

May 11, 2026

To the Honorable Mayor Grady Hazleton and New Castle Town Council,

This is a letter of interest for the vacant seat on the New Castle Town Council.

I have lived in New Castle since 1993 and have been involved in the community in numerous capacities beginning with helping to found the Castle Valley Babysitting Co-op in 1994. The Co-op raised money and laid sod in the now Kay Williams Park. In 1998, I was elected to the Home Rule Charter Commission which ensured the Town had the power of local self-government. Shortly after that, my family joined First Baptist Church of New Castle where I serve in Women's Ministry and lead the Secret Heart Sister program. For about ten years in the late 1990's and early 2000's, I coordinated the soccer program in New Castle, overseeing hundreds of kids of all ages playing on both competitive and recreational teams

I am an active volunteer with the River Center, volunteering with the Angel Tree Program, chairing Totes for Hope for ten years, and for the last nine years leading the Volunteer New Castle committee. I have been an active member of the New Castle Chamber of Commerce serving as Administrator and Vice President. Over the years I have developed a good relationship with all three men who serve on the Board of County Commissioners. In addition, I have served the Town of New Castle as a Commissioner and then Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission, where we have successfully conducted a survey of Main St. and given three properties historic designation. The most recent is the Highland Cemetery which will be made official on Memorial Day, May 5, 2026.

As you can see, all my involvement in the New Castle community makes me uniquely qualified for the vacant council position.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "mari riddile".

Mari Riddile