



ROCK•TALK

the newsletter of

The Gibraltar Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Neighborhood Holiday Get-Together!

WHERE: 304 Willow (intersection of Willow & 3rd Street)

WHEN: SUNDAY, December 15th, 2020 // 5:00 to 8:00pm



Enjoy food, fun and camaraderie as we celebrate the season with friends & neighbors! We'll be gathering in the *beautiful* home of David & Anna Brooks, which is located at the intersection where Willow runs into 3rd St. Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association will provide a holiday ham.

You bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share, or a bottle or two of wine!

You and your well-behaved children are warmly welcome!

*****You MUST RSVP by December 10th so we know how much ham 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: *"Ho-Ho-Home is where the heart is!
Celebrate the season with friends & neighbors!!"*



HAVE FUN Oct. 18

If you haven't been to one of the neighborhood "Quarter Auction" fundraisers, you haven't had the joy of winning something awesome for 25, 50 or 75 cents!! Yes, that's right... CENTS! A bidding paddle is only \$5.00, and then you pick the items you want to bid on. HECK, come on by and just WATCH and enjoy a really inexpensive adult beverage at the Legion! (They serve a great dinner, too!) So mark you calendars and come have a laugh and maybe win something really cool for mere quarters!

See more info on page 3!

NOVEMBER meeting: Trailhead Discussion w/Parks & Rec

Our final meeting this year will be **Thursday, November 14th at Turner and Abby's home at 533 Clark Ave from 6:00 to 7:00pm.** We will be inviting someone from the Parks and Recreation department to discuss the design, materials, and features of the trailhead at 9th Ave. and High Street.

If you cannot attend, please be sure to send your ideas to Turner at tmorgan@the712initiative.org. At the end of our discussion we'll have a social hour and play some good old-fashioned cards from 7:00 to 8:00pm. **PLAN to ATTEND!**





Turner & J.J. (Murph aka "Spiderman") Morgan!

FROM PRESIDENT MORGAN!

Happy Autumn, Neighbors!

I am happy to announce that the Gibraltar Neighborhood Association was awarded a \$20,000 Match Grant from the Wellmark Foundation towards the installation of a proper trailhead into Fairmount Park at the corner of 9th Ave and High Street! This is the only foot entrance on the west end of the park and is currently overgrown and subject to dumping. We have a multitude of neighborhood walkers (human and dog!), hikers, and out-of-town visitors who would take advantage of this trailhead. Fairmount Park is a HUGE asset to our corner of the world, and we'd like to see more positive foot traffic utilizing the its trail system and appreciating its beauty!

IMPORTANT INFO: With this match grant, our neighborhood is challenged to secure \$10,000 by Nov. 5th to receive the \$20,000 grant, adding up to **a total of \$30,000 for the project**. Half of the \$10k is required to be cash, which we will be pulling from our Gibraltar Neighborhood Association treasury, and the other \$5k can be in-kind donations (that means either monetary donations and/or donated labor or materials). We will have until December 2020 to complete the project – giving us plenty of time to collaborate and organize with the Parks Department on materials, features, and design.

WE NEED YOU!!

Please let us know **by Oct 31st** if you have **PERSONAL TIME or TREASURE** to donate towards the match of our trailhead grant. Every dollar counts! And every hour of your time is worth \$24.69 – so if you pledged to volunteer four hours... that would be almost **\$100 towards meeting our \$5,000 goal!**

Don't worry if physical labor isn't in your wheelhouse – we could use volunteers to help make lunches for our workers, to call and recruit businesses to donate towards the cause (I know you all have handy friends or family members!), to take photos and document the process... all sorts of activities! This is a really wonderful opportunity for our community to work together and help beautify and restore one of our natural treasures. If you would like to make a donation, pledge some time towards the project, or help in any way, please contact Turner at tmorgan@the712initiative.org or call/text 712-310- 3102.



Finally, I hope to see you all down at our quarter auction on Friday October 18th! If you've never been, it's a TON OF FUN and a great way to get to know folks in the hood. So, don't be shy! The legion will be cooking up some pulled pork – and we have some great prizes that showcase the many talents of our neighborhood!

