



Living in I'On

The Official Neighborhood Newsletter of I'On

May 2016

5/3 IDC Review

5/6 First Friday Cocktails

5/10 Women's Coffee

5/12 Recycling Day

5/14 Mathis Ferry Clean-Up 

5/17 IDC Review

5/17 Potluck Dinner

5/25 Yarn Buddies

5/25 Movie Group

5/26 Recycling Day

5/26 Lunch Bunch @
Brookgreen Gardens

5/26 Homeowners' Forum &
HOA Board Meeting

5/28 Screen on the
Green 

5/29 I'On Trust Memorial Day
Picnic in the Park 

Be a Dear, Volunteer!



*Wherever you see a heart, we
need your help! All ages welcome!*

EYE ON . . . Sweet Olive

How does a young woman with a Master's degree in Analytical Chemistry end up as a shopkeeper and I'On resident? Melinda Armstrong came to Charleston from Atlanta 23 years ago. She lived downtown and worked in manufacturing for 10 years before moving to I'On in 1999 as one of the early "pioneers." When she bought a home on Sowell Street with the help of her Mom, O'lynn, I'On boasted a whopping 30 families.



Prior to making the move to I'On, Melinda brought the focus of her academic background and work experience to bear. She researched extensively and credits one book in particular, "The Great Good Place" with influencing her decision to relocate to I'On which, at the time, was sparsely populated and not a particularly desirous venue for a gal not yet out of her twenties. Yet, she was attracted by an ideal; a concept: New Urbanism. Live where you work; work where you live; and have a third place. A local pub, garden shop, café, community center – someplace that you gather and share experiences. She envisioned her shop as that "third place." Bring the neighbors in; foster relationships from the



(CONT. p. 3)

Thank You, I'On Trust! After the Bridge Run Concert 2016



Welcome, New Neighbors!

Kristin Young & Edward Winter
205 N. Shelmore Blvd.

Alex Jones
110 Ionsborough Street

Correction:

Karen Albenesius
19 Unwin Way

Do you have a new neighbor?
If you notice a moving van or a
new face in the neighborhood,
please contact I'On Ambassa-
dor Coordinator, [Mary
Kaplan](#), 843-388-4489. We
want to meet & greet our new
neighbors as soon as possible
after they move in.

Communications Committee

Karen Dillard, Chair

Barbara Fowler

Meegan Graham, LIO Editor

Julie Hussey

JoAnn Stadtmueller

Margaret Summers, I'On Trust

Lesley Ramey, SCS

Eye on. . . May

First Friday Cocktail Party

Friday, May 6 / 6:00 - 8:00 PM

I'On Community Garden, Eastlake Road / Hosted by Steve & Carol Degnen

Please join our gracious hosts, Steve & Carol, at the May First Friday Cocktail Party, to be held in the I'On Community Garden. This will be a wonderful opportunity to socialize with neighbors and friends as you stroll around the pretty butterfly, flower and vegetable gardens, so come along with your lawn chairs, an appetizer to share, and a glass and beverage of your choice. The party is for I'On residents, family members, friends and house guests. Please encourage those whom you know in the neighborhood, especially anyone that may be new here, to join us for this most enjoyable evening. For further information or questions, please email [Michele Wilson](#) or call [843-352-7878](#); or [Jennifer Welham](#), [843-881-3575](#).

PLEASE JOIN US!

I'On Women's Coffee

Tuesday, May 10 / 10:00 AM - 12 noon

183 East Shipyard Road

Hosted by Maureen Shay Palmer



Join your neighbors for the monthly Women's Coffee — an easy and enjoyable way to meet and connect with the many interesting women in our community. Please bring your own mug for coffee. If you have a new neighbor, invite her to attend with you!

The coffees are sponsored by the I'On Trust and are coordinated by [Nance Nixon](#) (908-507-6680) and [Eileen Moore](#) at (571-723-9733). Email or call if you have questions or need further information.

