



ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Neighborhood Meeting, Dodge House Tour, and Ice Cream Social!

In celebration of the Dodge House's 150th Anniversary, we are hosting a special event in conjunction with our **July Meeting!**



Wednesday, July 10th

Meeting time: 5:30 – 6:00 pm

Tour & Ice Cream: 6:00–7:30 pm

Where: **The Dodge House**
605 Third Street



Ice Cream Social

Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association has made a donation to the Dodge House in honor of their momentous 150th Anniversary, and the Dodge House has kindly agreed to let our meeting attendees tour the house for **free** after our meeting! **PLUS**, before or after your house tour, enjoy a **FREE** ice cream treat on the front porch of the Dodge House, courtesy of your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association!

Come to the meeting where we'll share news, discuss new and/or old issues, and you can voice your concerns, etc. Then tour the AMAZING Dodge House! PLUS, enjoy a summer ice cream treat while you get to know your neighbors!

FAMILIES WELCOME! SEE YOU THERE!

**Wishing all the Gibraltar Dads
(of both 2- and 4-legged kids) a
Happy & Relaxing Father's Day**

*Happy
Father's Day*

Like us on Facebook!

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!*



Administrative Assistant MURPH helps Turner type up the Prez Letter!

FROM PRESIDENT MORGAN!

Hey Neighbors,

It's front porch season, folks – there are few things I enjoy more than sitting out front with the family, feeling the breeze, cold beverage in hand, a Willie Nelson record spinning in the background, watching Dave meticulously snip the edges of the yard with the scissors, cars rumbling on the brick streets, Kyle working with his general contractor/mother on the next project (she is *not* happy with the sub), coaches and kids hustling up at Kirn Park, Bud tending to his garden, neighbors strolling along and stopping to say 'hi', and *the boys* (our cats) sunbathing in the driveway – watching the Tom turkeys flaunt for nearby hens. How do I love thee Gibraltar? Let me count the ways.

Not to bring my professional life into it, but this counting of experiences is something that pops up quite a bit when talking about events, parks, and places. What makes a place vibrant, resilient, and special? The Project for Public Spaces has a concept for this called The Power of 10+.

“The Power of 10+ shows how the act of paying attention can have immediate and widespread impact on the human experience when building a city’s destinations and districts. The idea behind this concept is that places thrive when users have a range of reasons (10+) to be there.

*These might include a place to sit, playgrounds to enjoy, art to touch, music to hear, food to eat, history to experience, and people to meet. Ideally, some of these activities will be unique to that particular place, reflecting the culture and history of the surrounding community. **Local residents who use this space most regularly will be the best source of ideas for which uses will work best.***

Further, when cities contain at least 10 of these destinations or districts, their public perception begins to shift amongst both locals and tourists, and urban centers can become better equipped for generating resilience and innovation.” – Project for Public Spaces

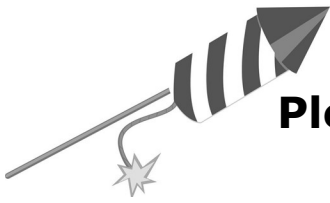
For our neighborhood, both as a whole and on individual streets, the counting comes easy. For other neighborhoods and parts of our city – it can be difficult to get to double digits.

What I find really encouraging about this concept is that communities can be experimental, and start small – rather than trying to come up with some grand silver bullet idea! The little stuff adds up quickly, and doesn't require too much stress or capital.

Take our Fairmount Park “Trail head” (on 9th and High St.) as an example. Before our clean up in May, this place was pretty much dormant. While we still have a ways to go, we've taken small steps into really activating this space and “getting to 10+.” There is now an established path to the trail system, signage is visible, the entrance has been manicured, and there is the natural beauty of the forest. **What else could we do?** Solar lighting, programming and scheduled hikes, proper/larger signage, parking spaces, a picnic table or seating area, doggy bag station, public art, etc.

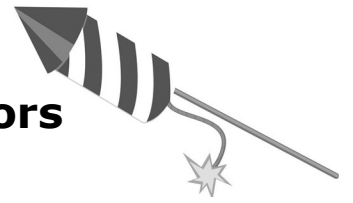
Give it a try the next time you are walking around, or out on the town – get to counting! What ideas do you have and/or could help make a reality? A funky painted crosswalk, approaching the business owner or city about a bike rack or patio seating in front of your favorite downtown location, pink flamingos and potted plants, impromptu live music down on your porch or at the park, organize with some friends to fly kites on the corner, advocating for more complete streets and bike lanes, put a water bowl by your sidewalk for passing pooches! Let's keep making our neighborhood a vibrant and unique place to call home.

