

City of Gibraltar Community Newsletter

February 2009 – May 2009

41st Edition



Gibraltar, Michigan 48173

The City of Gibraltar Website is www.cityofgibraltar.net.
Additional City information is also available through Comcast Cable Channel 12.

SPRING HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Mayor, Council Members, Clerk, Treasurer and Employees wish 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 10, 2009 – Good Friday

Monday, May 25, 2009 – Memorial Day

Friday, July 3, 2009 – Independence Day

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

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

April 11, 2009

The Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association are sponsoring Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at the Community Center. A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$3.00 per person. Tickets will be available beginning February 20, 2009 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 until 12:30 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

BOARD OF REVIEW

The Gibraltar Board of Review will meet to hear appeals for property assessments on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. and on Thursday, March 19, 2009 between 3:00 p.m. and 9:00 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.

WINTER PROPERTY TAX BILLS

The last day to pay the 2008 Winter Property Tax Bills without penalty is February 16, 2009. After this date, a 4% penalty will be added. Taxes are payable at City Hall thru February 27, 2009. After this date, taxes are payable at Wayne County.

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.

Community News

CITY ASSESSOR

The City of Gibraltar has retained the services of a new City Assessor. Wayne County Appraisal Company will now serve the City. Assessor Holly Adams has been assigned to the City of Gibraltar. Holly will have office hours on Wednesday mornings from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This day and time are subject to change.

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.

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.

2008 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

During 2008, the City of Gibraltar replaced the water main under the canal and bridge to Horse Island. This helped significantly to reduce a water loss problem that the City had been encountering. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) replaced over 1,500 feet of water main on Middle Gibraltar Road, including another canal crossing.

The City and the DDA repaved Fryer Drive from Middle Gibraltar Road to Navarre Avenue. The City restarted the Concrete Street Sectioning Replacement Program, with the replacement of large sections of roadway on Kingsbridge Road and Windsor Drive. The DDA Crack Sealed Middle Gibraltar Road from West Jefferson to Adams Drive and portions of North Gibraltar Road and South Gibraltar Road within the DDA District.

2009 CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The City of Gibraltar received a \$60,000 grant from Wayne County Parks to construct a new Skate Park on the old Tennis Courts at the Community Center. The Skate Park should be completed by mid-May. This grant was received with the assistance of County Commissioner Boike and County Executive Ficano. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) will also be contributing to this project.

The City and the DDA will be installing a walking 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.

The City Administration will be working with the City Engineer on Water and Sewer infrastructure improvements that will replace water mains from the 1920's, beginning design stages for the replacement of Fryer Drive from Navarre Avenue to South Gibraltar Road and for Bayview Drive from Stoefflet Boulevard to Davis Avenue, and possibly the implementation of a Water Meter Replacement Program that will include remote readers.

PAYMENT DROP BOX

The City Hall Payment Drop Box is located in the traffic island across from the Flag Pole in front of City Hall. This Drop Box can be used to pay water bills, tax bills, and City invoices, as well as to leave correspondences for City Hall business.

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) 379-7600
30550 W. Jefferson

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

Gibraltar School Board Office
19370 Vreeland Rd., Woodhaven
(734) 692-4000

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 heyjimmy@comcast.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 ssross@cityofgibraltar.net

City Clerk: Cynthia Ward
cward@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: Earl Cancilliari
ecancilliari@cityofgibraltar.net

Finance Director: Barbara Meyer
bmeyer@cityofgibraltar.net

Assessor: Holly Adams
assessing@cityofgibraltar.net

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

Churches

St. Victor Catholic Church
14100 Navarre
(734) 675-0100

First Congregational
29885 Bayview
(734) 676-5266

First Baptist Church
29321 Fryer
(734) 676-8110

City Service Groups

Beautification Committee
(734) 675-9633

Gibraltar Recreation Commission
(734) 671-1466

Gibraltar Waterways Commission
Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
at the Gibraltar City Hall

Gibraltar Over 50 Club – (734) 692-3119

Gibraltar Firefighters Association
(734) 676-3167

Gibraltar Duck Hunters Association
(734) 674-4810

Gibraltar Police Officers Association
(734) 676-1022

Parsons PTO – (734) 676-9550

*** All City Service Groups are always looking for people who want to help by volunteering their time. If you wish to volunteer your time to serve on one of our City Commissions, feel free to submit an application at the City Hall and vacancies will be filled as openings occur.

