

City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

October 2009 – January 2010

43rd Edition

Gibraltar, Michigan 48173

www.cityofgibraltar.net



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE & TREE LIGHTING **KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY** **DECEMBER 5, 2009**

The City of Gibraltar Beautification and Recreation Commissions are sponsoring their annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 5, 2009, and would like to have your participation. The Parade will start at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. The route will run down Munro Street to Stoefflet Street to South Gibraltar Road and north to the Community Center. The Beautification Commission will have the Tree Lighting Ceremony after the Parade. The Kid's Christmas Party, sponsored by the Recreation Commission, will follow the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Forms to participate in the parade are available at the Community Center and City Hall. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

MILESTONES

Over the summer, two of our employees in the Department of Public Works reached a milestone of working for the City of Gibraltar for 30 years. Fred Wall began working for the City on June 18, 1979 and Bob Tomasik started on September 6, 1979. The City would like to thank them both for their dedication and years of service.

COMMUNITY SHRED DAY **NOVEMBER 14, 2009**

The City of Gibraltar will be hosting a Community Shred Day on Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building. This event is for Gibraltar residents only and is not open to commercial businesses. There is a maximum limit of 3 boxes. Newspapers will not be accepted, and garbage bags and cardboard boxes cannot be shredded.

NORTH GIBRALTAR ROAD SPEED LIMIT

The speed limit on North Gibraltar Road was recently reduced to 30 MPH from the previous limit of 40 MPH. With the addition of the walking/bike paths along North Gibraltar Road, there will be more bikers and walkers in this area. The recommended site distances for the road suggested that the speed limit should be reduced to 30 MPH to make the road and nearby walking/bike paths safer.

CITY OF GIBRALTAR WEBSITE

www.cityofgibraltar.net

The City of Gibraltar is continually updating the City website. The City Charter, Code of Ordinances, and a lot of the information that was previously printed in the Community Newsletter is now available on the website. Check it out and let us know how we can make it better. Additional City information is also available through Comcast Cable Channel 12.

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Community Activity Wrap-Up

Downriver Senior Olympics

During the first week of August, the City of Gibraltar, along with the City of Rockwood and Grosse Ile Township, served as a host for the 2009 Downriver Senior Olympics. Various activities, including the Opening Ceremonies, took place throughout the City. There were 20 Gibraltar residents that participated and they combined to win 20 medals. Congratulations to everyone that was involved.

Tire Collection

On August 1st, the City participated in Wayne County's CLEAN (County Lending Environmental Assistance to Neighborhoods) Community Scrap Tire Collection Program. A total of 36 tires were collected.

Gibraltar Skate Park

The Gibraltar Skate Park at the Community Center was completed in May. Since that time, the park has had a tremendous amount of use. The City received a \$60,000 grant from Wayne County Parks with the assistance of County Commissioner Boike. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) also contributed to this project. The City recently used an MDNR Community Forestry Tree Grant to plant 15 evergreen trees between the Skate Park and the adjoining residential area to help control the noise, and sound insulation was also installed.

Gibraltar Multi Use Path

The City and the DDA are just finishing the walking/bike path on North Gibraltar Road from Middle Gibraltar Road to the North Gibraltar Road curve. The path is being funded by a Michigan Department of Transportation grant for \$73,575, with the DDA covering the balance. This path will connect with the existing pathway to the Lake Erie Metropark and to a soon to be constructed path on North Gibraltar Road and West Jefferson to the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge – Humbug Marsh.

Concrete Street Sectioning

In the next few weeks, the City will be finishing the 2009 Concrete Street Sectioning Program. Sections of Kingsbridge Drive, Windsor Drive, and Fryer Drive are scheduled to be replaced.

