



TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

# Newsletter

A QUARTERLY UPDATE FOR CITIZENS

February 2012

[www.newcastlecolorado.org](http://www.newcastlecolorado.org)

## New Castle library reopening April 14th

The grand reopening of the New Castle Branch Library will take place on April 14, 2012, at 10am. The public is invited to join the library staff, board of directors and local officials to celebrate the building's transformation. New Castle's library was the first in Garfield County, originally built in 1968.

During the renovation the building's roof was raised and now features beautiful wood beams as well as two new clerestory windows bringing light into the middle of the building. The library will have 10kwh of solar panels designed and installed by Colorado Mountain College's Integrated Energy classes.



New flooring and fixtures are currently being installed.

GCPLD recently received a generous donation from Encana Energy Inc. to purchase the natural gas heating systems for this facility. The Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation provided a \$20,000 grant for an interactive early literacy installation in the children's area. The library is seeking additional donations from individuals to help support a series of historic photo panels for the

lobby, the fireplace area and the local history room. If you can donate, please contact Kelsy Been at [kbeen@gcpld.org](mailto:kbeen@gcpld.org) or call 625-4270.

## Economic Advisory Committee completes first year

The New Castle Economic Advisory Committee was formed in late 2010 as an autonomous body working closely with the New Castle Chamber of Commerce, the Town Council and the Rifle Regional Economic Development Corporation. The committee's primary goals are retaining and expanding local businesses, attracting appropriate new businesses and drawing tourists to New Castle.

Supporting local businesses is an especially significant goal. Economic studies

indicate that 80% of a community's growth potential comes from existing businesses.

EAC members have recently visited many New Castle businesses, introducing themselves, offering support and inviting owners/managers to complete an economic survey. If a committee member has not yet visited your business, or if you need a new copy of the survey, please contact the EAC at 970 625-4202



[NewCastle@rifleedc.com](mailto:NewCastle@rifleedc.com)

# New Castle Recreation seeking energetic volunteers

## NEW CASTLE RECREATION SEEKING INSTRUCTORS

New Castle Recreation is looking for talented local individuals who have special skills to offer the residents of our community. The spring and summer recreation program will include a number of classes, clinics and camps. Instructors are needed to teach art, music, outdoor recreation, sports, cooking, or other areas of expertise. Instructors will receive a percentage of the participant registration fees, although the real reward is the opportunity to share special skills and talents. Individuals interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact Larry McDonald, Recreation Director, at [lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org) or (970) 984-3352, no later than Friday, February 24.

## YOUTH WRESTLING INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

The New Castle Recreation Department is very proud of its successful wrestling program. Wrestling instructors are needed for the upcoming spring recreational and competitive programs. Instructors receive a percentage of the participant registration fees, and are expected to teach 2-4 hours on weeknights and possibly attend regional tournaments from late February through mid-May. Interested instructors should contact Larry McDonald at [lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org), or (970) 984-3352.

## NEW ADULT BASKETBALL & VOLLEYBALL PROGRAMS COMING SOON

Don't let the kids have all the fun! New Castle Recreation is offering new adult basketball and volleyball programs beginning in early March. A

mixed quads volleyball league (both men and women participating at all times) will be offered on Monday evenings. A 3 on 3 basketball league will play on Wednesday evenings. Contact Larry McDonald at [lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:lmcdonald@newcastlecolorado.org), or (970) 984-3352.

## SPRING YOUTH AND ADULT SOCCER REGISTRATION UNDERWAY

Registration is currently underway for the New Castle Recreation spring soccer programs for both youth and adults. Micro soccer is for children ages 4 -7, and includes two practices a week with games on Friday evenings. The fee is \$50.00. U10 Soccer is for children ages 8 -9, with two practices a week and games on Saturdays; the U10 fee \$60.00. The competitive soccer program is for ages 10-13 and participants must try out. Competitive teams play games around the Western Slope and also on the Front Range. Both parents and players must be seriously committed to the program. The registration fee for competitive soccer is \$120.00 and does not include tournament fees or travel costs.

For adults the Recreation Center offers an 8 on 8 Coed Recreational League with games on Sunday afternoons and evenings beginning in mid-April at beautiful Grand River Park. Team fees are \$350.00 and the deadline to register is April 6.

For more information, please contact Hannah Bihr at [hbihr@newcastlecolorado.org](mailto:hbihr@newcastlecolorado.org), or (970) 984-3352.

## Follow New Castle on facebook

Besides serving as a way for individuals to keep in touch, Facebook also helps businesses, organizations and governments to share information and announcements.

Over the past few months the Town of New Castle has developed a very active presence on Facebook. Among the new Facebook organizations are the New Castle Chamber of Commerce,

Town of New Castle, Visit New Castle, New Castle Economic Development, New Castle Climate Action Advisory Commission and New Castle Police Department. In addition, many local businesses now have Facebook sites.

New Castle residents are encouraged to visit and "like" these pages, then share them with friends on their own pages.

## Town councilors to be elected

The Town of New Castle will be holding a Municipal Election on April 3, 2012. Voters will choose 3 Councilors to serve 4-year terms. To serve on Town Council, one must be a registered voter, 18 years of age or older on Election Day, and a Town resident for at least 1 year prior to the election. Persons interested in running for office may pick up nomination petitions from the Town Clerk's Office at 450 West Main Street, starting February 3, 2012. The petitions need a minimum of 15 signatures by registered voters residing within the Town limits. The signed petitions must be returned to the



Town Clerk's Office by 5:00 p.m., February 23, 2012. The Town Clerk will also provide potential candidates with an elections packet, outlining the basic duties of a Councilor and various deadlines during the election process.

