

Norfolk

West Ghent and Chelsea

Thursday April 28, 2016
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Photo courtesy of Bridget Bryant

The well-established neighborhood of West Ghent's story began in the early 1920s following annexation by the City in 1897. This marked a second stage of urbanization as the City recovered following the decimation of one-third of its population by the 1855 yellow fever epidemic. Adjacent to this new neighborhood was the industry-based Chelsea district. Fronting deep-water access and rail lines, the district continues to be called home by a shipyard and Norfolk Southern railyards, but has grown to include a growing number of small, locally owned businesses such as restaurants, an art gallery, a floral design studio, a brewery and other service-related businesses. Tour visitors who would rather ride than walk can follow the newest section of the Elizabeth River Trail, a bicycle and pedestrian path that runs along the perimeter of Chelsea and West Ghent, which opened in September 2015.



Hosted by

Harborfront Garden Club
The Garden Club of Norfolk

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Tour Information

Tickets: \$40 pp, single home admission \$15, available on the day of tour at designated homes.

Advance & Combo Tickets: \$30 pp. www.vagardenweek.org. In Norfolk at the following locations: The Chrysler Museum of Art Gift Shop, Mary Barnett Gifts and Decorative Accessories, Gardens in a Flower Pot, The White Rabbit, Norfolk Botanical Garden Gift Shop, Prince Books, Serendip and Table Seven, or by mailing a check payable to "Norfolk Home and Garden Tour" with an enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope to Kathy Protogyrou, 1519 Commonwealth Ave. Norfolk, VA 23505. For questions, contact Kathy Protogyrou at Protogyrou@cox.net or (757) 679-7073.

Two-Day Combo Ticket: \$55 pp. Wednesday in Virginia Beach and Thursday in Norfolk.

Three Day Combo Ticket: \$85 per pp. Tour Tuesday in Williamsburg, Wednesday at Fort Monroe and Thursday in Norfolk.

L There are a variety of restaurants in the Chelsea business district. Additionally, food trucks will be at Smartmouth Brewery between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Box lunches for \$15 available at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and must be pre-ordered through East Beach Catering at ebeachcatering@aol.com.

R Complimentary and served from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church/White Hall.

Facilities: Available at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

A *Bicycle tours.* The cost of the bicycle tour is \$40 and includes home and garden ticket. Call (757) 447-4308 for more information or go to www.bicyclegardentours.com for registration and payment.

A *Norfolk Botanical Garden, 6700 Azalea Garden Rd.,* featuring LanternAsia: Art by day, magic by night. Witness magical illuminated works of art crafted from silk, steel and other eco-friendly materials highlighting traditional Chinese themes that include nature, wildlife, folklore and massive structures replicating those found in China. This is the only location on the East Coast where this exhibit will be on view. www.NorfolkGarden-Tour.org or www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org for details.

A *The Art of Arranging Tablescapes* will be featured at Smartmouth Brewery, 1309 Raleigh Ave. (Chelsea), at 11 a.m. *Arranging Flowers for Church Altars* will be at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church/White Hall at 1 p.m. Additional demonstrations will be held at The New Leaf, 1301 Redgate Ave. (Chelsea). Check times in the local brochure and at www.norfolkgardentour.org.

P On-street parking is available; however, carpooling is recommended. There is no shuttle service.

W The tour may be on foot or by car. Comfortable shoes are recommended especially when touring Weyanoke Sanctuary.

Directions: *From the North/Richmond:* take I-64 East through the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel. In Norfolk, take Exit 276A (Terminal Blvd./ODU) and then left on Hampton Blvd (VA 337). Stay on Hampton Blvd. until you reach W. Princess Anne Road then turn right. *From the East:* take I-264 West and exit at 11B (Brambleton Ave.). Follow Brambleton Ave. until

it ends at Raleigh Ave; take the first right on Claremont Ave. Proceed to W. Princess Anne Rd. *From the West:* take the Western Freeway (VA 164) and exit by way of the Midtown Tunnel (tolls apply) exit to Norfolk. Follow signs to Naval Base/ODU/Hampton Blvd; go north on Hampton Blvd. until you reach W. Princess Anne Rd. where you will turn left (0.5 mile).

Ticket includes admission to the following 6 properties:

1111 West Princess Anne Road

In 1925, Virginia architect John K. Peebles, who designed many of the homes in West Ghent, built this three-story brick-and-stucco house and studio for himself. For inspiration he drew upon the English Arts and Crafts tradition. Peebles was also the designer of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, the original Taylor Elementary School and the central Renaissance-style courtyard of the Chrysler Museum of Art. The current owners, art historians by training, are the fourth family to enjoy this personality-filled home. Many of the prints, photographs, and paintings on the walls reflect their love of all things Italian. The current layout and character of the house owes much to the thoughtful extensive remodeling undertaken in the mid-1980s by the previous owners, who added a spacious modern kitchen and updated the house for contemporary living. Although many of the plantings have changed over the years, the configuration of the garden also dates from the 1980s. *Bill and Leslie Hennessey, owners.*

