



Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents
July 2023

Dirty Hog Dash on July 15

It's Dirty Hog time again. The 2023 Dirty Hog Dash will be run on Saturday, July 15, from 9:00 am to noon. For those new to the Dash, it's a mile-long obstacle course that's set up in V-I-X Ranch Park and includes lots of barriers to climb over, crawl under or slither through, including a foam cannon and, of course, the mud pit. Waves begin at 9:30 and will continue every 30 minutes. Spectators are encouraged!



The Dash is open to all kids from ages 4-14 who are ready to conquer obstacles, get dirty and have fun. Pre-registration is available for \$25 on the Recreation Department web site newcastlerec.com. Registration on-site, July 15, will cost \$35.00.

Dog Park Grand Opening Coming Soon

Dog owners have been eagerly watching the construction of the new Dog Park in V-I-X Ranch Park. Even more interested were the planning committee members who began work on the park back in March of 2022. While there are still amenities to be added, the park is now ready for doggie guests. There are a few simple rules, which will be posted at the park. Everyone is asked to help assure the park remains a welcome addition to the town.



The members of the fund-raising committee have announced that they will host a grand opening celebration soon. Watch for the announcement on the Facebook pages for New Castle Dog Park and Visit New Castle, as well as the weekly email news.

The hard-working fund raisers are Jordan Topolski, Janine High, Dara Marquardt, Michael Curry, Sandi Weaver, Ines Baquero and Bridget Gonsalves. Many more people attended one or more of the planning meetings last year, and of course lots of people responded to the GoFundMe campaign and donated at events.

Thank you to all who made the dog park a reality for New Castle.

New Castle Community Market Season Kicks Off on July 6 with Kids Market

The annual Kid's Market will kick off the 2023 market season on Thursday, July 6 from 5:00 – 6:30 pm. New Castle Recreation will host 20 youth vendors ages 6-16 at Burning Mountain Park with live music by Joey Ball and with the Colorado Snow Food Truck on-site.

The New Castle Community Market returns on Thursday, July 13, and runs on successive Thursdays through August 31. Once again, the Market will be in Burning Mountain Park from 4:30 to 7:00 pm. Look for returning vendors as well as some new faces.

July's Music at the Market is sponsored by Trailhead Chiropractic and Alpine Bank: July 13—Colorado Curry; July 20—The Queen Bees; July 27—Zin Zinn. Also on July 27, Spirits of Downtown will host a beer and wine tasting garden.

Here are the rules for using the dog park:

- Please Pickup After Your Dog
- Dogs Must Be Properly Vaccinated, Immunized, and Healthy
- Dogs Must Be In Collar or Harness
- No Unattended Dogs or Children
- No Food, Treats, or Tug Toys
- No Aggressive Dogs
- Have Fun Be Cool



Photo Credit: Charles Englebert

New Castle Trails Presents Rides and Reggae

Rides and Reggae will hit V-I-X Ranch Park on August 4 and 5. It's a celebration of trail running, mountain biking, music and community. Rides and Reggae includes two days full of fun, including live music from local and national reggae-influenced bands, mountain trail bike (MTB) and trail running races for all ability levels, food trucks and craft beers. The Dirty Dozen Trail Running 10K will be run at 6:00 pm on Friday, with packet pickup and registration at 4:00 pm. Saturday morning at 7:00 am will be the start of the Dirty Dozen MTB Race, with a 6:00 am reporting time. The Dirty Half-Dozen MTB Race will start at 8:30 am.

Music begins in V-I-X Ranch Park at 5 pm on Friday, with doors opening at 4:00. First up is Mighty Mystic from 5:00 to 6:00. Chain Station will play from 6:30 to 8:00. The Lil Smokies will round out the evening from 8:30 to 10:00

Doors open in the park at 11 am on Saturday and Chain Station will play from 11:30 to 12:30, followed by local New Castle band Dustin Elliott and the Broken Band from 12:45 to 1:30. Just a Feeling will play from 1:45 to 2:45, Vana Liya from 3:00 to 4:00 and Arise Roots from 4:30 to 6:00. Satsang hits the stage at 6:30 and headliner The Hip Abduction will perform from 8:30 to festival close at 10:00.

