

# VISTAS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ELDORADO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

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

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## Analyzing Member Responses to ECIA Year End Survey

The Board and committees are analyzing responses to the 2023 year end member survey. In this and future articles, we'll share highlights. The complete responses are on the ECIA homepage [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org). All comments may be accessed beginning at page 5 of the responses by scrolling down. If you have questions about how to review the responses online, please contact the ECIA office.

**By the numbers:** Only one response per lot was accepted. 397 survey responses were received, which represents a 14% response rate. Over half of those responses were submitted in writing, then staff entered those handwritten responses into the survey program.

**Unique Qualities of Eldorado:** Consolidating responses to this question into broad categories, the top 10 unique qualities of Eldorado members value are large lots and rural feel, community (the people here; charity to others, diversity, "a bouquet of vibrant people"), the amenities, nature, views, peaceful, night skies, close to Santa Fe, County support (i.e. the library, senior center, school, fire department, public roads), and proximity to retail areas. Other popular values included the creative culture, the covenants and guidelines, and privacy.

**Amenities:** The survey asked whether members never, occasionally or regularly use our amenities. 86% of those responding to the survey reported using the greenbelt trails either occasionally or regularly; 85% use the paved hike/bike

trails, and 83% use the Eldorado preserve trails. The 10 most popular amenities, based on the amenities members reporting using regularly, were the trails as previously listed, then in descending order the swimming pool, dog park, community center meeting rooms, community stables, pickleball courts, community center playground and the front desk.

*"All lots having at least an acre of land feels open and spacious. I really, really appreciate the amenities such as the dog park, pool, pickleball courts, etc. The HOA dues are incredibly reasonable for all that we are afforded. There is a real sense of community here. I have met so many great people and have wonderful friends."*

**Clarifying misconceptions:** Several members requested more road maintenance, particularly for gravel or dirt roads. However, road maintenance is not within ECIA's control. All roads in the Eldorado subdivision are public and are the responsibility of Santa Fe County to maintain and repair, not the ECIA. Likewise people commented on the amenities they appreciate, including the Vista Grande Public Library and the Max Coll Senior Center. However, these are not ECIA amenities supported by member assessments. Instead, the library is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization supported by the local community. The Max Coll Corridor Community Center and the Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center are both owned and operated by the County.

## Earth Day Etc!

The ECIA Community Center was abuzz with festivities as residents came together to celebrate Earth Day. They were treated to live music performances by the Eldorado Jam Band, culinary delights from Fusion Tacos and an electric car showcase by Tesla. Attendees also learned about recycled fashion in the first-ever Trashion show. Additionally, volunteer-run groups and ECIA committees engaged attendees on earth-friendly policies, while offering a plethora of enjoyable activities and games for both adults and children.

*Top left, Naima Shea, founder of Eldorado Wildlife Advocacy Group, shows residents a wild bull snake; Middle, residents enjoy music and visit presentations on earth-friendly policies; Top right, children use materials from the Re-Use Area to create art.*



*Photos, top left & middle by Raymi Reynolds-Lynch; photo top right by Libby Maclaren*

# BOARD CORNER

## MANAGEMENT REPORT

The pool is being prepared to open as scheduled on **Memorial Day, May 27**. HOAMCO is currently hiring lifeguards and a facility attendant for the summer season and there is one open maintenance team member position. Please contact the ECIA office for more information.

The new Maintenance Facility is almost complete, and volunteer work to install the new cactus garden and pollinator garden at the Community Center are underway. A ribbon cutting and opening celebration is planned for **Friday, May 17 at 3 PM to 5 PM**. All members are welcome to come tour the building and the new gardens.

## SANTA FE COUNTY REPORT

A delegation of Santa Fe County officials attended the April ECIA Board meeting to report on the status of several County projects within the *Eldorado at Santa Fe* subdivision, including County Commissioner for District 5 Hank Hughes, Public Works Project Section Manager Kurt Temple, Parks and Trails Director PJ Montano, Director of Roads and Solid Waste Maria Molina, Constituent Services Liaison Gabriel Bustos. See article on pg. 3 in this issue of *Vistas* for details.

