

## Important Dates

### Ocean Park Civic League Meeting

September 10  
Ocean Park  
Rescue Squad  
November 5  
Thursdays  
7:00 p.m. socialize  
7:30 p.m. meeting

### LRNow 5th Annual Fall Festival & Sustainable Living Expo

Sept 19  
Saturday  
11 a.m.—3 p.m.  
Brock  
Environmental  
Center

### OPCL Adopt a Spot Cleanup

October 3  
Saturday  
9 a.m. to noon  
Marlin Bay entrance to  
Pleasure House Point

## Ocean Park Echo

SEPTEMBER 2015

## Message from the president

### What's your Civic Duty?

Before you tune me out because you think I'm going to ask you to volunteer your time to the civic league (although that would be nice), that's not what I'm talking about today. You can fulfill your civic responsibilities in many ways. There have been innumerable books, articles and papers written expounding on the civic duties required of a citizen in a free and democratic society.

I've been involved in OPCL for awhile now, and I've formed what I feel is a realistic opinion of individual civic responsibility. While it would be nice if everyone served or donated their time and efforts, that's not realistic in today's society. People are busy living their lives and not everyone has the time to get involved in politics, or the local civic league. That's reality, and that's okay.

How else can you fulfill your civic responsibilities? It's easy. There are only three things you have to do, and they won't intrude on your schedule too much.

1) Stay informed, and not just about national politics. While it may be fun to watch the current circus going on at the national level with candidates vying for their party's nomination, will that have as much impact on your life as what your city council or school board is currently voting on?

2) You must vote. While I encourage you to vote in national elections, how many of you voted in the last statewide elections? How

many of you voted in the citywide elections before they were changed to coincide with the presidential elections?

3) Let your elected officials know how you feel. If you don't like something, whether on a national, statewide or local level, complaining about it to your spouse, neighbors or your local civic league representatives, won't change anything. Sending a letter or an email to your elected official to let them know you're displeased may. Some of you may think that letting your elected official know you don't like what he or she is doing won't change anything, and in a lot of cases you might be right, but I have found that when talking to local or statewide officials about local issues as a representative of the civic league, the first thing they will point out is that no one has complained to them about an issue, so it must not be a problem. When it comes to government officials, the squeaky wheel usually gets greased.

So that's it. If you do those three relatively easy things, you're fulfilling your civic duties. Why am I talking about this? Well, this fall we have elections for statewide offices. Ocean Park is in the 83rd District of the House of Delegates, and our current incumbent, Chris Stolle, is running unopposed. In the Virginia 7th Senate District, Frank Wagner is our incumbent senator. He is being opposed this fall by Gary McCollum. We invited all of the candidates to speak at our September general membership meeting.

This is your opportunity to hear the candidates themselves tell you what their agenda is, and for you to ask about issues. There's no media filter here, so you will hear and see what your statewide official is actually saying about issues without a media bias. Hearing firsthand what the candidates have to say, without it being spun or "explained" to you, is the best way to stay informed.

Also, as I mentioned above, sometimes our government officials, both elected and non-elected, think that if citizens aren't informing them of their displeasure concerning an issue, then they must tacitly approve of what is being done. So what does this mean to you?

An upcoming issue, near and dear to our Ocean Park hearts, will surface next year. The city intends to turn the area beside the Lynnhaven boat ramp into a permanent dredge spoils transfer site. That is not speculation, it is the stated goal of the coastal resources section of the public works department, and has been reiterated many times by the deputy city manager. They have decided that if we can put up with the inconvenience of the Lesner Bridge construction without complaining too much, we can live with a permanent industrial dredge spoils transfer site. If we do nothing, the Lynnhaven boat ramp will be turned into a PERMANENT dredge spoils transfer site that will be available to be used for all private and public dredging projects.

*Cont'd next page*

## Message from the president cont'd

Ocean Park will become the primary offload site for all dredge materials in the northern part of the city. That is a fact.

I don't know about you, but I don't want our neighborhood to have a permanent industrial dredge spoils transfer site.

