

# Vistas



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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

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

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## Baking and Gingerbread Contest

10 - 5 pm DEC 1&2  
@ ECIA COMMUNITY CENTER  
1 HACIENDA LOOP, 87508

Calling all bakers, and gingerbread house creators! There is a baking contest all day Saturday at the ECIA. Winners will be announced and will receive gift cards ranging from \$10-\$40 at 5 pm. Bring your best dessert (please label all desserts with allergy concerns/warnings) to the ECIA and judges will determine the best dish. All day Sunday, ECIA will host a gingerbread house contest. Bring your best gingerbread house. Winners will be announced at 5 pm and will also receive gift cards. To apply for either contest, please email [Courteney at chandy@hoamco.com](mailto:Courteney@chandy@hoamco.com). Space is limited. Please apply no later than **Monday, November 19.**



Eldorado Community Improvement Association, Inc

## Art Show and Community Festival

Where: The Agora and the Eldorado Community Improvement Association.  
Date and Times: Saturday and Sunday, December 1&2, 2018 from 10 am - 5 pm.

The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association and the Eldorado Community Improvement Association (ECIA) are jointly sponsoring an art show and community festival event.

Eldorado artists are bringing their artwork to the Agora and the Community Center for a new Winter Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association Show of fine arts, crafts and holiday gifts. 30+ artists will present a variety of fine art and craft that features paintings, jewelry, ceramics, glass, photography, sculpture, fiber and wearable art, recycled, and mixed media artworks. Santa will be arriving on an Eldorado Fire department's truck and will have pictures taken with the kids and pets starting at **10 am.**

### The events at ECIA will include:

- Photos with Santa: Saturday kids and adults and Sunday pets!
- Artists in the Railroad building.
- Face painting with LoveDeeDoo the clown on Saturday.
- Live music by David Yard.
- Kids crafts, holiday movies, and activities with Make Time.
- Gift wrapping by Eldorado Seniors on Sunday. (There is a holiday Bazaar 9 am-1 pm at the Senior Center on Saturday.)
- Fire and Rescue, the Vista Grande Public Library, and Neighborhood Watch.
- Food drive, cloth drive, and art drive.
- Trees and wreaths from Adam and Kim.
- Artwork by El Dorado students.

### The events at the Agora will include:

- 30+ artists.
- Music.
- Local businesses and volunteer organizations.



The Community Festival continues with the 8th annual Holiday Market at La Tienda, **Dec. 8.** [Artwork: Karen Murry & Judy Kramer]  
~ECIA/EACA

### Open Discussion Group:

Talk informally with board members on the **2nd Thursday** of each month at **6 pm** in the ECIA Classroom.

**ECIA Board Meeting, Community Center Railroad Room, Thursday, November 29, 7 PM**



Share your  
comments  
with us!

For policy and  
deadline, see  
below



### Editorial Policy

The Vistas newsletter will not publish material deemed inflammatory, opinionated, biased, or inappropriate. Factual and objective submissions will be selected and edited at the discretion of the editor. Community announcements are welcome as well, along with accompanying photos.

**DEADLINE:** Newsletter deadline is the **3rd Tuesday** of each month. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the editor, Courtney Handy at her office at ECIA or emailed to [chandy@hoamco.com](mailto:chandy@hoamco.com). Please include "Attn: Vistas" in your message. Publication dates and times may change depending on the ECIA Board meeting times.

### 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.

## Eldorado Stables Fall Update

Thank you to the many barn owners and barn sharers who donated their time, horses and donkeys, to greet and entertain our Eldorado neighbors at our annual Community Day open house in September. We welcomed nearly 100 Eldorado residents for an enjoyable day at the Stables. Once again, Listening Horse Therapeutic Riding Center provided pony rides for children free of charge. As a tangible thank you to Listening Horse, please consider supporting their upcoming fundraiser at Joe's Dining on **November 8**. 20% of all meals purchased at Joe's will go to support this worthwhile program which provides equine-assisted therapy for veterans and the disabled.

