



Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

July 2022

The Black Bear Bar and Grill

The former Black Dog on Main Street is open again with a new name and new owners. The Black Bear Bar and Grill, has been purchased by Joel Hernandez-Vasquez, who will operate the business with his brother, Salvador Vasquez. They are now open Monday –Saturday from 4:00 – 10:00 pm.

Joel also owns the nearby Lazy Bear Restaurant and admits “I think I might be crazy” to operate both businesses, but then he adds “I like to be busy, and I love what I do.” He plans to have a family-friendly restaurant that also has a popular bar. It will be open for restaurant hours, closing at 10:00 pm. He intends to add musical performers, featuring acoustic guitar players and vocalists who will perform country music.

Joel invites all the Black Dog patrons back to their old haunt and hopes people will stop in for a beer with their friends and maybe a chat with Christine and Shannon, the new bartenders, while watching the game or enjoying music. While currently closed on Sundays, Joel and Salvador are looking for Sunday staff so they can start NFL Sundays and maybe add other Sunday sports events.

Items on the Black Bear Bar and Grill’s menu include burgers, fish and chips, gyros and wings. They also offer a great kids’ menu. Joel and Salvador promise that nobody will be disappointed.



Community Market begins July 14

The Recreation Department is set to open the Community Market on Thursday, July 14. The market will take place in Burning Mountain Park every Thursday through the summer, from 4:30 to 7:00 pm.

The market will feature many returning vendors along with some new faces, such as Cassie Wells, who will offer free face painting. Other vendors will offer produce, crafts, bakery items, supper choices and much more. After shopping, visitors are invited to stay in the park to enjoy a different musical performance each week. The music lineup for July is Valle Musico on July 14, Stone Kitchen on July 21 and Oran Mor on July 28. Also on July 28 will be a beer and wine sampling hosted by Spirits of Downtown New Castle. New Castle City Market will be providing cheese platters for this event.

Dog Park Approved for VIX Ranch Park

On June 21 the town council gave the go-ahead for a dog park in the southern section of VIX Ranch Park. The fenced area will allow dogs to run off leash, which is especially important since the council has also asked the police department to be diligent in enforcing leash laws.

A diverse group of residents worked with the town staff to develop plans for the park which include trees, benches, water and a shade structure. Details are available on Facebook: *New Castle Dog Park*. Since the park had not been included in the 2022 budget, a committee is working to raise funds to offset the costs. To donate, look for the GoFundMe site *New Castle Dog Park Fundraiser*.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

It's Time for the Dash (and the Mud)



Photo Courtesy: Post Independent

Everyone who has seen or participated in the Dirty Hog Dash has been anxiously waiting for July. The Dash will be run on Saturday, July 16, in VIX Ranch Park from 9:00 am to noon. The course features a variety of hurdles and hazards for runners, including a balance beam, a climbing wall, a slip'n'slide and, of course, the mud pit. Spectators are encouraged.

The Dash is open to all kids, 4-14. Waves of runners will be sent out every thirty minutes, beginning at 9:30. Preregistration cost is \$25 (www.newcastleec.com) and \$35 on event day. All proceeds benefit New Castle Recreation programs.

River Center Kicks Off Capital Campaign

This spring the River Center was able to purchase the building on North 4th Street, that they have occupied for the past twelve years. They have embarked on a capital campaign for building improvements as well as for paying down the mortgage. They aim to provide more space for outreach teams, double the space for Lift-Up's food pantry, add an office for the Assistant Director, increase storage capacity, replace the boiler and make other improvements. An eventual (and expensive) improvement will be an elevator to make the lower level more accessible.

Cost Breakdowns:



Mortgage
\$355,000



Boiler
\$20,000



Building materials
& labor: \$25,000



Tables/Chairs
& Furniture: \$8,000



Elevator
\$90,000

The campaign goal is to raise \$498,000. There are sponsor opportunities for major donors at the \$2000, \$5000 and \$10,000 levels. All donors will be recognized on the River Center web site and Facebook page, and included on a permanent donor list in the building. Heather Paulson invites everyone to contact her to discuss donations at 970-984-4333 or 970-238-7850. For more information on the River Center and their campaign, visit their website at www.rivercenternewcastle.org.

Sticker Contest Winners Announced

The town conducted a sticker contest this spring, and on June 10 the winners were announced. There were over 70 entries with winners in three age categories. Town staff thanks all participants and will distribute stickers during events in 2022 such as the Burning Mountain Festival and the Community Markets. First place winners in each category are:



8 – 12-year-olds: Sienna



13 – 15-year-olds, Jay



19+, Kelsey

Did You Know That.....

- The Town Council has declared July to be Parks and Recreation Month. Visit newcastlerec.com for information about special events.
- Water Operator Kim Rider reminds everyone to be very careful when hiking at East Elk Creek. The town's water supply comes from East Elk, so keeping contaminants away from the creek helps preserve the high quality of our water.
- The CEC is proud to report the successful startup of composting services from EverGreen ZeroWaste.
- The Sheriff's office warns that everyone should keep their vehicles locked to prevent theft.

