



Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

August 2022

Rides and Reggae Returns August 5 & 6

Rides and Reggae is a celebration of mountain biking, trail running, music and community. It is also the major fundraiser for New Castle Trails. The weekend will include live music from local and national reggae bands with the addition this year of a little bluegrass. It all takes place in VIX Ranch Park. Advanced tickets are \$30.00 and can be purchased at <https://newcastletrails.com>.

Bluegrass band Chain Station will perform on Friday evening, August 6, with opener Just A Feeling, starting at 5 pm. Just a Feeling will perform again on Saturday at 11:30 am, followed by Shwayze at 1:00 pm, Jon Wayne and the Pain at 2:30, Kash'd On at 4:00, Tomorrow's Bad Seeds at 5:30, The Hip Abduction at 7:00, and headliner Ballyhoo! at 8:30.

Saturday morning is devoted to races. At 7:00 am the 10K 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 is at <https://newcastletrails.com>.



Dirty Hog Dash 2022 photo by Kelley Cox

Applications for Burning Mountain Festival Parade and Car Show

The theme for the 2022 Burning Mountain Parade will be "Love Where You Live." Participants are invited to use their entries to proclaim what they love about New Castle. The parade will be held on Saturday, September 10, at 10:00 am. Line-up begins at 8:00 am at Elk Creek Elementary and judging will be at 9:00 am. Parade entrants will be judged on the best depiction of the theme and winners will be announced on stage at Burning Mountain Park at approximately 11:30 am.

The Car Show will begin at 9:30 am in the Kamm Ave parking lot. It will have a mix of classic cars and sports cars, and all entries will be given a dash plaque. For more information, please contact Rochelle at rfirth@newcastlecolorado.org or 970-984-2311 ext 114. Applications for both the parade and the car show are available from Rochelle or can be picked up at Town Hall.

River Center Capital Campaign

Last month the River Center kicked off a \$495,000 capital campaign to support remodeling of their recently-purchased building and to help pay down their mortgage. Donors are sought at several levels: Community Friend (up to \$1,999), Partner (\$2,000-\$4,999), Benefactor (\$5,000-9,999) and Grand Benefactor (\$10,000 and up). In addition, the campaign will solicit larger gifts from businesses and foundations. A donor list and plaques in the building will recognize donors.

The River Center provides Totes of Hope and Meal Monkey meals, Angel Tree gifts at Christmas and school supplies in the fall. They host the community garden, provide weekly senior lunches, and offer financial assistance to households in New Castle and Silt. All their expenses for these and other programs (\$516,000) will continue during the capital campaign.

School Resource Officer Survey

The Town of New Castle needs your input on an important issue. You may have already received (or will soon receive) a letter from Mayor Art Riddile that describes the need for a School Resource Officer (SRO). The letter asks that you complete a short online survey. The thoughts and opinions of New Castle residents are important to the town council.

As fully sworn police officers, SROs work with school staffs in order to provide an additional layer of safety and protection. School Resource Officers interact with students and faculty to forge relationships that can lead to increased safety in the school environment.

The safety of New Castle's three schools is taken seriously by the school district and the town. With the security of school environments becoming a greater concern throughout the nation, New Castle's Town Council recognizes that hiring an SRO to work in our schools may now be necessary.

Please take a few minutes to complete the online survey about adding a School Resource Officer. The information provided by you will help Council members learn the level of local support for an SRO along with opinions about possible funding sources for the officer. The survey may be found on the town website www.newcastlecolorado.org.

Did You Know That...

- * Composting food waste instead of using an in-sink garbage disposal reduces the cost of processing at the wastewater treatment plant.
- * Recent wildland fires in our area have been caused by lightning. Nonetheless, continued observance of all fire restrictions is still necessary. Please use extreme caution when travelling, camping, hiking or hunting.
- * Rocky Mountain Martial Arts has moved to their new location in the New Castle Plaza.
- * New Castle Trails has completed over two miles of the new bike trail on Burning Mountain.
- * Covid is still here, and we are still trying to learn to live with it. Please remember to stay home if you are sick.

50th Annual Burning Mountain Festival

New Castle's end of summer festival, parade and car show celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

The festival will begin on Friday evening, September 9, and continue all day Saturday, the 10th. Plan to enjoy live music, the Saturday parade, car show and lots of vendors, food and fun. Look for the full schedule in the September newsletter. Tee shirts will be available for sale at the Thursday Community Markets in August.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed. Please email Rochelle at rfirth@newcastlecolorado.org to learn how you can be involved.



Photo by Kelley Cox

From the New Castle Garden Club

Everyone faces gardening challenges, no matter where they live. Whether it is clay soils, dry conditions or insects, gardeners should realize that there are ways to overcome these challenges. The New Castle Garden Club is a great resource, and they will share advice in the coming months.

Irises are the easiest choice for our local conditions. They are drought tolerant, okay with clay soil, thrive in full sun and need no maintenance (except for cutting back to the rhizome in the fall). They just need to be split every two to three years. Although the bloom period is just over a week, the leaves add color for the whole season. Just be sure the rhizomes are exposed, or they will not bloom. Align them along the side of your home or add interest to xeriscape beds. Typically, water once a week.

