



# ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

## Saturday, January 8, 2022: Mark Your Calendars for Gibraltar's Holiday Party & Elections!



**WHERE:** 527 Clark Avenue — Home of Bud & Susy Dew

**WHEN:** Saturday, Jan. 8, 2022 // 6:00pm

Enjoy food, fun & camaraderie as we celebrate the new year with friends & neighbors!

We'll be gathering in the *beautiful* home of Bud & Susy Dew, located near the south end of Clark Avenue. Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association will provide sandwich fixin's.

**You bring a favorite side dish or snack to share, or a bottle or two of wine!**

Come one, come all: renters, owners, association members, non-association members, and well-behaved children are warmly welcome!



**\*\*\*\*PLEASE RSVP by Jan. 2nd so we know how much meat to order!!**

Just email [neighborhoodgibraltar@gmail.com](mailto:neighborhoodgibraltar@gmail.com) with your name & how many will attend!

## It's ALSO Our Election Meeting!

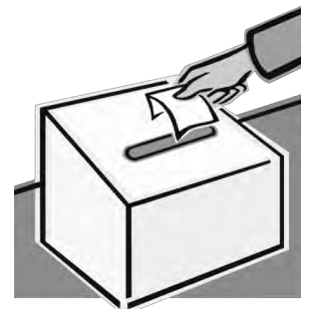
**2020 elections were postponed because of Covid... We're back on track!**

We'll talk about what projects are in the works currently, what projects are being discussed or worked on, and get feedback from attendees on issues of importance.

***WE NEED YOU to get involved!*** Our neighborhood can only continue to move forward if our residents are willing to participate! Outgoing Board Members will act as mentors for new Board Members, so you easily learn as you go!

It's an amazing experience where you have opportunities to make new friends, work with neighbors on neighborhood-strengthening initiatives, meet and engage with City leaders and other civic organizations, and make a difference in your community!!

**YOU** can help make Gibraltar an amazing neighborhood for all residents!



RSVP SOON Please if you're joining us for the Women's Brunch!!

## **GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD WOMEN'S BRUNCH**

*We want to provide an opportunity for women in the Gibraltar neighborhood to gather & connect!*

Join us for some delicious brunch food and conversation.  
*Let's make new friends, reconnect with old friends,  
share uplifting news and lots of laughs!*

**WHO:** All ladies residing in the Gibraltar Neighborhood  
(you don't have to be a member of the association!)

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 15, 9:00am to 11:00am

**WHERE:** Cory Peters' House  
214 5th Ave., Council Bluffs, IA 51503

>>>>**PLEASE BRING:** A breakfast item to share  
(egg casserole, coffee, tea & champagne cocktails provided)

>>>>**RSVP:** To Cory Peters via text 402-681-8344 or  
or email [neighborhoodgibraltar@gmail.com](mailto:neighborhoodgibraltar@gmail.com)



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# PRESIDENT'S POST

Nov/Dec 2021

Hello Neighbors,

It always amazes me how fast Fall turns into Winter. I hope everyone had a healthy and safe Thanksgiving. Our family was blessed with both.

I would like to thank everyone for your support towards our very successful Quarter Auction. It was so great to see everyone and celebrate our fantastic neighborhood. This event helps us to raise funds for events and projects in Gibraltar, and I know that the money we raised will be put to good use in the future.

New Year is just around the corner, and many times the New Year many time brings change. This year is no exception for me. I enter the year retired from the Fire Service after 30 years and newly elected to the Council Bluffs City Council. While both of these are positive events for me, being elected to City Council will have an impact on my position of President of the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association.

I will not be running for President in our next elections in January. It has been such an honor to serve this great neighborhood over the years. I have found this place and the people who make it home to be the best! I want to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as Gibraltar's president over the years and I look forward to serving you and our neighborhood as a City Councilman.

Thank you,

Councilman Elect, Steve Gorman



**Like us on  
Facebook!**

In our ongoing effort to provide quality communication to ALL our neighbors, the Gibraltar Neighborhood has a **Facebook** page where you can post questions, share photos, check the latest news, alert folks to things going on in our 'hood, and see any upcoming events and such.

If you are a Facebook user, PLEASE search for "Gibraltar Neighborhood Association" and "like" our page!

*We look forward to connecting with you on Facebook!*



## READING & SOCIALIZING!

**GNA's Book Club** is a fun, social gathering where we get together and share a bit of news, an adult beverage or two, and discuss our latest book. We always have a blast when we get together, so consider making this part of your neighborhood involvement!

