



# Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

**March 2020**

## Three Incumbents Will Retain Council Seats

The three Town Councilors whose terms expire in April will all continue their service to the Town. No challengers submitted nomination petitions, so the April election has been cancelled. Crystal Mariscal, Grady Hazelton and Graham Riddile will take the Oath of Office at the April 21 Council meeting.

Although the April election has been cancelled, there are other elections scheduled for 2020. The primary balloting for presidential candidates ends March 3. A separate primary will select Democratic and

Republican candidates for the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives. Ballots in that election must be submitted by June 30.

A local ballot for everyone in the Colorado River Fire Rescue district will ask approval for an additional 6.099 mill levy to address personnel, equipment and facility needs. That ballot will be due May 5. And the November election ballot will likely be lengthy once again .

## First Annual Snowman Contest a Hit

The awards for the Most Creative and Best Traditional Snowmen were awarded at the Founders Day Luncheon in February.

Most Creative First Place: Tim Jenkins

Most Creative Second Place: Atticus Miller

Most Creative Third Place: Simon Rittner & Charlie Maurer

Traditional Snowman First Place:  
Karen, Abby, And  
Amelia Schwenk

Traditional Snowman Second Place:  
Mandy Ballinger  
Sledding Snowman

Traditional Snowman Third Place:  
Dennis Ballinger



## Climate Action Advisory Commission Re-formed.

In 2006 New Castle became a signatory to the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, committing the Town to work toward greenhouse gas reduction. Joining the Garfield Clean Energy Cooperative helped in reaching that goal. A second major step was the creation of the Climate Action Advisory Commission (CAAC). That commission conducted an anti-idling campaign and supported recycling, among other initiatives.

Recently the Town had been unable to recruit volunteers to serve as commissioners, and CAAC fell dormant. A resurgence of interest this year has provided five new CAAC members. The Town is grateful to new Commissioners Denise Scheberle, Jean Huyser, Ines Baquero, Jean Brown and Myrna Candraia. Councilor Bruce Leland will serve as the Council representative. There is one additional seat open, and interested residents are invited to apply in the Town Clerk's office.

The Commission has set meeting times as the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm.

### Council Modifies Fence Regulations

New Castle building codes set fence height limits for each zone district, but since there were no permitting or inspection procedures, enforcement has been difficult. Fences that exceed established limits have created vision hazards for drivers and occasional neighborhood disputes.

In order to make fence height enforcement proactive rather than reactive, the Town Council has adopted a fence permitting process. A fence permit is now required for any new or rebuilt fences greater than forty-two inches in height, For corner lots in the R-1 zone district, a permit is needed for fences over thirty inched high. Upon completion of the fence, town staff will perform a final inspection.

Fence permit application forms are available on the Town website. Go to Departments, then Building.



### Did you know that.....

- John and Cori Webber have announced the transformation of the Elk Creek Mining Company to the 88 Grille. The Grand Opening was celebrated on February 29.
- Spellebration 2020—Spell Wars-- will be Friday, April 17 at 6:00 at the Hotel Colorado. Spellebration is a major fund-raiser for Literacy Outreach.
- The Future Cities team from Liberty Classical Academy represented the state of Colorado at the national finals in Washington DC in February.
- The state champion Coal Ridge Cheer team won fourth place at the National Cheer Association competition in Texas in February.



#### Sports

**Youth Micro Soccer (Ages 4-8yrs):** Practices are 1-2 times a week, beginning March 30. Friday games begin April 10. \$50 + \$10 for new jersey. Registration deadline is March 20.

**Youth Pee Wee Wrestling (Ages 4-14):** Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 3-May 2, 6:30-8:00 pm. There are four Saturday tournaments. \$85.

#### Fitness

**Tai Chi & Fall Prevention:** Tuesdays at 9 am, or Thursdays at 9 am and 6 pm. \$45.00 for 8 weeks; \$7 drop-in.

**N'Balance Classes:** For seniors or convalescents. Thursdays, March 5-April 30. \$59.

#### Arts and Enrichment

**Preschool Play Group:** Every Wednesday at 10 am at the Community Center. \$5 online/ \$7 drop-in.

**Community Drum Circle:** First Monday of each month at 6:30. Free.

**Making Butter:** Thursday, March 12 at 6 pm. NCCC; \$20.



#### K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Spring Break Day

**Camps:** Monday, March 23 & Tuesday, March 24, 9 am-4 pm. \$45/day.



**Fly Fishing 101:** Topics will include equipment, knots, casting and more. Saturday, March 28, 1:00-4:00 pm at the Community Center. \$25.



