



July 18, 2022

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President's Perspective

Recent state and national news outlets reported on derogatory statements made about teachers in Tennessee. Anyone who knows our College of Education, our current students and our graduates who have become teachers knows that Tusculum University produces outstanding teachers.

I am extremely proud of the College of Education, our dean, professors and education students. Our College of Education takes gifted and talented students with a calling to teach and refines them into outstanding educators who make a huge impact in the lives of students across Tennessee and our country. Tennessee is a better state because of our graduates, and the state owes a debt of gratitude to them.

I am grateful for a letter sent to me by Washington County Mayor Joe Grandy in which he expressed his appreciation and admiration for the work of Tusculum and our teaching graduates. You can read his letter [here](#).

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

In Exodus 35:30-34 Moses spoke of Bezalel as being “filled with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, . . . and he has inspired him to teach.”

Photo of the Week

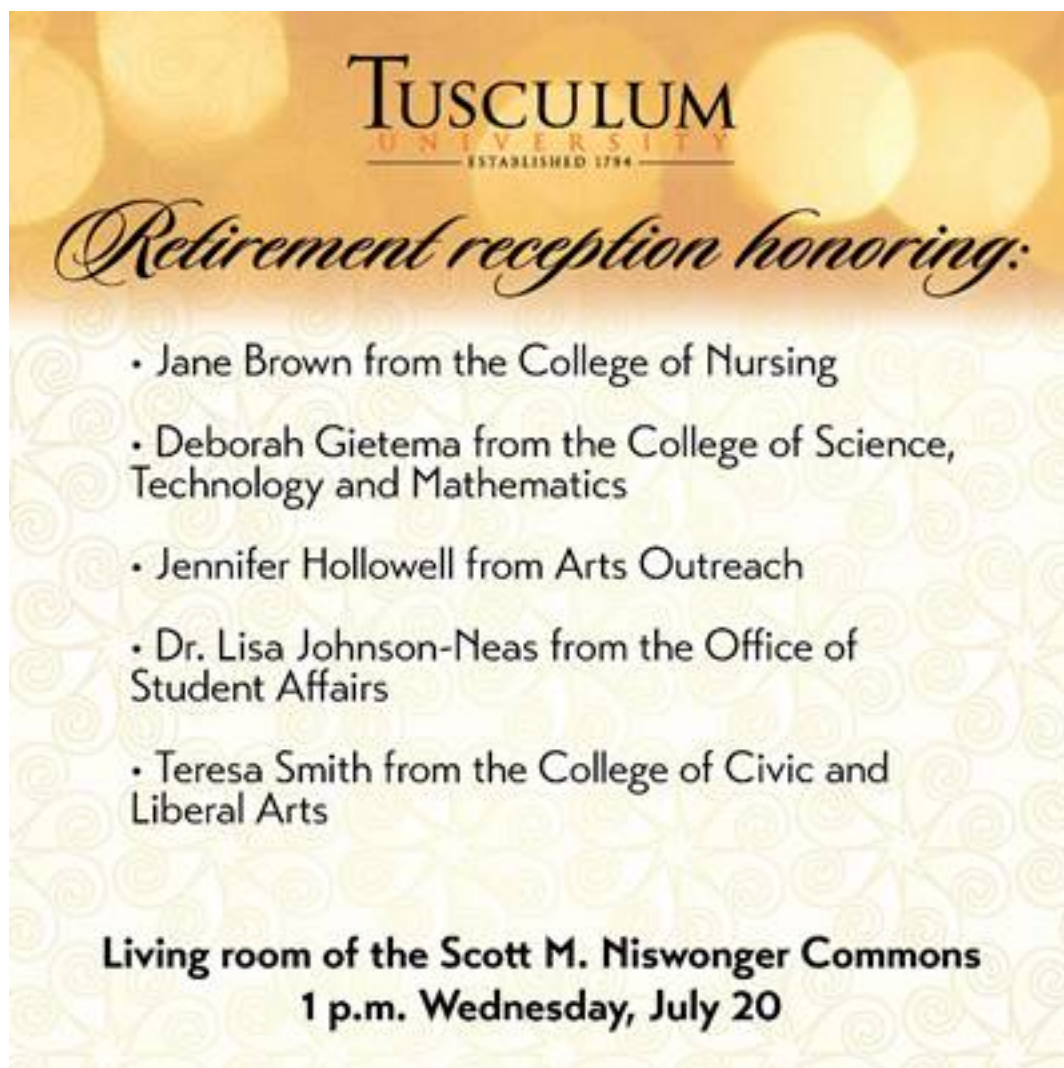


Tusculum held another Pioneer Quest event Friday, July 15, to give incoming students and their families an opportunity to learn more about what lies ahead. A New Orleans Saints fan, Dr. Hummel joined for this photo to express his approval of the T-shirt worn by future Pioneer Benjamin Hoppe. To see more photos of Pioneer Quest, please view [this gallery](#). Photos by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Honoring our retirees!

Remember we will celebrate five recent retirees with a reception at 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 20, in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons living room! We will have cake, punch and time for fellowship.

This will be a terrific opportunity to thank these faculty and staff members for their excellent service to Tusculum and share your memories with them. All faculty and staff members are invited!



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Retirement reception honoring:

- Jane Brown from the College of Nursing
- Deborah Gietema from the College of Science, Technology and Mathematics
- Jennifer Hollowell from Arts Outreach
- Dr. Lisa Johnson-Neas from the Office of Student Affairs
- Teresa Smith from the College of Civic and Liberal Arts

**Living room of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons
1 p.m. Wednesday, July 20**

Lend a hand for the campus cleanup

Enjoy some time out of the office and help our facilities team prepare the campus for the 2022-23 academic year.

We will hold our Community Work Day Tuesday, July 26. Faculty and staff will gather at 8:15 a.m. at the Scott M. Niswonger Commons sign to form groups that will complete a variety of tasks. Our work will continue until 12:30 p.m. Then employees can head to the Tusculum cafeteria for a free lunch!

This is an annual campus event in which faculty and staff members put their muscles and cleaning skills on display to ensure our campus looks great when the students arrive for the fall semester. We had about 60 participants last year and would love to have more this time!

