

ELDORADO VISTAS

VOLUME XIII, ISSUE 11
November 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

The Ortiz Mountains: Our Volcanic Neighbor

As Eldorado residents view our very prominent neighboring Ortiz Mountains, 20 miles to the southeast at 8,146 feet in elevation, most take little note of the fascinating geologic history of the area. Visualize an active volcano rising approximately 14,000 feet in elevation and spewing out volcanic ash. This actually occurred in the geologic Oligocene period (34–23 million years ago). During the eruption phase, a number of “igneous breccia pipes” brought molten lava to the surface. Gold, silver, copper, and tungsten minerals were included in these igneous flows. Over the past 23 million years, the ancient volcano eroded down to what it is today.

Early Spanish settlers were probably the first to discover and mine the area after 1598. However, it was not until 1828 that the first Gold Rush west of the Mississippi attracted many gold miners to the Ortiz discovery. Although the region was still a part of Mexico, many of the gold rush miners moved in from the U.S. The mining town of Dolores sprung up immediately near the site, with 4,000 inhabitants. In 1832, the Mexican government issued a 60,000-acre land grant to Don José Ortiz for the area including and surrounding the remnant volcano. It was estimated that 60% of the grant had some placer gold on it. The gold rush continued until 1840, when a gold discovery in the nearby San Pedro Mountains to the west sent the miners there and Dolores became a ghost town. The Ortiz Gold Rush and other gold mining activity in southern New Mexico are thought to have been significant factors prompting the U.S. War with Mexico and subsequent Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo acquisition of the New Mexico-Arizona Territory in 1848.

The lack of local water sources was a serious impediment to gold recovery from the placer deposits. In 1900, Thomas Edison took an interest in the Ortiz Mountains gold and established an experimental “dry” placer gold recovery plant there. However, it was unsuccessful and he abandoned it. From 1828 until the present, a dozen or more mining interests have tried their skills at mining gold in the Ortiz with varying degrees of success. Included are Conoco,

Gold Fields Mining Corporation (a subsidiary of Consolidated Gold Fields, PLC), LAC Minerals, and Pegasus Gold. In the absence of today’s sophisticated mining techniques, most early-day mining efforts were directed toward placer mining and surface recovery.

Gold Fields Corporation was the first to use “heap leaching” of gold ore with cyanide, in the late 1980s. This upset the local residents at the base of the mountain, who feared it would affect their water supply. Santa Fe County was able to negotiate with Gold Fields to discontinue this process. Later, LAC Minerals donated 1350 acres on the mountain to the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens as settlement of a groundwater pollution lawsuit. The last mining company closed operations in the early 1990s, when their attempt to excavate a tunnel into the side of the mountain to intersect a main gold vein encountered groundwater that flooded the shaft. It is estimated that pre-1980 miners recovered about 100,000 ounces of gold. Recent geologic studies estimate that about 1 million ounces of gold (today’s value: \$1.75 billion) remain to be recovered as well as silver and other minerals.

In 2004, Santa Fe Gold Corporation acquired the mining rights to the Ortiz Grant. However, any future mining activity in the area must first obtain a permit from Santa Fe County. The new County Sustainable Land Use Plan and its Enforcement Code lay out specific requirements for such a permit.

—Don Dayton



The Ortiz Mountains, seen in the distance. Photo: Jack Arnold.

*ECIA Board
Meeting,
Community
Center, Thurs.,
November 17,
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 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.

An Assessment Increase of \$2.50/Month?

Looking not at the increase alone, but at the present-day and longer-range benefits that relate to our property values is the key to understanding why a modest increase in assessments may be necessary now.

We have an enviable list of amenities in Eldorado and our choices are simple: maintain them or put them into a state of "deferred maintenance," a nice term for letting value-enhancing amenities fall apart. There are few, if any, homeowners' associations in the state or nation that can compare with ECIA in having as many social and recreational facilities provided at such a reasonable cost.