Mathis Ferry Clean-Up

Saturday, May 14 / 9:00 AM

Meet at O'Brion's in the Square

Volunteers age 13 and over are welcome! Gloves, plastic bags and "grabbers" provided. This is a great way for students to earn community service/volunteer hours. (Please bring forms for Rob to sign.) All participants in this "Adopt-a-Highway" program must sign a SC DOT waiver. (Minors must have a parent's signature in advance.) Contact [Rob Wieboldt](#) for more info, or sign up [here](#).

sidewalks and on porches. Wrap each purchase, no matter how small, in lovely gift wrap, just as they did downtown. Melinda's Mom was her partner in the business, and helped make it all possible. Many I'On residents remember her working in the shop, and greeting customers so warmly.

Melinda's I'On roots include her courtship with husband Craig Wrenn, whom she met when the corner lot at Sowell and N. Shelmore had just been purchased. While Craig commuted to Columbia for his work as a consultant, they married in June of 2007, moved in to the shop/house in July and opened the store in September.

Melinda and Craig regularly hosted happy hours on the porch of Sweet Olive, fed the bike racers, had a booth at the Farmer's Market in the Square and participated in the Holiday House Tour.



Why "Sweet Olive"? Melinda's love of plants, flowers, and animals found her toying with various combinations, yet nothing stuck – until she thought about her favorite fragrance, the scent of tea olive trees. Something about the way the blossoms were so tiny and hidden and the smell so sweet impacted her, along with her mother's suggestion that her grandmother would have called them "Sweet Olives" rather than tea olives.



When asked about her retail experience, she admits that she just really liked to shop. Trial, error, adjustment. Starting with a lot of gardening items, from gloves to soil, pots, fertilizer and birdseed, her initial purchases were driven by her inclinations, interests and plain desire to draw neighbors in. So too, her involvement in the community. Melinda volunteered on the board of the I'On Trust for six years, serving as its President for two.



A happy coincidence found present I'On Trust Executive Director Margaret Summers and Melinda reconnecting as friends downtown in the late 90's and realizing they had been gymnastics classmates in Atlanta in their youth. Melinda credits Margaret as a huge help in getting the store set up and organized, even to this day.

Melinda makes buying trips to New York and Atlanta two or three times a year. Her choices are informed by her desire to feature local/regional items as much as possible, which she has done in spades; her stock is mostly hand-made, hand-poured, hand-painted, hand-cast and small-batch. She also carries books by Lowcountry authors and, in homage to the store's roots, a selection of tropical plants, ferns, topiaries, pots, planters and bamboo fountain kits.

This month, Sweet Olive is debuting a new website and online shopping opportunity. You can shop, order and pay online and Melinda will gift wrap your purchases and meet you on the curb. "I have lots of neighbors who call and say I need a birthday/baby/bridal shower gift. We do the transaction on the phone and a few minutes later, I run out to the curb with a lovely gift, wrapped and ready to go."

If Melinda's goal was to establish a "third place" that serves as a gathering spot to honor local talents and bring folks together in the neighborhood, then she has succeeded beyond her wildest dreams.

A SAMPLING OF SWEET OLIVE'S WARES . . .

The Original Charleston Bedswing: designed by a Mt. Pleasant couple, made locally, super comfortable, fabulous design

Harry Barker: dog treats, toys, accessories

Rewined: candles & soaps

Lulie Wallace: candles and other accessories, including some gorgeous scarves (Hint: Mother's Day is upon us!)

ROAM: paired with Rewined for hand-poured candles named for cities (try the New York scent)

Mer-Sea: Gorgeous wraps in linen & in a machine-washable that doubles as a travel pillow.

TATINE: This artisan is inspired by nature and Led Zep-pelin (a Melinda favorite).

The Beer Can Professor: items featuring Professor Paul Roof, whose hirsute image is pictured on a Holy City beer can. Shave soap and brushes, plus coozies. (Father's Day is a comin'.)

And enough beautiful jewelry to delight princesses of all ages . . .