Turner
GNA President



FIREWORKS ORDINANCES

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



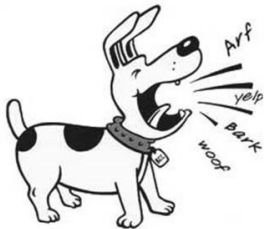
I think we can all agree that celebrating our Nation's independence is a wonderful thing! And, for most folks, fireworks are a blast (literally and figuratively)! But, **there are LAWS on fireworks use**, and we need to observe them. *Last year's 4th of July holiday definitely presented many challenges.* 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 record number of complaints. These non-compliant fireworks also pose added fire risks and property damage risks.

Neighborhood Par Officer Daniel Stuck encourages us 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 finances are hefty (a minimum of \$250!).



ALLOWED DATES for fireworks use: As of the writing of this article (late May) - the City Council had not yet decided the allowed days for fireworks use in 2019. The proposal currently being considered is for three days: **July 4, 5 & 6 (Thurs/Fri/Sat), 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!



GENERAL NOISE ORDINANCES

Barking Dogs at All Hours of the Day & Night—NOT OKAY

As a dog owner, I understand that there are certain times when your dog might need to be outside for a while (maybe you're mopping the floors... maybe Scruffy needs to burn off some energy... maybe you have dinner guests, etc.). Unfortunately, I've been hearing a lot of complaints lately from neighbors who are frustrated with the increased occurrence of dogs being left outside unattended for long periods of time—not just during the day, but also all night. **The problem is, DOGS BARK. A LOT. *Not everyone is cool with that.***

According to City Ordinance Chapter 4.50.060-6.3d: *It is unlawful to own, possess or harbor any animal or bird which frequently or for continued duration, howls, barks, meows, squawks or makes other sounds which create a noise disturbance across a residential real property boundary.* That means if your neighbors can hear your dog barking for a continued duration, *you are breaking the law.* What I'm trying to say is that with warmer weather upon us, people will have their windows open. Having to listen to ANY noise that someone else is making (hammer clanking, dog barking, music thumping, etc.), repeatedly, day after day, night after night, IS NOT OKAY. If you **must** leave your barking dog outside all day, it might be time to invest in an anti-bark device. And barking dog(s) left outside **all night?** That is never okay.

Our neighbors deserve a place where they can relax and enjoy their surroundings. *Please be mindful that the noise you've learned to tune out can be extremely bothersome to others.* Thank you!



DODGE HOUSE NEWS

The Dodge House Needs Your Help!

Currently, the Dodge House is only open Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. We are seeking to expand our days of operation to include Tuesday and Wednesday (and soon, selective Sunday afternoons for special events and group tours). We are in need of **four new volunteers** to serve a 3.5 hour shift every week. Benefits include: learning more about the House and its history, and meeting the other volunteers & visitors from around the world. In addition, helping us keep the house open for longer hours raises the caliber of the Gibraltar neighborhood, and that's good for all of us!

Interested? Call Tom Emmett at 402-346-6734 or email him at: tomemmett@dodgehouse.org.
Thank you!

New Director Announced

The Historic Dodge House Board of Trustees is proud to announce that Thomas Emmett has accepted the top leadership position at the Dodge House. Tom is from Council Bluffs and is active in the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, where the Dodge House is located. He has extensive experience working with volunteers; has successfully fund raised for a new structure; written several successful grants; has overseen a large remodeling project; and was an antique dealer for several years. Tom holds two Masters Degrees, one in History and one in Divinity. Welcome, Tom — we are excited for the future!

JD's Service & Repair

Automotive repair services for both foreign and domestic trucks and autos!



Call for a FREE estimate!

501 South 4th Street • 712.322.6841
www.JDsServiceAndRepair.com



Find us on facebook: JD's Service & Repair

Your friendly, honest neighborhood auto repair shop!

GET TO KNOW...

Our Neighborhood Mail Carrier, Ryan Schulenberg!



If you see Ryan out and about, be sure to introduce yourself and say hi!! During the hot summer months, you might even leave him a cold bottle of water!

Greetings, Gibraltar Residents! My name is Ryan, and I am your mail carrier! I hope to get to know you better, so will first tell you a bit about myself! I am married and have 2 daughters. The oldest of my daughters is 24 and she lives in Oregon; the youngest is 8 and she lives with us here in Council Bluffs. I have been with the Postal Service for a little over 3½ years.