That's all the news for now! See you around the neighborhood!

Love,
Turner Morgan – GNA President

October 18: Attend GNA's FUNDRAISER!!

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

- WHAT:** A "Quarter" Auction Fundraiser!!!
WHEN: Friday night, October 18th
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!



Bring the family and friends and join in the fun at our annual GNA Quarter Auction!! ***This is the fourth 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 mere quarters! 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 FUN event!





Always-Popular Holiday Tour of Homes on Dec. 8th

The Historic Homes for the Holidays tour will be held Sunday, December 8th from 12:00 noon until 4:00pm. There will be four historic homes PLUS the Bregant House.

This fundraising 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.

Tickets for the tour are \$15 per person and can be purchased at any of the houses on the day of the tour.

The historic homes on this year's tour include Bebbington Place, the Cutler house, Hazelton house, and Wickham house in addition to the Bregant house. ***There has also been added a 6th SURPRISE property!*** Holy Family Church, built in 1908, will be closing after Lent in 2020. You can tour this historic location at 22nd & B in the west end.

In conjunction with the home tour they are again holding the very popular Holiday Boutique at 206 Park Avenue. The Boutique will be open starting Friday evening, Dec. 6th, and run through Sunday, Dec. 8th.

For more information or ticket inquiries:

call Patricia Murphy at 402-850-0822 or explore their website at:

www.PreserveCouncilBluffs.org.

You can also follow them on facebook:

www.facebook.com/PreserveCouncilBluffs



January Elections: **WE NEED YOU!!!!!!**

YOU want a neighborhood that's attractive and safe...

YOU want a neighborhood that's active and engaged...

YOU want to experience a feeling of community and connectedness...

YOU NEED TO GET INVOLVED!

It's easy to be an "armchair quarterback" and watch the game from the sidelines, but it's MUCH more rewarding to get in the game and make a difference! ***Now's your chance!***

Our neighborhood is so grateful that Turner Morgan is considering serving for a second term, but we do have a few Board Member positions that will likely be opening up.

NOW is the time for you to grasp this opportunity to expand your circle of influence, build some personal and professional connections, improve your skill set, and MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Won't you please consider throwing your hat in the ring in January??

(Remember, only paid association members have voting and position-holding rights.)



Neighborhood Historic Mural Installed!

It's been a loooooong process, but we are so happy to finally be able to report that the large mural project we started working on late last year has finally been completed!

As you may recall, the 712 Initiative organization made money available to area neighborhoods last fall as part of a "Walkability Project" effort to help beautify our neighborhoods. One of the ideas we proposed was a large banner on the south-facing wall of the Genealogical Society building at the corner of Worth and 4th. When we were awarded the grant to do this project, the legwork began, but it was a slow (and somewhat painful!) process to get all of the pieces in place.

A shout out to Gibraltar resident & artist Cory Peters, who sorted through and compiled all of the photo submissions and then pieced together the collage artwork for the banner. An even BIGGER shout out to GNA President Turner Morgan, who found a company to manufacture the mural, and then the HARDER part—found the resource to INSTALL the mural.

Take a minute and go check it out—it's 100 feet long and 12 feet high (wow!!!), and located on Worth Street between Main and 4th! The mural is jam-packed with images from the very beginnings of Council Bluffs, as well as modern images from the past few years. ***And look for neighborhood faces you may recognize:***

> **Cathy Walters Hill and Cory Peters:** both these gals grew up in Gibraltar, moved away, moved back, and purchased their Gibraltar homes from their parents! (They are just two of the many multi-generation families who have loved Gibraltar!) Both served 4-year terms on the GNA board: Cory as President & Cathy as Secretary.

> **Paulette Brandt, Steve Gorman and Chris Gorman:** Steve and Paulette served Gibraltar as the 1st and 2nd Neighborhood Association presidents, and Steve currently is a Board member. Chris served on the GNA board & has *delivered* the Rock Talk newsletter to your doorstep for the past 11 years... THANK YOU Chris!