**For more info** on when & where, contact Patti Hannan at 712-323-8600. We'd love to see you at our next book club (wine club? heehee) meeting!



## **WE NEED YOU to Get Involved!**

YOU want a neighborhood that's attractive and safe...  
YOU want a neighborhood that's active and engaged...  
YOU want to experience a feeling of community & connectedness...  
**YOU NEED TO GET INVOLVED!**

**You** are invited to make a difference by getting more involved with the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association. Elections will be held for the GNA Board at our neighborhood holiday party in January!

### **Multiple board positions will be open.**

- > Current board members will provide guidance in your new position.
- > Not a large time commitment and it is more fun than work. Along
- > Meet more of your wonderful neighbors
- > Work with City & Civic leaders and other neighborhoods

We have a planning meeting every other month in which we make decisions about events and issues that impact the neighborhood. In the past, the Board has planned numerous holiday parties, our quarter auction fund-raiser, luminarias at Christmastime, writing articles for the newsletter, the clean-up and beautification of the Fairmount Park Trail Head at the top of 9th Ave, litter pick up, dumpster days, etc...

**HELP KEEP GIBRALTAR ACTIVE, INVOLVED AND PROGRESSIVE! Join the Board!**

# Our Savior's LUTHERAN CHURCH



***Welcoming all to share God's grace and love.***

**SERVICE TIMES: Saturday 5:30pm • Sunday 10:00am**

church: 600 Bluff Street • office: 313 Story Street • ph: (712) 322-6655  
email: [office@OurSaviorsCB.org](mailto:office@OurSaviorsCB.org) • [www.OurSaviorsCB.org](http://www.OurSaviorsCB.org)  
facebook: Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Council Bluffs

## 2022 Dues are Due: Please Join!

Why does the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association ask for membership dues each year? *While not required, when you join our historic neighborhood association you help fund projects like:*

- > Betterment Initiatives such as Sidewalk Repair, Dumpster Days, and Trailhead Restoration
- > Enhancements like Identification Banners (yard, pole)
  - > Quarterly Neighborhood Social Events
  - > Neighborhood Clean Sweep
- > Support of Charities and City Causes, and more!

Your annual dues help keep Gibraltar moving in a positive direction, and gives you voting rights as well as priority positioning for improvement projects.

Simply drop your check in the mail (address and form are on the last page of this newsletter!) **OR... even MORE convenient**, use our online payment portal at [GibraltarNA.org/donate](http://GibraltarNA.org/donate). THANK YOU!

*How about this for a  
New Year's Resolution:*

**Make the time  
to be a**



### **ABOUT YOUR GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD AND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

**VISION:** The Gibraltar Neighborhood is a clean, safe neighborhood that offers an interesting mix of well kept homes within one of the Historic areas of Council Bluffs and provides its residents with a place to live where neighbors look out for one another and are proud of their neighborhood.

**MISSION:** The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association seeks to develop, implement and promote a comprehensive plan that: strengthens neighborhood relationships and communication, creates strategies to make our neighborhood safe, promotes activities that assure our neighborhood is one of clean and well-kept properties, encourages ideas and community involvement, and ensures that we will leave our neighborhood better than we found it.



# Annual Gibraltar Fundraiser a Big Success!

MANY, MANY thanks to the multitude of neighbors who donated items themselves or obtained donations from others, invited friends, helped organize and attended our Quarter Auction event in November! It was SO GREAT to be among our friends/neighbors, and everyone had a wonderful evening. Previously, our best year we raised around \$900. This year, we surpassed \$1,400.00!!! **Special Thanks** go out to Dennis Fellhauer, Brian Wedemeir and Mary Madison— these three folks contributed a LARGE percentage of the amazing auction items! *Thank you so, so much!!* Visit the website for MORE PIX: [www.GibraltarNA.org](http://www.GibraltarNA.org).



# Council Bluffs Snow Policy

By Chris Gorman

The time has come to re-visit how to keep our neighborhood safe during the icy and snowy time of year. The following information was taken from the Council Bluffs City website. Please take a moment to review so you can keep yourself and your neighbors safe.

## ❄ Removal Information & Policies

The purpose of the City of Council Bluffs Snow and Ice Control Policy is to provide direction and standards for efficient and cost-effective snow and ice removal operations on the many miles of city streets.

- The City does not plow alleys, sidewalks, or driveways unless part of city-owned property.
- Driveways may be blocked during snow removal operations. We attempt to minimize this as much as possible; however, property owners are still responsible for clearing their driveways. Snow from a private driveway may not be placed on a city street.
- Residents are responsible for clearing snow around the property's mailbox and for clearing and maintaining a place free of snow and ice for garbage and recycling containers.



