

ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

FOOD DRIVE **still** in full swing!

WHERE: Your Front Porch!

WHEN: Any Sunday for probably a few months at least...

We continue to try and help our community's most vulnerable.

The Covid-19 Pandemic is still impacting so many families in our community, and those folks who are not currently working and are having a hard time keeping food on the table are adding to the strain on an already-burdened food pantry system. ***But you can help!***

Since mid-April our neighborhood has been collecting non-perishable food items and donating them to area food banks. And it's so easy because you don't have to leave the comfort of your own home, or interact with anyone else to do it! Sundays are "pick up" days for donations.

Simply put together a sack or box of nonperishable food items and place on your front porch! Then text Steve Gorman at 712-310-9431 and he will pick up the items to deliver to the pantry. Easy-peasy!!

Thank YOU for helping those less fortunate!!



JUNE Neighborhood Zoom Meeting & Cocktails

WHERE: The comfort of your own home!

WHEN: Wednesday, June 24 // 7:00 pm

Hi Neighbors!! We miss you! With the goal of keeping everyone safe and healthy, we continue to suspend our in-person gatherings until everyone's given the green light to once again get together.

In the meantime, we're trying to make the most of the technology at hand, and will be meeting "in person" via **ZOOM** - a **FREE** technology app! Grab yourself a cold beverage and plop down at your desk or on your couch and join us to chat! It's so nice to catch up and see everyone's faces! Below are instructions on how to join in the fun, or visit our facebook or NextDoor page to find the clickable link. To participate in the meeting with your built-in camera (on your phone or computer), **go to www.Zoom.com**.

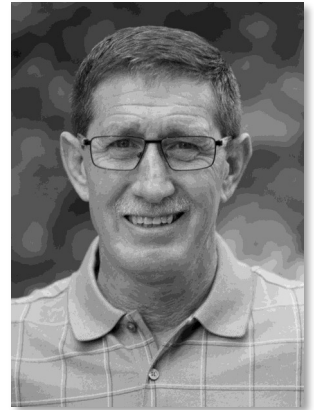
In the upper right corner, click on the "Join a Meeting" link. In the field that asks you for a meeting ID, type in this number: 819 3539 6535 — and then click "join." The Password to enter our meeting is: 804474

Once you have accessed the meeting, there are controls in the *lower left corner* to enable/disable your video and enable/mute your audio.

PRESIDENT'S POST

Thank you, thank you, Neighbors!

I feel so fortunate and honored to have neighbors who support one another during this unprecedented pandemic event. So many of you have shown your kindness and generosity through your efforts in supporting the ongoing food drive, which is so needed throughout our community at this time. I am truly moved by your willingness to help those who may be experiencing a job loss or an illness and are unable to bring in the income to which they were accustomed just a few months ago. It is very little effort on my part and I am committed to continuing as long as needed. *Please keep those donations coming.*



Our efforts of spring cleaning on May 9th and 10th Dumpster Days were quite successful.

We had absolutely no problem filling up the large dumpster container we ordered, and may need to plan on a *larger* one for next year! People did a wonderful job of following the social distancing rules, adhering to the rules of prohibited items and making sure no debris was left outside the container. This annual event serves our neighborhood well and I look forward to it every year.

Even in these trying times we have something for you to look forward to this summer. Anna Brooks, your wonderful Neighborhood Association Vice-president, has taken the intuitive and signed Gibraltar up for its very own Zoom account. This makes it possible for me to invite you for some long overdue, safe socializing with neighbors. Please grab your own beverage and snack, and from the comfort and safety of your own house join us via Zoom. I am very much looking forward to visiting with you “face to face.”

As a first-responder for the city of Council Bluffs I'd like to remind you, as we open up our economy again, to please be mindful of the six feet social distancing rule, wear a mask while doing essential shopping/work, and stay home if you can.

