



LIVING IN I'ON

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

November Events



- FRI 11/8 Second Friday
- SUN 11/10 Pizza Truck on the Green
- TUE 11/12 Women's Coffee
- WED 11/20 Potluck Dinner
- WED 11/20 Yarn Buddies
- FRI 11/22 Luminary Order Deadline
- TBD Women's Movie Night
- TBD Lunch Bunch
- SUN 12/8 Festival of Giving

Important Dates

- TUE 11/5 IDC Meeting
- TUE 11/12 IDC Submittal Deadline
- THU 11/14 Recycling Pickup
- TUE 11/17 IDC Meeting
- TUE 11/26 IDC Submittal Deadline
- THU 11/28 Thanksgiving
- FRI 11/29 Recycling Pickup

DOCK CLOSINGS ON PAGE 2

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

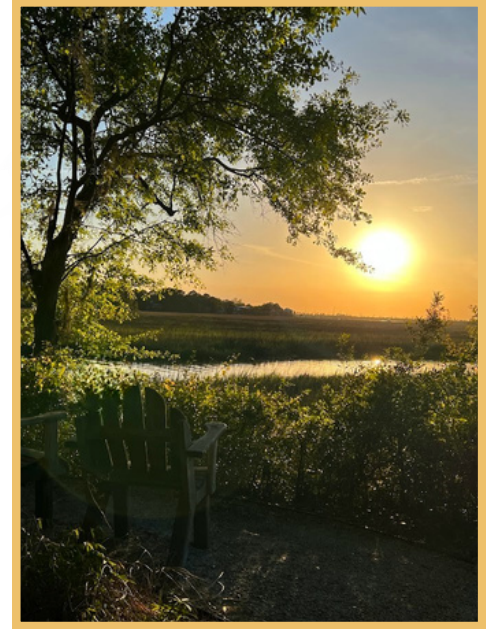
MON., 11/18
 MON., 12/16



I'On Assembly Seeks Candidates

Each January during the annual meeting, the I'On Assembly Board of Trustees elects three to four new board members to serve a two-year term. This year, four (4) candidates will be elected for the 2025-2026 term.

If you are interested in serving or have a neighbor you would like to recommend, current Board members are available between now and the January election to discuss the job responsibilities and share their lessons learned.



Serving on the board and volunteering for one of I'On's standing committees are great ways get involved in the future direction of our neighborhood. While the time commitment varies based on issues which may arise, board members can expect to spend roughly two hours a week. The primary responsibility for all board members is to have an open mind when making decisions in the best interest of all 762 titleholders.

One of the best ways to get a feel for how the board operates is to attend one of the upcoming monthly meetings on November 18 or December 16.

Joining the board requires filling out a board application by November 30th, so packets with ballots can be sent to Assembly members in December. Voting occurs in January and ends at our annual meeting in January.

Continued on page 9





DOCK CLOSINGS - NOVEMBER 2024

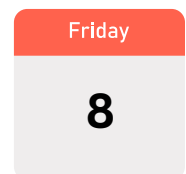
Friday, November 1st	Wedding & Reception	4:55 - 5:25
Saturday, November 2nd	Wedding & Reception	5:25 - 5:55
Sunday, November 3rd	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Friday, November 8th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Saturday, November 9th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Sunday, November 10th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Friday, November 15th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Saturday, November 16th	Wedding & Reception	3:55 - 4:25
Sunday, November 17th	Wedding & Reception	2:55 - 3:25
Friday, November 22nd	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Saturday, November 23rd	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55

For an up-to-date list of common area reservations, please visit the community calendar located on our website! <https://ioncommunity.com/calendar/>

SECOND FRIDAY

Friday, November 8 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

HOST NEEDED



We're looking for a host for the SECOND Friday of November, the 8th from 6 to 8 p.m.

Please consider volunteering your home and time for a fun and easy Friday night out with neighbors and friends. Guests are invited to bring their own libations, drinking glasses, and a small appetizer to share. Contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909 if you would like to host a party or simply learn more. Wendy will support you all the way. Hosting opportunities are available in 2025 as well.

