

# ROCK-TALK

The Gibraltar Neighborhood  
Association, Inc. Newsletter



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Visit the GNA website:  
[www.GibraltarNA.org](http://www.GibraltarNA.org)

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- January 24th, 7:00 p.m.  
GNA general meeting  
Liz Matis' house  
203 Turley
- Jan 16  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Jan/Feb  
Pay GNA Membership Dues
- February 2  
Groundhog Day
- February 14  
Valentine's Day
- February 20  
President's Day

## Crime Updates!

Many of you may have heard the news about the break-ins that occurred in our area several weeks ago. At that time, several of the folks that live in the areas where these break-ins were most prevalent contacted our GNA Board regarding our neighborhood watch, and wanted to be added to the list.

During this process one generous neighbor, Joe Atkinson, volunteered to manage a group-mail website that would simplify the process of sending out email notices of importance, ie. break-ins etc.

If you would like to be included in receiving these notices you may contact Joe or GNA President Paulette Brandt at [Gibraltat-NA@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Gibraltat-NA@yahoogroups.com). It is a good way to stay informed if there is a threat in the area, or of other timely notices. As a result of us being notified and watchful, the thieves were caught.

## Mark Your Calendar for Jan. GNA Meeting

*Please* make it a point to come to the bi-monthly meetings. We need your input, suggestions, experience *and help* in making our neighborhood a clean, safe, wonderful place to live!

The first general GNA meeting for the 2012 year will be on **Tuesday, January 24th** at Liz Matis' home at 203 Turley, at 7 pm.. Please bring a snack to share and invite a friend or neighbor that might be interested in joining. It will be a busy meeting: new board member nominations, dues are due, and we need to determine the schedule of meeting places for the year, as well as any new projects we might like to undertake.

***We hope to see you there!*** ■



## SWIRN (Southwest Iowa Recovery Network)

Because of the generosity of the Iowa West Foundation, the Southwest Iowa Recovery Network (SWIRN) is now taking applications from families affected by the flooding this summer. This additional resource may help with unmet human services needs and aid in reducing the suffering caused by the flooding and home displacement.

Requests for financial assistance should fall into one of the following categories:

- Housing repairs due to flood damage
- Temporary housing for relocation after the flood
- Childcare during the immediate time after the flood due to relocation
- Personal items lost due to flooding, including transportation replacement or repairs due to flooding
- Mental health services

- Items needed to fight household flooding
- Specified other category

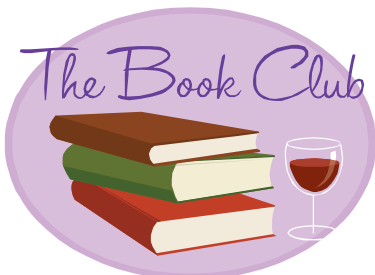
If you (or someone you know) have been affected by the 2011 flood, go to the SWIRN article on the West Pottawattamie County Extension website ([www.extension.iastate.edu/westpottawattamie/news/Southwest+Iowa+Recovery+Network.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/westpottawattamie/news/Southwest+Iowa+Recovery+Network.htm)) and then go to the link described in the article for the application. Eligible families may receive as much as \$1,000 to assist with their recovery, although actual amounts will vary according to need. In addition, applicants may receive valuable information and referral to other agencies and programs that may be able to assist in your family recovery plan. For more information, call SWIRN at 712-435-5661. ■

## GNA Board Seats Opening Up... We Need You!

Every year we elect new board members, and in January we have several positions that will be opening. Of the nine seats on the board, half of the positions are filled in even years, while the other half are filled in odd years. This year (2012) we have **4 board member seats** to fill. Board members serve a two year term. Members can serve consecutive terms, but only two terms as officers. *Next* year we will have 5 seats opening up which will need to be filled.

The board members meet each month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, to be sure we are current on Neighborhood issues. The meeting usually lasts about an hour. Any GNA member, whose dues are paid, can run for the board.

