

City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

February 2012 – May 2012

49th Edition

Gibraltar, Michigan 48173

www.cityofgibraltar.net



BUILDING DEPARTMENT TRANSFERRED TO CITY OF TRENTON

This past July, the duties of the Gibraltar Building Department were transferred to the City of Trenton. All building department permit requests and inspections are now handled by the City of Trenton's Engineering and Building Department. The City of Trenton Engineering and Building Department offices are located at 2800 Third Street, Trenton, MI 48183. Their phone number is (734) 675-8251.

SNOW EMERGENCY and UNLAWFUL TO PLACE SNOW IN THE STREET

It is unlawful to park a vehicle on a public street that is designated as having snow emergency conditions within the City of Gibraltar during a declared snow emergency. The vehicle parked on the street must be removed within four (4) hours after the snow emergency has been declared.

It is also unlawful to push, plow or place any snow into, onto or across any public street.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY April 7, 2012

The Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association are sponsoring Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at the Community Center. A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$4.00 per person in advance and \$5.00 per person at the door. Children under 3 are free. Tickets will be available beginning February 13, 2012 at the Community Center and City Hall. An Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting) will begin at 11:30 a.m. There will also be an Easter basket give away, face painting and a lot more fun. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

4th of JULY PARADE and FIREWORKS July 4, 2012

SPONSORED BY THE GIBRALTAR DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (DDA)

The City of Gibraltar will celebrate the birth of Our Nation on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 with a parade, activities for the kids and entertainment for the adults. The day will begin with a parade that leaves from City Hall and ends at the Community Center. Events, food and entertainment will occur all day at Hy Dahlka Park behind the Community Center, as well as inside the Community Center. The final event of the day will be the Fireworks Display behind Parsons Elementary School, starting at 10:02 p.m. This year's event is being sponsored by the Gibraltar Downtown Development Authority (DDA), as part of their promotion of the Gibraltar Downtown area. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend this wonderful community event.

- Parade starts at 10:00 A.M. Fireworks start at 10:02 p.m.
- Parade Route – Bayview to Davis; Davis to Munro; Munro to Stoeplet; Stoeplet to S. Gibraltar Road; S. Gibraltar Road to Marr; Marr to Navarre; Navarre to the Community Center at 29340 S. Gibraltar Road.
- Fireworks rain date will be Thursday, July 5, 2012

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Metro Shores Credit Union – Gibraltar Branch

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

Payment Drop Box And 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.

Construction Projects

ADA Sidewalk Ramps and Warning Mats

In 2011, the City completed a project to replace various sidewalk ramps to make them compliant with the Federal ADA laws. Ramps along Middle Gibraltar Road, South Gibraltar Road, and Stoefflet Street were replaced and new truncated warning mats were also installed. In 2012, ramps along Young and Navarre Streets will be replaced. This project has been funded by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Concrete Street Sectioning

The City will continue the Concrete Street Sectioning Program during the 2012 construction season. Although funding is limited, the City will be looking at various sections on Marr Street, Navarre Street, White Street, and Young Drive.

Joint & Crack Sealing

In 2012, the City will be working on a Joint and Crack Sealing project on some of the asphalt residential roads. This preventative maintenance project will include Middle Gibraltar Road, Adams Drive, Young Drive, Triangle Drive, and the bridges of Island Drive, Stoefflet Street, and South Gibraltar Road.

Community News and General Information

Winter Property Tax Bills

The last day to pay the 2011 Winter Property Tax Bills without penalty is February 14, 2012. After this date, a 4% penalty will be added. Taxes are payable at City Hall thru February 29, 2011. After this date, taxes are payable at Wayne County.

Board of Review

The Gibraltar Board of Review will meet to hear appeals for property assessments on Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and on Tuesday, March 27, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Please call City Hall at (734) 676-3900 to schedule an appointment. Visit the City of Gibraltar website, www.cityofgibraltar.net, for a link to check your property tax 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.

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City Clerk General Information

A Presidential Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. You MUST declare a Party preference to receive a ballot. 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 Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, February 25, 2012 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 Lehr, at (734) 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

You must be registered to vote at least 30 days prior to an election. The last day to register is January 30, 2012. You can register at City Hall or at any Secretary of State Office. You need to re-register only if you move or change your name. You can re-register to vote while at the Secretary of State Office or stop in at City Hall to re-register. When you change your address on your license, the Secretary of State will cancel your old voter registration.

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

Water Department General Information

Water Bill Reminder:

When you receive your quarterly water bill, please remember to check your water meter reading with the listed numbers of gallons on the bill. Your meter should read higher than the billing information. If there are any discrepancies, please notify the Water Department immediately at (734) 676-3952. Discrepancies are the responsibility of the property owner.

DPW General Information

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.

