

# ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XII, ISSUE 11

November 2010

## IN THIS ISSUE

Letters .....	2
ECIA News.....	2-3
In the Community.....	4-5
School Construction.....	6
Killdeer .....	6
Neighborhood Watch .....	7
Roads / Senior Center .....	7

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)

## It's Show Time

On November 13–14, the Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association is holding its 9th Annual Fall Show. This is a wonderful opportunity for Eldorado residents to get a good jump on their holiday shopping without having to venture too far from home. It is truly a venue where you can find artful, unique gifts.

It's also a great way to meet many of our very talented neighbors in a convivial atmosphere. Close to 60 resident artists will be offering handcrafted works in a variety of mediums. On hand will be two- and three-dimensional works made in clay, glass, paper, and fiber, as well as painting and photographic media. Furniture, jewelry, sculpture, decor items, clothing, and much more can be found at the show. The creators are there to explain their processes—always fascinating to learn about when you're purchasing something unique, and an appreciated addendum to include with a special, artistic gift. You will also find prices to fit all the parameters of your gift lists.

It's become a gratifying tradition for our artists to bring culinary contributions to this event. A pleasant, relaxing area will be set up to sit and enjoy these complimentary refreshments. This is the way shopping should be—stress-free, kid-friendly, sociable and fun.

The Eldorado community continues to grow into a ripening community. Many of us have moved here to lead a more rural lifestyle, and the web that holds us together as a community stretches wide. With a beautiful multi-purposed community center, as well as the ever-evolving Agora Center and La Tienda complexes, we have places to gather and mingle. In the last several years, we've seen our options broaden with a community garden, new restaurants, a music and entertainment venue, and so much more. We have more health and spiritually oriented establishments, a lively senior center, a class-act library, and an involved, caring volunteer fire department. Even though the artists in EACA are spread throughout the Eldorado area, as an association they are a vital and invigorating element to what is community. Artists participating in the Fall Show, as well as in the annual spring studio tour, contribute a percentage of their revenues to various organizations within Eldorado.

The Fall Show is being held at the El Dorado Community School, 2 Avenida Torreon, off Vista Grande, on November 13 and 14, from 10 am to 5 pm.

For further information, contact **Cate Goedert** at (505) 670-6649, [catedances2@comcast.net](mailto:catedances2@comcast.net) or go to [www.eldoradoarts.org](http://www.eldoradoarts.org).

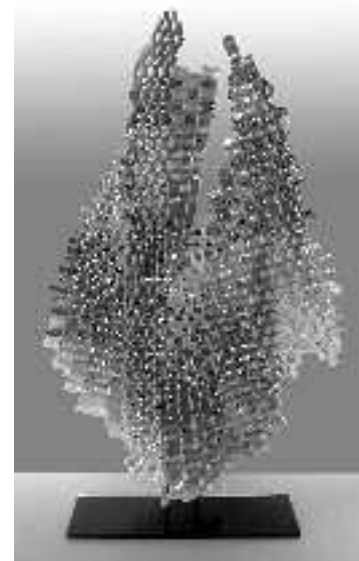
—Margaret Nelson

*ECIA Board  
Meeting,  
Community  
Center, Thurs.,  
November 18,  
7 pm. Public  
is invited.*

*Below: Robert Santacroce,  
woven glass, 28 x 16 x 4".*



Above: Cheryl McChesney, oil on canvas, 24 x 30".  
Right: Joan Babcock, fiber necklace, 16 x 5."



*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 ECIA@DiAna@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.

## Goats Got Your Weeds

We'd like to thank the people of Eldorado for the opportunity they've given us to show what goats can do in landscape maintenance. We'd particularly like to thank **Jean Crawford** for bringing us here, and **Bill Donohue** for letting us stay, originally seeking to clear overgrown paths and entryways to the greenbelt and remove overgrown vegetation that was a fire hazard. We've had the opportunity to begin to bring some portions of the greenbelt back into balance. In our work, we realized that the greatest contribution we can give to Eldorado residents is to reduce pollen from kochia and tumbleweed, improving quality of life for many allergy sufferers. We hope to be able to continue this work next year. Thank you all very much. Our success was made possible by hosts and clients who dared open their homes and yards to our experience.