The strategy our city officials will use is fairly simple: they are banking on the fact that most folks don't keep informed about local issues, and those who do don't want to make waves or don't think letting city officials know they are unhappy about an issue will make a difference. I'm going to tell you from personal experience that when it comes to local issues, your opinion matters. It is the only way we will prevent the city from turning Lynnhaven Boat Ramp into a permanent dredge spoils transfer site.

So what can you do? The answer is fairly easy. First, stay informed. Subscribe to the Shore Drive Community Coalition (SDCC) info alerts to get the latest information about what is going on with the city's dredge spoils transfer program and other issues that affect our community.

Second, let your city officials know that just because you're willing to put up with the Lynnhaven Boat Ramp area being used for the Lesner Bridge construction, that doesn't mean you're willing to accept the city turning that area into a permanent construction site. The city's website (ybgov.com) has email addresses for all of our elected and non-elected city government leadership. Let our Bayside District and our at-large councilmen know this is not acceptable. Make sure our city manager knows how you feel about having the Lynnhaven

Boat Ramp turned into a permanent dredge spoils transfer site.

If we don't come together on this issue and let our city leadership know that we don't want this permanent dredge spoils transfer site in our backyard then I can guarantee that when the Lesner Bridge construction is done, we will still have an industrial construction site in our backyard for the foreseeable future. This is how you can fulfill your civic duty.

I hope I didn't lose you with this long and rambling piece. I tried not to preach too much, or to offend anyone, but if I did, you should come out to the next civic league meeting and let me know.

—Rick Mercadante, OPCL president

## Pleasure House Point History

What's the story behind Pleasure House Point? There's a long, very interesting history to the property and we would be happy to tell you the story.

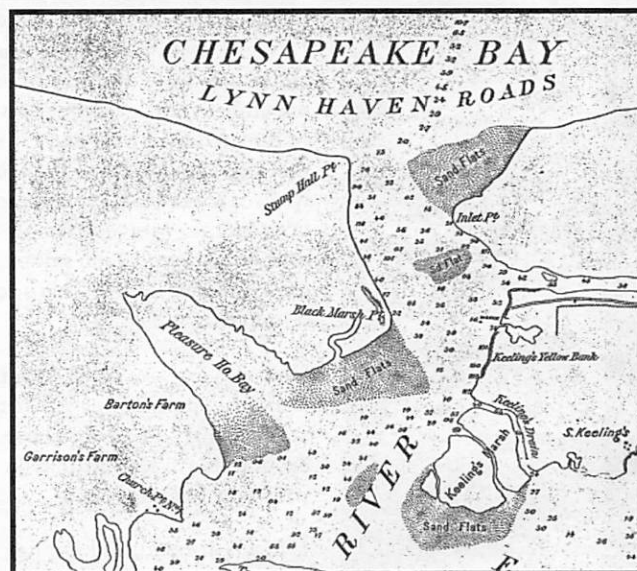
Lillie Gillbert from the Historical Society will present "Pleasure House Point, History and Mystery."

From 1585 to 2015, this piece of land has seen early explorers, pirates, colonial settlements and a civil war camp. It now features cutting-edge, 21st century innovations at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Brock Environmental Center.

This free presentation will document the history (with some mysteries) of Pleasure House Point through old drawings and maps. Explore our French connection as we travel back in time.

Tours of the Brock Center will be given from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

If you would like to attend, please reserve your spot by contacting Erica Nachman, Brock Environmental Center coordinator at ENachman@cbf.org or 757 622-1964.



—Capt. Chas B. Phillips, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A. 1879 survey

## Chesapeake Bay Foundation Brock Environmental Center

Thursday, September 24, 2015

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Brock Center Green Tours

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

You're also welcome to simply show up; however, your RSVP would be most appreciated to ensure we have enough seats for everyone.

## Newer House and High Energy Costs: What to do?

The newest building codes focus on energy savings. However in most of Hampton Roads air leakage testing does not apply to the inspection process. It is very likely that your newer house has an efficient furnace, Energy Star-rated appliances, double pane Low E windows, more insulation and better exterior doors.