> **Dave Adams and Kyle McGinn:** Dave and Kyle are neighbors at the top of Clark Avenue and are very involved in the neighborhood. Dave is a former GNA treasurer, and Kyle currently serves on the GNA board. The photo shows them sharing a hearty laugh at a neighborhood picnic last summer.

> **Kent Madison:** shown gleefully holding his granddaughter Gavin (who also a Gibraltar resident!). Kent is the talented artist behind the Gibraltar mound illustration you'll see below him on the mural, which is also on the Rock Talk Masthead and on our yard flags. Sadly, Kent lost his cancer battle a few years ago, but his wonderful wife Mary still lives in the neighborhood.

> **Connie Bartel, Irene Peters, Bumpy Bennett, Mayor Matt Walsh:** These three grand dames each lived in Gibraltar for 40-50 years, the Bennetts having been a Gibraltar family for even longer (Bumpy and her husband Lyman purchased the home from Lyman's mother, and Bumpy's daughter Kathy now owns the home.) Mayor Walsh—a former Gibraltar resident!—was on hand to keep these gals from causing trouble—*heehee!*

Dodge House News



Trick-or-Treat at the Dodge House!

Stop by the Dodge House on Halloween on Oct. 31st from 5:30 to 7:30 for a sweet treat— they'll be handing out candy!!

Special Family Nights: Dec. 5 & 12, 6-8:00pm

Centered around family and kids, these evenings will provide hot cocoa and cookies served by the General's Ladies, and you can meet some of the House's Board of Trustees. Cost: \$15 per family, pay at the door.

Museum Store Sunday: Sunday, Dec. 1, 1:00 to 5:00pm

Special 20% OFF and no sales tax at both the General's Store and Annie's Attic locations in the Bereshiem House. Take care of all your holiday shopping needs and save some money!

Breakfast with Santa: Saturday, Dec. 7, 9:00am and 10:30am

Bring your kids (and your own inner child) and let Santa know what you want for Christmas. Enjoy the tradition of the House all dressed-up for the holidays. Advance tickets required—call for details: 712-322-2406

Day with the Dodges: Sunday, Dec. 8, 6:00 to 8:00pm

Stroll through the General's House and experience life as it was when the General was in residence. You'll see people in period clothing living and working. and admission fees apply.

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.

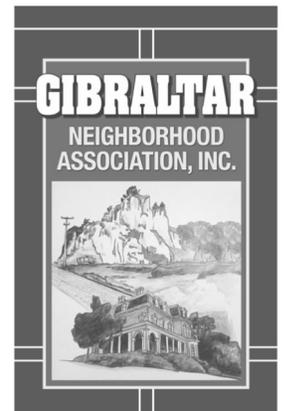


GNA Yard Flags!

If you are a paid Gibraltar Neighborhood Association member, as part of your initial membership dues you receive a free GNA garden flag and metal holder. If you have not yet received one, contact GNA's treasurer — Tom Emmett— at 402-346-6734, and we'll be sure you get one.

ALSO: Is your **old** GNA flag faded, lost or torn? You can purchase a **new replacement flag for only \$7.00!!** Or if you need a replacement flag **holder**, you can purchase that for **only \$6.00!**

Contact Tom at the phone number shown above.





Gibraltar Resident Jeff Ketcham shows off our neighborhood's Little Free Library.

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to all the folks who have been keeping books on stock in the Gibraltar Little Free Library! Located on Story St. (between Bluff and 4th, on the north side of the street), we've been keeping it supplied with kids and teen books, romance novels, mysteries, and even some recipe books!

Stop by on your next walk and have some fun pawing through the contents, and you can even enjoy trying to find creative ways to stock the shelves more artfully (it's like Jenga puzzle in there! Ha!!).

Be sure to walk around the library and note the colorfully-painted exterior decorations, painted by Gibraltar neighbor Cory Peters.

