

# ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 9  
September 2013

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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.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) ▼ Security 204-2945

## Fire Department Barbecue

Save the date! The El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service will be holding its Annual Barbecue on September 15 from noon until 4:30 PM. The event will be held at the ECIA Community Center, and the Fire Department cordially invites all the members of the Eldorado community to attend.

All of the Department's emergency vehicles will be on display. Would-be firefighters, both young and old, will be able to inspect the equipment up close and per-

sonal. Department members will be available to meet and talk with attendees throughout the event. And, Smokey will also be there, so bring your cameras.

**Lisa Carman's** Band will provide the music for the afternoon, and there may be a couple of other surprise arrivals during the event. And, of course, there will be burgers and hot dogs and all the trimmings.

The El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service looks forward to seeing all of you at this event.



## EFRS Improves Its Community Insurance Rating

In December 2012, the El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service (EFRS) underwent a review of its operations by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO). ISO evaluates communities throughout the United States using a standardized fire suppression rating schedule. Although fire departments, including EFRS, provide a wide variety of public safety services in their home communities, the ISO rating schedule looks only at the suppression of structure fires. Nonetheless, the ISO rating is indicative of a fire department's staffing, equipment, training, and a host of other factors related to service delivery.

ISO evaluates more than 48,000 fire protection areas in the U.S. and assigns each a public protection classification (PPC) on a scale of 1 (best) through 10. This PPC is used by many insurance companies for underwriting and setting premiums for homeowners and commercial fire insurance. Statistical data bears out a strong relationship between fire losses and fire protection as measured by the PPC.

ISO evaluates a community's fire protection based on three criteria:

- ▼ Receiving and handling emergency (9-1-1) calls = 10% of total score
- ▼ Water supply, including availability and storage, hydrants and hydrant maintenance = 40%
- ▼ Fire department, including equipment, distribution of fire stations, apparatus, staffing and training of personnel = 50%

The El Dorado Fire District was last evaluated in 2005 and received a PPC rating of 4 from ISO. EFRS was one of only two volunteer fire departments in New Mexico with that rating. The results of the 2012 evaluation have been returned, and EFRS has improved to a PPC rating of 3. EFRS is the highest ISO-rated volunteer fire department in New Mexico and the only one in the state with a PPC rating of 3.

We are justifiably proud of our new rating but recognize it is a team effort. The Eldorado area is also served by a regional crew from the Santa Fe County Fire Department and receives mutual aid from neighboring fire agencies in the eastern region of the county. These agencies and their emergency response in our district are factored into the EFRS ISO rating. The Santa Fe 9-1-1 Center scored well in the evaluation, as did the Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District's water system. The support of the Eldorado community allowed us to supplement our training and equipment budget, which was very helpful in our evaluation, as was the role of EFRS volunteers who contributed thousands of hours in training and call response to their community. We are grateful to all who helped us achieve this success.

Finally, it might be worth a call to your insurance agent to see if an improved ISO rating will lower your annual fire insurance premiums. In some cases, it just might.

—Stephen F. Tapke, Chief  
El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service

*ECIA Board  
Meeting,  
Community  
Center  
Railroad Bldg.  
Thurs.,  
September 19,  
7 pm.*

### "END OF SUMMER" PARTY!

Labor Day  
Monday, September 2,  
ECIA's 3rd annual "End of  
Summer" event!  
Horseshoes, volleyball,  
basketball, tennis,  
softball, swimming  
Complimentary ice cream  
& cold beverages  
Barbecue dinner catered  
by The Cowgirl  
(\$10/per person)  
Dancing or toe-tapping to  
the live big band (15 pieces!)  
music of **Swing Shift**.  
Activities begin at 2 PM, with  
music and dinner starting  
around 4:30  
See p. 4 for more info.



*Share your  
comments  
with us!*

*For policy and  
deadline, see  
below*

### Editorial Policy

*Vistas* invites ideas, stories, photos, and art from the community at large. Please include full name and contact information. The newsletter will not publish material deemed inflammatory, biased, or inappropriate. Submissions will be selected and edited at the discretion of the editor. 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](mailto: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.

