



ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Get Your HOLIDAY LUMINARIAS!

Make Our Neighborhood Bright and Cheery for the Holidays!

Many of you will remember the successful luminaria-building event we had three years ago. Since this has been such a tough year for folks, and since we were unable to hold our normal fundraising event this year, and since it's not advisable to host our annual neighborhood holiday party... we decided it would be a great year to do it again and to bring a bit of holiday spirit our neighborhood **with the warm glow of luminarias!!**

WHAT: coffee, cocoa & cookies at a socially-distanced outdoor get-together (& luminaria pick-up!)

WHEN: SUNDAY afternoon, **Dec. 13th** from **1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

WHERE: Driveway at 241 5th Avenue (corner of 5th Ave & 3rd Street)



COST: **FREE** for cocoa/cookies/conversation/holiday tunes

Stop by with your bag chair and let's catch up! We'll have heaters running in the garage if it's a cold day.

COST: **\$1.00 each** for luminaria bags

Luminarias are **non-flammable** and include the bag, sand, and a flickering battery-operated candle (it's the same candle brand we used three years ago — and they **stayed lit for weeks!!!**)



We will DELIVER your bags if you'd prefer! Just let us know!

>>>> GNA Members: buy 20, get 5 FREE! <<<<<

You can pre-pay on the website, or pay at pick up!

Supplies are limited! Pre-order and pay for your luminaria on the Gibraltar website: GibraltarNA.org. Click on the "Donate" tab, enter your payment amount, and add a note indicating the quantity you want.

Ready to Place Your Order? Have Questions?

Email Cory at charcor241@yahoo.com.

NEW NEIGHBORS: please DO stop by & say HI — we'd love to meet you!!



OCTOBER 21st FAREWELL

—You're Invited—



Join Us to Bid Adieu!

You are invited to a send-off gathering for **Jim Keiffer and Gary Lopez**, long-time Gibraltar residents. They recently sold their house on the corner of 3rd Street & High School and will be relocating to St. Joseph, Missouri. Gary and Jim have been amazing neighbors, having been involved in both our Neighborhood Association and Preserve Council Bluffs, and frequently have opened their home for neighborhood meetings and parties.

Tom Emmett & Nate Brown at 135 S 3rd Street will host the farewell event on **Wednesday, October 21st, at 6:00 pm.** If you like, bring an appetizer to share, but no pressure. Weather permitting, we will gather in the front and back yard of Tom and Nate's home (please bring a face mask). *If weather does not cooperate,*



Protect Your Identity

Neighbors, once you put your trash out for collection you lose any expectation of privacy. It is not against the law for someone to go through your trash (unless they are making a mess, then it is a different story). Consider shredding any type of paperwork that may have your name on it. Dumpster diving is one of many ways a person can get your personal information. It is safer to shred than to be sorry.

All a thief needs is your Social Security number to commit identity theft. But, once you know the facts and preventive measures to take, you can win the fight against identity theft!

Identity thieves commit their crime in several ways:

- They dig through garbage cans or communal dumpsters in search of cancelled checks, credit card and bank statements, and preapproved credit card offers.
- They steal credit card payments and other outgoing mail from private, curbside mailboxes.
- They hack into computers containing personal records and steal the data.
- They file a change of address form in the victim's name to divert mail and gather personal and financial data.

Clues Your Information Has Been Stolen

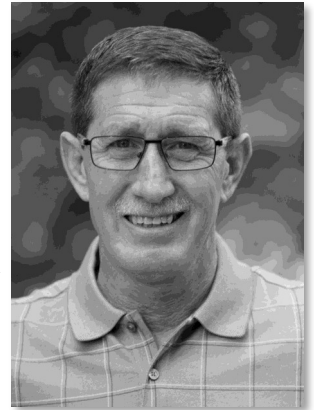
- You see withdrawals from your bank account that you can't explain.
- You don't get your bills or other mail.
- Merchants refuse your checks.
- Debt collectors call you about debts that aren't yours.
- You find unfamiliar accounts or charges on your credit report.
- Medical providers bill you for services you didn't use.
- Your health plan rejects your medical claim because the records show you've reached your benefits limit.
- A health plan won't cover you because your medical records show a condition you don't have.
- The IRS notifies you that more than one tax return was filed in your name, or that you have income from an employer you don't work for.
- You get notice that your information was compromised by a data breach at a company where you do business or have an account.

