

# Your Town Talk

December 2020



## Good to Know Season of The Star

The Season of the Star shines bright in Castle Rock. Experience the warmth of the season, check out the decorations Downtown and support the local businesses in our community this holiday.

### Holiday Drive-In Movie: Elf

*Saturday, Dec. 12, 5 p.m. at PSM Park —*

Enjoy a fun seasonal night with this holiday movie on a 30-foot screen. Registration required.

### Light Show at PSM Park

*Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, Dec. 3-19 —*  
Drive or walk through the park at night and enjoy beautiful twinkling lights.

More information is available at [CRgov.com/StarSeason](http://CRgov.com/StarSeason).

### Santa Drive-bys

Castle Rock Fire and Rescue and the Castle Rock Police Department will be escorting Santa through Castle Rock neighborhoods this holiday season starting Saturday, Dec. 12. Find out when he'll be in a neighborhood near you at [CRgov.com/SantaDriveBy](http://CRgov.com/SantaDriveBy).

### New Year's Eve fireworks

The July 4 fireworks show was canceled due to fire restrictions, but that made it possible to close out 2020 with a bang. At about 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31, fireworks will blast off from Santa Fe Quarry Mesa, located just south of The Meadows, above Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course. The show can be seen from almost anywhere in Town. Learn more at [CRgov.com/Fireworks](http://CRgov.com/Fireworks).

## Four new members join Town Council

Four new members have joined Town Council, following November's election. These new members join current members Mayor Jason Gray, Councilmember Kevin Bracken (District 3) and Councilmember Caryn Johnson (District 5). Here are the new members:

- **District 1 — Ryan Hollingshead** (western portions of The Meadows)
- **District 2 — Laura Cavey** (northeast Castle Rock)
- **District 4 — Desiree LaFleur** (central Castle Rock and Downtown)
- **District 4 — Tim Dietz** (south Castle Rock)

Learn more about Town Council and find out which member represents you at [CRgov.com/MeetCouncil](http://CRgov.com/MeetCouncil).

Town Council generally meets twice a month to make decisions that impact the community. Whether it's a road project, construction contract or budget amendment, Town Council is working to keep Castle Rock a great community. View the Council meeting agendas at [CRgov.com/Agendas](http://CRgov.com/Agendas), or learn more about Town Council at [CRgov.com/Council](http://CRgov.com/Council).

## Support local this holiday season

The holidays are here, but they'll look different this year than ever before. Retailers are having to operate with drastically reduced capacities during a time when they're typically bustling. Restaurants, where so many of us go to share cheer with family and friends, are subject to more stringent restrictions.

Compassion and support for local business owners and workers who are experiencing the hardest of years embodies holiday spirit.

The Town encourages everyone this holiday

season to do all they can to

support our local community by grabbing a bite to go at a local restaurant and shopping at near-by stores. One way the Town will aim to help is by sharing about local businesses on social media. Follow Town of Castle Rock Government on Facebook to show support and see what's happening with local businesses. Or, learn more at [CRgov.com/SupportLocal](http://CRgov.com/SupportLocal).



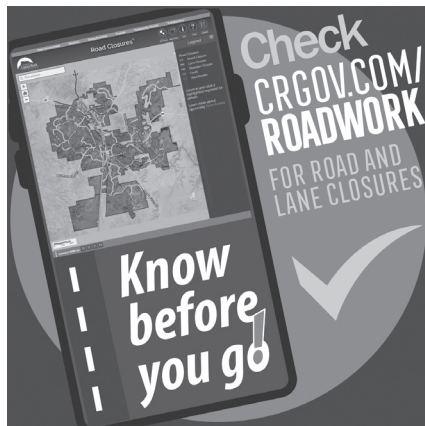
## Newsletter keeps readers in-the-know about development

Ever wonder what's going on in the empty lot in your neighborhood, or what new restaurant is being built nearby? The Town just launched its monthly Development Highlights newsletter as a new resource to keep you up-to-date on current and proposed development projects throughout Town. Subscribe to the newsletter at [CRgov.com/NotifyMe](http://CRgov.com/NotifyMe). Then, select the envelope icon next to Development Highlights newsletter. When you sign up, the newsletter will be delivered to your inbox each month. Or, visit [CRgov.com/DevelopmentActivity](http://CRgov.com/DevelopmentActivity) to view all issues of the newsletter.

