

ELDORADO AT SANTA FE VISTAS

VOLUME XIX, ISSUE 10

October 2017

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

Community Garden Members Share Experience

The El Dorado School Community Garden is one of this community's best assets. The 1.5-acre garden, located behind the school's soccer field, hosts 39 individual beds, a communal "Circle Garden," a school garden, a greenhouse, a picnic area and ramada, and much more. Beginning in 2009, a group of green-minded Eldorado residents, inspired by Michelle Obama's White House vegetable garden, determined to start a community garden here. Among that group was **John "Obie" Oberhausen**, a local cactus expert. Initially, his idea of vegetables was "carrot cake and zucchini bread," but that would change. The first season—when the water for the garden came from a faucet up at the school—involved a lot of hard work. Within a season, however, the garden had irrigation systems throughout, as well as the Circle Garden, a Pumpkin Patch and raised beds for the school, perennial and cactus gardens, and other amenities. For Obie, as for many garden members, successful teamwork and new friendships were powerful sources of gratification for their labors.

Deborah Luke-Skol, who was hired to teach first grade at the El Dorado School the year the garden started, views the garden as "a wonderful transition learning space." In the spring, students are in the garden composting, watering, worm and bug hunting, preparing seed starts in the greenhouse, and weeding, aided by a dedicated group of parent volunteers. By August, Luke-Skol's first-graders are in the garden harvesting the pumpkins they planted the previous spring, when they were in kindergarten. She teaches them about the "three sisters," corn, beans, and squash, along with sunflowers, the "fourth sister." Students then sell the pumpkins to raise money for field trips. For many children, this is a first close encounter with plants and insects, one that often triggers a life-long learning path. School gardens have been found to impact children in profound ways. And the benefits are quantifiable: schools with gardens have seen a 12 to 15% increase in standardized test scores, as well as a higher retention of teachers. Happy students make happy teachers, and vice versa.

Garden newbies **Debbie and Bill Ellis** moved to Eldorado from Houston last November. They joined the Community Garden right away, hoping to make new friends while learning about growing things in this unique environment. Their work on the Circle Garden has taught them about soil amending, composting, and irrigation. Thinking about her experience during this first year, Debbie recalled that it was lots of work, but worth it. Clearly, the El Dorado School Community Garden has much to offer—whether one is an "oldie," a "newbie," a teacher, or a student. Working together for the past eight years, Eldorado residents have built a thriving institution that nurtures strong bonds, with the earth and with each other. For those wishing to learn more about the garden, October is a lovely time to visit. The garden's website, <http://www.eldoradoschoolcommunitygarden.org>, offers information about the garden's history, current activities, and membership.

—Susan Williams, waterloom@mac.com
603-321-0301

Susan is a retired history professor who has just finished her second season as a Circle Gardener. She and her husband moved to Eldorado from New Hampshire in November, 2015.

VISTAS STAFF, DESIGN, POLICY CHANGES COMING

Over the next few months, we will be transitioning *Vistas* to a new layout platform and introducing updated editorial policies to serve you better. As of the December 2017 issue, we will have a new editor/ designer in place as well. Stay tuned!

*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center
Railroad Bldg.
Monday,
October 23,
7 PM*

*See more
harvest photos
on the back
page!*





Share your
comments
with us!

For policy and
deadline, see
below

Editorial Policy

Vistas welcomes your ideas, stories, photos, and art. 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 as well, along with accompanying photos.

DEADLINE: Newsletter deadline is the 5th day of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the ECIA office or e-mailed to gloria@eldoradosf.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.

Casitas/2nd Family Residences

Under Article II, Section 1 of the Eldorado Protective Covenants, all Eldorado homes are required to be single-family residential units. This is detailed as follows:

ARTICLE II - PROTECTIVE COVENANTS AND BUILDING RESTRICTIONS

Section 1. **Residential Use.** The lots designated in Schedule A attached hereto shall be used for no purpose other than residential use, except as otherwise provided in Article II, Section 15. **No structures shall be erected, altered, placed, or permitted to remain on any residential lot other than single family dwellings,** accessory buildings such as studios, garages, greenhouses, recreational facilities and storage sheds, and stables on lots on which horses are permitted to be kept. No trailer, mobile home, tent, shack, garage, barn or other outbuilding, nor any temporary structure erected on any residential lot, shall be used at any time as a residence, either temporarily or permanently.