## Mountain Biking in the Preserve

In their meeting of July 18, the Eldorado Community Improvement Association Board approved mountain biking on all trails in the Eldorado Wilderness Preserve, with the exception of two trail segments where bikes and horses are not recommended. This action changes the previous policy that restricted use of mountain bikes to a single isolated trail in the southeastern corner of the Preserve.

The ECIA Conservation Committee recommended the change after determining that riding mountain bikes on preserve trails is consistent with the community's management mission of providing recreational opportunities while protecting the natural resources of the Preserve. Trail 102 to Bishop's

Peak and the Spur Trail off 101 to Vista Grande Peak are still not approved for mountain bike or equestrian use due to their extremely steep and rocky terrain.

All users are asked to obey the rules of usage for the Preserve. This includes staying on the designated trails, keeping dogs on lead or under voice control, and being courteous to others. Cyclists should yield to hikers, with both yielding to equestrians. New signage is being developed for the trailheads to provide clear rules of usage. This language will also be included in the new trail map and brochure currently in development.

*—John Parker, Conservation Committee*

## Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on July 18, with Board members present: **Dag Ryen** (Vice President and Chair), **Nolan Zisman** (Secretary), **Todd Handy** (Treasurer), **Pam Henline**, and **Jan Pietrzak**. The following formal actions were taken unanimously, without the Chair voting, unless otherwise noted:

- ▼ Vice President Ryen announced the resignation of President **Jean Calzada** for personal reasons. Two vacant positions now exist on the Board.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 1 Conchas Court for a ground-based solar array to be located 105 feet from the dwelling, where 15 feet is the Guideline distance, to best use existing vegetation and site characteristics to obscure visibility of the array.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 47 Encantado Road to allow an existing garage to encroach 6 feet into the required 50-foot road setback because of prior approvals.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 2 Conchas Place for an existing small green outbuilding to remain approximately 100 feet from the dwelling, where 15 feet is the Guideline distance, to use existing vegetation for screening.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 6 Descanso Road for a fence existing for 19 years to encroach 2.5 feet into the required 20-foot side setback.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 7 Estambre Road for a small accessory building 19 feet from the house, where the Guideline distance is 15 feet, to allow better screening.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 13 Jornada Loop to allow an existing garden wall to encroach 4 inches into the required 20-foot side setback, and for a new portal exceeding the 20% facade length in a different architectural style.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 1 Ensenada Drive to allow a booster pump station to be built by EAWSD on a private lot with an 8-foot-tall chainlink fence (most to include latillas), where height and material do not comply with Guidelines, and with a construction time longer than 120 days, to allow for permitting and construction delays.
- ▼ \$1,470 was moved from the 2018 Replacement Reserve to the 2013 Reserve Maintenance budget to replace the Kiddie Pool filter.
- ▼ \$26,719 was moved from the Replacement Reserve to the 2013 Operating Budget for additional maintenance on the multi-use path network.
- ▼ Bicycles will be allowed on all designated trails in the Eldorado Preserve, except for the part of Trail 101 leading to the summit of Bishop's Peak and a short side trail leading to Vista Grande Peak, reiterating that bicyclists must yield to pedestrians, and both yield to equestrians.
- ▼ The Treasurer was authorized to negotiate a one-year extension to the existing bookkeeping contract.
- ▼ A variance was approved at 24 Encantado Road for an 8-foot screening fence, to be reduced to 6 feet when the property is sold, 4-1 (Pietrzak dissenting).
- ▼ The cutoff time for amplified music at the Community Center was extended to 9 PM, 3-0-1 (Handy abstaining).

CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE >>>

## Message from the ECIA Board

As we move into autumn, there are several important meetings and events coming up that will be of interest to the Eldorado community. On October 2, from 7 until 9 PM, the ECIA Board will hold a town forum at La Tienda Performance Space. This will be an opportunity for residents and Board members to exchange ideas about issues facing us in the months ahead.