Gibraltar Baseball Association
(734) 671-1466

Gibraltar Rotary Club – (734) 676-7774

Gibraltar Goodfellows – (734) 676-1022

Girl Scouts – (734) 775-4024
Cub Scout Pack # 1232 – (313) 218-8661
Boy Scout Troop # 1232 – (734) 676-3814
or (734) 671-1466

Scouting News

Gibraltar Neighborhood Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts have their own website: <http://www.geocities.com/nsu1gib>. For more information, please call (734) 775-4024.

Venturing Boy Scouts of America is a youth program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men who are 14 through 20 years of age. For more information, please call (734) 675-3087.

City Clerk General Information

The Gibraltar School District Election will be on Tuesday, May 5, 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 Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, May 2, 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

You must be registered to vote at least 30 days prior to an election. 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.

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.

Building/Construction Permits:

Please obtain a City Permit for work done on or at your home. Homeowners sometimes end up with concerns because they have paid several hundred dollars and they are not happy with the work that has been done. 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.**

Certified Property Surveys:

If you are considering putting in fences, garages, homes, swimming pools, sheds, seawalls, docks, etc., please be aware that you may need to obtain a certified property survey. Please plan ahead and have the survey done early. Mortgage surveys will not be accepted.

Home Inspections:

If you plan on selling your home, please be aware that you will need to have inspections conducted on your home by the Electrical Inspector. Homes may be required to be brought up to current code. Plan ahead to have your home inspected and allow time to have the necessary corrections made before you close on the sale of your home. For homeowners living on waterfront property with a berm, you also need to have a City Berm Inspection. Berm height needs to be at a certain elevation. Check with the Building Department for details.

Flood Zones ‘A’ or ‘B’:

If you live in Flood Zones ‘A’ or ‘B’, and you anticipate new construction or substantial improvement to your home, it is recommended that you apply early for a Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Permit. It can take 2 to 3 months for a permit to be issued by the MDEQ.

**GARBAGE AND RUBBISH & YARD WASTE COLLECTION GUIDELINES
FOR THE CITY OF GIBRALTAR**

These guidelines are for garbage and rubbish collection items that will be picked up by Waste Management, the City of Gibraltar’s current refuse contractor. **All residential homes will be picked up on Tuesdays.** Please note: garbage and rubbish collection day will be delayed by one day if a holiday falls on a Monday or a Tuesday. Garbage and rubbish 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 refuse 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.**

Yard Waste Collection Schedule

2009 Re-Start Date – April 7, 2009

Holiday Collection Schedule

Memorial Day – Monday, May 25, 2009

COLLECTION DAY IS WEDNESDAY

**GARBAGE/
RUBBISH**

Garbage means the animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, and cooking of food. Rubbish includes all combustible and non-combustible waste materials from households, including paper, boxes, baskets, wood, rags, old shoes, leather, cans, household furniture and appliances. It does not include industrial refuse or building refuse, nor does it include tree stumps, abandoned automobiles or vehicle tires. 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. Carpet must be tied in bundles not exceeding 4 foot lengths and/or 60 pounds in weight.

**BUILDING
REFUSE**

If waste is from demolition, construction, remodeling, and/or repairs, a small amount shall be accepted by the trash hauler as a normal amount of refuse from a household. Large quantities shall not be regarded as household or yard refuse and shall be removed by

the homeowner or contractor doing the work. The amount of household demolition picked up on any given day shall not exceed, in size, two (2) 35-gallon size containers nor weigh more than 60 pounds each.

CONTAINERS Approved containers shall be watertight, metal or plastic containers with handles and tight fitting covers of not more than 35-gallon capacity each or large plastic or paper sacks of approximately 30-gallon capacity designed for the purpose of accumulation of garbage and rubbish.

