ISSUE #14

Monthly Newsletter

Nappanee Chamber of Commerce

1 January 2026



Chamber Business of the Month January 2026: E. Newcomer & Son Jewelers

As we welcome 2026, the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce is excited to introduce a new "Business of the Month" feature. It's only fitting that this new spotlight begins with a business that has been a cornerstone of our community for an incredible 145 years.

E Newcomer & Son Jewelers, established in 1880, proudly holds the distinction of being the oldest family-owned jewelry store in the state of Indiana. Today, the business is led by fourth-generation owner Brad Newcomer, continuing a family tradition built on craftsmanship, integrity, and exceptional service.

The legacy of E Newcomer & Son is strengthened by its knowledgeable and dedicated team—Lynn, Barb, Jenn, and Carla—who collectively bring over 170 years of experience. Their passion lies in helping each customer find the perfect piece, whether for a special occasion, or for everyday enjoyment.

E Newcomer & Son offers a wide selection of fine jewelry, including rings, bracelets, earrings, pendants and watches. In addition, they feature engravable plaques, hand-blown glass awards, and an extensive assortment of kitchen and bar giftware. The store also carries jewelry lines exclusively in the area, with custom design playing a significant role in their business. In-house repair services ensure quick turnaround times and trusted quality.

Located in the heart of downtown Nappanee at 107 S Main St, E Newcomer & Son Jewelers can be reached at 574-773-3241 and can be found on Facebook. Make it a point to visit this remarkable business—Indiana's oldest family-owned jewelry store—and experience a legacy that continues to shine.



Photo credits: Nappanee ELC





In this newsletter you can expect:

Business of the Month

Annual Dinner Award Nominations

New Chamber Members

City News

Event Calendar

Upcoming Events



Community News

3 Excellence in Business awards are based on the following criteria:

- Must be a member of the Nappanee Area Chamber of Commerce
- Have significantly impacted the community through the growth of their respective business
- Have contributed to the community above and beyond most normal expectations
- Have partnered with the city, schools, or service organizations to help promote a particular project or event for Nappanee
- Have a track record of commitment to Nappanee

The Educator of the Year is based on the following criteria:

- Dedication to the profession of education
- High academic and moral standards for self and community
- Motivator of self, colleagues, students, and community
- An inspired initiator of programs and projects of education
- A team builder cooperating with the community, the educational system, and citizens to ensure excellence and productivity
- Resides or teaches in the WaNee area
- Nominations from students are encouraged

The Citizen of the Year award is based on the following criteria:

- Must be civic-minded and dedicated to church, club, or community service
- Have good moral character
- Own a business or reside in Nappanee
- Has made a significant contribution to Nappanee through his or her work in business, government, service club, or volunteer organization
- Does not have to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce

PAPA'S WOODWORKING LLC

ONE CUSTOMER AT A TIME

New Chamber Member

Papas Woodworking started in 2021 and makes everything handmade. Some products they make are wooden flags, coasters, outdoor games, wildlife feeders, picnic tables, burnt items and MUCH MORE!

RUHE 152

ITALIAN BISTRO

New Chamber Member

Ruhe 152 Italian Bistro brews a selection of beers in-house, as well as distilling a number of our own spirits. They completely remodeled a 100 year old building creating a stunning new landmark in an already vibrant downtown.
Wednesday-Saturday(5-9pm)
Sunday (11-3pm)

City of Nappanee

Visit www.nappanee.in.gov

Help Keep Fire Hydrants Clear this Winter



The Nappanee Fire Department is reaching out to seek your assistance in **maintaining the accessibility of neighborhood fire hydrants during the winter season**. If your house is in proximity to a fire hydrant, we kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring it remains clear of snow and ice. If possible, take a moment to **clear any accumulated snow and ice around the fire hydrant**. A helpful guideline is to establish a **three-foot perimeter around the hydrant and path from it to the street**. Investing just a few minutes in this effort can potentially be crucial for the safety of you and your neighbors. Your proactive involvement is greatly appreciated, and it contributes significantly to our collective safety measures. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep our community safe.

Winter Pipe Protection Reminder

Annual Pipe Protection Checklist

Please review the following preparation steps for your water system:

1. **Disconnect Outdoor Hoses:** All outdoor hoses should be removed, and corresponding faucets must be turned off and drained.
2. **Insulation Check:** Apply pipe wrap to any exposed plumbing located in unheated areas (garages, attics, utility rooms). Inspect these areas for drafts and secure any noticeable entry points for cold air.
3. **Temperature Control:** Maintain a suitable temperature in all sections of your building. If you plan to be away, set the thermostat to a minimum of 65 degrees. Open cabinet doors beneath sinks that are on exterior walls to circulate warmth.
4. **Furnace Vents:** Ensure that your furnace and water heater vents are completely clear of accumulated snow and ice.
5. **Water Shut-Off Valve:** Confirm the location and operation of your main water shut-off valve. This valve (typically found in the basement) allows you to control the water supply to your entire property.
6. **Thawing Caution:** Do not use open flames or high heat to thaw a suspected frozen pipe. Please contact a professional plumber.

Community Assistance: Fire Hydrant Clearance

We ask for your help in keeping fire hydrants near your property clear of snow. Clear access to hydrants helps support the effective operations of the Fire Department.

Water Utility Contact Information

In the event of a pipe rupture where you cannot stop the water flow:

- **Nappanee Water Utility (Business Hours):** 574-773-2112
- **After Hours (Dispatch):** 574-773-4111

Thank you for your attention to this winter preparation reminder.

2026 Event Calendar

January

27 — Cybersecurity Forum

February

7 — 1st Annual Chocolate Walk

26 — Networking Event 2:30-4:30 @ Nappanee Chamber

March

17 — Annual Awards Dinner

May

25 — Memorial Day Parade

June

10 — Chamber Golf Outing

July

4 — Independance Day Parade

10,11,12 — Embrace the Pace Days

September

17-20 — 50th Annual Nappanee Apple Festival

November

6,7 — Downtown Shops Christmas Open Houses

20 — Pink Friday

28 — Small Business Saturday

December

5 — Miracles on Main Parade

Chamber Office Closed:

January 1st & 2nd New Years Day
January 19th Martin Luther King Day
February 16th Presidents' Day
April 3rd Good Friday
May 25th Memorial Day
July 4th Independance Day
September 1st Labor Day
November 11th Veterans Day

View our 2026 Chamber Board & Chamber Board Members here

Visit our Events Page

for upcoming mixers, workshops, ribbon cuttings, and community celebrations — all designed to connect, inform, and inspire.

www.nappaneechamber.com



Upcoming Events