New Castle Trails presents Rides and Reggae

Rides and Reggae will hit VIX Ranch Park on August 5 and 6. New this year will be bluegrass, provided by Chain Station on Friday evening, with opener Just a Feeling starting at 5 pm. Just a Feeling will return at 11:30 am on Saturday, followed by Shwayze at 1:00 pm, Jon Wayne and the Pain at 2:30, Kash'd Out at 4:00, Tomorrow's Bad Seeds at 5:30, The Hip Abduction at 7:00, and headliner Ballyhoo! at 8:30.

The festival will include both bike and running races along with plenty of food and drink. At 7:00 am the trail running race starts from VIX Ranch Park. Then at 9:00 am the Dirty Dozen MTB Race will cover 20 miles with 3800 feet of climbing, also starting at VIX Ranch Park. Registration for the races and event tickets are available at <https://newcastletrails.com>. All profits will go toward maintaining New Castle's extensive system of trails and building new hiking and biking trails.

New Castle Garden Club Notes Their 15th Anniversary

The New Castle Garden Club was started in 2007 with four garden lovers, under the leadership of Mary Johnson. The club now boasts 32 members. Their mission is to work together gaining knowledge and then applying that knowledge, to projects that enhance the community and the planet. Making new friends with a common interest, sharing gardening ideas, touring local gardens and joining the Burning Mountain Parade are just a few of the group's activities.

The club has had many field trips: Lavender Days in Palisade, orchid viewing in Redstone, Silt's organic co-op garden, botanical gardens in Grand Junction and Steamboat Springs and the Betty Ford Rose gardens in Vail. Speakers teach topics such as how to grow garlic, how to protect against fires, how to grow flowers that attract butterflies and bees, how to grow in clay soil in drought conditions and how to build xeriscape gardens.

When asked to select a town flower, the club started looking for a flower that was colorful and easy to grow. After several votes, the club came to the Town Council to propose the Cosmos as the official town flower. The Council enthusiastically concurred. The Cosmos is now our town flower. Packets of seeds are given to newcomers.

Club projects have included planting bulbs and shrubs at a local elementary school, deadheading the flower baskets on Main Street, hauling water to Liberty Park, building raised beds for a local public garden, planting beds throughout Castle Valley Ranch and raising food for LiftUp at the River Center gardens. Trading seeds and sharing cuttings/transplants is another benefit of this club.

To join the New Castle Garden Club, please contact Mary Gervais at m2gervais@yahoo.com.

Mary Johnson deadheading flower baskets on Main Street



New Castle Chamber of Commerce “Growing Businesses, Building Community”

From the Chamber

Our business of the month for July is New Castle Physical Therapy. Owners Nick and Sarah Peterson met at physical therapy school in Tennessee. Sarah was always involved in athletics and wanted to pursue a career where she could help others and remain active herself. Nick was on a premed track when, after shadowing doctors, he realized that was not his best career choice. His mother, a physical therapist herself, suggested Nick follow in her footsteps.

The Petersons wanted to live in the mountains, so they began visiting small towns in Colorado. New Castle was their best choice, because of the many opportunities for mountain biking, hiking and camping.

Their practice allows them to get to know their clients, since they are able to take the time needed to see them achieve their mobility goals. “Sarah is great,” says Michelle Johnson. “I took my daughter in with hip issues. Sarah was able to determine that she needed to strengthen the muscles surrounding her hip joint. She gave her some exercises that she loved and could do at home. After four visits, my daughter is feeling stronger with less clicking, popping and pain in her hip.”

A lot of their practice attracts athletes and adults, but they can help a full spectrum of clients. “We genuinely care about our clients,” says Sarah when describing their outlook. New Castle Physical Therapy is located at 6560 County Road 335, Unit B. They offer appointments Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:30am-6:30pm. They can be reached at 970-510-0859.

Council Highlights

Proclamation Recognizing July as Parks and Recreation Month.

Resolution TC 2022-13 – Denying a Final PUD Development Plan and Phase 1 Final Subdivision Plat for Filing 11, CVR.

Resolution TC 2022-14 – Approving a Tavern Liquor License for Colorado Drifters, LLC.

Resolution TC 2022-17 – Approving an IGA with Garfield County for Mosquito Control.

Resolution TC 2022-18 – Approving a Subdivision Improvements Agreement for Lakota Canyon Ranch Filing 6B1.

Resolution TC 2022-19 – Declining Participation in the FAML I Program.

Ordinance TC 2022-6 – Amending the Code Regarding Contempt of Court and Failure to Appear.

Ordinance TC 2022-7 – Amending the Code Concerning the Imposition of Municipal Court Costs.

Ordinance Tc 2022-8 – Amending the Code Regarding a Voter-Approved Lodging Tax Increase.

Approved a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal for EAT Bistro & Drinks.

New Castle Recreation

The Town Council has declared July to be Parks and Recreation Month, joining the national celebration that began in 1985, recognizing the importance of local parks and recreation programs in building strong communities, and honoring full and part-time park and recreation professionals.

New Castle Recreation is celebrating Parks and Recreation Month by inviting the community to share their experiences, memories and stories on social media with the hashtag #RiseUpJuly. With the many town events, team sports, arts and craft lessons and nine developed parks, there are plenty of things to celebrate. Visit newcastlerec.com for information about special events in July.

Town Hall will be closed on July 4th. Please join The New Castle Recreation Department at Elk Creek Elementary for their first annual 4th of July non-motorized parade at 11:00 am.