Tuck your plants in for the winter with a blanket of compost! Free horse manure is available year-round to all Eldorado residents at the Stables. For more information, please contact **Amelia Adair** at [ameliaadair@msn.com](mailto:ameliaadair@msn.com).

Even if you missed Community Day, you are welcome to visit the stables at any time to enjoy this unique amenity. Winter is prime time for bird watching at the stables since the birds appreciate the water troughs barn owners keep ice-free all winter. Large flocks of Mountain Bluebirds have already returned to roost at the stables for the winter. [Photos: Ameila Adair]

~Amelia Adair, Stable Committee Chair



## Meet and Greet

Meet ECIA's executive assistant, **Anna Hansen**. She was born in Germany, then moved to New Mexico in 2005 with her mom, **Michaela**, and her sister, **Chrisula**. She is half German and half Greek, and can speak 3 languages. She is our youngest member at ECIA and has brought a new light to the office with her work ethic, humor, knowledge, and dedication. She was in management at Subway for 6 years, 2 of them as a general manager before coming to work for Eldorado. She has a degree in entrepreneurship and is also pursuing a degree in business administration. In her free time, she spends time with her baby brother, **RJ**, and with her boyfriend, **Alcario**, and her friends. Anna is excited about the new opportunities Eldorado has to offer. Please welcome Anna to ECIA!



Meet ECIA's office assistant, **Katrina Pederson**. Born and raised in Eldorado, Katrina has been with the Eldorado Community Improvement Association (ECIA), since she was sixteen, starting as a lifeguard. Over time, Katrina furthered her career by gaining new skills as a head lifeguard, facility attendant, and office assistant. She is a valuable asset to the office and the community with her diverse knowledge and history with ECIA. She finished her bachelor's degree in american studies with a minor in comparative literature in December of 2017. In her free time, she likes to read, play Pokemon Go with her boyfriend, **Jaycob**, and watch Netflix. Please stop by the office to meet Katrina.

~Julie Navarro, General Manager



## Recent Board Actions

The Board of Directors of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association met on Thursday, **October 24, 2018**. Members present were President **David McDonald**, Vice-President **Jody Price**, Treasurer **Joseph Gutierrez**, Director **Libby Maclaren**, Director **Steven Rudnick**, and Director **Bernardo Monserrat**. Secretary **Emily McCormick** had an excused absence. The following formal actions were reviewed and passed by the board:

- ▶ Motion to approve the Information Committee Charter as amended.
- ▶ Motion to approve the Facilities and Grounds Committee Charter as amended.
- ▶ Motion to approve the Finance Committee Charter as amended.
- ▶ Motion to approve a variance for 52 Balsa Road.
- ▶ Motion to approve the revised Facilities Rental Policy.
- ▶ Motion to approve the ECIA Board of Directors Nomination Petition.
- ▶ Motion to appoint **Jim Zebora** to the Information Committee.
- ▶ Motion to approve **11/23, 12/24** and **12/31, 2018** as paid holidays for staff.

- ▶ Motion to reappoint Ms. **Karen Murry** as a member of the F&G committee and the Environmental Advisory ad-hoc committee.
- ▶ Motion to accept the Forensic Audit by Porch & Assoc. paid for by HOAMCO.
- ▶ Motion to approve moving the purchase of the stable gates from Capital to 2018 R&R.
- ▶ Motion to waive \$100 fee for rental of the community center by Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association for the Winter Festival.

Nine residents spoke at the open forum on a variety of topics, including both praise and complaints about HOAMCO, the Civility Policy, an ECIA Memorial Grounds, and several ECIA procedures. The Board addressed some of the issues briefly and referred them as appropriate for action.

The next scheduled meeting of the ECIA Board of Directors will be a working session on **Monday, November 26, at 6 pm**, in the Community Center Classroom. On **Thursday, November 29, at 7 pm**, the board will conduct its regular meeting in the Railroad Room at the Community Center.

ECIA board meetings are open to the public. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org).