## 2021 brings no water rate increases

Securing the Town's long-term water future; providing great-tasting, safe drinking water; and keeping rates as low as possible are all goals in the coming year for Castle Rock Water. Each year, rates are evaluated to make sure current customers are paying the true cost of service and not carrying the burden for future growth.

Despite the uncertainty that 2020 brought, careful planning and consistent forecasting have determined rates are in line with needs. This means there will be no increase to water rates for 2021. For the third year in a row, water rates have remained stable, while Castle Rock Water continues to provide a strong and safe water future. It's important to note, rate revenues are not used for development. Instead, developers pay fees related to accessing the water system. These system development fees, as they are known, will increase by 4.9% in 2021.



### Know before you go

Although some roadwork is winding down for the winter season, lane and road closures are still possible around Town for utility work, development and construction. There's an easy way to check for closures before you start your drive. Visit [CRgov.com/Roadwork](http://CRgov.com/Roadwork) to view a map of all closures.

## Events in Castle Rock [CRgov.com/Events](http://CRgov.com/Events)

**Dec. 3-19:** Holiday Light Show, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 5-11 p.m., PSM Park.

**Dec. 9:** ACC Virtual Open House, 5-7 p.m., learn more about resources available at Arapahoe Community College.

**Dec. 10:** Animals Around the Rock — What a Hoot!, 7-7:30 p.m., virtual event, registration required: [CRgov.com/RockAnimals](http://CRgov.com/RockAnimals).

**Starting Dec. 12:** Santa Drive-bys, more information at [CRgov.com/SantaDriveBy](http://CRgov.com/SantaDriveBy).

**Dec. 12:** Holiday Drive-in Movie — Elf, 5 to 8 p.m., Philip S. Miller Park.

**Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve: Town offices closed; Recreation Center and MAC open 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Dec. 25:** Christmas: Town facilities closed.

**Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve Fireworks, 7 p.m., blasting off from Santa Fe Quarry Mesa.

**Dec. 31:** New Year's Eve: Recreation Center and MAC open 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Jan. 1:** New Year's Day: Town facilities closed.



### Keep it up, Douglas County

You are experiencing pandemic fatigue. We know it's hard, but let's lift one another up and encourage the behavior we need to see to keep COVID down. Keep up the good work. Wear your mask, wash your hands, get a flu shot and follow social distancing. Visit [douglas.co.us/douglascovid19/keep-it-up-douglas-county](http://douglas.co.us/douglascovid19/keep-it-up-douglas-county).



Water conservation and efficiency tip  
[CRconserve.com](http://CRconserve.com)

Do you know where your water shut-off valve is located? It's located near your water meter — most likely in your basement, on the wall closest to the street. If you have a frozen pipe that bursts or other water emergency, shut off your water valve and call a plumber. If you do not have a water meter within your home, the shut-off valve is probably under a sink or in a closet. Please do not access the meter pit in your front yard. Removing the street valve cover will allow colder air inside, potentially causing additional freezing problems. Find tips on how to thaw out (and prevent) frozen pipes at [CRgov.com/FrozenPipes](http://CRgov.com/FrozenPipes).

### On the Web: [CRgov.com](http://CRgov.com)

#### Plow Tracker

With snow season upon us, the Town's Plow Tracker is a great resource. Visit [CRgov.com/PlowTracker](http://CRgov.com/PlowTracker) to see what routes plows have traveled during a snow event. Little blue dots will mark the plows' tracks. As a reminder, plows will visit residential streets if snow totals reach 4 or more inches on pavement, until March 15.