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GIBRALTAR NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT

WE WISH YOU A
**HAPPY
THANKSGIVING**

BOOK DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

Just a reminder that the Gibraltar Little Free Library (located on the north side of Story Street, across from Our Savior's Lutheran Church) continues to be a well-used resource! We are always on the lookout for gently-used books: Fiction, non-fiction, mysteries, romance, sci-fi, historical tales... you name it, we'd love to include it in the library! (Although nothing salacious, please!). And don't forget CHILDREN'S books! Books for kids continue to be a hot item. **Text Cory Peters at 402-681-8344 to arrange for your books to be picked up or dropped off.** Thank you SO MUCH for helping us serve the literary needs of our neighborhood!

3rd Quarter Social: An Excellent Day for Kirn Park Picnic!

All had a great time at Kirn Park for our 3rd Quarter Social! Wonderful food, great conversations and some spirited frisbee and football tossing were the theme for the afternoon!! Everyone enjoyed getting together and catching up on neighborhood news. THANK YOU to all who brought so much delicious food! Thanks also to everyone who helped set up and tear down. You made it great!! Check out additional photos on the Gibraltar website!! ■



Did You Buy a Gibraltar Home in the Past 12 Months?

Then You Need a Welcome Bag!!

Our Welcome Committee chair moved away last Fall and we haven't found her replacement yet (sighhhh), but we'd STILL like to welcome you to our awesome neighborhood with a little gift bag of goodies, including a ceramic mug!

You definitely want one of the awesome Gibraltar coffee mugs, right?



If you're a new homeowner in the Gibraltar neighborhood, contact:

Cory Peters at coryp241@yahoo.com.

Let her know your name and address. She'll drop off a bag and say hello (or leave on your doorstep if you aren't home at the time). THANKS!

P.S.— would you be interested in volunteering some time to be our welcome bag ambassador!?! :)

JUST WANT A MUG?

Any "not new" Gibraltar residents who would like a coffee mug can purchase one for only \$5.00 each!! Contact Cory and she'll arrange to get you one or more. They are a lovely burgundy color with different artwork imprinted in white on both sides, just like our neighborhood banners!

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.***



Upcoming Events at UP Museum

All events are free and open to the public.

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.



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

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

OCTOBER dates to know

- Oct. 11: World Egg Day** — celebrating the incredible, edible egg
- Oct. 14: Columbus Day** — Also called “discovery day”
- Oct. 17: Wear Something Gaudy Day** —surprise your co-workers!
- Oct. 24: United Nations Day** — Dedicated to world peace
- Oct. 31: Halloween**—Have fun, be safe!

NOVEMBER dates to know

- Nov. 2: Deviled Egg Day**—Use up eggs you bought Oct.11! (lol)
- Nov. 15: America Recycles Day** — Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!
- Nov. 17: World Bread Day**— make a loaf (and invite me over!)
- Nov. 21: World Hello Day**—Say hello to a stranger today
- Nov. 28: Thanksgiving**—thankful for great a great neighborhood!

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

Dear Adam

By Kate Brewer

Dear Adam,

I'm afraid I peaked at seven-years-old. I'm sorry to make this all about me, as I always do, but I felt I needed to share this realization with you.

Okay, so, I was a smart kid, right? It's a fact established by excellent grades, glowing teacher assessments, dentist-worthy smiles for my yearbook photos and bright projections for my future based on my abstract finger painting and advanced Lego arrangements. Fool proof, right? I was supposed to do great things. Be an engineer or an architect or an entrepreneur, or something that started with a vowel and ended in a lot of zeros.

Well... I screwed that up.

And truth be told, I can't even say I'm that sorry about it. I think these days it's generally considered a shameful thing to live your life beneath your unrealized potential. It's seen as a waste, a copout. A damn shame. It may amount to pure laziness in my case, I don't really know. They wouldn't be wrong at all to say that. They wouldn't be right, either, but hell, who's really keeping score these days?

All I know is that you had short red hair in second grade and for whatever stupid reason, that was enough to exclude you from our ridiculous games. In case you were wondering, British Bulldogs is the same thing as Sharks and Minnows, and it's all just basically everyone picking on the weaklings. Classic. I also know that when we turned our backs on you, teased you, laughed at you, your frustration became our fuel.