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Garbage and Yard Waste Collection Guidelines

Garbage and Yard Waste is picked up by Waste Management. The Waste Management Customer Service telephone number is 1-800-796-9696. All residential homes will be picked up on Tuesdays.

Holiday Collection Schedule

Memorial Day – Monday, May 28, 2012
COLLECTION DAY IS WEDNESDAY

Yard Waste Collection Schedule

2012 Re-Start Date – April 3, 2012

For items that will not be picked up by Waste Management, you may try to contact the Riverview Land Preserve at (734) 281-4262.

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. **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.**

Property owners should try to cut small branches and limbs into smaller lengths and place them in a yard waste bag. Brush and tree trimmings less than 2" in diameter and tied into bundles not exceeding 4 feet in length and/or 60 pounds in weight can be put out with the Yard Waste for Waste Management to pick up.

Police Department General Information

Animal Reminders:

The '2012' 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.

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.

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Senior Citizen Information

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.

Gibraltar Historical Museum

The City of Gibraltar is rich with history and it should be documented and kept here in the City for future generations. The Gibraltar Historical Museum is located on the 2nd floor of City Hall. Anyone interested in donating or loaning items, articles, pictures or anything pertinent to the history of Gibraltar should contact City Clerk Cindy Lehr at (734) 676-3900.

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 Friday, starting at 9:15 a.m. For more information please call (734) 782-1702.

Karate for Kids/Adults: Karate Classes are held on Monday at 6:00 p.m. for youth ages 4 to 11. Karate Classes for more experienced youth to adults are also offered on Monday and Thursday starting at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 306-6670. Classes are scheduled year around.

Gymnastics Gymnastic classes are being offered for boys and girls ages 3 to 12. Classes are held on Tuesday evenings at the Gibraltar Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Elements of Exercise: Elements of Exercise is offering Zumba Fitness at the Gibraltar City Hall. For more information, please call (888) 363-3635 or (734) 671-1466.

Yoga: Yoga Classes are being offered on Wednesday evenings at the Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 676-3900.

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.

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.

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Gibraltar Baseball Association:

The Gibraltar Baseball Association is looking for boys and girls between the ages of 8 years old to 12 years old who are interested in playing baseball this spring. Sign up dates are on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, February 18, 2012 at the Community Center. Please bring a birth certificate or proof of age. Registration fee is \$35.00 per child and \$15.00 for each additional child from the same family. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Gibraltar Baseball and Softball Travel Teams:

The Gibraltar Baseball and Softball Travel Teams are looking for boys who are 13 to 17 years of age, and girls who are 9 to 16 years of age, to play on travel teams that are part of the Downriver Baseball League. Sign-up sheets are at the front door of the Community Center from February to June. This sign-up sheet period will determine whether there are enough players for teams in each division. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Miss Gibraltar 2012 Contest:

The Gibraltar Rotary Club has Miss Gibraltar 2012 applications available at City Hall and the Community Center for young women between the ages of 15 and 20. The young women must be Gibraltar residents and must submit an essay entitled "Why I Like Living in Gibraltar". The last day to submit an application is Friday, May 18, 2012. Applications can be turned in at City Hall, the Community Center, or can be mailed to - Rotary Miss Gibraltar Contest, 29340 South Gibraltar Rd, Gibraltar, MI 48173. Cash prizes will be awarded to the winner and the first two runner-ups. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Upcoming Community Events

Muskrat Dinner: Saturday, March 24, 2012

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is sponsoring a Muskrat Dinner at the Community Center on Saturday, March 24, 2012. This event helps to raise funds for Rotary Projects in Gibraltar. Ticket information available after March 1st.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny: Saturday, April 7, 2012

The Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association are sponsoring Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at the Community Center. A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The cost is \$4.00 per person in advance and \$5.00 per person at the door. Children under 3 are free. Tickets will be available beginning February 13, 2012 at the Community Center and City Hall. An Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting) will begin at 11:30 a.m. There will also be an Easter basket give away, face painting and a lot more fun. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Gibraltar Firefighters Ball: Saturday April 14, 2012

The Gibraltar Firefighters Association is hosting their annual "Firemen's Ball" at the Community Center on Saturday, April 14, 2012. For ticket information, please call (734) 676-3167.

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Hit, Pitch & Run: **Wednesday, May 2, 2012**

The Hit, Pitch & Run Competition will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center Baseball on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The competition is for boys and girls ages 6 to 15. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Boat Safety Classes: **Wednesday, May 2, 2012** **Wednesday, May 9, 2012** **Wednesday, May 16, 2012** **Wednesday, May 23, 2012**

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary is offering Boat Safety Classes at the Community Center. The classes are held on Wednesdays in May at 6:00 p.m. These classes are designed to teach safe boating techniques, the buoy system, and Federal and State government boating regulations. There is a \$40.00 fee for class supplies, which is to be paid to the instructor on the first night of class. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Gibraltar Clean-up Day: **Saturday, May 5, 2012**

The annual Clean-Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 5, 2012 starting at 9:00 a.m. Litterbags will be provided at the Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Scrap Tire and Electronics Collection: **Saturday, May 12, 2012**

The Cities of Trenton, Flat Rock, Gibraltar, Riverview, Rockwood, Woodhaven, the Townships of Brownstown and Grosse Ile and the Wayne County Department of Public Services are sponsoring a Scrap Tire and Electronics Collection Day on Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Kennedy Ice Arena, 3101 West Road, Trenton, MI 48183. For more information, contact the Gibraltar DPW at (734) 676-3900.

