

Neighborhood Holiday Get-Together!

WHERE: 527 Bluff Street (Dennis & Brian's Home)

WHEN: SATURDAY, January 7, 2023 // 6:00 to ???pm



Enjoy food, fun and camaraderie as we celebrate the season with friends & neighbors! We'll be gathering in the beautiful home of Dennis Fellhauer & Brian Wedemeier, which is located just south of 5th Ave. on Bluff Street.

We will be having a full-on spread of holiday food (turkey, ham, and few traditional fixings to go along!) Please bring an appetizer, munchies, snack, dessert, or favorite beverage to share.

>>>>Please also bring non-perishable food donations to support our friends and neighbors in need; we'll take all donations to the Story Street Food Pantry.

Renters, owners, association and non-association members, and well-behaved children are warmly welcome!

****You MUST RSVP by January 2nd so we have enough supplies on hand! Call or Text your RSVP (and how many are attending) to Brian at 515-205-7515.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and make plans to come celebrate with your neighbors! **SEE YOU THEN!**

WE WANT YOU.....Volunteers NEEDED!!!

GNA is always looking for volunteers to help out within our Association. Currently, we are looking for a few people to help with your "Welcome Bags" which are delivered to the new residents in our neighborhood. Please contact Brian if you would like to help with this project. This is <u>not</u> a difficult or time-consuming position, just a few hours periodically to collect SWAG items, put together the bags, and deliver them.

ATTENTION NEW GNA RESIDENTS- if we have missed delivering your Welcome Bag, please contact us! We would love to welcome you to our 'hood a and get to know you (and have you join our Association!).

If you'd be willing to get more involved by donating time or your talents, please reach out to me or any board member. THANK YOU!

Brian Wedemeier // 515-205-7515 // bjwedemeier@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S POST

November 2022

Greetings Neighbors,

There are so many ways to know that winter has arrived. The unpredictable weather, the hundreds of leaf bags lining the streets, neighbors tucking away their patio furniture - but the biggest signal in our house is our son JJ's constant disappointment that all the Halloween decorations are down. For real, we have to drive certain



streets (even now in November) to see whether or not his favorite spooky inflatables are up. Fingers crossed as we head into the holidays that the neighborhood Christmas lights and decorations will distract him... and if you happen to sneak a skeleton into one of your displays, please let us know. I'll owe ya.

Not sure if it's the shorter days and being cooped up inside, but it's been a pleasant transition to a "slower" pace (if that's possible with a three year old) to reflect on all the blessings our little corner of the world provides. Our family gets to walk down to our incredible library every week and enjoy all the wonderful programming and resources. There are some great local restaurants and watering holes popping up that are also walkable. Kirn Park, a hub for everyone. The HUB, holy moly a trampoline park just down the street (great for burning energy on cold days). The list goes on... but most important of all... the people. There are a good handful of you that have been a rock for myself and family during what was probably the most stressful year I can remember.

Those simple conversations, friendly waves, and reach outs meant more than you know. Thank you. Speaking of THANK YOUs - a HUGE round of applause to all you guys who supported our annual Quarter Auction Fundraiser down at the 4th Street Tavern. Whether you donated gifts, or came down to play - it all adds up to support future endeavors. I believe there was a record turn out, great food & conversation, and of course the joy and let down of your number either being called a lot or not at all! (I'm looking at you Jill). A special thank you to Brian from our GNA board for securing a TRUCKLOAD of goodies from HyVee, and rocking the mic (even with flu!).

Circling back to that personal support earlier - I know the holidays and shorter days can be hard on our mental health. Some of us have lost loved ones, started families, had career changes, or are dealing with the exhausting pace our world demands on a daily basis. It can be hard guys - I've had and still have my fair share of therapy appointments, panic attacks, and stash of meds to help get me through. I am so grateful to have the love and support from my friends, family, and neighbors (shameless plug for my AMAZING WIFE here) - if find yourself having a hard time and need someone to talk to - please don't hesitate to reach out. There are many of us who are walking alongside you.

With that, I wish you all the happiest of holidays and I'm looking forward to spending time with you all. Don't forget to mark your calendars for our GNA Holiday Party in January — all the info is on the front page of the newsletter. And again, please, if you have it in your heart, let me know if you decide to sneak in one of those spooky Halloween decorations in your display. You'll make our little man's day:)

See you around the neighborhood,

Turner







Always-Popular Holiday Tour of Homes on December 4th!