## FACILITY USE POLICY REVISIONS—TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON EVENTS SERVING ALCOHOL

The Board approved a temporary moratorium on renting out all or part of the Community Center for events where alcohol will be served, until the Board approves an alcohol use policy, as recommended by the ECIA's attorney and insurance agent. These professionals advised the Board that the ECIA's current policy of allowing alcohol to be served to members and non-members without a special events policy covering alcohol presents a significant liability risk to the association. The F&G Committee is working on updating our Community Center use and rental policy generally, which will most likely include new requirements on events serving alcohol. As always, public comment will be requested and welcomed as the policy is under consideration.

## TAX SELECTION CONSENT POLICY

The Board approved a policy to annually sending out a tax selection consent to all members with the annual assessment package as recommended by the Auditor and the Finance Committee. This consent will allow the

association's tax preparer to take advantage of IRS Revenue Ruling 70-604, which allows selection of an advantageous tax filing status. This revenue ruling allows excess interest income to be applied against next year's expenses, provided that the members of the non-profit consent to using that filing status. If this status had been available to use in the 2023 tax year, ECIA would have saved about \$3,000 in taxes. This change is due to favorably high interest rates on the CDs where ECIA's reserve funds are invested.

## BOARD LIAISON CHANGES

The Board approved changes to the Board liaison role, including authorizing Board members to be appointed as members of certain committees, and clarifying that staff will provide administrative support, scheduling and communications for committees rather than Board liaisons. The ECIA's attorney confirmed that the Bylaws do not prohibit this best governance practice, and in fact she recommends it to facilitate Board communication and alignment with the committees.

## MISCELLANEOUS BOARD ACTION

The Board approved the Policy on Adopting and Amending Policies, to clarify the process and be more transparent about how the Board will govern. It approved the new rule regarding dogs at the Eldorado Community Stables, as recommended by the Stable Committee.

## THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AND THE COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN (CWPP)

The Board discussed the connections between the various policy initiatives regarding the ECIA's greenbelts and open spaces it has been working on over the past year, including the proposed Policy for Greenbelt Management Priorities, the GIS mapping project, and the CWPP planning process. The Conservation Committee has a new chair, new members and a new staff person—the Amenities Manager—assigned to assist it with its mission, however, the objectives the Board has for the community's open spaces are significant. The Board discussed how best to approach these priorities with the Committee's assistance.

## MINUTES POSTED ONLINE

ECIA Board Meeting Minutes are available at [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org) > Board & Committees > ECIA Governing Board.

## ECIA BOARD & MANAGEMENT

**Board:** *President Amelia Adair, Vice President Jonathan Turkle, Treasurer Joseph Gutierrez, Secretary James Herbert Williams, Director Mary Bonilla, Director Ken Howard, Director Carol Sanguinetti*

**Management:** ECIA is managed by HOAMCO; *General Manager Julie Navarro*, [jnavarro@hoamco.com](mailto:jnavarro@hoamco.com)  
Monthly reports available at [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) > Board & Committees > ECIA Governing Board.

**Community Center & Office:** Mon.–Fri. 8:30 AM–5 PM, Sat. open for restrooms & water. For information, 505 466-4248.

# ECIA Draft Mission & Vision Statements Published for Public Comment

**M**ember comments and suggestions are welcome about the proposed new ECIA mission and vision statements that have been published on the ECIA website at <https://eldoradosf.org/ecia-governing-board/>. Please leave your comments **before May 5**, so they may be shared with the community. All members are also welcome to attend the **annual membership meeting on May 6 at 5:30 PM**, to provide in-person comments and suggestions about the draft statements.

## DRAFT MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of the ECIA is to respect our rural history, uphold the Covenants, and preserve the harmony and unique character of our natural and built environments, through fiscally responsible stewardship.”

## DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

“ECIA is a dynamic, welcoming and engaged community, where the ECIA supports active and environmentally conscious lifestyles, embraces the diversity of our members, and provides volunteer opportunities, amenities and services that enhance the quality of life of our members.”

**Background:** A mission statement is a statement of the reason the association exists. It reflects both who the

association serves and the value it hopes to provide to them. A vision statement is a forward-looking explanation of what the association hopes to be or achieve over the long term. It indicates how the mission will be achieved. The new statements should help clarify the difference between the ECIA and Santa Fe County, and between the ECIA as a homeowners association and local advocacy organizations.

