he says. “Goats can learn to eat nearly anything, plus, they stay on the move. They don’t spoil the land; they help improve it.”



Eldorado residents have reacted enthusiastically: “We have around 50 people who have asked us to bring the goats to their property when the greenbelt project is complete,” says Amanita. “And, people have been very helpful in volunteering to provide water and electricity,” she adds.

Indeed, the goat business is thriving for SunStar. They plan to add another herd of 200 goats—Cashmeres from Afghanistan, Angoras from Turkey, Nubians and Boers from Africa. Their ranch, a model for sustainable agriculture in the New West, will contract with the Forest Service, the Corps of Engineers, and area residents for weed control.

But, SunStar isn’t just about goats. According to their website, they “grow many varieties of native and naturalized herbs appropriate to our arid environment, without the use of chemicals or any commer-

cial fertilizers.” One of their more successful ventures has been growing jujubes, a small, date-like fruit, originally from China, which is considered to have valuable medicinal properties. SunStar harvests the fruits in September and sells them, along with goat milk, yogurt, and cheese, at the Farmers’ Market.

If, after seeing all those cute goats and their kids browsing the greenbelt, you decide that you want a few of your own, SunStar will sell you some, but you’ll have to move out of Eldorado (no livestock allowed)!

—Jack Arnold

Road Survey Results

Residents/owners of 620 Eldorado homes (23%) responded to the recent ECIA Survey of Road Preferences. Some 54% favor retaining dirt surfaces, and 67% are against incurring a special assessment to fund improvements to their roads. More details and a full list of the comments received from respondents are posted on the ECIA website.

From a road-by-road perspective, there are quite a few areas where more than half the respondents favor paving and/or are willing to pay to get their road improved. In the coming months, efforts will be made to develop more road-specific information regarding resurfacing costs and self-funding procedures and policies for these roads. In the meantime, the Road Committee will continue to pursue funding from the legislature and the county, despite the likelihood that no monies will be available for the next year or two.

—Nolan Zisman, Chair, ECIA Road Committee

Eldorado Trails Day

Come join the fun at Eldorado Trails Day, a community event Saturday, September 18, to celebrate our many fine hiking trails. The event is co-sponsored by the ECIA Conservation Committee, Earthworks, and Boy Scout Troop 414. Beginning at 10 am, there will be tours of trail restoration projects and of ongoing restoration of natural wetlands in our Wilderness Preserve. There will also be some hands-on work on trail sections needing repair. Food and drinks will be offered, along with some events targeted for kids. Take Old Las Vegas Highway to County Road 51. Park at Trailhead 3, the second parking lot on the left.

—Mark Young



Top left: Goats headed to the ECIA Ice Cream Social a little early (photo: AJ Melnick). **At left:** Amanita Thorp and goats (photo: Jack Arnold). **Below left:** Dave Thorp and his goat Zebra (photo: AJ Melnick).



Protect Your Property with Target Hardening

There are many steps people can take to protect their property. Known as “target hardening,” these are things you can do to make it harder for the bad guy to succeed and more likely that he will go somewhere else.

1. Lock your doors when you are out. It is also a good idea to lock them when you are at home.
2. Get an alarm system installed. If you do not want one, get stickers for your windows and signs for the yard that indicate you have an alarm system.
3. Put up “beware of dog” signs and put a BIG dog dish on the back porch.
4. Make sure your trees do not hinder visibility from the road or your neighbors. If the bad guys have cover, they have all day to get into your house.
5. Get double-cylinder deadbolts with 1.5 to 2 inch bolts and put them in a solid core security door in a solid frame on all outside entrances. Put safety glass or bars on all windows and make sure you lock them!
6. Install motion lights on the outside of the house. Leave lights on timers so it looks like someone is home after dark.
7. Let your neighbors know what is going on at your house when you are out, and ask them to call you if anything suspicious is happening around your house.
8. Leave a vehicle in the driveway so it looks as if someone is there.
9. If you leave for an extended period, have someone check your house daily and even stay over from time to time, so your house is not left vacant.

10. Close your curtains and keep valuable items out of clear view. In some houses where I have done security checks, I can easily see very expensive art and electronics just inside the window.
11. If a bad guy really wants something you have, he will figure out a way to get it. But don’t make it easy. Take as many precautions as you can.
12. Make sure you have good insurance in case the unfortunate does happen. Take pictures of all your valuable property, and document the make, model, serial number, and all other identifying information. If property is recovered and you can’t identify it or the police don’t know who the owner is, you will not get it back. You may not be able to claim it for insurance either.

