

ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 10
October 2011

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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

Eldorado Artists Hit the Road

For the first time ever, Eldorado artists are packing up their artwork and taking their show on the road. The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association's annual Fall Show, usually held at the El Dorado Community School, is relocating this year due to the school's reconstruction. Instead of setting up at the school's gymnasium, the artists are happily presenting their work at St. John's United Methodist Church in Santa Fe.

Additionally, the dates and times of the EACA's Fall Show have been changed to accommodate the new location. This year's show will be held on Friday, October 28, from 5 to 8 pm, and on Saturday, October 29, 10 am to 5 pm. Be sure not to miss the Friday night opening with free refreshments, and get the first pick of the artists' offerings.

Sixty-one Eldorado artists, together in one venue, will be showing work in a variety of genres, including oils, acrylics, encaustics, mixed media, jewelry, ceramics, glass, photography, sculpture, fiber art, wearable art, woodwork, watercolors, tinwork, and musical instruments. Your favorite artists will be on hand showcasing their most current artwork.

The Fall Show participants invite their fellow Eldoradoans to make the short trek into town and show their support, as they have so generously done in the past. Part of the artists' proceeds will be contributed

back to the local community, with donations to the El Dorado Fire and Rescue Service, the El Dorado Community School Arts Program, the Vista Grande Public Library, the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center, and the La Tienda Performance Space. This year, a donation will also be made to the Food Bank at St. John's United Methodist which serves 1500 people a week. So, on your way to Canyon Road on Friday night or home from the Farmer's Market on Saturday morning, stop and enjoy this popular show and support your local community in the process.

The Fall Show also coincides with the annual pumpkin fundraiser that St. John's Church holds every year right before Halloween. Pick out the perfect jack-o-lantern, bring a canned or bulk food donation to the Food Bank, and peruse the EACA's much anticipated Fall Show at the same time.

► **WHAT:** Eldorado Fall Show

► **WHERE:** St. John's United Methodist Church, 1200 Old Pecos Trail (at Cordova), Santa Fe

► **WHEN:** Friday, October 28, 5–8 pm, and Saturday, October 29, 10 am–5 pm.

For more information and a complete listing of participating artists, go to www.eldoarts.org.

—Maggie Mae Beyeler



Necklace, by Joan Babcock



Ceramic tumblers, by Maggie Beyeler

Getting Energy Smart This Fall

Like spring cleaning, tuning up your house for energy savings in the fall is becoming an annual ritual. Taking a few affordable steps each year can save you money and energy, and cut your carbon footprint. There are dozens of home energy upgrades you can do yourself, and the Eldorado Energy

Continued on p. 3

*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center, Thurs.,
October 20,
7 pm.*



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.

Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on August 18 and took the following actions:

- ▶ \$2,400 was transferred from the Contingency item to the Bookkeeping Service item in the current 2011 Operating Budget to allow overlap between outgoing and incoming bookkeepers in December.
- ▶ An amount not to exceed \$4,100 was approved from the Replacement Reserve Fund for soccer field irrigation system repairs.
- ▶ **Sandy MacGregor** was appointed to the Finance Committee.
- ▶ A variance was approved at 35 Azul Loop to build a detached garage inside of the required 20-foot side setback.

- ▶ A variance was approved at 3 Jornada Way for an 8-foot RV screening fence, with the condition of having an earth-toned cover for the front of the RV. The Guideline height limit is 6 feet.
- ▶ A variance was approved at 91 Moya Road for a solar tracking array more than 15 feet from the house, with a 6-foot cedar slat fence on the south side of the array.
- ▶ A variance was approved at 16 Moya Loop for an 8-foot-high RV screening fence, where the Guideline limit is 6 feet.

Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Community Center and are open to the public. For complete minutes and meeting agendas, visit the ECIA office or website: <http://www.eldoradosf.org>.

2012 Operating Budget Discussions

The Finance Committee will finalize its recommendations to the Board in October, and the Board will take action on them in November.

