

# ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME IV, ISSUE 10  
**OCT 2002**

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

## The Plan! The Plan!

### *Simpson Ranch Contemporary Community Update*

FOR SOME TIME, residents of Eldorado and neighboring subdivisions along 285 have felt the need to gain a greater influence over development. Santa Fe County has anticipated this in its Growth Management Plan, adopted in October 1999. Highway Corridor Districts (such as the 285 South Corridor discussed last month), Traditional Communities (such as Lamy), and Contemporary Communities are encouraged to form and develop plans with County support and local input.

The ECIA, in October 2000, requested the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) to support Contemporary Community designation and a plan for the Eldorado area. The plan was quickly expanded to include all developments in and along 285 from Old Las Vegas Highway south to the border with Lamy. Area residents sought a name that would include our common history. 'Simpson Ranch' was adopted to commemorate the family that owned most of the area prior to development by AMREP in the 1970s.

Planning issues originally identified include:

- Non-residential development
- Potential loss of semi-rural character
- Development and maintenance of roads
- Transportation and connecting roads to adjacent communities
- Future educational needs
- Future water and sanitation needs

Presently, a group of 10 area residents is working with both the County and Southwest Planning and Marketing, a professional polling organization, to use several focus groups to develop and prioritize a more comprehensive list of area concerns. The concerns will then serve as the subjects for a series of meetings with all area residents interested in participating. Director **Jack Kolkmeier** and others from the County Planning Division will attempt to broker a consensus on each topic, which will be dis-

tilled over several months into a draft plan.

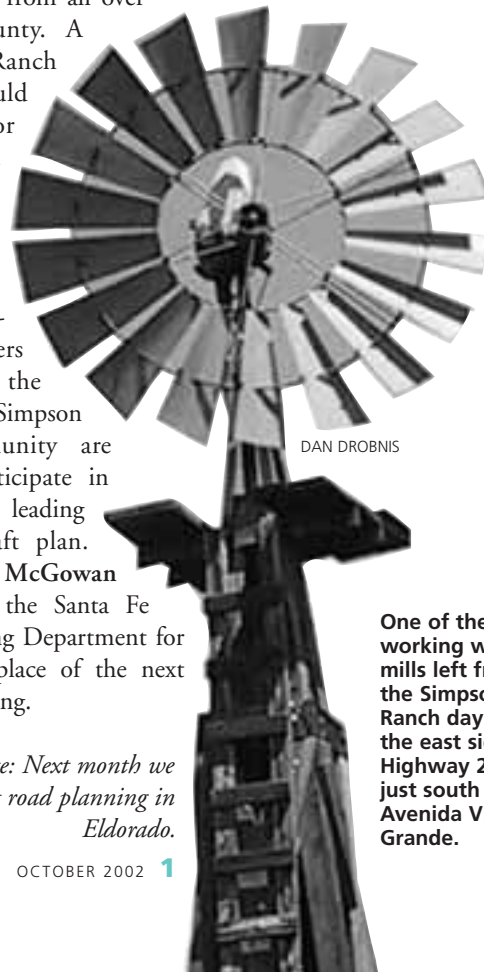
The draft plan will be presented to the community for comments and refinement, and then to the BCC for adoption. Once adopted, the Simpson Ranch Contemporary Community Plan will serve as the area blueprint for more specific zoning and other development ordinances and plans.

One important outcome of the plan will be the formation of a Simpson Ranch Local Development Review Committee (LDRC) who will review and make recommendations for area development. This function is currently performed by the County Development Review Committee (CDRC), whose members come from all over Santa Fe County. A Simpson Ranch LDRC should provide for greater local input and control of future development.

Residents, property owners, and others interested in the future of the Simpson Ranch Community are invited to participate in the discussions leading up to the draft plan. Contact **Judy McGowan** (955-2722) at the Santa Fe County Planning Department for the time and place of the next scheduled meeting.

*Editor's note: Next month we will highlight road planning in Eldorado.*

*ECIA Work  
Study Meeting,  
Community  
Center,  
Monday,  
Oct. 14, 7 pm*



DAN DROBNIS

One of the few working windmills left from the Simpson Ranch days is on the east side of Highway 285, just south of Avenida Vista Grande.