Beautification Commission

In September, the Gibraltar Beautification Commission hosted the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan Fall Quarterly Meeting. The event was attended by 75 people from 18 communities. The members of the Beautification Commission do a wonderful job of keeping the flowers and plants in the City looking beautiful. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Community News

Winter Property Tax Bills

The 2009 Winter Property Tax Bills will be mailed out by December 1, 2009 and are due no later than February 15, 2010, without penalty. After this date, a 4% penalty will be added. Taxes are payable at City Hall thru February 26, 2010. If you want to claim Property Taxes paid on your income tax return, please pay the bill prior to Wednesday, December 30, 2009. However, taxes paid on January 4, 2010 will be back dated to December 31, 2009. If your mortgage company pays your taxes for you, they will receive a copy of your tax bill.

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City Assessor

The City of Gibraltar Assessor, WCA Assessing, has assigned Holly Adams to provide service to the City. The Assessor's office hours are on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and she can also be reached by email at assessing@cityofgibraltar.net. The office hours day and time are subject to change.

Rental Inspector

The City of Gibraltar Rental Inspection Company, PMI Inspection Services, has assigned Hal LaPoint to be the Rental Inspector for the City. The Rental Inspector is in the City on Wednesday's for inspections and office work, and he can also be reached by email at rentalinspections@cityofgibraltar.net or by phone at (734) 341-8085. The office day is subject to change.

Metro Shores Credit Union – Gibraltar Branch

The Metro Shores Credit Union - City Hall branch is open on Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 676-4722 or www.metroshores.org.

City Clerk General Information

A General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Both Precinct #1 and #2 are at the Gibraltar Community Center on South Gibraltar Road. The following elected offices will be on the November ballot: Mayor, City Clerk, City Treasurer, three City Council seats, and a millage renewal from Wayne County.

The Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. to collect Absentee Ballots. Absentee Ballots must be voted in the Clerk's Office.

Need to vote Absentee in any upcoming Election?

If you have one of the following reasons, please call the City Clerk, Cynthia Ward, at 676-3900 to have an absentee voter application mailed to you.

- You are age 60 or older
- Plan to be away from the community on election day
- Physically unable to attend polls without assistance
- Cannot attend polls due to the tenets of your religion
- You have been appointed election inspector in a precinct other than my own
- Confined to jail waiting trial

The last day to register for this election was October 5, 2009.

Photo identification is required to vote in all elections. Be prepared to show your drivers license or other photo identification.

City General Information

Housing Rehabilitation Program:

The City of Gibraltar is pleased to offer the Housing Rehabilitation Program through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This program is designed to assist Gibraltar residents in a low to moderate income range that are in need of eligible home improvements. For more information regarding qualification guidelines and the Program, please contact Denise Sciacca, Rehab Specialist, on Thursday afternoons at (734) 676-3900 or by email at housingrehab@cityofgibraltar.net.

City Directory Changes:

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is nearing completion of the next edition of the City of Gibraltar Phone Directory. The 2010-2011 Edition will be delivered in December 2009. If you wish to change your name, address, or phone number, or to have a cell phone number listed, please fill out the form on page 13 of this newsletter and drop it off at the City Hall or the Community Center.

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is also selling advertisements in the Phone Directory book. If you are interested in placing or renewing an advertisement, please call (734) 676-8510.

Payment Drop Box: USPS Mailbox:

The City Hall Payment Drop Box is located in the traffic island across from the Flag Pole in front of City Hall. There is a United States Postal Service mailbox located in front of the Gibraltar Community Center on South Gibraltar Road.

DPW General Information

Hydrant Flushing

The Water Department will be flushing Fire Hydrants throughout the month of October and the first half of November. This can cause the water to appear rusty in color. **THE DISCOLORED WATER IS TEMPORARY.** Because the discolored water could cause damage to your laundry, it has been suggested to do laundry in the evening hours to avoid problems. If needed, run the water until it is clear before using. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause.

Street Salting

With the limited availability of rock salt, the City will be forced to limit the frequency and areas in which the City streets are salted. The primary focus will be main thoroughfares, intersections and bridges. Please use caution while driving this winter.