Your I'On Design Committee (IDC)...Preserving the Look of I'On

Before starting a new project for your home or property, the IDC invites you, your designer or architect to meet with Pam Gabriel, your Neighborhood Design Coordinator, to review I'On's architectural standards. The IDC is your resource in helping ensure that your new project carries on the high quality and unique "Low Country Vernacular" look of I'On. This exacting attention to details is what attracted you to I'On and helps preserve the value of our neighborhood. The IDC meets on May 3 & 17. Pam can be reached at [\(843\) 606-6366](tel:843-606-6366) or pdgabriel@yahoo.com

Potluck Dinner at the Creek Club

Tuesday, May 17 / 6:30 PM

Creek Club / Hosted by Karen and George Fisher

Join us at this month's Creek Club Potluck Dinner. Plan to arrive at 6:30, and bring a dish (with serving utensil) to share, along with your own plate, utensils, and a beverage. There are no rules that you must personally cook what you bring; there are a number of excellent local options for takeaway if you are pressed for time. Please encourage friends, especially new neighbors, to join us for another fun evening in the 'hood. Hope to see you there! For further information or questions, email [Lydia Engelhardt](mailto:Lydia.Engelhardt) or call [843-884-8400](tel:843-884-8400).

Yarn Buddies

Wednesday, May 25 / 10:00 AM to 12 Noon

213 Ponsbury Road / Hosted by Bebe Coyle

You are cordially invited if you have an interest in hand needlework, whether it be knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, rug-hooking, even jewelry-making. We share ideas, tips, assistance, and lots of fun conversation!

Women's Movie Group

Wednesday, May 25

Time & Location TBD

As usual, we will meet at the movie theater in the late afternoon and go out for drinks and a bite afterwards. To be included in the email with the movie title, location, and time please send your email to Jan Laabs (laabsjan@hotmail.com) and she will add you to the list. Hope to see you there.

Women's Lunch Bunch & Tour of Brookgreen Gardens

Thursday, May 26

Hosted by Brenda Uttaro

Join I'On friends for a tour of Brookgreen Gardens at Pawley's Island, the first sculpture garden in the United States. Brookgreen offers 400 acres of gardens and 1,400 works of outdoor and indoor sculpture. Meet at the Square

at 8:00 AM to carpool to Brookgreen, arriving about 9:30. Enjoy a one-hour private tour of several of the gardens and then roam and enjoy the extensive garden areas, fountains, pools, outdoor sculpture, indoor sculpture galleries, and upscale gift store. Enjoy lunch after the tour at [Perrone's Market](#). We should be back in I'On by 4:00 PM.

Individual admission to Brookgreen is \$12.00 (if we have a group of 15 or more) and will be due five days in advance. (Please know that we cannot get the private tour using the discounted Groupon promotion.) A reservation for the private tour must be made 2 weeks in advance. Therefore, please [RSVP no later than May 12](#) (843-216-6962 or Brenda@Uttaro.net). Indicate if you're willing to drive and how many passengers can comfortably fit in your vehicle. Once we receive RSVP's, we will send an email to participants with further information.

I'On Assembly (HOA) Homeowners' Forum & Board Meeting
Thursday, May 26 / 6:00 - 9:00 PM

159 Civitas Street (back entrance); 2nd floor

All homeowners are welcome. The agenda can be found on the [I'On Community website](#) a few days prior.

Screen on the Green 

Saturday, May 28 / Dusk

Westlake Amphitheater

Featuring Marvel's ANT-MAN. Popcorn will be popped on-site! Bring a blanket and chairs and enjoy a family-friendly evening. Helping hands needed! Click [here](#).

The I'On Trust Annual Memorial Day Picnic in the Park

Sunday, May 29 / 5:00 - 7:00 PM

Westlake Amphitheater 

Join your neighbors for the annual Memorial Day picnic, with fried chicken, lemonade and paper goods provided by the I'On Trust. Bring a covered dish to share. Live music by The Bluestone Ramblers. Helping hands needed! Click [here](#).



AHOY, Boaters!



