

LIVING IN I'ON

It's a way of life, not just a place to call home



May Events

| | | |
|-----|------|---------------------|
| Fri | 5/5 | First Friday |
| Tue | 5/9 | Women's Coffee |
| Wed | 5/17 | Potluck Dinner |
| Thu | 5/18 | Lunch Bunch |
| Wed | 5/24 | Yarn Buddies |
| Mon | 5/29 | Memorial Day Picnic |

Important Dates

| | | |
|-----|------|------------------------|
| Mon | 5/1 | May Day |
| Tue | 5/2 | IDC Meeting |
| Thu | 5/4 | Recycling Pickup |
| Fri | 5/5 | Cinco De Mayo |
| Fri | 5/5 | Full Moon |
| Tue | 5/9 | IDC Submittal Deadline |
| Sun | 5/14 | Mother's Day |
| Tue | 5/16 | IDC Meeting |
| Thu | 5/18 | Recycling Pickup |
| Mon | 5/29 | Memorial Day |
| Tue | 5/30 | IDC Submittal Deadline |

Creek Club Dock Closures

| | | |
|-----|------|------------------|
| Fri | 5/5 | 4:55 - 5:25 p.m. |
| Sat | 5/6 | 4:25 - 4:55 p.m. |
| Sun | 5/7 | 4:25 - 4:55 p.m. |
| Fri | 5/12 | 5:25 - 5:55 p.m. |
| Sat | 5/13 | 4:55 - 5:25 p.m. |
| Fri | 5/19 | 4:55 - 5:25 p.m. |
| Sat | 5/20 | 4:25 - 4:55 p.m. |
| Sun | 5/21 | 4:55 - 5:25 p.m. |
| Fri | 5/26 | 5:25 - 5:55 p.m. |
| Sat | 5/27 | 4:55 - 5:25 p.m. |
| Mon | 5/29 | 5:25 - 5:55 p.m. |

I'On Board Meeting

159 Civitas Street

Mon 5/15 6:00 p.m.



Preserving and Maintaining I'On's Treescape

The community of I'On values its mature tree cover and it is one of the many reasons that makes the community and streetscape so desirable.

Preserving and maintaining I'On's existing trees and replacing aging trees with new ones, maintains the neighborhood tree canopy in perpetuity.

The IDC, in coordination with the HOA, is charged with preserving the natural tree canopy of I'On. All homeowners must apply and receive approval from the IDC prior to removing any tree greater than 6" in diameter at breast height (DBH). The IDC values design submissions that incorporate and feature the existing trees rather than remove them.

The new tree policy, that has been in effect since October 2022, fines a I'On homeowner for unauthorized tree removals. The minimum amount of the imposed fine for the unauthorized cutting down of a tree(s) is \$5,000 per tree.

Appropriate landscaping, including trees and their canopies, are a critical component of the overall look, feel, and beauty the IDC and HOA hope to maintain in I'On.



From elegant palms to wide-trunked oaks, I'On prioritizes the maintenance and care of trees and their canopies for all to enjoy within the community.

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, May 5 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Hosted by Carter Ward at 57 Saturday Road



No need to RSVP, just please remember to bring your own libations, drinking glasses and a small appetizer to share.

Many thanks to Lee Payne for hosting us in April in her stunning home and garden, everyone had such a great night.

We still have openings for June, July, September, October, and November. Please contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909 if you would like to host a party. Our committee will make it easy. - Wendy Nixon, Dawn Beaver and Carter Ward, your FF Coordinators

WOMEN'S COFFEE

Tuesday, May 9 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Danielle Burness at 18 Jogging Street



May flowers will be in bloom at l'On's Women's Coffee on Tuesday, May 9th from 10:00 am to 12:00 p.m., hosted by Danielle Burness at 18 Jogging Street. Please bring a cup for coffee or tea.

As a courtesy to the hostess and others, we ask that all guests be vaccinated with boosters. No RSVP needed. Call coordinators Joyce Stifel (574) 276-5000 Or Susan Fitzgerald (703) 402-3298 for further information. The coffees are sponsored by the l'On Trust.

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, May 17th - 6:30 p.m. at the Creek Club

Hosted by Karen and Roy Rathbun



Many thanks to Susan and Bob Fitzgerald for hosting our April potluck. We had a big crowd and a beautiful night! Thank you Karen and Roy Rathbun for hosting this upcoming Potluck. It is a great time to get out and socialize with your neighbors.

