



# THIS IS EL DORADO

## What's Happening in El Dorado

- April 1 - El Dorado Half Marathon and 5K
- April 1 - El Dorado Charities Auxiliary 42nd Annual Gala
- April 2 - Kansas Oil Museum Sunday Speaker Series
- April 3 & 17 - City Commission Meetings
- April 3 - El Dorado Senior Center Community Potluck
- April 5 - Chamber Chat
- April 6 - Thankful Thursday
- April 6 - Remembering the Great War Exhibit and Program - Kansas Oil Museum
- April 13-15 - Kansas One Shot Turkey Hunt
- April 18 - Coutts Brown Bag Program
- April 18 - Kansas Oil Museum History Happy Hour
- April 18 - Library Book Club
- April 22 - Kansas Oil Museum Rockfest
- April 22-23 - Grow and Bloom Lawn and Garden Show
- April 26-29 - Friends of the Library Book and Bake Sale
- April 28 - Coutts Caterpillars Preschool Program

## Officers recognized for actions in two incidents in El Dorado

Three El Dorado Police Officers and one Sheriff Deputy received recognition during a February City Commission meeting for their work in two incidents in El Dorado.



(l-r) Sgt. John Thompson, Sgt. Patrick Mc Murphy and Lt. John Stewart

The first incident was on Nov. 19. Officers had responded to a shooting on West Central Avenue, during which Sgt. John Thompson observed a vehicle on Central traveling 65 miles per hour in a 35 mile-per-hour zone. Sgt. Thompson initiated a traffic stop and called for assistance. The officers at the shooting responded to assist. The driver of the vehicle exited his vehicle and produced an AR-15 rifle and began confronting Sgt. Thompson. Sgt. Thompson and Sgt. Patrick Mc Murphy of the Butler County Sheriff's Office and other officers contained the suspect. Lt. John Stewart joined the efforts to assist taking the suspect into custody. When a taser had no effect on the suspect, who was wearing a bulletproof vest, the suspect confronted Lt. Stewart with the weapon. As the suspect turned away, Lt. Stewart tackled him from behind and they were able to take him into custody. The suspect was armed with a rifle, handgun, taser and pepper spray.

"While confronted with a very intense life and death situation, Sgt. Thompson, Sgt. Mc Murphy and Lt. Stewart displayed extreme restraint and were able to take the suspect into custody without



(l-r) Officer Ethan Herrick, Sgt. John Thompson and Chief Mike Holton

further incident," said Police Chief Mike Holton. "Due to their quick actions and teamwork, the officers' actions likely saved the lives of each other, innocent by-standers and the suspect himself." Sgt. Thompson and Sgt.

Mc Murphy were presented with a Certificate of Commendation and Lt. Stewart was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

The second incident occurred on Jan. 4 when the El Dorado Police and Fire departments responded to a structure fire on West Fourth Avenue. Sgt. John Thompson and Officer Ethan Herrick were the first officers on the scene. Officer Herrick took the initiative to start evacuating the homes closest to the structure fire that were in danger of catching fire as well. He then began assisting the Fire Department by dragging hoses and securing the immediate area. At the same time, Sgt. Thompson was keeping neighbors and onlookers from getting too close, during which time he observed several small children who appeared to be scared and very emotional. Sgt. Thompson took the time to reassure them they were safe. A citizen near the scene contacted the department to express their gratitude for the professionalism both officers displayed. They were presented with Certificates of Commendation.

"I want to thank you for the departments that you've both built and continue to build," Mayor Bill Young told Police Chief Mike Holton and Butler County Sheriff Monty Hughey. "The collaboration and cooperation between the departments speaks very highly of the family of public service officers that we have in our community. I really appreciate both of you and the work you do."

# What your city staff does for you...

## Building Department



Within the City’s Engineering Department is the Building Department. This is the department you will need to contact as you start to think about new fences, decks and other projects this spring.

Permits are required to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, as well as for work on electrical, gas or plumbing systems. Homeowners should contact the Engineering Department for a permit before any work begins on a project. There are some projects that are exempt from a permit and to see if yours is on this list, contact the building official at 321-9100. Permits are necessary because it is how the City makes sure minimum requirements are met to safeguard public safety, health and general welfare.

Permit applications may be obtained at the Building Department or online at <http://eldoks.com/165/Applications-Forms>. Call the Engineering Department at 321-9100 for any questions.

In addition to issuing permits, the Building Department also enforces the City’s codes and inspects construction projects, including private water and sewer services, as well as plumbing, mechanical and electrical work to ensure code compliance and maintains complete records on permit activity.

## Police Department News



The El Dorado Police Department is partnering with several local agencies to help provide services to residents and create awareness about the help that is available to those in the community. This month we are spotlighting The SafeHouse-Family Life Center of Butler County:

The SafeHouse offers safe and confidential shelter for victims of domestic or sexual violence and their children. They offer advocacy for clients, court, police response, and sexual assault. Various support groups and community education are offered, including support groups for adults and youth, financial management and more. Their 24-hour hotline is: 316-321-7104 or 1-800-870-6967.

Learn more about our partnerships at [www.eldoks.com/community-partners-resources](http://www.eldoks.com/community-partners-resources)



## Experience El Dorado receives grant for mural project

El Dorado residents and visitors have enjoyed the beauty and community spirit two recent murals have brought to the downtown area, and now, the City of El Dorado has the opportunity to add a third mural through a \$10,000 grant Experience El Dorado and the City of El Dorado received from the Kansas Creative Arts Commission for a mural and art project that has been named EIDo Plaza.

“This is a great opportunity for El Dorado,” said Javan Gonzalez, Destination Services Coordinator for Experience El Dorado. “We have received tremendous feedback from people who love the addition of the murals in El Dorado, so we are excited to add this new mural and art display in downtown El Dorado.”

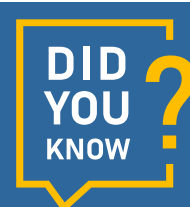
EIDo Plaza is located at 110 W. First Ave., which was formerly a commercial building that was demolished for safety reasons. Now the goal is to beautify that area and attract more visitors and foot traffic to the area.

“The plaza will include a sculpture and a mural by a Kansas artist,” Gonzalez said.

The goal is for this to be a community-based project.

A virtual town hall was held in February to gather community ideas and suggestions for the mural and Experience El Dorado will compile the information and present it to the interested artists for a concept of what the mural will be.

“The beatification of El Dorado is an important aspect of bringing more visitors to our downtown area and increasing the amount of time people spend in our downtown,” Gonzalez said. “This is one way to increase the vibrancy and walk-ability of Downtown El Dorado, along with creating a higher quality of life for residents and a better guest experience for our visitors.”



The City has a new design for its Commission and Board meetings on the website, allowing you to watch meetings, find agendas and get minutes all on one page.