Please consider making a small investment of your time and energy and become involved in our neighborhood association! It is only through the volunteerism of our neighbors that we are able to determine which projects need to be tackled and what the important issues are that need to be dealt with. We would welcome anyone interested in being on the board to call or email (Paulette Brandt, 712-328-7399 or [pbrandt45@yahoo.com](mailto:pbrandt45@yahoo.com)) and we will put you name on the ballot. The job is fun and not very labor intensive, and a good way to stay connected. ■



The GNA Book Club is a fun, social gathering where we get together and share a bit of news, a glass of wine and discuss our latest book assignment. We are currently reading **“Killing Lincoln”** by **Bill O’Reilly**. Our January Meeting will be on Thursday the 26th at the home of Mary Madison, 228 5th Ave. If you enjoy reading, contact Patti Hannan for more information. We’d love to see you at our next meeting! ■

## Tips to Help Protect Your Home from Crime

Don't make your home an easy target for burglars. Most burglaries are crimes of opportunity. A burglar only needs to spot an open window, unlocked side gate or open garage door to make their move. Think about it—if you know your home security looks poor, so will a thief. Statistics show that properties with little security are over 5 times more likely to be burgled than those with good security. Here are just a *few* simple tips:

- check that doors and windows are locked—even if you're just going out for a minute
- make sure all exterior doors have been fitted with deadbolt locks
- neither house keys nor car keys are in easy sight or reach of windows/doors, and spare keys aren't hidden outside, in the garage or shed (burglars always look there).
- leave lights and radio on a timer for evenings when you're out, so it looks like you're in. And when it's dark outside, draw the curtains. ■

### 40 Developmental Assets

The Search Institute has identified 40 Developmental Assets, or factors that are essential to young people's success. These assets aren't financial. Instead, they are opportunities, skills, relationships, values, and self-perceptions that all young people need in their lives. The assets are both external (things that other people provide for youth) and internal (things that young people develop within themselves). Some of these assets are things that can be encouraged right in our own neighborhood:

- **Family Boundaries**— Family has clear expectations and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts.
- **School Boundaries**— School provides clear expectations and consequences.
- **Neighborhood Boundaries**— Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring the young person's behavior.
- **Adult Role Models**— Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.
- **Other Adult Relationships**— Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
- **Caring Neighborhood**— Young person experiences caring neighbors.
- **Community Values Youth**— Young person perceives that adults in the community value the youth.

- **Youth as Resources**— Young people are given useful roles in the community.
- **Service to Others**— Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.
- **Safety**— Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.

These are just some of the 40 assets that relate a little more directly to neighborhoods, but there are several more that are important factors for youth. If you would like more information on the 40 Developmental Assets, please contact Ryan Willer at [rwiller@unomaha.edu](mailto:rwiller@unomaha.edu), or visit the local 40 Developmental Assets website at [assetsforeveryone.org](http://assetsforeveryone.org). ■



## **Our Past, Present & Future: First MEMORIAL Edition**, by Liz Matis

*Dedicated to a Special Member of our Neighborhood that Should Never Have Been Lost*

More than a quarter of a century ago, in almost the “blink” of an eye, a spot which many of us graduated from and lovingly remembered as the site of Abraham Lincoln High School was changed forever. We all grieved when some juvenile delinquents, bent on destruction, set fire to the historic building and burned her to the ground. A huge piece of history in our neighborhood was gone forever. Along with it we lost a special member of the neighborhood, Everett Shockey, who was taking coffee to the firefighters fighting the enormous blaze, had a heart attack and passed away that night.

That happened in the winter of 1976. Then, several years later on that same spot, without any warning, a building went up that did not fit the historical design of the neighborhood. A metal building that looked like an outbuilding one would find on a farm, only without windows. A short time later, an iron fence went up around the lot and was padlocked when the occupants were in the building and when they were gone. It wasn't long after they moved into the neighborhood, we learned it was a group called “The Meeting House.” While considered a church, it is not like those most of us would recognize. We saw them come in vans; the children were dressed alike, as were the adults.

In the years prior to that lot being fenced in, we always felt the safety of our police force, who would park in the lot at the end of their shifts. There they would complete their reports and used the opportunity to look out for our neighborhood's safety. A police officer remarked to one of our GNA members recently that they missed being able to park in the lot because they felt we were “their neighborhood” to protect and at the same time the speeding on 5th Ave. was cut way back.

