



# GIBRALTAR

## Breeze

31st of March, 2025

*Catch the latest in Gibraltar: Fish Creek, Juddville, Maple Grove...  
with our dynamic newsletter covering all the Town's highlights*



**Fireworks at Winterfest 2025.**

**For more photos of Winterfest, see inside.**

**Photo credit: Amy Wilde**

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## **Town of Gibraltar Town Board**

### **Chairman\*\***

Steve Sohns  
(920)839-1247

### **Supervisor\*\***

Tom Birmingham  
(920) 421-0710

### **Supervisor\*\***

Vinni Chomeau  
(920)421-1687

### **Supervisor**

Jayson Merkel  
(920) 421-4300

### **Supervisor**

John Selenica  
(630) 777-4621

*\*\* Town Incumbents on the ballot this spring*

### **Town Office**

**(920) 868-1714**

### **Town Administrator**

Travis Thyssen  
tthyssen@gibraltarwi.gov

### **Town Treasurer**

Theresa Cain-Bieri  
treasurer@gibraltarwi.gov

### **Town Clerk**

Laura Reetz  
clerk@gibraltarwi.gov

## **Emergency Services**

### **Fire Chief**

Andy Bertges  
Phone: (920) 421-3456  
Email: [abertges@gibraltarwi](mailto:abertges@gibraltarwi)

### **Police Chief**

Ryan Roesch  
Phone: (920) 868-1714  
Email: [rroesch@gibraltarwi](mailto:rroesch@gibraltarwi)

# Town Chair Report

Dear Residents, Visitors and Guests:

As I write this, we had a doozie of an ice storm, but dare I say, welcome to spring in the Town of Gibraltar! Hopefully, it won't be too long before the birds and the flower buds brighten up our town.

Through the winter we continue to prepare for the coming summer season and all the town projects that need to be followed through on. With the additional acreage added to Fish Creek park, a section of the multi-modal trail was completed with grant money the Town received, and additional grants are being written to continue the trail to Peninsula Park and onward to Ephraim.

Spring brings the annual road review, where we will see how our roads weathered the frost, snow, and traffic. We will need to decide what roads need the most attention and how much we can get done with the road budget we have. Longevity of our roads also relies on good ditches for drainage and managed tree canopies, so roads get sunlight. If you see road concerns, now is the time to let us know before our review.

In April we expect to see the cottages on the waterfront property removed and expect to decide the future for the house on Main Street. From there, plans to improve the park and parking lot will start taking shape.

The future street scape for the "old downtown" will also be back for discussions in the months to come which will shape how we want that area to look in the future. Storm sewer work also needs to be done; how it meshes with the streets and properties must be decided.

Lastly, I will mention Broadband. We expect installation to begin this month with the project being completed in the next 2 years. Through a phased approach, it is intended to hook up the underserved areas of our town first and work its way to areas that have marginal service. Lots going on in our little Town!

-Chairman, Steve Sohns

## Catch The "Breeze" Via Email

You can catch the "Breeze" at the end of the month in **March, June, September and December.**

Newsletters can always be found online.

**Sign up to receive them here: [Newsletters](#)**

by checking the "newsletter" box,

or go to our newsletters page and download

**Find us on facebook: [Town of Gibraltar](#)**



## New Fire Truck

See page 7 for more photos and information

## Town of Gibraltar's Newly Formed Ad Hoc Finance Committee

Formed last summer, with the first meeting held in August, the following comprise the newly formed finance committee:

- Steve Sohns
- Angela Sherman
- John Selenica

Also sitting in on the meetings are Town Treasurer, Theresa Cain-Bieri, and Town Administrator, Travis Thyssen

## Police and Fire Commission Appoints New Members

The following new members were appointed to the newly formed Police and Fire Commission in February 2025:

- Gregory Cote, Chairman
- Mitch Larson
- Bill Schaefer

*Town of Gibraltar thanks them for their service and wishes them the best of luck in their new positions*