Because of increasing maintenance requirements on aging amenities and the need to build the Replacement Reserve fund to pay for them, it is very likely that the Finance Committee will recommend an increase in assessments for the 2012 budget year. ECIA members who wish to have input or information are welcome.

Wednesday, October 12, 9:30 am, Community Center Conference Room: The Finance Committee continues review of the Operating Budget at its regular monthly meeting, and adopts its recommended 2012 Operating Budget.

Monday, October 24, 7 pm, Community Center Conference Room: Joint meeting of the ECIA Board and Finance Committee. Committee chairs and Association members are invited for information or to further explain their budget requests if desired.

Tuesday, November 1: Proposed 2012 Operating Budget available at the ECIA office and on the website.

Saturday, November 5, 10 am, Community Center Railroad Building: The Board conducts a public hearing on the proposed 2012 Operating Budget. Copies will be available at the hearing.

Thursday, November 17, 7 pm, Community Center Classroom: The Board adopts the final 2012 budget at its regular meeting.

—Dan Drobnis

Noise Control in Eldorado

Before you plan your next big outdoor party this fall, the ECIA staff asks you to think about your neighbors and their desire for privacy and peace and quiet. A majority of Eldorado residents moved here in part for the peace and quiet that living in a more rural subdivision offers. In addition, many of our residents are artists or work from home, and they require a quiet environment to lead the lifestyle they have chosen. Every summer, however, especially on weekends, the ECIA Security staff is called out to respond to calls of noisy neighbors either having a party or just playing overly loud music.

Excessive noise is a violation of the ECIA covenants under Article II, Section 14. Santa Fe County also has a Noise Ordinance, passed in 2009 (Ordinance 2009-11), which prohibits "excessive, unnecessary and unreasonable noise and public nuisances."

The details of this ordinance are available at the ECIA offices and on the Santa Fe County website: <http://www.co.santa-fe.nm.us>. This ordinance clearly specifies maximum allowable decibel levels for certain times of the day, and is enforced by the Santa Fe County Sheriff.

Should you have an issue with neighbors who are having a loud party, we encourage you to first politely ask them to turn down the music and reduce the noise level. If they are uncooperative, we recommend you contact the Santa Fe County Sheriff at 428-3720 to report the noise disturbance. If you have problems reaching the Sheriff, please call ECIA Security at 204-2945. If you have any further questions about the Covenants or the Santa Fe County noise ordinance, please feel free to call me at the ECIA at 466-4248.

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative

ECIA Budget Reflects Community Priorities

As you read last month, the Eldorado Community Improvement Association has started developing its budget for 2012, along with the per-lot membership assessment that will be in place for 2012 and 2013.

For many people, preparing the homeowners' association budget sounds about as fun as a root canal, poring through page after page of numbers and budget codes, calculating, balancing, and estimating what things will cost more than two years in the future.

We are lucky to have very talented volunteers who serve on the ECIA Finance Committee, with considerable management and financial experience. The committee, chaired by **Dan Drobnis**, along with Board Treasurer **Todd Handy**, undertook the hard work to restore and rebuild our financial systems over the past two years.

With more rigorous financial controls comes accountability, and in these financially challenging times, we want to make sure we are spending your money in a way that reflects our shared priorities and protects the investments that we have made in the community over the years.

In my opinion, one of the most important elements in the budget is the allocation that we make to the Replacement Reserve Fund, this year about \$75,000. This farsighted fund is what allows ECIA to undertake significant capital expenditures to maintain our amenities, such as resurfacing the tennis courts, rehabilitating the hike-bike paths, retiling the pool, or restoring the playing field—without having to increase membership assessments for each.

As of this writing, there is no decision on whether there will be an assessment increase for 2012–13. We are aware that some of our members have had financial difficulties in recent years, and that will be a factor in our deliberations.