Please email Rose Peedin, executive assistant to the president, at rpeedin@tusculum.edu to put your name on the list and let her know of any special skills you possess. **We need you to alert Peedin by Friday, July 22, about your participation so we can finalize the list of projects and help the cafeteria staff plan for the amount of food needed.**

Our facilities team and the event's organizers, Doug Jones and Carrie Maggert, will be pleased to see you!



Here is last year's work crew! Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Check out the design for Tusculum's 2022-23 theme!

As we shared with you in the July 4 edition, Tusculum has adopted a theme for the 2022-23 academic year – “Be the Light.”

The theme comes from Matthew 5:14-16, which describes our responsibility to be light in the world. It aligns with Tusculum's motto – “[Sit Lux](#)” – which means “let there be light.”

To highlight the theme, Sydney Clendening, Tusculum's graphic designer, collaborated with Dr. Hummel and Dr. Tricia Hunsader, our provost and vice president of academic affairs, to create a visual. This design will appear on a board that will hang in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.



Location changes for two Tusculum academic programs

Tusculum is bringing all of its fine arts programs together under one roof as part of multiple changes on campus for the fall semester. The art and design program is relocating from the Shulman Center to Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center.

In addition, the entire English program is returning to its longtime home on the third floor of Virginia Hall. The publications lab will be housed in Virginia 306.

Wayne Thomas, dean of the College of Civic and Liberal Arts, shared the news with students of these two programs in emails Thursday. To the art and design students, he highlighted his excitement that all fine arts programs would be located in one building because of the synergy that will bring. For the English students, he noted how alumni of that program, many of whom have achieved impressive heights after graduating from Tusculum, reflect on Virginia Hall with affection.

Shulman will become the home of a child care center operated by Ballad Health. The organization is expanding this type of center in other parts of Northeast Tennessee as well as in Southwest Virginia.

To help accommodate the move of the art and design to Annie Hogan Byrd, staff for all TRIO programs except Student Support Services and ARCHES have moved to the first floor of the Meen Center.

Volunteers needed for shoe distribution event

Tusculum family members can support children in need by volunteering at a shoe and sock distribution event Saturday, Aug. 13. The event will be held from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. in our Indoor Practice Facility.

This civic engagement opportunity is sponsored by [Samaritan's Feet](#), a global organization, with assistance from the Tweed Family Foundation and will benefit children from Greene County. Organizers and volunteers will distribute 220 pairs of shoes.