I was born and lived here in Council Bluffs until my sophomore year in high school when we moved to Eugene, Oregon. In high school I ran track and cross-country. After graduating from the University of Oregon with a B.S. degree, I went into the Peace Corps and spent two years in Paraguay, South America as an Agricultural Extensionist. It is there that I met and married my wife, who is from Paraguay.

After those two years, we moved back to Oregon and I worked for eight years with the Forest Service, working in reforestation and fighting forest fires.

When my youngest was four months old we moved back to Paraguay for four years to be closer to my wife's family, and to raise cattle on the family ranch. Because of my daughter's health issues and wanting her to be educated in the United States, we moved back to Council Bluffs, where my parents and brother live. I'm glad to be here!



unLEASH CB
2019 Council Bluffs IOWA

YOUR GUIDE TO COUNCIL BLUFFS RAGBRAI — *Volunteer and/or Join the Fun!*

Council Bluffs is the starting point and first overnight town for the 2019 RAGBRAI, continuing on to the towns of Atlantic, Winterset, Indianola, Centerville, Fairfield, and Burlington, with the ride concluding in Keokuk.

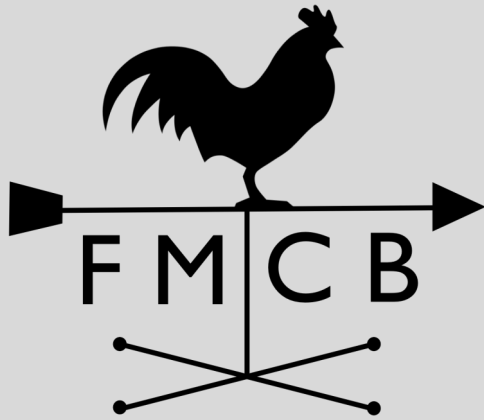
Join the kick-off celebration and RAGBRAI Expo taking place near the Mid-America Center on July 19-21 from 12:00-9:00 pm. Live music from Polka Police and Taxi Driver are sure to get the crowd dancing!

Including the bikers and guests, there will be close to 20,000 people from all 50 states and various other countries who will come to Council Bluffs to start a week of fun and celebration. In order to be a good host city, **volunteers will be needed for a variety of responsibilities.**

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER? If you have an interest, please go to <https://sugeni.us/cauB> to sign up. Minimum age is 18 years old. Recruit someone you know to sign up at the same time and have a blast volunteering together!

For more information, contact the Volunteer Committee at wkweber44@cox.net.

C.B. Farmers Market
Thursdays, 4:30-7:30 / Bayliss Park
Through September 26



Fresh & Fun Farmers Market!

Take a walk in the neighborhood and head to Bayliss Park on Thursday evenings for homemade breads, delicious cheeses, local honey, Council Bluffs photographs, and more!

Located in historic Bayliss Park, the Council Bluffs Farmers Market features seasonal and weekly vendors selling a range of fresh produce, local meats, baked goods and unique crafts. The market is Thursday evenings from 4:30-7:30 pm and runs May 2-September 26, 2019.

Every market also includes wellness activities from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, and live music from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. And make sure to experience the fun play space to entertain the kids, sponsored by Centris Federal Credit Union.

Farmers Market Council Bluffs is a program of The 712 Initiative and is presented by CHI Health Mercy Council Bluffs as a way to help create a healthier hometown.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



150 YEARS

.....

The
General Dodge House

**is celebrating its
150th Anniversary!**

1869 - 2019

*Watch for upcoming events
throughout the year on the
Dodge House website and
Facebook pages.*



SERVICES:

- Mortgage Protection
- Critical Illness & Disability
- Life Insurance
- Final Expense
- Retirement Protection

Johanne (Jo) Lewis, *Independent Broker*
402.699.7072

johannelewis.sfg@gmail.com
www.sfglife.com

GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

Make Sure You Get the LATEST Updates!

It can be DIFFICULT to get in touch with all our neighbors when the need arises! Maybe there's a last-minute meeting change... Maybe there's an urgent need to get together? Maybe the ice cream truck broke down on the corner and they're handing out FREE ICE CREAM!! Haha!

