



LIVING IN I'ON

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



NOVEMBER EVENTS

FRI	11/7	First Friday
TUE	11/11	Women's Coffee
THU	11/13	Lunch Bunch
WED	11/19	Yarn Buddies
WED	11/19	Thanksgiving Pot Luck & Bingo
FRI	11/21	Luminary Order Deadline
TBD	TBD	Women's Movie Night
SUN	11/30	Board Application Deadline

IMPORTANT DATES

TUE	11/4	Election Day
TUE	11/4	IDC Meeting
TUE	11/11	IDC Submittal Deadline
THU	11/13	Recycling Pickup
TUE	11/18	IDC Meeting
TUE	11/25	IDC Submittal Deadline
THU	11/27	Thanksgiving
TUE	11/28	Recycling Pickup

DOCK CLOSINGS ON PAGE 2

2025 I'On Board Meetings

Monday Nights

6:00 p.m.

Conference Room

159 Civitas Street

November 17
December 15



Support the 23rd Annual Giving Lights Fundraiser

Captains will be working hard delivering order forms for the 23rd annual Giving Lights Fundraiser, on and after November 1st. Please join us in our support for Friends of Morning Light, part of Star Gospel Mission.

The deadline for Luminary Orders is Friday, November 21st!



FRIENDS OF MORNING LIGHT
Supporting the work of Star Gospel Mission
2025 Giving Lights Recipient



We are delighted the 2025 Giving Lights fundraiser will support Friends of Morning Light, a special initiative of Star Gospel Mission. This year's campaign will raise funds and awareness for Morning Light, a transitional housing program created to support women and children in Charleston County who are experiencing homelessness. Donations will directly benefit this vital project, helping vulnerable families rebuild their lives with dignity, safety, and hope. We look forward to another successful year!

Last year we had 577 homes participate which is more than 77% of our households. 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 and we can light your luminaries for you to help make our neighborhood look magical. Please contact admin@iontrust.org to make arrangements. We hope to pack more than 1,000 luminary kits.

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.





DOCK CLOSINGS - NOVEMBER 2025

DATE OF EVENT	EVENT TYPE	CERMONY TIME
Saturday, November 1st	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Sunday, November 2nd	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Friday, November 7th	Wedding & Reception	3:55 - 4:25
Saturday, November 8th	Wedding & Reception	4:10 - 4:40
Sunday, November 9th	Wedding & Reception	3:25 - 3:55
Friday, November 14th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Saturday, November 15th	Wedding & Reception	3:55 - 4:25
Sunday, November 16th	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Friday, November 21st	Wedding & Reception	4:25 - 4:55
Saturday, November 22nd	Wedding & Reception	3:55 - 4:25
Sunday, November 23rd	Wedding & Reception	3:55 - 4:25
Saturday, November 29th	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/>

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday, November 7 - 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Hosted by Donna and Bud Davis at 3 Edenton Road



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

Many thanks to Barbara and Bob Adams for hosting us on their lovely porch overlooking Eastlake last month. We have hosting opportunities from June forward in 2026 open, please contact Wendy Nixon at (203) 858-7909 or Karen Rathbun at (973) 985-7983 if you would like to host.

After 5+ years, Wendy would love to transition out of this post. Please contact anyone on the board or Wendy, at the number above, if you would like to take over First Fridays. It's easy and a great way to meet your neighbors. Karen will be stepping down as well, at the end of this year.

WOMEN'S COFFEE

Tuesday, November 11 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Jan Laabs at 217 Ponsbury Road

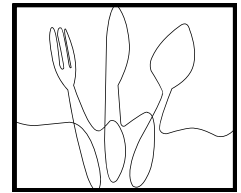


Thank you to Jan Laab for hosting this month's Women's Coffee. No RSVP needed. Bring a cup for coffee or tea and join us. For further information, contact Abigail Wolitzer at abbywolitzer@yahoo.com or Farrah Follmann at ffollmann@yahoo.com.

LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, November 13 - 12:15 p.m.