Between now and November 17, residents will have five more opportunities to learn about the budget from the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors. The key dates are Wednesday, Oct. 12; Monday, Oct. 24; Tuesday, Nov. 1; Saturday, Nov. 5; and Thursday, Nov. 17. See the article on the facing page by Dan Drobnis for details of those meetings. We invite you to come and make yourself heard.

—Ed Moreno, ECIA President

Getting Energy Smart, *continued from p. 1*

Coop, working with the Earth Works Institute, will help you analyze your home and perform some basic energy upgrades. At this point, most people have at least considered upgrading to compact fluorescent bulbs, but many reject this idea because they don't like the light quality of CFBs, or have concerns about mercury contamination. Well, maybe it's time to take the next big leap to LEDs. LED technology has finally arrived for the consumer market, and these lights are available in a wide variety of shapes, sizes, colors and wattages. LEDs are still rather expensive, at nearly \$20 per bulb, but over their lifetime they are the cheaper option.

Seasonal servicing of your heating and cooling systems is also a good investment. Water heaters should be drained and purged at least once per year, which not only increases their efficiency, but extends their lives as well. Furnace filters need replacing regularly, and all combustion appliances should be checked for backdrafting—especially if you have done a lot of house sealing recently.

While there are literally dozens of large and small investments that you can make to improve your home's energy performance, small behavioral changes are the best return on your investment. To assist in that effort, many devices are now available to automate the operation of appliances for greater efficiency.

Occupancy sensors can turn off lights when you forget to. Newer thermostats are programmable to limit heating and cooling rooms when you are not around. Some power strips will automatically turn off peripheral equipment in your computer station or home entertainment system when the primary device is turned off. Even dimmer switches can save energy, but not all light bulbs are compatible with dimmers. Remember, you don't have to do it all today. It is better to make the small changes that fit into your budget and comfort zone than to do nothing at all. There are a lot of great websites (see below) to help you with ideas, and the Eldorado Energy Coop can offer you assistance in getting started.

Earth Works and the Eldorado Carbon Busters are now offering free labor for simple energy efficiency installations, if you pay for the materials! To schedule an appointment or find out more, call **Dana Richards** at 505-690-5500.

<http://www.energyideas.org/documents/factsheets/hometips.pdf>

<http://www.energyideas.org/products.aspx/>

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/consumer/10619.html>

<http://www.energysavers.gov/>

—Xubi Wilson, for the Eldorado Energy Cooperative

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library

466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204

eldoradofirerescue.org

County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)

ON OUR WEBSITE

See Mark Young's latest statistics on ECIA's covenant compliance resolutions and Architectural Committee project approvals on our website.

Go to
www.eldoradosf.org



IN THE COMMUNITY

Doggie Pool Party: Oct 1

Bring your pooch for a swim before the pool is drained, Saturday, October 1, 1–3 pm.

Free Health Screenings/Information

The Santa Fe County Mobile Health Van will be in Eldorado on Thursday, Oct. 6, at the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center, 10 am–3 pm; and on Saturday, Oct. 29, at the Agora Supermarket, 10 am–3 pm. For more information, call **Angela Thorndyke**, RN/BSN at 505-231-2382.

Astronomy Club

An Astronomy Club is being organized here in Eldorado. If you are interested in astronomy and would like to join the club, contact **Ken Mitchell**, Kenmrt66@msn.com or 466-3580.

Free Worm Castings and Compost Worms

The El Dorado School Community Garden is offering free worm castings and compost worms to the first 25 people who show up on Saturday, October 8, 10 am to noon, to fill their own bucket (up to 5 gallons). The EDSCG members created compost for the student educational programs and for members' garden plots and have extra to share with the Eldorado community. Plan to tour and see the lush vegetable gardens, the educational aspects of the garden, and learn about the opportunities for community members to participate. For more information and garden location, email danagsimmons@gmail.com.