### ECIA OFFICE

#1 La Hacienda Loop  
Santa Fe, NM 87508  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### President

David McDonald  
D.McDonald@eldoradosf.org

#### Vice-President

Barrett "Jody" Price  
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#### Secretary

Emily McCormick  
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#### Treasurer

Joseph Gutierrez  
J.Gutierrez@eldoradosf.org

#### Director

Bernardo Monserrat  
B.Monserrat@eldoradosf.org

#### Director

Elizabeth Maclaren  
E.Maclaren@eldoradosf.org

#### Director

Vacant

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

#### Architecture:

Katherine Mortimer  
Conservation: Tom Brendenberg

Election: Bette Knight

#### Facilities & Grounds:

Nolan Zisman

Finance: Sal Monaco

Information: Karen Logan

Roads: Russell Winslow

Stable: Amelia Adair

### ECIA STAFF

#### General Manager

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#### VISTAS NEWSLETTER

#### Editor & Designer/Webmaster

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### COMMUNITY RESOURCES

#### Vista Grande Library

14 Avenida Torreon; 466-READ

#### Fire and Rescue

466-1204

eldoradofireandrescue.org

#### County All Purpose

820-CNTY (2689)

## New Board Member Bios

**Elizabeth Maclaren:** Although I lived on the east coast since my arrival in the USA, the moment I landed in the southwest a decade ago to take classes with Pueblo artists, I knew this was my place. The landscape, the light, and the earth spoke to me and still do.

I am an artist and former teacher. I graduated from the Boston School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University with a BFA and the Massachusetts College of Art with a masters of science in art education.

I have a regular yoga practice, I am a member of Eldorado285/Recycles helping to bring consciousness about recycling, composting and zero waste to the community and I have a clay studio where I create my goddess sculptures. This is the next creative phase of my life.

I believe that my experience in developing, creating, and executing new programs to build community while I was a faculty member is the greatest strength I will bring to this board position.

My vision for this community is to build grace and understanding in all issues, to listen to all voices and opinions, in the true spirit of conversation.

**Bernardo Monserrat:** I was born in Havana, Cuba, and came to New Mexico as a twelve-year-old boy in 1961. Other than short stints for schooling and service in the Peace Corps, I have been a resident of this state. I hold degrees in mathematics, counseling psychology, philosophy, and divinity. I have been a mental health provider for over 40 years, and still maintain a small private practice in the La Tienda condominiums. I am retired from pulpit ministry after having served as pastor for the Center for Spiritual Living for 25 years. I have extensive experience on boards and I am now pleased to help with our community's board of directors. I have been married to my wife, Catherine for over forty years. We have two children, three grandchildren, and a great-grandchild.





# Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP)

The October 2018 issue of Vistas contained an article titled “Eldorado Gets the Bad RAP,” written by Better Eldorado, a group of concerned residents not affiliated with the ECIA. This author feels there is a need to offer the following additional information and clarifications:

The Federal Highway Transportation Administration defines recycled asphalt pavement (RAP) as the term given to removed and/or reprocessed pavement materials containing 3-7% asphalt and 93-97% aggregates. These materials are generated when asphalt pavements are removed for reconstruction, resurfacing, or to obtain access to buried utilities. The RAP that Santa Fe County has applied to the roads in Eldorado is the asphalt pavement that NMDOT removed and milled when they re-did the I-25/ St. Francis Interchange in 2012. The material was stockpiled along I-25 between the north and southbound lanes of I-25.

Using RAP with hot asphalt for paving new road surfaces is different from using RAP for road improvements and maintenance. NMDOT does not prohibit the use of 100% RAP for road repair and maintenance projects, as was done in Eldorado. NMDOT Specification Division 300 – Bases Section 302; Processing, Placing, and Compacting Existing Pavement: allows for the use of RAP for a road base material. Funding for new base course material or paving the identified problematic roads in Eldorado was not an economical option. The County used RAP to harden the surface on the roads that were muddy and impassable at times.

The road rating system mentioned in the Better Eldorado article applies to paved roads and is not used by the County for dirt or RAP roads.