Lot owners and residents in the western part of Eldorado may be interested in attending a meeting on September 26 that is being organized by the Santa Fe County Public Works Department to discuss the planned paving of Herrada Road. County officials will provide information on design, construction logistics, and safety concerns relating to the project.

As the days grow cooler, the pool will be closing, and once again ECIA will hold a Dog Pool Party where Eldorado residents can bring their four-legged canine friends for a refreshing dip. Final information about this event will be posted on our marquees and website ([eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org)).

By the time this issue of *Vistas* is sent out, we hope to enter into a new agreement with the county regarding our multi-use trails. Months of research, analysis, and negotiations have gone into this effort to establish a framework for future cooperation with the county on these amenities that lie in the county right-of-way.

Finally, although details have not yet been finalized, in October the ECIA Board will hold a public meeting on next year's Board elections. This important election will once again give the Eldorado Community Improvement Association an elected Board of Directors with staggered terms to ensure continuity. Check our website for updates.

Please remember that school is in session once again and that your youngest residents will be making their way to school in the early morning and late afternoon hours. Drive carefully and observe the posted speed limits.

Thanks.

—The ECIA Board

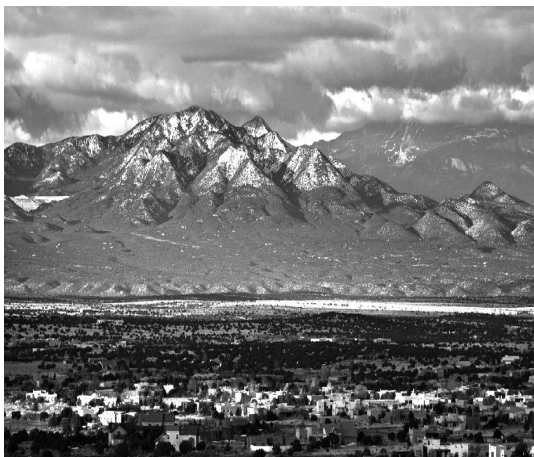
## Eldoradosf.org Video

When I first saw Eldorado, I was impressed by the scenery. I saw skies and mountains stretching out forever to the horizon, dramatic sunsets, brilliant stars at night. It was only after living here for a while that I came to be equally impressed by the people who live in Eldorado. This is a village that has attracted fascinating and talented people—people whom I doubt I would ever have had a chance to meet in a more ordinary community. Add to this the level of involvement and commitment shown by so many residents.

This is what I wanted to portray in a movie about Eldorado. What I found is that I would have had to make a much longer movie to capture it all. But at least I have a start!

—Jack Arnold

[www.eldoradosf.org/index.php/Recent-News/eldorado-video.html](http://www.eldoradosf.org/index.php/Recent-News/eldorado-video.html)



## Recent Board Actions, cont.

- ▼ A variance was approved at 22 Abanico Road for a fenced dog run of 3,840 square feet for a total of 4,740 square feet on the lot, where the Guideline maximum is 4,000 square feet, to be reduced below 4,000 square feet total when the property is sold.
- ▼ **Ed Moreno** was appointed to the Stable Committee 3-2 (Pietrzak, Zisman dissenting).
- ▼ **Pat Donohue** was appointed to the Stable Committee 3-1 (Zisman dissenting).

- ▼ **Joe Loewy** was appointed to the Election Committee 3-1 (Henline dissenting).
- ▼ **Elizabeth Ebner** was appointed to the Election Committee.

Regular Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Community Center, and are open to the public. An open forum, community announcements, and reports from ECIA committees are normally included. Complete minutes and meeting agendas are available at the ECIA office and website: <http://eldoradosf.org>.