Just recently, the couple that owned the house at 520 3rd Street, directly south of the lot, filed for a divorce and were forced to sell the house. A member of the GNA had a daughter and son-in-law that had always loved the house and wanted to purchase it and restore it to its original grandeur. Before they could even speak with the owner and make an offer, almost overnight the Historic Major General Mathew Tinley's home, built in the mid-1890's, was being demolished!

Total shock, anger and disbelief shook our neighborhood. That someone would destroy a part of a neighborhood listed on the “National Register of Historic Places” seemed inconceivable! It was, and is not, acceptable. I knew then I needed to address the process of how designation to the National Registry is achieved, and why we took the steps we did in 2002 to protect it from just what the “Meeting House” did to the historic Tinley house and our Historic Neighborhood!

In 2002 our neighborhood was threatened when a man from outside our state bought two historic houses and converted them into halfway houses for convicts. Overnight, the safe neighborhood we had raised our children in was threatened and time was of the essence. We not only had to achieve the placement of our neighborhood on the National Registry of Historic Places, but also had to petition the City Council to allow us to be down zoned to R1. An R1 would protect our historic homes from being broken up into apartments. Only houses that already had apartments would be grandfathered in.

Supposedly, a “Meeting House” member stated they bought the 520 house to insure it wouldn't be turned into a “crack house” and apartments. If the “Meeting House” would have done a little research, they would have found that turning the historic Tinley house into apartments was not an option! As all of us found out, their real and only goal was to level the Tinley house with bulldozers and turn it into a parking lot because they needed more parking!

Many of us have lived in this historic neighborhood for 50, 60 and even over 70 years. Many are 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> generation. We had a huge undertaking in 2002, but we all knew what we had was irreplaceable, and historically needed to be saved for generations to come.

*Continued...*



After an uphill battle, we received our designation of placement on the National Register of Historic Places. It took many dedicated people with a love of history to research, and at times fight to save, the homes in our GNA neighborhood. With the deliberate destruction of one of our most historic homes, it should remind us that we need to continually be diligent to the possibility that there are those out there who don't have the same respect for the history we have chosen to live in and around.

Once something of historical significance is destroyed, it can only be remembered in history books and hopefully in the hearts of those that had the honor to live in the area where the structure stood and history was once made. Every home has a heart and a history, and the richest blessing is the people who built and lived in them. I would like to introduce you to the man and his home. We remember and honor in this **first Memorial Edition of Rock-Talk: Major General Mathew A. Tinley**, who was the original builder & owner of 520 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. If we discuss the house the General built first, you will have a better understanding of the man who built it, who he was, what he did and especially what he stood for.

The Tinley house was built around the middle of the 1890s. The porch is thought to have been added around 1914. It falls under the description style of Four Square. The four square house "type" originated in the Prairie School style of architecture and is essentially a two-story cube or square house that typically has four rooms on the first floor and four rooms on the second floor. Frame, brick and stucco examples are known. Variations of the foursquare included the addition of ells that added to or extended the basic square plan; however, the overall thrust of the house is a square cube-like massing and plan. Foursquare houses typically have hipped roofs with wide eave overhangs reflecting the strong horizontal emphasis of the Prairie style, however, other stylistic influences can be seen on porch and window types including early twentieth century Free Classic Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Classical Revival, and Craftsman style of architecture.

This house is described in the National Register of Historic Places as contributing. It is contributing in style and also by the residents that lived in the house: in this case by contributing to the community, Major

General Tinley's contribution was in military service and as a Doctor serving his patients.

Before meeting the man that made 520 3<sup>rd</sup> St. famous, we need to know some of the early history of the military in Council Bluffs.

In the 1870s, a state guard was organized with local units which, in 1892, merged with other military detachments to become the Third Iowa Infantry. This became the 51<sup>st</sup> Iowa Volunteer Regiment in 1898, was mustered into federal service, and left for the Philippines, where it served during the Philippine Insurrection. Upon its return to Council Bluffs, the regiment's designation reverted to the Third Iowa Infantry. In 1916, the group served on the Mexican border as a part of the National Guard. It was sworn into federal duty for World War I on August 5, 1917 and became the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. The regiment saw distinguished service under its regimental commander, Colonel later (Major General) Mathew Tinley, as a part of the Forty-second (Rainbow) Division in France. Also during World War I, Unit K, a hospital unit and prototype for M.A.S.H. units of later wars, was formed in Council Bluffs, by Colonel Donald Macrae, Jr. and contributed valuable medical support on the Western Front.



