



Town of New Castle Newsletter

A Monthly Update for Residents

June 2019

What is a Use Tax?

The Town Council has begun to discuss a possible ballot question which would raise targeted revenues for designated Town expenses. After weighing several possibilities, the Council decided to focus on a one-time use tax on vehicle purchases.

A use tax in Colorado is a tax paid to the town on certain items purchased elsewhere for use in town. New Castle currently receives taxes on construction materials purchased out of town for use in New Castle. Most towns and cities in Colorado also have a use tax on vehicle purchases.

A vehicle use tax is a one-time sales tax paid on purchases of registered vehicles. It is paid at time of purchase or registration, and the funds are remitted to the town. Once paid at the initial purchase, no additional tax will be collected by the Town.

The Council is considering a one-time vehicle use tax because funds from other sources, including property taxes, sales taxes and gas & oil impact fees, are becoming insufficient to provide necessary services. The town actually receives only a portion of property and sales taxes; the majority of these funds go to other agencies (such as the school district, the fire department, RFTA, the library, etc.).

Under Colorado law, any new tax must be approved by voters, so if the Council decides to move ahead, the issue would appear on a future election ballot. Before they move ahead, the counselors would like to hear from residents. They will schedule a community meeting in early July to discuss the need for the use tax, possible designated uses for the funds and methods for distributing information. Watch for the meeting announcement. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Lane markers on Main Street

Last summer the Town repainted the lane markers on Main Street, reducing the travel lanes from four to two, with a center turn lane and two bicycle lanes. Over the winter the lane markers were worn away. CDOT will resurface the road in July and paint the lines with long-lasting paint. CDOT performs this service because Main Street is State Route 6, and the state has responsibility for maintenance. During the July resurfacing, there will be some traffic restrictions.

In the meantime, the Town has installed reflective markers to indicate the traffic lanes. As always, watch for cyclists in the bike lanes, as well as for pedestrians in the crosswalks.

Golf carts and OHVs on New Castle Streets?

Town councilors have been asked to explore whether or not we should allow golf carts and/or other off-highway vehicles to travel legally on designated town streets. This rule change could help provide easier connectivity among the several regions of the town, and could provide access to county roads (such as the Buford Road) where OHVs are permitted.

The town will host an open house on Thursday, June 6, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. There will be no formal presentations. Residents are invited to drop in to discuss the issue with councilors, town staff and one another.



Lakota Ridge Senior Housing Open

The new senior housing on Castle Valley Boulevard is open for residents. Lakota Ridge Senior Housing was constructed by the Community Resources & Housing Development Corporation, which will continue to manage the property. CRHDC also owns and manages Castle Valley Senior Housing at the west end of Castle Valley Boulevard.

This project, developed in partnership with the Town and the Garfield County Housing Authority, has been in the works for several years. With 50 apartments available to age- and income-qualified residents, Lakota Ridge Senior Housing provides much needed housing opportunities that will serve the entire area.



WANTED

New Castle Community Market is looking for a few more vendors. The season is Thursdays, July 11 to September 12, 4:30 pm - 7 pm. For more information, call 984-3420.



July 20,
are you registered?

Did you know that.....

- ◇ New Castle runners earned honors at the Silt Historic Park 5k Run: 1st place – Wesley Toews, 4th place – Phil Dunn, 6th place – Angela Dunn and 7th place – Jessica Pooler.
- ◇ The New Castle Running Club takes a run around town every Monday, beginning at 7 pm at New Castle Dental.
- ◇ The New Castle Community Market opens on Thursday, July 11.
- ◇ The Dirty Hog Dash returns to New Castle on Saturday, July 20.



Summer is a busy time for New Castle Recreation! Here's a partial list of events. Registration is required at newcastlerec.com. Fees will be charged.

Sports Camps:

Junior Titan Basketball Camp: June 10 to June 13, 9 am-12 noon at Coal Ridge High School

Junior Titan Volleyball Camp: August 5-7, 9:00-10:30 am for 3-6 graders, and 10 am -12 noon for 6-8 graders

Intro to T-ball (age 4), **T-Ball** (ages 5-6), **Coach Pitch** (ages 7-8), **Baseball** (ages 8-13), and **Softball** (ages 8-13). Various times

Arts and Enrichment Programs

Kids Summer Craft Club: June 4, 5 and 6, 1-2 pm at Community Center

Ladybug Release Party for ages 3-7: June 8, 11 am at Elk Creek Elementary garden

Chalk the Walks: Decorate any sidewalk on Main Street with happy chalk drawings, June 9 through 30

Painted Feathers with Kelley: June 11, 6 pm at Community Center

Father's Day Craft for Kids: June 13, 10-11 am at Community Center

Unicorn Dream Catcher craft for kids and adults: June 17, 11 am at Community Center

Making Elderberry Syrup: June 18, 6 pm at Community Center

Needle Felting with Kelley: June 20, 6pm at Community Center

Welcome Porch Sign art party: June 22, 6-9 pm at Community Center

Preschool craft: Making Ribbon Rings: June 24, 10 am at Community Center

Mermaid Crown craft for kids and adults: June 27, 11 am at Community Center

Independence Day Crafts for kids: June 28 1-3 pm at Community Center

Adult Art Party: June 30, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at Community Center



New Castle Chamber of Commerce

“Growing Business, Building Community”

Support Your Community - Use Local Vendors - Shop Locally

Dates to Put On Your 2019 Calendar

June 8 NCPD Bike Rodeo, 10:00 – 2:00 at Riverside Middle School.