Whatever the message and urgency, one of the BEST ways to keep in touch is by registering on the FREE NextDoor website. Join our neighborhood group at www.Gibraltar.Nextdoor.com and keep informed! **THANK YOU!**



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! ■



RAILROAD DAYS

An Annual Celebration of all things TRAIN & TRACK

July 13 & 14 || 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. || \$15 Family Pass

Celebrate our region's rich railroad heritage and all things train and track at **Railroad Days 2019**, July 13 and 14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The fun-filled weekend gives families the opportunity to explore the exhibits and collections at **five** of the area's railroad-themed attractions, all at one low price. Available for purchase at any participating venue during the event, one \$15 pass admits two adults and your dependent children or two grandparents and up to four grandchildren, for both days to five different attractions!! A \$5 pass is also available for one additional adult with purchase of a family pass (limit one). ***This includes transportation between the different locations and all the special activities that each location has to offer.*** A great experience for all ages!

For more information, visit www.omaharailroaddays.com. You can purchase tickets the day of the event at any of the participating attractions:

- > Union Pacific Railroad Museum
- > Historic General Dodge House
- > Lauritzen Gardens
- > The Durham Museum
- > RailsWest Railroad Museum



**Lunch & dinner
specials every day!**

BARLEYS
The 100 Block • C.B.
712.322.0306
www.barleysbar.com

***Looking to host a birthday, retirement
or anniversary party?***

Contact Jill: 402.639.0268 or party@barleysbar.com

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

Of Time and Tomatoes

By Kate Brewer

I feel time now in a way that I didn't before. Like water when you cup your hands under a faucet and it falls between the gaps in your fingers no matter how hard you squeeze. I'm thirsty, too. All the time. It's deceptive, really, one only has so much capacity for water. One only has so much time. Some of us less so than others, but what do any of us really know about that? In my experience, not much.

I watched a girl dig a sandwich out of the garbage last week while I was waiting for the bus in front of the clinic. She had a large red Huskers sweater on even though it was eighty degrees and her hair was pulled back in a rough limp bun. I couldn't tell whether she was twenty or forty. The things we do to ourselves, I thought. The things we do to one another. After she fished it out - a nibbled-on Subway meat monstrosity - she sniffed it, inspected the ingredients, extracted the sliced tomato and threw it violently on the ground before eating the rest of the sandwich. I tried to imagine a life that leads to this moment, desperately hungry and passionately vengeful toward tomatoes. I failed.

The next morning the disgraced tomato was still there. The June sun had baked it into the sidewalk in a messy reddish crescent.

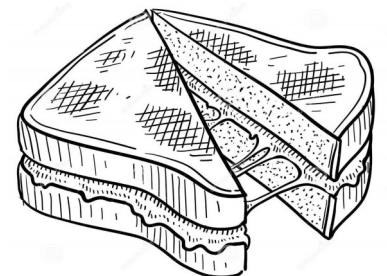
For all my work with addicts from every possible walk of life that have all ended up in this clinic, I have a notoriously bad imagination. I take most things quite literally. Subtext often escapes me, sarcasm bores me, and my general lack of a sense of humor (as determined by my younger colleagues) has inspired them to call me 'Lamy Poehler' behind my back. 'Parks & Rec' is actually one of the only shows I like. It's a good thing I'm in charge of the medication schedule as opposed to any of the therapy sessions. Talking about feelings isn't exactly my forte. And diabetes has made me even less sociable of late.

Tuesday saw a hailstorm of epic proportions. It was all anyone talked about for a week: general dismay, insurance headaches, and the destructive march of climate change. I brought two grilled cheese and tomato sandwiches to work and intentionally left

one on top of the garbage can. Sure enough, the girl came back. This time her yellow hair fell down around her face like a shredded curtain. I watched as she wedged the tomato away from the congealed cheese with dirty fingernails and cast it aside with just as much disgust as before. The next morning there were two crusty red stains on the sidewalk, like phases of some gruesome moon.

I didn't tell anyone at work about my diagnosis. Pity never sat well with me. Not when my brother fell off that roof he was working on and ended up in a wheelchair. Not when my long-term girlfriend announced she was leaving me and moving to Grand Rapids to start a dog grooming business. Most definitely not when my doctor told me I'd joined the ranks of millions of women on a restrictive diet. I can still walk, run, administer methadone, play with my dogs, miss cultural references, plant peonies, unintentionally neglect said peonies, dominate a poker table, and make a mean grilled cheese and tomato sandwich. Only now, I feel the time inherent in each of these things. For the first time in my forty-one years I know, in my marrow, that these minutes, used or unused, are never coming back. It sounds so stupid because it's obvious. But to know something and to feel it - these are two different things.