# Plan Commission's Annual Goals in 2025 To Implement 2043 Comprehensive Plan

*Plan Commission's Goals as approved by the Town Board follow.  
Progress toward these goals will be reported on the Town's Facebook page.  
Please follow Town of Gibraltar on Facebook for updates.*

## **Goal 1.5: The Town's Dark Skies are Preserved & Sustained for All Current Residents, Visitors, & Future Generations**

- Action 1.5a: Work to Minimize Light Pollution on Town Properties
- Action 1.5b: Provide Information to All Residents on the Problem of Light Trespass and the need to Eliminate Light Pollution on Private Property.

## **Goal 1.7: Support and Sustain Generational Family Farm Agricultural Heritage.**

- Action 1.7e: Work with Local Farmers and Interested Citizens to Seek Ways to Preserve Large Tracts of Farmland for Future Agricultural Use.

## **Goal 2.1: The Historical Character of Fish Creek, Juddville and Maple Grove and Outlying Areas are Preserved.**

- Work with Gibraltar Historical Association, Owners of Historical Buildings, and other Interested Citizens to Preserve the Historical Character of the Town. Action 2.1b
- Design Standards – Research, Discuss, Draft & Make a Recommendation. Action 2.1b

## **Goal 4.1: The Town Supports a Diverse Mix of Year-round and Seasonal Businesses**

- Action 4.2e: Work with Door County Economic Development Corporation to Seek Ways to Diversify the Town's Economy.
- Action 4.1i: Work with Gibraltar High School to Expand Student Job Shadow Program to Include Other Town Positions

## **Goal 5.1: Develop/Maintain a Safe and Efficient Transportation System that Reflects the Town's Small Town Historical and Rural Character**

- Action 5.1j: Make Pedestrian Cross Walks More Visible to Drivers

## **Goal 5.2: The Town's Public Parking Lot will Serve as a Hub of Transportation**

- Shuttle & Wayfinding

## **Goal 9.1: Communicate with Town Residents & Encourage their Engagement in Town Activities.**

- Action 9.1b: Contribute News Articles/Informational Updates to Town Newsletter, & Town Webpage.
- Action 9.1c: Work to Identify Volunteer Opportunities and Communicate Them to the Residents

## **Implement and Manage the Fish Creek Watershed Plan**

### 1. Protect & Improve Fish & Wildlife Habitat, Goal 2

- Repurposing Dead Ash Trees as Fish/Wildlife Habitat and/or Removal of Dead Ash Trees and Reforestation. Outcomes 2.3, 2.4, & 2.5
- Annual participation in the Shedd Aquarium's Sucker Migration Research Program: Better Understand Fish Reproduction. Outcome 2.8
- Remove Barrier to Fish at the Redmann Dam: Remove part of the dam according to The Town's Design by Miller Engineers & Scientists. Outcome 2.2 (Awaiting purchase of Redmann Property)
- Remove Barrier to Fish at Meander Crossing: Raise & Replace Boardwalk Crossing Outcome 2.2

### 2. A Multi-Generational Partnership will Support a Healthy Fish Creek, Goal 3

- Annually Work with Gibraltar Schools (FOG) to Plan/Carry Out 5th Grade Field Trip To FC Park, Outcome 3.4



## Sewer Install: Phase II

Phase II sewer install, which should allow 100 more hookups and will remove some aging systems, is underway. Traffic on Highway 42 may be impacted until May

## Island View Intersection

Island View intersection is going to be repaired this spring, Town is currently in the bidding process. The final product will correct vehicle entrance to Island View and its drainage issues.

## Pedestrian Crosswalks

Town of Gibraltar Plan Commission is working on pedestrian crossing improvements which th Town Board approved at its February meeting

## Harbor Commission Improvements

Harbor Commission is gearing up for 2025 season by installing a new epoxy floor in the dock house and a camera system so people can check out the water, weather, and conditions.