*Above: Circa 1899, train taking Council Bluffs soldiers to the Phillipines.*

*Left: Col. Donald Macrae*

*Continued...*

**AND NOW: MATHEW A. TINLEY**  
 Doctor, General & Proud Citizen of Council Bluffs



*Major General Mathew Adrian Tinley. Love of country and care for patients were the dominating forces of his outstanding life. In 1938, Tinley was awarded a Special Medal by the State of Iowa in recognition of 45 years of service in the Iowa National Guard. Photo Courtesy of Richard B. and Lucy Graeme, reproduced from "The Silent Hills Speak."*

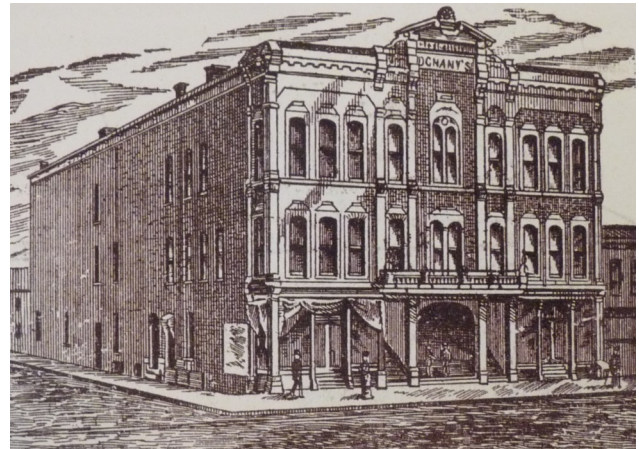
One of the city's most notable and decorated citizens was Lieutenant General Mathew A. Tinley. His distinguished career in medicine and the military spanned decades and two wars, the Spanish American War and WWI.

Mathew A. Tinley was born March 5, 1876, over a small grocery store at 1017 Main Street owned by his Father and Mother, Mathew and Rose Tinley. He had three sisters, Mary, Beatrice and Aurelia, and a brother, George. He attended Council Bluffs High School, where he graduated in 1894. He enlisted in Company L of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Iowa Infantry after serving in the Cadet Corps during his high school years.

After high school, he seriously considered studying for the priesthood. His older sister Mary encouraged

him to think about the medical profession, which she so ably served. He followed in her footsteps, entering the Omaha Medical School (later Univ. of Nebraska Medical School) in 1894.

His sister, Dr. Mary, helped finance his medical education but Tinley held several jobs to pay his way as well. He delivered ice and coal and had an Omaha newspaper route. In the evening, in what little time he had left, he ushered at the Dohany Theater in Council Bluffs.



*Dohany's Opera House, circa 1868.*

While in medical college, the Spanish American War broke out and Tinley was called to active duty. His rise through the ranks was nothing less than meteoric.... From private to duty sergeant to first sergeant. During service in the Philippines, he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Before leaving the service and going back to the National Guard, he earned his Captain's bars. He resumed his medical education and graduated in 1902.

He left his medical practice to serve for a short time on the Mexican border as Lt. Colonel with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Iowa Infantry in February 1917. In August he was in Europe with the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division. In October 1917, he was promoted to Colonel and placed in command of the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Division.

Colonel Tinley was in the middle of action and often decorated for his historic service. Among his honors were the French War Cross, the French Legion of Honor and the American Service Medal. General Douglas MacArthur, who admired Tinley, wrote his recommendation for the Distinguished Service Cross. MacArthur was Tinley's brigade commander.



Colonel Tinley remained in Europe after the war ended on November 11, 1918, serving in the American Expeditionary Force and the Army of Occupation in Germany. He returned to the United States in May 1919 and was mustered out of federal service.



*Parade on Broadway welcoming home the WWI soldiers, including Col. Tinley.*

An article that appeared in the March 12, 1956 *Nonpareil* demonstrated his dedication to his men: Once, at dusk, he came upon a soldier who was cursing violently. “Why don’t you repeat the Lord’s Prayer, lad?” asked Colonel Tinley. “I don’t know it,” the soldier replied. “Say it after me,” suggested the Colonel, and together they communed with their Maker.