**Process:** The Mission & Vision Update Task Force has been holding open meetings ever since the annual leadership retreat last September. At that retreat, the community leaders—the Board, committee chairs and senior HOAMCO staff—identified as a top priority the need to update ECIA’s mission and vision statements, to better reflect the core values of Eldorado residents and guide the work of the ECIA into the future. As part of this process, the Mission & Vision Update Task Force included questions about core values in the year-end membership survey.

**Goals:** Updating the mission and vision statements helps prepare ECIA’s community leaders to conduct meaningful, long-term strategic planning centered on the values of ECIA’s members. These statements will also help the Board, committees and staff prioritize their work and improve communications about what the ECIA is and does.

—ECIA Board

## News Corral

### EACA SPRING ART SHOW

Join us at the Eldorado Community Center on Saturday and Sunday **May 4 & 5, 10 AM–4 PM**. Come see multiple artists and a wide variety of artwork and crafts.

### NEW RESIDENT WELCOME EVENT

You are invited on **Saturday, May 11, 9:30 AM** at the Community Center to learn about your new community!

### ECIA OPEN HOUSE EVENT

ECIA will be hosting an Open House celebration and ribbon cutting for the new maintenance facility, pollinator garden, and cactus garden. All Eldorado residents are invited to come tour the building and the new gardens. The Open House is scheduled for: **Friday, May 17, 3–5 PM**.

### POOL TO OPEN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

ECIA Amenities Manager, Thomas Stagl will be working hard with the pool staff to ensure that the pool opens on **Memorial Day weekend**. Residents will need their amenity “key” card to access the pool.

### ELDORADO SQUARE DANCE CLUB

If you enjoy food, music, and dancing, then join the Eldorado Square Dance Club for one of their open houses on **Fridays, June 14 and 21** at Max Coll Corridor Community Center. Both singles and couples are welcome.

## County Updates

**F**our senior Santa Fe County staff members and County Commissioner Hank Hughes attended the April ECIA Board meeting to report on the status of several County priorities within the Eldorado subdivision. All these projects are on the County’s Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (“ICIP”). Public Works Project Section Manager Kurt Temple reported that the Encantado Road paving project is going out to an RFP for the engineering design. Director of Roads and Solid Waste Maria Molina explained that the project is too complex to handle in house, so it will be engineered then the construction RFP will go out to bid next year. The crosswalk at the El Dorado Community School is currently being redesigned by a traffic engineering firm that is doing a study of the entire intersection area by the school. Mr. Temple also reported on completed projects within Eldorado including completion of a trailhead parking lot for the County’s Rail Trail at Avenida Eldorado, a new well for Eldorado Fire Station II, and paving the Compadres Hike/Bike trail. Mr. Montano reported that the County is hiring a design firm for the Azul Hike/Bike trail. Residents with more questions should contact Constituent Services Liaison Gabriel Bustos at [gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov](mailto:gcbustos@santafecountynm.gov).

JOIN US FOR THE ECIA ANNUAL MEETING 2024: MONDAY, MAY 6, 5:30-7 PM  
in the classroom at the Community Center and via Zoom

## CORNER NOTES FROM GREATER ELDORADO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH (GENW)

WATCH



Spring is here with its longer days, beautiful blossoms, sweet bird songs, and dogs?

Yes, dogs. Greater Eldorado Neighborhood Watch (GENW) reminds us

that dogs fall under the category of a safety issue. They can present a safety issue for you as an owner, for your neighbors, for your dog, and for others.

The National Animal Care and Control Association (NACA) states that animal control departments and shelters nationwide see increased complaints regarding dog aggressiveness, including dog bites, dog noise complaints, and fines issued against dog owners once winter ends.

People walk their dogs more often when the weather is warmer. Sometimes the dogs are walked unleashed instead of on the Santa Fe County required 6 foot leash. No matter how sweet or playful a dog is, any dog can become aggressive, or overly friendly. Dogs can be stronger than the humans they encounter. This is dangerous. If a dog knocks someone over, bites someone, or scares someone, not only is that person harmed, but the owner can also be held responsible, fined, and, in some instances, have their dog taken away by Animal Control.

Dogs also tend to get loose more when the weather is warmer. People may forget to close the door to the house or garage, and the dog decides to explore the world. Dogs that run loose can get lost, run over, or stolen.