Volunteers are particularly needed for setup and take-down. They do not need to be present the whole day.

Tusculum participated in this event in 2021, and it is an excellent way to provide children with comfortable footwear. For further information, please see the flyer below.

Saturday, August 13th, 2022
8:00 AM to 6:00PM
Tusculum University 60
Shiloh Rd Greeneville, TN
37745
Follow signs to the Indoor
Practice Facility day of the
event!

Help us serve the youth of Greene County with new shoes and socks! The youth of Greene County will receive a "hope tote" with new athletic shoes and socks, along with a message of hope from our volunteers.

Volunteers should arrive at 8:00am for set-up, volunteer training, and job assignments. If you are interested in working a shift, please call or email Alicia Morrow at 479-212-0733 amorrow@samaritansfeet.org

To register to volunteer, scan the QR code on this flyer or go to
Tusculum: <https://samaritansfeet.volunteerhub.com/event/85e1897d-e9fd-4dc1-bdcf-003c0c460164>

We are excited to serve with you!

SAMARITAN'S FEET

Tusculum students engaged in internships this summer

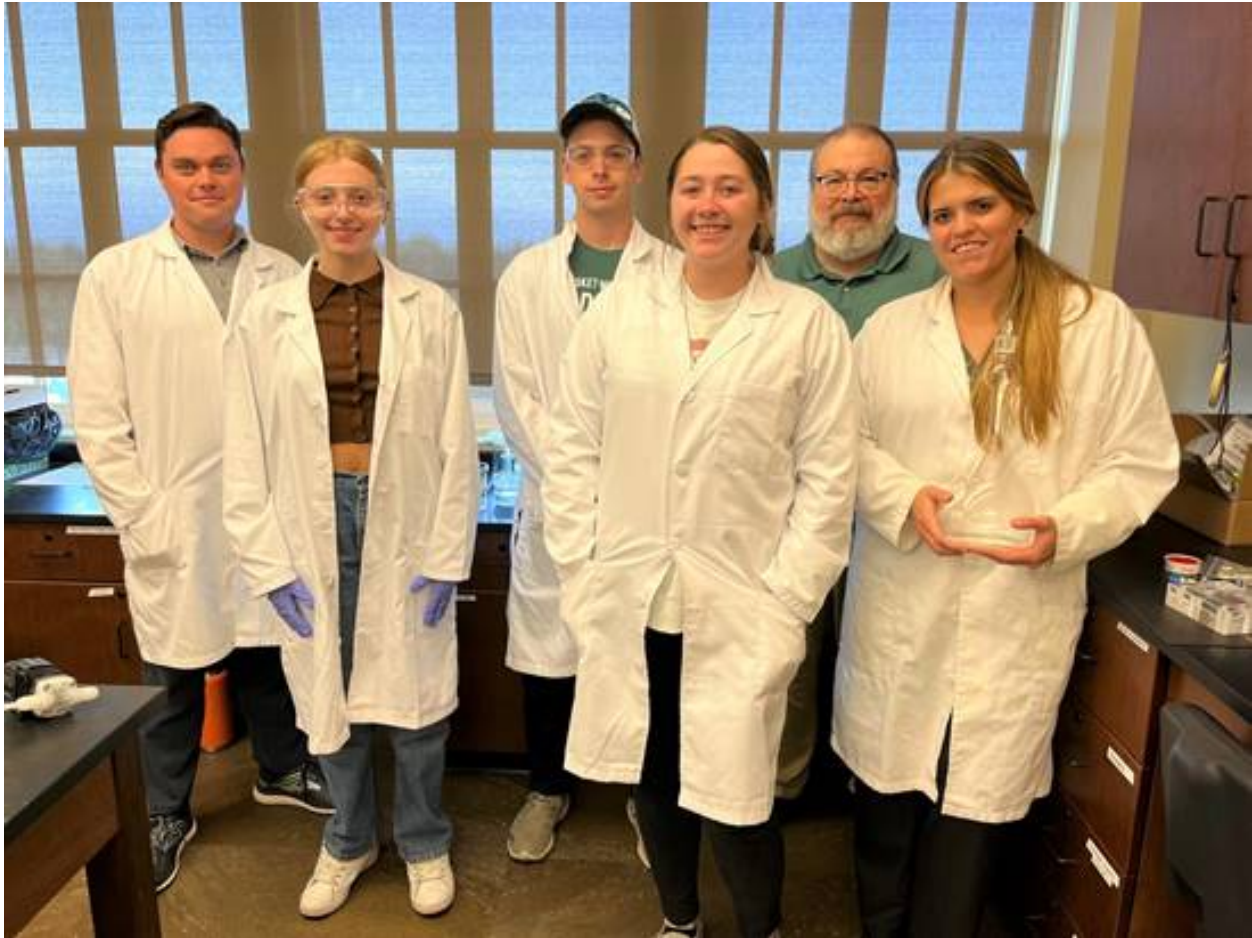
Students and recent graduates from the College of Science, Technology and Mathematics are expanding their knowledge this summer with impressive internships. The students, their majors and site of their internship are:

- Melody Mercer, environmental science; Bays Mountain in Kingsport
- Trejen Fox-Birdwell, environmental science; Brights Zoo in Limestone
- Arthur Amorim, mathematics; Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho Falls, Idaho
- Ben Seguin, mathematics, Avanti inside the Meen Center
- Toney Franklin, chemistry, Ionic Water Technologies inside the Meen Center
- Chloe Freischmidt, chemistry, mathematics and computer science; Ionic Water Technologies inside the Meen Center
- Lorraine Tomer-White, environmental science; Ionic Water Technologies inside the Meen Center

Previously, biology majors Gracie Akins and Jyclyn West participated in internships at Brights Zoo.

In addition, we have three students who are working with Dr. Dennis Ashford, assistant professor of chemistry, in the Meen Center on the research project concerning anti-cancer drugs. They are Andrew Medeck, Faith Robinette and Konrad Sehler. Medeck and Sehler are biology majors, and Robinette is a chemistry major.

We congratulate these students for embracing the active and experiential learning opportunities that have been presented to them.



Interns serving with Ionic are Lorrice Tomer-White, second from left; Toney Franklin, third from left; and Chloe Freischmidt, fourth from the left. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Alumna earns Teacher of the Year honors!

We congratulate Rebecca Adams, a Tusculum University Master of Arts in teaching graduate, for earning Teacher of the Year recognition at Alcoa Elementary School for 2022!

Adams has served as a physical education teacher for nine years and is coming up on three years at Alcoa Elementary. She teaches pre-K through second grade and has a total of more than 550 students. In addition to Teacher of the Year honors, Adams has received several grants from the Alcoa City Schools Foundation. She has also created health program incentives for Alcoa Elementary.

Adams graduated from Tusculum in 2020. She said the Master of Arts in teaching was a streamlined program, which enabled her to efficiently balance home, career, academic goals and other aspects of life.

“The staff understood the needs of the students and went above and beyond to ensure that our educational goals and needs were met,” Adams said.

To learn more about our program, please visit <https://web.tusculum.edu/collegeofeducation/our-programs/graduate-programs/master-arts-teaching/>.



Rebecca Adams

Final Appalachian Environmental Studies series session to be held in August!

Learn more about the environment from a variety of angles by attending the second and final session of the Appalachian Environmental Studies program's summer lecture series Tuesday, Aug. 9, at 6 p.m. at the Greene Technology Center. Delicious desserts will be served!

If you cannot attend in person, you can access the event via Zoom at <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/83145285352>.

The session will feature insightful presentations from four Tusculum faculty members. The roster and their presentations will be:

- Dr. Angela Keaton, professor of history, "Appalachian History and the Environment"
- Dr. Shelby Ward, adjunct professor of political science, "Environmental Political Theory: Understanding Space and Places in Appalachia"
- Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, dean of the College of Science, Technology and Mathematics, "Environmental Health Issues in Appalachia"
- Dr. Troy Goodale, professor of political science and chair of the Department of Social Sciences, "The Diversity of Appalachia"

Attendance is free and open to all Tusculum family members and the community. A panel discussion and questions from the audience will follow the talks. The event will last until about 7:30 p.m.

Don't miss it!