## ❄ Snow Routes

The city is divided into 29 separate snow routes, which include 18 emergency routes and 11 residential routes. Priorities are established using the assumption that the severity of a storm is not beyond the normal

**capabilities of the City's snow removal resources. Depending on the nature of the snowstorm, deviations** could occur. The established priorities are as follows:

- 1st PRIORITY: Emergency snow routes – These consist of main streets, hospitals, schools, and areas of business and in some cases extend into areas of hills. Crews will remain on these routes until snow has subsided and these routes remain clear.
- 2nd PRIORITY: All other residential streets
- 3rd PRIORITY: City-owned sidewalks, parking lots, and trails

**\*\*\*Emergency snow routes are designated with a blue "Emergency Snow Route" sign.**

## ❄ Parking Bans

The Mayor may declare a ban on on-street parking when weather and street conditions warrant. Under such declaration, cars parked on designated streets during a snow removal effort may be ticketed and/or towed. The Police Department will be notified when the parking ban is initiated. Residents will be notified in advance of parking bans through the use of local media including newspaper, radio, television, social media, and other City resources.

- **SNOW EMERGENCY**: Snow emergency routes will always be first priority. There will be no parking allowed on snow emergency routes when a snow emergency is declared.
- **ODD-EVEN PARKING BAN**: City plows cannot properly maneuver and clear many streets and cul-de-sacs due to cars parked on both sides. During a declared odd-even parking ban, cars must park on the odd number side of the street on odd calendar dates and the even number side of the street on even calendar dates. This will affect only streets that currently allow parking on both sides of the street.
- **NO PARKING ON CUL-DE-SACS**: This parking ban will go into effect along with the odd-even parking ban and will remain in effect until the cul-de-sac is plowed from curb to curb or edge of road shoulders.

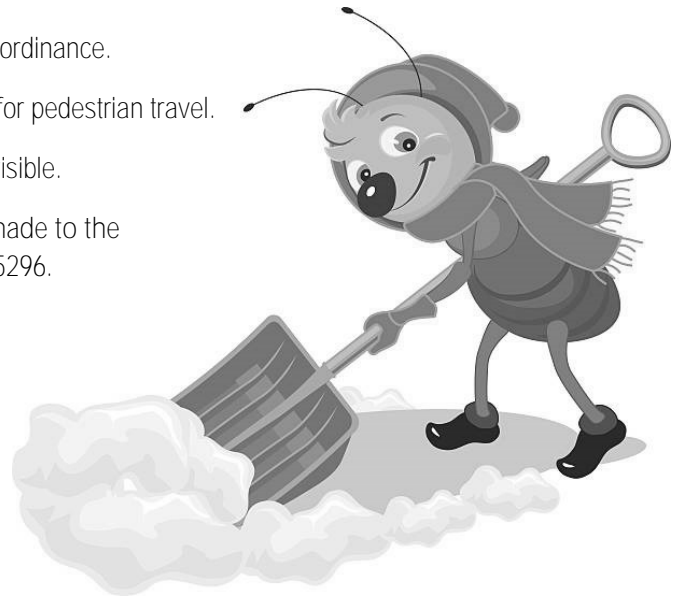
*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...*

# Council Bluffs Snow Policy ...continued

## ❄ Sidewalks

- It is the responsibility of property owners to remove all snow from sidewalks adjacent to their private property within twenty-four (24) hours after the snow has fallen or ice formed.
- Due to the location of some sidewalks and the volume of snow being moved, there will be occasions where the street plowing operation may deposit additional snow onto the sidewalks. It is still the responsibility of the property owner to remove all snow from their sidewalk.
- Blowing or shoveling snow into the street is a violation of the City ordinance.
- The property owner of a corner lot is to keep access ramps open for pedestrian travel.
- For emergency access, please expose fire hydrants that are not visible.

Complaints about private sidewalks not being cleared should be made to the Right-of-Way division of the Public Works Department at 712-890-5296.



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# **GNA Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 18th, 2021 || 6:00pm at 203 5th Ave.

**In attendance:** Steve Gorman, President, Chris Gorman, Secretary, Turner Morgan, Member at large, and Cory Peters, Newsletter editor.

## **Old Business**

Cory will write up and send out The Quarter Auction “thank you and tax deductible donation” letters to all who contributed to the auction. Discussed the idea of possibly hosting a 2nd auction in the spring. The Board agreed that one per year is work enough. Agreed to next auction in the fall of 2022.

