

Neighborhood Holiday Potluck!

WHERE: 125 S. 3rd Street (North end of 3rd St. at High School) WHEN: SUNDAY, December 2nd, 2018 // 6:00 to 9:00pm





Enjoy food, fun and camaraderie as we celebrate the season with friends & neighbors! We'll be gathering in the *beautiful* home of Jim Kieffer and Gary Lopez, which is located at the southeast corner of 3rd St. & High School. Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association will provide pulled pork sandwiches. <u>You bring your favorite side dish or dessert to</u> <u>share, or a bottle or two of wine!</u> You and your well-behaved children are warmly welcome!

****You MUST RSVP by November 26th so we know how much pork to order! Call or Text your RSVP (and how many are attending) to Turner Morgan at 712-310-3102.

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

SANTA Says: "Celebrate the holiday season and enjoy the festivities with your Gibraltar neighbors?!"



LAST Gibraltar Business Meeting of 2018:

When: Wednesday, **NOVEMBER 14th** Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm Where: The Center // 714 So. Main Street

We'll discuss neighborhood plans for the upcoming year, and possibly have a speaker. Bring your ideas for neighborhood betterment projects, or issues/problems you've seen around the neighborhood, etc. Let's get our plan for 2019 put together. We hope to see you there!



Please consider how your action (or lack of action) impacts your neighbors...ie. Don't sweep your yard waste into the street. Don't let your trash blow into others' yards. Don't leave noisy pets out late at night. DO wave and say hi! DO keep your sidewalks clear of snow. DO come to neighborhood meetings and make friends!

FROM PRESIDENT MORGAN!



Hello Neighbors,

Happy Fall to you all! I'm not sure about the rest of you but I CAN'T WAIT to bust out my jacket collection. The trees of Gibraltar put on a spectacular show for us, and while I'm not terribly excited for all the raking ahead, there is something to be said for driving around the neighborhood, windows down, shoes off, with the heater on the feet – looking at the cascade of reds, yellows, and oranges.

September Picnic - Thank you to the residents of Grenville Court for hosting our September Social. What a great little corner of the world – and it was wonderful to see some <u>new</u> faces in from the neighborhood. Police and Fire were there to both entertain neighborhood.

borhood concerns and let the kiddos test out the equipment. And I think we had enough food to feed the neighborhood three times over.

Neighborhood Walkability Projects – During our social we did talk a little business – The 712 Initiative is working with six downtown neighborhoods to fund one or more "walk-a-bility" projects. What is "Walkability?" This could be anything that enhances the experience of being a pedestrian in the neighborhood. This could be tree plantings, beautification projects, sidewalk repair, public art, neighborhood safety, etc... The definition is pretty flexible – so if you have an idea, chances are it's in the ball park. Best part is, we get to decide as neighborhood what this project is— but you need to be at the table if you want to be a part of it! We will be working to complete this walkability project by next Spring (let's not leave any free money on the table!), so if you have ideas please contact me. We came up with the following items at the social:

1.) Working with Parks and Rec to create an entrance, signage, gateway, and path for the Fairmount Park entrance on 9th Ave. – Maybe some sort of crushed limestone parking – Potential to partner with Parks and Rec to make our dollars go farther.

2.) Mural featuring resident art or photography – *The Genealogical Society is on board and EXCITED about a potential installation on the south side of their building on Worth*

- 3.) Tree planting on Bluff
- 4.) Additional Historic looking signage for promoting the significance of our neighborhood
- 5.) Installation of four-way stop on Willow (city issue)
- 6.) Curb repair for 3rd and Clark Ave (city issue)

Want to join the team? - Project will be decided on by the end of November so we can develop a project timeline – I'll send out an email invite and/or Nextdoor post for a Walkability meeting for those interested in being a part of the discussion. Or you can always contact me at:

712-310-3102 (call or text) or by email at: tmorgan@the712intiative.org

October Fundraiser – Don't forget to mark your calendars for our annual *Quarter Auction at the American Legion on Oct 19th from 5:30 to 8:00 (bidding will start at 6:15).* We have so many wonderful gifts from the local community and Gibraltar residents. Lord knows if Mary Madison has a pickle basket to win, my expecting wife will be emptying the piggy bank for it! This is quickly becoming a Gibraltar tradition and is too much fun to miss. This is not the silent auction you might be used to... in fact it is everything BUT silent. Come have a laugh, a drink, and help us raise some funds for future neighborhood projects.