## Broadband UPDATE

*By: Dennis Steigenberger, Internet Ad Hoc Committee Chairperson*

The Town of Gibraltar Internet Ad Hoc Committee continues to hold monthly meetings with Bertram Communication representatives. Bertram Communications has an agreement with Town of Gibraltar to install high speed, fiber optic cable to all improved parcels in the Town.

Over these past months, the Committee has been requesting that Bertram provide an updated installation time frame. Bertram has produced an installation drawing that reflects ten (10) phases. The work will begin in the eastern part of the Town and move to the west.

The first phases will focus on the rural areas which are described as the "underserved" areas in the Town. The last phases generally include the downtown area and portions of Cottage Row.

Work is anticipated to begin in late March with the first 3 - 4 phases available for activation in the fall of 2025. Work will continue in 2026, with total completion estimated to be in early 2027.

When the phase drawing and schedule are finalized, they will be available at the Town office, on the website and on the Town of Gibraltar facebook page. **Please see Construction Phase Map & Scheduled on Page 11**

### **IMPORTANT!!!**

**Town of Gibraltar property owners can still sign up to have fiber installed on their property.**

Visit <https://gobtram.com/town-of-gibraltar-sign-up-landing-page/>

or contact Bertram Communications at (920)351-1023



## Please take note:

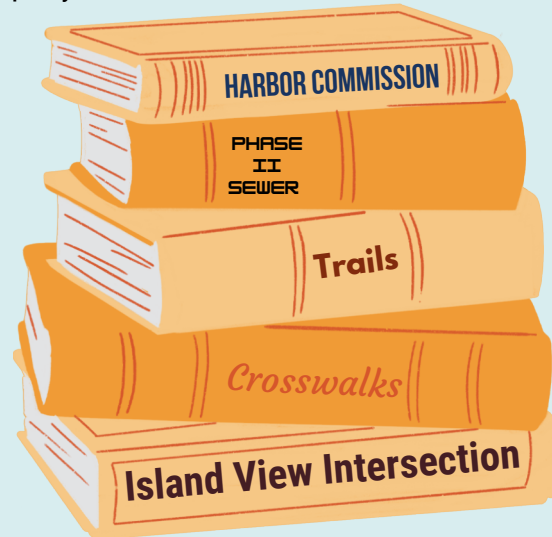
**Town Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday: 10:00am - 3:00pm AND Friday 8:00am - Noon

**Dock Hours:** for current hours click: [fishcreektowndock.com](http://fishcreektowndock.com)

**Airport Information** click: <https://gibraltarwi.gov/ephraim-gibraltar-airport/>

**Visit Fish Creek** (visitors center) Sat & Sun: 10am - 3pm / May 22 - Labor Day: Daily 10am - 4pm <https://visitfishcreek.com/>

**Recycling:** 1st Saturday of the month - 9:00am - Noon / for more info click: [Recycling](#)





# Exciting Developments at Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport

Big things are happening at the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport! After extensive planning, work is finally set to begin on developing the property immediately south of the airport entrance for the construction of up to five new hangars. The first step in this process—lot preparation—will be completed by March 31st. If all goes according to plan, additional preparatory work should be completed by mid-summer, allowing construction on the hangars to commence shortly thereafter.

In addition to these infrastructure improvements, the Friends of the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport are proud to continue our tradition of hosting the annual EAA Young Eagles Event. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 7th! This exciting event offers free flights and general aviation information for youth aged 8-17. It's a fantastic opportunity to inspire the next generation of pilots and aviation enthusiasts.

The Young Eagles Event has also grown to include participation from our local fire, rescue, and police departments, providing a broader educational experience for attendees. To top it off, Alexander's Restaurant will generously provide a free lunch for all participants and guests.

Looking ahead, we have been discussing hosting a Neighbors and Friends Day sometime this summer. This event will be open to anyone interested in learning more about our airport, its rich history, and the valuable services it provides. Stay tuned for more details!