Tickets may be purchased for Friday only, Saturday only or for both days, as well as for each of the races. Advanced tickets are available until August 3, at <https://newcastletrails.com>. All profits go toward maintaining New Castle's extensive system of trails and building new hiking and biking trails. Kids 12 and under are free.

Colorado Animal Rescue (C.A.R.E.) Coming to New Castle Community Market July 13

Beside pet adoption services, C.A.R.E. provides assistance with stray animal housing and community support programs. They are proud to serve pet owners in New Castle and throughout Garfield County.

Stop by the C.A.R.E. tent at the New Castle Community market on July 13th to view adoptable pet profiles, order a free pet ID tag, or make a donation to be entered in a raffle for a pet-themed prize. For more information, visit their website: www.coloradoanimalrescue.org.

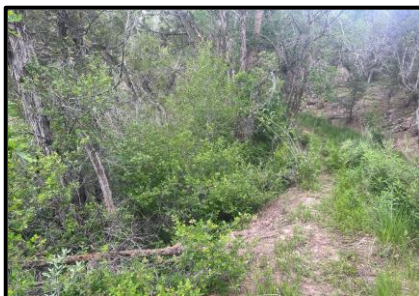


Colorado River Fire Rescue Mitigation Project

The Colorado River Fire Rescue Wildland Division has been working tirelessly mitigating fire issues along East Elk Creek near Cedar Way and Elk Run subdivisions. The purpose is to provide life safety for the public and decrease fire spread potential and new regrowth.

They have spent the month of June thinning drainages, clearing downed and dead material/fuel and removing hazardous trees.

Below are a few before and after photos of the work that has been done. Thank you CRFR Wildland Division!



From the New Castle Garden Club

What is deadheading? No, it is not following the Grateful Dead band. Deadheading is a method of keeping flowers blooming throughout the summer and fall.

As soon as flowers start to fade, gardeners should pinch or cut off the stems below the spent blossoms and just above the set of full, healthy leaves. This method assures continual blooms with plants like petunias, salvia, cornflower, or blanket flowers. For catmint, bachelor's buttons or similar plants, shear the plants by a third or more and they will bloom again in mid-summer.

Cut spent iris stems down but leave the green leaves, which will look terrific through the fall. Tempted to prune your fruit trees? Don't do it! Late winter into early spring is the best time to adjust the tree structure; otherwise pruning too soon will weaken the tree.

Now that the columbines, snapdragons, and poppies have bloomed, save the seeds. Keep the seeds in a dry place over the winter and in early spring, put them in a damp paper towel in a plastic baggy. Put the baggy in the refrigerator to germinate the seeds, then in the spring plant them in moist soil.

A Bonus from the Garden Club

Last month the Garden Club offered advice about household products that support lawn and garden growth. There wasn't room in the newsletter for all of them, so here are some additional hints: Got earwigs chewing on your potted plants? Mix 3 tablespoons of soy sauce and 1 tablespoon of cooking oil in a small tuna or cat food tin. Put it next to your plant for a day or two and the problem should go away. If it doesn't, empty the can and start again.

It seems like everyone faces the bindweed challenge. It's no wonder; bindweed can root 18 feet into the ground. Try this formula on bindweed or other challenging weeds: Mix 1 cup Epsom salts, 1 tablespoon of Blue Dawn detergent and 1 gallon of commercial vinegar. Use a spray bottle to treat the weeds and get ready to celebrate their demise. Be diligent; it may take more than one application. (Warning: This concoction will kill anything it touches-do not get it on your lawn grasses.) For weeds in driveway and sidewalk cracks, kill them with boiling water.

Did You Know That. . .

- The July 4 parade will once again be at the Elk Creek Elementary grounds, starting at 11 am.
- July is Parks and Recreation Month.
- The spring rains were welcome. But please remember that all that green vegetation can dry out very quickly, keeping our fire danger high. Town of New Castle fire restrictions are in full effect.
- Dave Reynolds and Rochelle Firth are continuing Incident Command Training with the Garfield County Emergency Manager. The training, which they share with the town staff, prepares them to manage a range of potential emergencies.
- The Lions Club yard sale, which was postponed due to rain, has been rescheduled for July 8, 8:30-2:00, 402 Jaime Lane.

