



Scan to sign up for
the Newsletter!



Village Resident: Want a copy of this newsletter? Please email Newcomerstown NOW at newcomerstownnow@yahoo.com with your address. OR scan the barcode! Only village residents will receive a FREE copy.

March's Issue

Community Calendar

Temperance Tavern Museum Events

March 15 | 2:30pm Matinee Movie & Snacks
May 9th | Family Tea
May 30th | Ice Cream Social

West Elementary Preschool Smart Start

Mar 26 | 5-7pm
Preschool/Kindergarten Readiness Event with local agencies and preschool/kindergarten readiness activities.

Newcomerstown NOW Events

April 11 | Kickball Tournament Benefiting First Responders
Our annual Kick for a Cause Kickball Tournament will take place on April 11 at the Cy Young Youth Fields. This year's event will benefit our local first responders — Newcomerstown Police Department, Fire Department, and Tri-County Ambulance. Teams can register to play, sponsors are welcome, and donations are being accepted to support these vital organizations. Spectating is free, and concessions will be available. For more information or to get involved, please contact Amber Hart.

April 18 | Earth Day Community Clean-Up

Join us as we celebrate Earth Day with a Downtown Community Clean-Up Day! Volunteers will focus on sprucing up our downtown area — picking up litter, refreshing public spaces, and showing pride in our community. This is a wonderful opportunity for families, civic groups, churches, and businesses to work side-by-side. We encourage participants to bring gloves, rakes, and tools if available. Even small acts — planting flowers, sweeping sidewalks, or helping to freshen up storefronts — make a big impact. Let's work together to keep Newcomerstown looking its best!



!! Save the Date !!
9th Annual Hero Hustle
Saturday, June 27, 2026

More events are on page 4!

THE NEWCOMERSTOWN NEWS NOW

Amber Hart, Writer | William Casteel, Writer
Kristie Wilkin, Writer | Brenda Junkin, Writer
Carrie Kunkle, Editor | Jess Moore, News Chair

Lisa Spillman, News Chair | Shannon Kincaid, Designer

Mar 2026

Our Mission

The mission of Newcomerstown NOW is to revitalize the downtown area through working with the community while preserving heritage, progressing towards our future and prospering with our village.

Officers

Jess Moore- President
Pat Cadle- Vice President
Amber Hart- Vice President
Lisa Spillman- Secretary
Erin Garretson- Treasurer

Other Members: Nancy Orr, Jen LaVigne, Jeff Orr, Carrie Kunkle, Ann Marie Maddox, Alex Friedman, Rachel Baker, Shannon Kincaid, Delaney Moore, Joseph Fairchild, Patricia Celes, Sara Warner

To be a sponsor for a future newsletter, please email for questions: newcomerstownnow@yahoo.com
Call 740-294-3664 or mail a check to:
Newcomerstown NOW
143 W Main St

Business Spotlight Royer Tire

Located at 206 E. Canal St., Newcomerstown, OH 43832, Royer Tire continues to serve the community with dependable automotive care under the ownership of Chris and Amanda Royer. For the Royers, choosing Newcomerstown was an easy decision. The availability and visibility of the location made it the perfect fit, and the site itself has long been known as a trusted automotive hotspot in town.

Like many small businesses, one of the biggest challenges has been finding knowledgeable and reliable employees. Skilled automotive service requires training, experience, and a strong work ethic. Chris and Amanda remain committed to maintaining quality service while seeking dependable team members who take pride in their work and in serving the local community.

Giving back is a priority for Royer Tire. Sponsorships, donations, and participation in community events are all part of their commitment to Newcomerstown. Whether it's a Main Street event or a school function, Royer Tire is always willing to step up and help. Being present and involved in the community is just as important as the services they provide inside the shop.

Royer Tire offers a full range of automotive services to meet nearly any need. Their most popular services include oil changes, tires, alignments, brakes, suspension work, A/C services, computer diagnostic analysis, tune-ups, tire rotations, wiper replacements, light bulbs, and more. As they often say, if your vehicle needs it, they can most likely take care of it.

Community support has played a major role in their continued success. Royer Tire welcomes new customers daily while also appreciating the loyal customers who have visited this location for years. There's something special about seeing familiar faces stop in — even if it's just to air up a tire and have a quick conversation. That sense of connection is what makes small-town business so meaningful.