ECIA OFFICE  
#1 La Hacienda Loop  
Santa Fe, NM 87508  
466-4248, 466-4249  
[ecomunity@aol.com](mailto:ecomunity@aol.com)  
[www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)  
Security  
204-2945

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS President

Open  
Vice-President  
Dag Ryen  
[D.Ryen@eldoradosf.org](mailto:D.Ryen@eldoradosf.org)  
Secretary  
Nolan Zisman  
[N.Zisman@eldoradosf.org](mailto:N.Zisman@eldoradosf.org)  
Treasurer  
Todd Handy  
466-3785

[T.Handy@eldoradosf.org](mailto:T.Handy@eldoradosf.org)  
Director  
Jan Pietrzak  
[J.Pietrzak@eldoradosf.org](mailto:J.Pietrzak@eldoradosf.org)  
Director  
Pam Henline  
[P.Henline@eldoradosf.org](mailto:P.Henline@eldoradosf.org)  
Director  
Open

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Architecture:  
Katherine Mortimer  
Conservation: Jim Daniel & Cherry Payne  
Election: Kathie Graham  
Facilities & Grounds:  
Jean Crawford  
Finance: Dan Drobis  
Information: Frank Schober  
Neighborhood Watch:  
Marilyn Walker  
Roads: Michael Chester  
Stable: Gretel Underwood (Interim Chair)

Sustainability, Planning, & Education: Steve Rudnick

### ECIA STAFF

General Manager  
Bill Donohue  
466-4248, [gmbill1@aol.com](mailto:gmbill1@aol.com)  
Covenant Compliance Rep  
Mark Young  
466-4248  
[mark@eldoradosf.org](mailto:mark@eldoradosf.org)  
Community Services Mgr  
Raven Hicks  
204-2945, [eciasm@aol.com](mailto:eciasm@aol.com)

### VISTAS NEWSLETTER

Editor & Designer  
Carol Leyba  
466-1158  
[cbsleyba@comcast.net](mailto:cbsleyba@comcast.net)  
Webmaster:  
Jack Arnold  
[webmaster@eldoradosf.org](mailto:webmaster@eldoradosf.org)

Editorial Assistant:  
DiAna Gutierrez  
466-4248  
[eciadiana@aol.com](mailto:eciadiana@aol.com)

### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library  
466-READ  
Fire and Rescue  
466-1204  
[eldoradofirerescue.org](http://eldoradofirerescue.org)  
County All Purpose  
820-CNTY (2689)





### Open Forum Next Month

The Board has announced an ECIA Open Forum on October 2, to be held at La Tienda in the Performance Space at 7 PM. Learn what is going on in the community, and voice your concerns, issues, and questions and give/get feedback.

### Sally Hayden Von Conta at Las Chivas

"The Sound of Color" is the name of Sally Hayden Von Conta's upcoming show of plein air pastels at Las Chivas in the Agora. The show runs from September 8 to October 12. The artist's reception is on September 8, from 1 to 3 PM. Go to [sallyhaydenvonconta.com](http://sallyhaydenvonconta.com) for more info; for location details, go to [laschivascoffe.com](http://laschivascoffe.com) or call 466-0174.



Hayden Von Conta's "Pure Gold" on view at Las Chivas

### Santa Fe County Health Van

The Santa Fe Health Van is back. They will be at the Community Center parking lot on Sunday, September 1, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Get your free tests for blood pressure/heart rate, oxygen level and a finger prick to test sugar level.

### "End of Summer" Party

On Labor Day, Monday, September 2, the ECIA holds its third annual "End of Summer" event. There will be games (horseshoes, volleyball, basketball, tennis, and softball), swimming, complimentary cold beverages and ice cream, an optional barbecue dinner with chicken or pork and side dishes, catered by The Cowgirl BBQ (\$10/per person), and dancing or toe-tapping to the live big band music of Swing Shift. The activities begin at 2 PM, with music and dinner starting around 4:30. Please reserve and pay for your dinner by calling Marilyn at the ECIA office, 466-4248, by August 29.

### Eldo Children's Theatre & Teen Players

Fall classes begin September 3 at the Eldorado Community Center! Classes for ages 5 and up with age-appropriate classes. Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players will be presenting "Charlotte's Web" in January. For more information, contact Rebecca Oden at [odentism@yahoo.com](mailto:odentism@yahoo.com) or visit the Eldorado Children's Theatre website at [www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org](http://www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org).