Please join us for a delightful evening overlooking Hobcaw Creek and the marsh! Plan to arrive at 6:30 and bring a dish to share, along with your own plate, utensils, a beverage and glassware. There are no rules that you must personally cook what you bring.

Please encourage new neighbors to join us. Potluck is a great opportunity to make new friends and catch up on neighborhood news. Don't be shy! You will find dinner partners aplenty once you arrive. No reason to hesitate to arrive solo!

Would you like to host? We have openings for July, August, and November 2023. Let Wendy know at (203) 858-7909. Thank you! - Wendy Nixon, Lendy Barnard, Amy Goldy and Carline Soutter, your Potluck Committee.

LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, May 18 - 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

**Hosted by Vicky Wynn at Little Miss Ha, 915 Houston Northcutt Blvd.
(Whole Foods Shopping Center)**



Many thanks to Karen Rathbun for hosting April's lunch at Graze! The May Lunch Bunch will be held on Thursday, May 18th at Little Miss Ha, 915 Houston Northcutt Blvd (Whole Foods shopping center) from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. This is a family-owned Vietnamese restaurant with delicious options (<https://www.littlemissha.com/>). Please RSVP to Vicky Wynn by Monday, May 15th at vickywynn3@gmail.com.

Questions about Lunch Bunch? Contact Kristen Anderson kristenande@gmail.com.

YARN BUDDIES**Wednesday, May 24 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.****Hosted by Linda Hanson at 87 Moultrieville Road**

Yarn Buddies will be meeting on Wednesday, May 24th, from 10 a.m. to noon, hosted by Linda Hanson at her home, 87 Moultrieville Road.

Don't let the name fool you. Yarn buddies was designed for those who want to encourage and share their imagination, inspiration, and creativity in the handcrafted arts. Knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, beading, quilting, rug hooking, paper-folding arts, are just some of the activities undertaken. Please contact Linda if you are able to attend: lindahanson@gmail.com or text: (843) 628-8145.

I'ON WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP...**COMING SOON: "The Book Club - The Next Chapter"...**

Our next movie will be "The Book Club - The Next Chapter." A few years ago we went to see "The Book Club" with Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Mary Steenburgen, and Candice Bergen. The sequel, which takes place in Italy, is expected to open on Mother's Day. So watch for an evite near that date. [CLICK TO VIEW MOVIE TRAILER](#)

If you are not on the email list please write me at laabsjan@hotmail.com and I will add you to the list to receive an evite for the upcoming movie night. See you at the movies, Jan Laabs

**THIS MONTH WITH THE I'ON TRUST****Memorial Day Picnic****Monday, May 29 - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Westlake Amphitheater**

The Trust is providing fried chicken, lemonade, paper goods and utensils. Tables will be available for your dishes to share. This is a BYOB event for those 21+. The open mic portion of the picnic has been canceled.

**Grub on the Green - HAS BEEN CANCELED****Friday, May 5th - 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the Maybank Green**

Please keep an eye out for other Grub on the Green events to come!

COMING IN JUNE...**Screen on the Green****Date and Time to be announced at Westlake Amphitheater**

Grab your friends and come celebrate the end of school and the start of summer with an outdoor movie! The Trust will be hosting its annual Screen on the Green at Westlake with popcorn and other treats.



THE UNINTENDED VICTIMS OF RAT POISON

The use of anticoagulant rodenticide (rat poison) to control rodents in your yard can expose your pets and local wildlife to this deadly poison. Rodents that consume anticoagulant poisons do not die immediately. It can take up to 10 days for the rodent to die by internal bleeding. As the poison takes effect the rodents begin to move more slowly and become easy targets for pets and native predators such as hawks, owls, foxes and bobcats. These animals are in turn poisoned when they ingest the dying rodents.

In the last few years, many pest control companies have been using “second generation” anticoagulant rodenticides. They are cheaper and also more deadly than their predecessors, as they contain a significantly higher level of toxin. There are several brands on the market, and they all contain one of four chemicals: brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difenacoum, or difethialone (called Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides, or “SGAR’s”).

What can you do to reduce risks to your pets and our native wildlife?

Tell your pest control provider not to use second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGARs) on your property. If you do your own pest control, check the active ingredient on the label to make sure you are not using any of the active ingredients listed above. There are substitute products that eliminate or minimize the risk. The earlier anticoagulants are still available, and there are newer chemicals such as cholecalciferol (brand name Selontra) and bromethalin (brand name Fastrac) which are non-anticoagulants. While these products appear to be safe from the secondary poisoning of animals and birds, they are still potentially toxic if consumed directly. They should not be left where pets or predators might get into them.