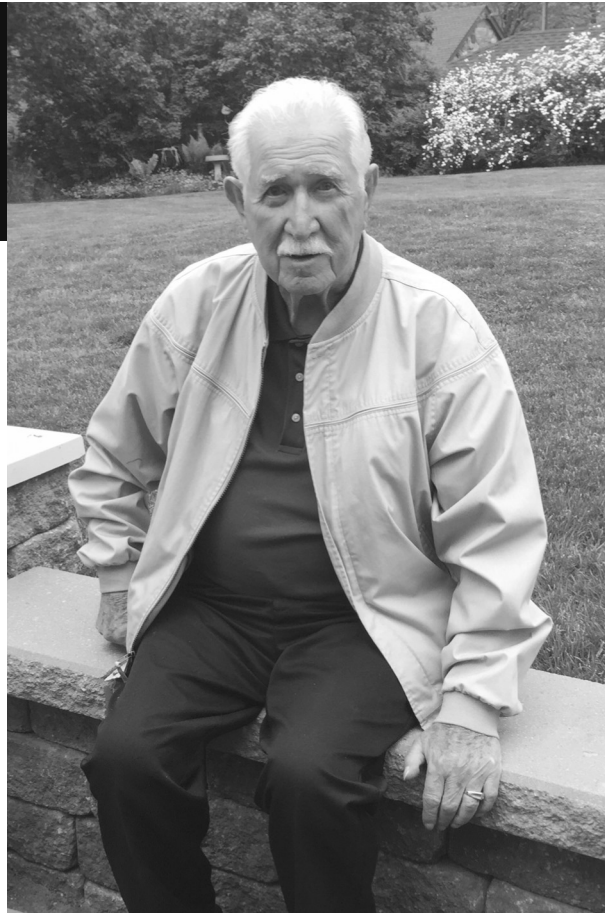
Thank you,
Steve Gorman

Wishing all the Gibraltar Dads a
Happy and Relaxing Father's Day!





IN MEMORIAM



JAMES A. GORMAN

The Gibraltar Neighborhood mourns the passing of long-time resident Jim Gorman, who passed away April 27th just shy of his 94th birthday.

Jim proudly served in the U.S. Army during WWII and was a U.S. Postal Clerk for 40 years before retiring in 1986. He and his wife of 71 years, Joyce, lived in the Gibraltar neighborhood from 1990 to 2018, where they were active in neighborhood functions and fundraisers.

Jim and Joyce had eight children, nineteen grandchildren and twenty four great-grandchildren. Two of their children and two of their great-grandchildren still reside in Gibraltar. Jim will be missed by so many.

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FIREWORKS ORDINANCES

Please be respectful of your neighbors (and avoid a \$250 fine!)

I think we can all agree that celebrating our Nation's independence is a wonderful thing! And, for most folks, fireworks are a blast (literally and figuratively)! But, there are LAWS on fireworks use, and we need to observe them. Last year's 4th of July holiday definitely presented many challenges. Gibraltar neighbors were frustrated by ongoing late night and mid-week explosions, disrupting sleep patterns and causing distress for pets and for those affected by PTSD. City-wide, the police department reported a large number of complaints. These non-compliant fireworks also pose added fire risks and property damage risks.

The police department encourages residents to call 911 and REPORT these instances (whether or not you expect that police will catch culprits in the act) - - the more complaints and reports they get, the more "hard evidence" they have for the need of additional enforcements or regulations regarding fireworks rules. Also, if possible, safely record video evidence of infractions and/or perpetrators. Law enforcement is actively seeking to cite & ticket any offenders when possible, and fines are hefty (a minimum of \$250!).

ALLOWED DATES for fireworks use: While we have not seen any new days for 2020, in GENERAL the us fireworks is only allowed for a few days right around July 4th, and only from NOON to 11:00 p.m.

This is not official and is published here only to reiterate the fact that discharging fireworks at any time other than immediately around the holiday IS **ILLEGAL**. You may feel like it's a harmless bit of fun, but for some people (and many animals), it is very traumatic. Should you choose to discharge fireworks during non-approved days/times, your neighbors have the right to report you. Thank you!



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Mall: 1751 Madison Avenue • 322-3300

9:00-5:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (lobby)

8:00-6:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (drive-up)

Support GIBRALTAR in 2020

Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association dues were payable in January, **but it's never too late to join!**
The form is on last page of newsletter.

Your annual dues help fund projects like:

- > Quarterly Neighborhood Social Events
- > Neighborhood Identification Banners and Yard Flags
- > Neighborhood Cleanup Day
- > Sidewalk Repair Initiative
- > Future projects like Trailhead restoration, Block Parties, etc.

Keep Gibraltar moving in a positive direction by support through your membership. **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2020!