Newsletter will be finished and go out in early December. Articles due. Ideas for the December issue -- Promotion of January Holiday party and elections for new GNA Board members; Bumpy Bennett Memorial; article to promote the AMP Grants; Neighborhood Association dues are due in January; Candle Safety, Shoveling Safety & ordinances are all topics to be included in the December issue. GNA December Newsletter articles are due to Cory before the last week of November.

## **New Business**

New Member interests in GNA board--GNA current board members will reach out and ask neighbors to put their name on ballot to serve on the GNA Board for the 2022 year.

Brian Weidemeier -Cory

Dave Adams -Chris

Bud or Suzy -Chris

Craig Jackson -Cory

Jill Kates & Chris Kates -Mary

The annual GNA Holiday Party plans are as follows;

Host: Bud and Suzy Dew. Location: 527 Clark Ave. When: January 8th, 2021 at 6:00pm

Cory will put a notice in the December GNA Newsletter to let people know about the event.

GNA board will provide up to \$150.00 for host expenses for main dish and beverages. Guests will be asked to bring a side and BYOB. Turner will handle the meat. Cory will inquire about a discount on wine. Cups and silverware are already purchased. New plates will be needed.

Banners: There are several banners that are missing from the poles in the neighborhood. The Board needs to decide if we are going to invest the money to put them back up. There will be some research on cost before the final decision is made.

Yard Flags: The supply of Flags and flag holders are dwindling. The former company we purchased them from is no longer in the business. They referred us to another company to make them and the price was much higher. Chris did some research and did not find any cheaper flags online. There was discussion about making “metal” signs instead of flags so they would last longer. More research will need to be done to explore costs and possible alternatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectful submitted,

Chris Gorman





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8:00-5:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (drive-up)

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**Kyle & Dan McGinn, Attorneys and Gibraltar Neighborhood Residents**

# The AMP for Neighborhoods Program Benefits Gibraltar Resident

The AMP program was launched in June by TS Bank, The 712 Initiative and Habitat for Humanity of Council Bluffs to help homeowners and neighborhoods afford repair and improvement projects. Projects kicked off in late 2020 and will continue into 2022.

The program secured over \$250,000 in donations from a wide variety of resources, including a generous donation of \$100,000 from an anonymous donor. “The generosity of this anonymous donor and the love for Council Bluffs is simply incredible,” said Sheryl Garst, CEO of The 712 Initiative. “The households nominated by their neighbors are hardworking individuals and families who simply did not have the disposable income for these types of projects.”

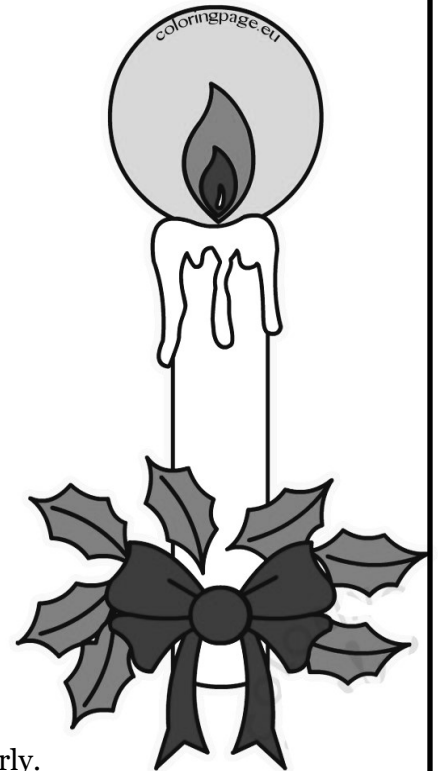
Up through the deadline last August, more than 50 applications were submitted requesting assistance with landscaping, siding, painting, fence repair, driveways, sidewalks, windows, roofing and exterior doors. Several Gibraltar residents wrote nominations for one of our long-time residents who is elderly and having a hard time with the upkeep on his aging home.