We are excited about these upcoming developments and events, and the community is invited to stay engaged as the airport is expanded and enhanced.

See you at the airfield!

## Plan Commission Goals continued from page 2

### Implement and Manage Green Tier Legacy Community Membership

#### 1. Actions Required by Green Tier

- Attend Green Tier's Quarterly Statewide Meetings in Person/Zoom
- Complete Town's GT Annual Report
- Post on Town Website (Sustainability Tab)

#### 2. Green Tier Goals

- Expand Green Tier Legacy Community Page on the Town Website
- Manage the Green Tier Ad Hoc Committee According to its Guidelines
- Consider Green Tier Ad Hoc Committee 2025 Recommendations.

### Goals Awaiting Staff Initiation

#### 1. Goal 3.1: The Housing Needs That Have Been Identified by Door County Economic Development Corporation in Support of Seasonal & Year-round Workers, Young Families, & the Very Elderly, are Met with a Sufficient Supply of Safe, Quality, and Attainable, Non Discriminatory Housing both Rental and Private Ownership. 2043 Comprehensive Plan

- Actions 3.1a-g

#### 2. Work with Door County on Zoning

### Possible Future Involvement in Town Projects

- Waterfront Property at 4148 Main St.
- Fish Creek Park Expansion (In addition to implementation of the Fish Creek Watershed Plan)
- Town Center Sidewalks/Storm Drains

Click [HERE](#) for Town of Gibraltar's facebook page.

Find news of the Plan Commission there.





# Town of Gibraltar Welcomes New State-of-the-Art Fire Truck

The Town of Gibraltar Fire Department has officially welcomed a cutting-edge addition to its fleet—a custom-built Pierce Enforcer Rescue Pumper designed to enhance emergency response capabilities for both fire suppression and vehicle extrication incidents.

Manufactured by Pierce Manufacturing Company, this versatile truck is engineered to serve as a rescue pumper, meaning it carries specialized rescue equipment for motor vehicle accidents while also being fully equipped to fight fires. With a 1,500-gallon-per-minute (gpm) pump and a 750-gallon water tank, the new apparatus ensures that firefighters have the resources they need to tackle emergencies efficiently.

One of the standout features of the truck is its EZ Trac hydraulic front-wheel drive system. This innovative technology provides four-wheel-drive capability without altering the vehicle's height, allowing for superior traction in challenging weather and terrain conditions—an essential asset for responding to emergencies across Gibraltar's diverse landscapes.

The addition of this state-of-the-art fire truck represents a significant investment in the safety and well-being of the Gibraltar community. With enhanced firefighting power, advanced rescue capabilities, and improved maneuverability, the Pierce Enforcer will serve as a reliable and essential tool in protecting residents and visitors for years to come.

The Town of Gibraltar Fire Department extends its gratitude to the town and its supporters for making this acquisition possible. Residents can rest assured that their local firefighters are now better equipped than ever to respond swiftly and effectively to emergencies.

For more information about the fire department's operations and equipment, stay tuned to future updates or stop by the station to see the new engine in person!





# Discover the Majestic Dolostone Bluffs at Peninsula State Park

Nestled within the scenic landscapes of Wisconsin, Peninsula State Park is home to breathtaking dolostone bluffs that rise 150 feet above the lake, offering stunning panoramic views. But what exactly are these striking geological formations, and how do they come to be?

## What is Dolostone?

Dolostone is a type of sedimentary rock primarily composed of dolomite, a mineral rich in calcium and magnesium. While similar to limestone, dolostone contains a higher concentration of these elements, making it more resistant to erosion. This durability allows dolostone to form dramatic cliffs and landscapes over time. It is commonly found in sedimentary basins worldwide and varies in color, appearing in shades of white, gray, light brown, red, green, or black.

