



LIVING IN I'ON

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



February Events

FRI	2/2	First Friday
TUE	2/13	Women's Coffee
WED	2/21	Potluck Dinner
SAT	2/24	I'On Blood Drive
SUN	2/25	I'On Oyster Roast
WED	2/28	Yarn Buddies
TBD		Lunch Bunch
TBD		Women's Movie Group

Important Dates

TUE	2/6	IDC Meeting
MON	2/8	Recycling Pickup
TUE	2/13	IDC Submittal Deadline
WED	2/14	Valentine's Day
TUE	2/20	IDC Meeting
THU	2/22	Recycling Pickup
SAT	2/24	Full Moon
SUN	2/25	Full Moon
TUE	2/27	IDC Submittal Deadline

DOCK CLOSINGS ON PAGE 2

2024 I'On Board Meetings
159 Civitas Street
Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

February 12



I'On Assembly 2024 Board of Trustees

We would like to thank everyone who attended the 2024 annual meeting on Monday, January 29! Another thanks to all the neighbors who voted online and submitted proxies prior to the meeting. The annual meeting cannot happen without the participation of the community.

The Board Organizational Meeting will be held within the next 10 business days. We are happy to announce the 2024 Board of Trustees (in alphabetical order).



if you visit this charming neighborhood action spinner, we hope the arrow points to LOVE this month.

- Bob Adams*
- Julie Hussey*
- Jody McAuley*
- Tom O'Brien*
- Roy Rathbun*
- Lon Waggoner*
- Stephen Wood*



		DOCK CLOSINGS - FEBRUARY 2024	
Date of Event 2024	Event Type	Ceremony Starts	
Saturday, February, 3rd	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55	
Sunday, February, 4th	Wedding & Reception	3:55-4:25	
Friday, February, 9th	Wedding & Reception	4:55-5:25	
Saturday, February, 10th	Wedding & Reception	3:55-4:25	
Sunday, February, 11th	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55	
Saturday, February, 17th	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55	
Sunday, February, 18th	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55	
Friday, February, 23rd	Wedding & Reception	4:25-4:55	
Saturday, February, 24th	Wedding & Reception	5:25-5:55	
Sunday, February, 25th	Wedding & Reception	3:55-4:25	

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, February 2 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Hosted by Susan and George Miller at 24 Prescient Street



Many thanks to Tom O’Brien who graciously hosted a fun bunch of revelers in January. Thank you to Susan and George Miller for kindly offering to host our February First Friday. No need to RSVP, just please remember to bring your own libations, drinking glasses and a small appetizer to share.

Would you like to host a future First Friday cocktails? We have hosts for March, April, May, and August, but are still looking for hosts for September 6, October 4, November 1, and December 6. Please contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909 if you would like to host a party. We will make it easy. Also, feel free to contact Wendy if you would like to take over, or help on the First Friday or Potluck Committee. She is happy to train anyone who is interested in taking over either of these positions. Best, Wendy Nixon and Dawn Beaver, your FF coordinators

WOMEN'S COFFEE

Tuesday, February 13 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Pam Bishop at 138 West Shipyard



Come in from the cold and join the I’On Women’s Coffee hosted by Pam Bishop. No RSVP needed, just bring your own cup for filling. Contact your Women’s Coffee Coordinators, Abigail Wolitzer (abbywolitzer@yahoo.com) and Farrah Follmann (ffollmann@yahoo.com) with questions.

LUNCH BUNCH

Host Needed



Many thanks to our hostess Margie Bondy for hosting a fun and festive January Lunch Bunch at Tavern and Table. If you are interested in hosting an upcoming event please contact Kristen Anderson at kristenande@gmail.com.

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, February 21 - 6:30 p.m. at the Creek Club

Hosted by John and Dawn Beaver



Thank you to Jim and Becky Head for hosting January's Potluck. We had a great group on a very chilly night. John and Dawn Beaver will host February. We need hosts for March on. Please contact Wendy Nixon if you are interested. It's a great time to get out and socialize with your neighbors and meet new ones! We hope you'll join us this month.