Start December off in a festive mood by visiting some of the city's most historic homes, decked out in their holiday finest. Tour six beautiful homes on Sunday, December 4, 2022, from Noon until 4:30. PLUS, present your ticket between 1 & 5 pm that afternoon for half-price admission to the Dodge House. (See the Dodge House's amazing holiday décor, thanks to Tom Emmett & his volunteers!) This fundraising homes tour event supports Preserve Council Bluffs, a local organization that seeks to promote and preserve the heritage of Council Bluffs through its architecture, sites, and people.

This is a great way to meet your people in your neighborhood, and get a tour of their home! It's a great holiday family activity, and how awesome that GNA has TWO homes featured on the tour — that's a huge compliment to our neighborhood's beautiful homes. Make sure you introduce yourself, many of our neighbors become great friends! WIN-WIN!!

Tickets are \$20. Visit <u>preservecouncilbulffs.org</u> for more information and purchase your tickets. Prepaid tickets can be picked up at the Bregant House, 517 S. Fourth Street, starting at 11:30 am the day of the tour, Sunday, December 4. You can then visit the other six homes in any order until 4:30 pm.

HOMES ON THIS YEAR'S TOUR:

Beno House, 321 Oakland Avenue
Hazelton House, 534 Oakland Avenue
Hight House, 600 Oakland Avenue
Hughes House, 131 Turley Avenue (owned by GNA members LJ & Chris Miles)
Officer House, 228 5th Avenue (owned by GNA members Chad & Kate Gaul)
Oliver House, 331 Park Avenue

GNA Board Meeting Minutes, September 21, 2022

1. **New Business:** Gibraltar resident and member Trisha Beccard was voted in as the newest member of the GNA Board, replacing Michelle Graham who had to step down due to other conflicts.

2. Treasurer Report

Balance \$11,522.00. Balance is high due to Parks Dept. kick back of \$2400. This amount is earmarked for the new sculpture. \$100 was donated to Nosh picnic event at Kirn Park.

3. Old News

Street Study is on hold.

Summer picnic \$136 in profits from the raffle ticket sales.

Story Street Pantry is always in need. You can donate non perishable items or just cash. There is an online option for donation.

4. GNA Flags/Banners

Mary has the flags but she is out of holders. Brian will check on reasonable prices on holders. Our banners need replaced.

Brian will do a drive through the neighborhood to see how many need replaced or fixed. Public Works coordinates with MidAmerican Energy, who are the ones who replace them.

Brian and Turner will be looking into options for grants for the replacement of banners.

5. Welcome Bags

Brian and Cory are working on revamping the welcome bags. GNA board voted to keep out food items. Stick to info about Council Bluffs and events about local attractions.

6. Events/Socials

Holiday Party scheduled for January 7, 2023. Party will be at Brian and Dennis's house at 527 Bluff St. Board decided that there will be one social gathering per quarter. Quarter auction, Holiday Party, and Picnic. We will also have the occasional pop up gathering.

Meeting adjourned. Respectfully submitted, Jill Kates, GNA Secretary Please join GNA's monthly Book Club!! We gather once a month and talk about the book we have read! Books are picked by a majority vote. We love to read all kinds of books! For the month of October we read *The Wives*, by Tarryn Fisher. The months of August and September we read *Great Circle*, by Maggie Shipstead. A few members listen to the books from Libby Audio Books. We are blessed to have a fabulous public library in which we have that option. We also take turns hosting the Book Club or we meet at a local restaurant. We love new members!! For more info on when & where, contact Patti Hannan at 712-323-8600.



Pursue a NEW You for the Upcoming New Year! By Jill Kates

Do you know about Jazzercise? I have been a member for nearly 17 years, and it's definitely not your mama's workout. We use a mixture of cardio and weight training. A typical class is 60 minutes, which consists of approximately 40 minutes of cardio and the rest is used to build muscle. There are no mirrors in the studio. We are all shapes and sizes and abilities (no one is the same!). We have options for either high impact or low impact, and you can choose what level you want to work out at.