BE ALERT, and protect your valuable information!

PRESIDENT'S POST

Dear Neighbors,

Hope this message finds you healthy, happy and safe. Of the four seasons we experience here in the Midwest, fall has to be my favorite! The cool and comfortable weather is such a welcome change for both plants and people in Iowa. I don't know about you, but with the change of season, I often feel a need to change the menu. This week I am craving a big batch of chicken noodle soup. Be sure to take advantage of these beautiful days to get outside to exercise, grill out, or just enjoy some type of social-distance-safe visiting with friends and loved ones while the temperatures still permit. Perhaps use this time to prepare your yard, house and cars for those extreme winter temps?



In my fifteen years as a resident of Gibraltar, I have enjoyed *many* annual neighborhood Christmas Parties. This season however, we must sacrifice for the safety of all of us; we won't be having a Holiday Party in 2020. **But please be patient!** It won't be that long and we will be back to neighborhood gatherings, book clubs and parties again. We will appreciate them that much more.

In the meantime, please enjoy taking part in the social distancing event we are having this holiday season. Thanks to some very fun-loving neighbors who are not afraid of a little work, you will be able to purchase some wonderful holiday adornments for your house that will provide a warm glow and some definitely-needed cheer. And, it will support the neighborhood association at the same time. Please be sure to read the front page of the newsletter for the details. Thanks to all the Gibraltar members who provide us with a little more to look forward to during this challenging holiday season.

In closing, I'd like to remind you: if you wish to give to the local food bank, all you have to do is set your bag of donated items out on your porch on Sundays, preferable by 3:00pm, and text my phone at 712-310-9431.

Sincerely,
Steve Gorman

CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION



AVOID



KEEP CLEAN



DISINFECTANT



SYMPTOMS AWARE



FOOD DRIVE: still working to help those in need!

WHERE: Your Front Porch!

WHEN: For as long as it takes!

Helping our community's most vulnerable.

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

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

Simply put together a sack or box of nonperishable food items and place on your front porch! Then text Steve Gorman at 712-310-9431 and he will pick up the items to deliver to the pantry. **No Contact!! Easy-peasy!!**

Thank YOU for helping those less fortunate!!



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Gibraltar Neighborhood Elections Happening This Coming January!

Every two years we hold elections for those who will help guide the betterment projects and ongoing strengthening of our neighborhood. Yep, it's time once again to **elect your Board!**

Tom Emmett will be stepping down after serving two terms as your treasurer. THANK YOU, Tom!

Depending on how the November state elections go, Steve Gorman may or may not be running again for the president slot. In any event, there will likely be some openings, and we would love for some NEW folks to take an interest!!

It's an incredible opportunity to build friendships and determine the direction of our neighborhood, to keep it vital, engaged, safe and vibrant!

If you have questions about the time commitment (it's not usually much—we meet six times a year) or what's involved, contact ANY of the Board Members listed on the last page of the newsletter.



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Kyle & Dan McGinn, Attorneys and Gibraltar Neighborhood Residents

GNA Board Meeting minutes — August 10, 2020

Present- President-Steve Gorman, Vice President-Anna Brooks, Secretary-Chris Gorman, Treasurer-Tom Emmett, Members at Large- Cory Peters and Turner Morgan

Zoom Meeting began at 6:00pm

Fall Event- Turner shared information about the 712 event which will be hosted in Kirn Park on September 19th, 2020 starting at 5:30 pm. The evening will include a Picnic (via food truck) and movie with areas marked off 6 feet apart between families, for safety.

Tom Emmett and Turner Morgan will send out notice through Constant Contact. They will work on contacting the food truck. There will be an effort to keep the price at \$5.00. An idea was proposed that GNA will kick in the remaining amount (up to \$3.00) per meal. Tom will ask Susan with the Lincoln/Fairview and Cory will contact Michelle with Park/Fairmont Associations to join GNA in this event. Cory will send out invites through email and she will design a half sheet flyer for outreach to those not on the email list.