Building/Construction Permits:

Please obtain a City Permit for work done on or at your home. Homeowners sometimes end up with concerns when they are not happy with the work they have paid for. The City only issues permits to licensed and insured contractors. This helps to protect you. Failure to obtain a permit will cost you double permit fees. Any questions on contractors or if a permit is required should be directed to the Building Department at (734) 676-3952.

Garbage and Yard Waste Collection Guidelines

Garbage and Yard Waste is picked up by Waste Management. **All residential homes will be picked up on Tuesdays.** The garbage collection day will be delayed by one day if a holiday falls on a Monday or a Tuesday. Garbage can be placed curbside for pickup after 5:00 p.m. the night before scheduled pickup or not later than 6:00 a.m. the morning of your scheduled pickup. Please remember that if you choose to put your trash out the night before to make sure it is packaged in a manner that will keep any animals from tearing it open. The garbage contractor is not responsible for cleaning up bags that have been torn open by animals. **The Waste Management Customer Service telephone number is 1-800-796-9696.**

Holiday Collection Schedule

No Interruption of Service

Yard Waste Collection Schedule

2009 End Date – December 8, 2009

APPLIANCES

Appliances that contain Freon will be picked up by Waste Management on Tuesdays. However, you must pay a Freon removal fee of \$30.00 in advance. That charge must be paid at City Hall no later than noon on Friday. All doors must be removed from refrigerators and freezers.

YARD WASTE

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, brush, and tree trimmings less than 2” in diameter and tied into bundles not to exceed 4 feet in length and/or 60 pounds in weight. Only these materials are to be included for yard waste collections. Larger limbs can be put out for chipping by the DPW. Once each year, the yard waste may include a discarded natural Christmas tree. **Grass clippings, leaves, brush will be collected by a separate truck on the normal trash pick up day.** Yard waste material can be placed in a 30-gallon “kraft” brown paper yard waste bag (available at local retailers) or loose, in a 35-gallon plastic or metal container weighing no more than 60 pounds when filled. These containers must be clearly labeled “yard waste” or “compost”. **No plastic bags will be accepted.** Yard waste stickers are available at the City Hall offices. Place yard waste away from the regular garbage. The Yard Waste hauler will not be responsible for any yard waste debris left in a compost can due to moisture or from being compacted too tight.

CHIPPING

City chipping service will normally be done once a week. This is subject to change due to emergencies, scheduling, etc. Tree branches for chipping should be left as long as possible, with the larger end of the branch facing towards the road in a neat, uniform pile. Property owners should try to cut small branches and limbs and place them in a yard waste bag. **The chipping service is for trees cut down/trimmed by residents themselves. If a contractor is hired, they are responsible for chipping and removal of all debris.**

SPECIAL PICK-UPS

Special pick-ups may be provided by the City of Gibraltar only if the items are not picked up by Waste Management because it does not meet their contract obligations. The cost for special pick-ups is \$50.00 per hour (manpower and equipment), plus the landfill disposal cost. There is a minimum charge of \$50.00 for special pick-ups, which must be paid prior to scheduling.

For items that will not be picked up by either Waste Management or the City, you may try to contact the Riverview Land Preserve at (734) 281-4262. If you have any questions, please contact the DPW office at (734) 676-3952, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.





Water Department General Information

Water Bill Reminder:

When you receive your quarterly water bill, please remember to check your inside water meter reading with the listed numbers of gallons on the bill. The meter should read higher than the billing information. If there are any discrepancies, please notify the Water Department immediately. Discrepancies will be the responsibility of the property owner. Those homes with readable outside remotes should check both the meter and the remote, and both should read the same number. If not, notify the Water Department at (734) 676-3952.

Water Costs Money . . . Don't Waste It!

A continuous leak at 60 psi water pressure from a hole the size shown below would, over a three month period, waste water in the amounts shown.