*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	Teresa Gerjevic	Turner Morgan & Abby Jares
Joe & Kim Atkinson	Steve & Chris Gorman	Terry & Nancy Mulvania
Darwin & Christine Baker	Bill & Lois Grove	Patricia Murphy
James & Alicia Brady	Rich & Patti Hannan	Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Paulette Brandt	Gordon Hitchcock	Cory Peters
David & Anna Brooks	Steve & Cathy Jayjack	John Petit & Lindsay Besco
Nate Brown & Tom Emmett	Barney & Brenda Johnson	Pat & Mary Ryan
Buck & Teri Christensen	Bob Jordan & Joan Minikus	Alex & Maddi Sieck
Dick & Ardeth Christie	Roland Lynch	Tony Swanson
Harold Compton	Mary Madison	Jeff & Karen Tucker
Kate Cross	Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins	Patrice Watson
Bettina Dente	Kyle McGinn	Jo Kathryn Youngs
Bud & Susie Dew	Linda Meyer	
John & Rita Doidge	Clay & Dana Miller	

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD THROUGH YOUR ANNUAL DUES!!
It 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**

GIBRALTAR RESIDENTS ARE GENEROUS

Thank you, Thank you to all our wonderful Gibraltar neighbors. The first few weeks of the Food Drive have been a success thanks to your generosity! We are going to continue as long as necessary.

How can you help? It is so easy!

1. When you go to the store, pick up a few extra, non perishable items.
2. Set them out on your porch on Sundays after 3:00 pm.
3. Call or text Steve Gorman's phone 712-310-9431 with your address.

Steve will deliver them to Our Savior Lutheran Church's Community Food Pantry located at 313 Story.



GNA Board Meeting minutes — Thursday 4/2/2020

Present: Cory Peters, Turner Morgan, Steve Gorman, Chris Gorman, Tom Emmett, Anna Brooks, David Brooks and Mary Madison

Agenda

Coronavirus: Suggestions were made on how the neighborhood could help with the Coronavirus situation. Some suggestions: sew masks, food drive, help fill Lutheran church pantry. Creative idea: If you donate to pantry you can earn a mask for yourself.

Streets and Curbs: GNA contesting curbs and sidewalks in other parts of town, How Tiff Money works and is used was explained by Turner. CIB or Capital Improvement Budget develop streets in small increments. The city claims there is no funding to fix up roads and discussion covered how to acquire the funding. Steve suggested the idea of a ballot initiative. Anna brought up the Benson Neighborhood idea; The neighborhood could nominate to tax itself more. It was suggested to find documentation about a neighborhood which was able to successfully save their brick streets and show city officials a comparable situation. Steve will invite city council members one at a time to his home and show them our streets and curb issues.

Trailhead: Turner has a concept layout from the Parks Department. We will not have some of the funding until July 2020. There will be another volunteer clean up organized in the fall. Tom is starting another grant for more funding.

Treasure Report: Dues for 2020 are way behind. Tom suggested that if any board members have contact with neighbors to remind them to send in their payment for dues.

Newsletter: Delivery this week. Chris purchased plastic bags at \$49.09 for protection during distribution this month.

Zoom purchase: Anna purchased a subscription for GNA use for \$14.99 monthly through July 2020.

Dumpster Days: Steve purchased a dumpster for Sat. May 9th and Sunday May 10th for approximately \$230.00 for self-serve use by the GNA neighborhood. There will be no pick up effort due to Coronavirus. The dumpster will be located at the corner of 5th Ave and Clark.

GNA General Meeting Minutes - Thursday, April 23th at 7:00pm

Attendance: Steve Gorman, Chris Gorman, Kristy Darwin, Anna Brooks, Davis Brooks, Mary Brooks, Kim Atkinson, Joe Atkinson, Tom Emmett, Nate Brown and Cory Peters

Food Drive: Cory quickly put together a postcard that went out to approximately 300 houses in GNA neighborhood. Steve picked up food on Sunday evening and delivered it to Our Savior Lutheran Church. The church informed Steve that their need has increased by quite a bit. Continue to Contact Steve Gorman at (712) 310-9431 each weekend indefinitely.

Trailhead: Tom shared that he and Turner wrote another grant to Pottawattamie Community Foundation. This money will provide more rock to pour at the entrance to the Trailhead which will extend the entrance.

Dumpster Days: In Lieu of GNA annual neighborhood clean up, there will be one dumpster available to anyone in the Gibraltar neighborhood who wishes to get rid of garbage. There will be no pick up. It will coincide with Council Bluffs Social-Distancing Clean Sweep which began on April 23rd and runs until May 14th. Cory Peters offered industrial garbage bags for anyone who would like to use them for the Clean Sweep. Just contact Cory (402) 681-8344

Treasure Report: Chris asked for \$80.20 reimbursement of postage for food drive postcards; approved.