This year your Board is faced with the problem of finding maintenance money for not only our hike/bike trails but also our athletic fields, our basketball courts, our dog park, and our community center. The biggest budget-busting increase has come, however, from the cost of asphalt and the other paving materials required to keep our 14 miles of hike/bike trails in shape for walking and riding. Letting them decay and fall apart would violate the Board's commission to do all possible in its policy and budget priorities to maintain our property values. While a number of our residents oppose assessment increases as a matter of principle, few of us would agree to a budgetary decision that reduces what real estate people name as a key factor in maintaining our housing values—namely, "curb appeal."

Even with a relatively small increase in our annual assessment, we still pay far less than the vast majority of homeowners' associations in the state that offer much less in the way of amenities. The Board has looked for savings in every nook and cranny of the proposed budget this year. It sees what the rest of us should know: the key to keeping costs low is keeping and recruiting volunteers. Of the total number of people who are members of the ECIA, a scant 1.5% are the "worker bees" that sustain the great number of things that the Association does for its membership. The key to keeping assessments low in the present and long run consists not in shaving money from our maintenance effort but in keeping our volunteers working productively.

We talk a great deal about amenities, about the unique life that Eldorado offers us. We probably don't think enough and recognize with gratitude the daily work our volunteers provide us with. Their work keeps Eldorado what it is: a superbly great place to live in the State of New Mexico.

We may get a small increase in our assessment costs next year. The volunteers, our fellow members on the Finance Committee and the Board, will probably recommend that we do. When the assessment bill comes in the mail, think about all that it takes to keep this unique community as, certifiably, one of the finest places to live in New Mexico and in the USA.

-Frank Schober

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 do 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 help to 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 spotlights or unshielded bulbs over 75 watts, and be sure that any larger lights are downward shielded.
Be sure that if you are illuminating any outdoor features, your lighting is not shining up in the air,

but rather more toward the base, as all lighting should be directed downward.

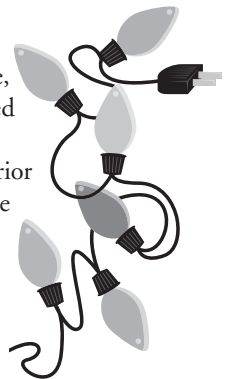
- Consider putting a timer on exterior lights to go off at a reasonable hour.
Consider using energy-efficient LED holiday lights, wherever possible. For further details on energy-efficient holiday lights, please refer to this website:

http://www.energyideas.org/documents/factsheets/HolidayLighting.pdf

And remember to take down holiday lights no later than the end of January. If you have questions regarding exterior or holiday lighting, feel free to call me at 466-4282 or email me at eciaaccr@aol.com.

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

-Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Representative



To Raise or Not to Raise the Assessments

We have used substantial space in the *Vistas* this year talking about financial matters. Wisely spending the money that our residents pay in assessments is our most important responsibility.

At this writing, near mid-October, the Board has not made any decisions on changing the annual assessment, which has been at \$300 for the past two years. Elsewhere in this issue of *Vistas*, former Information Committee chair **Frank Schober** echoes comments the Board hears, that assessments should be adequate to maintain and improve the many ECIA amenities. We also hear that economic conditions warrant a hold-the-line approach to assessments.

I am happy to report that, in the past few months, we have been able to find substantial savings for the maintenance of one of our most-used amenities, as well as modest savings in some operations.

A few months ago, a controversy erupted when we allowed a paving company to use an area near the Community Center for staging the repaving of streets in neighboring Belicia. The silver lining of that fiasco was that we were able to identify a better, more durable paving method that we will be using to maintain and

upgrade about 10 miles of hike/bike trails, at nearly half the cost previously estimated.

Keeping the hike/bike trails in good condition has been a looming financial concern since they were built in stages starting in 1995. Without this breakthrough, we were looking at having to raise assessments substantially within a decade to keep up.

