



EL DORADO HOMES ASSOCIATION

April, 2013



Look for us on the web at:

http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/El_Dorado

Connect with us on



The Legendary land of wealth and happiness

Sunburst

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Please join us at the pool
patio/club house for
Sunday Sundaes

on April 21, 2013 from 2p-4p. We
will have pool and membership
committee members on hand to
welcome new members, as well as
not-yet members, and to answer
any questions. This will also be your
first opportunity to have your
photo taken for your Photo ID for
pool membership. Can't
wait to see everybody
there!



**Pool Membership
Photo ID's—Poolside
See Page 4
for Article and Schedule**

**Exemplary Homes Judging begins the first week of May!
See article on Page 6.**

**EDHA
NEIGHBORHOOD
MEETING
Monday,
April 8th,
7:00 PM
AT THE
CLUBHOUSE
Please join us!**

Deadline for
May Sunburst:
April 15th

Sunburst Email Address:
EDHASunburst@satx.rr.com

Contributions Welcome!!

***We need your
Maintenance Fees now!
Remember that the
membership year runs
from May 1-April 30,
and that the fees
increase after May 1.***

We stretch every dollar
'til it hurts!



**THE CLUBHOUSE IS
AVAILABLE FOR
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**Call Cathy Freeman
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CLASSIFIED ADS

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www.marykay.com/pamelasmith

El Dorado resident since 1973 and EDHA supporter.

COMPOST HAPPENS—Prepare for a healthy yard before spring. Get the compost delivered and I'll spread it for you. **Aaron Jacobsen 210-396-3620** leave a voicemail if I don't answer. El Dorado resident—20 years.

Classified ads and miscellaneous notices are available to El Dorado residents for \$3.00 (approx. 25 words). Ads by students, age 21 and under, are free.

Contact Jamie Gifford at 655-9594 or EDHASunburst@satx.rr.com

If you would like to receive your Sunburst in a digital format, please email the Editor at EDHASunburst@satx.rr.com and we will add your email address to our distribution list.

EDHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT	REINETTE ALECOZAY	241-2683
VICE-PRESIDENT	VACANT	
SECRETARY	LOLA OLSMITH	657-0086
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PARLIAMENTARIAN	VACANT	
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AREA II	KURT JOHNSON	946-5099
AREA III	VACANT	
AREA IV	DON FLYNN	563-0235
AREA V	WIL PORTIS	650-3629
AREA VI	CONRAD BOECK	653-3633

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CODE COMPLIANCE	IRENE NUNLEY	656-4982
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LAKE	DON FLYNN	563-0235
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POOL	JOYCE STREUDING	480-2074
SOCIAL	JAMIE GIFFORD	655-9594
WELCOME WAGON	ALIA GARRETT	317-8691



Hats Off To...

Amabel Lopez

**For jumping in as Sunburst Editor when we really needed it!
You did a fabulous job and we are so grateful!**

SUNBURST STAFF

EDITOR JAMIE GIFFORD 655-9594

DISTRIBUTION SHIRLEY STEPHENS 654-4758
MARY BROOKS 653-0474

ADVERTISING REINETTE ALECOZAY 241-2683

SUNBURST EMAIL EDHASUNBURST@SATX.RR.COM

THE SUNBURST IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY (SEP-JUN) BY THE EL DORADO HOMES ASSOCIATION TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATION TO ALL HOMES IN THE EL DORADO SUBDIVISION. THE STAFF ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS AND THE PAPER SUPPORTS ITSELF THROUGH ADVERTISING. MAILING ADDRESS: 12606 PRIMA VISTA, 78233.

SUNBURST ADVERTISING

Classified Ads	\$3.00	per month
Business Cards	\$15.00	per month
1/4 Page	\$24.00	per month
1/2 Page	\$48.00	per month
Full Page	\$96.00	per month
Full Back Cover	\$120.00	per month

Your copy-ready ad and payment must be received before the 15th of the month to appear in the following month's Sunburst. Call Reinette for details or to place an ad.



