

El Dorado Today

Published by El Dorado Inc., 201 E. Central, El Dorado, KS 316-321-1485



Performing Arts Center the crown jewel of new facilities

In May of 2016, El Dorado voters approved a \$36 million bond issue to build two new grade schools and a performing arts center. The grade schools will replace 1950-era buildings with 21st century learning environments.

When these projects are complete in 2018, El Dorado citizens will have invested in totally new educational facilities in USD 490, beginning in 2004.

El Dorado Unified School District 490 will be turning lemons into lemonade thanks to the latest successful bond issue. After the historic middle school building was vacated when students moved into a new middle school in 2012, the building was left without a purpose. Due to the passing of the bond issue, the building will be given new life as it is converted into the District Performing Arts Center. It will house a renovated Art Deco auditorium, a pocket theater and rehearsal space, outdoor amphitheater and high school alternative program. It will serve the entire school district and the community, and is a unique asset to El Dorado.

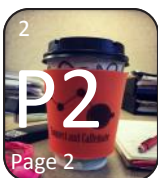
The new grade school buildings will preserve the neighborhood school concept and result in fewer building transitions for students.

Grandview School will accommodate 320 students with two classrooms per grade, Pre-K through 5th grade. It will be located in northeast El Dorado.

The new Jefferson/Lincoln School will combine two existing schools, accommodate 480 students with three classrooms per grade, Pre-K through 5th. It will be located mid-town between Sixth and Third Streets.



Conceptual rendering of new grade schools



CONNECT AND CAFFEINATE

Speakers share experiences, teach, inspire



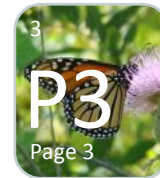
HOUSING PRIORITY #1

City and El Dorado Inc. focus on meeting demands



FIVE THINGS WE LOVE ABOUT EI DORADO

Five facts you might not know!



TRAILS ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE

Hiking, equestrian, biking

CONNECT AND CAFFEINATE SPEAKERS TEACH, INSPIRE

What better opportunity is there to learn how to be successful at running a business than to learn from someone who has done it? That opportunity is presented monthly at Connect and Caffeinate, an event sponsored by El Dorado Inc., which is open to anyone.

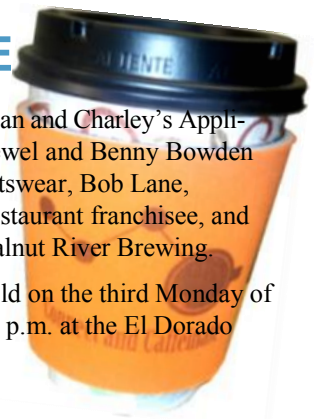
Each month a local business person speaks informally about his/her business

experience—how they started, mistakes they made, things that made them successful. A good question and answer exchange follows and coffee flows freely.

Past speakers have been Andy Waller of SPS Paving and Brewski Barn/Angler's Bait and Tackle, Harold Harmon on Walters' Flowers, Samuel McVay of

Good To Be Clean and Charley's Appliance, Toby Kriewel and Benny Bowden of Matano Sportswear, Bob Lane, McDonald's Restaurant franchisee, and B.J. Hunt of Walnut River Brewing.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 4 p.m. at the El Dorado Civic Center.



BETA OFFERS CORPORATE TRAINING PROGRAMS

www.butlercc.edu/beta

Many businesses in the El Dorado area have benefited from training programs available through BETA, Business Education and Training Analysis, at Butler Community College. Formerly the Business Performance Group, BETA has delivered training for area businesses and their employees for more than 25 years.

BETA offers a variety of training resources for individuals and organizations, including-

- Online Courses in hundreds of topics in partnership with leading providers of online training Ed2Go and GDA Sales Training.
- Computer training for large and small groups
- Customized Group Training in a wide variety of subject matter areas. BETA will help assess needs and recommend a solution based on specific objectives.

For more information call 316-218-6118 or visit www.butlercc.edu/beta.



Housing: Priority #1

CITY AND EL DORADO INC. FOCUS ON MEETING DEMANDS OF TARGET MARKET

A 2012 focus group study conducted by Wichita State University's Center for Economic Development and Business Research revealed that new families moving to El Dorado were in search of three-bedroom, two-bath mid-priced homes, and the availability of such homes would determine whether or not they lived in El Dorado.