Roughly 20% of our assessment over the next several years will be needed to fund our Replacement Reserve account which allows us to save up for necessary repairs and replacement of major amenities and infrastructure. We'll keep looking for these kinds of cost-savings for other amenities.

Likewise, we have identified some potential savings in our operations, including producing the *Vistas* for a bit less money, slightly restructuring our security and community services operations to get more bang for the buck, and bringing our Community Center rental schedule in line to better reflect market rates

Finally, you can still weigh in on the budget and assessments discussion. See the article below for specific dates.

—Ed Moreno, ECIA President

2012 Assessments: *Finance Committee Recommends Increase*

As previously forecast, the Finance Committee has recommended an assessment increase to the ECIA Board for the Association's 2012 budget. The recommended amount is \$340 per year, an increase of \$40. The Board will hold a public hearing on its proposed budget on Saturday, November 5, in the Railroad Room at the Community Center. In making its recommendation, the Finance Committee analyzed increasing maintenance requirements for

aging amenities and the resulting need for increased Replacement Reserves.

The proposed 2012 budget and supporting material will be available Tuesday, November 1, at the ECIA office and on the Association's website, www.eldoradosf.org. The Board expects to adopt the 2012 budget at its regular meeting on Thursday, November 17, at 7 pm at the Community Center.

—Dan Drobniš

Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on September 15 and took the following formal actions:

- ▶ A variance was denied at 5 Cagua Road for modifications to a previously approved fence that was repaired using non-compliant materials and with a new height above the 6-foot guideline.
- ▶ A variance was approved at 3 Cerrado Drive for a ground-based solar array more than the guideline of 15 feet from the house.

- ▶ A variance was approved at 16 Baya Road for a ground-based solar array more than the guideline of 15 feet from the house.

Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Community Center and are open to the public. An open forum, community announcements, and reports from ECIA committees are regularly included. For complete minutes and meeting agendas, visit the ECIA office or website: <http://eldoradosf.org>.

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Election: **Jean Crawford**
Facilities & Grounds:

Jeanne Calzada

Finance: **Dan Drobniš**
Information: **Open**

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Roads: **Nolan Zisman**

Stable: **Lisa Bessone &**

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466-READ

Security

204-2945

Fire and Rescue

466-1204

eldoradofirerescue.org

County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)

ON OUR WEBSITE

See Pam Henline's full article on the local bird Yellow-headed blackbird on our website.

Go to
www.eldoradosf.org



IN THE COMMUNITY

The Future of Water in Eldorado

Last spring, the Eldorado Energy Coop (EEC) launched the **Green Café** to help people learn about new approaches to solving environmental issues, hear what their neighbors are doing, learn about good service providers and problems to look out for. The group now gathers the first Saturday of the month, every other month, for a presentation by two or more speakers on a given topic. The first programs dealt with biofuels, transportation, and new methods of growing food.

This month, on Saturday, November 5, at La Tienda's Performance Space (8:30–9:30 am: *Breakfast buffet* [\$8.95] served by La Plancha, informal conversation and networking; 9:30–12 noon: *Program presentations and dialogue*), the EEC will explore the choices facing the community in providing secure sources of water in the not-so-distant future. To explore this vitally important issue, a panel of representatives from the key agencies involved will present a diverse range of perspectives.

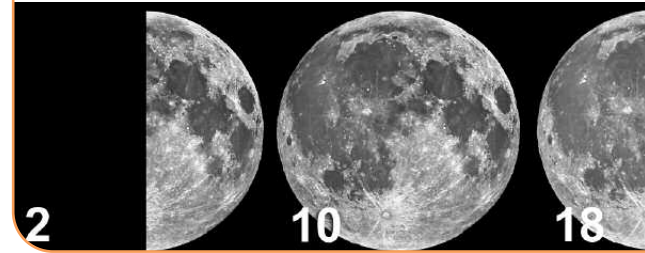
An action now being considered by the County that will directly affect Eldorado is a proposed pipeline extending from the Buckman Diversion through Santa Fe to Eldorado and the surrounding area as far as Cañoncito. There are many factors to be considered in this decision: the environmental impact of the pipeline, the quality of water from the Buckman Diversion, the impact on the Rio Grande and downstream users, the cost-effectiveness of the project, and alternative solutions.