The requirement that all homes be single-family residential units means it is impermissible for any Eldorado home to have two kitchens, or for any studio (or other large accessory structure) to have a kitchen.

This requirement was further clarified in the 2017 Guidelines for Protective Covenants, which reads:

4.10.1.10. Due to the fact that Article II, Sections 1 and 3 clearly state that only one single family residence is allowed on a lot in Eldorado, no home in Eldorado shall have two separate kitchens, nor shall any accessory structure on the lot be allowed to have a kitchen. A kitchen is defined as a room that has cooking appliances and therefore no room shall be allowed to have any cooking appliances or other kitchen appliances such as a full sized refrigerator, dishwasher or oven, but may have a single bay sink and micro-fridge with no larger than 4 cubic feet of storage space.

When the ECIA learns of a home with two kitchens on a lot, we are required to cite this as a violation and work with the resident to have the second kitchen removed.

Additionally, residents should be aware that during a house reappraisal or the sale of a home, the required inspection process will disclose any such non-compliance, which will have to be mitigated.

If you have questions about this covenant requirement, please call me at the ECIA at 466-4248.

—Mark Young, Compliance Representative

ECIA Board Sets Equine Burial Moratorium

ECIA staff and Board members have been working with Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District (EAWSD) staff in response to potential sources of water contamination identified in the District's recently completed Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP). On June 21, 2017, EAWSD General Manager David Chakroff sent the ECIA a letter that requested a response to a specific potential source of contamination: the ECIA Horse Stables. A full copy of this letter is posted at eldoradosf.org/document/6-21-17%20EASWD%20letter%20to%20ECIA%20re%20stables.pdf.

Mr. Chakroff's letter states, in pertinent parts:

The SWPP specifically identifies the ECIA Horse Stables as a site of "high vulnerability" for the contamination of EAWSD public drinking water wells and aquifers. The SWPP specifically states:

"The ECIA horse stables are notable in the EAWSD's SWPAs [Source Water Protection Areas] because significant historical and current horse burial has occurred at this site. This site also conducts manure composting, which, in the absence of proper controls, can contribute to contaminated runoff."

We understand that it would be infeasible to identify the location of past horse burials and to relocate those carcasses away from EAWSD wells and aquifers. We would, however, ask the ECIA Board to recognize the Horse Stables as a potential source of contamination to the community's public drinking water supply, and to institute a policy to prohibit all future burial of horses on the stable grounds and on any property within ECIA jurisdiction.

The Board reviewed the District's June 21 letter and sought the advice of legal counsel in order to craft a policy that would effectively regulate equine (horse, mule, and donkey) burials within ECIA common property, including the Stable amenity. Mindful of the need to take action to protect our drinking water from a potential source of water well contamination, yet aware of the sensitivity of this issue to the stable community, the Board has unanimously passed a six-month moratorium on all equine burials within ECIA common property. During this moratorium, ECIA staff and the ECIA Board will partner with the stable community to identify cost-effective and environ-

CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE >>

Message from the Board

When I was elected to the Board last May, I had served on the Architecture Committee for over seven years, five of them as the vice-chair. It was an easy transition from that seat to becoming the Board liaison to the committee. My background is just about equally split between my work in the building trades as a carpenter, electrician, plumber, and home inspector, and my work in human services as a teacher, counselor, administrator, and yoga studio owner. This has come in handy on the Architecture Committee in dealing with a wide range of projects and personalities.

The Architecture Committee serves the Eldorado community by ensuring that all proposed projects comply with the Covenants and the current Guidelines. Last year, we approved 127 projects, including solar installations, home additions, new home construction, restuccoing, reroofing, new fences, and a variety of other projects. We do our best to work with the homeowner to find ways to complete their proj-

ects within the Guideline requirements and often go out on site visits if there are questions that need to be clarified. In addition, we periodically review the Guidelines to keep them current and relevant.

The Architecture Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month, and plans must be submitted by 5 PM on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. Architectural Plan Submission Forms can be electronically submitted on the website at <http://eldoradosf.org> under the "Resident Resources," "Forms & Applications" tab at the top of the page or can be obtained from **Mark Young** at the ECIA office. The Guidelines and Covenants can also be found on the website under the "Governing Documents" tab and should be consulted as you are planning your project. We look forward to helping you make your plans a reality.