—Dave and Ammie Thorp



## Election Sign Requirements in Eldorado

With many major elections coming up in early November, including a very visible New Mexico governor's race, it is inevitable that we are going to see political signs on the lots of many Eldorado residents, as well as all over our roadsides. In fact, at the time of this writing (in mid September), we are already starting to see gubernatorial signs springing up all over the landscape on residents' lots.

What many Eldorado residents may not know, however, is that the posting of political signs on lots in Eldorado is clearly addressed in the covenants. Specifically this is addressed under Section 9, and reads as follows:

**Section 9 Signs:** Except as specifically set forth below, no sign of any kind shall be erected or maintained on any lot, nor on any common area, without the prior written approval of the E.C.I.A. Board of Directors or its designee(s). The following signs do not require approval under this section when erected on a lot: community interest signs such as neighborhood watch or beware of dog signs; nameplates, address signs; one-time-only signs, such as signs for garage sales, lost animals, birthday parties and the like, which shall be removed after 72 hours; one only for rent, for sale, and/or builder's construction sign; and one only open house sign to be removed daily. Real estate and construction signs on a lot shall not exceed 2'

x 3' in size. **Public election signs are allowed on a lot 14 days prior to a public election, and shall be removed within 72 hours after said election.**

We are, therefore, asking all residents to respect their neighbors, as well as the covenants, by not posting any election signs until 14 days prior to an election. We also ask that residents be considerate and remove signs within 72 hours after the election. Your cooperation in this matter will help us keep our roadsides free of the clutter of election signs well after the actual election.

If Eldorado residents see election signs still posted on a residential lot after more than 72 hours following any election, we ask that they contact the ECIA (466-4248) with the exact location of the sign, and we will work with the lot owner(s) to get the sign removed.

(For information concerning placement or removal of elections signs within the county right of ways, or along roadsides, we urge you to contact the Santa Fe County Public Works division at 992-3010.)

Thank you for your cooperation during this election season, and don't forget to vote!

**VOTE**

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative

## Practice Participation

Some folks in Eldorado feel that only a few people volunteer in the community. But what I've noticed is that almost everyone in Eldorado is involved in the community in some way. Of course, many have full-time jobs; many have more than one. We have friends who are busy with Search and Rescue. One neighbor is preparing to set a motorcycle speed record. Another is a docent at Las Golondrinas. With ECIA, it's often difficult to schedule meetings because the people we want to attend have full schedules. Oddly, these are the kind of people we would like to volunteer in the community. They understand the value of an active life.

A few years back, an M.D. suggested that longevity was not as important as the quality of one's ongoing life. I've since found that to be very good advice (it got us to New Mexico!).

As I write about this, I'm thinking about all the opportunities at such places as the library, Fire and Rescue, the Senior Center, the water district, and a myriad of arts, crafts, music, and sports activities. And within ECIA, our nine working committees offer wonderful, fun opportunities to contribute to the quality of life in Eldorado, in the present and for the future. We once again have a full Architectural Advisory Committee that is doing exactly that.

Even if you don't volunteer, if you know someone who is active in ECIA, let them know about your concerns and interests. We can be most effective when we have input from the whole community.

So, if you absolutely don't have any available time, we invite you to join one or more of our activities—you're exactly the kind of person we need!

—Tom Willmott, ECIA President

## 2011 Draft Operating Budget Available

The ECIA Finance Committee has presented its final draft of the homeowner association's 2011 Operating Budget to the Board. The Board, in turn, will hold a public hearing on the draft budget on Saturday, November 6, at 10 am in the Railroad Building at the Community Center. All members of the Association—all Eldorado property owners—are invited to attend. Any questions or comments regarding the draft budget, or other aspects of the Association's financial management, are welcome. **Note:** Since the annual assessment was raised for 2010, the Association Bylaws preclude an increase in

2011, and the assessment will remain at \$300 per year per lot.

The draft 2011 Operating Budget will be available at the ECIA office and on the Association's website, [www.eldoradocommunity.org](http://www.eldoradocommunity.org), as of Monday, November 2. Copies will also be available at the public hearing on November 6.

The 2011 Operating Budget is scheduled to be adopted at the regular November Board Meeting at 7 pm on Thursday, November 18, in the Community Center Classroom.