A Flag for New Castle

On June 6, the Town Council adopted a town flag for New Castle, using a design proposed by Dr. Edward Mooney. Mooney is a member of the North American Vexillological Association (Vexillologists are flag experts) and an administrator for the Flags of the World organization. He and wife Caroline have lived in New Castle since 2017.

Mooney explained that the flag echoes the elements in the town's logo: the hogback, the sun and the sky. The green stripes represent the hogback, with white stripes for the winter snows; the blue field is, of course, the sky; and the red and yellow C is both the sun and the symbol for Colorado from the state flag.

At the June 6 meeting, Mooney explained that the flag design meets accepted standards for a good flag, and then entertained the council with a bad flag example. He credited Caroline with the addition of the mountain peak in the upper right, which was included in the design adopted by the Council.



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

And the Beat Goes on for the Drum Circle

On a Monday evening in 2018 nearly 40 New Castle residents gathered at Ritter Plaza to form the town’s first Community Drum Circle. With bongos, coffee cans, shakers, tambourines and a variety of African drums, townspeople of all ages captured the rhythm of the community, just for the fun of it. Since then, Kelley Cox of the New Castle Recreation Department has organized and hosted an informal drum circle on the first Monday of every month at 6:30pm.

New Castle resident Nanci Noffsinger has led the drumming since the beginning. Initially the drum circle took place year-round. More recently it has become a fair-weather event, typically May through October. The circle usually includes eight to eighteen people. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to bring their own camp chairs and percussion instruments (though there are always plenty of extra drums and shakers to share). No experience or sense of rhythm is necessary. The gatherings are free and do not require registration.

New Castle is also very lucky to have Jessie Lehmann join the monthly circle. Jessie is an experienced and talented drummer who honed her drumming skills in West Africa. Jessie teaches a West African Drumming class at the New Castle Community Center.

From the Chamber of Commerce:

The New Castle Chamber members would like to thank everyone for attending the 2023 Block Party held on June 23. We had a great time and hope to do it again next year.

This month’s spotlight is on Ashley Taylor, owner of Wild Roots Boutique in Silt. Ashley grew up in New Castle, so she knows firsthand the lack of places to shop in our valley. After closing her previous shop, she decided to establish Wild Roots, which let her provide for her family as well as do something she enjoys. Opening in 2021, Wild Roots Boutique specializes in women’s clothing, ranging from sizes small to 3X. Besides apparel, the store offers a large selection of shoes and accessories.

Loyal customers enjoy the one-on-one relationship with Ashley and employee Alicia Bartels, who has been with the company from the start, and who Ashley calls her “right hand man.” Taylor says, “Wild Roots Boutique is a place where customers become friends!” The shop is located at 702 Main Street in Silt. They can be reached at 970-274-1951, wildroots21@gmail.com, www.wildrootsshop.com or on Facebook as Wild Roots Boutique.

The Salon West at 106 North 8th Street in Silt is owned and operated by long-time friends Stephani Rose Douglas and Amanda Jennings. Between the two partners they have 20 years of salon experience. In addition to the 8th Street location, Salon West has a spa at 1810 Medicine Bow, where Shelby is an esthetician. Some of the services Salon West offers are hair care, pedicures, lash extensions and spray tanning.

When they opened their business in October 2021, the two single moms wanted to create space for women to work and change lives, and they have remained big supporters of women entrepreneurs. Amanda says, “At the end of the day it is gratifying to help someone feel more beautiful in their own skin and to know you have had an impact on that.” Find Wild Roots on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/salonwest970?>) or their website (thesalonwest.com) or call 209-501-3152 to book an appointment.

Welcome New Town Staff

The Town of New Castle would like to welcome several new members to its team: Noah Buschner, Cody Kessel, and Dano Fujita.

The town is always looking for new people to add to our team. If you are interested in a position with the Town of New Castle (nominated for best place to work in 2023), visit the website for a list of open positions: <https://www.newcastlecolorado.org>.

Pictured left: newest member of the New Castle PD stands with fellow officers during graduation in Breckenridge.

Law Enforcement
Training Academy