—David McDonald

Board Liaison to the Architecture Committee

Recent Board Actions

The Board of Directors of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association met on Monday, September 25, 2017. Members present were President **John Henriksen**, Vice-President **Antone Forneris**, Treasurer **Joseph Gutierrez**, Secretary **Michael McDowell**, and Directors **David McDonald** and **Jody Price**. Director **Pam Henline** was absent. The following formal actions were taken by the Board:

- ▼ Motion to approve Variance at 18 Garboso Road to allow for a non-compliant color to remain on the home although resident did not receive approval to apply non-compliant color was passed; Director Forneris abstained.
- ▼ Motion to approve variance at 40 Encantado Rd to allow for the constructions of monuments within 50 foot roadside setback and to allow for the structure to be longer than allowed was passed unanimously.
- ▼ Motion to remove lien on 5 Gavilan Place at ECIA expenses was passed unanimously.
- ▼ Motion to appoint **Carol Beidleman** as a new member of the Conservation Committee was passed unanimously.

- ▼ Motion to approve Information Committee recommendation letter dated 8/31/17 was passed unanimously.
- ▼ Motion to approve Galina Park Greenbelt Trail Proposal was passed unanimously.
- ▼ Motion to approve the Facility and Grounds Committee's request to form an ad-hoc landscape committee consisting of **SuAnne Armstrong**, **David Lovro**, and **DiAna Gutierrez** for the purpose of advising on landscape capital investments and management during 2017 passed; Director Gutierrez abstained.

The next scheduled meeting of the ECIA Board of Directors will be a working session on October 18, 2017, at 6 PM, in the Community Center Classroom. On October 23, at 7 PM, the Board will conduct its regular meeting in the Railroad Room at the Community Center.

Regular Board meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the Community Center and are open to the public. An open forum and community announcements are normally included. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website: www.eldoradosf.org.

Equine Burial Moratorium, continued

mentally sound alternatives to equine burials.

In the months to come, the ECIA Board will also examine the way that manure is stored at the stables, to

lessen the chances that contaminated runoff will impact the community's drinking water. Although manure is no longer being composted at the ECIA stables, concern remains that the animal waste present at this site is a potential source of drinking water contamination.

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Conservation: **Jim Daniel**
Election: **Bette Knight**
Facilities & Grounds:
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Finance: **Sal Monaco**
Information: **Gershon Siegel (acting chair)**
Roads: **Felicia Probert**
Stable: **Open**

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



Birdhouse by **Al Hockwalt** and **Karen Nein** (top), jewelry by **Carla McBride**, and lots of other art on sale Oct. 20–21.

Fall Arts & Crafts Show

It's that time of the year for the annual Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association Fall Art Show. We will be hosting the Fall Arts and Crafts Showcase on Friday, October 20, and Saturday, October 21, at St. John's United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Cordova and Old Pecos Trail. The hours are Friday 3–7 PM and Saturday 9 AM–5 PM. This is a great opportunity to add to your own art collections as well as get a jump-start on the busy holiday shopping season. You will be able to view artwork from over 40 Eldorado artists: jewelry, photography, ceramics, wearable art, birdhouses, wood, recycled arts, painting, glass, weaving, and more. In addition to many old favorites, we have 15 new artists joining us this year. Entry is free and there is plenty of easy parking at the "Pumpkin" church! Contact eldoradoarts@gmail.com for info.

Stable Open House Oct 22

The Eldorado Stables again welcomes the entire Eldorado community to our Stable Open House on Sunday, October 22 from 10 AM to 1 PM. Bring the whole family to meet the horses, pet the donkey, have some home baked goodies, and enjoy our wonderful stable amenity. And yes, there will be PONY RIDES!! Listening Horse Therapeutic Riding will again be providing free pony rides to all our young riding enthusiasts. We are delighted to have this wonderful organization join us once again for a day of fun and education at the stables. For children who plan to ride, please wear close-toed shoes and long pants. Parents should also wear close-toed shoes. Contacts: Stable Community Day Chair **Amelia Adair** (720-563-1018, ameliaadair@msn.com).