Come celebrate 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 glass. 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. And 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? Let Wendy Nixon know at (203) 858-7909. Thank you for your consideration.

Best, Wendy Nixon, Lendy Barnard, Amy Goldy and Carline Soutter, your Potluck Committee

YARN BUDDIES

Wednesday, February 28 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Susan Fitzgerald at 185 North Shelmore



Yarn Buddies will meet on Wednesday, February 28 at Susan Fitzgerald's home. Please let Susan know if you will be attending this meeting by contacting her at (703) 402-3298 or by email at susaniveyfitzgerald@gmail.com.

Yarn Buddies was formed to encourage creativity, share imagination, and inspire those who have an interest in the handcrafted arts. Anyone interested in the creative arts of handiwork (be it knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, jewelry making, quilting, rug hooking, etc.), is warmly invited to attend.

I'ON WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP

Our next outing will be announced by email to all neighbors on the movie list. If you aren't on the list and are interested please email Jan Laabs at laabsjan@hotmail.com. You will then receive an evite with all the information to attend the next outing. It may be awhile depending on what's playing.



Volunteers

Volunteers are at the heart of our community.

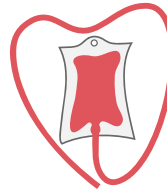
Please contact our event coordinators if you can host an upcoming event.

You are the people who make I'On a special place to live.



FROM THE I'ON TRUST

I'On Blood Drive
Saturday, February 24th - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
on the I'On Square



An Email will be sent out separately with further details.



2024 I'On Trust Neighborhood Oyster Roast
Sunday, February 25th 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. at the Westlake Amphitheatre

Join us for I'On's annual Oyster Roast! This year, The Crazy Dutchman will be serving up all you can eat oysters along with a BBQ buffet with mac n cheese, coleslaw and cornbread.

Tickets are limited and can be purchased online now until February 11th. Discount offered to those that purchase their tickets before February 5th.

Tickets Pricing

Early Bird - Now through Feb 5th - \$35/adult, \$10/children under 10,
 After Feb 5th through Feb 12th - \$40/adult, \$12/children under 10

To purchase tickets, **[PLEASE CLICK HERE.](#)**

This is a BYOB event for guests 21+. If you would like to pay with cash or check, please contact Antonia Fokas at admin@iontrust.org

SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday, March 3

Pizza da Michalino, wood fire pizza truck

Saturday, March 30

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 6

After The Bridge Run Concert - 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Westlake Amphitheater

Featuring Charleston's own, Gritty Flyright. Gather your picnic supplies and join us for a fun and relaxing afternoon with great music and friends! This event is free and family-friendly. For more information visit www.grittyflyright.com. This is a BYOB event for those 21+.





MORE FROM THE I'ON TRUST

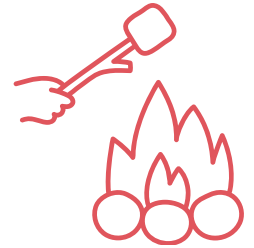


Have a Heart and Volunteer

Interested in helping with an I'On Trust Event? Please contact Antonia Fokas at admin@iontrust.org or (843) 881-7541. We love extra hands! Most importantly, it's a great way to meet neighbors and help make our community so special.

S'more People to Thank

Thank you to all those that braved the cold temps and enjoyed a s'more! Special thanks to Trey Mathisen who built a great fire, Shannon Runquist, Amy Mathisen, Jenny Edwards, and Deb O'Lunney for helping make it all happen!



Perseverance Square Brick Engraving - 2024



The I'On Trust is pleased to announce that Perseverance Square Brick Engraving is again being offered to I'On residents.