WOMEN'S COFFEE

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

Hosted by Amy Goldy at 51 Sowell Street



No RSVP needed. Bring a cup for coffee or tea and join us. For further information, contact Abigail Wolitzer at abbywolitzer@yahoo.com or Farrah Follmann at ffollmann@yahoo.com.

YARN BUDDIES

Wednesday, November 20 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Kathy Coffman at 324 North Shelmore Boulevard



The November meeting of Yarn Buddies will take place on Wednesday, November 20th, at the home of Kathy Coffman, 324 No. Shelmore Blvd. Please contact Kathy if you are able to attend. Text (224) 622-7859 or Email kcoff@comcast.net

Anyone interested in the arts of handwork, be it knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, jewelry making, quilting, crewel, embroidery, cross-stitch, etc. are warmly invited to attend.

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, November 20 - 6:30 p.m.

Hosted by Gigi and Pascale Van Vliet at the Creek Club



Please join us at the Creek Club where Gigi and Pascale Van Vliet will host our monthly Pot Luck dinner at the beautiful Creek Club overlooking the Hobcaw Creek and the marsh. Neighbors join us once a month for dinner and drink when attendees bring a dish to share (whether homemade or purchased) along with their own plate, utensils, beverage and glass. Pot Luck evenings are a great way to see old friends, make new friends and catch up on neighborhood news. Please encourage neighbors to join us and if you are new to the I'On neighborhood, please come! It is a fun, social evening where you are sure to find delicious dishes made by our talented I'On friends! If you are interested in hosting future months or if you have fun ideas for our Pot Luck dinners, please reach out to Amy Goldy at (908) 403-5466. Thank you so much to Farrah Follmann and Harry Farthing for hosting our October dinner.

LUNCH BUNCH HOSTS NEEDED



We are looking for someone to host December's Holiday Luncheon. Perhaps you have a favorite restaurant around the holidays you would like to share with your neighbors. The host gets to pick the date and the venue! Please contact Kristen Anderson at kristenande@gmail.com.

**The Annual Hat Luncheon was held on October 24th with 20 attendees at the Palmetto Cafe.
Congratulations to best hat winners Debbie McLaren and Lucy Scribner.
A big thank you to the I'On Trust for sponsoring the prizes.**



I'ON WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP

Sign up to receive future movie dates and times...



Great news for you movie buffs out there. The selection of movies over the upcoming holidays look good for a change with great stories, famous actors, and a larger selection to choose from. Watch for an evite from me in your inbox very soon. Send me your email if you want to join the group. (laabsjan@hotmail.com)

Five members of the group attended the movie "The Wild Robot" in October and we all loved it. If you're looking for a feel good movie to take the little ones to it fits the bill perfectly. - Jan Laabs

THIS MONTH WITH THE I'ON TRUST



PIZZA TRUCK ON THE GREEN

Sunday, November 10 - 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the Maybank Green

Enjoy Pizza de Michelino on the Maybank Green. The Preorder Link will be sent out one week prior to the event.

GIVING LIGHTS!



Captains will be working hard delivering order forms very soon. Please join us in our support for Camp Happy Days and The Lonon Foundation. Deadline for Luminary Orders is Friday, November 22!

Last year we had 600+ homes participate and more than 78% of our households - record breaking! Let's see if we can increase our participation to 80%. Out of town for the festival? Your donation counts as your home's participation. The neighborhood will look magical on December 8th. We will be packing over 1,000 luminary kits. Please note - the price of a kit will increase to \$20. We have not had an increase since 2010. As a registered 501(c)(3) non profit organization, all donations are tax deductible minus goods received. Luminary base cost \$3.00 EIN: 57-1071873.

THE 22nd HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF GIVING

Sunday, December 8 - By 5:30 p.m. Set Out Your Luminaries and Stroll Over to the Maybank Green for Caroling. Continue to the Westlake Amphitheater for the 6:00 p.m. Proceeds Presentation

Glowing candles will line the streets of I'On in celebration of the holiday season! Dress in your most festive holiday sweater and light your luminaries in front of your home by 5:30 p.m. Please join us at Maybank Green for caroling with a talented group of singers from the School of the Arts.