### September Flea Market

A Flea Market will be held on Saturday, September 21, in the parking lot of the Eldorado Community Center. Setup begins at 7 AM; the sale opens at 8 for buyers and wraps up at noon. All items must be cleared and reloaded into vehicles and removed from the parking lot by 1 PM.

The fee is \$10 per space for Eldorado residents; \$15 for non-residents; \$20 for commercial sellers. The spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sellers need to provide tables, tarps, etc. to display their wares. Because of the limited space, no selling from trailers will be permitted. No weapons or food can be sold.

The event is being run by the Boy Scout Troop #414.

### Pool Hours September 3–September 29

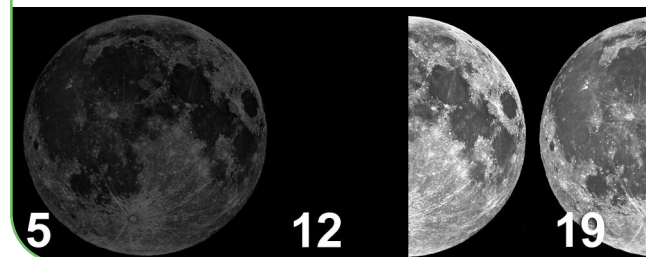
**Lap Swim:** Daily 8–11 AM

**General Swim:** Friday through Sunday 11 AM–7 PM

(SEPT. 1–2 POOL HOURS SAME AS IN AUGUST)

**Save the Date: Doggie Pool Party October 6.**

### MOON PHASES FOR SEPTEMBER



### Senior News

The Adam Senior Center has new times for the congregate lunch meals, now being served from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Monday through Friday. To make a reservation, sign up at the Center at least the day before, or by calling 466-1039. Monthly menus and activity schedules are available at the front desk.

**Barbara Borman Metzdorff** has returned to teach hatha yoga on Fridays from 9 to 10 AM, followed by chair yoga from 10:15 to 11:15 AM. Hatha yoga students need to be sufficiently mobile to get up and down from the floor without assistance. Chair yoga is open to everyone. Both these classes build strength, balance, and flexibility.

Beginning September 10, from 1 to 3 PM, **Janet Amtmann** is teaching an Intermediate Pastel Class for students familiar with the medium. The class size is limited to 16. Then, on Thursday, September 12, from 1 to 3 PM, Ms. Amtmann is teaching beginning painting, which includes color theory, perspective, and an introduction to watercolor, acrylic, and pastel. Class size is limited to 8. Both classes run for 8 weeks; signups at the Adam Senior Center begin on September 3.

The Center is looking for a qualified exercise teacher to teach chair aerobics. If interested, please contact **Teresa Casados**, Director of County Senior Services, at 992-3094.

### Reel New Mexico: "Cheatin' Hearts"

Reel New Mexico, the state's only ongoing film series dedicated to showing movies with a New Mexico connection, is excited to present "Cheatin' Hearts," a family drama directed by Rod McCall. Starring Sally Kirkland, Josh Brolin, and Kris Kristofferson, "Cheatin' Hearts" has romance, conflict, and a crisis: the family spread is about to be repossessed. A wonderful bonus is the music composed by George S. Clinton, with Michael Martin Murphy and Kris Kristofferson singing some of the original songs. It will be screened on Tuesday, September 10, at 7 PM in The Performance Space at La Tienda.

Reel New Mexico presents films with a New Mexico connection on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7 PM in The Performance Space at La Tienda Center. A contribution of \$5 is suggested.



## 2014 Budget Work in September

The Finance Committee is continuing work on the 2014 ECIA Operating Budget, including its transfers to the Capital and Reserve/Replacement funds and allocation of 2014 maintenance expenditures. This process will determine, among other things, the 2014 assessment. Extensive long-term maintenance needs for amenities, as well as slowly rising operating costs, will likely require a substantial assessment increase in 2014.

There are two budget meetings scheduled in September. All Association members are welcome. For those who cannot attend weekday meetings, one session is in the evening.

**Tuesday, September 3:** Committee and individual input for 2014 Operating Funds is due to the ECIA office by 5 PM in order to receive full consideration. Office or e-mail.

