

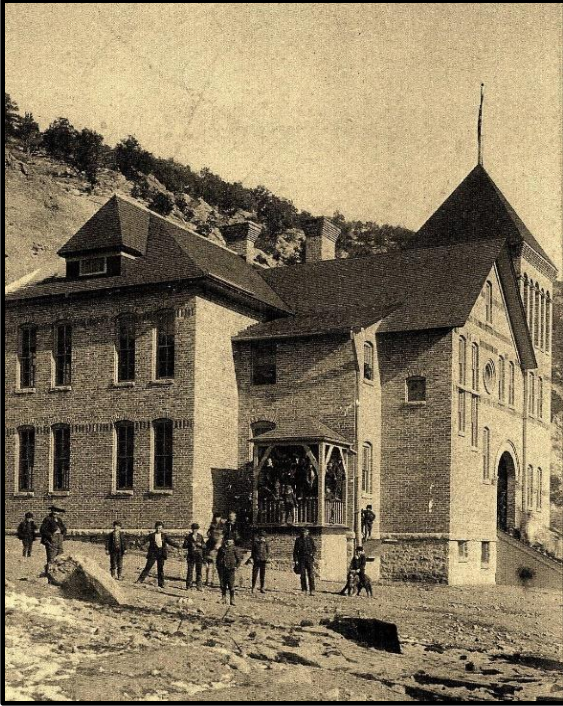


# Town of New Castle Newsletter

## A Monthly Update for Residents

### February 2023

#### February is New Castle History Month



February is a good time to take advantage of the history resources available to residents. For an overview, start with the Our History page on the town web site ([www.newcastlecolorado.org](http://www.newcastlecolorado.org), under the Our Town tab). Then take a trip to the New Castle Branch library and visit the local history room. Of the six branch libraries in the system, only New Castle includes a room set aside for the history of the region.

There are two informative Facebook pages devoted to local history: *New Castle's Highland Cemetery & the History of Those Interred* is exactly what the name promises. Former mayor and town manager Steve Rippey has done (and continues to do) extensive research into the cemetery and publishes his findings on this page. Steve Rippey also participates in the *New Castle Old Photographs and History* Facebook page, sharing historic photos from his collection.

For example, on the Old Photographs site one can learn about the old schoolhouse, built at the top of 4<sup>th</sup> Street in 1894. This beautiful building was abandoned and razed just a few years later, since it was built on unstable soils at the base of Mt. Meraris.

#### The River Center Presents "Through the Decades" Adult Prom

The River Center will be holding its first Adult Prom fundraiser on February 11th at the Red Barn Guest Ranch, located at 345 Mid Valley Lane in Peach Valley, from 6:00 to 11:00 pm.

According to organizers, "This is your chance to get dressed up in the garb of your favorite era," while dancing to the DJ's mix from across the decades. There will be a cash bar and a selection of hors d'oeuvres.

Tickets are on sale at the River Center, New Castle Alpine Bank and Rifle Alpine Bank (4th Street Branch) for \$50.00 per ticket or \$90.00 per couple. The admission price includes one drink ticket. Patrons must be 21 to receive a drink ticket, but Adult Prom is open to all couples ages 18 and older.

The River Center urges everyone to patronize local restaurants for dinner before coming to the dance. Some area restaurants are donating 10% of purchases on the 11<sup>th</sup> to the River Center. Watch the River Center website and Facebook page to see participating restaurants.

#### Can Your House Numbers Be Seen?

When an emergency happens, will first responders be able to find your home? How about FedEx, UPS and other delivery services that also depend on house numbers to find their destinations. Will the truck from Lowes get your purchase to you? GPS gets them close, but they need to be able to see house numbers.

Over time, repainting, bushes and general wear and tear can obscure house numbers. Now is a good time to replace old house numbers with larger and brighter versions.

## Potholes Potholes Potholes

The Town of New Castle Public Works Department wants everyone to know that the I-70 105 overpass is owned and maintained by the State of Colorado. The state has asked town maintenance crews to not perform routine maintenance on that section of roadway, citing liability concerns. The town regularly contacts the local CDOT maintenance crews to request that potholes be filled. If you would like to make your own request, you can do so by logging onto

<https://www.codot.gov/topcontent/contact-cdot> or by calling CDOT Northwestern Colorado (Region 3): 1 (970) 243-2368. The Town would like to acknowledge and thank CDOT for recent pothole repairs.