Coronavirus discussion: Please take a few minutes out of your day to call or text a neighbor and see how they are doing. Isolation is difficult on all of us. Let's support each other.

Mary Madison has made several masks and she wishes to share them with neighbors. Contact Mary if you want a mask. maryfmadison@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Gorman, Secretary

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In our ongoing effort to provide great communication to ALL our neighbors, the Gibraltar Neighborhood now has a **Facebook** page! If you are a Facebook user, PLEASE search for “Gibraltar Neighborhood Association” and “like” our page! You can use our page to pose questions, keep in touch with neighbors, alert folks to things going on in our ’hood, and learn more about upcoming events and such. *We look forward to seeing you on Facebook!*

***GNA's
Super-Heroes!***
THANK YOU to our
***hard-working newsletter
delivery & distribution team:***

**Chris Gorman and
Tom Emmett**

***Without you, our Newsletter
would not be possible!!!!***



**GNA's 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. We always have a blast when we get together, so consider making this part of your neighborhood involvement! For more info, contact Patti Hannan at 712-323-8600. We'd love to see you at our next book club (wine club? heehee) meeting! ■

From the Rock Talk editor: Kate Brewer, Gibraltar resident and author, has graciously volunteered to contribute her creative talents to our newsletter! I know you'll enjoy reading her short stories as much as I do! I can't wait for more! — Cory Peters

Jimmy the Clock

By Kate Brewer

James sets the clock every morning at approximately 10:01 a.m. Convinced that the angular digital display is specifically designed by the government to lull unsuspecting citizens into a deep sense of complacency when it comes to time-keeping (and, well, everything), he developed a simple system to keep “real time,” as he calls it.

The mechanism is simple. Each morning as the clock reads 10:01 a.m. he sets it back to 10:00 a.m. He does this because the “time criminals” (a nefarious, anonymous group whose members change depending on the politics du jour) have conspired to build each digital clock with a defect that jumps ahead one minute every evening at the stroke of midnight.

To what end, James is often asked? Well, that’s a closely guarded secret, known only to the “time criminals” themselves, James responds. But rest assured, they’re up to no good, he adds.

No one, least of which his son, Gerald, believes him. This doesn’t discourage James. Quite the opposite. He is content in the steadfast knowledge that he alone possesses the truth of the matter – as with just about any other matter – and that he alone can prevent the insidious theft of time imposed on the rest of the population (or, “sheep,” as he calls them).

After his “outburst” – as they called it – at the IT firm, James grew increasingly comfortable with isolation. Just two years shy of retirement and a pension that would make millennials drool, James had inexplicably destroyed three of his company’s servers with a golf club given to him as a twelfth anniversary gift by his ex-wife, Susan. He had never been particularly good at golf, though he held many opinions on the game and

its players, and had always despised Susan’s “thinly veiled, pompous, cowardly insult,” as he called it, that came in the form of a set of clubs. She filed for divorce three months shy of their thirteenth anniversary.

James narrowly avoided jail time in the server incident thanks to Gerald’s wife, who set him up with one of the better junior partners at her law firm. He considered writing a manifesto in which he revealed the source of his secret knowledge (the servers), their instructions to him to destroy the evidence (also the servers), and the grand tapestry of lies and time theft that the government(s) of the world had woven to deceive the “mostly good, if somewhat annoying” people of Earth. Quickly, however, being a smart man, James realized this would only put a massive target on his back.

Instead he contented himself with a staple diet of canned corn and Vienna sausages at ever-changing times of day, ever-fewer visits from Gerald and the grandkids, the company of his ever-confused old cocker spaniel (Susan had left the dog, if not their son), and the knowledge that he, James Hanson, in all the loneliness and gastro-intestinal distress, was the man who conquered time itself.



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Support GNA in 2020

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Your annual dues help fund projects like:

- > Quarterly Neighborhood Social Events
- > Neighborhood Identification Banners
- > Neighborhood Cleanup Day
- > Celebrate C.B. Parade Participation
- > National Neighborhood Conference engagement
- > Future projects like Trailhead restoration, etc.

Help keep Gibraltar moving in a positive direction by support through your membership. THANK YOU!

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GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

GNA Contacts:

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712-310-9431

Anna Brooks, Vice President
414-507-9649

Tom Emmett, Treasurer
402-346-6734

Chris Gorman, Secretary
712-256-8890

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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Gibraltar Neighborhood Association: Membership Registration Form

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Become a Gibraltar Neighborhood Association Member!! Yearly dues are \$25 per household and are tax deductible due to 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 and mail payment to:**

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

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