Finally, I just want to say thank you all for making our neighborhood a great place to live – Abby and I are very excited to be bringing our first child into the world in a couple short months, and we can't think of a better place to be than right here with all of you. Let's continue to be good to each other, look out for one another, and make Gibraltar a wonder-filled place for generations to come.

Warmly, Turner

OCTOBER 19: GNA <u>FUN</u>DRAISING EVENT!!

Don't Miss the Fun-Filled, Action-Packed Evening at GNA's QUARTER AUCTION !!!

- WHAT: A "Quarter" Auction Fundraiser!!!WHEN: Friday night, October 19th 5:30-8:00 p.m. (bidding starts at 6:15)
- WHERE: American Legion Rainbow Post #2 716 South 4th Street, C.B.
- WHO: YOU, and anyone else you know who likes to have fun!



What the Heck is a Quarter Auction?!

Bring the family and friends and join in the fun at our annual GNA Quarter Auction!! *This is the third* **year we've held this event, and it just keeps getting better each year!** There will be a wide range of items for auction, ranging in values of \$10 to \$30, and you could win that item you desire for <u>mere quarters</u>! You'll find a variety of services & packages, food & beverage gifts, bath & beauty products, antiques, collectibles, homemade products, and so much more! There's something for everyone!

What's a "Quarter Auction" you ask? It sort of combines the best of both worlds... the fun and excitement of an auction, with the random chance of a lottery drawing! You have the opportunity to win great prizes without spending a lot of money! We begin the "bidding" process for each item with a description of the item, and announce the number of quarters required to participate/bid in that drawing. The number of quarters needed is based on the approximate value of the auction item itself, as follows: >> 1 quarter for \$10 item value; 2 quarters for a \$20 item value; 3 quarters for \$30 item value.

Bidding paddles are only \$5.00 each, and you can increase your odds of winning by purchasing **more than one bidding paddle. We'll explain everything in detail that evening, but rest assured it's easy, it's fun, it's relatively inexpensive, and all the money you spend that night either supports the neighborhood or the American Legion! You can purchase rolls of quarters at the event, or bring your own!**

FOOD & BEVERAGES will be for sale, with those proceeds supporting the American Legion. Auction proceeds support Gibraltar projects *that keep our historic Neighborhood vital!*

Mark your calendars TODAY for this <u>fun</u> event!



Candidate Meet 'n Greet: You're Invited!





Steve Gorman

Come meet Steve Gorman Candidate for Iowa Legislature, House District 16

Steve is:

A Council Bluffs Firefighter, Gibraltar Neighborhood Board Member & Resident, Principled, Honest, Dedicated, and Community Oriented

Join us at this friendly and informative event!

When: Saturday, Oct. 20th • 6:00-8:00 p.m. Where: 220 5th Ave. (Walters/Hill House)

Wine & Hor d'Ouvres will be served

Paid for by Gorman for Iowa



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

GNA General Meeting Minutes - September 15, 2018

Fried chicken, potato salad, pasta salad, baked beans, watermelon, cheesecake, cookies, & much more made for a very tasty start to our GNA Meeting. A big thank you to our hosts & hostesses for the evening, our neighbors who live on Greenville Court. They went above and beyond welcoming us to set up shop on their driveways & lawns. Peggy & Merlin Hale even let us use their oven to keep the fried chicken warm.

In addition, the 712 Initiative graciously let us use the Block Party Trailer. This provided tables and chairs so that **everyone could sit comfortably during dinner & the meeting...well, everyone sat as comfortably as they could in the** heat. Thankfully there was some shade, and plenty of refreshing water & lemonade to go around.

The Fire Department was also present, and three friendly firefighters were on hand to answer questions & let the kiddos and young at heart climb on and take a peek in their fire truck. We also had the Police Department in attendance, and kids got stickers and a look inside the cruiser. THANK YOU to both departments!

After socializing, meeting neighbors, and eating a tasty meal, President Turner Morgan brought our meeting to a start. As a representative of the 712 Initiative, President Morgan shared with us about a new initiative called the **"Walkability Project."**

The goal of the Walkability Project is to make neighborhoods in Council Bluffs more pedestrian friendly or "walkable", aesthetically pleasing, and fun places to live in and enjoy. Here's the great news, the 712 Initiative is providing \$15,000 to improve the neighborhoods as part of the Walkability Project. The only stipulation is that the specific desired improvements must be decided by the neighborhood. It is the goal of the 712 Initiative that execution of these improvements will begin next spring.