Tusculum University Appalachian Environmental Studies Program

Summer Lecture Series

Tuesday, August 9, at 6 p.m. in the Greene Technology Center

- "Appalachian History and the Environment" by Dr. Angela Keaton, professor of history
- "Environmental Political Theory: Understanding Space and Places in Appalachia" by Dr. Shelby Ward, adjunct professor of political science
- "Environmental Health Issues in Appalachia" by Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, dean of the College of Science, Technology and Math
- "Environmental Law & Politics" by Dr. Troy Goodale, professor of political science
- Panel Discussion and Q & A

This series is sponsored by the Department of Social Sciences. The series highlights the academic expertise of our faculty and showcases the variety and diversity of the curricula in our enhanced Appalachian Environmental Studies program.

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Conserve energy resources

We still have two long weekends before employees return to normal schedules, and we remind them about important steps they can take before leaving the office on Thursdays.

- Turn off your computers and lights.
- Reduce the air conditioning level in your office.
- Turn off lights in restrooms, conference rooms and break areas.



Summer residential students can use your assistance

Some of our students have needed to stay in the residence halls this summer, and we can support them through a food drive the Bonner Leader Program is holding.

To support this initiative, you can leave perishable food items in the bin by the Old Gym in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons or at the Center for Civic Advancement in Room 401 of that building.

You can also make a monetary donation [here](#). Please select the food pantry in the drop-down menu.



This food bin is located outside the Old Gym.

Tusculum Family Reunion is coming soon!

An abundance of food, fun and games await faculty and staff members when they attend the Tusculum Family Reunion.

Faculty and staff members are invited Monday, Aug. 15, to enjoy lots of food, fun and games at Tusculum Family Reunion. Employees should mark their calendars for 11 a.m.-2 p.m. in Pioneer Park! Dress is casual.

We will have a softball game at noon and hold other activities such as cornhole, a water balloon toss and mummy wrap. Another feature is prize drawings. Faculty and staff members will receive their ticket and name tag when they enter the front gate of Pioneer Park.

To sign up for the softball game, please email Jessica Biggers, assistant director of athletic communications, at jbiggers@tusculum.edu. Rose Peedin, executive assistant to the president, is looking for volunteers to assist with the other games. If you can help, please email her at rpeedin@tusculum.edu.

Family members of employees are welcome to attend if they can accommodate it in their schedules!

Join us!
**TUSCULUM
FAMILY REUNION**

PRIZE DRAWINGS!

**AUGUST 15
11 A.M. - 2 P.M.
AT PIONEER PARK**

**An event for faculty and staff
Family members invited!
Games, food and fun!**

New details available on the Opening Convocation

The Office of Academic Affairs has provided additional information about the Opening Convocation, which will be held Tuesday, Aug. 23 in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center.

One of the new details is the time for the ceremony has been changed to 10:30 a.m. The second is the class schedule for the whole day has been finalized. Here it is:

Event	Regular Schedule	August 23 Schedule
1 st Period	8:00-9:20	8:00-9:00
2 nd Period	9:30-10:50	9:10-10:10
Convocation		10:30-11:30
3 rd Period	11:00-12:20	11:40-12:50
4 th Period	12:30-1:50	1:00-2:10
5 th Period	2:00-3:20	2:20-3:30
Labs	12:30-3:20	1:00-3:30
6 th Period	3:30-4:50	3:40-4:50

The revised schedule will provide ample opportunity for all Tusculum family members to attend the Opening Convocation as we celebrate the beginning of the academic year.

Other important dates for the fall semester

We have two other important activities planned prior to the start of the fall semester

- Pioneer WOW activities focused on new students will be held Thursday, Aug. 18-Saturday, Aug. 20. Other activities for all students will take place Sunday, Aug. 21-Saturday, Aug. 27.
- The Pioneer Workshop for faculty and staff to be held from 9 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Aug. 16, in the Marilyn duBrisk Theatre of Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center.

Fall course registration available now!

The fall semester begins in five weeks, and students should be sure they have registered for classes. They can review courses available during the fall semester by visiting the portal.

Students need to remember:

- They must meet with their advisor before they can choose their courses.
- They must not have a business office hold on their student account because they will not be able to register for courses until they resolve it.



Line up housing for the fall semester!

Housing is filling up quickly, so students who want to live in a residence hall or the apartments for the fall semester need to sign up soon.

The application is available at <https://my.tusculum.edu/forms/housing-lottery-form/>.

Keep in mind these important reminders about housing registration:

- Students will not be able to participate in the housing lottery if they have not registered for courses to be held in the fall.
- Students need to complete a housing application on their Anthology accounts.
- Students who have a business office hold can submit their housing application, but it will not be processed until they register for classes for the fall.