—Dan Drobnis

## Eldorado Holiday Lighting Tips

With the holiday season right around the corner, many Eldorado residents will soon be thinking of decorating their homes as part of their family celebrations. This may well include exterior holiday lighting. We want to remind all residents, however, that Eldorado does have guidelines for exterior lighting as part of the Protective Covenants and Building restrictions—specifically, Article II, Section 10, Exterior Lighting. These guidelines, which help to prevent excessive glare and light pollution and keep our night skies dark, should be followed as closely as possible when putting up your exterior holiday lights. Some key points that residents should remember when planning their exterior holiday lights include:

- ▶ Avoid using any bright-colored spot lights or unshielded bulbs over 75 watts.

- ▶ If you are illuminating any outdoor features, make sure your lighting is directed downward.
- ▶ Consider putting a timer on exterior lights to go off at a reasonable hour.



And finally, please remember to take down holiday lights no later than the end of January. If you have any questions at all regarding exterior or holiday lighting, feel free to call me at 466-4282 or email me at [eciaccr@aol.com](mailto:eciaccr@aol.com).

Wishing you and your entire family a most enjoyable holiday season!

—Mark Young  
ECIA Covenant Compliance Representative

### ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop  
Santa Fe, NM 87508  
466-4248, 466-4249  
[ecommunity@aol.com](mailto:ecommunity@aol.com)  
[www.eldoradocommunity.org](http://www.eldoradocommunity.org)

### General Manager

Bill Donohue  
466-4248  
[gmbill1@aol.com](mailto:gmbill1@aol.com)  
Covenant Compliance Rep  
Mark Young  
466-4248  
[ECIAccr@aol.com](mailto:ECIAccr@aol.com)  
Community Services Mgr  
Raven Hicks  
204-2945

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President  
Tom Willmott  
982-1602  
[tom.willmott@att.net](mailto:tom.willmott@att.net)  
Vice-President  
Ed Moreno  
466-1183  
[edmoreno@newmexico.com](mailto:edmoreno@newmexico.com)  
Treasurer  
Todd Handy  
466-3785  
[Todd\\_Gilliss@yahoo.com](mailto:Todd_Gilliss@yahoo.com)

### Secretary

Gregory Bundrick  
[gjugiu@msn.com](mailto:gjugiu@msn.com)  
Director  
Elan Colello  
[elanishere@gmail.com](mailto:elanishere@gmail.com)

### Director

Pat Lavengood  
466-9765  
[plavengood@q.com](mailto:plavengood@q.com)

### Director

### Open position

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Finance: Dan Drobnis  
Architecture: Vacant position  
Conservation: John Parker & E.J. Evangelos  
Stable: Bonita Mamp  
Election: Jean Crawford  
Roads: Nolan Zisman  
Information: Frank Schober  
Neighborhood Watch: Larry Eccard & Marilyn Walker  
Facilities & Grounds: Fred Raznick

### VISTAS NEWSLETTER

Editor & Designer  
Carol Leyba  
466-1158  
[cbsleyba@comcast.net](mailto:cbsleyba@comcast.net)  
Webmaster:  
Jack Arnold  
[jwellsarnold@gmail.com](mailto:jwellsarnold@gmail.com)  
Editorial Assistant:  
DiAna Gutierrez  
466-4248  
[ECIADiAna@aol.com](mailto:ECIADiAna@aol.com)

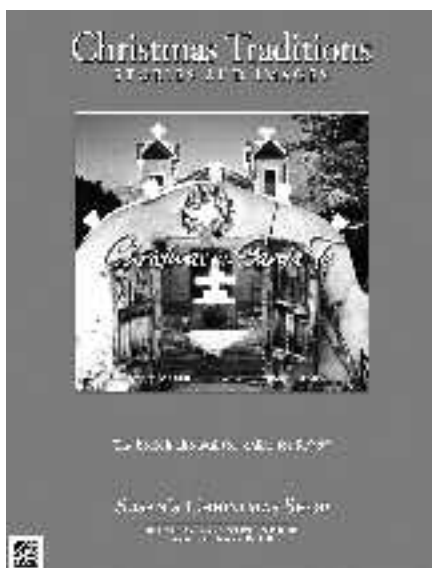
### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library  
466-READ  
Security  
204-2945  
Fire and Rescue  
466-1204  
[eldoradofirerescue.org](http://eldoradofirerescue.org)  
County All Purpose  
820-CNTY (2689)





The Lamy Church building



### ENERGY-SAVING TIP OF THE MONTH Just One Thing!

Behind every electric switch plate on an exterior wall, there is a hole through which cold air can enter your home. You can plug these "heat leaks" with gaskets specially made for this purpose, available at all hardware stores. If needed, cut them to fit the switch plate. Every little bit helps!