President Turner led us through a brainstorming session where we considered potential options for the Walkability Project in the Gibraltar Neighborhood. Here are some of the ideas presented:

- Public Art: Create a mural on the exterior of the Pottawatomie County Genealogical Society (Corner of Worth & 4th St) featuring the photography of Gibraltar's own, Buck Christiansen.
- Curb Replacement: Replace curbs where the curbs are either crumbling, so high that they are hazardous to car doors, or damaged to the point of causing water to seep under our brick streets & contribute to erosion.
- 9th Ave Fairmont Park Entrance: Many people don't know this, but there is an entrance to Fairmont Park in our own neighborhood at the East end of 9th Ave. Currently, this entrance is overgrown, with weeds & tall brush and has become a dumping ground for trash & place where some homeless have taken up residence in the past. The proposal is to create a very nice welcoming park entrance, this could include a paved path entrance, archway, parking, benches, or picnic tables.
- Plant Trees: Beautify the West side of Bluff St. between Willow and St. Peters Church, creating shade and greenery for the many who walk that street of our neighborhood daily.
- 4 way stop on Willow Ave & Bluff St: This intersection is currently 3-way stop, where all cars driving east on Willow Ave. do not stop and have the right of way. Unfortunately, frequent accidents and near accidents have made the intersection unsafe for drivers & pedestrians. The proposal is a 4 way stop to increase safety.
- Hanging Flowers: Create more beauty in our neighborhood by putting up hanging flower baskets similar to those in the Fairmont neighborhood.
- Street Lighting: Some areas of our neighborhood are dim and in need of more lighting to contribute to neighborhood safety.
- Decorative signage: Our neighborhood is home to one of the most historic homes in all of Iowa, the Dodge House. Neighbors proposed putting up more signs welcoming people to the neighborhood, with an emphasis on the historic gems that call the Gibraltar Neighborhood home.

This is just the start of the Walkability Project in the Gibraltar Neighborhood. If you have any more ideas that you think would make our neighborhood a better place, call or message GNA President Turner Morgan 712-310-3102.

Respectfully Submitted, Anna Brooks (Assistant to Secretary David Brooks)

GNA FALL PICNIC: A Fun and DELICIOUS Afternoon!

Our Fall picnic & social were a great way to connect with neighbors, and it was wonderful to see so many new faces!! We gathered at Grenville Court (just north of the Dodge House), and found some shady areas to set up tables! HUGE thank yous go out to the 712 Initiative for the use of the trailer, and to Grenville neighbors for the use of their driveways and ovens! We conducted some business (see the MINUTES in this newsletter), and everyone had LOTS to eat, with your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association providing the fried chicken. We hope to see YOU at our next event! **More pics are available at** <u>ww.GibraltarNA.org</u>.





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GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

DID YOU KNOW?

VISION: The Gibraltar Neighborhood is a clean, safe neighborhood that showcases a unique mix of well kept homes within one **of Council Bluffs' oldest historic areas. Our** residents take pride in fostering an environment where neighbors look out for each other 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.

Why You Can't Blow Leaves & Grass Clippings Into the Street

It is part of the City's mandate to educate residents about the impacts of certain practices on the stormwater system and the quality of the protected 'waters of the state'. This information about proper yard waste disposal practices is to inform citizens about what is a violation of the City's Municipal Code.

Grass clippings and leaves blown or swept into storm drains or into the street harms waterways and our creeks. Storm drains flow into pipes and into drainageways. When anything but rain and snow melt goes down the storm drain, it can become a drainage problem. Improper disposal of yard wastes, including leaves, have the potential to impact water quality and cause drainage problems during a storm event.

Did you know?

- When yard waste is discarded or blown into the street, it can cause flooding problems. Leaves and yard debris can block the natural flow of water in the storm drainage system, which can cause water to back up and flood within the drainage system.
- When yard waste is discarded in the street, it will decompose. Decomposing yard waste can supercharge the water supply with nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, causing algae blooms resulting in low dissolved oxygen. Severely low dissolved oxygen levels in creeks can cause fish kills. According to the U.S. EPA, phosphorus is one of the most troublesome pollutants in stormwater runoff and it is considered the primary cause of water quality problems in our country.
- When yard waste is discarded within the stormwater drainage system, it can bring harmful chemicals into creeks, including fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. While these chemicals can be used to protect grass, they will harm aquatic life and cause additional adverse affects to water quality when released into streams.