Allora at 114 Spring Street (<https://www.allorachs.com>)



Thank you to all the ladies who attended High Tea at the East Bay Meeting House for our Annual Hat Luncheon. It was a very special afternoon with new and old friends. A special thanks to the I'On Trust for generously sponsoring the "Best Hat" winners: 2nd place went to Linda Hanson and 1st place was awarded to Kim Mack.

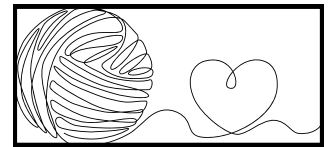
Please join us for Lunch Bunch this month at Allora, the new venture from the Free Rein group (Honeysuckle Rose and Community Table owners), hosted by Amy Goldy. Allora brings the spirit of Coastal Italy to downtown Charleston in a beautiful, feminine dining room with a nod to Amalfi. The Italian inspired lunch menu offers homemade daily pastas, crudi and traditional dishes.

The reservation is on Thursday, 11/13 at 12:15 for 8. (Cancellations after 11/11 incur a \$25 fee.) Please RSVP by 11/9 to Amy Goldy at amygoldyid@gmail.com.

YARN BUDDIES

Wednesday, November 19 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Hosted by Lesley-Anne Read at 121 Ponsbury Road



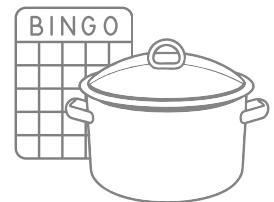
Lesley-Anne Read is welcoming Yarn Buddies to her home. Please let her know if you are able to attend, via text: (203) 417-1160 or email: lafread@hotmail.com.

Yarn Buddies was formed to encourage creativity, share imagination, offer assistance, and inspire those who have an interest in the handcrafted arts. 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.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK & BINGO

Wednesday, November 19 - 6:30 p.m.

Hosted by Mary Swenson and Wendy Marcus at the Creek Club



Join us for a very special Thanksgiving Pot Luck dinner when Mary Swenson and Wendy Marcus host our buffet dinner. We are excited to join our I'On friends and neighbors thankful that we get to celebrate at our beautiful Creek Club, enjoy delicious food, and play BINGO with special prizes!!

Encourage friends to join us and if you are new to the neighborhood, please come! It's a very easy and fun evening. Please bring a dish to share (whether homemade or purchased) along with your own plate, utensils, beverage and glass. Hope to see you there!

I'ON WOMEN'S MOVIE GROUP

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



The I'On Women's Movie Group will attend "Wicked: For Good," the sequel to last year's "Wicked," which adapts the second act of the 2003 stage musical to the screen. Those on the movie list will get an evite toward the end of November. See you then!

To join the list, please contact Jan Laabs at laabsjan@hotmail.com.



THIS MONTH WITH THE I'ON TRUST

THE 23rd ANNUAL GIVING LIGHTS OF I'ON

Sunday, December 7 - Carriage Rides from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Caroling on the Maybank Green at 5:30 p.m.

Check Presentation at the Westlake Amphitheater at 6:00 p.m.

Set Out Your Luminaries by 5:30 p.m. and Stroll Over to the Maybank Green for caroling with a talented group of singers from the School of the Arts. We received rave reviews on last year's group. Continue to the Westlake Amphitheater for the 6:00 p.m. proceeds presentation. The celebration will continue with our traditional carriage rides to view the luminaries from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please note the new time. Carriage rides are free & tickets will be available through an eblast on Wednesday, December 3rd. 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 in 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. Glowing candles will line the streets of I'On in celebration of the holiday season! Dress in your most festive holiday attire.

Halloween in the Hood Gratitude

Special thanks to the Willard Family and all the volunteers that helped make Halloween in the Hood a fun experience for so many neighbors and friends.



Scramble Over to Play

All the playground equipment is officially in, so bring your kids and let the fun begin! The Scramble (our new play area) is ready for action and can be found just off North Shelmore near The Pub.