**Fly Fishing 102:** Practice fly fishing skills in the Colorado River. Saturday, April 4, 1:00-4:00 pm, in Grand River Park, \$25. Register for both classes for \$40.

**Inky Hands Art Studio Classes:** Taught by Lynne Cassidy at NCCC:

Saturday, March 14, 6:30-8:30 pm: Cute Creature Creations. Choose to paint a sloth, unicorn or llama. \$30.00/adult, \$15/child.

Friday, March 20, 6:30-8:30 pm: Georgia O'Keeffe Cow Skull. \$40.00.

Saturday, April 4, 6:00-9:00 pm: Spring/Summer Wood Porch Sign. \$55.00.

## Town Council Highlights for February 2020

- Appointed the following residents to the Climate Action Advisory Commission: Denise Scheberle, Jean Huyser, Jean Brown, Ines Baquero, and Myrna Candraia
- Ordinance TC 2020-2 – Implementing Permit Requirements for Fences
- Resolution TC 2020-4 – Canceling the Election
- Resolution TC 2020-5 – Declaring the Candidates Elected
- Resolution TC 2020-6 – Supporting the 2020 Census
- Resolution TC 2020-7 – Supporting an FMLD Mini Grant Application for a Secure Evidence Storage Facility
- Resolution TC 2020-8 – Supporting an FMLD Grant Application for Street Maintenance
- Resolution TC 2020-9 – Approving an MOU with Garfield County Senior Programs
- Renewed the Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License for Lazy Bear Restaurant
- Signed a Contract Service Agreement with WR Communications
- Signed a Recreational Trail License Agreement with CTS Investments



Founders Day 2020

## New Castle Chamber of Commerce

“Growing Business, Building Community”  
Support Your Community - Use Local Vendors  
Shop Locally

The New Castle Chamber is excited to announce that it is bringing bingo to town beginning on Thursday, March 26. After that debut event, the Chamber will host the game on the fourth Thursday of each month. The exceptions will be in November and December, when bingo will give way to holiday celebrations.

Bingo has been a long-term goal for the Chamber. Obtaining a Colorado state bingo license for the Chamber and game manager licenses for the board members has been a lengthy and time-consuming process. At last everything we need is in place.

Ten game playing cards will cost \$10.00, and daubers can be purchased for \$1.50. There will be a concession stand for each bingo evening, provided by local community organizations as a fundraiser for their groups.

The family-friendly Bingo Nights will be held in the Community Center from 7:00 to 9:00 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month. Mark your calendars now, and plan to bring the whole family.



New Castle  
Chamber of Commerce  
presents  
Bingo



*When: 4th Thursday of each month,  
with the exception of  
November and December*

*Time: 7 to 9 pm*

*Where: New Castle Community Center*



## The 2020 Census Count Begins in March

On February 18 the Town Council approved a resolution committing the town to support a complete and accurate count of all persons within Town limits. The resolution notes that census and housing data is used to determine how some state and federal funds are allocated, and that it is used to determine seats in the House of Representatives. The data can also be important to entrepreneurs.

Invitations to participate in the census will be mailed the week of March 12-20. Responses may be submitted online, by phone or by mail. April 1 is the official Census Day, and anyone who has not responded will be visited by a census worker from May through July.

The local census team will host two community meetings in order to provide accurate information about the census to our residents. The first meeting will be at 6:30 on Wednesday, March 11, at the Apple Tree Community Room. The second meeting will be on March 31, at 6:30 pm in the Community Center on Main Street. There will be a drawing for door prizes.

Whether completed online, on paper or by phone, the census asks only ten questions. The first four are about the whole household:

- 1) How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2020?**
- 2. Were there any additional people staying here on April 1, 2020, that you did not include in Question 1?**
- 3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home owned by you or someone in this household with a**

mortgage or loan? Is it owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? Rented? Occupied without payment of rent?

**4. What is your telephone number?**

In addition there are questions about each individual in the household:

- 5. What is person's name?**
- 6. What is person's sex?**
- 7. What is person's age and what is person's date of birth?**
- 8. Is Person of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?**
- 9. What is Person's race?**
- 10) (For each additional person) How is this person related to Person 1?**

Note there is no question about citizenship.

The Town is committed to getting a complete and accurate count of all our residents. New Castle Councilor Crystal Mariscal is working as a census specialist for Western Colorado. If you have questions, please write to her census address: [crysal.perez.mariscal@2020census.gov](mailto:crysal.perez.mariscal@2020census.gov). The census bureau's web site is [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov). You can also direct questions and concerns to Debbie Nichols ([dnichols@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:dnichols@newcastlecolorado.org) or 970-984-2311).



### 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

### Upcoming Events at Town Hall

Town Council— March 3, 17 and April 7, 21.

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.