<u>Diameter of Stream</u>	<u>Gallons</u>
 1/4"	1,181,500
 3/16"	666,000
 1/8"	296,000
 1/16"	74,000

- Even though the Earth's surface consists of about 70% water, only 3% is fresh water. The rest is too salty to drink. Of that 3 percent, 75% is frozen in glaciers. [Russellville, AI Utilities]
- The average five-minute shower uses 25-50 gallons of water. [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency]
- On average, 2-4 gallons of water are used to brush your teeth. [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency]
- The average automatic dishwasher uses 9-12 gallons of water. Hand washing dishes uses an average of 20 gallons of water. [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency]
- A person can live without food for more than a month, but can only live without water for approximately one week, depending upon conditions. [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency].

Check for Water Leaks

- To be sure that you do not have a water leak somewhere in your home, go dry for two hours. Turn off all appliances that use water and do not use any water for the two hours – no toilets, sinks or faucets – inside or outside. Check your meter reading before and after the two hours. If the meter reading changes even a little bit, you probably have a leak and each fixture in your home should be checked.
- Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl before you flush, you have a leak.

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Police Department General Information

Pistol Purchase Permit:

Anyone interested in a pistol purchase permit needs to make an appointment with Sgt. Dave Hammar. You can contact Sgt. Hammar at the Police Department non-emergency number (734) 676-1022. If he is not available, you can leave your name and phone number and he will return your call as soon as possible.

Traffic Information:

During the year, we receive complaints about portable basketball backboards and skateboard ramps being used or left on the public street. Section 15-21 of the City Ordinance prohibits obstructing any public street or sidewalk. These items must be removed from the public street and utilized on private driveways or in rear yards only.

According to State of Michigan traffic laws, transportation means such as “Go-Peds” or motorized scooters / skateboards are listed as mopeds. Thus, the operator needs a moped license, helmet, and must obey all traffic signs and signals. The Go-Ped needs to be equipped with a headlight, brake light, and a seat. Violators’ subject themselves to a court ticket and potential fines. See State Law MCL.257.32b, 257.658, 257.685, 257.697, 257.312, 257.801, 257.706.

Curfew Reminder:

The City has a curfew ordinance (Section #15-5). Children 15 years of age and younger must be home by 10:00 p.m. If 16 years of age, kids must be home by midnight. Parents who allow their kids to violate this ordinance subject themselves to receiving a ticket for allowing their child to violate curfew.

Animal Reminders:

The ‘2009’ Animal Licenses are still available for purchase at \$8.00 per license. Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets need to be licensed in the City of Gibraltar. Bring proof of rabies vaccination to the Gibraltar Police Department to purchase a license at anytime. Starting in December, the 2010 Domestic Animal Licenses will be available. If purchased before March 1, 2010, the cost is \$5.00 per license.

Dogs cannot be allowed to run loose anywhere in Gibraltar, including City Parks. Pets must be on a leash and under your control at all times when away from your property. If you take your animals for a walk, you must also carry a container to pick up after them.

Fire Department General Information

Fire Hydrants and Snow:

When shoveling snow, please keep any accumulation away from fire hydrants in front of your home. This will allow for easy access to the hydrant by the Fire Department should there be a fire in your neighborhood.

Home Fireplaces:

Homeowners with fireplaces should extinguish any active fire before leaving the home or going to bed for the evening.

Senior Citizen Information

Senior Lunch Program: The Senior Lunch Program is held at the Gibraltar Community Center Monday through Friday. Lunch is at noon for Seniors 60 years and older. Come and enjoy the food, fun, and fellowship. For lunch reservations or information, please call between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at (734) 671-0335.

Meals on Wheels: Meals on Wheels is available for homebound persons 60 years or older. If you would like to have home delivery of a lunch meal from the Gibraltar Senior Nutrition Site, please call (734) 671-0335 between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to see if you qualify.

Senior Transportation: The City has a Bus that is wheel chair accessible and is available by appointment to transport our senior residents to doctor appointments and for a weekly shopping trip. This service is available to residents age 60 and older or disabled, in which the resident does not have a vehicle or is unable to drive due to medical reasons. The service for appointments is available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday -- 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (the Driver must be back to City Hall by 3:00 PM) and for grocery shopping on Wednesday. Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance, and there is a limit of 2 appointments per person, per week. To schedule an appointment, please call (734) 676-3900.