Catmint is a deep blue spreader that is very drought-tolerant once it is established and has no issues with clay soil. Catmint is long blooming and super easy to care for. It attracts bees and butterflies and is deer/rabbit resistant. Cut back the dried blooms midway in the summer and it will bloom again. The more sun the deeper blue in color. Dig up the plant in autumn or early spring and break up the clump in pieces with plenty of roots. Every little piece with roots will produce a new plant.

Be sure to add Soil Pep to new plant holes. This will break up the clay soil and your plants will be ecstatic. Please shop locally! Any plants or flowers recommended can be found at local nurseries.

If You See Something, Say Something

In recent weeks the town has seen a rare outbreak of graffiti vandalism. This summer's tagging has occurred in parks, on public buildings and on play fields and schools. The painted messages can be cleaned up, but at a cost of both time and money.

The New Castle Police Department notes that graffiti is sometimes followed by additional property damage, so stopping the graffiti now may help prevent other property crimes in the future. They ask that residents share any information that they may have. Solving graffiti crimes is often the result of leads provided by residents. The familiar advice holds true: "If you see something, say something."

Keeping the Air Clean

The Climate and Environment Commissioners urge everyone to avoid idling their cars. Not idling is important at any time, but it is of particular concern when parents bring their children to and from school. Any place where children are gathered should have clean air.

Furthermore, according to the U.S. Department of Energy, idling a car for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than stopping and restarting the engine does. Researchers estimate that idling from cars, trucks, and busses wastes about 6 billion gallons of fuel every year. Increased emissions not only pollute the air and threaten respiratory health, but they also make driving more expensive.



The Hazelton Family Booth at the Community Market

Community Market is Underway

The New Castle Community Market kicked off on July 14 and will continue every Thursday afternoon in Burning Mountain Park from 4:30 – 7:00 pm. In anticipation of the Burning Mountain Festival, there will be no market on Thursday, September 8.

Summer Water Reminder

Landscape watering restrictions are in effect every year from May 1 to September 30. No watering is allowed between 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Odd numbered addresses may water on odd numbered days, and even numbered addresses on even numbered days.

Please visit the town website, www.newcastlecolorado.org, for water conservation suggestions.

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

From the Chamber

Our member of the month for August is West Canyon Nurseries. The business is owned by Ray and Kim Shorette with their daughter and son-in-law Amy and Derek Anglemeyer. Derek and Amy are the day-to-day managers, moving onto the property in September 2019. Amy had been an x-ray technician and Derek was an engineer with Sherwin Williams. They both enjoy the outdoors, and so they love their work at the nursery.

Derek has a passion for trees, while Amy is all about perennials. They grow a lot of their own plants, which means they're grown for our climate. This makes their products very different from what is shipped into the big box stores. The nursery has ten employees, which Amy says they couldn't do without.

Ray is a professional landscaper and he and Kim are on site almost every weekend working in the nursery or caring for their three granddaughters. Customer Suzanne Hazelton says, “West Canyon Nurseries has top-notch customer service. They're proud of their homegrown products and that shows. I purchased flowers for my planters and now I'm proud of how my garden looks”. She adds, “The Anglemeyers are such an asset to our community from their selection of Christmas trees and wreaths to their wide variety of flowers, plants and trees.” Amy and Derek love their customers. “It means a lot to us when someone says this is beautiful. That makes us feel good.”

West Canyon Nurseries located at 1650 County Road 240. They welcome everyone to visit, or alternatively, visit their website at www.westcanyonnurseries.com or call 970-984-0395.



Photo by Kelley Cox

Dog Park Fundraising Under Way

A dedicated group of residents are busy gathering donations to fund the proposed dog park. The group will be at the weekly Thursday markets and will be visible at the Burning Mountain Festival. On July 31, a dog costume contest and dog fashion show was held. The group is holding weekly drawings with prizes donated by local businesses.



Entry donations for the drawings, as well as other donations, are being collected at the New Castle Dog Park Fundraiser GoFundMe page. Events are announced on their Facebook page.

Council Highlights

*Approved Special Events Liquor Licenses for:

Rides & Reggae,
Community Market and
Burning Mountain Festival

*Approved Resolution TC 2022-16 – Approving an Application for Black Bear Bar and Grill for a Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License

New Castle Recreation

It's volleyball season, and New Castle Recreation has several opportunities.

Junior Titan Volleyball Camp: Instructional camp for 3rd-8th graders who want to learn the game or increase their skills for their upcoming seasons. (Please register your child for the grade they will enter in the fall 2022).

August 8-10, 9:00 – 10:30 am at Coal Ridge High main gym. The cost is \$50.00.

Introduction to Volleyball: Introductory program for 3rd and 4th graders who want to try this exciting sport. The program will focus on teaching the basic skills of passing, serving, setting and hitting. August 22- October 1. The cost is \$60.00.

Youth Volleyball League: This coed league for 5th and 6th graders will help young players advance their skills with 1-2 practices a week and league matches against other area teams.