CELLULAR
ON
PATROL

MEETS ON THE THIRD MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE CLUB HOUSE.

president's Notes By Reinette Alecozay

EARLY VOTING FOR CITY
AND SCHOOL ELECTIONS
APR 29 – MAY 7
ELECTION DAY – MAY 11

A COMMUNITY'S INFLUENCE IS FELT
BY ITS VOTER TURNOUT

SOME SOURCES OF INFORMATION
INCLUDE
SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS NEWS
AND WWW.PASTORSPAC.ORG



Claudia Torres,
the SAFE Officer for El Dorado,
prefers to be contacted by email:
Claudia.Torres@sanantonio.gov

Know an El Dorado resident who has gone above and beyond? Nominate them for recognition in our regular column,
"Hats Off To..."

Contact the editor or any EDHA Board Member with your nominations!

If you have a new neighbor, or if you *are* a new neighbor, please contact Alia Garrett, the Welcome Wagon Chair. We look forward to greeting each new neighbor personally.

Editor's Notes

By **Jamie Gifford**

Well, neighbors, I'm back! Thank you to Jessica Hixson and Amabel Lopez, who both did excellent jobs as interim editors.

Some of you may know me, but for those who don't, I moved to El Dorado as a child, with my family, in 1971. I attended El Dorado Elementary, Wood Middle School (very briefly), and Madison High School. Of course, I grew up and moved away, only to return in 1995 to help my father remain in his home after he became disabled and widowed. He passed in 2011, and here I am—in my childhood home and neighborhood, raising my son, working full-time and staying involved in EDHA.

Friends and neighbors, we need your help.

This newsletter is at a critical point. The Sunburst has a rich history in El Dorado and we all want to see it succeed. Advertisements are critical for financing the Sunburst and content is critical for ensuring that folks want to read and enjoy the newsletter. Please patronize our advertisers, tell them you saw their ad in the Sunburst, and help us rustle up more advertisers AND more interesting and informative content. I am open to any and all contributions and feedback from the neighborhood and beyond.

Together, we can do this.

Jamie Gifford
EDHASunburst@satx.rr.com
210.655.9594

PHOTO ID's REQUIRED AT THE POOL!

Photos will be required for member ID's for the 2013 pool season. This step is being taken to ensure the safety and enjoyment of the pool for everyone. Each person listed on your membership form must have a picture taken during one of the scheduled "photo shoots." Printing ID's for everyone is a time consuming task and all those involved in the process are volunteers. All we ask of you is a few moments of your time and a smile! So please mark your calendars and plan to attend one of the following dates:

Apr 21st - 2:00 to 4:00 pm

May 26th - 2:00 to 4:00 pm

May 27th - 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Jun 11th - 6:00 to 8:00 pm

If you are planning to join the pool at a later date, have your photos taken during this schedule anyway. It's free! (Any special arrangements to obtain your photo after this schedule will cost \$15.00 per sitting.)

Completed ID's will be held at the pool gate. Please check to see if yours is ready.

Your Pool Committee



April 18-28
<http://www.fiesta-sa.org/>



El Dorado Babysitters

Alley (14) - 264-1470
Aubrey (13) - 394-3386
Brittany (17) - 478-1489
Brooke (17) - 241-8485
Grace (15) - 204-9762

If you are a high school student or younger, and would like a free listing in the Sunburst as a babysitter, call the Sunburst editor at 655-9594 or email your information to: EDHASunburst@satx.rr.com.

El Dorado Animal Hospital

13039 Nacogdoches Road • San Antonio, Texas 78217

Dr. Dennis McIntosh



For Appointments :

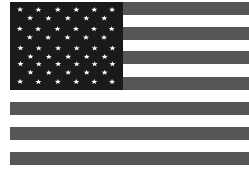
656-1444

www.edahdrmc.com

For Emergencies:

404-2873 - Sonterra

822-2873 - Broadway



That Grand Old Flag

The building where I work is on a hill. We have a tall lighted flagpole, with both the U.S. and Texas flags displayed proudly. The recent prolonged high winds were amazingly strong. The U.S. flag (which was newer) survived, but our Texas flag became tattered at the hem, and one of the two brass clasps attaching it to the rope actually broke, so we had to take it down. We are now waiting for a new flag and the repair of our flagpole rope.

Wind, weather and time are hard on flags. Flags should be displayed in good condition or not at all. Have you inspected your flags lately? If your grand old flag is looking more old than grand, it's time to replace it. Flags don't cost that much, and you'll feel better when you do!