How can you control rodents without toxins?

1. Prevent rodent access to food sources like pet food, trash and compost piles.
2. Remove bird feeders.
3. Clean your BBQ after each use.
4. Reduce hiding places and shelter for rodents by sealing holes and cracks into your house, garage, and sheds.
5. Clean up wood/brush/junk piles that provide shelter to rodents.
6. Remove thick vegetation, specifically ivy, where rats can nest.
7. Prune tree limbs so they are at least three feet away from your roof.

Taken together, these steps can help eliminate rodents while protecting the health of our pets and wildlife. Below are links to more detailed information.

<https://files.constantcontact.com/fcc83c01301/63ed5007-7038-4db0-a959-135511d8617d.pdf>

<https://www.audubon.org/magazine/january-february-2013/poisons-used-kill-rodents-have-safer>

**I'On Eco Group: Preserving I'On's beauty through sound environmental practices.
For further information, please contact Carol Degnen at ionecogroup@gmail.com.**

I'ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

"Gardens for Wildlife"

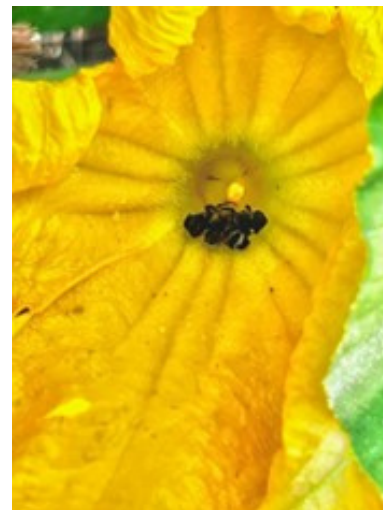
by Dr. April Gordon



When people think of our community garden they envision juicy tomatoes and other edibles for the dinner table. Tasty herbs, a few strawberries, and perhaps some flowers also come to mind. Of course, these are the main crops we grow with people the intended beneficiaries. But in reality, growing food successfully for ourselves entails a symbiotic relationship with wildlife partners—especially insects whose needs also must be considered.

A major part of this relationship is rooted in the need flowering plants have for pollination to reproduce. Roughly 75% of flowering plants and 35% of our food crops which are flowering plants, depend on pollination to produce their seeds and fruit. Most pollinators are insects including bees, butterflies, and moths seeking flower nectar and pollen that they use for food. The pollen is spread from flower to flower where pollination occurs. If the flower-insect symbiosis fails to occur, our garden tomatoes, peppers, squash, beans, corn, and other crops fail as well.

This is why a healthy garden is essential. A healthy garden is filled with diverse flowering plants that attract an abundance of different pollinators. In our community garden flowering plants include vegetables such as beans, tomatoes, squash, and nectar-filled flowers such as zinnias, sunflowers, salvias, cosmos, and coneflowers. Other flowering plants are herbs such as rosemary, basil, borage, parsley, bronze fennel, and dill. The latter three herbs are distinguished by being host plants for Black Swallowtail butterflies caterpillars.



Bees seek pollen on squash blossoms and spread it to others resulting in squash for our gardens



Flowers such as zinnias and native salvias are planted in vegetable gardens to attract pollinators for our crops.

Not only do insects help us grow our food, they also become food for other wildlife such as birds, toads, anoles, salamanders, and other insects. As a bonus, all of these living things turn our garden spaces into a fascinating and beautiful world filled with smaller creatures that too often go unnoticed. Once you start to look for them, however, and learn to appreciate the complexity of their lives and the vital roles they have in nature, you may want to plan your own garden more like the community garden where we grow diverse flowering plants, avoid toxic chemicals, and protect our soil. With scientists warning of a growing "insect apocalypse," now is the time to consider "gardening for wildlife."



Parsley and bronze fennel herbs in this garden bed are host plants that attract Black Swallowtail Caterpillars

To learn more, contact April Gordon (dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com)

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

May is Garden for Wildlife Month: Lessons from the Butterfly Garden

by Dr. April Gordon



Since the end of March, the butterfly and community gardens have gained new neighbors: a family of bluebirds has taken up occupancy in the bluebird box inside the garden fence. The parents spent several days building their nest and the female is sitting on her eggs for approximately two weeks while her mate watches over the territory and brings her food. Once the babies hatch and until they become independent, they will be fed by both parents.

