



Linked in Friendship, Connected in Service
Aiken (SC) Chapter

2023-2024 | Issue 2

The Emerald Connection

Meet the Officers



President

Dr. Melencia Johnson



Vice-President

Stephanie Franklin



Recording Secretary

Mary Harden



Archivist

Gloria Allen



Treasurer

Wimberly Yon



Financial Secretary

Dr. Kimberly Fontanez



Corresponding Secretary

Dr. Felicia Pontoo

Family Game Night



Friendship Month

The Aiken Chapter participated in various friendship activities for the month of November and shortly after, supporting friendship, sisterly bonds, and connection with spouses and children. Several members hosted the Chapter at their homes for these events.

Wine Down



“Rest is Resistance” Book Review & Dinner



Paint-n-Sip





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National Impact Day of Service

On November 8th, the Aiken Chapter actively engaged in the National Impact Day of Service. Their contribution involved the donation of personal hygiene items and socks to support the men and women associated with the American Legion Post 212 in Aiken.





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A Green Elephant Affair

The Aiken (SC) Chapter had a wonderful Green Elephant Affair as our Christmas gathering. Hostess Marlenia Murray and Felecia Pontoo provided a variety of activities to include gifts, food, and games.



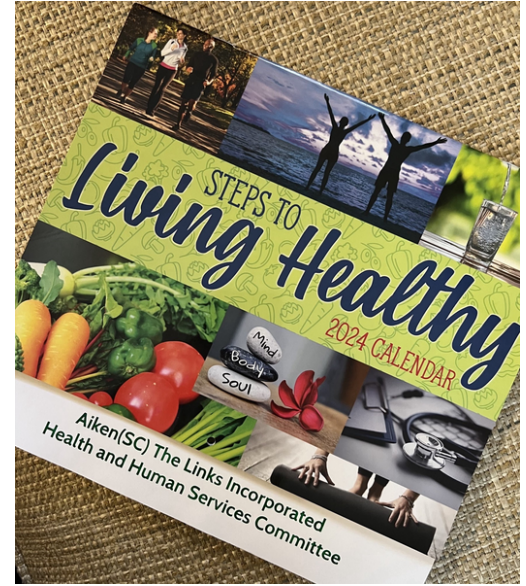
Green Goes Purple for The Color Purple

The Aiken Chapter enjoyed the screening of The Color Purple film, which was officially released in theaters on December 25th across the nation. We enjoyed the movie, as well as the time together with family and friends.



Goal Setting

The Aiken (SC) Chapter started 2024 with a goal setting workshop offered by the Health and Human Services Facet and the Friendship Committee. The event emphasized the importance of positive living. Let's all keep in mind that rest, self-care, setting intentions and striving for mental, spiritual, and physical health are crucial elements for a successful life.



Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr Community Celebration



The Aiken (SC) Chapter commemorated the late Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. through a community celebration that unites hundreds each year to honor Dr. King's life and legacy. The theme for the 2024 event revolved around the quote, "For it isn't by size that you win or fail. Be the best of whatever you are," from the poem "Be the Best of Whatever You Are" by Douglas Malloch. This quote was notably employed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in his speech at Glenville High School on April 26, 1967.

Celebrating Our Members



Cherrell Butler was presented the Citizen of the Year Award, presented by the Sigma Phi of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. on November 18, 2023.

Here, Cherrell is pictured with husband, Ernest.

Regina Pyles, AICP, was honored by the American Planning Association's Small Town and Rural Planning Division with the Carol Thomas Merit Award. Regina's work serving citizens and regions has spanned three states, most recently the CSRA region of Georgia. Her projects include securing and administering grant funds for residents' housing rehabilitation and water/sewer upgrades, writing local government comprehensive and regional plans, compiling the Fort Gordon Compatible Use Study, and much more.



Calendar of Events

“Envisioning Art Through Dance”

- Workshop #1: January 27th
- Workshop #2: February 10th
- Workshop #3: March 9th
- Performance: March 23th

Location: Odell Weeks
Activity Center

~ For Registrants Only ~

Performance Location:

The Aiken Center for the Arts
2nd Floor

~ Open to the Public ~



Healthy Heart, Healthy Life

-February 3rd

Location: Lessie B. Price Aiken
Youth and Senior Center

841 Edgefield Ave NW
Aiken, SC 29801

Black History Parade

-February 17th

Location: Downtown Aiken
2PM