We're thrilled to have a new spot for families to gather and little ones to play, climb, and explore. Please remember, though, that this playground is nestled close to nearby homes, so let's all do our part to keep the noise down, especially in the early mornings and on weekends. Thank you for being such a thoughtful and caring community. Can't wait to see those happy faces at The Scramble!

– Donna Davis, Amenities Chair (donnad108@gmail.com)





Oktoberfest with IAH

Fall brought IAH's annual Oktoberfest party. Held at the Creek Club, the party featured authentic German fare as well as bier, Riesling, and homemade black forest cake. Charleston's own Polka Kings provided the music and attendees had a great time catching up with neighbors and friends and celebrating the start of fall!



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/>

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

It's Late October: Where are the Monarchs?

by April Gordon



Migrating monarchs on groundsel at Pitt Street Bridge Park - Nov. 3, 2018

We have been eagerly watching for the monarch migration to reach South Carolina and the butterfly garden, but there are few monarchs currently in our garden or reported from other South Carolina locations. One way I check to see if the number of monarchs has increased in our area is to visit one of my favorite locations, the Pitt Street Bridge Park. In past years I have seen dozens of monarchs at a time crossing from Mt. Pleasant to Sullivan's Island, many flying overhead with others flocking on the numerous groundsel plants to refuel on flower nectar. As of October 20, as I write this newsletter, there are no monarchs to be seen at this location.

As another check, I visited the butterfly garden to count monarchs. I saw only two, one a tattered adult that I saw a week earlier. There was also a fresh monarch enjoying nectar from various milkweed flowers, but two monarchs do not indicate the migration is upon us. Bottom line: it will be later in October and into November before the migration arrives; be sure to watch for a report in the December newsletter. Better yet, visit local coastal areas and the butterfly garden in November to witness this magical phenomenon in person.

Luckily, in anticipation of the monarch migration a couple of other Team BG members and I have been spending more time than usual checking on butterflies at the garden.

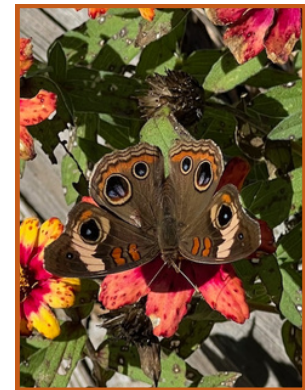
In the process we have observed many interesting visitors (see some of the non-butterflies in the October newsletter). Currently, the Gulf fritillary and cloudless sulphur are the most numerous butterflies; the buckeye is less often seen at the garden but several were counted on various flowers. All of these butterflies are common in the southeast from late summer to late fall and survive by migrating south like monarchs before freezing weather occurs.



Cloudless sulphurs are drawn to red tubular flowers such as this scarlet salvia



Gulf fritillaries, often mistaken for monarchs, are one of the most common butterflies at our garden



The dramatic "eyes" on buckeye butterflies help deter attacks from birds and other predators



The exotic and unusual zebra longwing is a favorite visitor at the garden this time of year

Of special note are two butterflies that are uncommon this far north. The rarest is the queen, a butterfly we have never seen in the garden before. The queen is a relative of monarchs, but is normally found in Florida and other more tropical regions. Another butterfly from farther south that has been visiting the garden for several years is the zebra longwing. As delightful as it is to see these butterflies this time of year, neither queen or zebra longwing butterflies are migratory and will die if they remain here when freezing temperatures arrive. Come see them while they are with us along with the many other butterflies at the garden.

April Gordon at dr.aprilgordon@gmail.com

Want to get involved at the butterfly garden? Join your neighbors on Team BG. Find out more by contacting April.



The first ever queen butterfly was discovered at the garden a few days ago

I'ON COMMUNITY GARDEN

Mark Your Calendar: Sign Up for a Community Garden Plot Beginning January 1, 2026

by April Gordon



Some summer crops like these peppers are still producing. Add some sprigs of rosemary from the plant behind them to create some delicious fall meals.

Does growing your own organic vegetables, herbs, and flowers sounds appealing? If so, you will soon have an opportunity to get a plot for 2026.