If you would like to report a pothole within the town limits, you can do so by reporting it on the town's website or by calling 1 (970) 984-0669. Public Works Director John Wenzel adds that Walters Lane and other private roads are not maintained by the town. HOAs or owners are responsible for them. (Walters Lane is the road behind Kum and Go and McDonalds.)

## There's a New Arts Group in New Castle

A group of local artists and art lovers has recently established the Burning Mountain Arts group. They meet once a month with the goal of encouraging the arts in New Castle, Silt and the surrounding areas. Burning Mountain Arts is already planning a speaker series and a spring art show. There are a lot of amazing artists and art enthusiasts in the area and the group hopes to raise awareness and create more opportunities for artists.

All art forms and experience levels are welcome to join, including those who may not consider themselves artists, but love art. Burning Mountain Arts has a Facebook page and they invite everyone to "Like" the page in order to learn of meeting times and to stay up-to-date with events. Alternatively, write to [burningmountainarts@gmail.com](mailto:burningmountainarts@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.

## Mountain Valley Development Classes in New Castle

Every week New Castle Recreation hosts classes designed for our friends from Mountain Valley Developmental Services (adults with special needs) at the New Castle Community Center. The current schedule is craft classes at 11:00 am on Tuesdays, movement activities at 10:00 am on Wednesdays, and music jams at 11:00 am on Thursdays.

Kelley Cox explains that the Mountain Valley clients appreciate meeting new people, and she urges community members to join in the fun. You do not have to have special needs or be an adult. Folks who have attended these classes have enjoyed their experience with the group. They were greeted with great excitement when they arrived, and the enthusiasm continued throughout the entire class.

There is no registration fee. It will be helpful, however, if anyone is planning to attend the Tuesday craft classes, they should let Kelley know ([kcox@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:kcox@newcastlecolorado.org) or 970-984-3352) so she can have enough supplies.

## RFV First Responders Spouse Support

Whenever a fire, traffic accident or criminal activity is in the news, a lot of well-deserved attention is given to first responders. Nearly invisible, however, are the spouses and families of the first responders, who are left to hope that all will be well. Besides those moments of tension, families also need to accommodate long workdays and even multi-day shifts.

The Roaring Fork Valley First Responders Spouse Support Group is for those who may be stressed by changing schedules and routines and lets them know they are not alone. Visit *RFV First Responders Spouse Support* on Facebook for information about monthly meetings.



**Bad Art Night was a huge hit once again! Thank you to New Castle Recreation for holding this event year after year.**



## Spellebration Returns to Hotel Colorado

After a Covid cancellation in 2020 and two online events in 2021 and 2022, Spellebration is back live on March 3, 2023. Spellebration is a costumed adult spelling bee which raises funds for Literacy Outreach and the Colorado Mountain College Learning Labs. There will also be an online silent auction.

Spellebration 2023 has been dubbed *The Realm of Reading: A Royal Spelling Bee*. Teams are invited to wear costumes that evoke royalty and all things England. Drawing on lessons learned during quarantine, this year's Spellebration will incorporate technology in order to let all teams attempt to spell all words all evening long. No teams will be eliminated early.

The fee to enter is \$300, and \$20 Bonus Words will give participants additional opportunities to contribute to Literacy Outreach and the Learning Labs. The Town and the New Castle Lions will be entering teams, and they invite other organizations to join them. For additional information and entry forms, visit *Spellebration 2023* on Facebook or ask Councilor Bruce Leland.



### Calling All Community Market Vendors

Applications are now being accepted for this year's community market. This year the market will be held July 13 – August 31 (eight weeks). Vendors can reserve a spot now by calling 970-984-3352 Ext 400 or emailing Kelley at [kcox@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:kcox@newcastlecolorado.org).