Barking is a big problem too. Dogs may be left at home or in the yard alone for longer hours. The dogs may bark to let

you know they've been stuck inside or in the yard too long. Sometimes dogs bark at the neighbors who are spending quiet time on their patios, needlessly breaking a contemplative moment.

A breach of being a good neighbor is not cleaning up after your dog. GENW gets numerous complaints about people stepping in dog waste in the greenbelts, on the streets, and in private driveways. It is so easy to take a small bag along when you walk your dog. Be a good neighbor and clean up after your dog.

Dogs are our best friends, the saying goes. But they are not always the best friends of our neighbors. Dog owners need to remember that our dogs, even the most docile ones, can create a problem for practicing excellent dog owner etiquette.

If you are a non-dog owner and see a loose dog or see a dog and owner walking in your direction, walk away from the loose dog and make space between you and someone walking their dog. Keep yourself safe.

Santa Fe County Animal Control Department provides all the information a dog owner needs to follow the policies, laws, and responsibilities applicable to dog ownership. Santa Fe County website is <https://www.santafecountynm.gov/sheriff/animal-control>; Dispatch phone is 505 428-3720.

To learn more about the role of animal control and to find suggestions about dog safety, see the NACA website: <https://www.nacanet.org/>.

For more information on preventing neighborhood crime and staying safe tips here in greater Eldorado, go to the GENW website: <https://eldoradoneighbors.wordpress.com>.

Look for the *Watch Corner* in the June *Vistas* Newsletter.

—Leadership Team of GENW

## Santa Fe County Single-Use Plastics Ban

On Mar. 26, Santa Fe County Commissioners unanimously passed the “Single-Use Plastic Product Ordinance”, effective October 2024. Single use plastic bags and Styrofoam containers will no longer be offered by retail establishments, with the exception that some restaurants may use their discretion for take-out foods with high liquid content. Paper bags may be offered for a fee set by the merchant. Plastic straws, utensils, and condiment packets will be given upon request only, with an exception for establishments providing food both on-site or off-site with self-service stations in house.

The ordinance applies to the County only; the City of Santa Fe is not affected, although they have had a plastic bag ban for several years.

Twelve members of Eldorado/285 Recycles spoke for the passage of the ordinance, citing studies on the damage

of plastics and microplastics to the environment, wildlife, and human health, as well as the impact of litter and the implausibility of recycling the film bags. Three members worked on a committee with the County for almost two years, helping draft the ordinance and studying successful bills passed in other parts of the country.

A few County Commissioners wondered why only plastic bags and Styrofoam containers were singled out and expressed concern about the widespread use of non-recyclable plastic packaging with an eye towards exploring extended producer responsibility at the state level.

The passage of this ordinance is a first step towards a cleaner environment.

—Elsie Krause,  
Eldorado/285 Recycles

# May Garden Fair Celebrates Sustainable Gardening



## Santa Fe Extension Master Gardeners GARDEN FAIR

May 11, 2024 | Santa Fe County Fairgrounds

*Come out to the Fair and get ready for the season.*

**E**ldorado residents are invited to the Garden Fair on **Saturday, May 11, from 9 AM to 3 PM** at the County Fairgrounds, 3229 Rodeo Road. Gardening enthusiasts of all ages will enjoy a day of learning and celebrating sustainable practices for our climate.

The Garden Fair is run by the Santa Fe Extension Master Gardeners (SFEMG), a non-profit, volunteer organization promoting locally sustainable gardening practices through reliable, research-based education.

This volunteer-run fair is the major fundraiser for SFEMG programs, with a Plant Sale offering selections to suit our dry climate and difficult soils and the Garden Shed selling gently used gardening supplies. Find local vendors, including nurseries, permaculture growers, and irrigation specialists.

Fair visitors can also learn from hands-on composting, vermiculture, vegetable gardens, beneficial insects, native

plants, and water harvesting demonstrations led by Santa Fe master gardeners. Attendees can hear local experts speak on community-level composting, Santa Fe's water catchment, harvesting stormwater to regenerate ecosystems, and vegetable-growing for our climate. Engage with exhibitors representing cactus and native plant organizations, heritage and conservation projects, hydroponics, farmers' markets, and more.

Find something for the whole family in The Kids' Corner. Enjoy tasty delights from food trucks and live music. With ample free parking available, bring loved ones and make a day of it.