Pledge of Allegiance Day: **Monday, May 14, 2012**

The 21st Annual "Pledge of Allegiance" ceremony will be held at Parsons Elementary School on Monday, May 14, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

City Wide Garage Sale Weekend: **Friday, May 18, 2012** **Saturday, May 19, 2012** **Sunday, May 20, 2012**

Every resident in Gibraltar considering hosting a garage sale this year is encouraged to schedule it for the weekend of May 18, May 19, and May 20, 2012. The City will prepare a master list of addresses and items available for sale at that particular address. Please stop by City Hall to have your address listed with a brief summary of the items that will be available at your sale. A flyer listing the locations will be available at City Hall on Friday, May 18, 2012, after 8:00 a.m.

Rotary Fishing Tournament: **Saturday, June 9, 2012**

The Gibraltar Rotary is sponsoring the 11th Annual Fishing Tournament and Fish Fry on Saturday, June 9, 2012. For more information, please call Bob Saunders at (734) 675-5182.

4th of July Parade and Fireworks: **Wednesday, July 4, 2012**

The City of Gibraltar will celebrate the birth of our Nation on Wednesday, July 4, 2012. There will be a parade, events, food, entertainment, and a Fireworks Display. The event is being sponsored by the Gibraltar Downtown Development Authority (DDA), as part of their promotion of the Gibraltar Downtown area.

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Flood Information

Flood and storm drain brochures for properties that may be in or near Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City of Gibraltar. Other flood hazard and watershed information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in our information center located in the foyer of the Municipal Complex.

You can also visit the City website, www.cityofgibraltar.net, for a link to the FEMA website. The link can be found on the Home Page under the Watershed heading.

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.semco.org.

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

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City of Gibraltar Contact Directory

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) 379-7050
14473 M. Gibraltar Road

Shumate Middle School – (734) 379-7600
30550 W. Jefferson

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

Gibraltar School Board Office
19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven
(734) 379-6350

City Phone Numbers:

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

City of Gibraltar Officials:

Mayor: James Gorris gorrisj@cityofgibraltar.net

City Council:

Brian Arp	arpb@cityofgibraltar.net
Jim Amos	jkamos@comcast.net
Patrick Valentine	pvalentine@cityofgibraltar.net
Bob Saunders	bub.saunders@comcast.net
Kenneth Boyea	rfdfireplug@hotmail.com
David Riser	driser@cityofgibraltar.net

City Clerk: Cynthia Lehr
clehr@cityofgibraltar.net

City Administrator: Mark A. Kibby
mkibby@cityofgibraltar.net

Police Chief: Ray Canterbury
rcanterbury@cityofgibraltar.net

Fire Chief: Jim VanCalbergh
jvancalbergh@cityofgibraltar.net

Treasurer: Scott Denison
sdenison@cityofgibraltar.net

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
meyerb@cityofgibraltar.net

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

Assessor: Holly Adams
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

Housing Rehab: Denise Sciacca
housingrehab@cityofgibraltar.net

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City Calendar of Meetings

<u>City Council</u>		<u>2nd & 4th Monday 6:30 p.m.</u>		<u>City Hall</u>
February 13	March 12	April 9	May 14	June 11
February 27	March 26	April 23	May 29	June 25

<u>Beautification Commission</u>		<u>1st Monday 7:00 p.m.</u>		<u>City Hall</u>
February 6	March 5	April 2	May 7	June 4

<u>Recreation Commission</u>		<u>1st Wednesday 6:30 p.m.</u>		<u>Comm. Center</u>
February 1	March 7	April 4	May 2	June 6

<u>Waterways Commission</u>		<u>2nd Thursday 5:30 p.m.</u>		<u>City Hall</u>
February 9	March 8	April 12	May 10	June 14

<u>Planning Commission/DDA</u>		<u>3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.</u>		<u>City Hall</u>
February 21	March 20	April 17	May 15	June 19

Spring Holiday 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:

Friday, April 6, 2012 – Good Friday
Monday, May 28, 2012 – Memorial Day
Wednesday, July 4, 2012 – Independence Day

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

CITY OF GIBRALTAR WEBSITE

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.

www.cityofgibraltar.net