Looking toward the future, Chris and Amanda would eventually like to expand by adding on or building an additional service bay. For now, they are comfortable with the services they provide and focused on maintaining quality care. As Newcomerstown continues to grow, Royer Tire looks forward to growing right alongside it.

For service or questions, Royer Tire can be reached at 740-492-7003.

written by Jess Moore



Frontline Focus: Fire Auxiliary Continues to Flourish!

The Auxiliary to Support our Newcomerstown Firefighters has come far since September 2024. At that time Mayor Pat Cadle, along with Allen and Linda Collins, Michael Wise, Mariann Harding, and Kristie Wilkin were asked to set up the auxiliary and obtain the needed 501 (c) 3, bank accounts, and complete all paperwork. This was a very important task since the new village fire department started over from scratch in the Spring of 2023. One year later in September 2025, the auxiliary was thriving and ready for the next step of electing officers that would then take over for the start-up team. Elected were President Josh Leeser, a two-year resident of Newcomerstown and as of 1/1/26 is a member of village council. Vice-President Carla Mayfield is a lifetime resident of Newcomerstown. Both



her son-in-law and grandson are Newcomerstown volunteer firefighters. Treasurer Amber Bourne is married to firefighter/Lieutenant Kyle Bourne. Additionally, she is very involved with the Tri-County Auxiliary. Rachel Carney, a lifelong resident of Newcomerstown, is the new secretary for the group. Mayor Cadle remains as advisor of the auxiliary.

Josh noted: "Since taking over our new offices this past September, the group has continued to add raffles and other fundraisers to obtain much needed equipment for the Village of Newcomerstown Volunteer Fire Department. Over sixty businesses and individuals have come together to have their names engraved on a plaque that will be displayed in the lobby of the mayor's office. This will be an ongoing project. A formal

Dog Park Update- Progress Is Underway

We're excited to share that the Newcomerstown dog park project is officially moving forward! Groundwork for the park is scheduled to begin in March, and fencing installation is planned for April. It's exciting to see this long-anticipated project take shape as we work to create a safe, welcoming space for our community's four-legged friends and their families.

We would like to again extend a sincere thank you to the Reeves Foundation for their generous support of this project. Their investment in Newcomerstown is helping turn this vision into reality. As development continues, we plan to add signage, seating, and other basic amenities to make the park comfortable and enjoyable for visitors. We are still accepting donations to support the continued development of the dog park. If you would like to contribute toward amenities and future improvements, your support is greatly appreciated.

We are also looking for a few local residents who regularly visit dog parks and have a vested interest in helping this one thrive. We would love input and recommendations from those who understand what works well, what's truly needed, and what might not be necessary. Having feedback from active dog park users will help ensure we create a space that serves the community well for years to come.

**If you're interested in being part of that conversation, we would love to hear from you!
We're grateful for the continued community support and look forward to seeing this space come to life.**

Written by Kristie Wilkin

announcement will come out soon about the unveiling of our first one. Meat and gun raffles have been highly successful as well. We have plans to be a part of the Cy Young Festival and other events over the summer." In addition, the auxiliary has begun pancake breakfasts. Amber Bourne adds: "This has been a wonderful event for the auxiliary. Everyone loves coming for breakfast and visiting each other as well as talking with the firefighters. Thirteen of our firefighters were able to assist with the last breakfast and an enjoyable time was had by all. Several individuals and businesses came forth with donations of eggs and other needed items, and we appreciate that very much."

The next pancake breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 28 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and proceeds will benefit the Newcomerstown Village Volunteer Fire Department. Everyone is welcome and donations will be accepted. This will be the last one until the fall season.

The auxiliary meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers located in the administrative building at 308 S. College Street. "We are always looking for new members and welcome the ideas they bring to the table," adds Josh.

The group's Facebook Page – The Auxiliary to Support Nct. Firefighters is always up to date with the latest events, meetings, and firefighter news.

Written by Lisa Spillman

Making A Difference

Blessed Again Ministry is a free clothing store that blesses the community from its location inside Mediwise at 245 West State Street. The store is open to everyone, and all items are completely free. Shopping hours are Mondays from 2:00–5:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.