Patricio Guerrerortiz of the Santa Fe County Water Division will describe the County's rationale in proposing the pipeline. **Steve Wust**, Ph.D., will describe how EAW&SD believes its system should be managed and continuously upgraded to provide a secure, safe supply of water. **David Bacon**, former Green Party candidate and environmental activist, will offer a perspective on the bio-region as a whole. **Paul White**, former board member of the Santa Fe Basin Water Association, will raise important questions about the current County plan. **Dana Simmons** of the Eldorado Waterwrights will moderate. Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn about The Future of Water in Eldorado!

Second Annual Christmas Flea Market

The Adam Senior Center is sponsoring its second annual indoor Christmas Flea market on Saturday, November 12, from 9 am to 2 pm at the Center located at 16 Ave. Torreón. The Flea is open to the public, and vendors do not need to be seniors to participate. A limited number of tables are available at \$10 each. Vendor setup will be Friday, November 11, from 2 to 3 pm. For reservations call 466-1039.

MOON PHASES FOR NOVEMBER



La Tienda's SMALL DOG Dog Park Opens

La Tienda has a new SMALL DOG dog park located in the northeast corner of the property across from La Plancha. This space is reserved for dogs under 25 pounds, who now have a safer place to come and play without being stepped on or run over by the larger dogs. This is a private park for everyone inside and outside of Eldorado to enjoy. No aggressive dogs or owners are permitted. In the near future, special passes will be made available for very senior and disabled dogs. Stop by and talk to Steve at La Tienda if you are interested in a special pass for your larger special-needs dog.

"Local Author Series" at La Tienda Performance Space

Beginning in October, La Tienda started "The Local Authors Series." Once a month local authors are invited to the Performance Space to read selections of their work. This month the event will be held on November 16 at 6:30 pm and will highlight published fiction and poetry. To help support the space, there is a suggested admission of \$2 but everyone is truly welcome.

La Tienda Book Lending Library

Since Beyond Borders Books has moved to Lamy, La Tienda has begun a free book lending library. The first of several bookshelves is already in Building A, directly across from Urban Fix Cafe. Please drop off your interesting books to stock the shelves. Come and browse, and borrow books to take home and read. When you are done, put them back on the shelf. After books have been passed around, they will be stored for the next VGPL book sale.

Transitional Space in the Creative Process

On Thursday, November 3 at 6 pm, Nancy Reyner will present a free "Art Talk" at La Tienda. Reyner is an abstract painter, art educator and author. Beyond her first love of painting, her passion is to inspire other artists and to "raise the bar" of art world aesthetics.

Life Drawing Group

Artists know that the way to become better at their craft is to practice, practice, practice! One opportunity available to do that in Eldorado is the weekly meeting of the Life Drawing group. Every Monday a group of artists gets together to draw and sketch from live models. They meet from 10 am to noon



ASTRONOMY CORNER



November 2011

NOVEMBER 8: Asteroid 2005 YU55 will approach Earth on November 8, missing us by 200,000 miles (which is closer to Earth than the moon). NASA asserts that this relatively large (400-meter) asteroid poses no threat to our planet, and should be easily visible to observers in the northern and southern hemispheres.

Protect Our Night Skies:

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

in the Railroad Room building at the Community Center.

This relaxed group works individually to hone their drawing and sketching skills. The models pose for various time lengths, allowing everything from quick sketching to detailed image-making. Models are all ages and both sexes. They pose both nude and costumed.