This week I made two grilled cheese sandwiches, one with tomato and one without. After work I waited outside the clinic with both of them carefully wrapped in tinfoil. I didn't get on the first bus that came. Let the second one go, too. And the third. The sun dipped behind the low red-brick buildings. The girl never came. I noticed someone had cleaned the sidewalk next to the bus stop, so not even a shadow of the hated tomatoes remained. I got on the next bus, one sandwich short and fighting the strangest urge to cry.



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**

THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2019!

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

Your ongoing support of the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association allows us to undertake betterment projects like our identification banners and repair initiatives, host social gatherings like our Kirn Park picnic, pancake feed, and Brunch & Banter events, sponsor improvement events like cleanup days, and represent our neighborhood at community events such as workshops and having a Gibraltar float in the Celebrate Council Bluffs Parade! ***It would not be possible without YOU!***

Yes!! You're on the list!



Bobby & Amanda Adams
Dave & Amy Adams
Joe & Kim Atkinson
Darwin & Christine Baker
Connie Bartel
Bumpy Bennett
Kathy Bennett
Pam Bogardus & Bob Yanders
Paulette Brandt & Dave Eyre
Ben & Kate Brewer
David & Anna Brooks
Nate Brown & Tom Emmett
Dick & Ardeth Christie

Chris Clayton
Harold Compton
Kate Cross
Bud & Susie Dew
Jared & Kristina Dockendorf
Marc Evans
Dennis Fellhauer & Brian Wedemeier
Teresa Gerjevic
Dave & Patty Gillespie
Steve & Chris Gorman
Bill & Lois Grove
Peggy & Merlin Hale
Gordon Hitchcock
Miriam Hodge & Adnan Mohammed
Steve & Cathy Jayjack
Barney & Brenda Johnson
Jim Kieffer & Gary Lopez
Johanne Lewis
Roland Lynch
Mary Madison

Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins
Kyle McGinn
Linda Meyer
Clay & Dana Miller
Turner & Abby Morgan
Terry & Nancy Mulvania
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Cory Peters
Pat & Mary Ryan
Dan & Patti Salvo-McGinn
Tony Swanson
Jeff & Karen Tucker
Ann Walters & Cathy Hill
Patrice Watson



*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!*

Gibraltar: The Rock of Council Bluffs

A Vibrant, Historic Neighborhood on the Rise

This article was printed in the May 2019 edition of Omaha Home magazine — a division of Omaha Magazine.

April 25, 2019 by Linda Persigehl || Photography by Bill Sitzmann

Gordon Hitchcock is a self-proclaimed “old house geek,” and has been since childhood. “I subscribed to *This Old House* magazine when I was 13,” he admits.

So, in 2013, when he went looking for an affordable, old home where he could invest some “sweat equity” and house his licensed massage therapy practice, he looked no further than the Gibraltar neighborhood of Council Bluffs.

Located at the base of the Loess Hills, it is one of the area’s oldest neighborhoods and includes the Willow/Bluff/Third Street Historic District. Its boundaries are the top of Fifth Avenue west to Fourth Street, and Ninth Avenue north to St. Peter’s Church.

Gibraltar was named for a rugged, 250-foot-high dirt mound resembling the Iberian landmark (the Rock of Gibraltar), which once sat at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Third Street. The massive hill was razed in the mid-1950s to allow for more home construction.

The neighborhood’s 200-plus homes represent a variety of architectural styles. Many were built by railroad titans, military generals, doctors, lawyers, and prominent businessmen in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Gibraltar is also home to the historic Bregant House (at 517 Fourth St.), built for two married entrepreneurial vaudeville stars with dwarfism.

Hitchcock has spent six years converting his massive 1868 Italianate villa—which was originally built by a retired judge and included a small law office space—from apartments back into a single-family home. Thankfully, most of the house was brought up to code in the early ’90s, with new HVAC, plumbing, and electric wiring, he says.

While he’s made great progress on the first and second floors, the basement and large attic space remain unfinished. If converted, the house’s usable area will be 6,400 square feet. It’s “my little art project,” he jokes.

Where Community and Architecture Meet

Gibraltar’s ornate, one-of-a-kind, turn-of-the-century residences initially draw many prospective homebuyers. But it’s more than the homes that make the neighborhood special.

Retired couple Amy and Dave Adams have lived in Gibraltar for 20 years—first on Third Street, then relocating to Clark Avenue in 2003. Their Craftsman-style home, built about 1912, is on a dead-end street and backs to a private wooded area.