Proper Management and Disposal

- Grass clippings can be left on the ground improve the health of the lawn itself. There is no excuse for sweeping grass and/or leaves into the storm drains or waterways.
- The City street sweepers can barely keep up with the leaves already on the ground; please don't add to the burden by sweeping or blowing leaves into the streets. Consider starting a compost pile for leaves and yard waste or invest in a mulching blade for your lawn mower.
- Leaves can be bagged and left for yard waste pickup.
- We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining the quality of our state's water by practicing yard waste disposal methods discussed above. Failure to comply with this may result in a citation or additional enforcement action.

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 <u>affordable ad in the Rock Talk newsletter</u>!*

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: $15 - OR - \frac{1}{2}$ sheet "6-pack" (whole year): 75

SPEAKING OF CITY CODES.... Open Burn Ordinance

With the cooler weather, folks are compelled to be outside, enjoying the cooler weather... and what's better than a bonfire on a Fall evening! However, the City Code limits the type of fires you can have, so here's a condensed run-down of what is and isn't allowed. For more detailed information on City Codes, go to: <u>library.municode.com/ia/council_bluffs/codes/code_of_ordinances</u>

- 1) Open burning is prohibited. This means the burning of any material that results in contaminants from combustion being emitted directly into the ambient air without passing through a stack or chimney from any enclosed chamber.
- 2) This does not apply to outdoor fireplaces or BBQ grills used solely for the noncommercial preparation of food. These fireplaces or grills can't be used for burning refuse or combustible waste.
- 3) Fire containment devices like fire pits and chimineas may be used but are subject to certain provisions:
 - no outdoor burning allowed if winds exceed 10 mph
 - fires must be constantly supervised/attended by a responsible adult until thoroughly extinguished
 - fire containment devices shall not be permitted within 15 feet of any combustible structure, or within 10 feet of a lot line (unless mutually agreed upon by neighboring property owner)
 - fire pits or other fire containment devices shall not exceed 3 feet in diameter
 - flames shall be kept below 2 feet in height above the pit or containment device
 - a portable fire extinguisher or garden hose must be readily available
 - excessive smoke or odor emissions are prohibited

Visit the website shown above for more in-depth information. Remember to be responsible and be safe!

Have a Happy Autumn!!





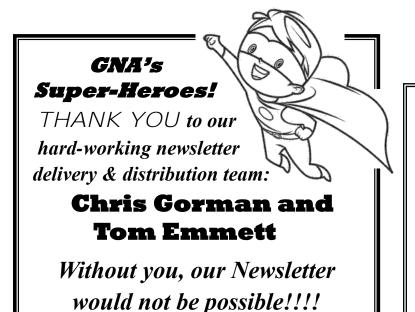




STAY IN THE LOOP!!! BE IN THE KNOW!!

Whether you are a GNA homeowner <u>or</u> renter, paid GNA member <u>or</u> NOT, you should *join the neighborhood networking group* at <u>www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com</u>.

This site is an *excellent* way for residents to post news, share alerts, ask questions, pose ideas, promote events, and simply get to know one another. There is NO COST to join the group, and there are no spam or pop-up ads. You just need to live in our neighborhood.





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! ■



Find us on facebook: JD's Service & Repair

Your friendly, honest neighborhood auto repair shop!

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

Timing By Kate Brewer

Tommy's jokes had never gone over well. Not at themed dinner parties, not at the unofficial office happy hour at the local dive, and especially not with the sixty-year-old blonde with the coke-bottle glasses who ran the dry cleaner's and approached the art of cleaning and pressing with almost surgical precision.

"Must have some German in you," he thought, and then said out loud, cracking a big toothy grin which went unreciprocated. It didn't even count as a joke, really, just a bland and mildly inaccurate statement but that didn't bother Tommy. He appreciated his own humor on behalf of those who didn't, which was everybody.

But no time was it less appreciated than the day he robbed the bank. It wasn't even his signature tweed pants (perfectly pressed) or the use of his family's antique musket (engraved with his great-grandfather's initials) in the holdup that gave him away. Rather it was his rhyming "money" with "honey" in his instructions to the teller, and - as many witnesses would later testify - his insistence that she ask him to check her balance (so that he could push her over - gently of course. It was a joke, after all).