There are several class times available and several formats. Jazzercise is a fabulous community. We have a lot of fun working out together. The friends I have made at Jazzercise have become my family. We hold each other accountable and always have a listening ear if you need one. Jazzercise has changed my world. It has always been a staple when I have navigated through good times and bad. Plus, it's so convenient to our neighborhood — it's located at 301 W. Broadway, #102 (just down from St. Peter's Church!). If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me, Jill Kates, 712.828.1537.

2023 DUES are DUE!!

Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association dues are payable in January — the form is on <u>last page</u> of newsletter.

OR save yourself a stamp and pay via our website's "donate" tab at <u>www.GibraltarNA.org</u>.

Your annual dues help fund projects like:

- > Quarterly Neighborhood Social Events
- > Neighborhood Identification Pole Banners
- > Neighborhood Cleanup Day
- > Beautification Projects like 9th St. Trailhead
- > Printing & Mailing of Newsletters, cards and other stuff
- > Welcome Bags, Yard Flags and much more!

Help keep Gibraltar moving in a positive direction by support through annual dues. THANK YOU to all those who have supported our neighborhood in the past—we couldn't do it without you!





Dodge House News



Holiday Eye Candy — Experience the Tradition!

Late November through the end of December, visit the Dodge and Bereshiem homes and experience all of the wonderment contained in these two historic beauties, each festooned and adorned with holiday finery.

It truly is a sight to behold!

Standard admission fees apply.

CLEAN UP DAY Success (THANK YOU to Our Savior's Church!)

On October 8th a few members of our Gibraltar Neighborhood and a great bunch of members from Our Savior's Lutheran Church canvassed the neighborhood picking up unwanted items from our residents! From old exercise equipment, furniture, and general junk to yard waste and more... in just a couple of hours we had nearly filled the dumpster (which was generously provided by the church). By the end of Sunday the dumpster was full to the top, with residents dropping off their own unwanted items throughout the weekend.

What a great service this was to our neighborhood - and A HUGE THANK YOU to the church for absorbing the cost of the dumpster. We also would like to mention the wonderful church members who volunteered, not only their time but the use of their trucks! *If you were one of the GNA residents who took advantage of the service, please take a little time to send Our Saviors a personal thank you note.* They are a great partner for our neighborhood, and always seeking ways to help on projects.

From Our Savior's Roger Carlon, "I'm glad we were able to help out! Our church's evangelism/outreach team paid for the cost of the dumpster. We all enjoyed the experience and look forward to finding other ways we can interact with GNA."

The volunteers driving the trucks were Josh Weesner (using the food pantry's truck), Benton Kuck and Tim Bellows. Other volunteers were Clarissa Weesner and their son Jackson, Jamie Bellows, Kaitlin Carlson and Roger Carlson from OSLC, and Dave Adams, Turner Morgan, & Brian Wedemeier from GNA.

Many hands make light work. THANK YOU so much to those who volunteered. You help make Gibraltar a



AMP Program for Neighborhoods Benefits Gibraltar with Neighbors Helping Neighbors, by Turner Morgan



If you're cruising down Bluff Street you might have noticed a swanky new paint job on the house located at 216 Bluff — it's the generational home of Mr. Roland Lynch. Roland has been a long time resident of Gibraltar and a huge advocate for our community, its history, and many assets.

Partnering with TS Bank and several local donors, last summer the **712 Initiative** implemented their "**AMP Program for Neighborhoods**" - an exterior and critical repair program designed to assist deserving residents with home improvement projects. Neighbors can nominate themselves or those they know who might deserve a "helping hand." Several Gibraltar residents submitted written nominations advocating for Roland, whose historic home was in dire need of a new coat of paint and some TLC. We're grateful he was selected to receive the assistance from the AMP Program.

I was lucky enough to work with Roland and his daughter Becky, who flew in from Florida to help get the project started - and check in from time to time to see how things were progressing. What made the project even sweeter was working with the incredibly talented Dan Shay (I occasionally name drop that I'm his neighbor). Dan and his team were willing to take on this big old home and he made the whole process very smooth. He made sure to do things the right way, replacing rotted wood, broken windows, and fielding all my rookie questions. I am grateful for his talents and guidance during the process. It brings a great sense of pride to be able to drive past that beautiful historic home nearly every day and know that so many folks within our neighborhood made its sprucing-up a reality.