Eldorado Camera Club Forming

Are you looking for opportunities to share your photography? Go on photo day trips? Get feedback on your work? Calling all photographers to explore an interest in forming an Eldorado Camera Club. An exploratory meeting is being held on October 19, 7 pm in the Community Room at La Tienda (in the Zia Financial Space). Open to beginning as well as accomplished photographers. For questions or further information, email:

Joan Biordi, biordi@aol.com

Joan Krall, jkrall1942@aol.com

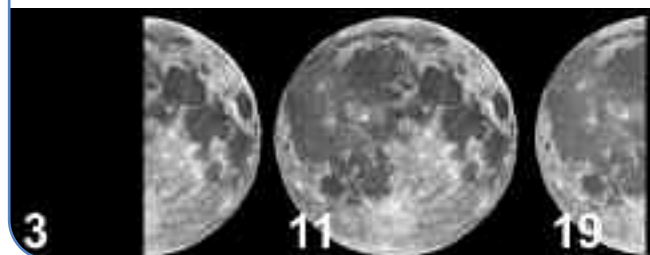
Shelly Moore, smoore@cybermesa.com

Roadrunners RV Club Road Clean-Up

The Eldorado Roadrunners RV Club is out twice a year to pick up the trash along Avenida Eldorado between the railroad tracks and Torreon. Once each spring and autumn, volunteers meet in the mornings to keep Eldorado beautiful. They wear bright orange vests so that they can be seen; however, drivers still zoom past. Please watch for these volunteers and slow down to a safe passing speed. They are doing important work and would like to feel safe so that they can continue helping this community.

All RV owners are invited to join this independent, active, fun-loving, social club that enjoys trav-

MOON PHASES FOR OCTOBER



eling all over the state. Between six and nine monthly trips are planned by members of the club, along with extra activities like BBQs, holiday parties, and other events. They meet every third Tuesday of the month. Everyone is welcome to attend a meeting as a guest to see what the club is about. Please call the chairperson, **Pat Stewart**, at 820-0303 for more information.

October at the Library

New program for toddlers and parents starts

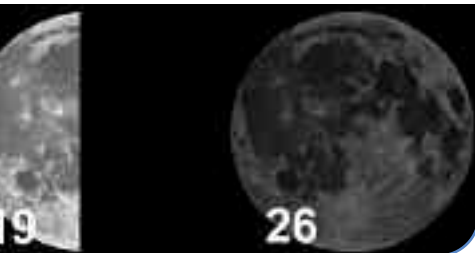
Oct. 7: "Toddler and Parent Time," a new program for young children and their parents, debuts Friday, October 7, at 11 am at VGPL. The hour-long session, headed by **Lorissa Longfellow**, will feature stories and crafts toddlers and their parents can enjoy together on the first Friday of every month. There is no registration, but parents must be present to supervise their children.

"Lemonade Mouth" is Family Movie October 14: "Lemonade Mouth," Disney Studios' story of the trials and tribulations of a high school band, is the VGPL Family Night Movie for Friday, October 14, at 7 pm. Filmed in Albuquerque, the film tells the story of five high school freshmen who meet in detention, start an impromptu jam session while cleaning the school music room and, encouraged by a teacher, start a band. Between squaring off against rival band "Mudslide Crush," protesting the school's removal of their favorite lemonade machine, and readying their group to perform in a competition for a record contract, the teens discover and stand up for their beliefs.

"Night Skies" October 21: The popular Night Skies series concludes its 2011 programs on Friday, October 21, at 8 pm. **Juan Alvarez**, director of the Planetarium at Santa Fe Community College, leads this popular series, which includes a talk and, weather permitting, telescope viewing. VGPL will provide telescopes, but everyone is welcome to bring their own as well.

"Haunted Library" October 31: Come out on Monday, October 31, at 5:30 pm, for a spooky good time at VGPL's old-fashioned, family-friendly Halloween Party. Enjoy treats, games, contests, music, and more.

Remember: Shop Amazon and support VGPL: You can shop on Amazon and benefit VGPL at no



ASTRONOMY CORNER

October 2011



OCTOBER 16: Comet Elinin.