Of all the virtues Tommy had collected in his twenty-two years - cleanliness, impeccable manners, an encyclopedic knowledge of local birds - self-awareness wasn't one of them. His parents, Ellen and Thomas Senior, did their best to focus their son's energies, but unless the topic was yellow throated warblers or getrich-quick schemes (which he liked to call "inventions"), young Tommy wasn't interested. So when he began working as a temp and then a file clerk in a law office and stuck it out for over two years, his parents were relieved. That relief dissipated when he decided he was schooled enough in all things law to represent himself in court.

Thomas Eldrich Johnson, Jr. served seven years in prison and was then released on good behavior. He managed to refrain from making any puns during his parole hearing, which is what most people credit for his early release despite his spotless record.

He said little when his mother picked him up from prison aside from "thank you" and "I'm sorry."

For the next year and a half he said little more than "thank you" and "I'm sorry" to just about everyone he encountered. On an otherwise unremarkable Thursday morning in August, the trees heavy with summer rain, Tommy went in to Lost Levy's for his daily dose of caffeine. Behind the counter there was a new, pretty barista with dark hair and chocolate eyes. Tommy checked the pleat on his tweed pants as he waited his turn in line. Once at the front, the woman asked him, "how do you take your coffee?"

"Very seriously," he replied.

The barista smiled. Tommy smiled back.



THANK YOU to these folks who have joined the GNA for 2018!

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!*

Kate Cross

Dave & Amy Adams Joe & Kim Atkinson Darwin & Christine Baker **Connie Bartel** Bumpy Bennett Kathy Bennett Pam Bogardus & Bob Yanders Joan Borrege James & Alicia Brady Kathie Brandt Paulette Brandt & Dave Eyre Ben & Kate Brewer David & Anna Brooks Nate Brown & Tom Emmett Buck & Teri Christensen Dick & Ardeth Christie Chris Clayton Harold Compton

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Steve & Marge Leaders Johanne Lewis Roland Lynch Mary Madison Anne Massoud & Sara Perkins Kyle McGinn Linda Meyer Clay & Dana Miller Turner & Abby Morgan Terry & Nancy Mulvania Patricia Murphy Our Savior's Lutheran Church Dan Partridge & Trish Roze Cory Peters Pat & Mary Ryan Jeff & Karen Tucker Ann Walters & Cathy Hill Patrice Watson Carol Wood

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



Looking to host a birthday, retirement or anniversary party?

Contact Jill: 402.639.0268 or party@barleysbar.com



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

Friday, OCTOBER 19th

<u>Quarter Auction</u> FUNdraiser! 5:30—8:00 pm at The American Legion, 716 S. 4th Street

This event is a BLAST!! If you've never attended, ask anyone who HAS in the past two years and they'll tell you how much FUN this event is! Bring a pocketful of cash to bid on some GREAT prizes and buy some inexpensive food and drinks at the Legion! **Don't miss it!**

Sunday, **DECEMBER 2nd** Gibraltar HOLIDAY PARTY!



6:00—9:00 pm

125 S. 3rd Street (Kieffer/Lopez House)

The Gibraltar Neighborhood knows how to celebrate the holiday season! This fun potluck event is ALWAYS a great time, and it's a great chance to see those neighbors you

haven't seen in a while (or maybe haven't yet met!) *Don't* miss this fun evening!

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 14th

GNA General Meeting 6:00 – 7:30 pm The Center // 714 So. Main Street *We'll discuss neighborhood plans for the upcoming year, and possibly have a speaker. Watch for more information in the future.*

JUST A REMINDER!

Association Dues are collected

in January!

You don't HAVE to be a paid member to attend events and be involved! But, if you <u>do</u> join the association, you'll have voting rights, receive preferred positioning for special projects, and get that warm fuzzy feeling when you know your membership dues are helping make our neighborhood a better place! Thank you!

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

Visit Gibraltar online: <u>www.GibraltarNA.org</u>



Important

KEEP INFORMED!!

Share news, updates, inquiries, refer business people or services, get the latest GNA news and much more! It's FREE and it's open to folks within **the GNA boundaries!! Register TODAY on GNA's "Nextdoor" social** networking website: <u>www.gibraltar.nextdoor.com</u>.

Gibraltar Neighborhood Association: Membership Registration Form

Name____

Email

Address

Phone

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

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

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

□ Quarterly social events □ Fund	raisers 🛛 Business meetings
D Other	
Please tell us what issues are important to you:	
Getting to know my neighbors	Preserving our brick streets
Better lighting in our Neighborhood	More social events
□ Other	