So why does your 2,500 square foot house have a \$250-a-month power bill? You can have a blower door test performed and get the answers, but visual inspections are very simple. Access doors, folding stairways and recessed lights in insulated ceilings are the highest conditioned air loss areas in a house. You may be shocked by going in to a dark attic and seeing how much daylight is shining around those areas.

Insulation does not stop air leakage. Repeat, insulation does not stop air leakage. These areas need caulking, spray foam and weather stripping. Some people swear that a powered roof fan vent or those whirlybird turbine vents are helping keep attics cool. Maybe so, but they are actually sucking all

the conditioned air through all the cracks around those items you saw in your dark attic. Turn off that energy monster roof fan and caulk and foam the ceiling fixture penetrations in you attic. Recessed lights have special needs to air sealing, generally a box needs to be built around the light and edges foamed.

Other simple changes to decrease energy use, water heater blankets (\$40.00), turn the water heater down to 115 degrees fahrenheit (\$0.00), use your programmable thermostat (\$0.00), change you air filters often (\$10.00), quilted shades on south and west sides of house in summer (same costs as many window treatments), turning computers off (\$0.00). Why pay Dominion Power?

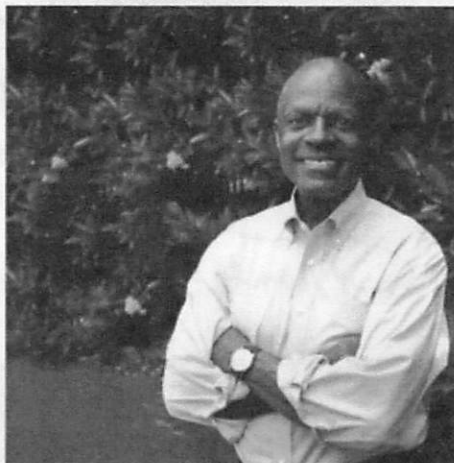
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—Benjamin Franklin

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**VOTE NOVEMBER 3RD**

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## Adopt-A-Spot cleanups

Mark and Mary Ellen Faust lead the cleanups as the OPCL Adopt-a-Spot chairpersons. They schedule cleanups throughout the year at Pleasure House Point. The Faustus completed their own cleanup for OPCL last weekend bringing the total to five report cards for this calendar year.

### Next Clean up


**October 3, 9 a.m. to noon**

**Meet at the Marlin Bay trailhead.**


**Wear appropriate clothing, footwear and gloves if preferred. Treats provided.**

Bring the kids and instill great community volunteer values. Fulfill volunteer commitment hours for schools or clubs.

The committee will announce cleanups on the Ocean Park Facebook Page, by email and in the newsletter. For more information or to participate, please contact them at [mary3739@cox.net](mailto:mary3739@cox.net).



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### Exterior Improvements

- \* Additions
- \* Structural and Moisture repairs
- \* Decks
- \* Porches
- \* Fencing
- \* Siding
- \* Windows and Doors
- \* Roofing
- \* Shell construction
- \* Driveways

### Interior Improvements

- \* Kitchens
- \* Baths
- \* Crown molding
- \* Bearing wall removal
- \* Floor plan changes
- \* Interior trim
- \* Balcony and stair railings
- \* Interior decorating
- \* Whole house remodeling
- \* Space planning

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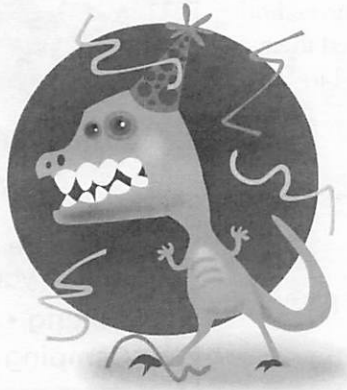
**Ocean Park resident since 2001**

## Calling all party animals!!!

The social committee needs volunteers to help plan, organize and execute upcoming events.