## How Do Dolostone Bluffs Form?

The formation of dolostone bluffs is a fascinating geological process. Rivers and natural erosion wear away softer sandstone beneath the dolostone, causing sections of sandstone to collapse. As the underlying rock gives way, the more resistant dolostone above breaks along natural vertical joints, creating the steep, towering cliffs we see today.

## Where Can You Find Dolostone Bluffs?

While Peninsula State Park is a prime example of this geological phenomenon, dolostone bluffs can be found in several other locations, including:

- **Grand Canyon:** The Frenchman Mountain Dolostone forms dramatic vertical cliffs within this iconic landmark.
- **Driftless Area:** In this region, dolostone bluffs have developed through erosion, with broken pieces accumulating on slopes below.

For nature lovers, hikers, and geology enthusiasts, the dolostone bluffs of Peninsula State Park offer an awe-inspiring glimpse into the forces that shape our planet. Whether you're admiring their sheer beauty or pondering their ancient origins, these bluffs are a must-see destination for anyone exploring Wisconsin's natural wonders.



**FUN FACT:**  
Dolostone Bluffs are also found in the Grand Canyon and the Driftless Area

*For more information on Dolostone Bluffs or Peninsula State Park, Please click the following link:*  
[Peninsula State Park](#)

Photo Credit: DNR

# Gibraltar Historical Association

## Calendar of Events

### At Noble Square



## Living History Events

**May 25th**

**10:00-3:00**

*Spinning Demonstrations & Alpaca Shearing*

**June 21st**

**10:00-3:00**

*Spinners & Sock Machine Demonstrations*

## Concerts 3:00 - 5:00pm

*unless otherwise listed*

**June 24** - Collin & Friends

**July 8** - Doc Heidi & Friends: *Folksongs and History of NST*

**July 22** - Birch Creek Ambassadors: *Student Jazz Combo*

**July 29** - Cherry & Jerry: *Old Fashion Ragtime and  
150th Celebration of the Noble House*

**August 5** - Birch Creek Ambassadors: *Student Jazz Combo*

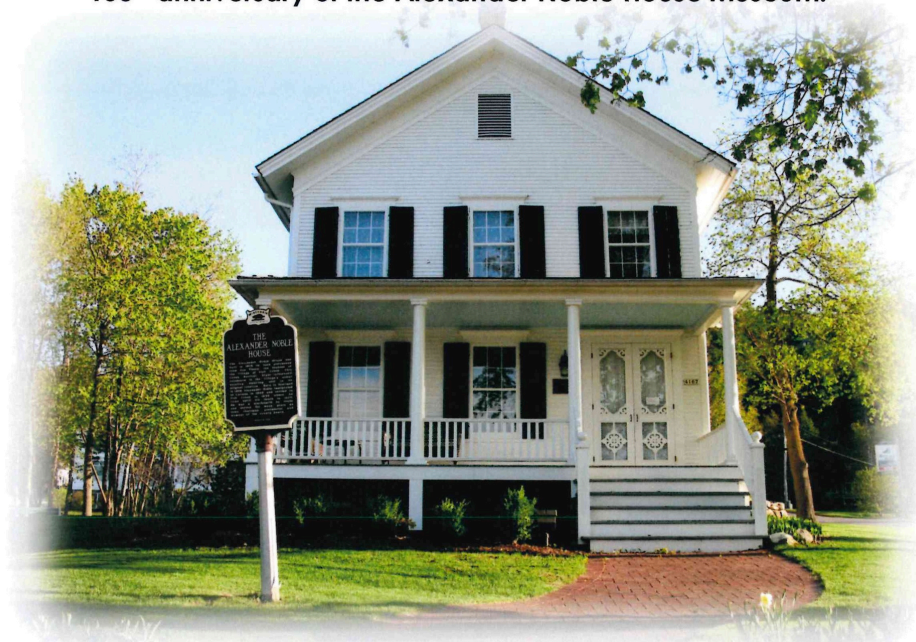
**5:00-7:00pm**

*Jazz Festival Performance*

**August 19** - Cherry Tones: *Vintage Rock and Roll*

**August 26** - Spike & April: *Acoustic Duo, Jazz to Blues*

**Embark on a journey across centuries to celebrate the  
150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alexander Noble House Museum.**