YARD WASTE Includes grass clippings, leaves, brush, and tree trimmings less than 2” in diameter and tyed 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 solid waste. 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 PICKUPS 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. If it is determined that your special pick-up qualifies for pick-up by Waste Management, the City will not pick this up. You will be required to prepare the items as stated under the above categories and store it for your next regular pick-up day. There is a minimum charge of \$50.00 for special pick ups, which will have to be paid prior to scheduling. There may also be some additional charges if it is determined there is more than one load.

RECYCLING Currently, only paper is being recycled. Paper items can be dropped off at the dumpsters provided in the Parsons Elementary School parking lot. The school is located at 14473 Middle Gibraltar Road at Fryer Drive.

NOTE: For items that will not be picked up by either Waste Management or the City, you may try to contact either the Riverview Land Preserve at (734) 281-4262 or Rockwood Landfill at (737) 379-4624.

If you have any questions, please contact the DPW office at (734) 676-3952, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

City General Information

Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

The Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday March 28, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Allen Park City Hall, 16850 Southfield, Allen Park, MI 48101. For more information, contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936.

Housing Rehabilitation Program:

The City of Gibraltar is pleased to offer the Housing Rehabilitation Program. This Program is designed to assist Gibraltar residents in a low to moderate income range that are in need of eligible home improvements. The Housing Rehabilitation Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (H.U.D.), under the direction of Wayne County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

We are currently establishing a waiting list. If you would like further information regarding qualification guidelines or would like to know more about the Program, please contact Denise Sciacca, Rehab Specialist, on Thursday afternoons at (734) 676-3900.

Minor Home Repair:

Assistance with minor home repairs is available to Senior Citizens and low-income residents who qualify. For more information, please call (734) 676-3952.

Teen Center:

The Teen Center, located in the basement of City Hall, 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 10 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. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Flood Information:

Information concerning the National Flood Insurance Program is available at City Hall.

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. Both the meter and the remote should read the same number. If not, notify the Water Department at (734) 676-3952.

American Flag Disposal:

The Gibraltar Community Center has a box for the disposal of old American Flags.

Used Eyeglasses & Hearing Aids:

There are drop boxes available at City Hall and the Gibraltar Community Center for eyeglasses and hearing aids that are no longer needed.

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.

Fermi Siren Test:

The Public Safety Department wishes to keep you aware of activities involving our City and the Fermi Nuclear Power Plant located in Monroe County. Our City is located within a 10-mile radius, to the north of the plant. Thus, Gibraltar falls within the Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). Wayne County Emergency Management Division is the agency in charge of all emergency planning for the communities in Wayne County that fall within the EPZ, (Gibraltar, Flat Rock, Rockwood, and center/south portions of Brownstown). On the last Wednesday of each month, between 9:45 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. the Fermi siren is tested. We also test our Emergency Siren located north of the Police Station at the same time. If there were an actual emergency at the Fermi Plant, you would need to tune your radio to either WJR (AM 760) or WWJ (AM 950), for information and/or instructions. Our City also uses the Emergency Siren for other emergencies as they occur.

“Check Theft ID”:

The Police Department is a partner with a Company called “Check Theft ID”. Their website is www.checktheftid.com. They list on their website stolen articles along with serial numbers.

Handgun / Rifle Gun Locks:

The Police Department has “free” gun locks available to all residents. There is no limit. You can pick up the gun locks at the Gibraltar Police Department anytime.

Crime Prevention Tips: Should you observe suspicious people or vehicles in your neighborhood, please call the Gibraltar Police Department and notify them of your observations. A description of people or vehicles is helpful.

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. If purchased before March 1, 2009, 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.

Fuel Storage: Please be aware that it is illegal to pump gasoline into any portable container that is not red in color. Portable containers over 50 gallons must also be red in color, and they must have HAZMAT markings/placards on them. Please place all portable containers on the ground before refueling.

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

Senior Citizen Information

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.

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.

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.

Senior Transportation:

The City has a second Bus that is wheel chair accessible that 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.

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.