If you'd like a free energy audit of your home by EEC's Carbon Buster team, call 466-2295. Stay warm and save \$ and energy this winter!

— Eldorado Energy Coop

### Help Save the Lamy Church Building

Did you know that the old church in Lamy (just 5 miles down the road) has just been declared a Historic Landmark by the state of New Mexico? It was only 10 years ago a group of committed residents got together to volunteer to replace the roof with the beautiful one you see today. So many wonderful events could happen in this building if it were restored. The excellent acoustics lend themselves to concerts and music festivals such as we've had in the past. What a sweet place to be married and have your reception, next door to the Lamy Museum.

But the church needs some tender loving care if it is to keep standing as a landmark in our area. We are looking for people to form a group of supporters to save the building from further deterioration. We need people with building, public relations, and grant writing skills, as well as just plain boosters. If you have an interest in our preservation effort, please contact **Jill Charboneau**, fjcharboneau@gmail.com, for further information.

### Personal Safety Presentation

ECIA Community Services is presenting a workshop at the ECIA Community Center, November 8 at 7 pm. Learn simple and easy ways to protect your home, your car, and yourself; how to use verbal communications to de-escalate potential conflicts; what items in your normal environment can be used as weapons to protect yourself and loved ones; how to use barriers and distance to give yourself an opportunity to escape a violent confrontation; things you can do in your everyday life to minimize the possibility of becoming a victim; the difference between surviving and winning. Join us to learn lots of safety tips for you and your family. For further information, contact **Raven Hicks**, Community Services: 204-2945.

### The King and I

Eldorado Children's Theatre and Teen Players, directed by **Lisa Lincoln**, present the epic extravaganza musical, Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The King and I," at the James A. Little Theater, December 3 and 10 at 7 pm, and December 4, 5, 11, and 12 at 2 pm. This is a special production you won't want to miss—a great way to celebrate the holiday season. The music will be top-notch, with keyboard by Broadway veteran **David Geist**, who will also conduct the professional chamber orchestra. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children and are available by calling 466-4656 or visiting [www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org](http://www.eldoradochildrenstheatre.org) to order tickets online.

### Library Book Sale

Vista Grande Public Library's annual Fall Book Sale is slated for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, No-

### MOON PHASES FOR NOVEMBER



vember 19–21, at La Tienda in Eldorado. Hours: Friday 4 to 7 pm (coinciding with the Farmers' Market at La Tienda); Saturday 10 am to 3 pm; Sunday 1 to 4 pm. There's no better place to take your holiday gift list. High-quality books, CDs, and DVDs for adults and children will be for sale at bargain-basement prices. Patrons can also participate in a raffle for exciting prizes. Come early for the best selection.

### Talk on Indoor Radon

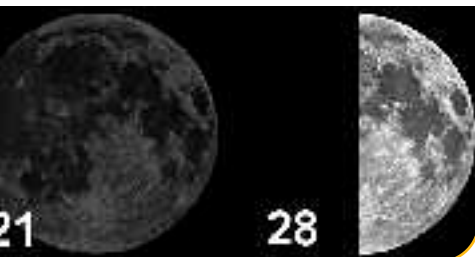
The National Academy of Sciences reports that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. **Michael Taylor** of the New Mexico Environment Department will give a talk on the potentially serious health risk from indoor radon and how families can protect themselves by easily testing their homes for radon. Radon is a naturally occurring, colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that exists in most soils and is harmlessly dispersed in outdoor environments, but can be extremely harmful when trapped in buildings. At higher indoor concentrations, radon can cause lung cancer. The talk, sponsored by your Conservation Committee, will be held at on November 10 at 7 pm in the Railroad Building.

### Christmas in November at VGPL

Santa Fe's own Christmas maven, **Susan Weber**, proprietor of Susan's Christmas Shop, comes to Vista Grande Public Library on November 11 at 7 pm to talk about her book, *Christmas in Santa Fe*. Always a Christmas lover, Susan grew up in an Army family of ten children, where Christmas was always a very special holiday. After a four-year posting in Germany, her family moved to Albuquerque, where Susan attended the University of New Mexico. In 1965 she married and moved to Santa Fe.