We will then walk over to the Westlake Amphitheater. At 6:00 p.m we will present the proceeds of the Giving Lights to this year's recipient, Camp Happy Day and The Lonon Foundation. The celebration will continue with our traditional carriage rides to view the luminaries. Carriage rides are free & tickets will be available through an eblast on Wednesday, December 4th. The email sign up is first come, first served. Tickets per sign up are limited. Details on the evening's event will be included in the December newsletter and an eblast. Please be courteous to those with small children who may need the earlier time slots. We want everyone to enjoy this magical evening.

*We ♥ our
Volunteers*

A special thanks to Leigh Willard for heading up Halloween in Hood again this year. Many thanks to Amanda Doherty, Jessica Der Mijes, Catherine Kotz, Amy Mathisen, and Shelly Scott. We extend a big thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible. We truly can't do it without the help of our volunteers!

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Hurricanes and the Fall Monarch Migration

by April Gordon



Monarch Fall migration map

Every year from August–November, millions of Monarchs in North America undertake their yearly Fall migration that begins in Canada and ends in Mexico, a distance as far as 3000 miles. This epic journey is reversed in the Spring when the Monarchs return to North America to spend the warm Spring and Summer months. After reproducing three or four generations of Monarchs, beginning in late Summer the last group begins the next Fall migration once again. Visible to us in South Carolina well into November, it is a stunning sight to see mass numbers of Monarchs in flight during the day or covering flowering plants to feed and then continue their flight south. Some of us may even be fortunate enough to see dozens or even hundreds of them roosting together overnight in shrubs or trees then taking off once again the next day.

The impression is one of an almost limitless number of butterflies, but the reality is far more sobering. If you were born before 1980, you would have seen far more Monarchs than exist today. Their numbers

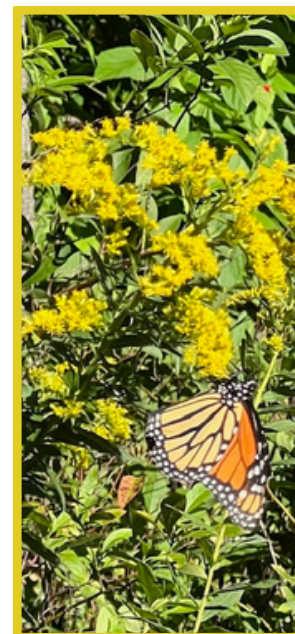
have declined by nearly 95% since 1980 and are continuing to drop. Alarmed by these statistics, numerous scientific and conservation groups have called for years for Monarchs to be added to the Endangered Species List. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may propose this in December, which could eventually result in more protections for these beautiful butterflies.

The I'On Butterfly Garden was created by our community in 2015 with a major goal of supporting the survival of Monarch by providing the resources they need and educating the public about the threats they face. Each year we eagerly monitor the track of the Monarchs south along their eastern flyway along the Appalachian Mountains and Gulf coast. This includes their stopover visits in the Mt. Pleasant area and our garden. So far we are seeing several Monarchs at the garden, but those numbers normally increase into November at the time of peak migration.

However, this is not a normal year. The unprecedented occurrence of Hurricanes Helene and Milton along the eastern flyway in late September and early October at the same time as the migration has raised concerns about the fate of the Monarchs. Unfortunately, there is little research on the impact of hurricanes on migrating Monarchs so any conclusions remain speculative. What evidence there is suggests that Monarchs might be knocked off course or their progress south delayed by such extreme weather events, but that most are able to find shelter and survive. According to the Xerxes Society, one reason for the paucity of information on the impact of hurricanes on Monarchs is that historically there have been so few of them occurring at the time and place the migration is moving through. With climate change intensifying, this year's unprecedented catastrophic storms may be the beginning of a new normal in hurricane patterns. If the future holds more such late season destructive storms, the threat to Monarchs and other migrating insects and birds may well increase, Xerxes researchers warn. Although we won't know for some time what the impacts are for this year, they will be reported here in a future newsletter.