The election will be by mail ballot, and New Castle citizens must be registered to vote by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 5th, 2012. Ballots may be cast by mail or returned in person to Town Hall. All ballots must be in

the Town Clerk's office by 5 p.m. on April 3. For more information go to the Town website › Government › Town Council › Elections.

## Keeping streetlights lit

The Town of New Castle Public Works Department surveys the town's streetlights each month. A list of all non-working streetlights is submitted to Xcel Energy for repair. Sometimes lights are missed, but more often a light that operates sporadically is observed to be working when the monthly survey is taken. New Castle residents can help keep our streetlights lit by reporting any problems to the Public Works Department at 984-0669. Homeowners can also report the inoperable streetlight directly by going to: [http://www.xcelenergy.com/Outages/Report\\_a\\_Problem](http://www.xcelenergy.com/Outages/Report_a_Problem)

### Do you know where your shut-off valve is located?



If an emergency required shutting off the water supply to your home, would you be able to direct the repairperson to the outside shut-off valve?

The shut-off valve is on your water service line and is normally located at the front edge of a property, buried about six feet deep. There is 1" diameter pipe with an iron cap extending to the surface. Homes in older parts of town may have a meter pit outside the home. In case of a water pipe break inside the home, the valve stops the flow of water until the problem can be fixed.

Too often the shut-off valve can be obscured by dirt, landscaping, weeds or debris. If it can't be found in an emergency, the water damage to a home can be greatly increased.

Since the valve box or meter pit is on private property, maintaining it is the homeowner's responsibility. Anyone who cannot locate their valve can contact the Town Utilities Department, which will help identify the location. Once located, the lawn or landscaping in the area should be kept closely trimmed. If you have questions or need assistance with the water supply to your property, please contact Greg Colter, Utilities Supervisor, at 984-0669.

# Town Council highlights: September 2011 - December 2011

- Appointed Larry Borgard to Planning and Zoning Commission
- Approved Resolution TC 2011-13, Special Event Liquor Licensing
- Extended the CUP application fee waiver until October of 2012
- Approved Resolution 2011-14, recognizing Mike Miller for his service to the Town
- Approved transfer of Lakota Canyon Golf Liquor License
- Approved transfer of Lakota Canyon Recreation Center Liquor License
- Approved Resolution 2011-17, thanking Bucky Moser for his service to the Town
- Approved the Budget for 2012
- Approved Resolution 2011-19, extending the Lakota Golf Course Clubhouse CUP
- Approved credit card limits for Town employees
- Waived posting of bonds for Town employees
- Approved Ordinance 2011-7, amending the Municipal Code concerning littering on public and private lands
- Approved 2011 supplemental budget
- Approved Ordinance 2011-E-1, setting 2012 water and sewer rates
- Approved liquor license renewals for White River Bar and Grill, Patti's Main Street Coffee House and Bill's Cowboy Steak House, City Market, Kum & Go, Stop and Save, Spirits of New Castle
- Approved a special events liquor license for the Chili Cook-off for the New Castle Chamber of Commerce on December 3.

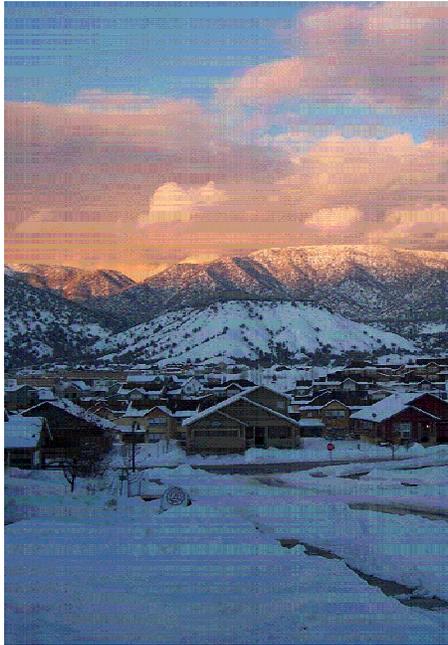


Photo by Susie Romig



A reminder from the Public Works crew that the Town Code directs citizens to shovel snow onto lawns, not into the roadways. The snow will add moisture to trees, grass and landscaping, and shoveling into roadways impedes the effectiveness of the snowplow drivers.

## Upcoming at Town Hall

**Town Council** – Feb. 7th, 21st, \*March 6th, 20th, April 17th, May 1st and 15th

**Planning & Zoning Commission** – Feb. 8th, 22nd, March 14th, 28th, April 11th, 25th, May 9th

**Historic Preservation Commission** – 6:30 p.m. third Monday of month as needed

**Climate Action Advisory Commission** – third

Wednesday of month as needed

**Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation** – first Monday of month as needed

**Municipal Court** – 9 a.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of month

\*March 6th—to be held at Lakota Rec Center

Town Hall: 984-2311 · fax: 984-2716  
Town e-mail: info@newcastlecolorado.org  
Website: www.newcastlecolorado.org  
Police, fire, after hours water/sewer emergency: 911

Police non-emergency: 984-2302  
Building Department: 984-2311  
Public Works Department: 984-0669  
Recreation Department: 984-3352