Gardening is not only a source of nutritious food or beautiful flowers, it is also a rewarding and healthy outdoor activity for family or friends to enjoy together. The community garden is conveniently located in the field on Eastlake Rd (off Mathis Ferry Rd), in the same area as I'On's Butterfly Garden. Many of us return year after year and encourage new members to discover what several enthusiastic gardeners have said is "one of the best things about living in I'On".

Signups for 2026 begin on January 1.

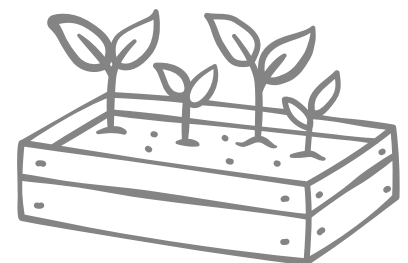
The garden's 27 raised beds are 5' x 8' in size and available on a first come, first serve basis to I'On residents. For only \$75, plots are amended annually and mulched pathways, perimeter fencing, straw mulch, and water are all included. Garden and planting guides are also provided along with timely information throughout the year. The garden is open for planting in mid-February, and our growing season is year-round so you can enjoy your summer tomatoes and winter greens as well. Sign up individually, as a family, or partner with a friend.

Have questions? Contact April Gordon at iongarden@gmail.com.

It is hard to believe that almost a year has gone by since the community garden began its 2025 season. Despite the period of unusually hot, dry weather that made gardening more challenging, for those who persevered an abundance of juicy tomatoes, flavorful herbs, beans, peppers and other tasty vegetables have been grown and harvested; some such as peppers are still producing. Most gardeners also planted a diversity of flowers with zinnias being most preferred, and for good reason. Zinnias are easy to grow and put on a color show all summer and into the fall; they add not only beauty to the garden but attract bees and butterflies even now to pollinate our crops. We are now in the process of converting our plots to cold-hardy brassicas, sugar snap peas, turnips, lettuce, and other crops. Those gardeners who continue growing can look forward to reaping the rewards of their efforts for many months ahead.



Summer zinnias are still blooming all over the garden, and these greet visitors inside the garden gate. In the upper left hand corner another plot has been freshly planted with seeds for a fall-winter garden



Welcome New Neighbors

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

Moving Around I'On:

Evelyn Avery
110 West Shipyard



Communications Committee

Elaine Blaisdell-Taylor
Communications Chair

Fran Tepperman
Living In I'On Editor

Mary Kaplan
Ambassador Chair

Paula Shugart

Antonia Fokas
I'On Trust

Emily Simpson & Nina Patton
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

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. For the 2026-2027 terms, there will be (3) two-year term positions and one (1) one-year position for Board seats available to candidates.

Your current Board of Trustees encourages you to get involved in the future direction of I'On by running for a board seat or encouraging a neighbor to get involved. Board members are available between now and the January election to discuss the job responsibilities and what it is like to serve on the Board.

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 761 titleholders.

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.

Please contact our General Manager, Emily Simpson if you are interested in learning more: esimpson@ravenelassociates.com



HOA Reminders

- Please do not dispose of dog waste bags in your neighbors trashcans. There are plenty of disposal stations throughout the neighborhood.
- Dogs should always remain on leashes. Animals are permitted off leash and under strict voice control at such times and in such places in the common areas.
- The Town of Mt Pleasant has reminded us not to blow leaves in the streets and to please bag them. Blowing leaves into the streets can cause the storm drains to clog.
- Garbage needs to be placed curbside on Sunday evenings and stored by Monday evening.
- All trash and landscape debris must be placed on your property or curbside for pick-up. Dumping of items on HOA property is not permitted. Please call the Town of Mount Pleasant Public Services Department if your home is missed. (843) 849-2022.
- Recycle – Wednesday evening before pickup on scheduled Thursday. – November Dates: 11/13 and 11/27
- Election signs may be put up 2 weeks before elections and must be taken down 2 weeks after.