



Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

April 2023

Invest in Our Planet on Earth Day

Earth day is April 22 and the theme for the international observance is “Invest in Our Planet.” News and information about international efforts can be found on the Earth Day website at earthday.org. Locally, the Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) will host a number of businesses and organizations next to City Market from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Everyone is invited to stop by.

The CEC's partners for the event include the New Castle Coffee Company, Colorado River Fire Rescue, Garfield Clean Energy/CLEER, Mountain Waste and Recycling, Xcel Partners in Energy, EverGreen ZeroWaste, Mountain West Beekeepers and City Market. Phil Long Subaru will also be there with a new electric vehicle on display. Questions can be directed to the CEC at CEC@newcastlecolorado.org.

Earth Day giveaways include LED light bulbs from Xcel Partners in Energy, bee-friendly flower seeds, herb seeds, re-usable shopping bags and more. There will be information available (and experts to answer questions) about pollinator protection, reduction of single-use plastics, clean energy, energy efficiency, fire preparedness, proper recycling, and composting.

Earth Day is also the occasion for cleaning our streets and neighborhoods. On Friday, April 21 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, Apple Tree will conduct a clean-up along the river, Talbott Trail and County Road 335. A BBQ for volunteers will be held after the clean-up. New Castle town staff will be assisting with the County Road 335 clean-up and invite additional volunteers. To sign up please contact Taylor at 970-984-2247.

Additionally, New Castle's HOA will host neighborhood clean-ups that weekend. To celebrate Earth Day and help beautify the town, please contact your local HOA representative to volunteer.

The Earth Day motto is act (boldly), innovate (broadly), and implement (equitably).

And the Winners for the 2023 Snowman Building Contest are...



0-10 - Wyatt with Mr. Buttons



11-18 - Malachi with Child Eater



19+ - Bonnie with Nova

Public Works Hiring Seasonal Parks Employees

The Town of New Castle is seeking energetic and hardworking individuals to fill seasonal positions in the Parks and Streets Departments. For more information, please contact the Public Works Department at 970-984-0669 or apply on the town's website www.newcastlecolorado.org.



2023 Burning Mountain Festival Parade and Car Show

The Town of New Castle is now accepting applications for the 2023 Burning Mountain Festival Parade and Car Show. Last year's parade was the biggest to date, with lots of crowd-pleasing floats, fire trucks, candy-tossers and folks from local organizations and businesses. At the west end of town, the classic cars overflowed the parking lot on Kamm Avenue. Both the parade and the car show promise to be bigger and better this year.

Grand Marshalls for this year's parade will be Ramona and Ross Talbott Sr, who will be profiled in an upcoming newsletter. This year's parade theme, "If You Can Dream It," was proposed by the New Castle branch library, and Library Director, Jamie LaRoue will once again serve as parade announcer, along with Cactus Valley Elementary teacher Janetta Howell.

Applications are now being accepted for both the Parade and Car Show. They are available at Town Hall or can be requested from Rochelle at rfirth@newcastlecolorado.org.

Art Show in April

The newly-formed Burning Mountain Arts group will hold its first Art Show on Friday, April 14, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the Lakota Recreation Center. A dozen or more New Castle artists will display paintings, pottery, photography and jewelry and appetizers will be served.

Burning Mountain Arts holds monthly meetings, which all artists and friends of the arts are invited to attend. Meetings are announced on the Burning Mountain Arts Facebook Page.

A Roundabout for New Castle

The need for better traffic control at the US 6/1-70 bridge intersection has been obvious for many years. The town is pleased to announce that CDOT is scheduled to begin the utility work in 2023 and the roundabout will be built in 2024.

As CDOT releases information about their schedule and the related traffic impacts, the town will broadcast news as widely as possible--in this newsletter, on the town website (newcastlecolorado.org), at the Visit New Castle Facebook page and in the weekly email news (subscribe on the town web under Our Town/Residents/e-newslettersubscription).

Salsa Cycles at Defiance Cyclery

Troy Tritschler of Defiance Cyclery has announced that they now have access to bikes through Salsa Cycles (also Surly). While they are not currently stocking these bikes in the store, they can order them with next day delivery from a Denver warehouse. Later in the summer they hope to stock few at a time. They also have new cycling apparel from 7Mesh in stock; new helmets from Giro and shoes from Ride Concepts will be arriving soon.



Finally, Troy reminds everyone that now is the best time to bring in bikes for servicing to beat the spring rush. Defiance Cyclery is located at 303 B West Main Street.

From the New Castle Garden Club

Drought resistant or drought tolerant: what is the difference? Drought resistant plants can live without water for extended periods of time. These plants are in the cactus/succulents family, such as sedum or yuccas, both of which can survive Colorado winters.

Drought tolerant plants, on the other hand, can survive with little or no water for a shorter period, typically one or two weeks. These drought-tolerant plants are the Garden Club's recommendation for our area. There is a wide variety of drought tolerant flowers that thrive in our Zone 6 and all are available at local nurseries and garden centers: yarrow, Russian sage, coneflower, mallow, salvia red hot poker, blue flax, globe thistle, crane's bill geranium, catmint, black eyed susans, beard tongue, poppies, speedwell, dianthus, blanket flower, penstemon, aster and coreopsis. For ornamental grasses these are great choices blue grama, blue fescue, little bluestem, Indian grass. For ground cover try sedum, and creeping thyme. (While drought-tolerant, all these plants will need plenty of initial watering until they are established.)