Captain P.A. Lainson of Council Bluffs told this story of Tinley: “We were returning from the front when Col Mat happened by. Our clothes were a wreck. Col. Mat noticed a Sgt. Pugsley, whose pants were mere shreds – and it was apparent they wouldn’t hold together long enough to get us back to camp.

“The Colonel had a pair of shipcord pants. ‘You and I have about the same build, Sergeant,’ the Colonel said. ‘You and I are going to trade.’ And trade they did.”

Fourteen years later, Sgt. Pugsley, seriously ill in a Des Moines hospital, told a friend “There is just one thing I would like tonight before I go over the top. I wish I could have a visit with Colonel Mat.” (“Over the top” was a battle cry; the order was to come out from the trenches and go over the top.)

The article reported that Dr. Tinley drove his auto to Des Moines that night in a snowstorm. The two swapped yarns about their days in France – and joked about the pants. “I never did return those pants,” Pugsley told his old Colonel. “But I have some nice uniform pants now that I don’t think I will be able to use. You get them.” Sergeant Pugsley died at dawn with the Colonel at his side.

After the war, Tinley was promoted to Brigadier General. In 1924, the Governors of North and South Dakota and Minnesota unanimously selected Tinley for the command of the 34<sup>th</sup> Division, which was composed of troops from the four states. He commanded the Division until his retirement in 1940. He resumed involvement in military affairs after his formal retirement in 1940. He was the second President of the National Guard Association of the United States and the first Commander of the Iowa American Legion. In 1954, the Council Bluffs School District named Eighth Street School in honor of Dr. Tinley. Later the school became the Tinley Early Childhood Center.

Dr. Tinley’s medical career included many achievements. Early in his career he joined the staff at Jennie Edmundson Hospital. He was a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons and a member of the American & Iowa Medical Societies. He also served as President of the American Association of Railway Surgeons. He was the Union Pacific Railroad surgeon for much of his medical career. He and his sister, Dr. Mary, were not only leading physicians in the community for many years, they were also leaders and volunteers for many worthy causes.



*Dr. Mary L. Tinley*

*Continued...*

In addition to his medical involvement, he was almost a candidate for the Vice Presidency of the U.S. In 1924, veterans from Alabama, many of them having served with the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Rainbow Division in France, asked his permission to nominate him at the Democratic National Convention. Tinley politely declined.

He was formally nominated by the Iowa delegation at the 1932 convention. In this case, Dr. Tinley withdrew in favor of John Nance Garner. He was also mentioned in the early 1930's as a possible selection for Secretary of War under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who had just been elected, but he showed little interest in that appointment. Dr Tinley was active in St. Francis Church and a charter member of the Council 1045 Knights of Columbus.

The following description, from someone that knew the Tinley's and their home well, describes a special occasion the citizens of Council Bluffs enjoyed each year at the home they loved to share:

*The Mat and Lucy Tinley home at 520 Third street is an historic house. Distinguished visitors from near & far were welcomed at that address, and on Halloween Night, children were "treated royally" by two of Council Bluffs' most generous citizens!*

In failing health, Dr. Tinley was admitted in March 1956 to Jennie Edmundson Hospital, where he died of pneumonia three days later. More than 900 mourners crowded St. Francis Church to attend the funeral Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Edward Daly, Bishop of Des Moines, and Monsignor James P. Danahey, pastor of St. Francis. In his eulogy, Bishop Daly said of Tinley, "He was the good citizen, the good physician and the great patriot."

A special honor guard from his old unit, Company L of the 168<sup>th</sup> Infantry of the Rainbow Division, accompanied the flag draped casket from the church to St. Joseph Cemetery. A color Guard from Rainbow Post 2, American Legion also participated and the Knights of Columbus formed an honor guard. Pallbearers were Charles Everest, Dr. Fred Beaumont, Emmet Tinley, Hugh Tinley, John Tinley, III and Dr. Lee Martin.

Mayor William H. Knox issued a proclamation urging all residents to fly their flags at half staff in Dr. Tinley's honor.

Dr. Tinley's survivors included his widow, Lucy; daughter, Winifred; son, Dr. Robert Tinley; a sister, Aurelia; four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Dr. Gerald V. Caughlan of Council Bluffs, President of the Iowa Medical Society in 1954-55 and a longtime National Guard officer, said of Dr. Tinley, "The outstanding characteristic of the man is his innate kindness. But he also demanded performance of his officers. In fact, he insisted on it."