If interested, please contact Lauren Harrington at  
[www.socialactivities@opcl.org](mailto:www.socialactivities@opcl.org)

Or my email  
[www.laurenharringtonsd@gmail.com](mailto:www.laurenharringtonsd@gmail.com).



### Please volunteer with OPCL Volunteer Positions (Annual Hourly Needs)

- Newsletter Graphic Designer (30)
- Fireworks Committee (10-50)
- Scholarship Committee (5)
- Audit Committee (3)
- Safety and Traffic Committee Member (5)
- Meeting Coordinator (6)
- Social Committee Member (5)
- Door Prize Coordinator (6)
- Business Liaison (10)
- Membership Committee Member (5)

### OPCL Sponsors

- The UPS Store Shore Drive: 10 percent off all services except United States Postal Service postage and UPS shipping.
- Tidewater Insulators: 10 percent off any attic or crawlspace insulation package.
- The Royal Chocolate: 10 percent off product purchases. Does not apply to gift cards, shipping or delivery. One per person, per visit.
- Lend a Hand Massage Therapy Free half hour reflexology added onto your 60-minute massage. Not valid with other discounts.
- Froggie's Cantina by the Bay: five percent discount for all OPCL members. Not valid with other discounts/coupons.
- Ampmor Electric Corporation: Buy a one year Energy Saving Maintenance Agreement and get a year free. (\$140 value). Receive \$30 off service calls. Receive \$350 off a HVAC system replacement, home generator or tankless water heater installation.
- Happy at Home Professional Pet Care: 50 percent off pet care and dog walking services. Not valid with other offers.
- Salon De Bella: 25 percent to first-time customers and a 15 percent on subsequent visits. See coupon ad for more.
- Complete Automotive, Inc.: Ten percent off any work up to \$100.

Consider becoming a business sponsor. Contact **Ryan McCawley** at [Ryan.mccawley@me.com](mailto:Ryan.mccawley@me.com). You may need to show your OPCL membership card to receive discounts.



PROTECT THE BAYFRONT SAFETY FIRST PLEASURE HOUSE POINT

Now is the time to join - or renew your membership in - the Ocean Park Civic League. Pay now and get credit for all of 2014!!  
 Dues are just \$15 a year per family. If you are not a member, become one now. Just fill in the Membership Application and mail to the P.O. Box listed below. Or join on-line at [www.opcl.org](http://www.opcl.org). You will be helping your community and keeping yourself informed.

Name:		
Street Address (and City/State/Zip if not 23455)		
Email:		
Phone:	H:	C:
Do You Own or Rent?	<input type="checkbox"/> Own <input type="checkbox"/> Rent	
Areas Of Interest (Check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter (contributions/distribution/solicitation for ads) <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Committee <input type="checkbox"/> Shore Drive Community Coalition Liaison <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning <input type="checkbox"/> Social Committee		
Mail this application and your dues of \$15.00 (check made to OPCL) for calendar year 2014 to: Ocean Park Civic League P.O. Box 55385 Virginia Beach, VA 23471		



# OPCL official business

## **OPCL Finance**

### **Committee Update:**

The Robbins Legacy account held investments valued at approximately \$222,770, as of August 31, 2015, down from \$222,770 at year-end, 2014. No distributions were made thus far for 2015. The current portfolio allocation is approximately 75 percent fixed income/cash and 25 percent equity investments. In addition to the growth of the

original \$180,000 investment, the account generates approximately \$6,000 a year in interest and dividends, which is available for distribution. Since 2008, over \$39,000 has been distributed in support of civic league functions and community organizations. If you have ideas for funding of community projects and improvements in Ocean Park, please contact any officer of the civic league listed in the newsletter.

### **OPCL Committee on Governmental Affairs and Zoning Update:**

The committee has not presented any reports regarding decisions.


### **OPCL News:**

OPCL needs a new Council of Civic Organizations representative. Duties involve attending meetings once a month and reporting back to the

civic league board and to the general membership. If interested contact OPCL President Rick Mercadante at [president@opcl.org](mailto:president@opcl.org) for more information.