Anyone is welcome to shop here. If you enjoy browsing places like thrift stores for great finds, you may discover you can do it locally while saving time and gas. Although there is no charge for items, monetary donations are always appreciated to help cover operating costs. Another great way to support the ministry is by donating gently used clothing. They ask that all clothing be clean and free of stains or tears. Volunteers carefully inspect each item before it is placed out, so shoppers can feel confident that the clothing is in good condition.

Clothing donations can be dropped off anytime Mediwise is open. You'll find donation bins just inside the doors for your items. The ministry is deeply grateful to its donors, volunteers, and everyone who shops there.

Written by Amber Hart



Kick for a Cause



The Kick for a Cause Kickball Tournament will take place this year on April 11 at the Cy Young Youth League fields.

After last year's Ritz Theater fire, we organized a kickball tournament to raise money for the families who lost their homes and belongings in the apartments. It was a tremendous success, and by the end of the day people were already talking about "next year." We knew this was a tradition we wanted to continue as a way to give back to others in our community.

This year's beneficiaries will be our local first responders. The Newcomerstown Police Department, Fire Department, and Tri-County Ambulance will all receive donations from the tournament.

If you'd like to register a team, the cost is \$20 per player, with teams of eight. Registration must be completed by March 25. The registration fee includes an event T-shirt for each player. Participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.

We are also seeking event sponsors. Donations of \$50 or more made directly to the event will have the donor's name featured on the back of all event T-shirts. Players will also be encouraged to collect pledge donations, and we welcome prize item donations as well. Spectators can attend for free, and concessions will be available.

This event is packed with fun. Last year brought plenty of competition, laughter, and good-spirited trash talk. We expect even more teams and even more excitement this year, all for a great cause!

Garden Story- March

It's seed starting time. But this year, try making snail rolls. They take less space than traditional trays and pots and retain moisture well! I've seen this in a few Amish garden centers but this is my first year giving it a roll.

Start with some of that leftover small bubble wrap. Cut bubble wrap to 6 by 20-inch-long strips. Place moist seed starting soil (when squeezed, at the most, a drop of water should come out) 1 inch thick on bubble wrap leaving an inch or so at the end bare. Firmly roll the bubble wrap towards the bare end. Duct tape the roll closed.

Now add the seeds and mist the top with water. Place the roll on a tray, cover to keep in moisture, and place the tray under a light source. Make sure to label the roll. This process is great for small seeds like herbs, tomatoes, peppers, and sweet peas. You would need taller rolls for large seeds like pumpkins.

Just like you do with pots and seeds, check to make sure soil stays moist. If you're concerned about the plastic, add a layer of parchment paper between the soil and bubble wrap before rolling.

Once they start to sprout, feel free to open the roll and space out the seedlings. Add a little more soil if you feel the need. Then roll close and continue the process. When hardening the plants feel free to place the entire roll outside in a sheltered spot for a few hours, increasing sunlight each day, while bringing them in at night. Hardening typically takes about 2 weeks. Once they are hardened, plant directly in the soil where they will grow and produce lovely vegetables!



Written by Brenda Junkin

Indian Skeletons Found at Newcomerstown Over 90 Years Ago

Written by William Casteel

Ninety-two years ago, the citizens of Newcomerstown were following the newspaper and radio accounts of the discovery of twelve skeletons found on Mulvane Street during a sewer line excavation. According to the July 12, 1934 edition of the Newcomerstown News, workmen were digging along the south perimeter of Mulvane Street to construct sewer lines when the skeletons were discovered about two and a half feet below the ground.