In 1969 she discovered a talent for making Christmas ornaments. Her ornaments have been shown at numerous juried craft shows, including at the Museum of International Folk Art and the Smithsonian, and are part of the Smithsonian's permanent collection. She opened Susan's Christmas Shop in 1978.

In 2007, publisher **Gibbs Smith** approached Susan about writing a book on Christmas in Santa Fe. The result was officially launched this July 4. Susan will discuss and sign her book as part of Vista Grande Library's "Author Talk" series.



## ASTRONOMY CORNER

### November 2010

**Leonid Meteor Shower:** The Leonids is one of the better meteor showers to observe, producing an average of 40 meteors per hour at their peak. The shower itself has a cyclic peak year every 33 years, where hundreds of meteors can be seen each hour. The last of these occurred in 2001. The shower usually peaks on November 17 & 18, but you may see some meteors from November 13 to 20. Look for the shower radiating from the constellation Leo after midnight.

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

### Dark Sky Haiku

Earth lights are strong now.  
They narrow my iris so.  
—The Milky Way's gone

Yes, we got a prize.  
We kept our lights off or low.  
—Eldorado skies

### Also at VGPL

**Movie Night,** "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," Friday, November 12, 7 pm.

**Creative Writing Group for Teens,** Saturday, November 13, at 2 pm at VGPL. Led by published Santa Fe young-adult novelist **Alexandra Diaz.**

**Golden Rose Storyteller Project,** Saturday, November 27, 10:30 am at VGPL. Storytelling by **Terryann Stilwell**, Waldorf Early Childhood Educator.

# November Events

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

Email [info@eldoradocommunity.org](mailto:info@eldoradocommunity.org) with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 3rd of the month for publication in the following month's *Vistas*.

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



1. **Type of Event**
2. **Location**
3. **Date & Time**
4. **A Resource Person** (one who can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.

Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

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

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

### NOVEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

Preserve Trail Day	Sat., November 6, 8:30 am	Mark Young	466-4248	CC Prk Lot
2011 Budget Hearing	Sat., November 6, 10-noon	Bill Donohue	466-4248	RR
Personal Safety Seminar	Mon., November 8, 7-9 pm	Raven Hicks	204-2945	CR
Radon Awareness Talk	Wed., November 10, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	CR

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Neighborhood Watch Mtg	Mon., November 1, 7-9 pm	Marilyn Walker	466-2553	LR
Road Committee	Mon., November 1, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., November 2, 4-6 pm	Fred Raznick	466-2305	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., November 2, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	LR
Architectural Committee	Tues., November 9, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Finance Committee	Wed., November 10, 9:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Board Work Study	Mon., November 15, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
ECIA Board	Thurs., November 18, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Stable Committee	Mon., November 22, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	Foyer
Information Committee	Tues., November 23, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., November 23, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

EAWS&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR
La Canada Wireless	2nd & 4th Mon., 7-9 pm	lcwireless.org		
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs, 7 pm	santafesar.org		CR
Library Book Group	2nd Saturday 9-10:30	Joan LaMarque	466-6000	CFR
Eldorado Dog Club	4th Saturday 9:30 am	Freddi Fullington	466-2005	Dog Park
Library Book Group	3rd Mon., 7-9 pm	Pam Henline	466-4781	VGPL
Conservation Com Hike	3rd Sat. of month	Eleanor Gossen	466-1949	CC Prk Lot
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues. of month	Pat Stewart	820-0303	
Fire Cub Scout Pack 414	4th Tues., 7-9 pm	John Kielling	466-4232	Sm Gym
EACA Meeting	Last Thurs. of month		204-7007	LR
MOMS Club	Call for dates & times	Tracey Mitchell	670-6508	

### 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
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Mon, 1-4:30 pm	Kate Kaulbach	466-1465	LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm			LR
Bridge	2nd & 4th Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Pat Lavengood	466-9765	LR
Bridge	Wed., 9-noon	Nancy Rost	466-2832	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:30 & 11 am	David McPherson	466-2495	CC
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	
Fire & Rescue Training	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Work Duty	Sat., Call for time	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Knitting Club	Tues., 10 am-noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 12-1 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	Richard Robinson	466-7319	RR

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

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

## Construction at El Dorado Community School

The new full-size football and soccer field at the El Dorado Community School has added a much-needed extension to the school playground while providing an outdoor field and gathering area for the larger community. As a district property, the field will be maintained by the Santa Fe Public Schools. Compared with a grass field, the new turf field needs considerably less maintenance: no lines to paint, and no grass to replant or water. Twice a year the field is groomed with small, portable electric equipment.