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## CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Saving a National Treasure*

**We are now accepting applications for our Hampton Roads VoiCeS (Volunteers as Chesapeake Stewards) course!** This adult education program is the perfect opportunity to learn about water quality issues and become more involved in your community.

We've all got a personal story of swimming, boating, or fishing in the rivers and streams of our Bay. Now more than ever, we've got to put those personal connections into action. Understanding this precious resource from a historical and scientific point of view is an important step to supporting our waters, and becoming a part of CBF's VoiCeS program is just the way to do it.

**Click here to register for this important program!**

The VoiCeS program provides important information on subjects affecting the health of Hampton Roads waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. Topics range from fisheries to Bay history/culture to clean water legislation. Plus we'll have an exciting field trip! Successful graduates receive CBF's designation as "Chesapeake Stewards."

**Space is limited. reserve your spot now!**

Questions? Contact me at [TCouncil@cbf.org](mailto:TCouncil@cbf.org) or 757-622-1964.

### **Become a Chesapeake steward this fall!**



### **★ Register**

**When:** Tuesday evenings,  
October 6-November 17, 6  
pm.-9 p.m.

**Where:** CBF's Brock  
Environmental Center, 3663  
Marlin Bay Drive, Virginia  
Beach, VA

**Cost:** \$25 per individual or  
\$40 per couple to cover cost  
of materials and field trips.

**Registration:** Due by  
September 25. **Click here to  
register!**

# Crime Update

Officer Marcus Johnson, Third Precinct liaison to Ocean Park, will speak at the September meeting about crime and safety in Ocean Park. The following crime reports reflect recent activity in Ocean Park.

06/02/15 Larceny, from building 2200 block Powhatan Ave. residence

06/12/15 Family offense, nonviolent, child abuse 3900 block W. Stratford Rd. residence

06/25/15 Arson 3600 block E. Stratford Rd. road

06/28/15 Larceny, from building 3700 block Chesterfield Ave. residence

07/11/15 Assault, simple, domestic 3700 block E. Stratford Rd. residence

07/12/15 Violate protective order 3700 block E. Stratford Rd. residence

07/12/15 Larceny, from motor vehicle 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Parking lot/garage

07/12/15 Destruction of property, private property 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Parking lot/Garage

07/16/15 Larceny, all others 2200 block Roanoke Ave. beach

07/16/15 Fraud, trick, false pretenses 2200 block Lateener Ct. residence

07/17/15 Assault, simple 2200 block

Albemarle Ave. beach 07/23/15 Larceny, from building 3700 block Jefferson Blvd. residence

07/19/15 Assault, simple 3500 Piedmont Cir. Lake/Waterway

08/09/15 Larceny from motor vehicle 3700 block E. Stratford Rd. road

08/09/15 Larceny, all others 3500 block Piedmont Cir. parking lot/garage

08/11/15 Burglary/ break & enter 3800 block Jefferson Blvd. residence

08/14/15 Drug/narcotic violations 3800 block shore Dr. highway/road

08/18/15 Destruction of city property—graffiti 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Marina

08/18/15 Destruction of property, private property 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Construction site

08/18/15 Larceny, all others 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Residence

08/18/15 Destruction of property, private property 3500 block Piedmont Cir. Residence

08/20/15 Fraud, innkeeper 3600 block Shore Dr. restaurant/diner/shop

Crime statistics reflect the entire summer June-August since newsletter distribution does not occur in the summer months. Additionally, several crimes listed are linked and represent an unusual circumstance near the Pleasure House Point Natural Area.