Several Eldorado residents are helping organize the Fair. Some are certified Master Gardeners, running projects like "Ask a Master Gardener", a familiar booth at our Eldorado Farmers' Market. Others (including the author) are interns pursuing Master Gardener certification this year. Learn more about the Master Gardener program at [www.sfemg.org](http://www.sfemg.org) and <https://mastergardeners.nmsu.edu/>.

For more information about the Garden Fair, visit the website at SFEMG Garden Fair or contact Catherine Wygant at [artcbw@me.com](mailto:artcbw@me.com) or 978 853-5188.

—Laura Murphy

*Donations for the Garden Shed are accepted through May 4. Spare tools, books, and decorative garden accents can find new life in gardens throughout Santa Fe County and raise funds to support SFEMG's education-based projects. Bring donations to the SFEMG office at SF County Extension Office or send an email to Deborah James at [djames1224@icloud.com](mailto:djames1224@icloud.com) to arrange a pickup.*

# Vista Grande Public Library May Events & Book Sale

**W**hether you're a seasoned fan of the library Book Sale or it's your first time, you won't want to miss this one because we have thousands of excellent-quality used and new books, DVDs, & CDs for kids and adults.

**Vista Grande Public Library (VGPL) 3-Day Spring Book Sale Returns, May 9–11!**

**Thursday: 9–10 AM**, Early Birds for \$25 pay-at-the-door fee.

**Thursday & Friday: 10 AM to 6 PM**

**Saturday: 10 AM to 3 PM**, \$10 bag sale (thank you to Lexus of Santa Fe for sponsoring bags)

Please join us for the **7th Annual World Migratory Bird Day on Saturday, May 18 from 1–3 PM** at the Library. This year's theme is "Protect Insects Protect Birds". Come learn how much the availability of insects on your property helps attract birds. An ambassador raptor from the New Mexico Wildlife Center will also be at the event.

**Artist reception: Saturday, May 4 from 1–3 PM**

**May artists:** Linda Armentrout and Arlin Ginsburg. Armentrout produces oil-on-canvas paintings. In the 3D gallery space this month is Arlin Ginsburg of Avian Arts of

Santa Fe. Ginsburg's colorful hand-carved and painted birds, turtles, and frogs will be available for viewing during World Migratory Bird Day.

**Movie Night:** No movie night in May.

**Board Meeting:** May 20, 5:30 PM. Open to the public.

**Trivia Night at the Brew Pub: Monday, May 27 at 7 PM.** \$10 per ticket. Difficult questions, fun prizes. All funds raised go to support the library.

**Part three of Ken Bower's gardening series: May 25 at 1 PM.** "Ethnobotanicals in our area".

**Summer Reading Kickoff! Saturday, June 1 from 10:30 AM to 12 Noon:** Come by between 10:30 AM and noon for a Camping-themed party. There will be treats, fun activities and lots of giveaways. Summer Reading Contest begins as well.

**All Ages Chess: Every Friday, 3–5 PM**

**Toddler Story Time: Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM**

**Eldorado Knitters: Tuesday 10 AM** (except Book Sale week)

505 466-7323 | [www.vglibrary.org](http://www.vglibrary.org) | 14 Avenida Torreon

# Night Skies Over Eldorado During May

**O**ddly, May opens with dark, planet-free skies that remain so until Saturn rises at **4 AM**. Neptune, Mars, and Mercury follow as dawn begins. For most of May, Venus, Jupiter, and Uranus are too close to the Sun to easily locate.

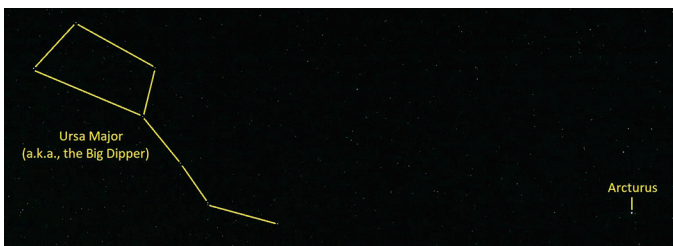
While the winter constellations set in the west, the spring constellations are well-positioned for evening viewing. Leo is due south as darkness falls on **May 1**, with Virgo and Libra following in the ESE.