Halloween Candy Collection for Verano Loop Neighbors

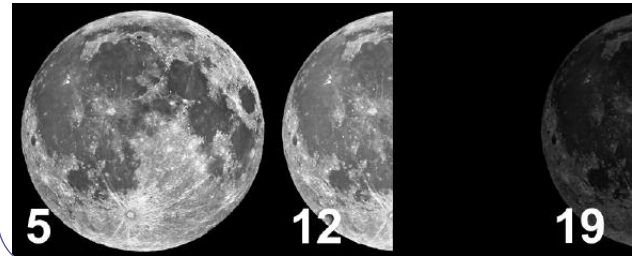
This year, to lighten the financial burden of providing Halloween candy to hundreds of local children, we are collecting candy for our Verano Loop neighbors to distribute on Halloween.

On the first three Saturdays of October (Oct. 7, 14, and 21), please drop off candy at Vista Grande Library during regular hours. (Please specify that your donation is for Verano Loop.) Please contact **Martha Deutsch** with any questions, mcjackson9@yahoo.com.

Position Open in Architecture Committee

Applicants should have some familiarity with home design and/or architecture, and will be working with the committee in reviewing projects for the construction, addition, or remodeling of dwellings and other structures covered under the Covenants and Guidelines. Usually there are two meetings per month, plus occasional site visits. For further information, call **Mark** at the ECIA at 466-4248.

MOON PHASES FOR OCTOBER



Eldorado Salutes Bernstein Centennial

Eldorado's local, low-power community radio station, ELDORADIO 1660 AM, joins The Santa Fe Opera and other musical organizations to mark the Leonard Bernstein Centennial Year, with broadcasts of the conductor-composer's music and theater pieces. The station will preview the Santa Fe premiere of Bernstein's *Candide*, scheduled for SFO's 2018 summer, as well as the other four operas in the company's coming season.

Previews of next summer's repertoire on ELDORADIO are part of the station's weekly Saturday Matinee, heard every Saturday at 12 noon. These broadcasts also include recorded live concerts by classical, jazz, and popular artists, including Santa Fe and New Mexico performers. Already heard in the series, Bernstein's *Wonderful Town* kicked off the centennial celebration Aug. 26, the day after Bernstein's 99th birthday anniversary. During 2018, ELDORADIO will present Bernstein's three symphonies, Mass, and other works for concert and theater, as well as a variety of music by other composers conducted by Bernstein. This December 16, ELDORADIO commemorates Beethoven's birthday with a Saturday Matinee broadcast of Bernstein's Berlin performance of the *Ninth Symphony*.

ELDORADIO previews SFO productions during the first few months of each year, and this year will offer complete performances of all five works in the repertoire, including a European performance of John Adams's *Doctor Atomic*, a story of J. Robert Oppenheimer at Los Alamos and White Sands. This opera will have its New Mexico premiere at SFO, with Los Alamos visible through the open theater.

Opera previews on Saturday Matinee beginning in January will also include *Candide*, once in its original Broadway version, and again in its revised "operatic" version. Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Rossini's *Italiana in Algeri*, and Richard Strauss's *Ariadne auf Naxos* are scheduled for the Saturday series.

Most of ELDORADIO's broadcast day is a wide-ranging mix of classical, jazz, popular, new-age and folk music, designed for easy listening and relaxation without commercial interruption. The specific programs mentioned here, plus a few others, offer 24-hour listening.

Saturday Night Movies on the ECIA Patio*

October 7: *Casper the Friendly Ghost* (PG), 6:30–8:10 PM

October 14: *The Book of Life* (PG), 6:30–8:05 PM
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (R), 8:15–10 PM

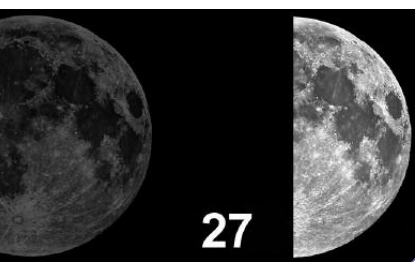
October 21: *Hocus Locust* (PG), 6:15–7:50 PM
The Others (R), 8–9:44 PM

October 28: *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (PG), 6:15–7:40 PM
The Nightmare on Elm Street (R), 8–9:50 PM

Free Popcorn!

Bring a blanket and picnic to enjoy the cool October evenings on the ECIA patio.

*Weather permitting



Yoga in Africa

Having lived in Africa for 10 years, I recently became curious about the practice of yoga in Africa. I was so excited to learn of something called the Africa Yoga Project (www.africayogaproject.org), a non-profit organization based in Kenya that teaches and employs more than 70 local yoga teachers and conducts up to 300 free yoga classes for more than 5,000 people weekly in orphanages, prisons, and other locales throughout the country.