It was cruel.

But there was something in the way you always came back, kept showing up to class, kept raising your hand and getting the answers (mostly) wrong and kept sharing your (sometimes) stupid ideas about feudal Japan or action movies with such enthusiasm. You made me realize that self-esteem itself was the bedtime story you told yourself at night. You taught me that no matter what the outside world thought, you – Adam – were the underdog among underdogs, the red-haired bumbling hero among blonde-haired knights in shining armor. You were, simply put, you. And dorky as you were, you owned it.

You owned it in third grade when you gave yourself the god-awful nickname "The Red Avenger." You owned it in fifth grade when you auditioned for Joseph in "The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and were cast as Blasphemer #3, and still showed up to rehearsal every day.

You owned it when, at the eleventh-grade homecoming dance, you grabbed a girl who didn't want to dance with you, and when she asked you to let go of her, you did. Right away. That's not something all of us can say.

You owned it when you loved someone from afar, and never told her because you knew it would make her and her boyfriend uncomfortable. You owned it when you wrote that poem about heartache and the pain of growing up, and you read it at the senior assembly and everyone, including me, made fun of you for it. And still, you walked off that stage with your head held high. I don't know how you did it, man.

Because here I am at thirty-seven. I barely make a living wage. I spend most of that wage on beer or gas or random computer parts that I'm using to build my own C.P.U. But I know I peaked at seven-years-old. Want to know how?

That's the year that I met you. That's the year we built forts for the turtles in the creek bed and made up a language and alphabet that I still have several letters in but can't read for the life of me because I lost the key we made.

That's the year we were both Huskers fans, before you went off and started rooting for another state's team.

That's the year that you and I traded rocks – remember that? Mine was some crystal-like thing I found in the creek and yours looked more like granite. At the time I thought it was the most sacred bond in the universe.

I only found out about your cancer through Facebook. How screwed up is that? I don't recognize you in the photos. Although, to be fair, you probably wouldn't recognize me either (because I'm fat). For all the weight it looks like you've lost, I've gained all of it and then some.

Are you still a fan of gallows humor? I'd understand if not.

Anyway, all this to say I'm sorry for what you're going through. I'm sorry for all the pain. For the lost energy and the lost time. I wish I could take it all away. You want to know why I know I peaked at seven-years-old? That's the year you considered me a friend.

I don't know if this letter will reach you in time. I hope it does. I don't know what "hospice" means exactly, only that it's not good.

One thing you can say for yourself, Adam, that not many people can –

You never peaked.

Your friend,
James



City Codes Are Designed to Help Make Our Neighborhood a Better Place to Live FOR ALL

Every now and then, unaware neighbors do or don't do things that overflow onto or impact our neighborhood. Each one of us has inadvertently (and yes, sometimes unintentionally or carelessly) disturbed the enjoyment, peace, or solitude of our neighbors.

Overgrown grass, overrun weeds, shrubs and/or trees with dead branches needing pruned... these things are not only unsightly, but are often in violation of City Codes, and potentially could cause injury. Maybe it is garbage cans that overflow and/or are left curbside for too many days — leading to waste and debris that are taken by the winds and deposited elsewhere to clutter and decay. Maybe it is parked cars left unattended, unmoved, or inoperable, slowly being consumed by overgrown grass and weeds. Maybe it is mown grass or raked leaves that are carelessly blown into the street.

Being respectful of your neighbors (and your neighborhood) immeasurably improves the quality of everyone's lives. Being aware of codes that affect a homeowner's public and private lands is an easy way to help our historic neighborhood continue to improve, and enhances the quality of life for all residents. There is a covenant that promises each of us a peaceful home. That "quiet enjoyment" is your right to undisturbed, non-hostile use and satisfaction. Following City Codes helps our neighborhood, protects your privacy, increases our property values, and mitigates many of the most common neighborhood problems.