-Carol C.

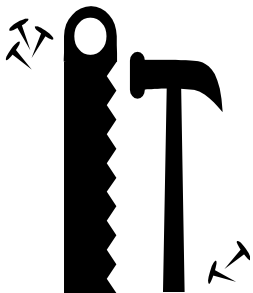
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Jerry Ortiz
210.322.3194
TX Masters Lic# 44180 S.A. Masters Lic#980 jpyramid82@yahoo.com

*
* April is a promise
*
*
* that May is bound to keep.
*
*
* ~ Hal Borland
*
*

Mr. Fix-It

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Door replacements

Free Estimates

967-0233

Ask for John



El Dorado Exemplary Homes Campaign 2013

**By Eric Meyer
241-0005**

In 2007, the El Dorado Homes Association held the first ever Exemplary Homes Campaign as a way to recognize and thank those residents, both owners and renters, who help make El Dorado a nice place to live through payment of their annual association maintenance fees and by keeping a well maintained home and property.

The guidelines for participation in the event are pretty simple: just pay your annual association maintenance fees and keep up your property's curb appeal by having nice landscaping and high maintenance standards.

The campaign is divided into two phases, where 30 exemplary homes are chosen in May and 30 more are chosen in August. Since many residents don't pay their annual maintenance fees until summer, when the pool opens, May's winners are limited to those residents who paid their maintenance fees in 2012 and August's winners are limited to those who pay their fees for 2013.

To determine which homes are awarded Exemplary Home status, the six neighborhood association area reps will

nominate 8 to 10 homes in each of their respective areas. Then an independent panel of judges, who do not live in El Dorado and who do not know last year's winners, will score the nominees. The scores will then be averaged and the 5 homes with the highest scores in each area will be given the title of Exemplary Home.

The winners receive a temporary yard sign announcing their status as an Exemplary Home and also an invitation to the Exemplary Homes Party in September at the neighborhood clubhouse. At the party, food and beverages will be served and all winners will have a shot at winning fabulous door prizes generously donated by the event's sponsors. Since 2007, we've given away nearly \$11,000.00 in door prizes.

Judging will take place the first week in May and again the first week in August. All residents are encouraged to clean up and increase the curb appeal of their property. Judges will be looking at the overall appearance of the homes and property. In many cases, it's the minor details which determine the winners. Homes with deed, covenant, or code violations are automatically ineligible from participating.

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THINK EDHA COULD DO MORE?

YOU'RE RIGHT!

PAY YOUR DUES!
GET INVOLVED!

Condolences

*To Dona Schermerhorn and her family
on the recent passing of her husband,
Charles, on February 26, 2013.
The Schermerhorns are long-time
El Dorado residents and
EDHA supporters.*



Thousand Oaks Branch Library

April 2013

**4618 Thousand Oaks Dr.
207-9190**

Hours of Operation

Mon. & Wed. 12-8p

Tue., Thurs.-Sun. 10a-6p

March 4th – April 30th

Making Herstory: UTSA Photo Exhibit

In celebration of Women's History Month 2013,
the San Antonio Public Library
is pleased to host a series of photography exhibitions
coordinated by the Photography program at
University of Texas at San Antonio.

April 1st (Monday)

6:30p Monday Evening Book Club

Discussion of the book *The Observations* by Jane Harris

April 18th (Thursday)

2:00p Thursday Book Club

Discussion of the book
The Marriage Plot by Jeffrey Eugenides

April 20th (Saturday)

10:30a Friends of the Library meeting

Wednesdays (April 3rd, 10th & 17th)

5:00p Teen Time

Games, books, crafts, movies and snacks...ages 13 and up.

Thursdays (April 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th)

Story time

10:00a Toddlers actively participate in stories, music and
movement enhancing their social,
emotional and language development.

Recommended for children 18 to 36 months.

11:00a Preschoolers enjoy stories and songs that develop early
literacy skills and foster curiosity.

Recommended for three to five year olds.

TAX SEASON

VITA Program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) offers free
tax help to low- to moderate-income people who cannot
prepare their own tax returns. Certified volunteers will be here
to help prepare basic tax returns.