“But the best part of our home is the view,” Amy says. “We have trees all around us...beautiful red maples. And old, lovely homes that are well-maintained.” They have two porches from which to enjoy the scenery.

While they appreciate the hand-crafted woodwork, pocket doors, and



charms of their “warm and cozy” home, it’s their neighbors that they would miss most if they left, Amy says.

They credit the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association (GNA) for promoting a real sense of community among a diverse homeowner base. Amy served on its board for a time, as did her husband as treasurer.

“The association does a wonderful job dealing with streets and curbing and other issues, working with the city to resolve them,” she says. “They’ve also done a lot to grow homeowner participation. There are always new members joining, serving, coming to events. We’ve met some great people.”

The Adamses enjoy attending the annual GNA Christmas party, hosted by a different homeowner each year, and try to attend the regular social meetings held by GNA. “It’s hard to get to meet everybody, so we’ve decided to appoint block captains to help with flow of communication.”

Continued....

Developing Neighborhood Initiatives

Amy says that when they moved in 16 years ago, “We were the young people on the block. Now we’re the older folk. The neighborhood is transitioning. A young woman down the street just bought her mother’s house. You’re seeing that more...homes becoming multi-generational.”

A prime example is Cory Peters. The graphic designer has been a Gibraltar resident for most of her life. “I was born and raised four houses down from where I live now,” she says. Today, she resides in the midcentury ranch home she bought from her parents in 2000 (which was built where the namesake dirt mound once sat). A former GNA president and its current newsletter editor, Peters was instrumental in helping Gibraltar win second place in the Neighborhoods, USA national competition in the “Social Revitalization” category in 2016.

Peters says since its founding just 10 years ago, GNA has been proactive, partnering with groups like Habitat for Humanity, The 712 Initiative, City of Council Bluffs, historical groups, and others on ways to improve Gibraltar and the community as a whole.

To date, GNA has spearheaded the effort to create and install historic district banners on streetlights throughout Gibraltar. It’s also contributed funds to buy new holiday decorations for nearby Bayliss Park, as well as helped raise money for Historic General Dodge House.

Currently, GNA sponsors an annual spring clean-up day, and the association’s sidewalk repair initiative is ongoing. Gibraltar participates in a historical home bus tour, along with Fairmont Park and Bayliss Park neighborhoods. Recently, the association also initiated an art project at Fourth and Worth streets.

“We pitched the idea of a historic mural being installed on the south wall of the Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society building adjacent to some green space,” Peters says. “The contents of the mural will be decided by neighbors and include imagery from Council Bluffs from the last 150 years. The goal is to have the mural in place in late spring.”

Peters says GNA has worked with The 712 Initiative in recent months to purchase a block party trailer, which houses tables and chairs, barricades, carnival games, coolers, and other items essential for hosting community events. Gibraltar block parties are planned for this summer and fall.

“All of Council Bluffs will have access to the trailer,” she explains. “We’re going to share it. They can use it to build neighborhood relationships, as well as help bring all people together and build a stronger community.”

Peters is proud of what GNA has accomplished in its short existence, but says it has no shortage of goals moving forward. Its long-term planning guide on its website spells out the details.

“Being fairly young, we’re lagging behind many Omaha developments,” she adds. “We’re still learning and have a ways to go.”



Brooks residence in Gibraltar

Affordable History Near Downtown Omaha

Two of Gibraltar’s newest residents are David and Anna Brooks. The couple purchased a three-story Colonial Revival built around 1906 (the exact year is disputed), in December 2017.

David, 31, was drawn to Gibraltar because of its proximity to his downtown Omaha office, where he practices law, and Fairmont Park with its running trails. Anna, 28, who works in finance from home, also loves having Bayliss Park, the Old Market, the library, and Council Bluffs’ city center a close jaunt from home. The couple are expecting their first child, a girl, this spring.

The Brooks considered several Omaha metro neighborhoods when relocating from Iowa City, settling on Gibraltar because of the value it offered.

“The quality you get for the price over here is tremendous,” Anna says. “Our home has incredible character. We never thought we’d be able to afford a house in this neighborhood.”

Their home features 9-foot-high ceilings and 8-foot-tall windows, allowing great natural light. A three-season porch and an oversized corner lot are other features that captured the hearts of the Brooks. “And we have a great view of downtown Omaha from our second- and third-floor windows,” Anna adds.