*Partial solar eclipse on April 8, 2024. The Moon has covered almost half of the Sun's disk and is about to eclipse Sunspot Region 3628. Maximum eclipse, as seen from Eldorado, was 78%.*

The brilliant star Arcturus (Greek for 'Guardian of the Bear'—the bear being the constellation Ursa Major) is visible halfway up the ESE sky as darkness falls in early May. It's the brightest star in the constellation Bootes, the herdsman.

Arcturus is the fourth brightest star in the night sky and the brightest star north of the equator. Arcturus is 37 light-years from Earth, making it a relatively close neighbor to our solar system. The light we presently see when we look at Arcturus made a journey of 3.5 trillion miles to reach Earth. This light left the star in 1987, when Ronald Reagan was president.



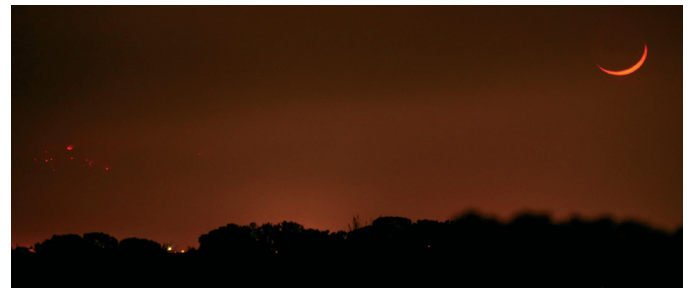
*The curve of the Big Dipper's handle points in the general direction of Arcturus, the brightest star in the ESE, as darkness falls in May.*

Arcturus is a red giant star—a star that has consumed all of its hydrogen and is now burning heavier elements. Arcturus' mass is similar to our Sun's, but because the star expands as it burns heavier elements, it has bloated to

21 million miles in diameter—25 times that of the Sun. If Arcturus was located where our Sun is, it would be 170 times as bright as the Sun, due to its inflated size. In about five billion years, the Sun is expected to transition to a red giant star and experience a similar fate.

On opening night of the 1933 World's Fair in Chicago, light from Arcturus was used to turn on the lights of the exposition. Arcturus' light was captured in photoelectric cells at a number of astronomical observatories, converted to electricity, and transmitted to Chicago to light the World's Fair.

Arcturus' light was selected because it was believed that the starlight used to light the 1933 World's Fair left Arcturus at the time of the previous world fair in Chicago in 1893. Unfortunately, the distance to Arcturus was inaccurately known and the light that left the star during the 1893 event actually arrived at Earth three years before the 1933 World's Fair!



*It was only two years ago that fires in the Jemez Mountains caused the crescent moon to turn red, as it set in smoke-filled skies. A few of the fires can be seen on the far left.*

## KEY MAY NIGHT SKY EVENTS:

**May 3:** The waning crescent moon and Saturn make a nice pair in the early dawn sky.

**May 5:** The eta Aquarid meteor shower peaks before dawn. During the peak and under ideal conditions, 30 meteors an hour may be visible. The Moon will not interfere with viewing. Unfortunately, the shower radiant (the point in the sky where the meteors appear to originate) won't rise until **3 AM**, making early morning the best time to view the shower.

**May 5:** Mars is just above and to the right of the crescent moon during dawn.

**May 7:** The Moon is new and not visible.

**May 8:** The thin crescent moon and the Pleiades star cluster make a close pair, low in the WNW, during evening twilight. Binoculars might be needed to view this in the twilight glow.

**May 9:** Mercury is at its greatest distance west of the Sun. It rises about **5:10 AM** in Pisces.

**May 23:** Full Flower Moon occurs at **7:55 AM**, near the head of Scorpius.

**May 23:** In the evening, the full moon will pass close to the bright star Antares in the constellation Scorpius.

**May 31:** Saturn and the last quarter moon rise less than a degree apart at about **2:20 AM**.

—Article and photos by Eric Saltmarsh

# May Meetings

Meetings may be suspended, held via Zoom, and/or in-person: please check [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org).