All artists are welcome, not just EACA members. The fee for the two hours is minimal (\$10), the least expensive fee for any studio group in Santa Fe. The fee pays for the model. At present, the group meets only on Mondays from 10 am to noon but is considering a change in time and/or session length. Ideas are always welcome. For more information, call **Jack McCarthy** at 466-9601, 795-1853, or email mccarthyjk@comcast.net.

November 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

NOVEMBER SPECIAL EVENTS

2012 Proposed ECIA Budget Available	Tues., Nov. 1	ECIA Office		
2012 ECIA Budget Hearing	Sat., Nov. 5, 10-12 noon			RR
Neighborhood Watch	Mon., Nov. 7, 7-9 pm	Marilyn Walker	466-2553	RR
ECIA Offices Closed	Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 24 & 25			

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architectural Committee	Tues., Nov. 8, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architectural Committee	Tues., Nov. 22, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., Nov. 14, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Nov. 1, 7-9 pm	John Parker	466-7513	F
ECIA Board	Thurs., Nov. 17, 7-9 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CR
Facilities & Grounds	Tues., Nov. 1, 4-6 pm	Jeanne Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Wed., Nov. 9, 9:30-11:30	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Nov. 22, 7-9 pm			CFR
Road Committee	Mon., Nov. 7, 6-8 pm	Nolan Zisman	466-2968	CFR
Stable Committee	Wed., Nov. 29, 7-9 pm	Lisa Bessone	466-7100	LR
SPE Committee	Thurs., Nov. 10, 7-9 pm	Dana Richards	690-5500	CFR

MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS

EACA Meeting	Last Thurs. of month		204-7007	LR
EAW&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs, 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR
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

Back Pain: Not a Normal Part of Aging

Over the years, it has come to our attention that many people suffer from back pain. Only some of those people ever seek help to resolve that pain. People often suffer silently, attributing their pain to “a normal part of aging.” We would like to help dispel this myth. Back pain, or any pain, is never normal and can often be eliminated, or at least improved through treatment.

There are many causes of back pain, but the most common one associated with aging is arthritis. Arthritis is the wearing down of joint surfaces that occurs over time. Some people are more genetically inclined to develop arthritis than others. Sometimes a prior injury to a joint may accelerate the arthritis process.

When one begins to suffer with pain associated with arthritis, a common reaction is to stop moving because movement hurts. In fact, to stop moving is the worst thing you can do for arthritis. Movement in a joint causes fluid to move, which lubricates and

nourishes that joint. Lack of movement does just the opposite. It causes the surfaces of the joint to dry out. This results in the joint becoming stiff and painful. Because the spine has so many moving joints, when stiff joints stop moving properly, other joints tend to take over, causing these joints to become hypermobile. Either too little mobility or too much mobility in a joint can cause pain. Ideally, we aim for movement to be achieved through adequate, but not excessive mobility in all the joints. In addition to establishing adequate mobility, it is equally important to achieve strength and stability to support those joints.

Arthritic, stiff joints sometimes require a little help to maximize both mobility and stability. The take-home message here is to keep up your strength and keep moving as much as possible. When movement becomes increasingly difficult or painful, seek help.

—Your friends at Eldorado Physical Therapy



An Invitation to Join the SPE Committee

The newest ECIA committee, SPEC (Sustainable Planning and Education Committee), is up and running, thanks to the dozens of community, staff and ECIA Board members who helped launch this committee. The team meets monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Community Center boardroom. Its mandate is to focus on several exciting and challenging issues for the future of Eldorado:

- ▶ Updating the Eldorado master plan and aligning with county plans and ordinances.
- ▶ Educating community members on the benefits of sustainability, including quality of life, financial

benefits, and increasing resiliency and security for our community.

- ▶ Increasing communication within broad networks of ECIA, the community, and government entities.
- ▶ Helping the ECIA Board gain community input on issues such as renewable energy, local food, transportation, and exploring such issues as keeping chickens.