1336 West Princess Anne Road

This Georgian-style house was built in 1922 at a cost of \$15,000. It features two floors, an attic and a full basement. Large windows throughout the house keep the interior filled with light and enhance the intricate woodwork and moldings, all of which are original to the house. The house is filled with many of Mrs. Winn's family's furnishings and oriental decorative arts acquired when her grandparents served as medical missionaries in China from the early part of the 20th century until their return to the United States in 1951. The kitchen, like all the other rooms in the home, is spacious and provides ample storage and functionality. A bright breakfast room leads to well-landscaped back and side yards. This bucolic setting also has self-contained guest quarters on site. *Barclay and Janet Winn, owners.*



Winn House

1211 Langley Road

Renovations through the years have maintained this 4,200-square-foot, three-story home as a very livable space. Colonial in style, complete with gabled roof, this c.1925 house retains its original hardwood floors. The house has been remodeled several times by previous owners; however, the dining room still has a space in the floor that once contained an electric bell push used to alert household staff that they were needed. Spindles on the staircase are in the same style as those found in antebellum mansions. Many of the light fixtures and other significant pieces were purchased by the owner during her extensive European travels. The sunroom retains its original ceiling and columns from the days it served as a screened porch. Several pieces of artwork throughout the home were painted by the homeowner's son. In 1997, the backyard space was re-landscaped to be a multi-seasonal garden complete with a pond and fireplace.

Sonia "Sunny" Sonner, owner.

1400 Graydon Place

Construction on this house began in 1918 but was not completed until 1923. As the first house to be built on Graydon Place,

it is set forward on the lot compared to neighboring houses. A recent kitchen remodel features poured concrete countertops and a stainless steel island top. Among the eclectic artwork collection is an x-ray triptych showing each of the owners' three daughters' left feet—a tribute to Dr. Ellingson, who is an orthopedic surgeon. The garden is a mix of original plantings and additions made during its 93-year history. Because the owner is the daughter of a beekeeper, the yard is free of pesticides and harmful chemicals. A seasonal herb and vegetable garden separates the property from the neighbors and is watered by a rain barrel water recovery system. *Chris Ellingson and Stacy Quail-Ellingson, owners.*

1501 Armistead Bridge Road

The Weyanoke Bird and Wildflower Sanctuary was established in 1979 when the Norfolk and Western Railroad, now Norfolk Southern, gave the land to the Cape Henry Audubon Society with assistance from the Nature Conservancy. Stewardship of these eight acres of forest, meadow, marshland and creek is conducted in cooperation with the Nature Conservancy, the Cape Henry Audubon Society, local master gardeners, other organizations and community volunteers. It offers a little bit of wilderness in the middle of a busy city. Ar-

rangements on view in the sanctuary will use all natural materials found in gardens and woodlands. Additionally, guided tours will be offered at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

1004 Graydon Avenue

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church began its life in 1911 in a small wooden chapel. In order to accommodate a growing parish, the current church was built in 1921 and was designed by John K. Peebles, a noted architect and parishioner. St. Andrew's is well known for its community outreach and also as a center for sacred music and the arts. For more than 20 years, the church has held an annual Flower Festival, a celebration of floral art, sacred music and community fellowship. The church sanctuary will show flower arrangements depicting the Circle of Life from birth to rebirth after death. Pre-ordered/prepaid box lunches can be collected in White Hall (entrance on West Princess Anne Road), which also will be the site for a demonstration on floral arrangements for church altars.

Big Yellow House 1231 Boissevain Avenue, Chelsea

Garden only. This private residence promotes sustainable urban gardening with a focus on native and adaptive edibles and pollinator-friendly plants. Emphasizing creative reuse for a beautiful and resilient Norfolk, the owner uses reclaimed pallet wood, concrete, yard and kitchen waste, as well as captured and gray water to shape and feed the garden. This urban edible forest includes young plantings of the pawpaw, pomegranate, jujube, cherry bush, asparagus, and many more. *Jenine Serviolo, owner.*

Places of Interest:

Visit www.NorfolkGardenTour.org for additional information.

The Moses Myers House, 331 Bank St. Built in 1792 for a prominent Norfolk resident, this structure is an example of Federal style architecture. The house contains nearly 70 percent of its first generation furnishing, including the Gilbert Stuart portraits of Mr. Myers and his wife Eliza. The Garden Club of Virginia renovated the gardens in 2002 to reflect historically accurate late-18th century garden design. Open from noon to 5 p.m. especially for tour day. Administered by the Chrysler Museum of Art. (757) 333-1087.

The Chrysler Museum of Art, 1 Memorial Pl. The museum's 62 galleries highlight many of the world's greatest artists and one of the finest glass collections in the United States. Free glassblowing demonstrations are held in the adjacent glass studio at noon daily. Admission is free. (757) 664-6200 or www.chrysler.org.

Hunter House Victorian Museum, 240 W. Freemason St. This Richardsonian Romanesque town house was built in 1894 for James Wilson Hunter, a prominent Norfolk banker and merchant, and his family. The home was opened as a museum in 1988 and is decorated with furnishings and decorative items used by the family when they were residents. Admission is free with a Norfolk tour ticket. 757-623-9814 or www.hunterhousemuseum.org.

Virginia Arts Festival, various venues. Entering its 20th season of bringing world class performers to stages in Virginia, the festival offers something for everyone. www.virginiaartsfest.com or (757) 282-2800.



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