At the 2015 Visioning El Dorado Summit, community members echoed this fact, as well as the need for providing similar rental options.

City officials and business volunteers launched an in-depth study of El Dorado's housing, and have instituted a number of programs aimed at optimizing housing offerings.

- **Neighborhood Revitalization Program.** The city offers property tax rebates for certain

improvements or renovation of property within the designated areas. Also new residential construction is eligible for 5 or ten year tax rebates, depending on location.

- **Moderate Income Housing Grant.** The City received this grant in 2016 through the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. It is being used to build new 3BR, 2BA townhomes, infilling two lots previously occupied by dilapidated houses. The City plans to reapply for the 2017 MIH Grant.

Five
spec homes
built in 2015

The application, submitted in August, could provide \$300,000 for improvements to existing residential property.

For more information on all of these programs, visit the official City of El Dorado website at <http://www.eldoks.com/269/Housing>.

- **Hope VI Housing Grant.** Through the Main Street program, these grants assist smaller communities in developing affordable housing by converting obsolete commercial space into housing.

- **CDBG Grant Process.** In 2016 City staff completed the Housing Assessment Tool, and were given the go-ahead to apply for a Community Development Block Grant through the Kansas Department of Commerce.



Five things we love about El Dorado:

5 FACTS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW

The City of El Dorado has joined with the El Dorado YMCA to offer youth soccer for players 4 to 14 years of age. Games will take place on the new soccer fields at the El Dorado Middle School, provided by the YMCA! Full youth and adult fitness programming is available through the City Rec and El Dorado YMCA.

El Dorado Inc. is here to be your partner! Are you thinking of expanding or moving your business? Call Linda at 321-1485 EARLY in the process to identify resources and other tools to help you. This service—expert advice from an experienced practitioner—is free!

The City Engineering Department, headed by Scott Rickard, prides itself on user-friendliness. Proof positive is the WEALTH of information they have posted on their webpage. Find a long list of codes, forms, permits and applications. Also a zoning map, licensed contractor list, NRP criteria and more. <http://www.eldoks.com/162/Engineering>

Read all about it! People make El Dorado great, and you can get to know our people by reading the Snap! El Dorado blog, found at 360ElDorado.com/blog. Meet many unique El Doradoans and the positive ways they impact our community.

Location, location, location! El Dorado is just 25 minutes northeast of Wichita on 4-lane Highways 254 and I-35. Just far enough away to have a strong sense of community, but close enough to zip over to the big city when the need arises.



Hiking, biking, equestrian trails enhance quality of life

EL DORADO IS IN THE UNIQUE POSITION TO OFFER A QUALITY OF LIFE NOT FOUND IN EVERY SMALL CITY.

It's the best of both worlds—the city in your front yard and the country in your backyard. It's a pretty good description of El Dorado. The city (Wichita) is a quick 25 minute drive away, and the country is literally in your back yard.

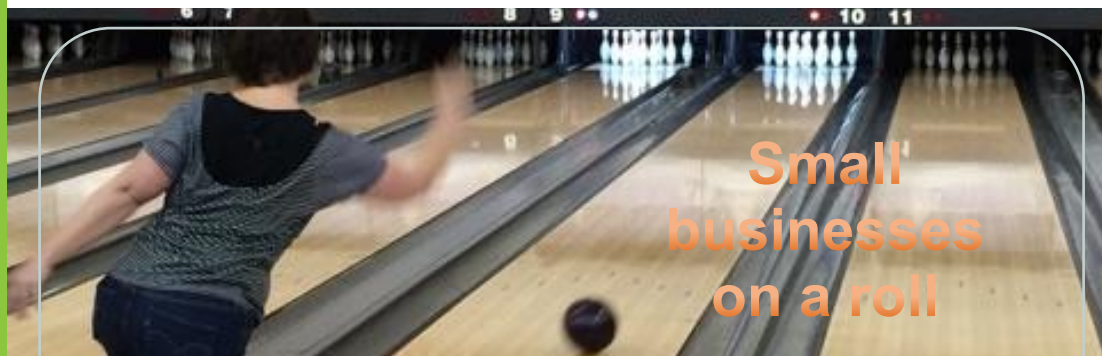
One of the easiest ways to experience the country is through the hiking trails in and around the city.