We’re happy to report that the nomination was accepted! Work will begin this spring on exterior cleanup and painting to help spruce up his property. ***Neighbors helping neighbors makes Gibraltar great!***

## 6 SIMPLE STEPS to Candle Safety

*For many folks, enjoying the holiday season includes the use of candles. Here are some important reminders to help you enjoy their scents and warm glow safely and responsibly!*

- 1) **Don’t Walk Away:** Never leave a burning candle unattended. Make sure the candle is completely out and the wick ember is no longer glowing before leaving the room.
- 2) **Secure the Area:** Never burn a candle on or near anything that might catch fire. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper and flammable decorations. Keep your hair and loose clothing away from the flame.
- 3) **Keep from Kids & Pets:** Make sure children and pets cannot reach burning candles. Do not place lit candles where they can be knocked over by children, pets or anyone else.
- 4) **Avoid Drafts & Vents:** Avoid drafts, vents or air currents. This will help prevent rapid or uneven burning, sooting and excessive dripping.
- 5) **Don’t Touch or Move:** Never touch or move a candle while it is burning or while the wax is liquefied.
- 6) **Keep Candles 3” Apart:** Place burning candles at least three inches apart from one another. This is to make sure they don’t melt one another, or create their own drafts that will cause them to burn improperly.



## Get to Know Your Neighbor: Dorothy “Bumpy” Bennett, by Chris Gorman

As many of you know, long-time neighborhood resident Dorothy “Bumpy” Bennett passed away in late October at age 95. She was much beloved and known as a real “connector” of people, projects & activities, and a great party thrower! Her energy and infectious laugh will be greatly missed. The article below is from the April 2011 Rock Talk. *Carpe Diem, Bumpy!!*

Dorothy Bennett and her late husband, Lyman S. Bennett, moved into their lovely house at 520 Clark Ave in 1976. Prior to that, the home was purchased by Lyman’s parents when Lyman was only nine years old, so he grew up as a GNA resident. As a boy, Lyman used to stake his ponies across the street!

Both graduates of Abraham Lincoln High School, Dorothy and Lyman were married in 1947, just after Lyman finished his service in the Navy during WWII. When first married, the couple moved to Iowa City to complete their educations. Throughout Lyman’s professional career the couple lived in Lincoln, Denver, Dallas, Atlanta and Council Bluffs.

The couple had four children: Barbara, who lives in Denver, Mark, in Santa Fe, Diane, in Oklahoma and Kathy who continues to live in Council Bluffs. Dorothy has good reason to be proud of them, as well as her six grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. They are all accomplished people, as they follow in her footsteps.

“Bumpy” received an associate degree from Christian College in Columbia, Mo., now called Columbia College, before earning her bachelor’s at Iowa City.

She has been involved in numerous community organizations, including Bluffs Arts Council, Council Bluffs Public Library, Historical General Dodge House, Council Bluffs Service League, Saint Paul’s Episcopal Church and Bloomer School.

Dorothy is an accomplished community volunteer and philanthropist. She and Lyman were instrumental in providing funding for the clock tower at Iowa Western Community College. She has been recognized with the President’s Award from the Bluffs Arts Council and the President’s and St. Clair Society Awards, both from Columbia College.

Lyman retired from Frito-Lay in 1976, which is when he and Bumpy bought the house on Clark. As one of the longest residing members of our association, “Bumpy” shared this interesting story of our association’s

namesake. In 1955, Lyman’s father was approached by the city and asked if he wanted to have “Gibraltar” leveled to his property so he could enjoy a wider view. At that time, the city was leveling the area for building sites. (The homes of Patti and Rich Hannan, Teri and Buck Christiansen and Leti Osier and her daughter Barb are where Gibraltar used to sit.) Mr. Bennett said yes.

Today, from the family room of the Bennett home one can take in an amazing view of the Omaha skyline.

If you can catch Bumpy between one of her many scheduled activities (playing bridge, volunteering, entertaining family and friends), be sure to ask her to recall some of her entertaining tales about our neighborhood! ■



# SAVE LIVES: CHANGE BATTERIES NOW!

Fire officials advise that when you set your clocks back for Daylight Savings Time, to also change the batteries in your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors (so if you forgot to do this last month, NOW is the time!). **Detectors over 10 years old should be replaced with a new unit**, a critical step in making sure yours is working when you need it most. A code stamped on the back of a detector should indicate the manufacture date.



Non-working alarms are very dangerous because they don't warn you and your loved ones that there is a fire or carbon monoxide in your home. When seconds count in an emergency, a lack of warning could be fatal. Homeowners are encouraged to have working smoke and CO detectors on every level of a residence. According to the National Fire Protections Association, three out of five home fire deaths resulted from fires on *properties without working smoke detectors*. The Council Bluffs Fire Department, with the generous support of several businesses, organizations, foundations and individual donors, founded **Project Alex** after fires claimed the lives of two children in 2010. Project Alex provides dual sensor smoke detectors in the hope of preventing any further loss of life in fires.