**Wednesday, September 11, 9:30 AM:** Finance Committee begins review of committee and individual proposals at its regular monthly meeting. All Association members, particularly committee chairs, are welcome to attend for discussion of requests. Conference Room.

**Tuesday, September 17, 7 PM:** Finance Committee continues review of budget items for evening attendees, including committee chairs and Association members. Conference Room.

Additional meetings will be held in October, with a workshop on the proposed final budget in November, and adoption by the Board in December.

# September Events

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

Email [eciamarilyn@aol.com](mailto:eciamarilyn@aol.com) 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**

### SPECIAL EVENTS

End-of-summer party	Mon., Sept. 2, 2 pm	466-4248	CC
Eldorado Fire Dept BBQ	Sun., Sept 15, 12-4:30		CC
Flea Market	Sat., Sept. 21, 8-noon		CC prkg

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 10, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., Sept. 24, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Thurs., Sept. 5, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., Sept. 16, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Sept. 3, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Thurs., Sept. 19, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Facilities & Grounds	Thurs., Sept. 4, 4-6 pm	Jean Crawford	466-1000	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., Sept. 11, 9:30-11:30	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Finance Committee	Tues., Sept. 17, 7 pm	Dan Dronis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Sept. 24, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee	Mon., Nov. 4, 6-8 pm	Michael Chester	577-2784	CFR
Stable Committee	Wed., Sept. 25, 7-9 pm	Gretel Underwood	466-7825	LR
SPE Committee	Thurs., Sept. 12, 7-9 pm	Steve Rudnick	466-1335	CFR

### MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR/CR
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs., of month	Barrie Brown	466-3035	CC
Eldorado Camera Club	4th Wednesday, 7-9	biordi@aol.com		La Tienda
La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Library Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs, 5-9 pm	santafesar.org		CR

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
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			LR/CFR
Adult Basketball	Thurs., 6:30 pm-Dusk			CC
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	Every Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Jim Davidson	670-6949	LR
Bridge	Every Other Fri., 9-noon	Natalie Bernet	466-6118	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:00 & 10:30 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
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
Knitting Club	Tues., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Jack McCarthy	466-9601	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri., 1-4:30	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Kate	216-5302	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30-12:30 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	David Lovro	466-0540	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.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)**



See the back page for a collage of some of the area businesses.

## Eldorado's Vibrant Economy

For many years, Eldorado was considered a “bedroom community” of Santa Fe, with most residents dependent on the city for their employment and shopping facilities. This is changing with significant employment within the Greater Eldorado area and increasing shopping facilities/professional services provided locally. Our area has long been considered the largest unincorporated community in the state, particularly after Edgewood incorporated a few years ago. Population-wise, we rival Socorro, Taos, and several other incorporated communities around the state. The U.S. Census Bureau recognized this when, in 2010, they designated the Greater Eldorado Area as a “CDP-Census Designated Place” with a population of 6,130 people, separate from the rest of Santa Fe County. Several rural communities between Glorieta and Galisteo now also utilize Eldorado for shopping and professional services.

Major business and employment sources include:

- ▼ The Agora: 18 shopping and professional services
- ▼ La Tienda: 19 shops and offices
- ▼ Office condos: 16 businesses
- ▼ ECIA employment: varies with the season
- ▼ El Dorado Community School: educational, administrative, and custodial employees
- ▼ Arts & Crafts Association (one of largest in state): about 200 members, many of whom sell art in Eldorado on a part-time basis
- ▼ Adam Senior Center: several County employees
- ▼ Vista Grande Public Library: both paid and volunteer
- ▼ Avenida Vista Grande/Avenida de Compadres complex: three businesses
- ▼ Highway 285 area: six businesses
- ▼ First National Bank

- ▼ Santa Fe County Road Department, Refuse Transfer Station, and County Fire Department employees
- ▼ Business office of *Santa Fe Sun* monthly publication

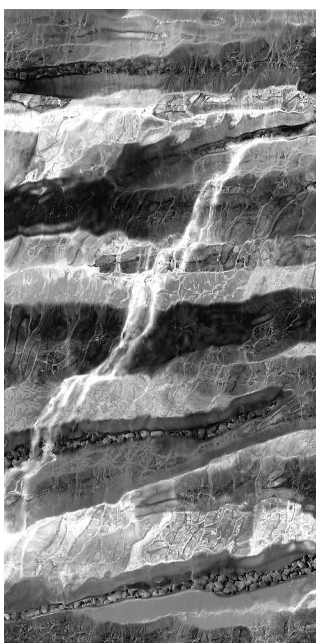
Most of these businesses employ some Eldorado residents.