**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 8th day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or emailed to [info@eldoradocommunity.org](mailto: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.

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD

# ECIA Board and Committee Chairs Taking Time Out to Reflect and Plan

SATURDAY MORNING, August 31st, the ECIA Board and Committee Chairs gathered at the Community Center, taking 'time out' to assess last year's performance and develop proposed goals for the year ahead. As we shared our observations with one another, a consensus developed that answered three questions:

- What did we do well last year?
- What remains a challenge or is unfinished work?
- What are the emerging concerns the community faces in the near future?

By building on our strengths and anticipating the challenges ahead, we developed goals for the approaching year. The following is a draft of the retreat's results.

### What worked well?

The ECIA now has a professional and qualified staff supported by board policies and business practices. The staff – not the board – manages the daily operations of the ECIA. Many of last year's goals were met, but the retreat identified significant work ahead for both the board and committees.

## VIEWPOINTS

### Barking...

ELDORADO HAS BEEN a wonderful place for my husband and me to live. We have only one complaint: we are often awakened in the middle of the night and at 6:30 in the morning by loud barking dogs. From reading *Vistas* and speaking with other residents, we aren't the only ones with this problem.

The community is based on a progressive and cooperative model. Most of us love the community, and many do volunteer work here. Eldorado is, however, a microcosm of our larger American society. As our population becomes denser, we must adjust our attitudes and behaviors so that we can co-exist harmoniously.

If every resident can just think "How might my actions [my pet's actions] impact others?" and then act accordingly, Eldorado can retain its peaceful, cooperative spirit. If not, perhaps community action will be needed.

**Editor's Note:** We received similar letters regarding dogs in Eldorado. We were unable to publish all due to space considerations.

*Diane Feinberg  
Aventura Road*

**Continued challenges, goals for the coming year:**

### Goals for board action:

- Improve effectiveness of board decision-making processes, especially in the area of architectural reviews.
- Develop an effective working partnership between the board and architectural review committee. Focus on improved communication and development of common standards for the variance request review process.
- Strengthen architectural covenant and guideline enforcement. As required, revise the roles, responsibilities and standards required to support the semi-rural environment and property values of Eldorado.
- Update governing documents to support emerging needs and current business practices.
- Educate ECIA members regarding current policies, costs and methods for maintaining our amenities.
- Clearly delineate responsibility for actions.
- Continue strengthening communication processes between the board, committees and community. Include those affected in decision-making process.
- Complete the Ave. Torreon hike-bike trail in the next twelve months. Develop a plan for hike-bike trails adjacent to all paved roads in Eldorado.

### Goals for committee action:

- Develop an emergency communication system in response to recent telecommunication outages.
- Escalate our efforts and governmental interface regarding roads – specifically in the areas of education, engineering, signage, and traffic enforcement.
- Better integrate the stable amenity into community activities. Participate in the Simpson Ranch Plan for equestrian trails.
- Clarify and implement a Neighborhood Watch Program that meets the needs of the community.
- Continue efforts to increase the community's perceived value of our nature preserve amenity and provide protection for its future use by ECIA members.

In summary, our community has matured into a wonderful place to live. We agreed our focus should be to protect, maintain and improve our community by utilizing the human and financial resources available.

*John Reeder  
ECIA President*

# A Call for Help

**T**HE GREATER ELDORADO AREA has much to offer in terms of good living, wonderful climate, and a sense of community. One of the exciting aspects of our community is the talent of its residents. I have been amazed on numerous occasions at the backgrounds, education and general capabilities of everyone who lives here.

One of the most important ways in which our community can enhance our lifestyle is through planning and organization. A good example, I think, is our water situation. Our community watched for years as the county and the water utility argued over whether a problem existed and, if so, to what extent. In 1994, some 30 residents formed a committee to examine how the community could participate and help develop solutions. It took over three years for the committee to study the question, decide on a course of action, and form the Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District (EAW&SD). Although the District is small in terms of number of people, significant results have been achieved. One important attribute that should be recognized is the political and financial power vested in the Water and Sanitation District – only a portion of which has been tapped. By using the power of the district, we have made a major contribution to our water future by approving the recent bond issue.