We so often see pictures of people suffering in Africa, but here is something that is inspiring and positive. Children are given the opportunity to be creative and express themselves both physically and mentally. Halfway through a class, children will often start spontaneously singing or dancing and then return to their postures! Prison inmates report that yoga has become a daily source of happiness in their lives. Students are empowered to go out and become leaders in their community. "Our minds and bodies must be connected in order to create lasting change" is part of the Africa Yoga Project's mission statement, and it seems to be working. After visiting their site, I felt so happy to know that the practice of yoga is touching the lives of so many people around the world. And while my students in Eldorado (see Calendar listing at right) are not known to burst into spontaneous singing or dancing during a yoga class here, I would certainly not discourage it! —Julia Cairns

October Events

Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email gloria@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.

CC=Community Center, LR=Living Room, F=Foyer, CFR=Conference Rm, CR=Classroom, RR=Railroad, K=Kitchen

COMMITTEE MEETINGS****

Architecture Committee	Tues., Oct. 10, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architecture Committee	Tues., Oct. 24, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Wed., Oct. 18, 6-8 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Oct. 3, 7-9 pm	Jim Daniel	609-941-4527	F
ECIA Board Meeting	Mon., Oct. 23, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	RR
Election Committee	Wed., Oct. 11, 2-4 pm	Bette Knight	466-4248	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., Oct. 4, 3-5 pm	David Lovro	466-0540	CFR
Finance Committee	Mon., Oct. 16, 9:30-11:30 am	Sal Monaco	858-886-6656	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Oct. 24, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	FR
Road Committee	Thurs., Oct. 5, 6-8 pm	Felicia Probert	466-1563	RR
Stable Committee	TBA	Bonnie Mamp	eldoradostables@gmail.com	F

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

Cub Scout Den 414	1st & 2nd Wed 6-7 pm	Will Scoberg	karlwscoberg@aol.com	CR
EAW&SD	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	EAWSD
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs., 7 pm	Mary Fredenburgh	466-1035	CR
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed., 3 pm	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net	LR
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues. of month, 4-6 pm	Sue Daniel	856-220-7087	CFR
Healing Arts Practitioners	2nd Tues., 4-5:30 pm	Terry Terry	303-475-0922	LR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Brad Cottingham	466-4655	
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm		santafesar.org	VGPL

WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 7-8 pm			CFR
AA	Thurs., 6-7 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat., 11-12 pm			CFR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			La Tienda
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Karl Cordova	karl_cordova747@msn.com	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Shirley Davis	982-6179	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:00 & 10:30 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Creative Movement for Kids	Tues., 3:30-4:30 pm	Teresa Schwarz	428.0832	CR
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
Fire & Rescue Training	Tues., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Duty Sections	Sat., 8-12 noon	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Interval Training	Wed., 9 am	Susan Kayar	204-8290	Max Coll CC
Interval Training	Fri., 8:30 am	Susan Kayar	204-8290	Max Coll CC
Knitting Club	Tues., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Mavis Murphy	466-8189	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri., 1-5 pm	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Barb	954-1533	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30-12:30 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Spinning Group (Fiber)	1st & 3rd Thurs., 9:30-11:30 am	Ellen Higgins	970-201-4776	LR
Square Dancing	Fri., 6:30-9 pm	Connie Walters	466-4226	Max Coll CC
Yin Yoga	Mon., 5:30-6:45 pm	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Tues., 9-10:15 am	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Wed., 9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Yoga/ Gentle Stretch	Thurs., 9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Fri., 9-10:15 am	Julia Cairns	466-1935	CR
Zumba	Tues. & Thurs., 9-10 am	Tana Monaco	690-4332	Max Coll CC

* Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

**For other religious/spiritual services, go to <http://santafe.areaconnect.com/churches.htm>

*** Reservations required **** Check the ECIA website for the most accurate dates/times

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.eldoradosf.org



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH FLORA & FAUNA GROUP

Yellow, Yellow, Yellow is the Color for October

October in Santa Fe is filled with glorious yellow. Aspens, chamisa, cottonwoods, golden-rod, and many other plants fill our vistas with that lovely color.

Cottonwoods and aspens, both members of the Willow family (Salicaceae) deserve some special attention.