Community Center Information/Programs

Sports Sampler for Kids:

Sports Sampler class for kids introduces a wide variety of sports, from gymnastics to soccer. Build your child's strength and confidence. Fun music and games throughout the session! Classes are held on Wednesday from 4:15 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for ages 4 to 8 and from 5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. for ages 9 to 12. For more information, please call Amanda Certified Personal Trainer (313) 770-6110.

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.

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.

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.

Family Swim:

The Gibraltar Parks and Recreation will be sponsoring senior and family swim hours at the Ken Curtis Pool at Carlson High School on Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The program will run through March 18, 2009. The cost is \$1.00 per person. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466. The family swim program is subject to cancellation if the school has an event scheduled.

Teen Center:

The Teen Center, located in the basement of City Hall, 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. The Teen Center is also available to rent for parties and special occasions. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

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 18, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Saturday, February 21, 2009 and Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Please bring a birth certificate or proof of age. Registration fee is \$30.00 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 18 years of age, and girls who are 9 to 17 years of age, to play on the travel teams. Sign up dates are every Saturday in March 2009, as well as April 4, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center. This sign up period will determine whether there are enough players for teams in each division. Applications are available at the Gibraltar Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Miss Gibraltar 2009 Contest:

The Gibraltar Rotary Club has Miss Gibraltar 2009 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 to live in Gibraltar". The last day to submit an application is Friday, May 22, 2009. 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.

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.

Gibraltar Historical Commission

Gibraltar Historical Museum

The Gibraltar Historical Museum is run by the Gibraltar Historical Commission. The museum is located on the Second Floor of City Hall and is temporarily open by appointment only. The Historical Commission's mission

is to identify, collect, preserve, promote and exhibit all historical items that support our heritage in the City of Gibraltar. The Historical Commission and Museum can be reached by email at gibraltarhs@sbcglobal.net.

Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers from Gibraltar are needed to help clip newspaper articles, obituaries, etc. (newspapers are provided) and can be done anywhere. This volunteer would be at museum to greet visitors and answer phones, perform basic filing, and miscellaneous activities. People are also needed to help with the special fundraisers throughout the year. Contact Debbie Davenport at (734) 675-4453 or (734) 676-3900 and leave a message.

Commission Meeting:

2nd Tuesday of the Month, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. City Hall, Second Floor.

Museum Membership:

Support our Community History! Join the Museum as a Member--\$5 individual and \$10 Family, \$25 Corporate/Group yearly fees. The membership will provide a newsletter every three months and invitations to exhibits before they open to the public. It also provides your sponsorship of the educational programs we will provide to the community free of charge. Please show your support and request a membership form today. Contact the museum at (734) 676-3900 and leave your name, address, and phone number and we will drop one off or mail it to your home.

Upcoming Community Events

Winter Carnival:

Saturday, February 28, 2009

The Gibraltar Recreation Commission will be sponsoring a Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 28, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is an **Indoor Event** with Moonwalks, Bounce-A-Lots, Games, Cake Walk, Face Painting, and Clowns. For more information, please call (734) 671-3707 or (734) 671-5978.

Gibraltar's Birthday

Celebration:

Saturday, March 14, 2008

Come help the City celebrate its birthday on Saturday, March 14, 2009 beginning at 1:00 p.m. The festivities will be held at the Gibraltar Community Center. More details will be available in the News Herald and on the City's website.

Muskrat Dinner:

Saturday, March 21, 2009

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is sponsoring a Muskrat Dinner at the Community Center on Saturday, March 21, 2009. This event helps to raise funds for Rotary Projects in Gibraltar. For ticket information, call (734) 586-3112.

Household Hazardous

Waste Collection:

Saturday, March 28, 2009

The Wayne County Department of Environment is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Allen Park City Hall, 16850 Southfield, Allen Park, MI 48101. For more information, contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936.

Seniors Night:
Saturday, March 28, 2009

The Recreation Commission is sponsoring an evening of entertainment for our senior residents at the Community Center on Saturday, March 28, 2009. Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. and the show starts at 6:00 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

**American Red Cross
Blood Drive:**
Friday, April 3, 2009

The American Red Cross will be having a Blood Drive on Friday, April 3, 2009 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Gibraltar Community Center. To schedule an appointment to donate blood, log on to www.givelife.org.