We now have the opportunity to improve our community and maintain our property values by getting a firm handle on sanitation. To accomplish this, the following three initiatives need to be addressed by a project team.

1. EAW&SD received state funds to conduct an engineering study of our sanitation needs. The study is complete; we need to act on the recommendations.
2. The district recently submitted a proposal for federal funds toward a pilot sanitation system. Indications are we will be awarded the money.
3. EAW&SD is developing a program of maintaining the viability of our septic tanks.

The Board of the Water and Sanitation District is asking for volunteers to take on the above initiatives. We estimate four to six people will be required to staff the project team. By getting this many people involved, no one will be burdened severely and the amount of effort to keep the project moving will be considerably less. Project tasks include: planning; preparation and distribution of educational materials; preparing a contract for local pumping services; preparing and administering a contract for a professional polling of the community; developing an appropriate database of community needs; preparing reports in support of government funding; and making presentations to the community.

This is important work which will make our community an even more desirable place to live. Most communities do little until faced with a major problem. We have the opportunity to get ahead of the curve and stay ahead. Please make your talents and time available to your community. Call **Ray Nichols** at 466-0347 or email to [estacada19@earthlink.net](mailto:estacada19@earthlink.net).

*Ray Nichols*  
EAW&SD Board

## Know Your Neighbor Before an Emergency

**I**T HAS HAPPENED. There is an emergency. Telephones and power are out. Traffic lights are not functioning. It is hard to know what is happening. The positive? Neighbors finally get to know each other.

New Mexico is as vulnerable as any state in the nation to terrorist attacks. We have 3 major Air Force bases, 2 national laboratories and several nuclear material transportation routes. One recent study projects that two less-populated states – New Mexico and Nevada – are among the likeliest terrorist targets.

Neighbors have informal agreements to help each other if someone is away – in effect, a neighborhood watch. Call 466-4248 to register your group with our Neighborhood Watch Committee. Get on its mailing list. Help is on the way from the state and feds to support our effort. A section of the ECIA website will be devoted to Neighborhood Watch, listing both law-enforcement/traffic problems and emergency preparedness information

### ECIA OFFICE

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Andy Winnegar

Election: Frank Schober

Information: Frank Schober

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Recreation: John Reeder,

Gretel Underwood

Road: John Reeder

Neighborhood Watch:

Frank Schober

Stable: Gretel Underwood

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### Heart & Soul Animal Sanctuary Fall Rummage Sale and Raffle

The Heart & Soul Animal Sanctuary will be holding a rummage sale and raffle on Saturday, October, 12th at the Eldorado Community Center. All proceeds from the sale and raffle will benefit abused, abandoned and neglected animals that find their way to the Sanctuary. Raffle prizes have been donated from various local businesses. The rummage sale will be from 8 am to 3 pm. The raffle prizes will be drawn promptly at 3 pm. Please contact **Kate Kerr** at 466-4025 for more information.

### Eldorado Arts Association

**Artists' Shoptalk:** Wednesday, October 16, 10 am-noon, at the home of **Linda Diamand**, 1 Enebro Court, 466-2410. Linda had a new studio built and is eager to give a tour.

**Artists' Program:** Wednesday, October 30, 7 pm at the Community Center. This month **Anita Louise West**, a painter and teacher, will present a pastel demo. All artists

(beginning and experienced) are welcome. (There will not be a November program.) Call **Arlene Siegel** at 466-3274 for more information.

**Fall Art Show:** November 9th and 10th (Saturday and Sunday) at the Eldorado Elementary School in the Community Room. 34 artists are participating.

There will be a wide range of media from watercolor to oil, acrylic and pastel. Three (3) dimensional art includes pottery, sculpture, weaving, jewelry, etc. The show will be open both days from 10 am to 5 pm. Call **Janet Amtmann** for more information: 466-3256.