Regarding concerns raised in the October article about the potential hazards of the yellow and white fragments of paint and/or thermoplastic pavement markings from the pre-existing roadway in the RAP, correspondence between Santa Fe County Public Works, New Mexico Environmental Division, and the Environmental Protection Agency do not support the assertions about the hazards of highway marking material.

Concerns about potential contamination of heavy metals leaching from the RAP are addressed in a study by **Timothy G. Townsend**, Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences, the University of Florida entitled “Leaching Characteristics of Asphalt Road Waste, June 1998. Table 4.9 Heavy Metals states: “All metals analyzed for were below the detection limit and were thus below groundwater guidance concentrations,” and “the results of this research project indicated that reclaimed asphalt pavement of the nature examined in this study poses minimal risk to groundwater as a result of normal land disposal scenarios.”

The county has discontinued application of RAP on roads in Eldorado pending further evaluation of the performance of the RAP surfaced roads over the winter. **CONTINUED ON FACING PAGE**

## Library News and Events

**Book Sale:** The Fall Book Sale is finally here! The Book Sale will be held at the library on November 8, 9, and 10 during regular library hours: 10 am to 6 pm on Thursday and Friday, and 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday. Early birds can pay a \$20 admission fee for early bird entry on November 8 from 9 to 10 am; admission is free for all other times. Shoppers can find thousands of adult titles, both fiction and nonfiction, as well as children’s and youth books, DVDs, and music CDs. The book sale is a fundraiser for VGPL and will help buy new materials, fund programs, and cover other expenses to help VGPL continue to provide free services to the community. Vista Grande Public Library is located at 14 Avenida Torreon, between El Dorado Community School and the Adam Senior Center.

**Holiday Closures:** VGPL will be closed Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 in honor of the Thanksgiving holiday. Regular hours will resume Saturday, November 24 (10 am to 4 pm).

**Events:** (Note: Most events take place in the Meeting Room and have free admission unless noted otherwise.) Check the website for more information: [www.vglibrary.org](http://www.vglibrary.org).

**Art Exhibition:** November. Mary Gray McGee. Reception for the artist in the exhibition space on Friday, November 2, 5-7 pm. Light refreshments served.

**Story Time for toddlers and preschoolers:** Tuesday mornings at 11 am in the Children’s section.

**Book Donation Day:** Saturday, November 3 and December 1, from 9 to 11:30 am only. Donors are kindly asked to: bring only items in good condition; use boxes or bags you don’t need to keep; bring large donations earlier in the morning; and do not donate textbooks, manuals, dictionaries, encyclopedias, or VHS tapes.

**Family Movie Night:** Friday, November 16, at 7 pm. Call (505) 466-7323 for the film title and rating.

**Tiny Book Making Class:** Saturday, November 17, 1-3 pm. **Selene Sinclair** will teach all ages how to make your own tiny book. All supplies provided.

**Medicare Information Sessions:** Medicare Open Enrollment begins on October 15 (and closes on December 7). A certified Medicare Benefits Counselor with the NM Dept. of Aging will hold several sessions to discuss what you are able to change, how to change and what you need to avoid penalties that last a lifetime if you do not sign up for certain coverages. Please refer to the Library website ([www.vglibrary.org](http://www.vglibrary.org)) for dates and times.

**All Ages Chess:** meets Friday afternoons, 3 pm. All ages and skill levels are welcomed.

**Eldorado Genealogy Group:** meets Wednesday , November 28 at 6:30 to 8 pm.

~Tracey Mitchell, Vista Grande Public Library

## Savor Eldorado

Welcome to Savor Eldorado, where neighbors enjoy local music, art & each other, in private homes. The events in 2018 have been pure fun so far, with excellent attendance. We are raffling \$100 Visa gift cards every month, as well as local business gift certificates. Would you like to be a guest or a host? Show your art? Play music? Help with an event? Get in touch with Hope via the new website and stay tuned! [savoireldorado.org](http://savoireldorado.org).