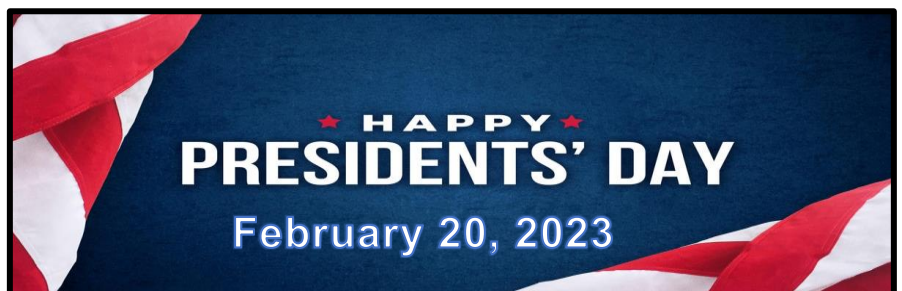
### Council Highlights

Approved:

- \* Resolution TC 2023-1 – Designating Public Notice Posting Places
- \* Resolution Tc 2023-2 – Waiving the Requirement for Posting of Bonds for Certain Town Officers
- \* Resolution TC 2023-3 – Approving an MOU with Garfield County for Senior Programs
- \* Retail Liquor License Renewal for Spirits Liquors

### Did You Know That....

- The snowman contest ends February 28. Email a photo of your creation to Rochelle at [rfirth@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:rfirth@newcastlecolorado.org).
- The New Castle Coffee Company and Colorado Drifters display the works of local artists in their stores which are available for purchase.
- Katherine Senor Elementary Family Fun Night will feature a taco dinner, silent auction and bingo. Dinner starts at 5:30 pm on Friday, February 10, and bingo starts at 6:30. All funds raised will help replace playground equipment.
- The frequent snowstorms so far this winter have made it difficult for Public Works crews to keep the ice rink in Frank Breslin Park in shape. As the need to plow streets abates, they will return to ice rink maintenance.
- On February 25, the Ambleside School invites everyone to their Hoop Shoot Rally fundraiser. There will be free throw contests, games, prizes, food, and refreshments. The community is welcome, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at Elk Creek Elementary School.
- Groundhog Day is February 2.



## Support Local This Valentine's Day

The Town of New Castle would **love** for you to support your local businesses for Valentine's Day. For those of you that wait until the last minute, here is a list of New Castle businesses ready to take care of your Valentine. Whether you plan on enjoying lunch or dinner together, pampering each other with a day at the salon, or getting professional photos together, you will find everything you need here in New Castle.

### Flowers

An Exquisite Design

### Unique Gifts

Speckled Feather Mercantile

An Exquisite Design

Colorado Drifters

New Castle Coffee

Rustic Furniture Designs

Defiance Cyclery

### Hair & Nail Salons

Creekside Salon

Mohair

Sassy Cuts

Making New Waves Salon

### Coffee

Colorado Drifters

New Castle Coffee

### Lunch

Wrap and Roll

Lazy Bear Restaurant

### Dinner

Eat Bistro

Hogback Pizza

2 Coronas

Hong's Garden

Tapatios Family Restaurant

### Photographers

Simply Blessed Photography

Bandits Bend Studio

Charles Englebert Photography



Speckled Feather owner, Ami Schibi (right), and daughter Olivia will be open and ready to serve you for all your Valentine's Day needs.

## New Castle Chamber of Commerce "Growing Businesses, Building Community"

### From the Chamber

There's a lot happening at 502 West Main Street. The historic building, built in 1892, is now the home of two New Castle establishments.

While we're all sad to see 88 Grill close their doors, this turned out to be a perfect spot for Speckled Feather Mercantile, which is now open at their new Main Street location. Owner Ami Schibi says she's really excited to be open again. She adds "The building is perfect for us." Half of the old restaurant has been converted into an amazing gift shop. Speckled Feather offers a large array of gifts for any and everyone. From candles to mugs, jewelry to novelties, Speckled Feather has whatever gift you may need.

Also returning are the diverse classes offered by Schibi, which let students use their creativity for a few hours and go home with something special. Schibi says she's looking forward to welcoming you.

Speckled Feather Mercantile is open for business Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm and can be reached at (970)984-0828.

The other half of the former restaurant is an addition to the Ore House Inn. Owners John and Cori Webber have expanded their already popular rooms to add an amazing new suite. Titled 1892 Suite, it can comfortably sleep five people on bunk beds: one king and three XL twins. The suite is gorgeous and includes a micro-kitchen with a two-burner stove, microwave and two refrigerators.

John Weber says that while he and wife Cori miss the friends they've made over 25 years in the restaurant business, "the traditional set up has become implausible. Like so many things Covid took a toll on restaurants that many were unable to bounce back from." The Webbers are happy to be focusing on the Ore House these days, and they invite anyone needing some extra space for out-of-town visitors to consider the Ore House Inn.