### Budget Calendar

All members are invited to attend the ECIA Board's budget hearing on Saturday, November 2nd, at 10 am in the Community Center's Railroad Station. The Finance Committee is preparing a budget recommendation based on input from the ECIA Board, the General Manager, committees and members. Copies will

be available at the ECIA office beginning Monday, October 28th, for your review. Please come to learn about your association's financial plans and to express any concerns or observations. For more information, contact **Gisela Knight**, Finance Committee Chair, 466-2568.

### Preserve Hikes

Join the Conservation Committee during October for the following guided hikes in our wonderful preserve. Meet in front of the Community Center.

**Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 am - 2 pm:** a moderately strenuous 4 mile hike on trail 401, a loop that traverses the most interesting and remote terrain in the Preserve. Bring lunch, water, and hat. Leader: **Joe Armbruster**, 466-1118.

**Saturday, Oct. 26, 9 am - noon:** a moderate morning hike on parts of the 301 trail system loop. Bring water. Leader: **Cary Carlson**, 466-6073

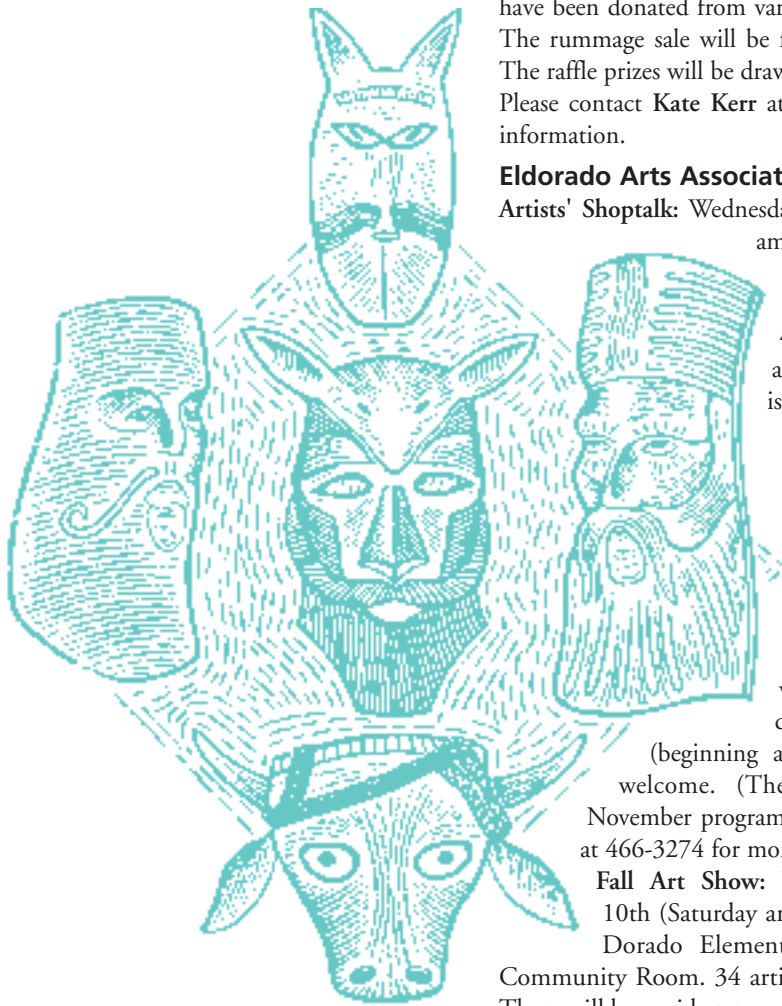
### October Helicopter Training

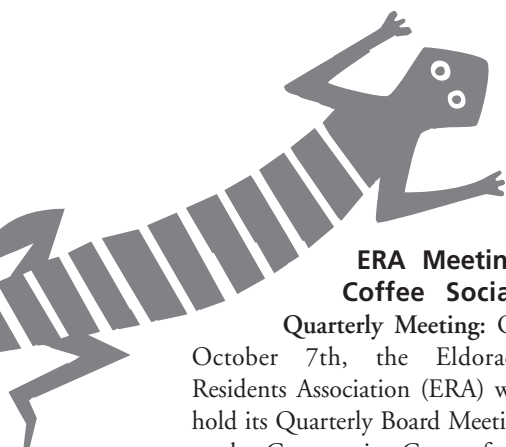
The Santa Fe Search and Rescue Group is planning a training event on the use of helicopters in search and rescue. As part of that training, New Mexico State Police Helicopter 606 will be landing in Eldorado. The helicopter is expected to arrive at 9 am, October 19th, in a reserved section of the Community Center parking lot. If inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances delay this event, the alternate date is October 26th at 9 am. Contact **Dave Burdett** for more information: 466-9765.