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny:
Saturday, April 11, 2009

The Recreation Commission and the Gibraltar Firefighters Association are sponsoring Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, April 11, 2009 at the Community Center. A Pancake Breakfast will be served from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$3.00 per person. Tickets will be available beginning February 20, 2009 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 until 12:30 p.m. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Gibraltar Firefighters Ball:
Saturday April 18, 2009

The Gibraltar Firefighters Association is hosting their annual "Firemen's Ball" at the Community Center on Saturday, April 18, 2009. For ticket information, please call (734) 676-3167.

Pledge of Allegiance Day:
Monday, May 4, 2009

The 18th Annual "Pledge of Allegiance" ceremony will be held at Parsons Elementary School on Monday, May 4, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. The school is located at Middle Gibraltar Road and Fryer Driver. The public is welcome to attend. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Election Day:
Tuesday, May 5, 2009

The Gibraltar School District Election will be on Tuesday, May 5, 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.

Boat Smart Classes:
Wednesday, May 6, 2009
Wednesday, May 13, 2009
Wednesday, May 20, 2009
Wednesday, May 27, 2009

The Grosse Ile Power Squadron is offering Boat Smart 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 \$30.00 fee for class supplies, which is to be paid to the instructor on the first night of class. For more information, please call (734) 379-5610.

Gibraltar Clean-up Day:
Saturday, May 9, 2009

The annual Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2009 starting at 9:00 a.m. Litterbags will be provided at the Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

City Wide Garage Sale Weekend:
Friday, May 15, 2009
Saturday, May 16, 2009
Sunday, May 17, 2009

Every resident in Gibraltar that may have a garage sale this year is encouraged to schedule it for the weekend of May 15, May 16, and May 17, 2009. 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. You can also call City Hall at (734) 676-3900 to provide this information. A flyer listing the locations will be available at the beginning of the week at City Hall.

Rotary Fishing Tournament:
Saturday, June 14, 2009

The Gibraltar Rotary is sponsoring the 8th Annual Fishing Tournament and Fish Fry on Saturday, June 14, 2009. For more information, please call Bob Saunders at (734) 675-5182.

4th of July Parade and Fireworks:
Saturday, July 4, 2009

The City of Gibraltar will celebrate the birth of our Nation on Saturday, July 4, 2009 with a parade, activities for the kids and entertainment for the adults. The day will begin with a parade starting at 10:00 a.m. 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 dusk. 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.

Rotary Golf Outing:
Saturday, July 11, 2009

The Gibraltar Rotary is sponsoring their annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 11, 2009. For more information, please call Jim Duke at (734) 676-2983.

Downriver Senior Olympics:
Monday, August 3, 2009 -
Friday, August 7, 2009

The Downriver Senior Olympics will be coming to Gibraltar from Monday, August 3, 2009 through Friday, August 7, 2009. Sign up sheets will be available towards the end of April. This is the first time that the event will be held in Gibraltar. Sign up and show all of Downriver that Gibraltar Seniors will be the best of all! For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

Gibraltar Rotary Club

Gibraltar Rotary Club:

The Gibraltar Rotary Club meets every Wednesday morning at the Mirage Restaurant at 7:30 a.m. Dues are \$30.00 per month, which helps to cover the cost of breakfast. Membership is open to anyone wishing to assist with service projects in support of our community. For more information, please call (734) 676-7774.

Scholarships:

The Gibraltar Rotary Club is offering educational scholarships to Gibraltar residents. Forms are available at City Hall and the Community Center. Eligible students must be graduating in 2009, carry a 3.00 grade point average, and be entering a university, college, or trade school. The deadline to submit the forms is April 24, 2009, and they can be returned to City Hall or the Community Center. For more information, please call (734) 671-1466.