It's once again time to register for the new boating season which begins on May 1. Please complete the registration form, initial the Boat and Dock policy and bring both to our office along with your current boat registration, current Certificate of Insurance, and \$20 for a boat ramp key. You can find the registration form and the Boat and Dock Policy [here](#). (Please note that our office has moved to Suite 211-- the corner office directly above the Square Onion.)

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 843-388-7547 or email [Lesley Ramey](mailto:Lesley.Ramey).

Creek Club Dock Closures for May

Pavilion Dock is closed; main dock and ramp remain open.

5/6	5:00 - 5:30 PM
5/7	4:00 - 4:30 PM
5/8	4:30 - 5:00 PM
5/14	4:00 - 4:30 PM
5/15	4:00 - 4:30 PM
5/20	5:00 - 5:30 PM
5/21	4:00 - 4:30 PM
5/22	5:00 - 5:30 PM
5/26	5:00 - 5:30 PM
5/28	4:30 - 5:00 PM
5/29	4:30 - 5:00 PM

Attention, Graduates!

We'd love to share your news! [Send](#) the name of your graduate, school and date of graduation, and any future matriculation. Photos welcome!

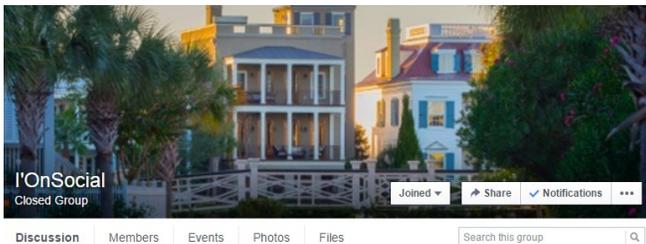


I'On At Home

I'On At Home now has resource information posted on the I'On Community website. We invite you to check out our site for background information as well as current activities. When you open the website, click on the Directory tab at the top and then Special Interest Groups on the drop-down menu. I'On At Home is one of the groups that shows up with a link to a contact person for questions and comments. In addition, you can open the Resources tab and find I'On At Home listed there with a drop down menu of information. We will keep this updated, so check the site regularly.



I'On At Home (IAH) is being organized by a group of neighbors within the I'On community for the purpose of ensuring that our residents can remain in their own homes safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age or ability level. The mission of IAH is to provide services and support to enable participants in the program to have active, healthy lifestyles and remain in their homes in a cost effective manner.



Looking for a book club or babysitter? Selling a table or in search of a golf cart? Lost or found a dog? Hosting a neighborhood event?



I'OnSocial is our Facebook page for I'On residents only. When you ask to [join](#), we'll verify your address and add you to the page. Every resident is welcome as long as they adhere to its purpose. That is . . . to connect with neighbors and have fun (and let's try to keep it a "No Whine" zone!). You need to be on Facebook to join; [here's](#) the link!

May at I'On Club

Membership Info, Swim Class, Mother's Day Brunch, Bliss Yoga Night . . . Get all the news [here](#). Email [Emzi Wewers](#) or call her at 843-971-7834 for more information.

Team Trivia – Wednesday, May 11 •
"Pastabilities" Italian-themed menu – every Thursday • Wine & Tapas – Wednesday, May 18 • Live Music Fridays

· I'ON ·
CLUB

It's Golf Cart Season!

Inspector Chip Googe, MPPD, reminds residents of the following rules pertaining to golf carts. The full law can be read [here](#).



- The driver must be at least 16 and have a valid driver's license.
- Golf Cart must be insured.
- Must be registered with the DMV, and have a permit.
- Operate on a secondary road where posted speed limit is 35mph or less and within 4 miles of the registered address.
- Can only cross a primary road to get to another secondary road.
- Can only operate during daylight hours, regardless of whether or not the Golf Cart has lights installed.

Parents, please respect the laws of the state of South Carolina by ensuring compliance in your household.



Community Bulletin Board

HOLY ASCENSION WELCOMES NEIGHBORS TO CONCERT



LYRA, an A Capella Quintet from St. Petersburg, Russia, will sing a two-part concert at Holy Ascension.