Weeds Update- Tom Emmett made a homemade, environmentally safe mixture of weed killer and sprayed much of the weeds lining high School, third Street all the way to 9th Avenue and 5th Ave from Bluff to Clark Street himself.

2020 GNA Fund raisers- Cory Peters had many, many details about the cost of the luminaries and we will be buying supplies and putting them together in Cory's garage in December. More details to come. Tom will call this week about details on wreath/poinsettias costs. GNA will use Constant Contacts to increase interest potential activities.

Christmas Party will not take place in 2020 due to Covid 19.

There are two new neighbors in GNA and Anna Brooks provided Welcoming Bags to both.

The General Meeting will be hosted on Zoom on Wednesday, August 19th, 2020 at 6:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Gorman, Secretary



It's time to Get Your Vote On!

Let your voice be heard! Do your civic duty and embrace your democracy. Many folks around the world would love to have this opportunity. Do you have a plan? Register to vote, request an absentee ballot, track your ballot request, and find your polling place.



First of all you must register to vote. Register to vote or update your voter registration online using your Iowa driver's license or ID number. *You will receive your voter registration card from your county auditor within two weeks.* You can also register at your precinct's polling place. To learn more or to find answers to your questions, visit the Iowa Secretary of State's office at:

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterinformation/voterregistration.html>

HOWEVER, time is running out! If you still need to register, do it as soon as possible!

There are three ways you can vote in the state of Iowa!

1. Vote by mail

This year, due to Covid-19 Secretary of State Paul Pate, has (or will) send every registered voter in Iowa an Absentee Ballot Request (ABR). You may even have been sent MORE than one. Only one is necessary! Read the instructions carefully, fill out the form and send it in NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 20th!! You can keep track of where your ballot is in the process at this site:

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/absenteeballotstatus/absentee/search>

2. Early vote in person

Starting on October 5th and continuing Monday-Friday 8:00am to 4:30pm, you can vote in person at the courthouse all the way up until November 2nd.

Pottawattamie County Early Voting Location: 508 S. 6th Street, Co. Bluffs, IA (next to the State Farm Office)

3. Vote in person at the polls on November 3rd 2020

If this is your choice please check where your polling site will be this year as things could change due to Covid-19. Check for your polling place before November 3rd at :

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/voterreg/pollingplace/search.aspx>

Expect a long line and take a jacket, water, a snack etc... just in case the line is longer than you anticipated.



Get to Know Your Neighbors

Business Edition

While not *technically* within the confines of the Gibraltar neighborhood, we are happy to welcome a new business that is just a few steps west of our boundaries... *Say hello to **Wenday's Kitchen Boutique!***

Located in the Park Building at 500 Willow Ave. (in the old Hushaw Drugstore space; we old-timers know where that is), Wenday's opened this past Spring and has been going gangbusters ever since!



Wenday's menu consists of scratch-made baked goods, savory brunch and appetizing lunch dishes. They brew a variety of classic & rich coffees and teas daily, served hot, iced, or blended. Wenday bakes and prepares all of her menu items, which vary daily, including cakes, tarts, cookies, cupcakes, quiche, hot soups, a variety of sandwiches, and daily specialty items. Wenday takes pride in the food preparation as well as its presentation. The whimsical boutique décor includes beautiful retail items to purchase for yourself or someone special!

You can find this new business online at www.WendaysKitchenBoutique.com, or on facebook (search for "Wenday's Kitchen Boutique"). They offer take-out in addition to dine-in service. **Their hours are:**

Monday: Closed

Tuesday through Friday: Open from 7 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 8 am to Noon

Evenings, Saturday afternoon & Sundays the café is closed for private parties, cooking classes, meetings and a variety of other options they offer — you can learn more on their website.

Welcome to the neighborhood, Wenday's Kitchen Boutique!