Why turf? Turf was used as an alternative to grass for a few reasons: to avoid the water usage required by a grass field, to provide a water collections system for garden and planting beds at the lower portions of the site (including the Community Garden), and to standardize maintenance across the school district. (Other turf fields have been installed and still others are in the planning stage within SFPS.)

Although some critics believe that artificial turf leads to greater athletic injuries, the fact is that the field turf surface provides a safe, maintenance friendly

surface that helps *reduce* injuries (including head injuries) for children. Small rubber pieces within the turf provide traction for players.

In other school construction news, the new wastewater treatment plant is now complete and operational. The benefit to the school and the community is a safe wastewater treatment plant that responsibly processes effluent from the school while protecting the groundwater and surrounding community. In addition, the new plant will allow the school to proceed with its planned expansion (and replacement of portable buildings).

The interior renovation of converting the existing gym to a cafeteria is a planned for construction that is beginning and is expected to be complete for the 2012 school year.

The architect and general contractor will be posting updates on the website as the school year progresses. So go to Santa Fe Public School website/School Construction Project at <http://www.sfps.info/> for current information.

— Teri Gallegos Reynolds

## Killdeer (Kd)

What a strange name for such a wonderful ground bird. Kd's belong to the plover family but, unlike their cousins, are not seen at water's edge. The loud piping call seems to be the origin for the common name. This 10.5-inch-high bird (with a 24-inch wingspan) is most frequently seen running along the ground or taking short, low flights between bushes. Adults have brown backs (sometimes with rufous color), a white belly, a brown head with a white line above the eye, a black bill, yellow legs, and an eye-catching black band around the neck attached to a lower black band on

the neck. In flight, the tail is long and the rump is rufous color; the upper wings show a distinct white stripe. Males and females are similar. They are found all year over most of the southern U.S., in open areas, farmland, parks and dry scrub. Some birds migrate to northern parts of South America.

Pairs are monogamous and may stay together for several years. Males display to females on the ground and in the air with loud calling. Nest building is done by the males. However, nests are minimal, sometimes just a scraped

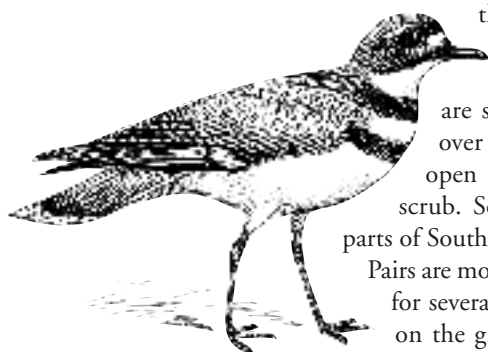
indentation in the ground on hard dirt, with a few rocks at nest's edge. Occasionally grasses are used to line a scraped nest. However, the spotted eggs and the colors on a sitting bird blend into the environment and are an effective camouflage.

Both male and female incubate three or four eggs for 24 to 28 days. Hatchlings are precocial (covered with down, have open eyes, and are capable of leaving the nest in a few hours), and follow the parents as soon as all are hatched and dry. Approximately 25 days after hatching, young can fly. The young cannot maintain body temperature for the first two weeks, however, and so stay close to a parent who will gather them underneath the breast and wings to keep them warm.

Since nests are vulnerable to ground predation, Kd's adopt a drooped-wing injury posture and run away from the nest to protect their eggs. They also give a distress call and run from the nest. During hot weather, Kd's wet their belly feathers to keep the nest site cool. Their food consists mostly of insects, followed by invertebrates and some seeds. They rely on eyesight to find food and have significantly larger optic brain lobes than tactile-feeding birds.

These lovely, lively birds seem to be on the decline due to agriculture and other land uses. A group of killdeer are collectively known as a "season" of killdeer.

—Pam Henline





## Suspicious Vehicles

Because of Eldorado's location, criminals usually use vehicles to get in and out of our neighborhoods. Law enforcement needs the kind of details asked for in the form at right, in order to identify potential suspects. It is very important we provide as much information as possible when calling to report suspicious activity or vehicles. To make a report, call the Sheriff's Department at 428-3720, Security/Community Services at 204-2945, and/or Neighborhood Watch at 466-2553.

### NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING:

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

### Suspicious Vehicle Identification

Make _____	Model _____
Year _____	Color _____
License Plate _____	
State _____	Color _____
Damage or identifying marks, such as decals or pin striping _____	
Mag wheels or other modifications _____	
Description of Occupants: Number _____ Gender _____ Age _____ Race _____ Hair _____	
Glasses _____ Hat _____ Shirt _____ Other _____	

### SEPTEMBER CRIME STATISTICS

1 Property Crime/Burglary

Source: [www.crimereports.com](http://www.crimereports.com).

—Lisa Smith, [lisasmithsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:lisasmithsantafe@gmail.com)

## At the Crossroads

I've had a few e-mails from disgruntled residents who complain that, after the grader has come around to smooth out their road, other drivers immediately speed up and start the washboard process (and worsen the flying dust) all over again. If you see this happening on your road, please start sending e-mails or making phone calls to the Sheriff's office. Hopefully, with enough complaints, we can get an occasional patrol car out here (and generate some badly needed revenues for the County). Better yet, everyone slow down, observe the speed limit, and extend the life of our roads and improve the air quality of our community.

For those of you wondering what next steps can be taken to get your road paved, your Road Committee is working with the County to develop an "information packet" about how to form your own Special Assessment District via the petition method. Watch the *Vistas* for more information.

Of late, the County has been very responsive in getting the grader out upon your requests to smooth out some of our worst washboarded roads. If you believe your road is in need of a grader visit, please fill out and forward a Road Problem Report form (a pull-down menu item under Resources) on the ECIA website, [www.eldoradocommunity.org](http://www.eldoradocommunity.org).

—Nolan Zisman, Chair  
ECIA Road Committee

## Adam Senior Center News

### THANKSGIVING AT THE CENTER

Thanksgiving will come a little early to the Adam Senior Center this year. We will be holding our annual Thanksgiving lunch on Friday, November 12, instead of during the week of Thanksgiving. We will feast on real roasted turkey (not just a pressed turkey breast) and all the other "fixings," including some items flavored with herbs from our own organic garden, and perhaps even some winter vegetables from there too. As usual, this will be prepared at the Center by **Cindy**, our renowned cook. And all of this for a small suggested donation of \$1.50/person! Seating is limited to 60 by the fire marshal, so make your reservations early by calling 466-1039.

### "JUNQUETIQUE" EXTRAVAGANZA

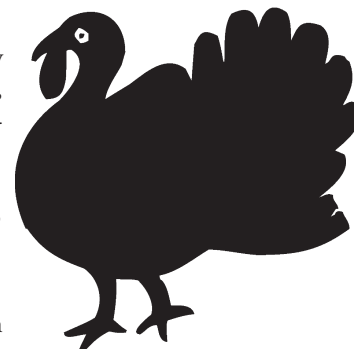
We will be hosting a "Junquetique" sale at the Center on Saturday, November 20, from 9 am to 3 pm. There will be lots of wonderful craft items for sale,

along with some gently loved items looking for new homes. If you would like to be one of the sellers, please call the Center at 466-1039. Tables are available for a fee of \$10 each and could be shared by two vendors. Setup will be from 2 to 4 pm on Friday, November 19. Only interested in buying? Just show up on Saturday! Come prepared to have a great time!

### CHANGE IN PAINTING CLASS DATES

Because early voting is being held at the Center from October 16 to 30, we have postponed the start of the fall painting classes until November 2. Classes will still meet on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30, but because we are starting in November, they will conclude after the Christmas break. Both classes currently have wait lists, but **Janet Amtmann**, our talented instructor, has assured us that she will offer classes again in the spring.

—Cathy Berkley



# ELDORADO VISTAS

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

PRESRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 569  
Santa Fe, NM



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

## Fire & Rescue BBQ 2010



Long-time **Fire Chief Guy Monroe** has retired from El Dorado Fire and Rescue after many years of service. We celebrate his invaluable contribution to the community by publishing these images from the 2010 Fire and Rescue barbecue in September. Our best wishes to the retiring Chief.

Entertainment for the barbecue/ fundraising event was supplied by Lisa Caman (far left), among others. Also pictured (middle) is EFRS member Barbara Wolff, a paramedic and medical lieutenant. Photos by Lisa Kwaterski.