*"He was the good citizen,  
the good physician  
and the great patriot"*

— Most Reverend Edward Daly

Just a short time ago, we started our journey of learning the history of our neighborhood and the people who came before us who founded it. Due to the devastating occurrence that happened recently, which threw our "Historic Neighborhood" into a combination of anger, sadness and total disbelief, I knew I had to dedicate this edition to Major General Mathew Tinley: what his life accomplishments meant to the community as a whole, and the special neighborhood he chose to build a home in and live in until his passing.

He was a son, a father and a grandfather.  
A protector of our liberties.  
A decorated Patriot.  
A pillar in our community.  
And a Doctor with compassion for all.

We not only lost a historic home, but the deliberate destruction by this group of people "robbed" future generations of experiencing the grandeur of his historic home, which they could have viewed on the "Historic Home Walking Tour!"

After coming home from voting a few weeks ago, as I drove up 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, I saw the boom truck and all of the dump trucks lined up to haul "history" out of our neighborhood.

As I drove in the driveway I shut the engine off and just sat in the car. A wave of sadness coming over me and this question echoed in my head..... "If there is nothing to show we were even here, then will we have died in vain!"

*Continued...*



A song came out in the 1970's that Joni Mitchell performed... I felt was fitting to close this "special edition" with it. I adjusted some of the words to reflect on our GNA neighborhood.

There came a man and his wife  
 That would build a house in a place  
 That would later be known  
 As the "General's Row"  
 Don't it always seem to go  
 That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot

By serving his Country in several wars  
 He received foreign crosses  
 And metals of award.  
 Don't it always seem to go  
 That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot

Dr. Tinley received the honor of  
 A school bearing his name  
 To remind future generations  
 The respect that he gained  
 Don't it always seem to go  
 That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot

Then there came a group of people  
 That had no respect  
 They destroyed a piece of history  
 Never caring of its effect  
 Don't it always seem to go  
 That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot

Let us guard Gibraltar closely  
 Allowing no more treasures to be destroyed  
 This was no way to put to rest an  
 Historic home built by one of our best  
 Don't it always seem to go  
 That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot

The wrecking ball showed no mercy  
 As dump trucks hauled history away  
 Unbefitting of a house that had been a General's  
 Was dumped as trash in an unmarked grave  
 Don't it always seem to go

That you don't know what you've got till it's gone  
 They paved paradise put up a parking lot.

**BUT WE DID KNOW WHAT WE HAD...  
 AND NOW IT'S GONE!!**



Above: Tinley House



Left: Window detail from the north and south sides of the house

I'll close with a Dakota Indian proverb that I think is fitting for this sad story:

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***We will be forever known  
 by the tracks we leave.***  
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Let us leave tracks of preservation,  
 not destruction. See you all next  
 time in our February edition of  
 ROCK TALK! — Liz

Portions from the Tallgrass recommendation for Historic Designation. Major General Mathew Tinley from: SILENT HILLS SPEAK, A History of Council Bluffs, Iowa, by Ramsey & Shrier.



## Just an Example of How Your Dues Work for Our Neighborhood

So, it's time once again to pay your yearly GNA membership fee of \$25. "What exactly does this money go towards?" you might be asking yourself. The yearly membership dues you pay go towards funding a wide variety of things. We donated \$250 to Chanticleer Theater in hopes that they can continue operating. We contributed money towards the security camera for Kirn Park in hopes of lessening the vandalism and making it a safer place for our families to enjoy. Some of the membership funds are used for GNA functions and get-togethers, and will be used for the projected summer party in 2012. But one of the best uses of your membership money is when we "adopt a family" during the holidays.

Below is a *letter written by a GNA resident who was the recipient of such funds*. I know you'll agree that GNA money has been well spent this holiday season.

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I have been reading the Goodfellows articles about the people they have helped. I feel for these people. They are to be commended for being strong & brave.