There are many opportunities for hiking in El Dorado State Park. The park is currently home to six hiking trails, one bike trail, and one equestrian trail. Each trail

offers its own scenic views, and the trails provide varying levels of difficulty, offering something for casual hikers and bikers to those seeking a more challenging experience.

The City's Bike Path also offers a 6.3 mile concrete path that begins at East Park in downtown El Dorado and ends in the Walnut River camping area just below the El Dorado Lake dam.

Most of the trails are open year round, to showcase what each of the different seasons has to offer. For more information visit www.360eldorado.com/CampingAndRecreation/



Small businesses on a roll

Since early 2015, El Dorado has seen a number of small businesses bloom and grow, enriching the business community and expanding consumer choices.

Days Inn— New 42-room lodging facility opened in the El Dorado Office Park in October 2015.

Grizzly Bowl— A total renovation of the existing bowling alley on Haverhill Road gave citizens a beautiful place to recreate and dine.

Sunny Stop— New, modern convenience store replaced an aging building downtown.

Patten Automotive— Surrounding land on Sixth Street in El Dorado was improved to house three businesses, Flint-hills Collision Repair, @Ease Massage and Becky Shum Insurance.

Turner's Donuts— The new morning hot spot, serving fresh donuts and more at Third and Main.

Charley's Appliance— A new tenant in the heart of El Dorado's downtown district, offering a full line of appliances, mattresses and more.

Casey's— A brand new full service convenience store in front of Walmart.

Quick Trip— New location, new structure offers full service at Central and Haverhill Road.

McDonald's— El Dorado welcomed a totally new, expanded restaurant to much fanfare.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING FROM ONE END OF TOWN TO THE OTHER

EVERYONE WINS WITH SUSAN B. ALLEN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL'S NEWEST SERVICE

Improved wellness, cost management, performance

Staff and management at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital in El Dorado have now combined current programs of occupational medicine, sports medicine and training, and concussion management with new technology to launch Susan B. Allen Motion Health Services.

The new service includes the acquisition of breakthrough medical technology by Scientific Analytics named DARI, the world's most advanced technology in motion health. It quickly and accurately captures musculoskeletal movements to identify possible threats to bone and joint health, and identifies areas of weakness where conditioning can be targeted to improve wellness and performance.

"SBA Motion Health offers businesses the opportunity to deliver corporate wellness programs, manage employee health costs and help employees move and feel better," said Brad Jones, SBA Motion Health Coordinator.

Lonnie Currier, agent with ICI, an independent insurance agency in El Dorado, feels the program can be a big boon to businesses and employees by helping to avoid the risk of potential injuries. Although safety and pre-screening programs are currently offered by insurance companies with positive impact on workers' compensation incidents, Currier sees the Motion Health Services program as the next step in accurately pinpointing problems before they happen, which can result in a substantial impact to insurance costs.

"Even a \$10,000 workers' comp claim can cause an increase of up to \$15,500 in insurance premium over a 3-year period due to an increase in experience mod. But a business can also get credit for better-than-expected losses, up to 40%, potentially saving thousands in insurance cost," said Currier. "And this isn't just for big businesses— it can help all sizes of business."

For more information visit www.sbamh.com/services_departments/motion_health.



MOTION HEALTH

- ▶ Promote Corporate Wellness and Health
- ▶ Achieve Maximum Athletic Performance
- ▶ Aid Physical and Occupational Therapies

28.0'

Reduce injury and prevent issues in musculoskeletal health. DARI captures joint angles in 3D to monitor health, providing actionable data for accurate diagnosis to professional training programs.

Susan B. Allen MEMORIAL HOSPITAL — DARI

Are you thinking of expanding or moving your business?

If you have plans to make capital investment and add employees, your business could be eligible for tax incentives, but you must apply early! Some incentives include:

- State income tax credits that can be carried forward for up to 16 years
- Sales tax exemptions on purchases and equipment
- If you plan to hire more than 5 employees you may be eligible to retain some of their state withholding tax for up to 5 years

The key: DETERMINE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR INCENTIVE BEFORE YOU MAKE A COMMITMENT TO YOUR PROJECT! Otherwise your opportunity may be lost! Contact Linda Jolly at El Dorado Inc. at lkjolly@eldorado-inc.com or 316-321-1485 for details.

 360ElDorado.com™
el dorado's visual directory

eldoks.com