Did You Know That....

- The third Living With Bears community conversation will be April 19 from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Community Center. This third meeting will explore appropriate responses when encountering a bear.
- April 26 is Administrative Professionals Day. An Exquisite Design will deliver flowers for the occasion from Glenwood to Rifle. Call 970-984-2181.
- The sale, use or possession of fireworks is banned in unincorporated Garfield County beginning April 19.
- Town Administrator Dave Reynolds, Assistant to the Town Administrator Rochelle Firth, participated in American Red Cross Shelter Training in March.
- The annual Community-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled for May 6.
- The Cub Scouts Annual Fishing Derby will be held on May 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Alder Park.
- Arbor Day is April 28 and the Town Council will read a proclamation recognizing the importance of trees to the town.
- The New Castle Lions Club will hold its annual Craft Show on Saturday, May 6 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the New Castle Community Center.

Re-energize Garfield County 2023

On February 24 the *Post Independent* published an article about Garfield Clean Energy's Re-Energize program incentives. The 2023 rebate schedule for energy-efficient upgrades extends benefits to even more residents this year.

The Re-energize Garfield County program was begun in 2022 to help low and moderate income households lower their utility bills and make their homes healthier and more comfortable. The program funded upgrades in 49 homes and helped another 78 families obtain state and federal funding.

Households earning 80-150% of the area median income (AMI) can qualify for \$2,000-\$4,000 in financial aid toward recommended home energy measures. Families that earn 80% of AMI (\$75,360 for a family of four) or less will be automatically placed in either the federal Weatherization Assistance Program or the Colorado Affordable Residential Energy (CARE) program, which may cover certain weatherization improvements.

For more information and the link to enroll in the program, go to garfieldcleanenergy.org and click on "Financial Aid Available."

Helpful Hints

Most of us have transitioned successfully to carrying reusable bags when we go shopping. To further reduce plastic waste, we can take advantage of the reusable produce bags available in City Market's produce department or order them online. Also available online are re-useable silicone food storage bags which can replace disposable plastic sandwich and freezer bags.

Gypsy Chix & Friends Flea Market

New Castle Recreation will host its first two-day indoor flea market at the New Castle Community Center on Saturday, April 22 and Sunday, April 23. The flea market will take place from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days and feature nine vendors.

Gypsy Chix & Friends Flea Market is not a typical flea market. According to organizer Kelley Cox, "It will have a funky, artsy, rusty vibe, featuring amazing local makers and pickers." The indoor market will also feature a bake sale on Saturday hosted by the Uptown Market Bakers.

Lori Bennet and Darla Shropshire are the artists and creators behind the Gypsy Chix name. They have been well-known throughout the valley for decades for their unusual upcycled creations.

Vendors will include Jim and Samantha Shrull with a variety of antiques and junktiques from their collections.

In addition, Nanci Noffsinger will offer her beaded artwork and fairy garden crafts; Linda Bossert will have macramé hangings and using upcycled containers; Coleen Mahoney's High Country Canned Goods will feature jams, pickles and marinades; Sheri Gaynor will sell her "Gypsy Spirit Vintage" jewelry; Bobbie Moross will bring her "Artsy Finds," which include artistic creations and unusual arts & crafts supplies; and Kelley Cox will sell her own "Poetic Chaos" art and other fun, funky flea market treasures.

For lunch, freshly made soup in a New Castle mug will be offered for \$10 (you keep the mug).

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

Happy April from the New Castle Chamber. Please join us for this month's Bingo night on April 13 in the Community Center. Spring is the time of growth, and the Chamber membership is growing too. Join the growth by calling Mari Riddile at (970) 984-2897.

Rachel Keller of Fairway Independent Mortgage works out of her home in New Castle but is licensed to practice anywhere in Colorado. Keller specializes in first-time buyers and those looking for a second home. Keller grew up in Westminster and attended CU Denver, graduating with a major in French Literature and a minor in Communication. After graduation she spent a year in France teaching English to children from the town of Caen. From France she moved to San Diego, where she met her husband John; the couple share two children, 10 year old Ella and 8 year old Leo. Rachel also teaches English as a Second language to adults at CMC. Her website is <https://www.fairwayindependentmc.com/lo/Rachel-keller>, and she can be reached at (858) 414-1446 or rachelkeller@fairwaymc.com.

Adam Decker State Farm Insurance opened their doors on March 1, 2022, at 1620 Grand Avenue Suite A, Glenwood Springs. The office is comprised of four agents who have a combined total of 40 years of Insurance experience. Owner Adam Decker says, "We place customer needs first, operate fairly and always try to do the right thing." He adds, "Philanthropy is our passion and we love giving back to our local communities." Decker grew up in Anniston, Alabama and attended Auburn University where he met his wife Sydney. They have a 2 ½ year old son, Jackson. Decker has been a presence in town at the summer community market and can be reached at (970) 366-4142 or by email Adam@AdamDecker.net. Their website is www.AdamDecker.net.

Council Highlights

- Proclamation Honoring the Coal Ridge Coed Cheer Team for winning state for the fifth year in a row!
- Signed a letter of support to reduce the train speeds through New Castle.
- Approved a modification of premises application for Kum & Go's FMBW liquor license.
- Approved Resolution TC 2023-6 – approving an MOU with Garfield County for Mosquito Control.