A major “shadow” economy also exists in the Eldorado community, composed of an unknown number of home-based businesses, both part-time and full-time. Many operate via computer. Probably only a fraction have submitted the “In-Home Profession Application” that ECIA requires within the Eldorado at Santa Fe subdivision. The business owner may also be required to apply to the State Taxation and Revenue Department for a CRS (Combined Reporting System) number. The Santa Fe County Treasurer also requires a Commercial Business License for businesses within the county. Failure to obtain required registration could result in fines.

Santa Fe County recognizes the need to provide for additional services in the greater Eldorado area to match its growth. They currently have work underway to expand the Senior Center, the Community Library, and an adjacent new Community Center for county residents. There is also a strong need for expanded road improvement and law enforcement presence. The county taxes generated by our local businesses, as well as personal property taxes, go far toward funding these services.

Greater Eldorado is rapidly becoming a self-sufficient community. In the medical field alone, we currently have a doctor, dentist, audiologist, pharmacist, and two veterinary offices. However, we still have to utilize Santa Fe for additional medical care, including medical specialists and hospital care.

—Don Dayton



Artwork by Ursula Freer, who will be discussing her digital art at the EACA Shop Talk.

## Stimulus Package for the Mind's Eye

Whether or not you're a member of the Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association, you are welcome to join in on upcoming opportunities sponsored by the organization.

Beginning September 9, the EACA Life Drawing group begins its fall season. From 10 to 12 every Monday morning, artists in the area meet in the Railroad Building at the ECIA Community Center to draw, sketch, and paint from models. Life drawing is an age-old tradition, and artists have long been honing their skills to see, and then visually translate, the

three-dimensional subject to a two-dimensional surface. Inspired? You are invited to join the Association artists in this relaxed environment. The cost is minimal—\$10 for a two-hour session.

Every month EACA holds a Shop Talk event, often at an artist's home. On September 18, local artist **Ursula Freer** invites the public to visit her studio, where she will discuss processes used to create her digital art. A strong painting background gives Ursula's work a distinct painterly quality, while her fascinations with consciousness, science, and nature

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## Looking for a Mate

Over the course of the next month or so, if you are outdoors and notice a seemingly undulating ground, don't call the emergency numbers: it's the time for "migrating" male tarantulas in search of a mate. From what I have gathered, this occurs more often in the western part of Eldorado.

Generally, folks encounter wandering tarantulas at different times of the year, but late summer seems to be peak season for us. That said, in desert areas, the mating season is not as clear, and it may depend entirely on rainfall, particularly after the monsoons. Migrating (or wandering) tarantulas are usually mature males searching for the burrows of mature females. Immature and female tarantulas tend to stay in their burrows unless flooded, starved, or driven out by an invader (e.g., Pepsis wasps, rodents, etc.). Tarantula males (not unlike some human males) have no interest other than finding a female. And, let's be clear, they are "one-night-standers," having no inclination to be homebodies.

When a male tarantula molts for the final time, he matures, and will usually be darker in color (often black), depending on species. Males also are usually longer and slimmer than females and have much smaller abdomens on average.

Contrary to common lore, tarantulas are harmless to humans and most pets (e.g., dogs and cats). Their venom is of no medical significance, and no one has ever died from such a bite, which people often compare to a bee sting; ill-effects are usually limited to mild to moderate pain and slight swelling at the site of the bite. However, tarantula hairs can be problematic. If they get stuck in your skin, use tweezers to extract them and then apply a steroidal cream. If inhaled, get thee to an ER immediately.