Please come help us make our community a more sustainable and economically supportive place to live. For more information, please contact **Amy Bertelli** at amysue@cybermesa.com or join us at our next meeting.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (YhBb)

I have finally written about all the birds I have personally seen in Eldorado, so now I'm looking in other neighborhoods. I have seen a Yellow-headed Blackbird (YhBb) relatively nearby at the Marty Sanchez golf course (and I've heard of a sighting in Eldorado). The YhBb is about 9.5 inches long, with a wingspan of 15 inches, and has the general size and shape of most other medium-size blackbirds. The distinguishing marking is a yellow head! There is some black around the eye, and the yellow extends down the breast. The rest of the body is black. The wings show a white bar when the bird is perched. Females have some pale yellow from chin to breast and generally are a drab brown-black. Birds winter from southern New Mexico to southern Mexico.

The male YhBb defends a small territory of prime nesting reeds. He may attract up to eight females to breed and nest within his area (called a “clumped territory”). He bows and spreads his wings to the female and utters his loud rusty hinge call. In two to four days, the female builds a nest on reeds growing in water. The nest is made with wet vegetation and lined with dry grasses. As the nest dries, it forms a tight cup. Three to five eggs are laid which hatch in 11 to 13 days and fledge in 9 to 12 days. The male is polygamous and helps feed only the first female who settles in his territory.

Read the balance of Pam Henline's bird article on our website: www.eldoradosf.org



Alternative Household Security Systems

Many homeowners avoid acquiring a home security system because the initial cost of a conventional arrangement can run to thousands of dollars. Yet there are any number of unconventional systems costing far less and all are available online. Here are three that may interest you:

- ▶ The Telephone Intrusion Detector comes as an attractive, fully functional phone that is easily programmed to detect an intruder up to 30 feet away. Upon detection, the system automatically dials any number you choose, such as your cell phone, a friend's number, or the police. Price: \$75.
- ▶ A more aggressive method of home protection is the Phasor Pain and Shock Field System which uses a technology employed in Britain to break up unruly crowds. It produces an intense field of high-pressure ultrasonic shockwaves, thereby giving intruders a feeling of extreme paranoia, discomfort, disorientation, panic and nausea, forcing them to leave the area. Price: \$230.00 when purchased as a kit; or \$330 ready to use.

Finally, here's an idea parents should welcome: When we think about home protection, we usually think about safeguarding our material possessions. But here is a novel product that guards what is most dear:

- ▶ The Child Abduction Alarm is a device worn by the child. The transmitter, which looks like a cartoon character, sends a constant signal to the receiver held by the adult. The effective range of the signal can be adjusted out to a distance of 30 feet. When the child goes beyond the set perimeter, the adult's receiver begins to beep, announcing the child is leaving the area. Price: \$30.

With such novel devices becoming increasingly available and at such reasonable prices, there is no reason to leave any household unprotected.

ELDORADO CRIME SEPTEMBER 2011:

September 14, Bonito Road, Burglary
September 21, Cayuse Place, Larceny

—Raymond Bolton

Senior Scene at the Adam Center

Seniors, there is no excuse to feel shut in and bored as winter approaches and the summer activities at the Adam Senior Center come to an end. You can keep physically fit, learn new skills, play games, and enjoy a good healthy lunch while meeting new friends. Activities, transportation, Meals on Wheels, and daily lunches are open to registered seniors 60+ years of age. Sign up at the center and call a day ahead for lunch reservations at 466-1039.

EXERCISE PROGRAMS

The new Adam Senior Center activity director, **Carol Branch**, has kicked up the exercise program at the center. Back by popular demand is Tai Chi taught by **Wendy Singer**. The class is from 10 to 11 on Wednesdays. Whether you have worked with this discipline before or are a beginner, this free class will build balance, gently exercise joints and muscles, and improve concentration by practicing these dance-like movements. And speaking of dance, **Jean Tobias**, has started teaching Creative Dance Fridays from 10 to 11 am. Or get yourself moving Tuesday and Thursday mornings with Carol's Chair Aerobics and stretch classes from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Wednesday's popular Strength Training with **Neila Richardson** continues at 1:30 pm, following the lunch program.