For more information on the **AMP Program** please check out the 712 Initiative website. 2022 applications are closed, but they will open again early next year.

SAVE LIVES: CHANGE BATTERIES NOW!

Fire officials advise 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, do it NOW). Detectors over 10 years old should be replaced with a new unit. A code stamped on the back of a detector should indicate the manufacture date.



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.

JD's Service & Repair

Your friendly, honest neighborhood auto repair shop!

501 South 4th Street 712.322.6841

JDsServiceAndRepair.com



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Stop in a try a class for \$15 or get a membership for unlimited classes for only \$59 a month! Classes are held at various times, 7 days a week!

For more information, call or text Tara at 402-680-6906 or email us: jazzercisecbkrew@gmail.com.

301 West Broadway, Suite 102, Council Bluffs

Another Successful Year for the Quarter Auction!

Our annual Quarter Auction was a HUGE SUCCESS, and so much fun! We also celebrated our board member Jill Kate's 50 Birthday! It was great to see 50-60 neighbors, friends, family, and local patrons of the 4th Street Bar in attendance. We had a record amount of donations for our auction that raised \$1,200 for GNA! We look forward to another successful Quarter Auction next year.

A HUGE thank you to all those who donated the amazing array of gift baskets, gift certificates, and other items. We also would like to thank **Gavin Christensen** for helping throughout the evening by displaying and distributing the items during the raffle, and **Mary Madison & Tom Emmett** for selling paddles & rolls of quarters, and our charming Auctioneer, **Brian Wedemeier** for keeping things moving along! Finally a GIANT THANKS to the **4th Street Bar** and their staff for providing the space for our event. Please stop by the 4th Street Bar to support them so they can continue to support our neighborhood. For those who were lucky enough to win prizes and those who didn't, we thank you for your support!!

THANK YOU to our INCREDIBLE DONORS

Teri & Buck Christensen // Kate & Klaire Cross // Shareen Howlett // Amy Adams //
Mark & Nichole Lickliter // Chris & Steve Gorman // Cindy Ludwig & Doug Young //
Dan & Jamie's Railway Inn // Avalon Salon - Michael Cox // Patrice Watson // Mary Madison //
Dave Wolfe Yankee Construction // Bud & Susie Dew // Gordon Hitchcock // Jill & Chris Kates //
Brian Wedemeier & Dennis Fellhauer // Hy-vee West Broadway

Be sure to check out more photos on the following page!





The Story Street Pantry Needs YOU!

By Brian Wedemeier & Dennis Fellhauer

I wanted to take some time and share with you **how great the need is at the Story Street Food Pantry**. They have seen a HUGE increase in demand, not only the drive-up program, but their mobile pantry is out & about daily throughout our community. Recently, they have also discontinued some stops at area elderly apartments, due to the funding shortages and lack of hands and infrastructure. If you are willing, and have some extra time on your hands, please volunteer some of your time to help. They have a list of daily tasks, and a few extra hands would be so appreciated. They also house a kitchen, where they make sack lunches for mobile pantry runs and other programs throughout the community. What a HUGE ASSEST to have all this in our neighborhood!

FUNDING is DOWN. At the Neighborhood Picnic Loren & Aretha shared some of their needs for the immediate future, and explained the lack of governmental funding. **The FDA has cut their funding by almost 45%**, **and the USDA has reduced their funding and bulk donations up to 90% in the metro area**. This is a huge part of their food supply, YET with those cuts and donations being down, they are still able to help thousands in POTT CO and our CB metro area community. <u>Currently they are REALLY LOW on canned goods</u> — veggies, fruit, proteins, soup etc. ANYTHING IN A CAN!

BUT think of how many more families they could serve if WE take time to make a CHANGE. Therefore, I am sponsoring and challenging you for a fund raising campaign for the Story Street Pantry. I propose the "CHANGE JAR CHALLENGE" — starting today thru January 7, 2023 at the GNA Holiday Party. I ask you to set side a jar, container, or vessel and start tossing that loose change into it. Put one on the washing machine, in the car, one by the door and where you put your keys, dresser or wherever. This could also be a great lesson on "giving back" to share with our younger generation. My hope is that GNA can collect a total amount of \$500 -- yes that does seem like a large dollar amount -- but just one penny or a handful of change will make a world of change in someone else's life. Do a neighbor challenge - each household could set a smaller goal and get your children involved. We need to make sure that our future generations are aware of the needs within the community they are growing up in.