For those of you unfamiliar with this wonderful I'On tradition, the project began in 2004 and now over 500 bricks have been engraved surrounding the fountain in Perseverance Square. Names of I'On residents' loved ones, dear friends, and beloved pets along with those who have made a difference in someone's life or who have contributed to the community can be found on the bricks there. Perseverance Square is a uniquely wonderful place in I'On, shared and enjoyed by all in remembrance of those special people that have gone before and the ones we love and cherish in our lives today. Orders can be placed now through March 31st, 2024. Engraved bricks will be installed in May.

If you would like to remember someone special in your life, or have your family name etched forever in I'On history, click the link to fill out a google form: **Brick Engraving**. Each brick costs \$45 and can be engraved with up to 3 lines, 13 characters per line including spaces.

Your completed order form together with a check made out to The I'On Trust can either be dropped into The I'On Trust mailbox near the HOA office or by mailing to PO Box 1064, Mount Pleasant, SC 29465. Please email admin@iontrust.org when you have submitted your form.

For more information about ordering an engraved brick, please contact Michele Wilson at: tenprowcc@gmail.com.

PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT



The Greenery of Charleston Partners with Ruppert Landscape

Dear Greenery of Charleston Customer,

First, thank you for being a loyal customer of The Greenery of Charleston. We want you to know the tremendous value we place on your business and on the many friendships we have made over the years. That said, I am excited to share the news that we have decided to partner with Ruppert Landscape.

Ruppert is a respected industry leader with an outstanding reputation. Similar to our business in many ways, Ruppert is deeply committed to serving their customers and community and growing their business while providing opportunities for team members. Our team will gain wider access to additional training, resources, expertise and innovation that will enable us to deliver even greater value in order to meet your evolving needs.

We understand the uncertainty brought about by change, and we want to assure you that this transition will be seamless. You will not see any disruption in service or loss of knowledge regarding your site or project. Our entire Charleston management team will remain in place and continue to lead the business here in South Carolina.

As we begin the process of integrating with Ruppert, you can expect to see some changes to our branding in early 2024. While these adjustments are part of our efforts to align with our new identity and better serve you, rest assured you can expect the same level of professionalism, dedication and attention to detail from our team during and after this process. We will update you in advance of any future adjustments to billings or payments.

We genuinely appreciate your loyalty and support throughout this transition period. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey and we look forward to continuing to serve you as part of the Ruppert team. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Andrew Dupps
Regional Vice President
Ruppert Landscape



I'ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

Late January Cold Snap Strikes but Community Gardeners Were Prepared

by April Gordon

It is rare for coastal South Carolina to have temperatures in the low 20's, but this is what we faced recently. We pride ourselves on having year-round gardens, but success in the Winter depends on smart plant choices and providing protection for plants based on their cold tolerance. Among the most cold-hardy vegetables are brassicas such as mustard greens, kale, and cabbage. Other tough survivors are onions, garlic, and chives, but without protection such cool-weather favorites as peas, bok choy, and lettuce can't survive sustained temperatures below the upper 20's.

Since plants vary in their tolerance for freezing temperatures and forecasts can be uncertain, covering your plants is advisable when prolonged freezes occur. One of the best coverings for garden plants used at the community garden is frost cloth, which provides protection from freezes into the 20's.



A Frost cloth protected this garden, including leaf lettuce, from cold in the low 20's

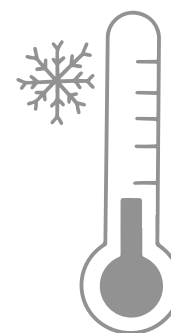
Covered with straw mulch and frost cloth, the artichokes, lettuce, herbs, kale, and bok choy with differing cold tolerances, all survived the cold snap

Even plants that can take cold into the 20's might sustain leaf damage if temperatures drop lower than expected. Covering them with a heavy layer of straw mulch will help to hold the heat in the soil and protect sensitive leaves and plant roots.