### Pre-Election Forum October 10th Gubernatorial and Sheriff Candidates

A Candidates Forum is planned for October 10th at the Eldorado Elementary School's alternate gymnasium. To date, Green Party candidate for governor, **David Bacon**, has accepted our invitation, as well as county sheriff candidates Democrat **Greg Solana** and Republican **Roy Dennis**. The Forum will be held from 7 to 9 pm and includes statements from candidates and time for questions from the public.

This is a great opportunity for residents of the communities along Hwy. 285 to have a chance to hear the candidates first hand, as well as an opportunity to pose questions. For further information, contact ERA President **Pat Kuhlhoff**, 466-4877.





### ERA Meeting, Coffee Socials

**Quarterly Meeting:** On October 7th, the Eldorado Residents Association (ERA) will hold its Quarterly Board Meeting at the Community Center from 7:30 pm to 9 pm. The meeting is open to all Eldorado Residents and is a forum for discussion of issues concerning our community.

**Coffee Socials:** On October 1st and 15th, the ERA will begin the monthly coffee socials at the Eldorado Community Center from 10 am to 11 am. All residents of the community are welcome. Come meet your neighbors, share some friendly chat, learn about what's going on in Eldorado and enjoy some coffee and treats. The coffees are sponsored by the ERA and occur on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month (10 am to 11 am) through the end of May.

For more information, contact ERA Board President **Pat Kuhlhoff**, 466-4877, or call **Janet Amtmann**, 466-3256.

### VGL News

The Vista Grande Library has changed its Friday hours to 12 pm - 5 pm in order to accommodate the early dismissal of students from the elementary school. Other hours remain the same: Tuesday through Thursday 1 pm - 6 pm and Saturday noon - 5 pm. The new librarian is **Susan Sheldon**. 466-READ.

### Master Gardeners

Santa Fe Area Master Gardeners invite you to attend an upcoming educational seminar on Monday, October 14, 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the Eldorado Railroad Depot.

This month's program fea-

SEE "IN THE COMMUNITY" ON PAGE 7

# October Events

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

Email [info@eldoradocommunity.org](mailto:info@eldoradocommunity.org) with your meeting or event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 8th of the month for publication in the following month's *Vistas*. Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. **Type of Event**
  2. **Location**
  3. **Date & Time**
  4. **A Resource Person** (one that can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.
- Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

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

## OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

ERA's Candidate Forum	Thurs., Oct. 10, 7 - 9 pm	Pat Kuhlhoff	466-4877
Heart & Soul Rummage Sale	Sat., Oct. 12, 8 am-3 pm	Kate Kerr	466-4025
S&R*** Helicopter Training,	Sat., Oct. 19, 9 am	Dave Burdett	466-9765
ERA TGIF Party	Fri., Oct. 25, 5 pm	Pat Kuhlhoff	466-4877
Halloween Carnival	Sat., Oct. 26	School	Call 466-2604
Budget Copy Available	Mon., Oct. 28	ECIA Offices	466-4248

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Road Committee	Mon., Oct. 7, 6 pm	Allen Larson	466-4792
ERA Qtly. Meeting	Mon., Oct. 7, 7:30 pm	Pat Kuhlhoff	466-4877
Finance Committee	Tues., Oct. 8, 10-11:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781
Recreation Committee	Tues., Oct. 8, 7-9 pm	Elaine Napp	466-2023
Architectural Committee	Tues., Oct. 8, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708
EAW&SD*	Wed., Oct. 9, 7-9 pm	Don Dayton	466-2411
Board Work Study	Mon., Oct. 14, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248
Information Committee	Wed., Oct. 16, 7-8 pm	ECIA	466-4248
Neighborhood Watch		Lyn deMartin	466-1237 call
285 Coalition	Wed., Oct. 16, 7-9 pm	RoseMarie Bagioni	466-0755
ECIA Board	Thurs., Oct. 17, 7-10 pm	ECIA	466-4248
Architectural Committee	Tues., Oct. 22, 7-9 pm	Bill Schwent	466-7708