**Join us for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration during the 2025 season and discover the past, with a special focus on preservation, the Noble family's footprints in time, and celebrations of our past.**

**Opening Mid June – Mid October, Tuesdays-Sunday 10:00-3:00**



# Update from Parks & Lands

As we eagerly anticipate another year of park projects, we are committed to collaborating with our community to enhance our parks.

We invite you to our monthly meetings held on the third Tuesday of the month at 8:00 a.m. Our committee, comprising five dedicated volunteers, is focused on making our green spaces a place of comfort and enjoyment for all.

In 2025, we are thrilled about the Waterfront property becoming a more usable space. With some clean-up measures and the addition of more green space, you will soon have another beautiful spot from which to view the water and relax.

We are also excited about the additional 115 acres added to our Fish Creek Park; the main corridor trail will allow hikers to walk from the lower trails to the top of the bluff. These improvements promise a brighter future for our park system, and we cannot wait for you to enjoy them.

Our work on the CORP (Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) is underway, and we are eager to hear your thoughts. In May, we will be sending out a survey to gather your valuable input, which will play a crucial role in shaping our future projects.

*Until our paths cross again, I wish you all a Happy Spring!*

*Laurie Buske, Chairperson: Parks & Lands*



Above photos courtesy of  
**Linda Merline,**  
**Plan Commission Chairperson,**  
**Town of Gibraltar**

## Town of Gibraltar Wants Your Input!!!

### Exciting News!!!

The Town of Gibraltar is in the process of developing a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP), which will serve as a roadmap for improving and expanding recreational opportunities in our community. This plan is the first step in shaping the future of our parks and outdoor spaces, and we need your feedback!

We invite you to share your thoughts by completing a brief survey.

Simply scan the QR code that best applies to you and take a few minutes to help guide the future of our recreational areas.

***Thank you in advance for your valuable input!***

#### Outdoor Recreation Plan Visitor Survey



<https://arcg.is/0HXGuq0>

#### Outdoor Recreation Plan Resident/Tax Payer Survey



<https://arcg.is/0bmaLy1>





- PHASE 0
- PHASE 1
- PHASE 1B
- PHASE 2
- PHASE 3
- PHASE 4
- PHASE 5
- PHASE 6
- PHASE 7
- PHASE 8
- PHASE 9
- GIBRALTAR BOUNDARY

0 5,000 10,000 20,000 Feet

Engineered by:  
**FIVESTAR ENERGY SERVICES**  
 Five Star Energy Services, LLC  
 1581 E Racine Ave  
 Waukeasha, WI 53186  
 On behalf of:  
**BERTRAM INTERNET**  
 Bertram Communications  
 300 Industrial Drive  
 Random Lake, WI 53075

**For more information on  
 Broadband Update, please  
 see page 5**

**Project Name: Gibraltar Timeline - Bertram Fiber**

Project Start Date: Mar/2025

#	Task Title	Start	End	Status	% Done	2025		2025		2025		2025		2026		2026		2026		2026		2027		2027					
						Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q1		Q2					
						Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
4	Phase 1-2																												
5	Construction	Mar/2025	Aug/2025																										
6	Drops/Activation of fiber	Aug/2025	Oct/2025																										
7	Phase 0 & 1B (Coming From Baileys)																												
8	Construction	Mar/2025	Aug/2025																										
9	Drops/Activation of fiber	Aug/2025	Oct/2025																										
10	Phase 3-4																												
11	Construction	Jun/2025	Oct/2025																										
12	Drops/Activation of fiber	Nov/2025	Dec/2025																										
13	Phase 5-6																												
14	Construction	Jan/2026	Apr/2026																										
15	Drops/Activation of fiber	Apr/2026	Jun/2026																										
16	Phase 7																												
17	Construction	May/2026	Jul/2026																										
18	Drops/Activation of fiber	Jul/2026	Aug/2026																										
19	Phase 8-9																												
20	Construction	Nov/2026	May/2027																										
21	Drops/Activation of fiber	Jan/2027	Jun/2027																										
22	Chambers Island																												
	Bringing Service	TBD	TBD																										