~Hope Kiah

## Eldorado

Eldorado's low-power hometown radio station, ELDORADIO 1660 AM, celebrates Veterans Day on **Nov. 11** with music of the armed services and individual attention during *Retro Radio* at **12 noon**. The day after Thanksgiving, holiday carols, and familiar tunes start to creep into the easy-listening all-day-all-night musical programming. As Christmas and Hannukah draw closer, more and more familiar favorites join the schedule. On *BreakTime*, **10:30** weekday mornings, listeners will hear holiday stories on Tuesdays and similar seasonal specials from time to time --- but without the commercials on other stations.

~Bill Dunning

### Harry's Haiku

*Cold wind blows all night.*

*Snow twinkles when the sun shines.*

*Give thanks for it all.*

# November/December 2018 Events

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS\*\*

Architecture Committee	Tues., Nov. 13; Dec. 4, 18; 7-9 pm	F
Board Meeting	Wed., Nov. 29; 7-9 pm Thurs Dec. 20 7-9 pm	RR
Board Working Session	Thurs., Nov. 26; 6-8 pm Mon., Dec. 17 6-8 pm	CR
Community Open Disc.	Thurs., Nov. 8; Dec. 13 6-7:30 pm	CR
Conservation Committee	Tues., Nov. 6; Dec. 4 7-9 pm	F
Election Committee	Wed., Nov. 14; Dec. 12 2-4 pm	CFR
Environ. Ad Hoc	Tues., Nov. 5; Dec. 4 3-5 pm	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., Nov. 7; Dec. 5 3-5 pm	Nolan Zisman 466-0540 CR
Finance Committee	Wed., Nov. 14; 10:30-noon Tues., Dec. 11 9:30 am-noon	Sal Monaco 690-5125 CFR
Information Committee	Tues., Nov. 27; Dec. 18 7-9 pm	CR
Road Committee	Wed., TBA 3-5 pm	RR
Stable Committee	Tues., TBA 7-9 pm	Amelia Adair 720-563-1018 CFR

### MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

Community Garden	3rd Tuesday 6-7 pm	CFR
Eldorado Water & SD	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon 466-1085 EAWSD
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs., 7 pm	Mary Fredenburgh 466-1035 CR
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed., 3 pm	Pam Henline phenline@comcast.net LR
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues., 4-6 pm	Sue Daniel (856) 220-7087 CFR
Neighbors Helping Neighbors	1st Tues., 6-7 pm	Michael Landen 466-8896 CFR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Tues.	Brad Cottingham 466-4655
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm	santafesar.org VGPL

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

Al Anon	Sat., 11am-noon	CFR
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	karl_cordova747@msn.com RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-4:30 pm	Shirley Davis 982-6179 LR
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs 466-6914 CC
Fire & Rescue Training	Tues., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office 466-1204 Station
Fire & Rescue Duty Sections	Sat., 8am-noon	Fire Station Office 466-1204 Station
Interval Training	Mon., Wed., Fri., 8:30 am	Susan Kayar 204-8290 Max Coll CC
Knitting Club	Tues., 10am-noon	Joyce Hanmer 466-3018 LR
Life Drawing	Alt. Mon., 10am-noon	Mavis Murphy 466-8189 RR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Barb 954-1533 LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-12:30 pm	466-1039 Sr Center
Spinning Group (Fiber)	1st & 3rd Thur., 9:30-11:30 am	Ellen Higgins 970-201-4776 LR
Square Dancing	Fri., 6:30-9 pm	Connie Walters 466-4226 Max Coll CC
Strength Training	Wed., 1 pm	Neela Richardson 466-3545 Max Coll CC
Zumba	Tues. & Thur., 9-10 am	Tana Monaco 690-4332 Max Coll CC
Yin Yoga	Mon., 5:30-6:45 pm	Julia Cairns 466-1935 CR
Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Tue. & Fri., 9-10:15 am	Julia Cairns 466-1935 CR
Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Wed. & Thurs., 9-10:15 am	Mary Horst 490-2790 CR
Yoga for Healing	Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:45 am	Maureen O'Brien 216-0807 Sr Center
AA Mon., 6:30-8:10 pm	CFR	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm LR Wed., 6:45-8:10 pm CFR
AA Thurs., 6-7 pm (Women Only)	CFR	Fri., 6-7 pm RR Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm La Tienda