Newly discovered comet Elinin will make its closest approach to the Earth on October 16. The comet was discovered on December 10, 2010, by Russian amateur astronomer Leonid Elenin. It is estimated that the comet will reach 6th magnitude as it makes its closest approach. This will make it just barely visible to the naked eye. With a good pair of binoculars and a little determination, you may be able to get a good look at this new comet during mid-October.

OCTOBER 21, 22: Orionids

Meteor Shower. The Orionids are an average shower producing about 20 meteors per hour at their peak. This shower usually peaks on the 21st, but it is highly irregular. A good show may be experienced on any morning October 20–24, and some meteors may be seen any time during October 17–25. The nearly last quarter moon may hide some of the faintest meteors this year. Best viewing will be to the east after midnight. Be sure to find a dark location far from city lights.

—Source: earthandsky.org

Protect Our Night Skies:

Lights left carelessly on may spoil the views of our night sky.

extra cost to you. Just go to the Library website, <http://www.vglibrary.org>, scroll down and click the “Amazon” button on the right, then shop as usual. A percentage of your purchase price will then go to Vista Grande Public Library.

October Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email info@eldoradosf.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

OCTOBER SPECIAL EVENTS

Paws in the Pool	Sat., Oct. 1, 1-3 pm	Freddi Fullington	466-2005	Pool
TGIF	Fri., Oct. 21, 5-7 pm			LR

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architectural Committee	Tues., Oct. 11, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., Oct. 25, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., Oct. 17, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Oct. 4, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
ECIA Board	Thurs., Oct. 20 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., Oct. 4, 4-6 pm	Jeanne Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., Oct. 12, 9:30-11:30	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Oct. 25, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee (next mtg)	Mon., Nov. 7, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	F
Stable Committee	Tues., Oct. 25, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	LR
SPE Committee	Thurs., Oct. 13, 7-9 pm	Dana Richards	690-5500	CFR

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS

EACA Meeting	Last Thurs. of month		204-7007	LR
EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR
Eldorado Dog Club	4th Sat., 9:30 am	Freddi Fullington	466-2005	Dog Park
La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Library Book Group	2nd Sat., 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Pam Henline	466-4781	VGPL
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7 pm	santafesar.org		CR

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:30-6:50 pm			CFR
AA	Wed., 10:30-11:30 am			CFR/CR
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			LR/CFR
Adult Basketball	Thurs., 6:00 pm			BB Court
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	Every Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Jim Davidson	466-3091	LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:30 & 11 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
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Softball	Sun., 10:00 am	Tom Miller	466-6059	CC
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.eldoradosf.org

New School for Eldorado Residents

The New Mexico Academy of International Studies now offers a unique school option for Eldorado parents. This new elementary school (grades 1–6) provides an international curriculum that explores world cultures and cultural traditions. Attempting to return joy to the school experience, the Academy's thematic approach integrates learning, deepens understanding, and builds a strong academic base. Respect and appreciation shape the curriculum and guide the learning experience of each child.

Small classes and real individualized instruction, along with multi-age groupings and a rich curriculum, provide an alternative to standardized programs that tend to target "the middle." No child gets lost, all children get love. The Academy has both a Head of School with an extensive child development background and an experienced Lead Teacher/Academic Director who is an I-B full-diploma recipient. One Eldorado parent recently described the Lead Teacher as "a teacher who understands the rhythm of each child."

The Academy is located near El Gancho road off the Old Santa Fe Trail, 10 minutes from the first Eldorado entrance. A 26-acre campus provides beautiful, spacious outdoor play areas for sports and games.

The 12,000 sq. ft. building was originally designed as a school, with beautiful, soothing natural light in richly supplied classrooms. The Academy also has a dedicated music room, a dance/exercise studio, a library, and an art room.