Want to know more about butterflies and native plants or volunteer for our team of volunteers? Contact April Gordon

April Gordon at dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com



Monarch in I'On Butterfly Garden on Goldenrod in mid-October

I'ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

November is Indigenous People's Month: Relevance to the Community Garden

by April Gordon

November is Indigenous People's Month: Relevance to the Community Garden In November we celebrate Indigenous People's Month to honor the culture, traditions, and achievements of Native Americans, the original inhabitants of what is now the United States. One notable area in which Native Americans have contributed to our society is in the foods we eat. Reflective of the influence of Native American foods is our Thanksgiving holiday celebrated on the last Thursday in November. How many of us think about how many of our favorite Thanksgiving foods are indigenous to the Americas? Turkey, potatoes, sweet potatoes, cranberries, and pumpkin quickly come to mind.

Those of us who garden, including at the community garden, can also thank indigenous societies for much of what we grow. In addition to the Thanksgiving plants mentioned above, other indigenous food crops we plant are tomatoes, peppers, corn, squash, blueberries, and beans. Lesser known garden crops are amaranth, tomatillos, purslane, and lambsquarters. Some gardeners have experimented with the well-known Three Sisters companion planting method invented by Native Americans in which corn, beans, and squash are planted together. In their symbiotic relationship, corn provides a trellis for beans to climb, the beans provide nitrogen for the corn and squash, and squash leaves provide shade to cool the soil and hold moisture. Other plants used by Native Americans are flowers such as zinnias, coneflowers, and sunflowers. Many community gardeners grow a combination of these plants in their plots.



Many community garden plots grow vegetables and native flowers. They are surrounded by butterfly garden native flowers such as coneflowers, milkweed, zinnias, and blanket flowers (from July 2022)

The best place to see a wide variety of native plants is in the I'On Butterfly Garden, located in association with the the community garden. Our native plants have been selected for their benefits to our bee and butterfly pollinators vital to our food crops, most of which require insect pollination. Among these are passionflowers, yarrow, goldenrod, coneflowers, sunflowers, asters, various sages/salvias, zinnias, and milkweed. All of these plants were used by Native Americans for both medicine and food, and their role in supporting pollinators and other wildlife and the overall health of our environment is generally recognized.

Those of us with plots in I'On Community Garden benefit from the indigenous plants Native Americans introduced to us. In growing these and other crops we follow organic gardening practices that avoid toxic chemicals and protect our soil and the environment. If healthy food and a healthy environment are important to you, consider joining the community garden.



Registration for plots in 2025 will begin on January 1. Look for details in the December newsletter.

April Gordon at dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com

The community garden located on Eastlake Road has 27 plots 5' x 8' in size. Many will be available in 2025. Registration begins on January 1.





Help Stop the Rise of Microplastics

Microplastics, tiny plastic particles less than 5mm in size, are increasingly polluting our oceans, air and food chains. Microplastics pose a significant threat to marine life, human health and ecosystems. These particles come from a range of sources such as the breakdown of larger plastic items, microbeads in personal care products and synthetic fibers from clothing. As individuals, we can take meaningful actions to help reduce the rise of microplastics. Here are some ways you can make a difference:

1. **Reduce Plastic Use.** Use reusable alternatives like cloth shopping bags, stainless steel water bottles and glass containers.
2. **Choose Natural Fibers.** Synthetic fibers such as polyester or nylon shed microplastics during washing which end up in the waterways. Opt for natural fibers such as cotton, wool or linen. Alternatively, use a “Guppy Bag” for washing synthetics. [guppyfriend-washing-bag](#)
3. **Avoid Products Containing Microbeads.** Some personal care products like exfoliants, toothpaste and scrubs contain plastic microbeads. Always check labels and choose microbead-free alternatives or products that use natural exfoliants.
4. **Recycle properly.** Proper recycling ensures that plastics are diverted from landfills and oceans, reducing the chances of them breaking down into microplastics. Familiarize yourself with local recycling guidelines and recycle plastics appropriately. Avoid single use plastics that are difficult to recycle like plastic straws and cutlery.