\*\* Check the ECIA website for the updated dates/times \*\*\* Abbreviations: CC=Community Center, CR=Classroom,

CFR=Conference Room, F=Foyer, LR=Living Room, RR=Railroad Room

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

## (RAP) Continued from Page 4

The county has also indicated that they plan to conduct a survey of impacted residents before any decision to resume applying RAP to roads in Eldorado. Residents wishing to learn more or review the links to the studies and documents referenced in this article along with other pertinent information:

- ▶ MSDS: Lafarge Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement [RAP].
- ▶ "Performance of Recycled Asphalt Pavement in Gravel Roads" by **Khaled Ksaibati**, Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering, University of Wyoming; this research states that sections without RAP exhibited 147% more dust than sections utilizing RAP.
- ▶ <https://bit.ly/2Q74RhR>.
- ▶ <https://bit.ly/2Rkx6JY>.

- ▶ Publication No. FHWA-HRT-11-021 Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement in Asphalt Mixtures: State of the Practice.
  - ▶ Virginia DOT, Leaching Characteristics of Recycled Asphalt Pavement: RAP may be suitable as a Fill Material. This document lists 23 separate studies on asphalt pavement and RAP; [www.VTRC.net](http://www.VTRC.net). Feasibility of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement [RAP] Use as Road Base and Subbase Material.
  - ▶ <https://bit.ly/2AG0160>.
  - ▶ <https://on.nyc.gov/2JrAGPR>. A web-based search of 'Recycled Asphalt Pavement. **Note: This article doesn't represent the views of the ECIA Board of Directors or its committees.**
- ~Russell Winslow



# Responsible Dog Ownership

**D**uring the summer months, the ECIA received many calls from neighbors upset about dogs barking or roaming in their neighborhood. Please remember that Section 11 of the Eldorado Covenants follow the Santa Fe Animal Control Ordinances regarding responsible dog ownership and dogs are not allowed to bark excessively and disturb your neighbors, nor are they allowed to roam off your lot. The details of the Santa Fe Animal Control Ordinance can be found at the following link: <https://bit.ly/2OLybxA>. If you witness a barking or roaming dog, we urge residents first to call Santa Fe County at **428-3720** and report the dog to Animal Control. If it is a weekend or at night, and an Animal Control Officer is not on duty, ask for the Sherriff on duty to come to witness



the barking or roaming and report it to Animal Control. After contacting Animal Control, please e-mail **Mark** at the ECIA at [myoung@hoamco.com](mailto:myoung@hoamco.com) to report this infraction with as much detail as possible. The ECIA will work with the dog owners to educate them and try to correct the problem. Thank You!

~Mark Young, ECIA Architectural and Covenants Compliance Coordinator

# Tips on Using the ReUse Area in Eldorado

**M**any Eldorado area residents make good use of the exchange of items in reusable or repairable condition available at Santa Fe County's Eldorado Convenience Center (ECC). This is a free service offered by the county during all regular operating hours. It was opened in 2013 at the urging of our local group Eldorado/285 Recycles.

The group now provides some twenty hours a month of volunteer time cleaning and organizing the facility since ECC staff does not have the time to do this. You may run into our volunteers at work, usually on Sunday and Wednesday mornings. Please say hello, they always would like to talk to you!

Here are a few tips for the generous people who make the donations on which the program depends. Observing them will make the area more presentable and the volunteers' work safer and easier!

**1.** Please observe the county's listing of acceptable and non-acceptable items, posted on signs, and available at the gatehouse. If in doubt ask the gatekeeper or a volunteer. Clothing, fabrics, mattresses, chemicals, and hazardous materials are a few of the banned items. If anything is contaminated, — for example, mouse droppings— do not offer it for reuse or recycling, please bag and place in the trash!