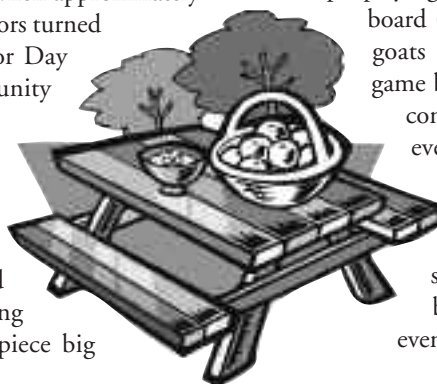
Eldorado parents who have already chosen the New Mexico Academy of International Studies have high praise for the school and its teachers. For example, **Rachel Gonzales**, an Eldorado parent of a first grader, said, "My number one take away from this experience is that my daughter is engaged in everything and at new, amazing levels. Regurgitation of information has not worked for her and now she wants to learn." Another parent from Eldorado, **Linda Alt**, said, "The Academy program lays the foundation for your child to walk the world in the 21st century. My son wakes up every morning jazzed to come to school. They are training brains to think." To learn more about this unique school, call 988-5810.

—Bea Davis

(Bea's work as an international consultant in education prompted her to visit the new Academy. She is inspired by their philosophy, their ideals, and their commitment to quality education. Bea has also co-founded two successful private elementary schools.)

1st Annual Community Day a Success!

With no preconceived notions as to how many area residents would attend or how many would order BBQ plates, it came as a great and pleasant surprise when approximately 100 of our friends and neighbors turned out for the first annual Labor Day "End of Summer" Community Day celebration. Over 50 BBQ plates were sold, and everyone who attended was treated to complementary beverages, ice cream sandwiches, and an old-fashioned "tea dance" played by Swing Shift, a Santa Fe-based 17-piece big



band. Several couples danced, including one who was dancing at the playground while watching over the children. Preceding the 5 pm dance, there were people playing horseshoes, volleyball, and shuffleboard (on our newly painted court). The goats usurped plans to have a softball game by getting to and performing weed control over the ballfield first. As this event was relatively late in being announced, people who might have attended were at other Labor Day celebrations. But the success of this event is a portent of bigger and better ECIA Labor Day events in the coming years.

At the Crossroads

After a lengthy waiting period, the County recently completed the new chip sealing of the Verano Loop road network. After a couple of very frustrating years having to deal with numerous potholes and deteriorating road surfaces, residents in this area now have a smooth road network that will

bring them much safer driving conditions and fewer vehicle maintenance issues for the next 10+ years. The original improvements were funded in part by the property owners along the network via a special assessment. Q and A information about such mechanisms is now accessible from the home page of the ECIA website, www.eldoradosf.org.

—Nolan Zisman, Chair, ECIA Road Committee

Emergency Preparedness

Are you prepared for a disaster? With the many natural disasters happening around the world in the last few months, we can't pretend it will never happen to us. The question in the emergency management world is *when*—not *if*—disaster will strike.

It is every citizen's personal responsibility to prepare for potential disaster, whether it is natural or manmade. There are four stages involved in emergency planning: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Mitigation is about taking steps to reduce the likelihood of a disaster occurring or reducing its effects when it does strike. This could be removing dead trees and brush from around your house to create a defensible perimeter in case of fire, using fire-retardant building materials, and following safety codes in construction.

Preparedness is having three days' worth of water and food available in case you are stranded in your home due to weather conditions, having backup heat and light sources in case the power goes out, having cash available in case the bank machines do not work, and other resources that you may need if you have to evacuate your community or are stranded in your home or vehicle.

Response is when emergency services usually come into play, such as police and the fire department, FEMA, or other government organizations at all levels. The Red Cross is a response organization that provides resources to people in an area where disaster has occurred. Response is about getting assistance to people as the disaster is happening. This includes firefighting,

rescues, and the like. You do not want to be stuck in a situation where you are waiting for someone to respond to you. That is why the mitigation and especially the preparedness stages are so important. If you prepare properly, you will not be in the disaster, you will be visiting relatives or friends watching it unfold on TV.