Now the reason for our passion... Dennis and his family have always been very active with the family church's Free Meal program and pantry in Edwardsville, and continued the tradition at his church in Chicago. When possible, we still help his sister with the Free Friday Lunch when we get back there. Over the years of his planning, organizing, and cooking for his church, it made him so much more aware of the need and the lack of funding these programs face on a daily basis

My story is a bit different: when I went thru a career/life change I fell on hard times, working 3-4 jobs to make ends meet. For about a year I would visit the food pantry at least once a month. I would show up early to volunteer my time, and hope that I would be able to get a box of food at the end of the shift. It was a very eye opening experience, and seeing children or the elderly so happy to get just the staple foods and fresh veggies & fruit.

We both are very fortunate to work at Hy-vee, as we get notified by the management if there is an overstock or near dated items that "need to go away or throw away." This week through our neighborhood partner, Hy-vee West Broadway, Dennis and I were able to obtain 29 cases of yogurt cups and over 200 loaves of bread, which we dropped off to the Food Pantry. Hy-vee donated the bread, and for just \$25 we were able to get all the yogurt. We try to get as much donated and invest some out of our pockets. Just a little change and make a HUGE CHANGE..... That's the mission of the "CHANGE JAR CHALLENGE"!!

We hope to see you all at the GIBRALTAR HOLIDAY PARTY on January 7, 2023, with your jars of change in hand!! We will have it counted and donate it to the Story Street Food Pantry.

If you have any questions please reach out to me (Brian) at bjwedemeier@gmail.com or text/call me at 515-205-7515. If you have food or monetary donations, please contact me as well, and I can arrange pickup and delivery to the SSFP. If you would be interested in volunteering, a tour, or more info, please contact The Story Street Pantry. You can find them online at www.StoryStreetPantry.org, or contact them at 712-322-6655 or information@storystreetpantry.org.





Member FDIC

Our name says it all. We're AVAILAble.

We're happy to serve the Gibraltar Neighborhood!

Downtown: 117 Pearl Street • 322-1700 8:30-4:00 Monday — Friday (lobby) 8:00-5:00 Monday — Friday (drive-up)

Mall: 1751 Madison Avenue • 322-3300 8:30-4:00 Monday — Friday (lobby) 8:00-5:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (drive-up)





Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Partner!

Working together to make our community a great place to live.

Hy-Vee West Broadway

2323 West Broadway, C.B. 712-328-9792 (store) 712-329-0905 (floral)



THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2022!

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 Dave Adams!

Dave & Amy Adams

Jordan & Trisha Beccard

Kathy Bennett

Kathie Brandt

David & Anna Brooks

Nate Brown & Tom Emmett

Buck & Teri Christensen

Dick & Ardeth Christie Jason & Brook Craig

Bud & Susie Dew

Brandon & Erika Dickerson

Dennis Fellhauer & Brian Wedemeier

Chad & Kate Gaul Teresa Gerjevic

John Gibbs

Steve & Chris Gorman

Michele Graham

Rich & Patti Hannan

Joy Heuer

Gordon Hitchcock & Zack Marquardt

Craig & Bryana Jackson

Steve & Cathy Jayjack

Barney & Brenda Johnson

Chris & Jill Kates

Mary Madison

Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins

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Your neighborhood expert!

Hey Neighbors!

My name is Klaire Cross and I'm your neighborhood real estate agent. I would love to assist you in buying, selling and investing. Give me a call today for a free home market analysis!



Klaire Cross 402.206.4589 KLAIRE (ROSS@BHHSAMR COM







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GNA Contacts:

Turner Morgan, President 712-310-3102

Dave Adams, Treasurer 402-250-8360

Jill Kates, Secretary 712-828-1537

Mary Madison, Member at Large 712-323-8073

Brian Wedemeier, Member at Lg 515-205-7515

> Trisha Beccard tbeccard@gmail.com

Cory Peters, Newsletter Editor 402-681-8344 Newsletter copies are furnished courtesy of:



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.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

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 >> click on the "Donate" tab (you can pay via PayPal or via Credit Card)

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\square Better lighting in our Neighborhood	☐ More social events	☐ Crime / Safety
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