Have you ever wondered what baby bluebirds eat? It isn't worms or seeds as is often thought. Instead, research indicates that 96 % of terrestrial birds, including bluebirds, rear their young on insects, primarily caterpillars. A large percentage of those are butterfly and moth caterpillars. How many caterpillars would you think are needed to raise a clutch of bluebirds? A few hundred? A thousand? If the number is similar to what has been found with Carolina chickadees, it could be closer to 6000-9000 caterpillars of which 5000 or more will be butterfly and moth caterpillars!



Bluebirds nest in a bird box inside the community garden fence

If you love bluebirds and other birds, the key to thriving bird populations is to have a lot of insects available. The key to having lot of insects and caterpillars is native plants. Although all plants do not need to be native, the research on chickadees found that their numbers can only be sustained where non-native plants are 30% or less of the landscape vegetation. The reason is that many insects can only eat the leaves of plants with which they have co-evolved. The problem is that in most of our yards and gardens, non-native plants from Asia and other foreign countries have largely replaced native plants. Making the situation worse, many of us see insects as pests and native plants as weeds and use toxic pesticides and herbicides to kill them. We seldom realize that what we are doing is contributing to the drastic decline of many insect and bird populations. (More than half of US bird species are in decline; 70 have lost 50% or more of their population in the last fifty years.)



Gulf Fritillary butterflies depend on passionfruit vines for the survival of their caterpillars

The l'On butterfly garden is our small effort to counteract these trends by displaying the beauty of native plants and the vibrancy and joy to be found in a garden ecosystem that recognizes the interdependence of plants and insects such as butterflies and birds. Most of our plants are natives that provide food for both adult butterflies and caterpillars. Some of our most beautiful butterflies can only survive if the native plants they eat are available. Among these are Monarchs that can only eat milkweed; Gulf Fritillaries that require passionfruit vines; Pipevine Swallowtails that depend on pipevine plants; and Spicebush Swallowtails that need spicebush shrubs. Of special significance, native oak trees support an astonishing 500 or more varieties of butterfly and moth caterpillars. All of these plants and more are growing in and around the butterfly garden. The variety of insects and larvae that inhabit the garden area will provide the food needed by our bluebird family. By making even minor changes to your own yard and garden, you too can help birds by "gardening for wildlife".



Monarch caterpillar feeds on milkweed leaves, the only food it can eat

To learn more contact April Gordon at dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com.



LOAN  ZONE
Don't Buy it...Borrow It!

Introducing I'On At Home's Newest Service: The Loan Zone... Don't Buy It... Borrow It!

In the spirit of IAH's Neighbors Helping Neighbors, we're pleased to introduce the Loan Zone offering short-term lending of a wide range of products and equipment to help members with everyday activities, fun events and emergencies. Here are a few ways for IAH members to use this new service:

Have friends coming to town and want to roll around I'On & Charleston... borrow a golf cart or a bike.

Take a spill off a bike or recovering from a surgery... borrow crutches, a knee scooter, cane or a walker.

Feeling energetic and starting your spring clean up... borrow yard equipment.

Grandkids visiting... borrow a baby carrier, baby gates, high chair, board games, etc.

Having a big party... borrow chairs, card tables, large coffee maker and more.

Want to have fun outdoors... borrow a kayak, beach chairs, croquet and bocce sets.

To use the Loan Zone, IAH members go to the IAH website and see what's currently available to borrow.

Join I'On At Home and start borrowing now!

**To learn more about I'On At Home:
Contact Mary Holtz, IAH Administrative Manager: maryh@ionathome.org
or visit us at: <https://ionathome.helpfulvillage.com>**

Welcome New Neighbors

Be sure to stop by to welcome and introduce yourself to...

Ana & Kevin Clark
90 Jane Jacobs Street



Communications Committee

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Fran Tepperman
Living In I'On Editor

Mary Kaplan
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Kathie Haas
Danielle Marin

Kat Harberg & Antonia Fokas
I'On Trust

Mary James & Emily Simpson
HOA Managers, Ravenel Associates



The Communications Committee wants to hear from you! Click **HERE** to submit your questions, comments, requests, or concerns. It's always a pleasure to hear from a Living in I'On reader!

CALLING ALL NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYGROUND USERS

We Need Your Help!



The Assembly recently formed a Playground Subcommittee to look at the existing playgrounds in the neighborhood and make recommendations on how they can be improved. To help the subcommittee understand what the community wants, they put together a very short survey.

If you use any of the neighborhood playgrounds, please take 2 minutes to complete the survey now, by clicking on the link below:

TAKE THE SURVEY



*Congratulations to the Class of 2023
and best wishes for future success!*