Here's what you can do (common issues)

If the nuisance is weeds, grass, garbage, general concerns, pot holes, yard debris, dogs barking or nuisance animals, missed garbage collection, parked or abandoned vehicles: you can HELP by confidentially writing the City and the Mayor's office using the following link:

<http://www.councilbluffs-ia.gov/requesttracker.aspx>

Let the City staff work on your behalf. They want the same things you do: a better city made up of better neighborhoods, and they NEED YOU to help them by alerting them to neighborhood issues about which you're concerned. They'll decide what to do.

Thank you for helping our neighborhood become a better place, where everyone is no more or no less important than another.

Your Gibraltar Neighborhood Association



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: 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:
 - 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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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!*



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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! ■



Why You Shouldn't Blow Leaves and 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.

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
Rich & Patti Hannan
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
Joan Minikus & Bob Jordan
Drew Morgan & Mindy Wood
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
Carol Wood



*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!*

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**

We'll throw in the ad setup for free!! Contact Cory at coryp241@yahoo.com for more info!

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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!

OCT: Quarter Auction—Friday Oct. 18th
See info box to the right, and also the full-page rundown earlier in the newsletter.

NOV: Thursday, Nov. 14th—6:00 to 8:00
533 Clark Ave. (Turner & Abby Morgan's house)
We'll be discussing the new Fairmount Park Trail-head initiative, and we need your input! Then stay after for socializing.

DEC: Holiday Social! Dec. 15th, 5:00-8:00
304 Willow (David & Anna Brooks' house)
Celebrate the Season with neighbors & friends!

JAN: Gibraltar Elections & Meeting: TBD
Won't you please consider serving our awesome neighborhood— it's only a 2-year term!

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

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THE **7** **12**
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 _____

Providing financial assistance and support to homeowners experiencing plumbing, electrical and mechanical issues



Council Bluffs Community Development

MAILING ADDRESS

209 Pearl Street
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

OFFICE LOCATION

403 Willow Ave
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

CONTACT

Lora Flom
lflom@councilbluffs-ia.gov
(712) 256-6947



Emergency Repair Program

CITY OF COUNCIL BLUFFS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



EMERGENCY REPAIR PROGRAM

The Emergency Repair Program provides assistance and support to homeowners in need of repairs to correct hazardous housing conditions.

If you experience a sudden issue that poses a threat to the health, safety, and well-being of the occupant(s) of the home, contact us. Funding is available for eligible homeowners.

We will help you through the entire process from start to finish alongside qualified, licensed, and professional contractors.

FUNDING

The Emergency Repair Program provides grants to eligible homeowners in need of repairs. The grants do not need to be repaid.

Homeowners can receive up to \$5,000 in Emergency Repair grants.

To be eligible for the Emergency Repair Program homeowners must meet the income limits, see chart for details.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

APPLICATION

Call Lora Flom at (712) 256-6947 to determine your eligibility. If you meet the guidelines you will receive an application and instructions for completion.

INSPECTION

Upon completion of the application, we will schedule an inspection to determine the nature of the problem and what repairs the Emergency Repair Program can help with.

CONTRACTORS

Upon approval of your application, you will receive a list of qualified contractors. You must select at least two contractors to bid on your project. The contractor submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded the contract.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the Emergency Repair Program you must:

- Be the owner-occupant of a single-family residential dwelling for a period of 6 months
- Be located within Council Bluffs city limits
- Be current on all real estate taxes and sanitation fees
- Meet the income limits (see chart)

Note: Properties purchased with a land contract are not eligible.

ELIGIBLE REPAIRS

Listed below are potential hazards which could be repaired using the Emergency Repair Program

- Plumbing
- Electrical
- Furnace/ Heating System
- Water Heater
- Sewer Line
- Gas Line
- Water Line

Income Limits

# of Persons in Household	Income Limit for Emergency Repair Grant
1	\$34,320
2	\$39,180
3	\$44,100
4	\$48,960
5	\$52,920
6	\$56,820
7	\$60,720
8	\$64,680