**2.** Please empty bags and boxes of your items (and flower pot of potting soil). Place small items on the tables under the category signs on the wall, space permitting. If space is not available, place them as close as possible to the correct category area. Only large objects such as furniture should be left on the floor. And please, flatten your boxes and bags and recycle them after placing your item(s).

**3.** Your items will be more attractive and likely to find a new home if you could give them a brief cleaning, just a once-over with a damp cloth or dust brush for example.

Here is a tip for the equally valued folks who make the exchanges possible by taking items home for cleaning, repair, and reuse: please leave tables and floor areas in a better condition than you found them.

~Eldorado 285 Recycles

Before:



After:





# Frogs, Toads, and Lizards

Several years ago, after the arroyo near our house flooded during heavy monsoons, we heard what we thought sounded like the croaking of quite a few frogs. Frogs? Here? Yes! We have frogs in Eldorado!

Frogs, toads, and lizards are vertebrates. All vertebrates have an interior skeleton, vertebral column and two pairs of appendages. Fish evolved first in water. Amphibians were the first vertebrates to move out of the water and live on land. They are still tied to an aquatic environment, needing water to lay their eggs.

Because of their need for water, frogs are not commonly found in a desert. But the Eldorado frogs – likely canyon tree frogs more common to the Sangre de Cristo Mountains than our area – can live underground for long periods of time, awakening and coming to the surface during heavy rains. In fact, both frogs and toads deal with dry times by estivating. As the soil dries, they burrow into any still moist soil and "sleep" until the next rain, reducing their metabolic rate and breathing by getting oxygen through their skin.

Frogs are more primitive than toads. They have skin which must be kept moist. Toads, evolving later, developed physical features such as a tougher skin that allows them to live further from an aquatic source. If you find a toad in Eldorado, it is likely to be a Red-Spotted toad, *Bufo punctatus*. These little fellows, 2 1/2 inches long, are olive to gray colored with raised red spots on their backs.

Lizards evolved from salamander-like amphibians. They broke the need to lay eggs in water by laying their genetic cargo in an



egg. This necessitated the introduction of internal fertilization. (Fish and amphibians have external fertilization.) If you ever see a reptile egg, you will notice it has a soft "shell," protected by the dirt around it, whereas bird eggs developed a hard shell. Lizards also have a robust, scaly skin which allows them to survive arid conditions.

The types of lizard most common in Eldorado are the Sagebrush Lizard, the Desert Whiptail Lizard (our official state lizard), and the Horned Toad (actually a lizard in the Iguana family). Sagebrush Lizards are striped brown and gray, and the males (which you may see doing "push-ups," behavior used to scare off other males) have blue bellies. The Desert Whiptail Lizard can reproduce using parthenogenesis (eggs developing without fertilization) and are thus female-only. Horned Toads dig into sand late in the day and then crawl out in the morning to soak up the sun. Please don't capture them; it reduces our native population, and the animals invariably die in captivity.

A final tidbit: Amphibians have a three-chambered heart – two aortae on top and one ventricle below. This creates our commonly used heart symbol. Humans have a four-chambered heart, two of each, thus, preferably square. So when we draw a "heart," we are really drawing a frog's heart!

[Photo by: Julia Kinney]

~ Julia Kinney, Bonnie Mahlum, Joseph Newman, Ann Wood, Cliff Wood

## Ask Eldo

Ask Eldo is a monthly question and answer column where residents can send questions for publication to the ECIA. Each month questions submitted by the community will be answered by an ECIA board member or ECIA staff member and posted here. Here are this month's questions:

**Q:** If people wanted to provide a beehive for honeybees in Eldorado, what does the covenants say? Would they be pets?

**A:** This month's answer comes from **Mark Young**, Architectural & Covenant Compliance Coordinator:

"The Eldorado Covenants and Guidelines do not discuss the keeping of insects, and only refers to "animals, birds or poultry." Due to this, we allow for the keeping of bees on lots, provided the resident is meeting all state or federal requirements for their keeping. Additionally, we do ask that residents consult with their neighbors before bringing in a hive due to possible issue of a neighbor or child having an allergy to bees and this might impact their desire to have a hive. It should be mentioned that there are many beekeepers in Eldorado and that the keeping of bees is essential to provide for the crucial pollination of plants and ensure a healthy environment, especially in light of a decline in honey bee populations in the US. Should there be issues with a hive being some kind of nuisance, and the ECIA needed to take enforcement actions, we would have to refer to Section 14 of the

Covenant's, to see if it was in violation of this clause, which states the following: "No activity shall be conducted, nor equipment or process used, nor substance or animal kept which emits foul or obnoxious odors, or which creates noise, glare, fumes or electrical interference." Note, since Santa Fe County does not regulate bees, for further information about the keeping of bees, residents should contact the NM Beekeepers Association at: <https://bit.ly/2PrWfW4>.

Thanks for all your questions! We encourage Eldorado residents to continue to submit questions for consideration for future issues. All questions will be considered. Please submit questions via email to [askeldo@eldoradosf.org](mailto:askeldo@eldoradosf.org) We look forward to hearing from you!

~ECIA Staff



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## Early Spanish Explorers in the Eldorado Wilderness Preserve

In 1540, the Spanish explorer **Francisco Vázquez de Coronado** began his quest northward from Mexico to find the rumored vibrant Seven Cities of Cibola (seven cities of gold). From Arizona he passed to the northeast, arriving at the 'city' of Hawikuh (now Zuni). But this was a pueblo of mud and stone houses, with nary any gold, so he ordered his men to burn everything and kill the inhabitants (even though the Zuni were friendly and did have a few pieces of turquoise).

Two men, who had walked from the Pecos Pueblo to see the strange Spanish men at Zuni, became his guides and led Coronado eastward through Acoma, to the Rio Grande, then west of the Manzano mountains. He stopped at Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, San Juan, and Picuris Pueblos on his way up the northern Rio Grande Valley and eventually ended in Taos. But there was **NO GOLD ANYWHERE!**

Disappointed, he allowed a few of his men to accompany the two guides to Pecos, where there was supposed to be riches.

This small party of men initially stopped in the Galisteo Basin, where the pueblos were already in ruins, according to most sources, having been destroyed in inter-pueblo wars. Then onward towards Pecos.

Spanish artifacts found in the San Cristobal Pueblo area and along Galisteo Creek have been authenticated as belonging to Coronado's men, who passed that way going south to the base camp before following Bigotes and Alvarado, the two guides, to Pecos. So it would seem that Coronado did make his entrada past the Eldorado Conservation Area, the four thousand acres just east of U.S. Highway 285, as did other Spanish explorers who followed, including Don Juan de Oñate.

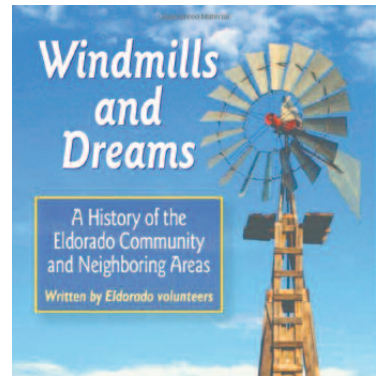
Did Coronado (or any of the Spaniards) ever find gold? You will have to delve into history a bit more. But the Coronado State Monument, just off of I25 on 550 in Bernalillo marks one of the places where Coronado camped, in sight of the Rio Grande. This is a gem of a museum and worth the trip. There is also much history related to the Pecos Pueblo. The museum, grounds, and old church at the Pecos National Historical Park are well worth the short trip north on I-25. And the Galisteo Basin Preserve is just a quick way down 285 and NM 41.

Information adopted from *Windmills and Dreams, A history of the Eldorado Community and neighboring areas* which is available to purchase at the Community Center.

~Pamela Henline



Coronado



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