News You Can Use

City of Gibraltar Snow Emergency Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 333

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 19, STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GIBRALTAR, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN, TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW ARTICLE I(A), SNOW REMOVAL AND PUBLIC PARKING, AND THE CODIFICATION OF NEW SECTIONS 19.18 THROUGH 19.28(6), AS FOLLOWS:

RECITATIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Gibraltar is a Michigan Home Rule City pursuant to the provisions of MCL 117.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized to adopt, continue, amend, and repeal the City Ordinances pursuant to the provisions of MCL 117.3(k); and

WHEREAS, the City must provide for the public peace and health and for the safety and protection of its citizens pursuant to MCL 117.3(j); and

WHEREAS, the City does hereby determine the parking of motor vehicles on city streets during snow emergency poses an immediate and serious danger to the residents of the City of Gibraltar; impedes the ability of the city to respond timely to emergency and the providing of emergency services; and that the public health, safety and welfare are best served by the adoption of the following:

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF GIBRALTAR ORDAINS:

Chapter 19, Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places of the Gibraltar Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to include the following new Article:

ARTICLE I(A). SNOW REMOVAL AND PUBLIC PARKING

Division 1. Snow Emergency Parking Restrictions

Section 19.18. Declaration of snow emergency.

- a. The Mayor or the City Administrator, in consultation with the Chief of Police and the Chief of Fire, shall have the authority to declare a snow emergency for the City of Gibraltar.
- b. Whenever the Mayor or the City Administrator determines on the basis of falling snow, sleet, or freezing rain, or on the basis of a forecast by the United States Weather Bureau, or other weather service, and after consulting as indicated above, that weather conditions will make it necessary that motor vehicle traffic be expedited and that parking on city streets be prohibited or restricted to snow plowing and other purposes, the Mayor or City Administrator shall put into effect a parking prohibition on parts of or all city streets by declaring it in a manner prescribed in this section.
- c. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection b. of this subsection, a parking prohibition shall automatically go into effect on any street on which there has been an accumulation of snow and ice of four (4") inches or more for any one hour or more.

Section 19.19. Notice of snow emergency.

- a. The Mayor or City Administrator, upon declaring a Snow Emergency shall give notice of the declaration of a snow emergency and shall cause a public announcement to be made of parking prohibitions and restrictions and the areas designated and shall cause such announcements to be made by announcements or advertisement over radio, television or the City cable system and by any other means reasonably calculated to provide sufficient notice of such declaration..
- b. The Mayor or City Administrator shall cause a Declaration of Snow Emergency and a Notice of the Parking Prohibition and other Restrictions to be drafted and shall cause the same to be posted within the City Hall. The Declaration and Notice shall remain posted for the duration of the Snow Emergency.

Section 19.20. Prohibited parking during snow emergency.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle on any street or roadway, or any portion thereof within the area(s) designated as having snow emergency conditions within the City during a declared snow emergency. A person shall remove any vehicle parked on the street within four (4) hours after the snow emergency is declared. The registered owner of the vehicle shall be responsible for the cost of the removal of the vehicle and for all purposes under this ordinance, the owner of the vehicle shall be presumed to have parked the vehicle.

Section 19.21. Exceptions to Prohibited Parking.

- a. A vehicle that has attached to it a hardship permit or a temporary permit from the Gibraltar Police Department shall be exempt from the prohibited parking during a snow emergency.
- b. The hardship permit or temporary permit shall be attached to the left corner of the rear window of the vehicle.

Section 19.22. Application for hardship permit.

An application for a hardship permit shall be filed with the Gibraltar Police Department upon a form provided for such purposes and approved by the Chief of Police. The application shall contain an affidavit, signed by the applicant, indicating one of the following:

- (1) The residence does not have off-street parking;
- (2) The off-street parking is inadequate; or
- (3) The applicant's physical condition would make compliance with the parking restrictions a hardship.

Section 19.23. Application for temporary permit.

Upon application, the Police Department may issue a temporary snow emergency parking permit for a vehicle. The permit shall be valid for three (3) days. No more than one (1) temporary permit shall be issued for the same vehicle during the period of December 1 to March 1.

Section 19.24. Appeal denial of hardship permit.

A person denied a hardship permit shall have the right to appeal the denial to the Gibraltar City Council. The Gibraltar City Council shall allow the applicant a full hearing on the denial.

Section 19.25. Other Exemptions.

