



# Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

January 2020

## Petitions for Council Seats Available

Elections for positions on the New Castle Town Council are held in April of even numbered years. Councilors' terms are staggered, so half of the council completes a term biannually. The 2020 election will be held on Tuesday, April 7.

Councilors whose terms expire in April are Graham Riddile, Scott Owens and Crystal Mariscal. New Castle does not have term limits, so they are all eligible to run for re-election. All residents seeking election to the Council must file a petition in Town Hall by January 27. Petition forms and other information for candidates will be available in Town Hall starting January 7.

### Founders Day is February 8

The annual Founders Day luncheon will be held on Saturday, February 8, from 11:00-1:30 in the Community Center. Once again the luncheon will feature foods that would have been familiar to our New Castle forebears. The food is prepared by volunteers, who can work from their own old family recipes or get one from the Historical Society Cookbook. To sign up (and get recipes, if needed), call Debbie Nichols at 984-2311.

In 2013 the Town celebrated the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment in 1888.

And in 2015 the Town Council issued a proclamation designating February as New Castle History Month and decreeing that an appropriate commemoration and celebration of the Town's history was to be held each February. That celebration is Founders Day.

Presentations at the 2020 event will tell stories of both the near and distant past. It is a chance for life-long residents to recall the Town's heritage, and for newcomers to learn about the history that makes New Castle unique. All are invited to join friends and neighbors at the Founders Day lunch on February 8.

Candidates for Town Council must have lived within New Castle town limits for one year and must submit a petition with the signatures of 15 residents eligible to vote. Candidates may not be paid employees of the town. The election is non-partisan, with no party labels for candidates.

The Council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, and councilors typically serve on additionally boards, committees and commissions.

Town Clerk Melody Harrison is the local election official, along with Assistant Clerk Mindy Andis. They will be able to answer any questions about the election and candidacy.



### Join the First Annual Snowman Contest

The first annual New Castle Snowman Building Contest continues to the end of January. Build a snowman with your kids, or your co-workers, or your neighbors. Or go solo and create a personal masterpiece.

Take a photo and submit it on

the Town website at [www.newcastlecolorado.org](http://www.newcastlecolorado.org). The only rules: just one snowman per household or business, and send entries in by January 31.

## Did you know that.....

- ◆ Dr. Dennis Eicher is retiring from New Castle Family Health on January 8. Dr. Jennifer Copeland will be providing health care in New Castle in the new year.
- ◆ The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring census workers. Go to <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>
- ◆ RFTA is now providing bus service to/from New Castle every 30 minutes.
- ◆ New Castle has a new vehicle charging station. It's located in the temporary parking lot at the corner of Main Street and Kamm Avenue.
- ◆ The new tax on cigarettes and other tobacco products went into effect on January 1.
- ◆ New Castle Recreation is collecting athletic equipment for their sports gear sale, which will be held in April. The sale will benefit children who want to participate in recreation programs but may need financial help. Please drop donations off at the Community Center during business hours.



### Sports programs

**Micro Soccer:** Introductory program for children ages 4-8, focused on teaching the fundamentals of the game of soccer. Play begins April 2020. Register now! (Volunteer coaches needed).

**Colorado Mountain United Club Soccer:** For boys and girls ages 9-18. The club develops players and teams that are competitive on a regional and statewide level. Registration deadline is March 1.

**Denver Nuggets Skills Challenge:** Free for ages 6-13. Saturday, January 4th, from 2-4pm at Coal Ridge High School. Skills testing in dribbling, passing and shooting. Separate boys and girls divisions. Awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place at each level of completion.

**After School Dodgeball:** A variety of Dodgeball in two sessions, Wednesdays from 4:45-5:45 at Elk Creek Elementary. Session 1: January 8 - January 29. Session 2: February 5 - February 26. Ages: 9-13yrs, cost: \$30.

### Enrichment Programs:

**Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention:** Feel Better with Tai Chi! Mondays at 3pm, beginning Jan 6 or Thursdays at 9am & 6pm, beginning Jan 9. Cost: \$45/8weeks or \$7 drop in fee.

**In Balance Class:** Thursdays, Jan 16-Feb 27, 1:00pm. Cost: \$55.

**Full Moon 'Hike with Hannah' Series:** January 10 from 6:00-7:30pm. Meet at VIX Park to hike the Colorow Trail. February 9 from 6:00-7:30pm. Meet at Lakota Recreation Center to hike Lakota Golf Course.

**Art Classes by Lynne Cassidy /Inky Hands Art** Friday, Jan. 17, 6-8 pm: Inspirational Word for 2020 on wood.

Saturday, Jan 25, 6-8pm: Whimsical Winter Canvas Painting, \$25 per person/\$35 1 adult + 1 child (age 5+).  
Friday, Jan 3, 6:30-8:30: Winter Birds on Wood, \$25.  
Saturday, Feb. 8, 6-8pm: I Heart You! Canvas painting, \$25 per person/\$35 1 adult + 1 child (age 5+).  
Friday, Feb. 21, 6:30-8:30: Into the Wild on Wood, \$40.

### Studio Doll House Three-hour Workshop

Saturday, Jan 4, 10 am-1pm - Adults with or without children are invited to come decorate their own wooden structure dollhouse. After registration, you can pick up the house kit to assemble at home prior to the workshop. At the workshop, we will paint, wallpaper, and create furnishings and accessories. We have everything you need! Cost: \$75 (Children are free to assist enrolled adult).