Through conscious daily choices and efforts to reduce our plastic footprint, individuals can contribute significantly to tackling the global issue of microplastic pollution.

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



The Power of Giving: Why Volunteering Matters

Volunteering is more than just a way to pass the time; it's a powerful act that can positively impact both individuals and communities. Here's why everyone should consider giving back:

Personal Growth: Volunteering offers a unique opportunity for personal growth. It can help you develop new skills, gain valuable experience, and build confidence. By working with others, you can learn to communicate effectively, problem-solve, and collaborate.

Social Connection: Volunteering can be a great way to meet new people and form lasting friendships. When you work towards a common goal with others, you create a sense of belonging and community. This can be especially beneficial for those who may feel isolated or lonely.

Positive Impact: Volunteering allows you to make a tangible difference in the lives of others and your community. Whether you're helping to build a house, tutoring a child, or collecting food for the needy, your efforts can have a profound impact. This can be a rewarding experience that can boost your sense of purpose and fulfillment.

Community Building: Volunteering is essential for building strong and vibrant communities. When people work together towards a common goal, it fosters a sense of unity and cooperation. This can help to create a more supportive and inclusive environment for everyone.

In conclusion, volunteering offers numerous benefits for both individuals and communities. It is a rewarding experience that can help you to grow, connect with others, make a positive impact, and contribute to a stronger, more vibrant society.

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, having fun sharing cultural and social activities and helping each other.

Contact Elizabeth Sage, IAH Administrative Manager: elizabeths@ionathome.org
or visit us at: <https://ionathome.helpfulvillage.com/>



Welcome New Neighbors

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

Jen & Eric Burr

63 Robert Mills Circle

Melissa & Jeffrey Efrid

221 Ponsbury Road

Christy & Sergio Radovcic

47 Robert Mills Circle

Ashley Stephens

340 North Shelmore Boulevard

Communications Committee

Julie Hussey

Communications Chair

Fran Tepperman

Living In I'On Editor

Mary Kaplan

Ambassador Chair

Kathie Haas

Paula Shugart

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!

I'On Assembly Seeks Candidates

Continued from page 1

Members considering running for a board seat should be aware that starting this year, the Assembly is required to comply with reporting requirements under a new federal law called the Corporate Transparency Act. The CTA's stated purpose is to gather information for law enforcement to aid in combatting financial-related illegal activity including tax fraud, money laundering, and financing by terrorism. Condominium and homeowner's associations are subject to the CTA and are required to report to the federal government the legal names, addresses, dates of birth, drivers license numbers of all board members, including providing copies of their drivers licenses.

Please contact our General Manager, Emily Simpson if you are interested in learning more, attending a board or committee meeting, or receiving an application:

esimpson@ravenelassociates.com

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Tom O'Brien - Board President

Bob Adams - Vice President/Treasurer/Finance Chair

Stephen Wood - IDC Liaison

Roy Rathbun - Landscape & Infrastructure Chair

Julie Hussey - Secretary/Communications Chair

Lon Waggoner - Covenants Chair

Donna Davis - Amenities Chair



Seeking New I'On Design Committee Member with Landscape Design Experience

The IDC is the five member body that reviews and approves all exterior structural and landscape requests in the community. It meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month; meetings are held in the I'On conference room on The Square beginning at 2 p.m. and usually lasting 2-3 hours.

For 2025 the Board is seeking to add a homeowner to the IDC who has landscape design expertise. This experience could be as a current or former landscape design professional, or simply a landscape enthusiast who has studied the field in college or through non-college forums (such as Master Gardener classes). A solid knowledge of drainage, hardscape and other topography issues is preferred as well as a good understanding of the types of tree, shrub and plant materials that perform well in the Lowcountry.

If you are interested in serving and can commit to active participation at the two monthly meetings, please send an email to our Community Manager, Emily Simpson (esimpson@ravenelassociates.com), describing your interest and relevant training/experience(s).