Senior Travel: Through the various City organizations, there are many trips planned for our senior residents, and some are overnights. All the trips are excellent and enjoyable. To get more information about scheduled trips, please contact Sharon Legault at (734) 676-0884. To find out if your organization is eligible to use the City of Gibraltar Bus or to schedule a trip, please contact the City Administrator's Office at (734) 676-9021.

The Gibraltar Over 50 Club: The Gibraltar Over 50 Club meets on the second and last Friday of every month at the Community Center at 7:00 p.m. Residents 50 years or older are welcome to join. Come join the fun, social activities, and trip planning. For more information please call (734) 692-3119.

Community Center Information/Programs

Step Into Shape: Step into Shape is a low impact exercise class for the 50 plus crowd. Classes are on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, starting at 9:15 a.m. For more information please call (734) 782-1702.

Scrap Booking: Scrap booking classes are being held at the Community Center on Sunday's. For more information, please call Molly at (734) 675-4826.

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AA Group:

Babbling Brooks AA Group meets at the Community Center on Friday and Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Karate for Kids:

Lil Dragon Karate Classes are held on Monday at 5:15 p.m. for boys and girls ages 4 to 6. For more information, please call (734) 306-6670. Classes are scheduled year around.

Tang So Do Karate is also offered for persons 7 years and older. These classes are held on Monday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Dance Gibraltar:

Dance Gibraltar will be teaching dance classes on Thursdays from September through the first semester at the Gibraltar Community Center. The classes are taught by adults and are a great experience for the kids. For more information, please call (734) 362-0880 or (734) 671-1466.

Elements of Exercise:

Elements of Exercise is offering Zumba Fitness and Total Body Conditioning at the Gibraltar Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 362-0880 or (734) 671-1466.

Zumba Fitness is being offered on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for a 10 week session from October 7, 2009 to December 9, 2009. The cost is \$60.00 per person.

Total Body Conditioning is being offered on Wednesdays from 7:10 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a 10 week session from October 7, 2009 to December 9, 2009. The cost is \$60.00 per person.

Family Swim:

The Gibraltar Parks and Recreation will be sponsoring senior and family swim hours at the Carlson High School swimming pool on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The program will run from October 21, 2009 through December 16, 2009. The cost is \$1.00 per person.

Teen Center:

The Teen Center, located in the basement of City Hall, will open beginning Friday, November 6, 2009. The Center is open Friday and Saturday nights from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. It is open only to Gibraltar youths between the ages of 12 and 16. We are looking for interested adults for a paid Supervision position that is necessary to keep the Teen Center open. If interested, please call the Parks and Recreation Director at (734) 671-1466 or City Hall. The Teen Center is also available to rent for parties and special occasions.

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Upcoming Community Events

Gibraltar Fire Department

Annual Open House:

Saturday, October 10, 2009

The Gibraltar Fire Department will be holding their Annual Open House on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

VNA Flu Shots:

Saturday, October 17, 2009

The Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) will be offering Flu Shots at the Gibraltar Community Center on Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The shots are free for those individuals with Medicare Part B, HAP, Blue Care Network, Health Plus, and Priority Health. For all others, the cost is \$25.00 per person.

St. Victor's Craft Sale:

Sunday, October 18, 2009

St. Victor's Annual Craft Sale will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center on Sunday, October 18, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. For more information or to reserve a table, please call (734) 676-0966.

Household Hazardous

Waste Collection:

Saturday, October 24, 2009

The Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, October 24, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Flat Rock Community Fields, off of Gibraltar Road by Flat Rock High School (25600 Seneca Street). For more information, contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936 or www.waynecounty.com/doe.