February 4th – April 15th

Mon 12-5, Tue 10-5, Fri 10-4, Sat 10-4, and Sun 10-4

**Call library for details for any of the above mentioned
programs and/or events.**

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13110 Lookout Way
San Antonio, TX 78233

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

Changes to City's Drought Ordinance

Changes to the city's drought ordinance are now in effect for SAWS customers after San Antonio City Council approved revisions on February 7.

"We listened to feedback from the community about the drought regulations and worked with stakeholders to propose changes to the drought ordinance that will allow us to save water while minimizing some of the inconveniences," said Karen Guz, SAWS Director of Conservation. "By adjusting the hours for watering and allowing residential fountains and home car washing, we can still achieve the water cutbacks that we need."

During the morning and evening watering windows, people with irrigation systems can now easily see broken sprinkler heads and leaks, which waste water and increase bills. The changes to the ordinance are a win-win for all involved.

Drought ordinance changes are now in effect and include the following:

- Watering hours are now **7 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 11 p.m.** on your watering day during drought Stages 2 through 4. The hours for Year-Round and Stage 1 remain the same.
- Drought stages will be triggered based on a 10-day rolling average. Coming out of drought stages can be considered 15 days after the aquifer is above the trigger.
- Home car washing is available during drought stages on Saturday or Sunday as long as there is no water waste or run off.
- Residential fountains can operate at any stage of drought.
- Small commercial fountains (under 1,000 sq. ft.) are permitted with a basic variance in all drought stages.
- Large commercial fountains (over 1,000 sq. ft.) can operate during limited hours after demonstrating efficiencies through a conservation plan and inspection.
- Hand watering is still allowed any day and time during all drought stages.

Those with irrigation systems will need to adjust controllers for the new watering times in drought Stages 2 through 4. **More information on changes to San Antonio's drought ordinance are available at www.saws.org.**



District 10 Councilman Carlton Soules

City Hall Office

P.O. Box 839966
San Antonio, TX 78283
210-207-7276

Constituent Office

1635 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 604
San Antonio, TX 78209
210-207-0999

Councilman Carlton Soules

Carlton.Soules@sanantonio.gov

Amanda Garcia-Aguinaga

Sr. Executive Secretary

Amanda.Garcia-Aguinaga@sanantonio.gov

Mario Hune

Chief of Staff

Mario.Hune@sanantonio.gov

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Ricardo.Jimenez@sanantonio.gov

Allison Cohen

Chief Advisor of Constituent Services

Allison.Cohen@sanantonio.gov

Elizabeth Resendis

Administrative Assistant

Elizabeth.Resendis@sanantonio.gov

Municipal Election Dates

The Municipal Election to be held on Saturday, May 11, 2013. Early Voting will begin on April 29th through May 7th. The date for the Run-off Election will be held on Saturday, June 15, 2013, if necessary.

For more information about the election, please visit the Bexar County Election Department at:

<http://elections.bexar.org/>

SPRING IS IN THE AIR

By Jack Eli, Little Leaf Grounds Services

Spring is the busiest time for the avid gardener so let's get to it! There are lots of projects that need to be done to prepare your landscape for the coming growing season from your lawn to shrubs and trees to your vegetable garden and flower gardens. The weather is a major factor to consider. The national weather service is calling for a dry spring and summer and San Antonio Water system is already discussing stage three water restrictions by May, so keep this in mind when planning.

To help your lawn survive drought conditions there are several things that you can do. One is to aerate, aeration is the mechanical cultivation of the soil. Core type aerators are available at several equipment rental companies close to us. To reduce the cost of the rental, you could team up with your neighbors to aerate several lawns at the same time. Aeration is physically demanding so you could also hire a lawn care company to perform this project.

In conjunction with aeration, top dressing with a quality top dressing mix will improve water retention, this is not top soil. Top soil usually contains clay, our soils already contain more than enough clay. A top dressing mix consist of washed sand and compost, several local landscape supply companies carry quality top dressing mixes.

It is almost time to fertilize but not yet. Fertilization should take place after your lawn has broken dormancy. Use a fertilizer with a 3-

1-2 ratio such a 19-5-9, 9-3-6, or 15-5-10. It should also be a 50% slow release fertilizer; this ensures that nutrients are available for several months after application.