Recovery takes place when the disaster is over. Rebuilding the community, getting the power turned back on, making insurance claims, everything that is necessary to return to normal (or as close as possible) are all parts of this phase.

Emergency preparedness is up to you. Do you have an emergency plan in place for your family? Do you have an emergency kit with water, food, medications, important papers, and other necessities? Do you have emergency equipment in your vehicle? Do you have alternate heat and light sources at home? Do you have financial contingencies in place if you experience a loss of income? Do you have a plan for your pets and animals?

If you did not answer YES to these questions, then you are not prepared for an emergency. Take some time to research emergency planning on the Internet, talk with family members, and come up with a plan. It is much easier to come up with an effective plan now, sitting around the kitchen table, than scrambling around trying to grab things and get people out as the wildland fire approaches your home.

Remember, preparation occurs before an emergency, not during. Take charge now and be prepared when disaster strikes.

—Raven Hicks, ECIA Community Services Manager



Senior Center News

At the August 30 meeting of the County Commissioners, **Ron Pacheco** from Santa Fe County Senior Services introduced the 14 members of the county's newly hired senior center staff. On July 1, Santa Fe County took over the administration of all six senior centers. Previously, five had been administered by the City of Santa Fe, and only the Adam Center was under County management. The Adam Center's new Activities Director is **Carol Branch**. She will direct activities at both the Adam Center and the Edgewood Senior Center.

ARTS AND CRAFTS PRESENTATION

In October, **Jean Stokes**, a well-known Eldorado quilt maker, will give two lectures: on October 8, she will discuss the history of quilts, and on October 13, she'll talk about writing a history of family quilts.

Both presentations begin at 1:30. Attendees are encouraged to bring in quilts for discussion.

TRIPS

The monthly trips continue to be very popular among the Center's seniors. In October, one possibility is to go to Taos. It is best to stop by the Center or call 466-1039, as the trips are posted two weeks before departure to give everyone a chance to make their plans.

TGIF OCTOBER 21

The fall TGIF will be held on October 21 at the Eldorado Community Center. The event is open to the community of Eldorado. It is a nice opportunity for long-time residents and newcomers to get to know one another. Bring finger food to share. Drinks will be provided. The event begins at 5 pm and ends at 7 pm.

Remember, volunteer opportunities are always available at the Adam Center. Lunch is available to seniors by reservation made at least the day before.

—Janet Amtmann





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

New Dance Floor at La Tienda Performance Space

The community asked, and they delivered. The owners of La Tienda, **Steve** and **Destiny**, have just upgraded The Performance Space to include a hardwood, floating dance floor. It may surprise you to learn that many accomplished musicians who have performed here consider this venue to be the premier performance space in our region. The vision of all involved has always been, and will continue to be, to keep this unique space available for promoting art, performances, and community gatherings.

Formerly Mike's Music Exchange, the venue was briefly operated by the Santa Fe Performance Exchange. Today, after much trial and error, hundreds of conversations with promoters and community members, and a desire to ensure that the venue is loved and utilized by a broad population for a wide variety of performance arts and community events, La Tienda's owners and the owners of La Plancha have come together to create The Performance Space.

In the future, the owners hope to re-equip to better support all kinds of events, including banquet meetings as well as nightclub-style performances and parties. The new entrance will be from La Plancha's foyer. Artists will be pleased to know that the performer's "Green Room" has moved to an adjacent larger space with a separate entrance.

Book your next party or meeting here! The business community, groups and nonprofits, and family event planners are all invited to consider the new, very affordable rates for renting the space. The audiovisual capabilities are top quality and banquets can be arranged.

For information on all scheduled events and performances, go to www.ThePerformanceSpace.com or stop by the Visitor's Information Room at La Tienda to see the printed schedule. For further information on renting The Performance Space for meetings or parties, please contact **Sandy Szabat** at 231-0079.