—Officer Marcus Johnson  
Virginia Beach Police Department  
Third Precinct



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# Lynnhaven River NOW partnership: Volunteer and event opportunities

## Candidates Forum

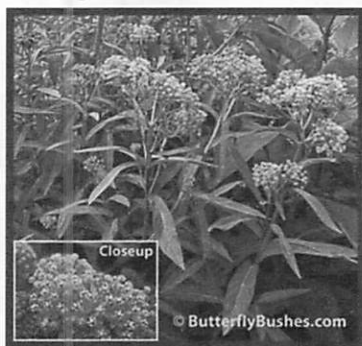
October 14

6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Oberndorf Central Library

## September Native Plant

Swamp Milkweed



Order yours now from  
Dana@LRNow.org

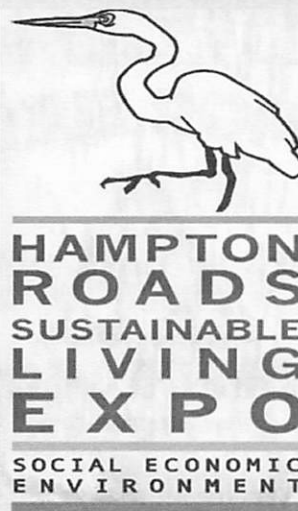
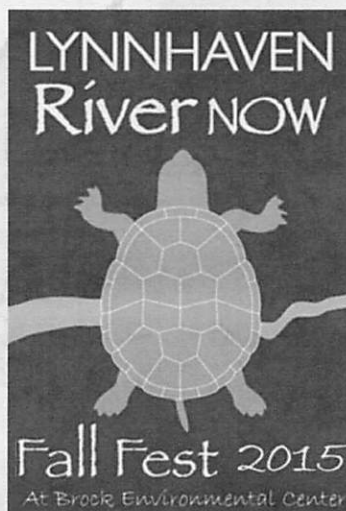
## October Native Plant

Sweet or Smooth Sumac



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Dana@LRNow.org

It takes a community to restore and protect our waterways. We know how fortunate we are to live in this beautiful place. More information coming soon to the LRNow website. Call (757) 962-5398 for more information or to register.



# September 19, 2015

## 11am-3pm

BROCK ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
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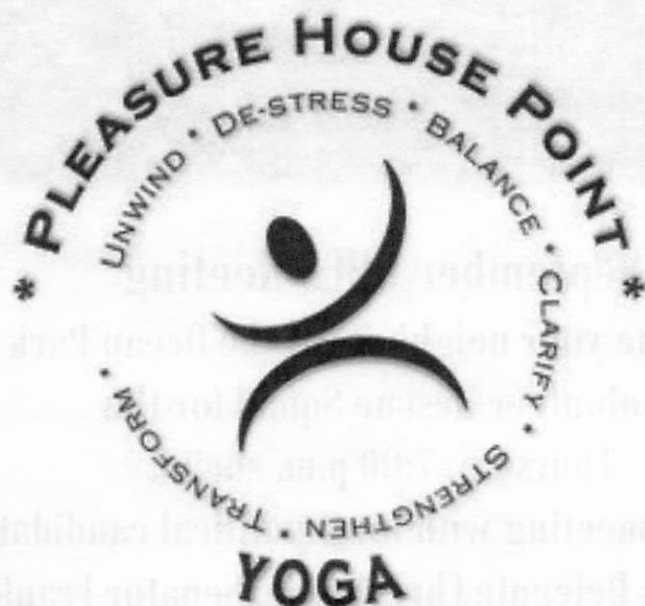
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- BEGINNERS ALWAYS WELCOME
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**OPVRS showcases new technology**

Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad 1 announced the installation and operation of the first Stryker EMS Power-Load system on an ambulance within the Virginia Beach EMS system. This would not be possible without a \$40,000 grant funded through the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad Foundation. August 19 marked the first time it has been put into active operation on-duty on 122R with members Jay and Brant. Check out "Join Volunteer Rescue Squads of Virginia Beach" to find out how to volunteer and information on the foundation at [vbrescuefoundation.org](http://vbrescuefoundation.org).

**September OPCL Meeting**

**Join the your neighbors at the Ocean Park  
Volunteer Rescue Squad for the**

**Thursday, 7:00 p.m. social.**

**7:30 p.m. meeting with local political candidates.**

**Invited: Delegate Chris Stolle, Senator Frank  
Wagner and Candidate Gary McCollum**

**All neighbors welcome.**