Russian Sacred Music in the Church
Russian Folk Music in the Courtyard
Thursday, May 5 at 7:00 PM

Garden Reception Follows. Free Admission and Open to the Public. Bring a friend! A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Choir.

[Fr. John Parker](#), Rector, Holy Ascension Orthodox Church

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITH NO ADMISSION FEE. PLEASE JOIN US!

Radical I'On - The Public Realm, Part 2

These presentations will explore design questions that impact the public realm. Is it possible to build in a manner that enables people to gather together without falling over each other? Was I'On's radical approach to designing the public realm worth pursuing? Can it be made better? Should its development concept be encouraged in other places? Can an intricate ballet still occur on a modern street?

Monday, May 2 *The Infrastructure of Community*: Tamara Graham, Asheville Landscape Designer of I'On Eastlake Park and Coastal Living Idea Cottage; Mark Hylton, Vice President, Gulf Stream Construction; Stuart Whiteside, Vice President, Seamon Whitesides & Associates; Tony Woody, Vice President and Charleston Civil Dept. Manager, Thomas & Hutton

Monday, May 9 *A Neighborhood Living Room*: Steve Dudash, Charleston Regional Director, Thomas & Hutton
Moderator: Vince Graham, I'On Group President and Co-Founder of I'On

6:00 pm at the Chapel of the Holy Cross in the I'On Square

Co-Sponsored by I'On Company, I'On Group, South Atlantic Bank, Pearce Law Firm, William Means Real Estate, SC Community Loan Fund, Southern Community Services, and Creative Video Design



 **ReStore**
**YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIFT
A HAMMER TO HELP**

Spring Cleaning? We can Help!

We accept gently-used furniture, kitchen appliances, building materials, art and literature, electronics and miscellaneous items. Call today and schedule a pickup by the East Cooper Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

The East Cooper Habitat for Humanity ReStore exists to support and fund the building of Habitat homes in the East Cooper area. Currently we are building homes off Theodore Road in Mt. Pleasant. All the funds from the ECHFH ReStore stay in the East Cooper area.

Call today to schedule a pick-up - 843-849-8002

East Cooper Habitat for Humanity ReStore is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

I'On Community Garden



May's First Friday in the I'On Community Garden

Come join us at the
May 6th First Friday
6-8 PM in the I'On
Community Garden



Recent Visitors

While our early Monarch Butterfly larvae have succumbed to bacteria and did not survive, many more butterflies have been recently visiting our garden:



Black Swallowtails



Monarchs



Tiger Swallowtails

Gardening is a family affair

One of the main reasons for developing the I'On Community Garden was to create a neighborhood activity that would bring together people of all ages.

And in our seven years, we've seen many gardens with three generations working side by side.

Beverly Burkett's family is a great example. She gets lots of fun and help in the garden from her grandchildren, Alexis and Evan Manos.



Evan & his giant Radish

In addition to growing a beautiful garden, Beverly is growing memories for her family. This year, Evan and Alexis will celebrate Halloween with pumpkins they've grown in the community garden.

Beverly sums up gardening together... 'Life is good. They make me happy'.



Alexis and Evan's latest project...
I'On's first scarecrow

Come Visit & Watch Our Garden Grow!

Steve Degnen

I'On Community Garden Coordinator
garden@ioncommunity.com

To learn more, visit the I'On Butterfly Garden Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/ionbutterflygarden/>

To help out in our butterfly garden, please contact April Gordon:
dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com

The I'On Trust Presents



FAMILY FUN MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!

SATURDAY, MAY 28 Screen on the Green



Westlake Amphitheater at dusk.

Featuring:



with freshly-popped popcorn

SUNDAY, MAY 29 5:00 to 7:00pm

Westlake Amphitheater

An Old Fashioned Picnic in the Park

The I'On Trust is providing fried chicken,
lemonade, paper goods and utensils.

Live music with The Bluestone Ramblers

Bring covered dishes to share.

Join us for a wonderful afternoon!