Father & Daughter Dance:

Saturday, October 24, 2009

The 23rd Annual Father and Daughter dance will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center on Saturday, October 24, 2009 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$8.00 per couple and \$2.00 for each additional daughter. Sign-up forms will be available at City Hall and the Gibraltar Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Kids Halloween Party:

Saturday, October 31, 2009

Halloween is Saturday, October 31, 2009 and the recommended "Trick or Treat" hours are between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., the Gibraltar Rotary Club is sponsoring a Halloween Party with entertainment and a costume judging contest at the Gibraltar Community Center.

Youth Basketball:

Monday, November 2, 2009

Youth Basketball Program registration will be held on Monday, November 2, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Carlson High School and the Brownstown Recreation Department. The program is for boys and girls in 4th to 8th grades. For more information please call (734) 675-0920.

General Election Day:

Tuesday, November 3, 2009

A General Election will be on Tuesday, November 3, 2009. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Both Precinct #1 and #2 are at the Gibraltar Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 676-3900.

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Scouting For Food:
Saturday, November 7, 2009

The Gibraltar Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts Scouting for Food Can – Do Pickup Day will be on Saturday, November 7, 2009. For more information please call (734) 676-3814. Bags will be passed out in the week before the 7th.

Pancake Breakfast:
Sunday, November 8, 2009

The Gibraltar Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts Pancake Breakfast will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center on Sunday, November 8, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Veterans Day Service:
Sunday, November 8, 2009

The Gibraltar Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will be having a Veterans Day Service at 12:00 p.m. at the Gibraltar Veterans Memorial Monument on Sunday, November 8, 2009. Please remember all of our family members and friends who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Community Shred Day:
Saturday, November 14, 2009

The City of Gibraltar will be hosting a Community Shred Day on November 14, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Christmas Parade
Tree Lighting
Kids Christmas Party:
Saturday, December 5, 2009

The City of Gibraltar Beautification and Recreation Commissions are sponsoring the annual Christmas Parade, Tree Lighting and Kid's Christmas Party on Saturday, December 5, 2009. The Parade will start at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Kid's Christmas Party. Forms for parade participation are available at the Community Center and City Hall. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Breakfast with Santa:
Sunday, December 6, 2009

The Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association are sponsoring "Breakfast with Santa" on Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Community Center. Tickets will be available at the Community Center and City Hall. For more information, please call Tamey Gorris at (313) 806-5964.

Looking Ahead . . .

Super Bowl Party:
Sunday, February 7, 2010

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is sponsoring a Super Bowl Party at the Community Center on Sunday, February 7, 2010.

Muskrat Dinner:
Saturday, March 20, 2010

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is sponsoring a Muskrat Dinner at the Community Center on Saturday, March 20, 2010. This event helps to raise funds for Rotary Projects in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar Firefighter's Ball:
Saturday April 10, 2010

The Gibraltar Firefighters Association is hosting their annual "Firefighter's Ball" at the Community Center on Saturday, April 10, 2010.

City of Gibraltar Mailbox Policy

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish requirements for the installation of mailboxes along City of Gibraltar street rights-of-way that provide for efficient snow removal, right-of-way maintenance, enhancement to traffic safety and to establish standards for reimbursing property owners for damage done to mailboxes by City snow plowing equipment. No mailbox will be allowed to exist within the City's right-of way if it interferes with the traveling public or the function, maintenance or operation of the City street system.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF MAILBOXES

The location and construction of mailboxes shall conform to the rules and regulations of the United States Postal Service and the following standards established by the City of Gibraltar:

1. The front face of the mailbox shall be set back 6-8 inches from the face of the curb or, on streets without curb, the edge of the pavement, as defined by United States Postal Service (USPS) installation requirements.
2. The bottom of the mailbox shall be between 41 inches and 45 inches from the top of the pavement, as defined by USPS installation requirements.
3. The mailbox support post construction shall meet the following standards:
 - A. The mailbox support structure shall not be constructed of masonry or concrete material.
 - B. Mailbox support structures shall comply with AASHTO's Roadside Design Guide, section 4.6.5 Mailbox Supports, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards.
 - C. Mailbox support structures shall:
 - i. If wood, be no greater than either 4 inches by 4 inches if the structure is square or 4 inches in diameter if the structure is round;
 - ii. If metal, have strength no greater than a 2 inch diameter standard strength steel pipe;
 - iii. Not be embedded more than 24 inches into the ground nor set in concrete, unless the support design has been shown to be safe by crash tests; and
 - iv. Shall be located a minimum of 18 inches from the back of the curb.
4. Mailboxes not conforming to the requirements of this policy that were located within the street right-of-way before the effective date of this policy are permitted, subject to the following conditions:
 - A. No alteration or addition to a non-conforming mailbox is permitted, except in conformity with this policy.
 - B. If any non-conforming mailbox is damaged or destroyed by any means, or if a non-conforming mailbox is removed due to street or utility construction or similar work, repair or reconstruction will be permitted only in conformity with this policy.
5. The owner of the mailbox shall be solely responsible for the maintenance of a mailbox and support that is installed in the City's right-of-way.

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6. The City will plow the snow the best it can, but it is the owner's responsibility to make the mailbox accessible for the delivery person.

3. MAILBOX DAMAGE REIMBURSEMENT

1. The Department of Public Works is conscientious in performing their duties, but cannot avoid occasional damage to mailboxes.
2. The City will reimburse upon receipt of a paid invoice, any property owner up to \$40.00 to cover the cost of materials for the repair or replacement of the mailbox from any damages caused by snow plowing activities, only when it has been determined that:
 - A. The damage was caused by actual physical contact with City snow plowing equipment. Such examples would include, but are not limited to, the mailbox and/or support being cut, bent, or having paint on it from the snow plow;
 - B. The mailbox is of a standard design and installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City; and
 - C. The mailbox and support were in good condition.
3. The City will not reimburse for mailboxes damaged along City streets when the City has determined that:
 - A. The mailbox was not of standard design or not installed in conformance to the standards established through this policy by the City, even though it might have been damaged by City snow plowing equipment;
 - B. The mailbox and support were not in good condition;
 - C. The mailbox and/or support were damaged by snow or ice thrown by snow plowing equipment; or
 - D. The weight of plowed snow resulted in the damage to the mailbox and/or support structure.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy was approved by the Mayor and Council of the City of Gibraltar and became effective on September 14, 2009.

Gibraltar Rotary Club
City Directory 2010-11
Changes and Updates

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone (Optional): _____

Drop off at the City Hall or the Community Center.

Watershed Information

Storm drains found in our streets and yards empty into our lakes and rivers. When we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and rivers. While fertilizer is good for our lawn, it's bad for our water. Fertilizer in our lakes and rivers causes algae to grow. Algae can form large blooms and use oxygen that fish need to survive. With 1.5 million homes in Southeast Michigan, all of us need to be aware of the cumulative affects of our lawn care practices.

Here are seven simple steps you can take in your home and yard to protect our lakes and streams.

- 1. Help keep pollution out of storm drains.** Storm drains lead directly to our lakes and streams. Never dump oil, pet waste, leaves, dirty water, or anything down a storm drain. Remember, only rain in the drain.
- 2. Fertilize caringly and sparingly.** Excess fertilizer that gets into storm drains pollutes our lakes by causing large algae blooms and using up oxygen fish need to survive. Sweep excess fertilizer back onto your lawn, use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer, and have your soil tested to see what, if any, fertilizer is needed.
- 3. Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, and oil.** Instead of putting hazardous products like antifreeze, motor oil, and pesticides in the trash, down the storm drain, or on the ground, take them to a local hazardous waste collection day.
- 4. Clean up after your pet.** Whether on a walk or in your yard, promptly clean up after your pet. Not only will be you a good neighbor, you will also protect our water from harmful bacteria.
- 5. Practice good car care.** Consider taking your car to a car wash or washing your car on the grass.
- 6. Choose earth friendly landscaping.** Protect your pets, kids, and the environment by using pesticides sparingly. Also, water your lawn only when it needs it and choose plants native to Michigan.
- 7. Save water.** Over watering our lawns can easily carry pollution to the storm drains and to our lakes and streams. Consider using a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways. Direct hoses and sprinklers on the lawn, not the driveway. This will help save our lakes and streams and save you money.