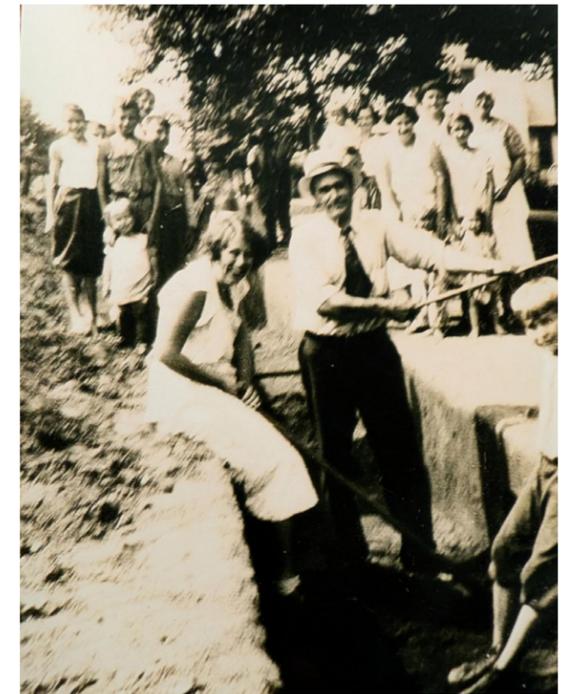
With the discovery of the first couple of skeletons, it was thought that they were possibly those of early settlers of the area. Further excavation revealed American Indian beads and other related items alongside the skeletal remains. Dr. Emerson Greenman, Curator and Director of the Ohio State Archaeological Society, had been contacted by Newcomerstown authorities. Greenman later completed assessment of the skeletons and relics. He reported that due to the size and shape of the skull, as well as the presence of the relics, he believed that the remains were those of early Delaware Indians who once lived in Newcomerstown. He estimated the bodies had been buried between 1770 and 1790. He added that due to the proximity between each skeleton, it was his belief that the Mulvane Street area had once been an American Indian cemetery.

According to Greenman, the Delaware Indians who once inhabited Newcomerstown before the white settlers arrived were stricken with a smallpox epidemic around 1790. Many tribe members succumbed to the smallpox outbreak. Historical accounts also said that according to the earliest white settlers, there had been a village and a cemetery in the south side of town (now the site of Mulvane and Chestnut Streets). Early white explorers and settlers began arriving in Newcomerstown between 1807 and 1814. The accounts report a cemetery was in very close proximity to the nearby Tuscarawas River and over the course of time, the river had eroded the ground below the cemetery and had eventually washed many of the graves into the river.

The 1934 discovery was reportedly not the first time skeletal remains had been discovered in the Mulvane Street area. In 1928, several skeletal remains, including a complete skull, were found when a resident was constructing a sidewalk in front of their residence.

Dr. Greenman later recommended the skeletons and relics be preserved and placed in a museum, preferably somewhere in Newcomerstown. The Newcomerstown High School was one suggested site for the display. The Newcomerstown Chamber of Commerce was planning to meet to discuss Greenman's suggestion.

The display has never been confirmed as having materialized. At this time, the whereabouts of the skeletons and relics are not known. Many years following the 1934 discovery, the full skeleton of an American Indian girl was unearthed across the county line, west of town. Her skeleton was placed on display at the Newcomerstown Historical Society for several years into the early 1980s, until archaeological authorities requested the skeleton be given to the Ohio State Archaeological Society. The society had been contacted by an advocacy group that learned of the existence of the skeleton and the location of its discovery and confirmed the tribe she had once belonged to. Her skeletal remains were then given to the Ohio State Archaeological Society and then to the tribe's authorities. She was buried in a southwestern state where the surviving tribe continued to inhabit after they had left Coshocton County a century ago.



Faith in the Community Calvary Methodist Church

Written by Amber Hart



Though Calvary Methodist Church officially became a new congregation in 2023 after the Global Methodist transition, its story in Newcomerstown began long ago in 1897. Now Eric Miller is the longest-serving pastor in the church's history.

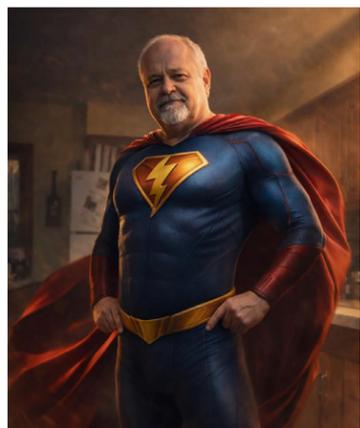
Originally from Adamsville, Pastor Eric once thought Newcomerstown felt like a big city, but from the moment he and his family arrived, he says the community embraced him with support and respect. To him, what makes Calvary special is the people. "We're a family," he says, believing that whoever walks through the doors should be treated like they belong, no questions asked. As a member myself, I can honestly say that I've rarely felt such a genuine sense of peace and belonging anywhere else.