I myself am a single parent of 2 boys, ages 12 & 13. At the time of my divorce, the boys were 2 and 3-1/2. I was working a time-demanding job in the transportation industry for the ten years prior. Many days I would drop the kids off at 4:30 a.m. and pick them up at 7:00 p.m. We did this for two years before I decided to ask for adjusted hours. When I asked the owner, he told me, "it sounds like you need a different job." I was bitter, but he was right.

At that time I decided I wanted to work at raising my boys instead of working to raise kids by paying somebody else to do it. I worked part time, would pick up side jobs and deliver papers. We had a couple years where we had to ask for help from community programs at Christmas.

As a parent, not being able to provide plays on your self-esteem. But you put all personal feelings aside and ask for help. We struggled to stay afloat seven more years, but ended up in foreclosure. In the same time period, the motor in my car blew up.

Listen to this. It was the best thing that could have happened to us. We had a short stretch of homeless-

ness. But by the grace of God and help from my parents, we were blessed with a duplex apartment at the top of 5th Avenue.

The owner was extremely understanding and looked past the foreclosure and let me sign a lease for one year. Come to find out that the neighborhood is full of wonderful, caring and understanding people.

We have been here for 1-1/2 years. As soon as we moved in, we were welcomed. People introduced themselves and said hello and made eye contact. The boys and I felt instantly welcome and befriended.

Myself, I have been given nothing but respect and understanding on how I have chosen to raise and provide for my family. We are not known as the paper guys or the guy with a rake or snow shovel, but are known and called by our names.

Neighbors have given our family opportunities to work, people provided a large part of our Christmas last year and have even helped with food. None of this was asked for, but graciously presented to us.

My youngest broke a \$118 window delivering papers and was forgiven the cost of repair because he was honest and admitted to the damage and apologized. The oldest has a couple neighbors he calls regular customers who allow him to do odd jobs, which in return allowed him to buy his own and first set of football cleats.

It has given me security and relief that my family is in a safe and structured environment. None of these lessons or opportunities would be possible without the caring people of this neighborhood who have taught that part of being proud of where you live is by helping each other. Try it—it's contagious. Truly, they made us feel like every day is Christmas.

Thank you Gibraltar Neighborhood Association.

Signed, Grateful + 2

P.S.—When time get rough and you feel you may lose everything, keep your head up. You never know what's around the corner. Literally, I only moved from around the corner and a few blocks away. ■

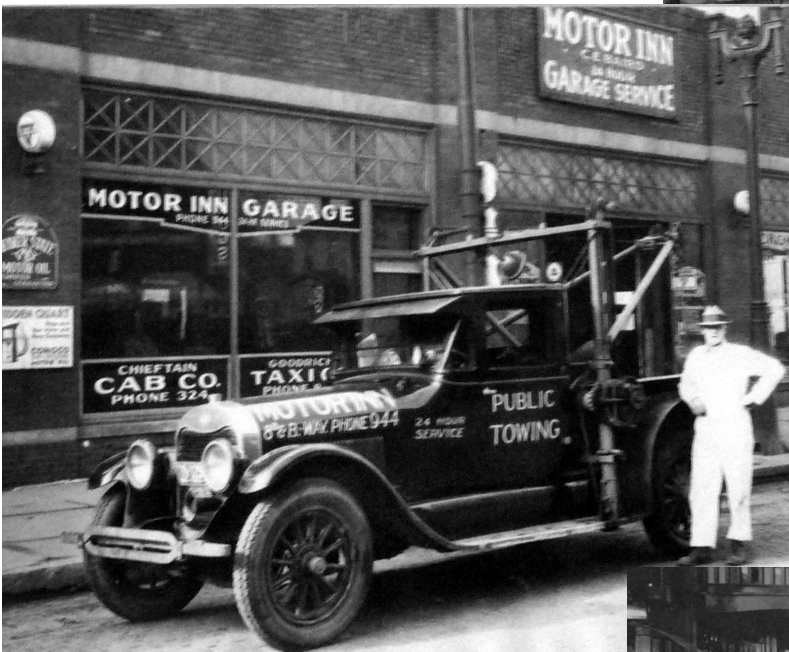
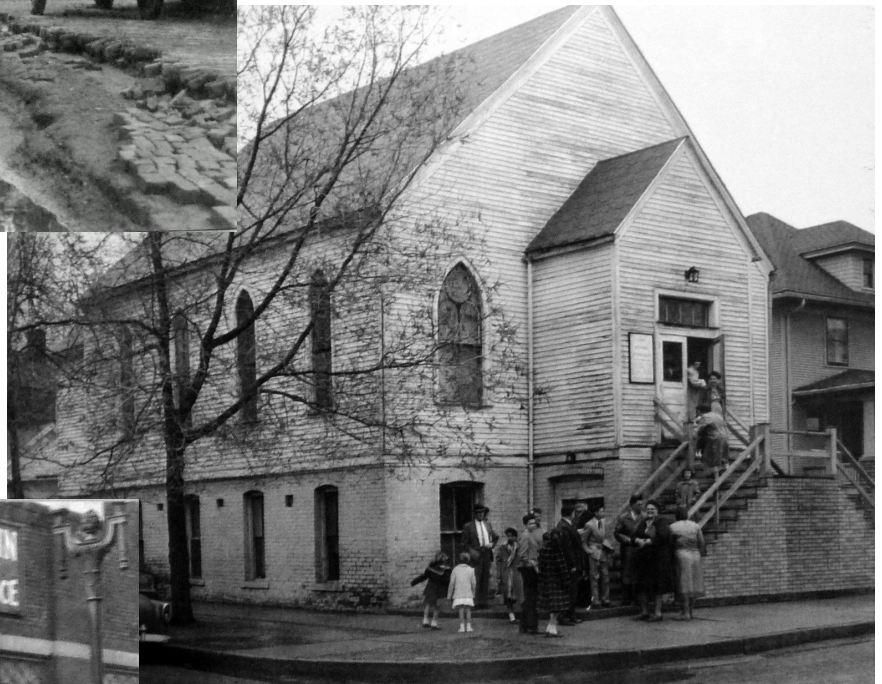