Mowing height is also important. Most of our lawns are St. Augustine turf. The optimal height for St. Augustine is 3 inches. Your first mowing can be lower but as spring advances and temperatures rise you will want to raise the cutting height to 3 inches. You can mow higher than 3 inches but, this will reduce the density of the leaf canopy increasing the chance for weeds to become established. Bermuda turf is more problematic due to the wide variety of cultivars available. Rule of thumb, mowing at a height above 2 1/5 inches is not recommended for any Bermuda turf. You can usually mow much lower depending on the frequency.

I am going to combine trees, shrubs, and vegetable gardens. For small scale trees, shrub beds and vegetable gardens, mulch between 2 to 3 inches deep will reduce evaporation, moderate soil temperatures, and reduce weed infestations.

Major pruning for spring flowering plants such as Indian Hawthorne, Mt. Laurel, Italian Jessamine, and any others you may have is done after flowering is complete.

And finally, water deeply to promote deeper roots. Frequent light water promotes shallow roots reducing the ability of plants to withstand drought conditions.

April

2nd Monday
3rd Monday
21st

Neighborhood Meeting
COP Meeting
Sunday Sundaes

May

1st Week
2nd Monday
3rd Monday
3rd Monday
4th Saturday

Exemplary Homes Judging
Neighborhood Meeting
COP Meeting
Northeast Neighborhood Alliance Meeting
Pool Opens Memorial Day Weekend

June

2nd Monday
3rd Monday

Neighborhood Meeting
COP Meeting

IT'S NEVER TOO
EARLY
TO SEND IN YOUR
MAINTENANCE
FEES!
INFORMATION
ON
BACK COVER.

Israel's Income Tax and Bookkeeping Services

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ISRAEL V. GARCIA, Enrolled Agent
(Enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service)

I am a retired Internal Revenue Agent
(Field Auditor/International Examiner)

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San Antonio, Texas 78233 Fax 210-590-0383

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Monday - Saturday
10 am - 9 pm

12014 Perrin Beitel
San Antonio, TX 78217

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Phone: 210-599-1395

City of San Antonio Solid Waste Management

Mondays—Recycling
Thursdays—Garbage

At all other times,
garbage and recycling
carts should be stowed
out of sight.



Property Owner Sidewalk Maintenance Responsibility

Many Citizens assume that the City has the obligation to maintain all community sidewalks to keep them free from hazard and obstruction! However, City Ordinances require sidewalks to be maintained by property owners as an extension of their front yards.

This includes:

- ◆ Minimum sidewalk clear-width of 36" free "from any defects or hazards" or obstructions such as mailboxes, basketball hoops, parked cars, trash cans, shrubbery or fences. **(Code of Ordinances, City of San Antonio, Chapter 29, Article 1, Sec. 29-11)**
- ◆ Minimum clear-height of 80", "keep all trees and shrubs on the premises well trimmed so they will not overhang the sidewalks or streets in such a manner as to interfere with free passage." **(Code of Ordinances, City of San Antonio, Chapter 29, Article 1, Sec. 29-10)**
- ◆ Maintain a smooth sidewalk rolling surface free "from any defects or hazards" such as large cracks, broken or uplifted sidewalk segments. **(Code of Ordinances, City of San Antonio, Chapter 29, Article 1, Sec. 29-11)**
- ◆ Citation and Fine of up to \$500.00 **(Ordinance #96242)**

2013 EL DORADO HOMES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

*Your information below will **not** be shared outside EDHA, but is important to credit your membership, and keep our directory accurate. It will also help us if we need to contact you with important EDHA news and events.*

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Spouse: _____ Telephone: _____

Street Address: _____

Email Address: _____

For POOL MEMBERSHIP, please provide OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS AT THIS ADDRESS, and children's ages:

- ☐ **General Maintenance Fee \$87.50 due in full by May 1st. After May 1st, the fee is \$97.50.**
- ☐ **Full Pool Membership/Maintenance \$165 due in full by May 1st. After May 1st, \$180.00.**

(Either payment may be split into 2 payments, but must be paid in full prior to use of facilities.)

Please Return with payment to:
El Dorado Homes Association
12606 Prima Vista
San Antonio, TX 78233