- On duty Fire Department personnel check each home they respond to for working detectors. If none are present or the smoke detectors need replaced, new detectors are installed before those personnel leave.
- They also replace batteries and leave fire safety information with the homes occupants, all in the hope of making the residents and our community safer.

To request a detector check or installation, contact the Fire Department at (712) 328-4646. If you need a smoke detector or new battery and cannot afford one, the fire department will schedule a time to have personnel come to your house and install new batteries or new detectors at no charge to the residents. **Now is a good time to check your fire extinguisher, too.**

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## **THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2021!**

*Those listed were known to have paid dues **at the time of publishing**. Any errors are completely unintentional. If you notice an error/omission, please contact GNA Treasurer Tom Emmett!*

Dave & Amy Adams

Darwin & Christine Baker

Bumpy Bennett

Kathy Bennett

Bettina Bente

Kathie Brandt

Paulette Brandt

David & Anna Brooks

Nate Brown & Tom Emmett

Buck & Teri Christensen

Dick & Ardeth Christie

Harold Compton

Kate Cross

Bud & Susie Dew

Brandon & Erika Dickerson

Matthew Dinovo

The Dodge House

Dennis Fellhauer & Brian Wedemeier

Chad & Kate Gaul

Teresa Gerjevic

Steve & Chris Gorman

Michele Graham

Rich & Patti Hannan

Joy Heuer

Wendy Hicks

Gordon Hitchcock

Steve & Cathy Jayjack

Barney & Brenda Johnson

Ryan & Sam Larson

Bob Jordan & Joan Minikus

Chris & Jill Kates

Mary Madison

Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins

Adrienne McElderry

Kyle & Lyndze McGinn

David Merz & Debra Danielsen

Linda Meyer

Clay & Dana Miller

Roger & Linda Morford

Turner Morgan & Abby Jares

Daniel & Jordan Morse

Terry & Nancy Mulvania

Patricia Murphy

Ryan & Heather Newell

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Cory Peters

Dan & Patti Salvo-McGinn

Jeff & Karen Tucker

Pam Vosler

Mathew Walker

Patrice Watson

Carol Wood

Jaime & Sarah Young

Jo Youngs



**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THROUGH YOUR ANNUAL DUES!!**  
*Our accomplishments would not be possible without YOU!*

## **ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNERS, ARTISTS, ETC.**

If you own a business, provide a service, have an event or sell a product, would you like to get the word out to **OVER 200 HOUSEHOLDS** in the Gibraltar Neighborhood?  
*If so, consider an affordable ad in the Rock Talk newsletter!*

**Ad Space Sizes available: 1/4 sheet or 1/2 sheet**

**1/4 sheet** one-time insertion: **\$10** — OR — 1/4 sheet “6-pack” (whole year): **\$50**

**1/2 sheet** one-time insertion: **\$15** — OR — 1/2 sheet “6-pack” (whole year): **\$75**

## GNA Contacts:

Steve Gorman, President  
712-310-9431

Anna Brooks, Vice President  
414-507-9649

Tom Emmett, Treasurer  
402-346-6734

Chris Gorman, Secretary  
712-355-0635

Turner Morgan, Member at Large  
712-310-3102

Mary Madison, Member at Large  
712-323-8073

Cory Peters, Newsletter Editor  
402-681-8344

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— AND —

LIKE us on Facebook (search "Gibraltar Neighborhood Association").

— AND —

Register TODAY on GNA's "Nextdoor" social networking website:  
[www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com). You can share news, updates, inquiries, refer  
business people or services, get the latest GNA news and much more!

***It's FREE & open to folks within Gibraltar boundaries!!***

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## Gibraltar Neighborhood Association: Membership Registration Form

Become a Gibraltar Neighborhood Association Member!! Yearly dues are \$25 *per household* and are tax deductible with our 501c3 status! In order to be eligible to vote for board members or receive priority preference for improvement projects, you must be a paid association member.

Make checks payable to & mail to: Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 1971, Co. Bluffs, IA 51502-1971

— OR — pay online at: [www.GibraltarNA.org](http://www.GibraltarNA.org) >> click on the "Donate" tab (you can pay via PayPal or via Credit Card)

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

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

### Please tell us what's important to you in *connecting with your neighbors*:

- Quarterly social events       Fundraisers       Business meetings  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Please tell us what *issues* are important to you:

- Getting to know my neighbors       Preserving our brick streets       Historic preservation  
 Better lighting in our Neighborhood       More social events       Crime / Safety  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_