Most species are nocturnal. If one shows up in or around your house, it is just because he is trying to hide out during the day to return to his search at night (or maybe you have female tarantulas living around your house).

If you do not feel comfortable having tarantulas around, please gently chase the spider into a jar with

a paintbrush or other long object with a soft end, and deposit it as far away as you feel comfortable. Remember, these animals are completely beneficial to humans, feeding on cockroaches, crickets, scorpions, and likely mice and other rodents.

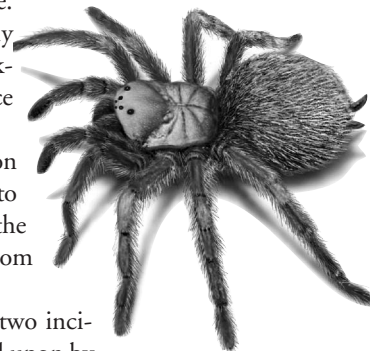
If you'd like additional information on tarantulas, please email me and I'll be glad to share information with you, or check out the American Tarantula Society's website, from which I got much of this information.

On a sadder note, we know of at least two incidents where domestic cats have been preyed upon by Great Horned Owls. Unfortunately, the owners assumed that the pets were safe within the garden walls. Small pets are not safe, even in an unroofed enclosure. Bobcats, coyotes, raptors, and mountain lions all are highly flexible and can jump and/or climb in those spaces. Three years ago, a Northern Harrier (fairly big raptor) swooped into my back walled garden, perched on my Buddha and proceeded to tear apart a mouse, all the while staring at me.

The report from our Snake Rescue and Relocation group has triumphs and tragedies: eight snakes (four bull, two each red racers and prairie rattlers) were caught and relocated. **Tom Wyant** told me he was called by a local agency to relocate three snakes they had captured. Sadly, the agency used the wrong tool (tongs), which seriously injured all; two died shortly after Tom picked them up, and one is left so battered that it can't survive in the wild. If someone would like to adopt a small bull snake, please let Tom know ([ettravel@q.com](mailto:ettravel@q.com)).

Lastly, keep your gardening gloves in a resealable baggie to prevent unwanted inhabitants from taking refuge. The dark, close space is a favorite of spiders (brown recluse, black widows) and mice. It is no fun pulling on your glove only to feel a "squish."

—Nina Harrison, N815@aol.com



Tarantula illustration from orkin.com.



Great Horned Owl. Photo by Ann V. Wood.

Bobcat kittens photographed by Eldorado resident Shelly Moore, as they posed themselves on her roof.



## Mind's Eye, Continued from p. 6

impact her translucently layered compositions. The event runs from 10 AM to noon, at 18 Avenida Las Nubes. Phone 466-1819 for further questions.

On September 26, the EACA will hold its monthly meeting in the ECIA classroom from 7 to 8:30 PM. Staff from Artisan, Santa Fe's popular art supply store, will discuss the store's newest wares and

show what is available for artists in many mediums. Non-members, as always, are welcome to attend this informative and fun annual presentation.

Call **Jack McCarthy** at 795-1853 or 466-9601 for questions about all these events.

—Margaret Nelson



# ELDORADO VISTAS

Eldorado Community  
Improvement Association  
#1 La Hacienda Loop  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508  
[www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)



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## On Our Way to Being a Self-Sufficient Community



See page 6 for the article on Eldorado's Vibrant Economy.  
Photos in collage by Jack Arnold and Carol Leyba.; collage by Carol Leyba.

### HERRADA ROAD Improvement Project



The Santa Fe County Public Works Department, in conjunction with Santa Fe Engineering Consultants, will be holding a public meeting concerning the design for road improvements for Herrada Road. The meeting is scheduled for **September 26** at La Tienda Performance Space.

The public is encouraged to attend and provide input regarding the project.

6-6:30 PM: Open House  
6:30-8:30 PM: Project Presentation, Questions and Answers  
8:30-9 PM: Closing Comments

For more information, contact **Bernadette Scargall** from Santa Fe Engineering at 982-2845.