## Back in the Day...



Left:  
Harrison Street, washed away  
in the flood of 1923.

Right: Used by the Danish Lutheran Church  
from the 1870s through the late 1920s, this  
building was used by several other churches  
until it became Catherine's Catering in 1983.



Left: In 1938, John Arterburn worked as a mechanic  
and drove a wrecker for Motor Inn Garage at 8th and  
West Broadway.

Right: Frank Morgan Drug Store at 112 W.  
Broadway, Circa 1925.



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**Happiness is not a destination. It  
is a method of life. — Burton Hills**



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We welcome your input!  
Please contact us with suggestions on content you want to see covered. ■

**RECIPE Corner: Potato Leek Soup w/Bacon**

**Ingredients**

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1 1/2 cups cubed crusty bread
- 4 slices bacon, chopped
- 2 large leeks, white and light green parts only, thinly sliced
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 4 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 2 medium russet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 1/2 cups frozen peas (do not thaw)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley

**Directions**

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Make the croutons: Melt 1 tablespoon butter, then mix with the paprika in a bowl. Add the bread cubes and toss. Spread on a baking sheet and bake until golden, 8 to 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, cook the bacon in a large saucepan over medium heat until crisp, about 8 minutes. Transfer with a slotted spoon to a paper towel-lined plate. Discard all but about 1 tablespoon fat from the pan. Add the remaining 1 tablespoon butter, then add the leeks and garlic; cover and cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Add the broth, 2 cups water, the potatoes and 1/4 teaspoon each salt and pepper; cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer, partially covered, until the potatoes are tender, about 10 minutes.

Puree half the soup in a blender (remove the filler cap to let steam escape), then return to the pot. Add the cream and bring to a simmer. Add the peas and cook until tender, about 3 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Serve topped with the croutons, bacon and parsley.

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**CLOSING THOUGHTS:**

- “Our dreams are limited only by the size of our hope.” — Anonymous
- “To be rich in friends is to be poor in nothing.” — Lillian Whiting
- “Change your thoughts and change your world.” — Norman Vincent Peale

**Visit us online:**

**www.GibraltarNA.org**

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**Gibraltar Neighborhood Association: Membership Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Become a Gibraltar Neighborhood Association Member!!** Yearly dues are \$25 per household. In order to be eligible to vote for board candidates and other issues, you must be a paid association member. Make checks payable to and mail payment to:

**Gibraltar Neighborhood Association ■ P.O. Box 1971 ■ Council Bluffs, IA 51502-1971**