Committee / Group	Day	Frequency	Time	Location / Contact	Chair / Contact	Email	
ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesdays	7, 28	5:30–7 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com	
	Board of Directors	Tuesday	14	5:30 PM <i>Zoom / CR</i>	ECIA Board	505 466-4248	
	Bylaws Review Committee	No Meeting This Month			Jody Price	505 466-4248	
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday (Bi-Monthly)	7	7–9 PM <i>Zoom</i>	TBD	conservationchair@gmail.com	
	Eldorado Volunteer Committee	Thursday	16	3–5 PM <i>Zoom / LR</i>	Kathy Ritschel	fangdchair@gmail.com	
	Election Committee	Wednesday	8	2–4 PM <i>Zoom / CFR</i>	Bette Knight	electionchair1@gmail.com	
	Facilities & Grounds	Wednesday	1	10 AM–12:30 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Kathy Ritschel	fangdchair@gmail.com	
	Finance Committee	Tuesday	7	9:30 AM–12 Noon <i>Zoom</i>	Joseph Gutierrez	j.gutierrez@eldoradosf.org	
	Stable Committee	Wednesday	15	6:30–8:30 PM <i>Zoom / CR</i>	Lisa Bessone	stablechair1@gmail.com	
Weekly / Monthly Groups	AA *Thursdays Women Only	Tues./Thurs./Fri. & Sun.		Tues: 5:45 PM <i>CR</i> Thurs: 6 PM * <i>CR</i> Fri: 6 PM <i>RR</i> Sun: 5:15 PM <i>RR</i>	Olivia Ogorek	oliviaogorek@gmail.com	
	Acoustic Jam	2nd & 4th Sun.	12, 26	4–6 PM <i>CC Patio / RR if weather</i>	Chris Harrell	clharrell505@gmail.com	
	Al-Anon	Saturdays		3:30–5 PM <i>RR</i>	Phebe Macrae	phebemacrae2@gmail.com	
	Athletic Club	Mondays		8:30 AM <i>CR</i>	Megan Maher	msmaygin@gmail.com	
	Bible Study & Worship Service	Saturdays		12 Noon–2 PM <i>RR</i>	Kevin Rehorn	kevinrehorn@msn.com	
	Bridge Club	1st & 3rd Wed.	1, 15	1–4 PM <i>CR</i>	Susan Lovro	sulovro@aol.com	
	Chair Aerobics	Tuesdays / Thursdays		10:30–11:30 AM <i>RR</i>	Naomi Burtnick	505 577-7305 naomiburtnick@gmail.com	
	EACA	2nd Wednesday	8	10 AM <i>CFR</i>	Nancy Patmont	www.eldoradoarts.org	
	Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tuesday	14	4–6 PM <i>Zoom</i>	Karen Sweeney	505 466-9797	
	Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wednesday	15	3–5 PM <i>LR</i>	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net	
	Eldorado Hikers	Tuesdays		8:30 AM <i>NE corner CC Pkg.</i>	Lois Owens	505 670-8942 loisowens2@gmail.com	
	Eldorado Neighbors Helping Neighbors	1st Tuesday	7	1:30–3 PM <i>CFR</i>	Naomi Burtnick	enhnm@gmail.com	
	Santa Fe Model Railroad Club	2nd Tuesday	14	6:30–9 PM <i>RR</i>		santafemodelrailroadclub.org	
	Knitting Group	Mondays		10 AM <i>LR</i>	Frieda Claes	frmh@me.com 508 984-1704	
	Social Games	3rd Wednesday	15	11:30 AM–3 PM <i>Foyer</i>	Carol Hardin	caje8@comcast.net	
	Yoga	Tues./Thurs./Fri.		10 AM <i>CR</i>	Sue Schmitt	susha.schmitt@gmail.com	
	* Other May Events	Annual Meeting 2024	Monday	6	5:30–7 PM <i>Zoom / CR</i>	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
		EACA Spring Show	Saturday/Sunday	4, 5	10 AM–4 PM <i>CC</i>	Debbie Parke	eldoradoarts@gmail.com
		New Resident Welcome Event	Saturday	11	9:30 AM <i>CR &amp; Foyer</i>	Raymi Reynolds	rreynoldsynch@hoamco.com

Zoom meeting information is online at [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) > News & Events > Zoom Schedule. Calendar info collected and verified by ECIA office, [GM@eldoradosf.org](mailto:GM@eldoradosf.org). Sign up for ECIA Newsbriefs by going to [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org), scroll down to “Sign up for eBlasts”.

CR: Classroom; CFR: Conference Room; LR: Living Room; RR: Railroad Bldg.; CC: Comm. Ctr.; CC Pkg.: Comm. Ctr. Parking Lot \* Other May Events

## Stats Galore—Helping Mother Earth Survive

A big shout out to Eldorado and the surrounding communities for donating items to the many collections available at La Tienda and the Re-Use Area and avoiding the landfill. You have made a big impact for Mother Earth.