For more easy steps on protecting our lakes and streams, visit www.semcog.org.

Remember, our water is our future – and it's ours to protect!

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City of Gibraltar Facilities:

City Hall – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
29450 Munro, Gibraltar, MI 48173
(734) 676-3900

Police / Fire Station - 24 Hours
29450 Munro - (734) 676-1022

DPW & Water Dept. – 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(734) 676-3952

Gibraltar Community Center

29340 South Gibraltar Rd.
(734) 671-1466
Available for rent for both small and large parties.

Schools:

Parsons Elementary School – (734) 676-9550
14473 M. Gibraltar Road

Shumate Middle School – (734) 379-7070
30550 W. Jefferson

Carlson High School – (734) 379-7100
30550 W. Jefferson

Gibraltar School Board Office
19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven
(734) 379-6351

City Phone Numbers:

City Clerk, Finances, Assessor	(734) 676-3900
Building & Water Departments	(734) 676-3952
Police/Fire/EMS – Emergencies	9 – 1 – 1
Police/Fire/EMS – Non-Emerg.	(734) 676-1022
City Administrator’s Office	(734) 676-9021
Mayor’s Office	(734) 676-7287

City of Gibraltar Officials:

Mayor:
Jim Beaubien MayorBeaubien@cityofgibraltar.net

City Council:
Kathleen LaPointe klapointe@cityofgibraltar.net
James Gorris jgorris@cityofgibraltar.net
Ed Manion emanion@cityofgibraltar.net
J. Garza jgarza@cityofgibraltar.net
Kenneth Boyea kboyea@cityofgibraltar.net
Scott Ross [sross@cityofgibraltar.net](mailto:ssross@cityofgibraltar.net)

City Clerk: Cynthia Ward
cward@cityofgibraltar.net

City Administrator: Mark A. Kibby
[mkibby@cityofgibraltar.net](mailto:mkipby@cityofgibraltar.net)

Police Chief: Ray Canterbury
rcanterbury@cityofgibraltar.net

Fire Chief: Jim VanCalbergh
jvancalbergh@cityofgibraltar.net

Treasurer: Earl Cancilliari
ecancilliari@cityofgibraltar.net

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
bmeyer@cityofgibraltar.net

Parks & Recreation Director: Gil Talbert
talbertg@cityofgibraltar.net

Assessor: Holly Adams
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

Rental Inspector: Hal LaPoint
rentalinspections@cityofgibraltar.net

Housing Rehab: Denise Sciacca
housingrehab@cityofgibraltar.net

www.cityofgibraltar.net

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City Calendar of Meetings

October 2009

5	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
7	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
8	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
12	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
20	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
26	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall

November 2009

2	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
4	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
9	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
12	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
17	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
23	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall

December 2009

2	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
7	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
10	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
14	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
15	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
28	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall

January 2010

4	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
6	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
11	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
14	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
19	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
25	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall

Holiday Season Closings

**The City of Gibraltar wishes everyone to enjoy the Holiday's safely and responsibly.
City Hall and D.P.W. will be closed on the following days due to the Holidays:**

Wednesday, November 11, 2009 – Veterans Day
Thursday, November 26, 2009 – Thanksgiving Day
Friday, November 27, 2009 – Day after Thanksgiving
Thursday, December 24, 2009 – Christmas Eve
Friday, December 25, 2009 – Christmas Day
Thursday, December 31, 2009 – New Year's Eve
Friday, January 1, 2010 – New Year's Day

The Police Department remains open 24 hours a day for any emergency in the City.