Among the various species of cottonwoods (some of which even have long willow-like leaves), the Fremont, or Alamo, cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), a type of poplar, is most common in our area. Fremont cottonwoods are very large, rising to 100+ feet. They are riparian trees, growing mostly along watercourses and putting down very deep roots. Like all Willow family plants, cottonwoods are dioecious: each tree is either male or female. Reddish catkins (flowering spikes of both sexes) bloom in the spring; seeds attach to patches of “cotton”-like fiber and disperse in wind. The small deciduous leaves turn yellow-gold in the fall.

Cottonwoods do best where significant flooding occurs. Rerouted waterways disrupt their growth. They grow fast; mature trees have dark, deeply furrowed bark. Used by settlers for fuel, fence posts, tool making, and musical instruments, with leaves and bark used for medicinal purposes, cottonwoods now serve as ornamental trees for shade, windbreak, erosion control, and wildlife habitat. They are not especially strong; large branches can drop in a stiff wind, so be careful parking or camping underneath!

Quaking aspens (*Populus tremuloides*) are another member of the Willow family that turn a glorious yellow in the fall. Aspens are fast-growing poplars with small, round or heart-shaped, fine-toothed leaves that

shake in a very light breeze. Aspens grow in a wide variety of climate conditions; they’re the most widely distributed tree throughout North America. Soft, white aspen wood is used for pulp, excelsior, and matches.

Young trees have smooth, greenish white bark with black horizontal scars and black knots. Although the trunks remain thin, the bark darkens and roughens with age. Tiny fruit is contained in green catkins. Seeds are embedded in cottony fluff, which aids wind dispersal. Aspens propagate primarily through root sprouts and extensive clonal colonies. Even if the aboveground portion of aspens may die in a fire, the roots will resprout. However, many Western U.S. areas have experienced increased diebacks due to grazing and wildfire suppression.

Final note: Take the time to go see these beautiful trees in all their yellow glory in October. Aspens are mostly in the ski area, and cottonwoods can be seen in Galisteo and at Lenora Curtin Wetland Preserve.

REMINDER! As described in more detail in our September 2015 article, in autumn, bears are busy fattening up for winter. It’s unusual to see a bear in Eldorado, but their need for food may bring them closer to populated areas. Don’t attract them: Keep garbage tightly covered, bring in bird feeders at night, don’t leave pet food outside, keep pets on a leash. If you encounter a bear, remember that it may be as afraid as you are! Look for cubs; never come between a mother bear and her cubs. Stand upright, keep your eyes averted, slowly wave your arms, and slowly back away. If you are attacked, fight back aggressively.

Archived articles can be found at <https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com/flora-fauna-group/>.



Pharmaceutical Disposal

FROM ELDORADO 285/RECYCLES

According to a Seattle study, during November and December in Puget Sound, sea life was found swimming in a brew of sugar and spice from an influx of vanilla and cinnamon in those waters. The sugary surge was likely due to all those holiday cookies flowing through us, down our drains, and eventually into our environment. It turns out that even holiday cheer can have an environmental impact. If simple cookie ingredients are finding their way into our water, what else is following suit?

One major class of environmental contaminants is manufactured pharmaceuticals—things like cold medicines, antidepressants, and painkillers. We consume these drugs to treat our ailments. However, traces of the drugs are not metabolized and are sent down the drain, into our ecosystem, in the form of bodily waste.

Expired and unwanted medicines likewise find their way into our environment. Doctors and pharmacists once believed that flushing these substances down the toilet was a safe disposal method—and even recommended it. We now know better.

If you have expired or unwanted meds, drug stores such as Walgreens on Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe and Christus St. Vincent Outpatient Pharmacy will take them back and safely dispose of them. Two other locations are the Santa Fe Fire Department Headquarters (200 Murales Rd.) and the Santa Fe Police Headquarters (2515 Camino Entrada). Each has a convenient drop-off bin and can accept non-prescription items.

—Earth911, Lauren Murphy/285 Recycles





Successful Open Forum on Stable Funding

About 25 community members were in attendance on Saturday, August 26, at the Stable Funding Open Forum held in the Railroad Building. ECIA President **John Henriksen** opened the forum with remarks highlighting the Board's new draft funding proposal. Henriksen explained that the draft policy resulted from discovering a 2000 ECIA Board Policy titled, "Association Funds Spending Guidelines." It resolved "that the ECIA shall not use Association funds for or be responsible for any costs associated with the construction, maintenance or operational expenses associated with a Member's personal property."