His path to ministry began as a teenager but didn't take hold until age 40. In between, he's lived a life of service, taking jobs as a police detective, firefighter, EMT, and more. He's also an Army veteran. Then one October night on a pier at Lakeside, he quietly challenged God for direction. Just then, the bishop on his nightly run stopped beside him, spoke a few words, and unknowingly answered his prayer. For Pastor Eric, that moment changed everything.

Recently, he was tested in ways that few could imagine. After a major open-heart surgery and devastating complications, he endured months in the hospital, multiple surgeries, and a fight for his life. Though doctors gave him just a 1% chance to survive, he had God on his side as well as his loving wife, children, grandchildren, parents, and an entire community of supporters behind him. Today he is finally back where he loves to be, smiling, healing, and sharing messages of hope. He believes his survival allows us to see what God is capable of in our lives and carries a message that is meant for others: don't give up.

New people are always welcome. Sunday service is at 10:00 a.m. and Wednesday Bible study takes place at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Calvary Methodist Church is located at 151 West State Street.



Recently, Eric's wife Ivana sent me this depiction of him as a super hero. Though he doesn't see himself as heroic, he is in the eyes of many.

Saint Patrick's Day

Saint Patrick's Day originated as a religious feast to honor Ireland's patron saint and is now a celebration of Irish culture that is celebrated globally. In some places, it's marked with parades, music, traditional food, and plenty of green attire, whether or not they have Irish ancestry.

Here in Newcomerstown, some residents may remember a local tradition that added a touch of Irish pride to Main Street. When Lawler's Rexall Pharmacy was in operation, you would see an Irish flag on display in front of the store every Saint Patrick's Day. This was because owner Bob Lawler took great pride in his Irish heritage and was eager to share it with others. Even the smallest traditions help to remind us that holidays are more than just a date on the calendar. They give us the opportunity to celebrate and share our culture with one another, remember local history, and connect with neighbors in a festive way.



Please join us in recognizing Officer James Kedigh on his recent promotion to the rank of Corporal, approved at the February 16 Council Meeting. This milestone is a testament to Corporal Kedigh's commitment to excellence, strong work ethic, and continued service to our community. We congratulate him on this well-earned advancement and look forward to the leadership and positive influence he will bring in his new position.

Congratulations, Corporal Kedigh, on this outstanding accomplishment!

The Police Department also welcomes Officer Tia Poorman! She was hired February 16th as a part time officer. She's a reliable and knowledgeable officer. She's currently a Captain in the Army Reserves and recently moved to this area. We look forward to having Officer Poorman on the team!

Administration

Columbia Gas will be moving to replace gas lines on Main Street this summer. They will replace the sidewalks as they work. The 3rd reading on the UTV/Side-by-Side amended ordinance will take place in the next Council meeting in early March. The amendments are regarding the speed limit and the time frame the inspection stickers are valid for. Originally, the stickers were valid from April 1st to March 31st the following year. The new ordinance will make the stickers valid for one year from the issue date. Please refer to the following section for more information regarding UTV inspections.

UTV/Side-by-Side's

UTV inspections and registration is required for usage on Newcomerstown streets. The issued sticker must be placed where the inspector indicates and is valid for one year from the issued date.

To make an appointment for an inspection, please call the Police Department at 740-498-6161 or you can visit the department to schedule an appointment anytime between 8am to 4pm at 124 W Church St.

An Inspection and sticker costs \$50 due on the inspection date per year. A replacement sticker is available if yours is lost or damaged for a fee of \$5.00. If an individual has no violations of the previous or new ordinance regarding UTV's in consecutive years (ORD 06-24A or ORD 04-26) the fee will be waived. If you have questions about what is on the required list, please either refer to ordinance 4-26 on our website or contact the Police Department.

Community Events Continued

May 13 | 4th Annual Golf Outing

Mark your calendars for our 4th Annual Golf Outing on May 13 at River Greens in West Lafayette (shotgun start at 1 pm). Teams of four can register for \$260 per team, and hole sponsorships are also available. This event provides a fun afternoon of competition and networking while supporting revitalization efforts in our community. For more information, please contact Jeff Orr.