For gardens with plants of mixed or uncertain cold-hardiness, a thick layer of mulch and frost cloth used together provide extra insurance against the cold.



Cabbage, garlic, chives, mustard greens and kale are very cold-hardy and were undamaged with a thick layer of straw covering them



The freeze is now behind us, and temperatures are expected to be mainly in the 60's and 70's into early February. Let's hope this is the worst weather Mother Nature throws our way and that we will be rewarded for our efforts with bountiful harvests. But if we are challenged again, we will know how to respond.

FINAL NOTE: join our garden community by registering for your own 5' x 8' plot. A few plots remain, and the Spring planting season begins with the garden opening on Saturday, February 17.

Contact April Gordon at iongarden@gmail.com for more information or a registration form.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

The Big Freeze and the Saga of the Zebra Longwing

by April Gordon

For the last several years in late Summer, we at the butterfly garden have had the pleasure of weeks-long visitations by the rare Zebra Longwing butterfly. This exquisite black butterfly with white-pale yellow stripes on its wings normally spends its life in Mexico, Central America, Texas, and Florida. Occasionally, a few will be reported in the Carolinas and elsewhere outside of its normal range. The reason it is rare north of Florida is that it can't survival freezing winters farther north.

Although we have become accustomed to seeing this beautiful butterfly for a few weeks each year, there is never more than one or two, and they never reproduced in the butterfly garden despite the plentiful supply of its passion vine host plant we grow (host plants are where butterflies lay their eggs). As cooler weather sets in, the butterflies disappear

This year has been different in important respects. As in the past, our first sightings were in September, but over the Fall there were a record three of them, and they weren't leaving as colder weather set in. For the first time there continued to be three Zebra Longwings together in the garden in November. Undoubtedly, the availability of so many flowers due to a mild Fall played a major role in the butterflies remaining here.

After some cold weather in the 30's in December, only one butterfly was left. Luckily, there was no hard freeze to kill the remaining nectar flowers, especially the scarlet salvia, lantana, and coneflowers they prefer for food. Similar conditions prevailed through January 14 when I took my last photo of the Longwing shortly before the big January freeze.



Two of three Zebra Longwings are shown here feeding together on a group of coneflowers in early November.



The last Zebra Longwing enjoys nectar from scarlet salvia flowers on January 14, a day before the killing freeze began.

The freeze during the week beginning January 15 has left the garden a desolate landscape with only a few flowers left— mainly an occasional limp scarlet salvia and a lone climbing aster flower. As I write this newsletter on January 23 with temperatures finally back in the low 60's (a temperature warm enough for a butterfly to fly), I have visited the garden to see if there is any sign the Zebra Longwing may have survived the freeze by taking shelter and going into a hibernation-like state called torpor. With temperatures expected to be in the 70's this week, in case the butterfly was alive and looking for food, I took some flowering salvia to the garden that I had potted before the freeze. The odds are against the Longwing's survival, but then, wouldn't it be wondrous if somehow it made it...

April Gordon at dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com





WHY WE SHOULD SCOOP THE POOP

We talk about this topic a lot in I'On, and I'm guessing in every other community locally and around the nation. But why does it matter so much? Succinctly stated, pet waste is a health risk to both people and pets, and it adversely affects our water quality.

Need more reasons to scoop the poop: <https://doggydogood.com/blogs/dog-blog/4-reasons-picking-up-after-your-dog-is-more-important-than-you-think>

1. It takes up to 12 months for it break down. Meanwhile, rainwater carries it into our drainage systems and eventually into lakes, creeks, etc. As much as 30% of bacteria found in watersheds comes from pet waste, according to studies.
2. Diseases such as COVID, Giardiasis, Parvovirus, Cryptosporidiosis, Salmonellosis, and Campylobacteriosis can be carried in pet waste, in addition to parasites like ringworm and tapeworm.
3. Pet feces also contains pathogens and nutrients that can pollute the water and cause severe illness for humans.
4. Dog poop is NOT a fertilizer, like cow manure, because cows eat plant matter. In fact, dog waste can contaminate fruits, vegetables, and other plants.
5. Picking up poop is our responsibility, as pet owners and good neighbors.