David, who serves as GNA secretary, feels a civic duty to helping Gibraltar prosper. “Older neighborhoods have suffered and are still recovering from urban sprawl,” David says. “Having a strong downtown core is important, and this neighborhood is central to that effort in Council Bluffs.”

David says they look forward to spending many years in their home. “The character of the people in this neighborhood is amazing,” he adds. “Life throws twists and turns at you, and our neighbors are extremely supportive. We don’t have much family here, and so they’ve turned into our new family.”



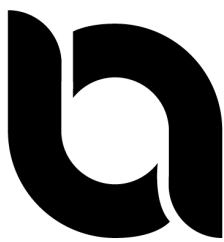
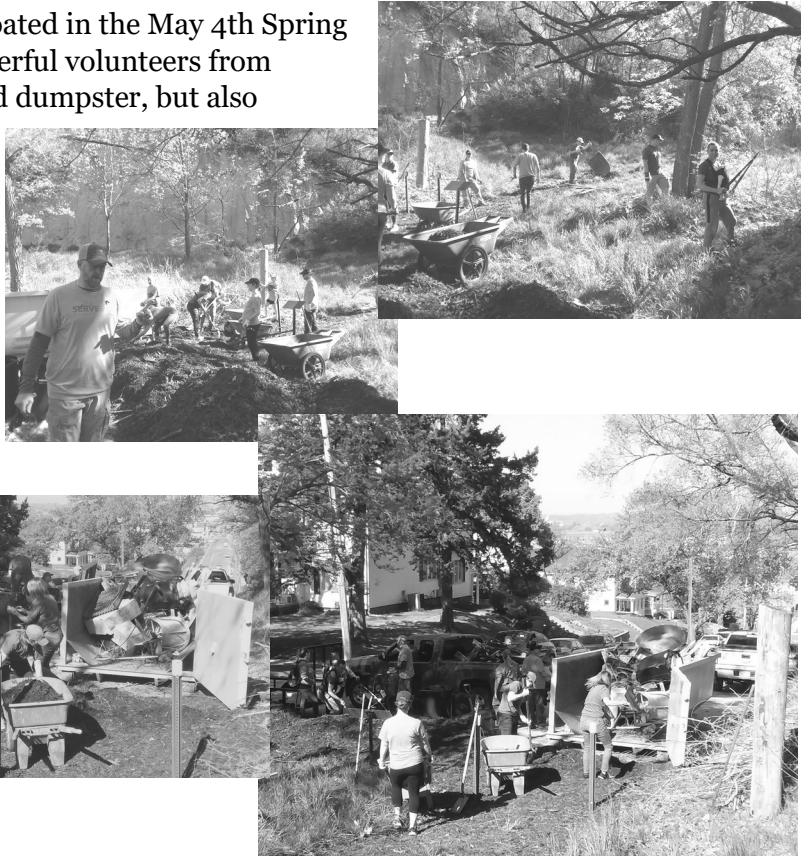
The Evans’ residence in Gibraltar Neighborhood

Spring Clean-up—THANK YOU!

Clean Up - Thank you to everyone who participated in the May 4th Spring Cleaning & Trail-Head clean up! We had 20 wonderful volunteers from Servefest and were able to not only fill up a 15 yard dumpster, but also establish a prominent foot trail for the Fairmount Park entrance on 9th and High Street.

This park is a huge asset to our community, and we hope to continue progress on the trail head to make it a welcoming destination for current and future residents in our neighborhood!

**Take advantage of our hard work!
The weather is perfect for a hike with
the family and your pups!**



Availa Bank

Member
FDIC

Our name says it all.
We're AVAILABLE.

We're happy to serve the
Gibraltar Neighborhood!

Downtown: 117 Pearl Street • 322-1700

9:00-5:00 Mon-Fri (lobby)

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

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)



Upcoming Events at UP Museum

All events are free and open to the public.

July 13 & 14 – Railroad Days, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm both days — Union Pacific Museum is celebrating the contribution of Chinese workers in creating the nation’s first transcontinental railroad with a celebration of Chinese culture and music at the Union Pacific Museum for this two day event.

August 17 – lecture 1:00-3:00 p.m. “Construction as Conquest; Building the Transcontinental in Indian Country,” with Historian Alessandra Link — Join us for a lecture on the Indigenous perspective of the building of the transcontinental railroad. Feat of engineering to some, for Tribal Nations this project was more an act of conquest for Native peoples. Dr. Link will explore how Indigenous communities engaged, often violently, with railroad construction crews who churned the soils on the homeland of Pawnees, Paiutes, Shoshones, Lakotas and others.