NOTE: Construction will begin weather dependent after the frostline is out  
 NOTE: Construction phase timelines can change due to unforeseen weather conditions/rock ground conditions



## Town of Gibraltar

### Committee Chairpersons Building Committee

Karl Stubenvoll  
kweenawkarl@gmail.com

### Plan Commission

Linda Merline  
lmerline@gibraltarwi.gov

### Airport Commission

Marte Franke  
martinfrankej@gmail.com

### Harbor Commission

Dave Harris  
dharris@gibraltarwi.gov

### Parks & Lands

Laurie Buske

### Gibraltar Historical Association

Laurie Buske  
noblehousefc@gmail.com

### Internet Ad Hoc Committee

Dennis Steigenberger  
dennis.steigenberger@cedarcorp.com

### Finance Committee

Steve Sohns  
ssohns@gibraltarwi.gov

### Police & Fire Commission

Greg Cote  
gcote5064@icloud.com

## Town of Gibraltar Library News

*Greetings, book lovers and community members!*

Spring is bringing fresh opportunities to learn, connect, and have fun at the Town of Gibraltar Library. Whether you're a history buff, a bookworm, or just looking for a lively evening out, we've got something for you. Mark your calendars for the following:

### Upcoming Events

#### Clothing Swap

**Saturday, April 12 from 10 AM – 12 PM**

*Refresh your wardrobe at our Clothing Swap! Bring up to 20 like-new adult clothing items to trade for an equal number of "new-to-you" pieces. No money required! Drop off items early at the library or bring them directly to the Gibraltar Old Town Hall on the day of the event. Contact the library for more details.*

#### Swing Dance Lessons and Open Dance

**Friday, April 25 from 7 PM – 9 PM**

*Step back in time with DJ David Watkins as he spins vintage records while Willa Wilde and Elisha Adelman teach you the art of swing dancing. No partner or experience necessary—just bring your enthusiasm and dancing shoes!*

#### Author Talk: Ann Hazelwood

**Friday, May 16 at 2 PM**

*Meet author Ann Hazelwood as she discusses her latest works, meets fans, and signs books. Don't miss the chance to chat with this celebrated writer!*

### Ongoing Programs

- **Free Craft Kits** – Stop by the library every month to pick up a free craft kit and get creative at home!
- **Bittersweet Bookies Book Club** – Meets at 1 PM on the first Wednesday of every month at Write On, Door County. Contact the library for more information. Reading: March/"A Home for Hattie" by Anne Emerson, April/"Still Life" by Sarah Winman, May/"Calamity of Souls" by David Baldacci
- **Fish Creek Library Book Club** – Meets at 5:30 PM on the second Wednesday of every month at the library. Join us for lively discussions and great reads. Reading in March/"Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus, April/"Night Road" by Kristin Hannah, May/"Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer
- **Cult Movie Night** – Held on the last Wednesday of every month at 5:30 PM. Enjoy a selection of offbeat and classic cult films with fellow movie lovers. Watching in March/"SpaceCamp", April/"Little Shop of Horrors", May/"Caged!"

*Stay connected with us for more exciting events and library news.  
We look forward to seeing you at the Town of Gibraltar Library soon!*

*Also publicized on Town of Gibraltar [facebook](#)*

## CONTACT US

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- 📍 PO Box 850, Fish Creek, WI 54212