### Burning Mountain Ukulele Strummers

Do you love music, and want to meet new people? Here's your opportunity! Join local resident Mary Durham on Wednesdays at the New Castle

Community Center from 11:00-12:00 pm to sing, play-along, strum, and meet other ukulele

enthusiasts. It's free! Please contact Mary at 562-537-6509 or [mary72durham@gmail.com](mailto:mary72durham@gmail.com).



## 2020 is a Census Year

The U.S. Constitution requires a count of every resident within the United States every ten years, for the purpose of Congressional apportionment (the number of seats in the House of Representatives and where they are located). The State of Colorado will also redistrict the State Senate and State House of Representatives based on 2020 Census data. Furthermore, \$675 billion in annual federal funding will be disbursed to local communities based on the census information. This information also helps to determine where education, healthcare, transportation and infrastructure are needed.

New Castle Councilor Crystal Mariscal is the Census Specialist for several western Colorado counties. We are fortunate to have her expertise here in New Castle.

Residents should expect to receive their Invitation to respond either in the mail or hand-delivered by a Census Enumerator beginning on March 12th. They can then respond via the Census Bureau's online portal, over the phone, or via paper questionnaire. Not everyone will receive a paper questionnaire, in which case they will be invited to respond by phone or on-line. Beginning May 9th, census staff will begin doing in-person or telephone follow-ups with households who have not yet responded.

All responses are completely confidential, and the Census Bureau is prohibited by federal law from sharing answers with the public, with other government agencies, or with anyone else. The Census Bureau will not include questions about citizenship on the census form.

Look for additional census information in this newsletter over the next three months.

### Winners of the Garden Club's 2019 holiday lighting contest

From Old Town: 343 Midland, 218 7<sup>th</sup> and #62 2nd St. Apple Tree;  
From Castle Valley Ranch: 521 Honeysuckle, 639 N. Wildhorse and 112 Carson Court;  
From Lakota: 136 Blackhawk, 386 Faas Ranch Road and 21 Whitetail.

Congratulations to all!



## New Castle

### Chamber of Commerce

“Growing Business, Building Community”

Support Your Community - Use Local Vendors - Shop Locally

Welcome to 2020! We hope that becoming more involved in your community is on your list of resolutions this year. The perfect way to do that is to join the New Castle Chamber. The Chamber sponsors or supports a great many community projects and activities.

The Chamber also serves its members in a variety of ways:

--Each month a different business is highlighted in this newsletter. It's a great way to showcase our members and introduce them to the community.

--Members are also featured on the Chamber web site, providing relevant information to the community.

--The Chamber has an active FaceBook page where information about members' special events can be shared.

--The Chamber office in the Community Center has literature racks and a large bulletin board where members can display brochures, newsletters, special events, menus and other information.

--The Chamber holds quarterly Business After Hours events, providing members with the opportunity to network with each other.

--The Chamber is a sponsor of many New Castle events (and is a presence at even more), which can provide visibility for member businesses.

The New Castle Chamber holds monthly board meetings, to which all members are invited. Board members are Siobhan Milholm of Pepsi (president); Craig Snow of Edward Jones (vice-president); Mari Riddile, Chamber Administrator (secretary); Debby Stephens of Close to My Heart and Legal Shield (treasurer); and Debbie Nichols, Town Liaison.

In addition to businesses, Individuals interested in participating more in their community are also invited to join the chamber. Address questions to the members of the Board, or call the Chamber Office at (970) 984-2897.

## Town Council Highlights for December 2019

- Approved Resolution TC 2019-23 adopting the 2020 budget
- Approved Ordinance TC 2019-9 adopting a supplemental budget for 2019
- Approved Ordinance TC2019-7 Amending Titles 3 and 5 of the New Castle Municipal Code to Implement a Tax on Tobacco and Nicotine Products and Requiring Licenses for Tobacco Retailers
- Approved Ordinance TC2019-8 Adopting and Imposing a Voter-Approved Ad Valorem Property Tax
- Approved Resolution TC 2019-24 Adopting a Directory of Fees and Charges.



### New Fees in Effect

As reported last month, the fees for trash collection and recycling were raised on January 1. The new rates are \$30.14 per month (\$26.65 senior rate) and will appear for the first time on the February 1 utilities bill.

Business, contractor and dog licenses need to be renewed for 2020. The forms for businesses and contractors can be found on the Business tab on the New Castle web site. Dog license applications may be found at Departments/Animal Services. The applications can also be picked up at Town Hall.

### Town Phone Numbers:

Town Hall 984-2311  
Fax: 984-2716  
Town email: [info@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:info@newcastlecolorado.org)  
Website: [www.newcastlecolorado.org](http://www.newcastlecolorado.org)

Police Non-emergency: 984-2302  
Building Department: 984-2311  
Public Works Department: 984-0669  
Recreation Department: 984-3352  
Police, Fire, after hours water/sewer emergency: 911



### Coal Ridge Cheer Team Victory

For the second year in a row, the Coal Ridge Co-Ed Cheer Team won top 2A/3A honors at the CHSCA State Spirit Championships in December. They were the top team in the preliminary rounds, then went on to win the finals with a score of 90.443, a full twenty points more than their nearest competitor.

Team member Brayden Kammers received an additional honor, being named CHSSA All Elite for the weekend. Cipriana Dacuma was chosen to participate in the CHSCA All State Games for Cheer.



### Upcoming Events at Town Hall

Town Council— January 7, 21 and February 4, 18.  
Planning & Zoning-2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month as needed.  
Historic Preservation Commission-6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Monday of the month as needed.

Climate Action Advisory Commission-3rd Wednesday of the month as needed.  
Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation-1st Wednesday of the month as needed.  
Town Hall will be closed January 1 for New Year's Day