September 12*-15 – Reception and Symposium - Railroads in Native America: Reflections on 150th Anniversary of the Transcontinental Construction *Symposium opening reception at Union Pacific Museum — Railroads in Native America is a three-day symposium bringing together scholars, artists, musicians, tribal members and representatives from tribal governments, in partnership with the National Park Service, the Union Pacific Railroad Museum, and the University of Nebraska at Omaha. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the union of Central Pacific and Union Pacific railroad tracks at Promontory Summit, Utah. Union Pacific laid their first mile of track in Omaha, Nebraska and historic Mile “zero” is just across the river in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

This historic anniversary prompted the organizing committee to design a symposium that addresses the significant impact of railroads in Indian Country. <http://www.uprrmuseum.org/news/railroads-in-native-america-symposium-2019.shtml>

October 12 – lecture, 1:00-3:00 p.m. “Re-dressing America’s Frontier Past,” with historian Peter Boag — Questioning American’s long cherished and romantic images of the frontier, where cowboys are always rugged and ladies always fragile, Peter Boag opens an extraordinary window onto the real Old West. Delving into the history Boag paints a vivid picture of the West where cross-dressing, for both men and women, was pervasive and how gender identity was continually being redefined.

November 2 - roundtable discussion, 1:00-3:00 p.m. “Buffalo in the Great Plains,” — On National Bison Day, join us for an engaging community discussion of the importance of, what is now the National mammal, the Bison to the Great Plains, both in the past and today. This participatory and thoughtful discussion will explore the near extinction of the Bison at the turn of the last century, as well as the current status of the Bison, and its meaning and importance in several Tribal cultures.

JUNE dates to know

June 6: D-Day, WWII

June 14: Flag Day: Show your pride — fly the flag!

June 16: Father’s Day: Honoring Dad’s everywhere.

June 21: Summer Solstice—longest day of the year

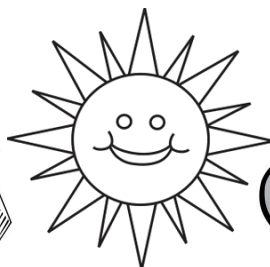
JULY dates to know

July 1: Canada Day—celebrating our neighbors to the north!

July 4: Independence Day— America’s birthday!

July 17: National Hot Dog Day—Tube meat... grill some today!

July 22: Hammock Day—relax and enjoy.



McGinn Law firm

since 1914



712-328-1566

Free Initial
Consultation

www.mcginnlawfirm.com

Dedicated to providing friendly, professional and compassionate service, our team is devoted to giving your legal matters the time and attention they deserve.

Kyle & Dan McGinn, Attorneys and Gibraltar Neighborhood Residents



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER: tear out and put on your fridge & calendars!

We'll continue to include/update this section in each issue, as dates & events are firmed up!

JULY: July 10th – at Dodge House,
followed by a FREE ICE CREAM SOCIAL and
FREE self-guided tours of the Dodge House!

SEPT SOCIAL: Social gathering at Kirn Park
with the Fairmount Park Neighborhood Assoc.
Pot luck event, live music, games! **Date TBD.**

OCT: Quarter Auction—Oct. 18th

NOV: Wed. Nov.20th, short meeting, followed by
dancing at the Center! All ages—bring the kids!

DEC: Holiday Social! Date/Location TBD

MORE 2019 event info coming soon!

Fall QUARTER AUCTION!

When: **Friday, October 18, 2019**

Time: 5:30-8:00 pm (bidding starts 6:15)

Where: America Legion Post #2

716 South 4th Street, C.B.

Woo-hoo! Get ready for fun!

— DO —
GOOD.

GNA Contacts:

Turner Morgan, President
712-310-3102

Steve Gorman, Vice President
712-310-9431

Tom Emmett, Treasurer
402-346-6734

David Brooks, Secretary
217-778-8923

Kyle McGinn, At Large
402-669-5953

Alicia Brady, At Large
402-516-5601

Cory Peters, Newsletter Editor
402-681-8344

*Newsletter
copies are
furnished
courtesy of:*

THE **7** **1** **2**
INITIATIVE

THANK YOU!

YOUR Gibraltar
Neighborhood:



KEEP INFORMED three ways!!

Visit Gibraltar's website online at: www.GibraltarNA.org

— AND —

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

— AND —

Register TODAY on GNA's "Nextdoor" social networking website:
www.gibraltar.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!!

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

Other _____