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

ERA Coffee Social,	Tues., Oct. 1, 10 am	Pat Kuhlhoff	466-4877
Vista Grande Book Club	Thurs., Oct. 10, 7-9 pm	Shelley Moore	466-9636 Library
Search & Rescue	Thurs., Oct. 10, 7-9 pm	Dave Burdett	466-9765
Book Club	Sat., Oct. 12, 7-9 pm	Barbara Rugg	466-2559
Preserve Hike	Sat., Oct. 12, 10 am - 2 pm	Joe Armbruster	466-1118
Book Club	Sun., Oct. 13, 7-9 pm	Ken Fischer	466- 2537
Master Gardeners	Mon., Oct. 14, 6:30 pm	Beverly Hafner	466-0261
ERA Coffee Social,	Tues., Oct 15, 10 am	Pat Kuhlhoff	466-4877
Arts Assoc. Shoptalk	Wed., Oct. 16, 10 am-12 pm	Cary Carlson	466-6073
Preserve Hike	Sat., Oct. 26, 9 am - 12 pm	Cary Carlson	466-6073
Arts Assoc. Program	Wed., Oct. 30, 7-9 pm	Arlene Siegel	466-3274

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tuesdays, 5:45 pm		
Al-Annon (open to all)	Tuesdays, 4:30 pm & Fridays, 9-10 am		
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fridays, 1-4:30 pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fridays, 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765
Bridge (Beginning)	Wednesdays, 9-12am		
Bridge (Mens')	Thursdays, 1-4 pm		
Boy Scouts	Wednesdays, 7-9 pm	Paul Tuck	466-4815
Community Band	Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm	Peg Johnson	466-1459 School
Fire & Rescue Training	Wednesdays, 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204 Station
Fire & Rescue Work Duty	Saturdays, Call for time	Fire Station Office	466-1204 Station
Senior Lunch**	Wednesdays, 12-1pm	Marjorie Segell	466-3958

\*Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District \*\*Reservations Required \*\*\*Search and Rescue

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.eldoradocommunity.org](http://www.eldoradocommunity.org)

## Dying Piñons? Could Be Bark Beetle

THERE'S A NEW DANGER in our neighborhoods – one you may not have noticed even if you are already affected. The *Ips* beetle, aka bark beetle, has become more than just a pest. The article below is an excerpt from one written by **Rich Atkinson**, a local arborist in the Santa Fe area. Rich has generously given us permission to publish this information for Eldorado residents.

"We're learning about bark beetles – in particular, a trivial-looking insect called *Ips spp*, about the size of a kitchen match head. Before this bark beetle is done, we're going to have meadows instead of forests. Just drive Rodeo Road or Old Las Vegas Highway: those brown balls all over the hills are dead piñons crawling with bark beetles.

*Pinus Edulis* (piñons) and *Ips* have always shared this neighborhood. Piñons fared well in the decades following the drought years of the 1950s. Successive mild, dry winters have allowed bark beetle populations to soar without winter kill. Those same winters have gradually reduced the vigor of pines. A personal ad might read: "Massive beetle populations seek stressed piñon population for purposes of chewing beneath bark to mate." Unfortunately these beetles carry a fungus (blue stain) which is always fatal to piñons. A few weeks after the bark beetle enter their pine love nests, their host is dead. Seemingly healthy piñons rapidly fade in color to a ghostly grey-green, their trunks dotted with pitch tubes where the beetles entered. Six weeks after infestation, the trees are reddish brown and quite dead. But the bark beetle isn't finished yet.