June 13 | Second Saturday (America 250 Celebration!)

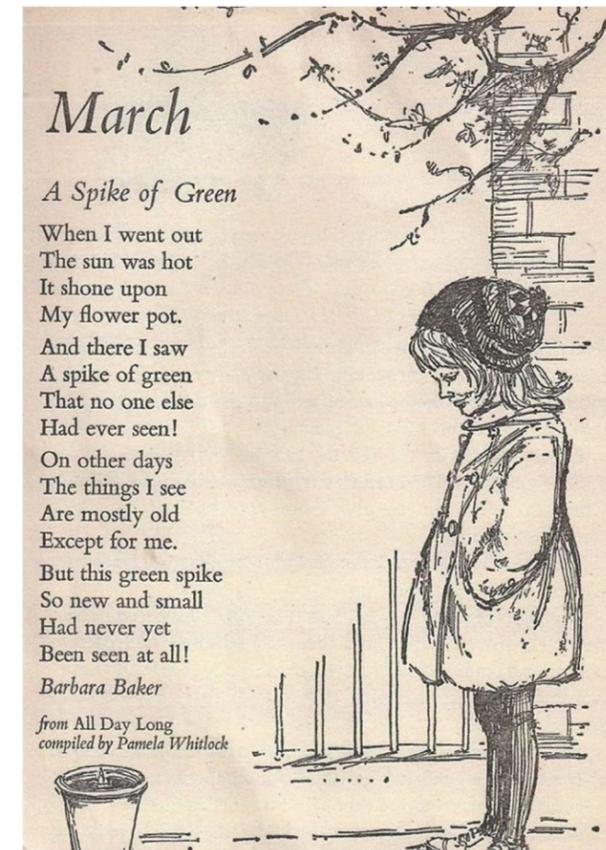
Even though it's still a few months away, our June Second Saturday event on June 13 is already generating excitement! This year's celebration will be bigger than ever as we celebrate America 250. Planned highlights include an antique tractor show, new family-friendly activities, and an evening fireworks display near the high school. This is shaping up to be THE community event of the year! Sponsorships, vendor spots, and creative collaborations are welcome.

For ongoing updates, registration links, and event details as planning continues, be sure to visit www.newcomerstownnow.com and follow Newcomerstown Now on Facebook. We'll be sharing updates, volunteer opportunities, sponsorship information, and exciting announcements in the coming weeks.

Spread kindness with these St. Patrick's Day Cards



<p>I'm lucky you're my friend because</p>	<p>I'm lucky you're my teacher because</p>	<p>I'm lucky you're my Mom because</p>	<p>I'm lucky you're my Dad because</p>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____



15 Leprechaun Jokes

<p>What do leprechauns say before a race?</p> <p>Ready, set, gold!</p>	<p>What's a leprechaun's favorite game?</p> <p>Hide and gold-peek!</p>	<p>Why do leprechauns hate running?</p> <p>They'd rather jig than jog!</p>
<p>Who is the leprechaun's favorite superhero?</p> <p>Green Lantern!</p>	<p>What kind of music do leprechauns listen to?</p> <p>Sham-rock and roll!</p>	<p>What do leprechauns wear to sleep?</p> <p>Sham-jamas!</p>
<p>Why do leprechauns make good gardeners??</p> <p>They have green thumbs!</p>	<p>What did the leprechaun say when he won the game?</p> <p>Game Clover!</p>	<p>Why do leprechauns love recycling?</p> <p>They like to go green!</p>
<p>What's a leprechaun's favorite cereal?</p> <p>Lucky Charms!</p>	<p>Why did the leprechaun climb over the rainbow?</p> <p>To get to the other side!</p>	<p>What kind of pet does a leprechaun have?</p> <p>A golden retriever!</p>
<p>What did the leprechaun say when he stubbed his toe?</p> <p>Well, that's just my luck!</p>	<p>Why did the leprechaun turn down a bowl of soup?</p> <p>He already had a pot of gold!</p>	<p>Where did the lazy leprechaun find gold?</p> <p>In the dictionary!</p>