Fortunately, Our HOA has made it easy by placing poop stations in many convenient locations around the 'hood. These include a can for disposal and a box of new bags for you to take. To go one step further, having poop bags with you all the time on your dog walks will make sure that you're prepared, even when your pet "makes her deposit" where a poop station is not nearby. Many people save the plastic sleeves from daily newspaper deliveries for this purpose. However, plastic bags have a devastating impact on our wildlife and ecosystem. Better to use compostable (more environmentally friendly than just "biodegradable") bags. There are many such bags available online and at retail outlets, made just for this purpose. You can even get refillable holders that conveniently clip to the dog's leash.

Hopefully, you are now convinced that scooping the poop is important, and that it's worth the trouble to do it! Your neighbors thank you!

*I'On Eco Group – preserving I'On's beauty through sound environmental practices.
For more information, contact us at ionecogroup@gmail.com.*



A community of friends enjoying enriched, vibrant and independent lives together

Hello I'On Neighbors,

We're pleased to introduce your 2024 I'On At Home Committees. These volunteers will be providing new programs, activities, events and services throughout the year. They are the heart of the organization and their dedication and creativity make I'On At Home so important in our lives.

Programs Committee

Mary Kaplan (Co-chair)
Janet Gertz (Co-chair)
Dick Bondy
Kathy Coffman
Francine Christiansen
Carol Dickey
Barbara Fowler

Elizabeth Hazard
Becky Head
Peg Higgins
Anne Janas
Paul Johnson
Tom Martin
Cathy Remington

Andrea Rose Rosseaux
Mary Swenson
Marty Tennille
Susan Vatterott
Herb White
Mary Wilbur

Finance Committee

Joe Fanelli (Chair)
Stephan Christiansen
Jim Head
Amy Minella
Anne Register
George Watt

Advisory Council

Finance – Carol Degnen
Healthcare – Barbara Cole
Law – Ben Tennille
Marketing – Tom Martin

Communications & Marketing Committee

Steve Degnen (Chair)
Rob Brokaw
Bill Gangi
Tom Martin
Bob Pitts

Membership Committee

Cathy Mooney (Co - Chair)
Karen Rathbun (Co-Chair)

Volunteer Services Committee

Kathie Haas (Chair)

CHOICES Committee

Susan Miller
Cathy Remington
Marty Tennille
Mary Wilbur

Over 55, I'On At Home is for you!

Join us and become a part of a lively group of neighbors interested in learning new things, sharing cultural and social activities and helping each other.

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...

Nicole Shockley & Ryan O'Boyle
302 N Shelmore Blvd

Clay & Sloan Wolford
15 Robert Mills Circle

Spencer Robinson & Paige Follmann
74 Hopetown Road



Communications Committee

Michael Spalding
Communications Chair

Fran Tepperman
Living In I'On Editor

Mary Kaplan
Ambassador Chair

Antonia Fokas
I'On Trust

Kathie Haas
Danielle Marin

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!

2023 Civitas Award Winners

The Civitas Award has been given to an outstanding member or members of the I'On Community since 2003. It is awarded to a person or persons who has gone above and beyond the call of service.

The word Civitas is Latin for citizenship; conveying a sense of community, responsibility, and a common purpose.

We would like to congratulate Trey Mathisen and Johann von Asten as the 2023 Civitas Award recipients!

Johann and Trey's previous years on the Board and their community participation is what makes I'On a special community! I'On would not be what it is today without all the past, present and future volunteers who continue to keep the I'On Community thriving.



Congratulations to I'On's 2023 Civitas Award recipients (left to right) Johann Von Asten and Trey Mathisen.