Have you signed up for **FALL HOUSING?**



Get ahead!



<https://my.tusculum.edu/forms/housing-lottery-form/>

Bookstore has healthy amount of office supplies

The bookstore is an excellent resource these days for office supplies, and we encourage faculty and staff members to use that facility as an option for orders.

We have an abundance of office supplies in the bookstore, and it would be good to use these items before we turn to other vendors for these materials.

[This link](#) takes you to items we have at the bookstore.

Upward Bound summer program concludes with trip to New Orleans

Students who successfully completed the Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science Summer Academy participated in a capstone trip to New Orleans. Students and TRIO staff visited a variety of destinations including stops en route to Louisiana at the National Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham, Alabama, and the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

In New Orleans, the group was treated to a sunset riverboat dinner cruise, a tour of the National World War II Museum, a culinary arts demonstration at the New Orleans School of Cooking, beignets at world-famous Café Du Monde, a historic tour of the Garden District and French Quarter, and a visit to a Louisiana swamp to observe wildlife.

This cultural enrichment trip marked the 49th year Tusculum's Upward Bound programs have offered a Summer Academy.



This a group photo taken opposite Jackson Square at the French Market. Photo from Dr. David Smith

Reminders

- Faculty and staff members are eligible to receive free tickets for Greeneville Flyboys home games at Pioneer Park this year. Anyone who is interested should submit a request to tuwork@tusculum.edu no later than noon on a game day or by noon on Friday for weekend games. Employees are eligible to reserve as many as four tickets while supplies last. If the university has not issued its total allotment of tickets as of the noon deadline, an employee can obtain additional ones.

- Attached to this edition of The Pioneer Press is the updated email signature template, which incorporates the new Tusculum theme – “Be the Light.” Please review and use for your new signature.
- The most current edition of The Pioneer Press is now available through the Pioneer Portal. Simply go to the home page of the [Pioneer Portal](#) and see The Pioneer Press icon. Click on that to read The Pioneer Press.
- If you are holding an event on campus, we need to be sure Tusculum family members are aware. One way is to submit a [branding request](#) to the Office of Communications and Marketing, which will post the event to the calendar on the Tusculum website. Another is for employees to work with the person designated in their office or department who has the ability to post items on the Events and Planning Calendar on Outlook. Access to items on that calendar is available to all employees.

Events and activities

All Tusculum family members

Tuesday, July 19; Thursday, July 21, Tuesday, July 26; and Thursday, July 28, 7 p.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **REFIT fitness class**

Faculty and staff

Monday, July 18, 8 a.m., Niswonger Commons 312, 313 and 410; **Talent Search workshop**

Tuesday, July 19, 9 a.m., Meen Center; **Health Professions Day Camp**

Wednesday, July 20, 1 p.m. Scott M. Niswonger Commons living room; **retirement reception**

Thursday, July 21, 10:30 a.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **Pioneer WOW planning**

Monday, July 25-Friday, July 29, all day, Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center; **Theatre Camp**

Monday, July 25-Friday, July 29, 9 a.m., Doak House Museum; **Find Your Food, Find Your Fun**

Wednesday, July 27, noon, Zoom; **Pioneer Pathway Task Force**

Thursday, July 28, 9 a.m., Zoom; **Operations Success Committee**

Community

Saturday, Saturday, July 23, and Saturday, July 30, 9 a.m., Doak House Museum; **Greeneville Farmers Market**

Faculty and staff birthdays

- Wednesday, July 20 – Billie Ann Pace
- Wednesday, July 20 – Dr. Peter Noll
- Thursday, July 21 – Dexter Lim
- Sunday, July 24 – Matilda Green
- Tuesday, July 26 – Amanda Delbridge
- Wednesday, July 27 – Pam Fellows
- Wednesday, July 27 – Doug Jones
- Thursday, July 28 – Matthew James
- Saturday, July 30 – Dr. Suzanne Byrd

- Sunday, July 31 – Dr. Jessica Bucholz
- Sunday, July 31 – Terri Conduff

We thank you for reading The Pioneer Press! To suggest content for a future edition or submit feature photos, please email Jim Wozniak, director of communications and marketing, at jwozniak@tusculum.edu.

Go Pioneers!