QUIET ENDEAVORS

For more quiet endeavors, try computer training with **Fred Quist** on Monday afternoons beginning at 1:00

pm, or the new Book Group that meets on Tuesdays from 1 to 2 in the Center's library/living room. Carol is working to get Scrabble and card games added to the list of activities.

ARTS & CRAFTS

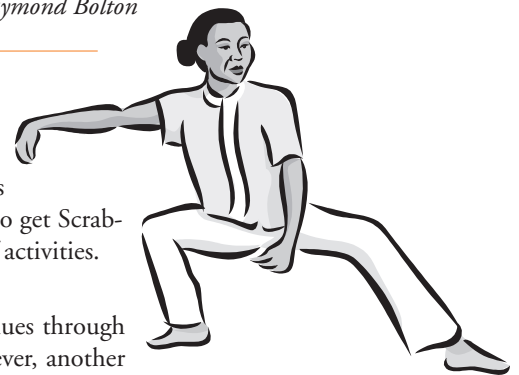
Painting with **Janet Amtmann** continues through November, but this class is full. However, another outlet for creativity is on Thursday afternoons from 1 to 2:30 when Carol will lead an arts and crafts class featuring a variety of projects including sewing, making holiday cards, etc.

TRIPS, TRANSPORTATION, MEALS ON WHEELS, AND VOLUNTEERING

Only one trip is scheduled for November and December. Details are posted on the Center's bulletin board. Space in the van is limited to 12 participants. For transportation to doctors' offices, or to the Center to participate in lunch and classes, please contact Lola at 992-3069 the day before the scheduled appointment.

Volunteers are always needed for Meals on Wheels, answering phones, helping in the kitchen, or leading activities. Anyone needing Meals on Wheels delivered to a family member should call the Center to get registered and have an evaluation by a staff member. Lunch and Meals on Wheels are a donation of \$1.50 per person.

—Janet Amtmann



ELDORADO
VISTAS

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

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ECIA Vistas Survey

The ECIA Board wants to know how residents prefer to receive news about our homeowners' association. We ask that you fill out this short survey and return it to the ECIA office; alternatively, please give us a call at 466-4248 with your answers, or go online and take the survey there: www.eldoradosf.org.
Thank you!

Do you read *Vistas* each month?
Yes ___ No ___

Would you like to continue to receive *Vistas* by US mail?
Yes ___ No ___

Would you prefer to go to the website to read *Vistas*?
Yes ___ No ___

VISTAS

Notices from El Dorado School Principal

ROAD SAFETY: I'd like to remind Eldorado residents that during the early morning and mid-afternoon hours there are school kids walking on our roads, some of which, like Monte Alto, have no sidewalks. Driver visibility is often very poor because of sun directly hitting the windshield. Drivers, of course, should always be following the speed limit. And the students should always walk on the sidewalks whenever possible, and on the correct side of the road so that cars are not coming up from behind. Also, kids should not be wearing headphones while walking to school, because then they can't hear the sound of approaching cars. This applies to all kids; some students who walk to El Dorado School early in the morning are not enrolled here but take the bus to the charter schools, so they are not getting our school's safety reminders. So, to all: please practice safe driving and walking behavior!

FIELD USE: The school field is closed to the public during school hours. Organizations such as Northern Soccer contract to use the field during their fall and spring seasons. On the weekends or when the field is not in use by an organization, the public frequently uses the field/playground. To keep our field (and playground) in good shape for students and staff, we respectfully request the following: (1) Keep dogs off the field or playground. (2) Remove and dispose of your trash. (3) Return all equipment (including soccer goals) to the sides of the field after use. Following these simple guidelines will help us to keep the field/playground accessible to all during non-school hours.

—Anne Darnton, Principal