June 9: New Castle Diner’s Annual Classic Car Show, 4 – 6 pm at the Diner, with Whiskey Stomp.

June 15: Yard Sale at Apple Tree Community, 9 am-3 pm.

June 23: Rodrigo Arreguin music at Ritter Plaza, 5-6:30 pm.

July 4: Freedom Celebration at Apple Tree Community.

July 13: Hogback Hustle, 8 am.

Show off your Garden in July!

New Castle gardeners are invited to show off their handiwork on July 20. Besides any last minute weeding, all that is required is to be available on the 20th to talk about your garden with ticket-holders who will visit the gardens.

Gardeners from downtown, Castle Valley Ranch, Lakota Ranch and the surrounding area can sign up by calling Mary Gervais at 970-470-3678. Large or small; flower, fruit or vegetable; all gardens are welcome.

Tickets for the garden tour will be sold at the River Center the morning of July 20. The cost is \$5.00 and proceeds will go to the Garden Club’s continual beautification program.

Exciting things are happening with members of the New Castle Chamber! We’re pleased to share some of them with you.

The Ore House, located next to Elk Creek Mining Company, has added two new rooms. On June 24 at 6:00 they will host an Open House to show off their new additions. Everyone in our community is invited to join owner John Weber for drinks and a tour of the rooms.

It’s summer wedding season for An Exquisite Design in downtown New Castle. Owner Dawn Ellis not only designs beautiful flower arrangements for any occasion, but her shop also carries a great selection of gifts. Stop in to see all she has to offer.

If you haven’t been to Speckled Feather Mercantile, you’re missing out! New owner Ami Scribi offers a lot of the same products that made the shop a local favorite, while adding many new items. You’ll want to visit the new sewing room and selection of fabrics. Old favorite classes are joined by exciting new additions.

The Chamber joins the Town of New Castle in welcoming the Colorado Taxidermy show. On Saturday, June 1 at 9:00, the community is invited to view the fabulous creations of their members. The cost is \$3.00 per adult and is free to children.

As always, come by the Chamber office located in the New Castle Community Center to hear about everything our members have to offer, as well as the various happenings around town.



The second annual Cinco de Mayo celebration filled 5th Street in downtown New Castle.

Town Council Highlights for May 2019

- Resolution TC 2019-8, adopting a fee schedule
 - Resolution TC 2019-9, adopting Rides & Reggae as a town event
 - Capital Deli Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal
 - Elk Creek Mining Company Hotel & Restaurant Liquor License Renewal
 - Approved Special
- Events Liquor Licenses for:
- Rides & Reggae
 - Community Market
 - Ritter Plaza Music in the Park
- Approved Contracts for Ware & Hinds Water
 - Approved a Contract Extension of the Closing Date for the Sale of Town Owned Property at 200 S E Avenue#115

Keep Us All Safe This Summer

Remember the 2017 fire on Coal Ridge? While we have had relief from our extreme drought conditions this year, fire danger remains. A tossed cigarette or a spark from a wood fire can cause serious damage. Be careful. Obey the fire restrictions



RITTER PLAZA
MUSIC SERIES
NEW CASTLE, CO

FREE MUSIC!
WINE AND BEER WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Sunday, June 23, 5:00-6:30pm
Rodrigo Arreguin

Friday, July 19, 6:30-8:00pm
Porch Pickers

Friday, August 9, 5:00-8:00pm
MountainUs, Beyond Bridges and SoulFeel

Friday, August 23, 6:30-8:00pm
Frank Martin

Friday, September 20, 6:30-8:00pm
Amy Mathesius

Friday, December 20, 6:00-7:30pm
Visit from Santa!

Change in the Town's Dog Impound Fee

With the closing of the Divide Creek Animal Hospital, the Town has had to find a new shelter for dogs which lose their owners. They will now be transported to the Rifle Animal Shelter. This change means an increase in the impound fee. The ransom for dogs taken to the Animal shelter will be \$120 for initial intake and one day's boarding; \$20 for each additional day.

To avoid having dogs impounded, owners should register them with the town and make sure the dog is always wearing its registration tag. A second tag with contact information is even better. The fee for cats and other animals is the same.

Upcoming Events at Town Hall

Town Council - June 4, 18 and July 2, 16.

Planning & Zoning - 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month as needed.

Historic Preservation Commission - 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd Mon-

day 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.