Apparently in violation of that 17-year-old resolution, subsequent Boards have used working funds to pay "up front" stable expenses and then billed barn owners after the fact. Our current Board proposed to bring the Association's current stable funding procedures into compliance with that long-ignored policy.

By all accounts, the forum was successful in everyone feeling heard. Remarked Henriksen, "The ECIA Board and Stable Committee members who conducted the August 26th open forum heard from a broad spectrum of the stable community. The bulk of the residents who spoke at the open forum raised concerns about the fairness and accuracy of the billing scheme set out in the draft funding guidelines."

"After the expiration of the September 16 comment deadline, the ECIA Board team working on these draft guidelines will meet with Stable Committee representatives and present a revised set of guidelines that will hopefully address the concerns expressed at the open forum."

Later, the Eldorado Stable Committee (ESC) issued a statement expressing stable owners' appreciation for the open forum. The ESC seemed particularly appreciative of "the acknowledgement that stable owners pay to use the amenity and it remains open for all Eldorado residents to visit and enjoy. Gathering information and opinions from both the stable owners and the larger community is a positive step toward inclusion about future decision-making regarding the amenity and transparency on the part of the ECIA Board."

"The Board members listened to stable owners regarding the new billing structure being put forth. Stable owners were clear that they have no problem paying for water usage, manure removal from the property, insurances, and taxes. The other clear message delivered was that stable owners should not be billed for equipment and labor charges on ECIA common property, as no other amenity users pay these additional fees."

—Gershon Siegel



Library News

The new extended hours are a hit with patrons! VGPL is now open at 10 AM every day except Sunday and Monday (when the library is closed). Closing time remains 6 PM, Tuesday through Friday, and 4 PM on Saturdays.

FAMILY HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

The Haunted Library Halloween Celebration will be on Saturday, October 28, from 4 to 7 PM. This event is free and open to everyone in the community. There will be lots of family activities, a special story time, a costume contest, and food and treats. Check the website or call the library for more details. Volunteers and donations for this event are welcome; please contact the library staff if you are interested in helping out.

AMAZING \$5,000 DOOR MATCH OPPORTUNITY

From October 9 to 14, all of our donor appeal income, up to \$5,000, will be matched by a generous donor. Please help your library. Mark your calendars and visit our DONATE button on the website www.vglibrary.org, or mail in or drop off your checks at the library.

EVENTS: (Events take place in the Meeting Room and have free admission, unless noted otherwise.)

Story Time for toddlers and preschoolers: Friday mornings at 11 AM in the Children's section.

All Ages Chess: Friday afternoons from 3 to 5 PM. All ages and skill levels welcome. Children under 12 must be registered by a parent.

Book Donation Day: Saturday, October 7, 9–11:30 AM only.

Alzheimer's Talk: Wednesday, October 11, from 10 to 11 AM, the Alzheimer's Association presents the second of three classes dealing with early, middle, and late stage Alzheimer's.

Family Movie Night: Friday, October 13, at 7 PM. Call 466-7323 for the film title and rating.

Physics for Everyone Lecture Series: Thursday, October 19, 12:30 to 2 PM. "Newton's Three Laws & Law of Gravitation (why spacewalking astronauts hold on and what causes gravity?)." No prior knowledge is necessary.

Haunted Library Halloween Celebration: Saturday, October 28, 4 to 7 PM.

Fall Book Sale: November 9–11.

Artist Exhibition for November: Selene Sinclair *Raptor Presentation through Pecos National Park:* November 18, 1–2 PM. Reservations required.

—Tracey Mitchell



Tom Brimacombe sent us this photo of a bear roaming in the Eldorado Preserve.

VISTAS

Eldorado Community
Improvement Association
#1 La Hacienda Loop
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508
www.eldoradosf.org

HELP ECIA GO GREEN! SAVE ON PAPER & MAIL

by opting out of receiving a mailed copy of **Vistas**. To sign up, email gloria@eldoradosf.org. You will be sent an email once a month with a link to the next issue of **Vistas** on the ECIA website, in PDF format, ready to view and/or print at home.

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Sheriff 428-3720
Crime Stoppers 955-5050
Neighborhood Watch: <https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com>

Community Garden's August Harvest!



SEE STORY ON PAGE 1