NEIGHBOR NEWS

David & Anna Brooks welcomed baby Elizabeth in August! Older sibling Mary is loving being a “big sister,” and all are doing well. ***Congratulations!***

Kyle & Lyndze McGinn were united in holy matrimony in September. ***Best Wishes*** for many happy years to the newlyweds!

Dave & Amy Adams celebrated their 25th Anniversary in September! ***Happy Anniversary*** and wishing you many more!

If you or one of your neighbors are celebrating a happy event, please let us know!



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Mall: 1751 Madison Avenue • 322-3300
9:00-5:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (lobby)
8:00-6:00 Mon-Fri + 9:00-noon Saturday (drive-up)

Rock the Block TOOL TRAILER!

As if the Neighborhood Block Party Trailer wasn't cool enough, the **712 Initiative** has done it again! They've created a new TOOLS trailer!

If you have a home project you're looking to do but don't have the right tools to get it done, don't despair. Whether you're painting, building a new deck, doing landscaping, installing new windows... whatever!... Check out the **Rock the Block Tool Trailer!** The trailer has scaffolding, tools, supplies and more to help with your home improvement projects!

The trailer can be reserved for the weekend. Check it out on either Thursday or Friday and return it on Monday; it's the perfect solution to help you with a weekend project. Learn more and reserve it for yourself at the link below.

the712initiative.org/neighborhoods/tool-trailer-reservation



MOVIE NIGHT AT KIRN PARK

A big shout out to everyone who came out to the "Movie Night in Kirn Park" event in September! Put on by the **712 Initiative**, the event included the "Smoke is No Joke" food truck, which provided super-delicious BBQ eats and hand-squeezed lemonade, and the "Mode Shift - Council Bluffs" Team who handed out free popcorn! It was a great evening all around, and folks enjoyed gathering, watching the *Goonies* movie, and being safely distanced (thanks to the pre-drawn 'group circles' laid out on the field).



YARD WASTE TIPS for Fall

As we move into the end of summer and the leaves begin to fall, you may have more yard waste to set at your curbside. Here are some tips and reminders for your yard waste.

- > Remember to always separate trash from yard waste. These items are collected separately by RR the City's waste hauler. If yard waste is not separate, it will be tagged and not collected.
- > On your curb, place your yard waste a few feet away from trash, so waste haulers recognize where one ends and the other begins. Yard waste may be placed in a regular garbage can, City-approved Poly-cart, or paper yard waste bags. Mark containers with a "Y" or place an orange yard waste sticker on each can.
- > Gather limbs and branches into bundles no more than 4' in length, 2' in diameter & 60 pounds in weight. Tie yard waste bundles with string or twine.

Yard waste is unlimited through November 30. Pumpkins, corn stalks and other garden waste can be placed with yard waste.

CITY ORDINANCE on Open Burning

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: library.municode.com/ia/council_bluffs/codes/code_of_ordinances

- 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 as follows:
 - no outdoor burning allowed if winds exceed 10 mph
 - fires must be constantly 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!!

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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!*

**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! ■

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

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

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

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



Gibraltar's LITTLE FREE LIBRARY is always in need of BOOKS!

It's located in the green space at the corner of **Story St. & 4th St.** There are children's books and adult books for you to borrow for as long as you wish... **FOR FREE!** If you have books you no longer need you can **CONTRIBUTE** them to the library; simply leave them in the library box.

Thank you!

ATTENTION: BUSINESS OWNERS, ARTISTS, ETC.

If you own a business, provide a service, have an event or sell a product, would you like to get the word out to **OVER 200 HOUSEHOLDS** in the Gibraltar Neighborhood?

If so, consider an affordable ad in the Rock Talk newsletter!

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

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

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

GNA Contacts:

Steve Gorman, President
712-310-9431

Anna Brooks, Vice President
414-507-9649

Tom Emmett, Treasurer
402-346-6734

Chris Gorman, Secretary
712-355-0635

Turner Morgan, Member at Large
712-310-3102

Mary Madison, Member at Large
712-323-8073

Cory Peters, Newsletter Editor
402-681-8344

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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)

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone _____

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

- Quarterly social events Fundraisers Business meetings
 Other _____

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

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