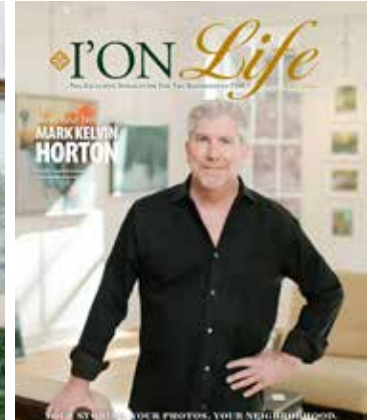
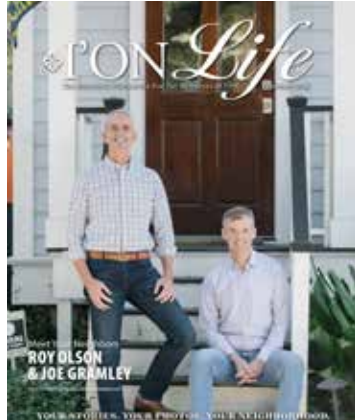


I'ON Life

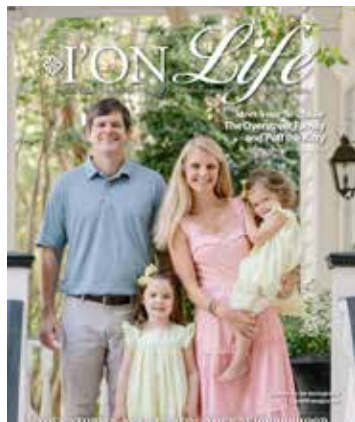
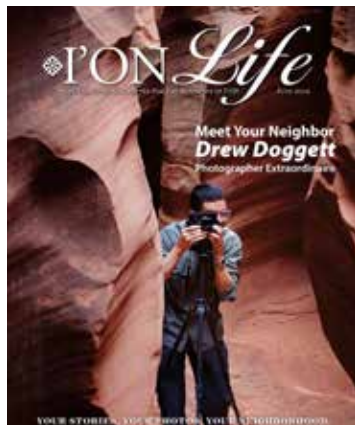
THE EXCLUSIVE NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF I'ON

JANUARY 2020



CELEBRATING 2019 I'ON LIFE COVERS

Cover Photos by Valerie Brantley, www.valerieandco.com



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Classic Remodeling

Celebrating 30 Years Of Beautiful Home Remodeling

Where did you grow up? How long have you lived in the area? Tell us about your family.

I grew up in the farm country of Iowa and moved to Mt. Pleasant with my parents when I was 15 years old. After graduating from Wando High School and attending Clemson, I have lived on James Island and Johns Islands. My wife of almost 40 years (we celebrate this December) is a nurse, my daughter is following in her footsteps and is currently working on her RN degree at MUSC, and my son is following in my footsteps as an architect in Houston.

Tell us about the events that led up to where you are now (i.e. education, career path).

When I was a young child, I was always interested in puzzles. My mother told me that I would become bored very quickly, so I would dump several puzzles together to

make it more interesting. In middle school, we took a trip to the historic village of Williamsburg, VA, where I was amazed at the architecture, and I knew then that I wanted to build. When I was in high school, my hobbies included woodworking and cabinetry. I also worked for a builder in Mt. Pleasant where I was tasked with final punch lists. This exposed me to a long list of issues that allowed me to learn a wide range of trade skills. I attended Clemson where I studied Architecture and Building Science. During summer breaks, I would work on my own building porches and decks for homeowners in Mt. Pleasant. After graduating with my degree in Building Science, I moved back to Charleston and started a business with a partner, before eventually going out on my own and creating Classic Remodeling.

What is your business and how/why did you start your business?

My business is Classic Remodeling & Construction. We are a design-build firm that specializes exclusively in residential remodeling. I started the business in 1989 with three employees and worked as the lead salesman, designer, and carpenter on all the projects. Today, our team consists of nearly 30 employees, ranging from sales and administrative staff to designers and project craftsmen. We do everything from kitchens and bathrooms to whole house renovations and additions.

What is unique about your business?

As Charleston's only design-build firm focused **exclusively** on residential remodeling, our goal is to make your experience as stress-free and enjoyable as possible. Our

designers will work with you to create a comprehensive design package including detailed renderings, so you'll be able to see exactly what to expect from your final product. We guide you through the selection(s) process to help you achieve the look and feel you want, and because we have an in-house team of carpenters, we can move seamlessly from design into construction, without delays. Having one team of designers and carpenters who work together on a daily basis also helps to improve the communication process throughout the project, reducing the time required to resolve any problems that may come up, and ultimately reducing frustration for the client.

Given your business expertise and the nature of what you do, what advice (whether general or specific) can you offer to the residents?

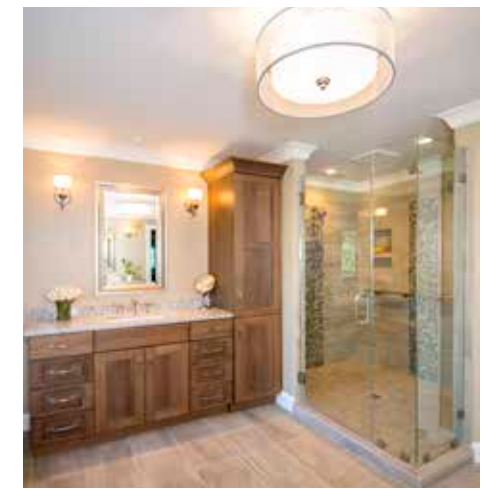
Remember that unlike a new home project where you don't live in a construction zone, it's most important to select a team that you are comfortable working with for your remodeling project. Interview the designer, call their references, and ask to look at some projects where you can meet the construction team. An ongoing project will give you an indication of how they respect your home and

how the process works. Ask the homeowners how the project is going, and look at some final work to see the level of detail provided.

Many contractors quote a low price up-front without a fully detailed description of work, knowing they will make up for what they omitted/overlooked with change orders. The design-build process allows us to build your project in a virtual world before the first nail is driven. Until you have a full set of working drawings, scope of work, specifications and final selections, it's really hard to know what you are getting from your prospective contractor. Oftentimes going with the lowest bid may end up costing you much more by the time you reach the end of your project.

What else should we know about you, your family, or your business?

We are very passionate about what we do and take great pride in the finished spaces that we deliver to our clients. There is nothing more rewarding than to hear a client say "We will miss you now that the project is finished."



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