The harshest reality of this cycle is that bark bee-

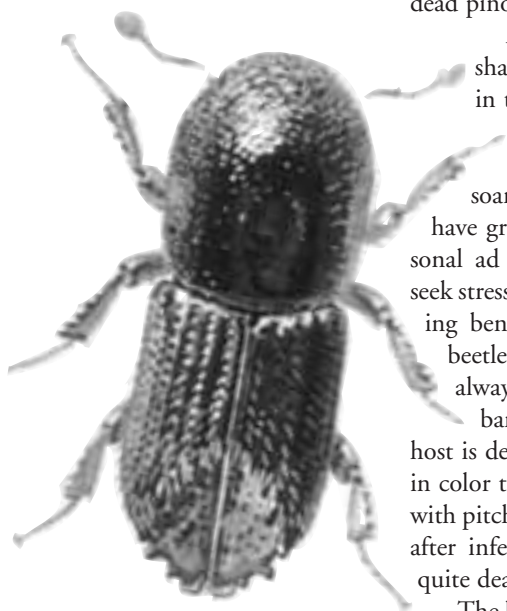
gles are capable of multiple generations per season. This year, as many as four hatches will occur, and the damage they cause will be exponential. Bark beetles usually kill clusters of trees. If generation #1 (June) claims five piñons, generation #2 (July) may take ten trees, generation #3 (August) another 20 and so on until a killing frost. This tidal wave effect means that dead trees should be removed expeditiously to avoid the emergence of the next, even larger, generation of beetles. Since most bark beetle-killed trees stand on no-man's-land, they will remain beetle habitat and a threat to piñons in the landscape.

The good news is that healthy, vigorous piñons, those receiving supplemental irrigation, are usually able to repel the invasion with a surge of pitch, in effect ejecting bark beetles before it can transmit the blue stain fungus. [The only other preventative method involves professional application of an insecticide – something many Eldorado residents avoid doing due to the negative impact on their health and the health of their neighbors.]

Those who understand that trees are the cornerstones of our well-being, and that a majority of our trees are piñons, should learn the 'Piñon Protection Protocol.' If you have piñons, you should:

- Irrigate them properly every 2-3 weeks.
- Learn to identify bark beetle-infested trees.
- Remove any bark beetle-infected trees on or near your property.
- Pray for snow/rain, learn a rain dance, hope for moisture to assist the trees' own natural defense system."

Excerpted by permission, *Santa Fe Botanical Gardens Newsletter*, Volume 10, Number 3, Fall 2002, pp.8-9



## Protecting Our Starry Nights

LONG-TIME ELDORADO RESIDENTS speak of a time when only a few dozen houses stood here. They would slowly drive home at night with just their parking lights on to avoid disturbing the beauty of the night sky. With some 2500 houses, parking lights for night driving are no longer safe or practical. However, the beauty of the night sky is something we must all actively protect as one of Eldorado's special benefits.

Eldorado's Covenants mandate low level outdoor lighting, no more than 75 incandescent watts per fixture, with all light directed downward. Motion sensitive lights, such as for a driveway near a garage, are permitted if they are on a timer and set for a short duration.

Many of us have experienced a bright light disrupting the peaceful darkness, even from some distance away. Sometimes all that is needed is a word with the overly illuminated neighbor who may not realize the light is offensive or even on. If that fails, call the ECIA Covenants Compliance Officer (466-4248) to investigate and take further action if necessary.

Best viewing of the New Mexico sky is in winter when the atmosphere is cold and clear. Fall is often a good compromise; its cool dry air is not as bone-chilling. The early evening may be most convenient, even though telescopic viewing can be somewhat affected by heat rising from the earth. Enjoy the view, and help your neighbors enjoy it as well by keeping outdoor illumination low and inconspicuous.

## The Savvy Traveler

# An Interview with Dan Drobnis

**T**HIRTY YEARS OF INVOLVEMENT in community planning taught Dan Drobnis a thing or two about people. "I have found that the professional planners in local government come and go, but the people in the community remain and become the real professionals."