In all sections of the city, an owner of a motor vehicle who resides at premises which do not have a driveway shall be exempted from the requirement to move the motor vehicle in the event of a snow emergency; however, residents in the area are required to park their vehicles as close to the curb as possible to make room for snow plows and other emergency vehicles. Owners of exempt vehicles will be issued identifying stickers which shall be displayed in the rear window of the vehicle as indicated. Motor vehicles with handicapped stickers shall also be exempt from the provisions of this section. In addition, vehicles parked on the streets or portions of streets specifically excepted from the Mayor or City Administrator's declaration of emergency shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

Section 19.26. Enforcement.

Members of the Police Department are hereby authorized to remove or cause the removal and/or impounding any vehicle that obstructs or otherwise impedes traffic on any street in the city. Such vehicle may be removed and conveyed by or under the direction of a member of the police department by means of towing to a vehicle impound lot. The police chief is authorized to engage the services of any private operator of towing contractor to remove vehicles under the direction of a member of the police department where the same are found in violation of traffic ordinances and regulations of the city. Before the owner or person in charge of the vehicle can obtain the return of the vehicle, the person must provide to the police department copies of the vehicle registration and proof of insurance and pay all fees and costs associated with the removal and storage of the vehicle. In addition, whenever a member of the police department has reasonable cause to believe that there has been a violation of this ordinance, the officer shall have the authority to issue an appearance ticket upon the alleged violator upon the form subscribed in state law.

Section 19.27. Violation Deemed Civil Infraction.

Any person who violates any provisions of this article shall be deemed to have committed a civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than One Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$100.00), plus costs assessed by the court.

Division 2. Snow Removal Regulations.

Section 20-28. Removal from sidewalks required.

All persons removing snow from the paved areas of nonresidential property shall:

- a. Not pile snow in a manner as to restrict the view of any public street or roadway by the operator of any vehicle on the public street or roadway;
- b. Not pile snow at a height of more than three (3) feet within ten (10) feet of any public street or roadway;
- c. Not place, push or remove the snow to adjoining or other properties without the property owner's permission;
- d. Not push or plow any snow across any public street;

- e. Not place any removed snow onto any public property or right-of-way, including public sidewalk and the area between the street curb and the public sidewalk.

Section 19.28(1). Removal Standards for Residential Property.

All persons removing snow from the paved areas of residential property shall:

- a. Not pile snow in a manner as to restrict the view of any public street or roadway by the operator of any vehicle on the public street or roadway;
- b. Not pile snow at a height of more than three (3) feet within ten (10) feet of any public street or roadway; and
- c. Not push, plow or place any snow into, onto or across any public street.

Section 19.28(2). License Required.

Licensing of snow removal businesses shall be pursuant to Chapter 14, Article 14.1 of the Gibraltar Code of Ordinances.

Section 19.28(3). Other Parking and Snow Removal Ordinances Continue.

Nothing contained in this article shall be construed to permit parking at any other time or place where it is prohibited by any other provision of law, nor shall anything in this Article repeal any pre-existing law in the City of Gibraltar, but shall supplement the same. To the extent that the provisions of this article are in conflict with existing regulations during the any period of snow emergency this article shall prevail.

Section 19.28(4). Savings Clause.

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under any act or ordinance hereby repealed pursuant to this Ordinance, nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Ordinance.

Section 19.28(5). Severability.

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 19.28(6). Adoption.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the City Council of the City of Gibraltar, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a regular meeting, called and held on the 8th day of December, 2008 and ordered to be given publication in a manner prescribed by law.

City Calendar of Meetings

February 2009

2	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
4	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
9	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
11	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
24	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 p.m.	City Hall

March 2009

2	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
4	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
9	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
11	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
31	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 p.m.	City Hall

April 2009

1	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
6	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
8	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
13	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
21	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
27	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
28	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 p.m.	City Hall

May 2009

4	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
6	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
11	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
13	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
19	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
26	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
26	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 p.m.	City Hall

June 2009

1	Beautification Commission	7:00 p.m.	City Hall
3	Recreation Commission	7:00 p.m.	Community Center
8	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
10	Waterways Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
16	Planning Commission/DDA	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
22	City Council	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
30	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:00 p.m.	City Hall