### MATERIALS COLLECTED IN 2023:

- Pens:** 37.3 pounds shipped to TerraCycle.
- Razors:** seven pounds shipped to TerraCycle.
- Egg Cartons:** Approximately 75 cartons per week and 3500 for the year given to The Food Depot and Bienvenidos Food Pantry.
- Straw bale Composts:** Eleven new ones and recurring maintenance of 150 existing systems. With Reunity food waste collections in the Eldorado community, there is less of a need for our Eldorado 285/Recycles straw bale systems.
- Dental Items:** 102.3 pounds shipped to TerraCycle.
- Athletic Shoes:** 168 pairs given to St. Elizabeth’s Shelter.
- Socktober:** 242 pairs of socks for St. Elizabeth’s Shelter.
- Holiday lights and cords:** 185 lbs taken to Capital Scrap.
- Re-Use Area:** In 2023, 33,179 pounds of useable items diverted from the landfill. It was an incredible testimony to

the efforts of our community. You make a difference!

Sustainability is the name of the game if our planet is to survive.

— Libby Maclaren,  
Eldorado/285 Recycles

**ELDORADO Arts & Crafts Association**

# Spring Art Show

**Saturday & Sunday**  
May 4 & 5, 2024  
10am - 4pm Both Days

Come see multiple artists and a wide variety of artwork and crafts in a single venue.  
Eldorado at Santa Fe Community Center  
1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, NM 87508

**Thank you for shopping local!**  
27 artists! Fusion Taco food truck 11 a.m.—2 p.m. both days.

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

*Let's get gardening,  
Friday Farmers' Markets start  
Glorious summer!*

**Mission Statement** The mission of the monthly newsletter, *Vistas*, is to inform members of ECIA about issues before the Board of Directors, various committees, and the office staff. Any interesting events happening in Eldorado or the surrounding areas may be included. The publication seeks to foster increased neighborhood pride and community participation in the decision-making process.

**Editorial Policy** *Vistas* welcomes factual and objective submissions, which will be selected and edited at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Community announcements, photos, and articles of interest to homeowners are welcome. Submissions are due on the 5th of the month preceding publication. Submissions may be submitted to [articles@eldoradosf.org](mailto:articles@eldoradosf.org). For help with any article, see the *Vistas* Style Guide: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) > News & Events > *Vistas* Newsletters.

## Visible Exterior White Ductwork and Conduits

Over the past five years the ECIA has continued to see an increase in the number of Eldorado homes that are installing the newer heating and air conditioning units that involve running exterior ducting, pipes and conduits from the roof, as well as from the exterior walls. This ducting is usually white and is often very visible to neighbors.



*Example of non-compliant exterior ductwork.*

Additionally, we have noted many new Radon Mitigation systems that are also very white and often visible to your neighbors.

This requirement to have all roof top equipment painted to match the stucco color, was further clarified in the 2017 revision of the Eldorado Guidelines and reads as follows:

*4.9.1.2. Unless it can be demonstrated that it will interfere with their operation, rooftop and ground-based heating, ventilation and cooling units (exclusive of solar systems) and their associated ductwork, as well as other visible equipment and associated covers, should be earth toned in color, similar to the approved stucco colors of Eldorado.*

The requirement to paint such white conduits (and ducting) to match the color of the home has been a requirement since the 2017 Eldorado Guidelines were approved. Unfortunately, however, many residents have not complied with this Guideline requirement and still have visible white ducting, pipes and conduits on their roofs, walls, and parapets.

If your home has such visible white ducting, and you want to confirm what exactly requires painting, we urge you to contact our office and speak with Mark Young at **505 466-4248**. Your efforts to comply with this requirement will help your home to blend better into the natural environment, as is one of the stated goals of the Eldorado Covenants. These efforts will also ensure that your home is compliant before it is sold and help to prevent any delays in closing.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

—Mark Young,

*ECIA Architectural and Covenant Compliance Coordinator*



**NEWSBRIEFS:** For the latest information from ECIA, please sign up for newsbriefs, (ECIA's electronic mailing system) by going to [eldoradosf.org](http://eldoradosf.org), scroll down to "Sign up for eBlasts".



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