As the new Community Services Manager, I am enjoying being here in Eldorado and am having fun getting to know people. I really appreciate the input and assistance I am getting from the community. Please feel free to call me if you have questions or concerns. My number is 204-2945. —Raven Hicks

MAY AND JUNE CRIME STATISTICS

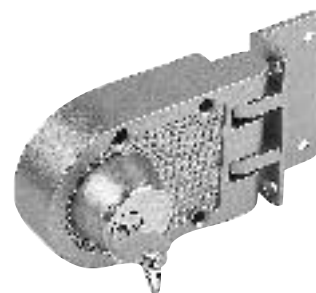
- 1 Assault with a deadly weapon
- 6 Property Crimes – includes burglary

—Source: www.crimereports.com

NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING:

Monday, November 1, at 7 pm at the Eldorado Community Center. For information on how to join Neighborhood Watch, please email **Marilyn Walker** at lightwalker2@comcast.net.

—Lisa Smith, lisasmithsantafe@gmail.com



Senior Center News

NEW GARDEN

We have a lush new organic garden at the Center which provides us with fresh herbs, salads, and vegetables for our lunches. Thanks to the efforts of **Janet** and **Jurgen Amtmann**, **Cindy Barreras**, our cook, and other community members who donated materials and labor—and, of course, to the rain—we are eating better than ever before. Cindy is a supporter of the “Farm to Fork” movement and a strong advocate of serving only the freshest, healthiest foods, preferably grown locally. Call the Center at 466-1039 to reserve a place for lunch and taste the difference!

CLASS CHANGES

With summer coming to a close, it’s time to start thinking about indoor activities. The Center has a small fitness room with exercise bikes, a treadmill, and a “Health-Rider,” and we offer several fitness classes. We have made a few changes in our schedule,

however. Tai Chi will no longer be offered, and there will only be one chair yoga class per week. The current schedule is: Chair Yoga on Mondays 10:15–11:15 am; Hatha (mat) Yoga on Wednesdays 3:45–4:45 pm, and Strengthening on Wednesdays 1:30–2:30 pm. No reservations are necessary; just wear comfortable clothes and come to the class!

UPCOMING EVENTS

On September 1, we will be going to the New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe, for a docent-guided tour. On September 23, we will be touring both forts at the Fort Union Monument. We are also planning an excursion to Corrales sometime in October (date unconfirmed). And in November, we will be having a “junktique” sale of new crafts and used items—just in time for holiday shopping. Please call the Center at 466-1039 for more details on these events.

—Cathy Berkley





September at the Library

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

Santa Fe book artist **Joy Campbell** gives Vista Grande Public Library's "Author Talk" on Thursday, September 23, at 7 pm. She will speak about her work and what it means to be a book artist.

Through cutting, tearing, folding, burning, drilling, gluing, or painting, she transforms ordinary, well-worn, books into dynamic sculptural forms. "I give the book a new purpose, a new soul, an authentic artistic new life."

Campbell has studied at University of New Mexico and at Santa Fe Community College, and in master classes taught by such world-renowned book artists as Tim Ely, Hedi Kyle, Paul Johnson, and Peter and Donna Thomas. An example of her work is featured in the book *500 Handmade Books*, issued in 2008 by Lark Publishing Company.

Also at VGPL: The library's Family Night Movie, Friday, September 24, 7 pm, is *Earth*, a feature-length version of the BBC's dazzling "Planet Earth" documentary series.



Joy Campbell transforms books into amazing sculptures.

EFRS Barbecue *continued from p. 1*

It has taken several years of very hard work by Chief **Guy Monroe** and his 25 dedicated volunteers, but the EFRS now has the hard-won Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating of 4, the highest of any volunteer department in the State of New Mexico. The coveted rating, which determines what we pay for fire insurance, is based on a three-part evaluation of water availability, equipment status, and training programs and training levels of the department's members.

Music for this year's barbecue will be provided by **Lisa Carman** and her ensemble of musicians and vocalists. Smokey Bear will be available for inclusion in family photos; a Safety House will provide important information on fire prevention; volunteers will operate an obstacle course and a bike rodeo; and Bounce House will be available for those in attendance with an energy surplus.

The Fire Department is looking for a few good men and women to help maintain its strength—something necessary for all of us. Those with an interest in serving the community in a way that is both very important and very exciting are invited to sign up to become one of "Eldorado's Finest."

Parking for the event is at the El Dorado Community School, not at the fire station or on Vista Grande.

—Frank Schober