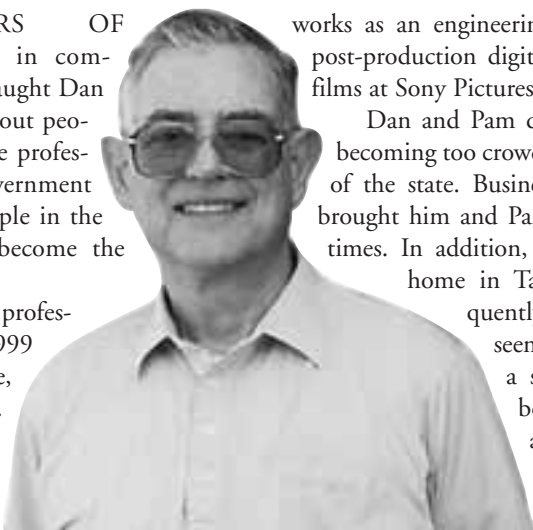
Dan brought his own professionalism to Eldorado in 1999 when he and his fiancée, Pam, bought a house here. In the short time since, Dan has joined the ECIA Board as Treasurer and become the Finance

Committee liaison. He also serves on the board of the Vista Grande Library where he installed, and now maintains, the library's computers.

"When the library was in the planning stage, I asked what I could do to help. The computer systems seemed a natural, since both Pam and I have been working with computers all our professional careers."

As if that isn't a lot, Dan is also involved with local community planning – the Simpson Ranch Contemporary Community Plan. He'd like to see such a long-range plan adopted by residents and the county.

Prior to settling in Eldorado, Dan lived in San Diego for 26 years where he worked in the computer industry. He has two sons who still live in California, both in Los Angeles. The older of the two



works as an engineering designer; the other does post-production digital special effects for feature films at Sony Pictures Studios.

Dan and Pam decided that San Diego was becoming too crowded and chose to venture out of the state. Business contacts in Los Alamos brought him and Pam to Santa Fe a number of times. In addition, Dan's sister has a vacation home in Taos which they visited frequently. Consequently, Santa Fe seemed like a natural choice for a second home. At first they bought a house they hoped to adapt for Pam, who, because of an auto accident, was just out of a wheelchair.

"We realized after living there for a while that it actually made more sense to build one from scratch." They did just that. In January, 2001, they moved into their present home.

Despite his busy schedule, Dan still finds time for photography and travel. He always wanted to have a darkroom, but now prefers digital imaging to traditional print methods. As for travel... In the past three years, he and Pam have been to the western Mediterranean and the Black Sea, the Yangtze River in China, Xian, Beijing, Monument Valley (where Pam finally got Dan on a horse for a couple of hours), and Hawaii.

*Next on their agenda: Ecuador, Peru, and the Galapagos Islands.*

## In the Community

FROM PAGE 5

tures Master Gardener **Jean Salisbury**, speaking on "Gardening with Cold Frames." Watch for details on the November 4th meeting topic "Decorating – From the Fall Garden."

### Recreation Committee Events

We would like to invite the community to a Harvest of Thanks Festival on Friday, November 8th. (Complete details in the November issue.) This will be a chance for the community to get together before the big holiday season begins. It will also be a chance to welcome new residents, form new community groups, and say hello to anyone you haven't seen since

the pool closed. We hope you will pencil the event in on your busy calendars. If you have ideas or if you would like to help, please attend the next Recreation Committee meeting Tuesday, October 8th at 7 pm.

Adult volleyball and basketball is being organized for winter play at the school. Contact **Julee Coffman** at 466-6171 with questions. The U99 soccer play continues Sunday evenings at 6 pm and is open to everyone. We'll be playing until the snow flies.

*If you have questions, please call Elaine Napp at 466-2023 or email [nappkin@aol.com](mailto:nappkin@aol.com)*

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.eldoradocommunity.org](http://www.eldoradocommunity.org)



# Happy Halloween

## **El Dorado School News**

Mark your calendars! The Eldorado Elementary Halloween Carnival is coming up on October 26th. At publication, the time has yet to be decided. Specific information will be sent home with all students in an upcoming set of Wednesday notes. You can also call the school directly at 466-2604 to find out more or to volunteer your time.

Please remember all of our children on the 31st and drive carefully through Eldorado!

## **Halloween TGIF Party**

The ERA sponsors a quarterly evening get-together called TGIF Parties. The October 25th TGIF party will have a Halloween theme. The party begins at 5 pm in the Community Center's Living Room. Come enjoy a social evening with your neighbors. Costumes are optional!



Ana June