

LATE SUMMER NEWS

Preserving the legacy of pioneer settlers and experiencing how they lived.

Donald Davis, one of America's favorite master storytellers, November 18 through 21

The Center for Pioneer Life is proud to host internationally acclaimed premier storyteller Donald Davis for a four-day residency.

Davis will offer a workshop at The Center teaching adults how to collect family stories. He will also do an evening public performance in Burnsville at the Town Center on Wednesday, November 20.

In partnership with the Yancey County Schools and thanks to support from **The Yancey Fund** through **The Community Foundation of western North Carolina**, he will work with students and teachers in the schools and at The Center teaching them how to use storytelling to impact writing.

Davis a favorite at the National Storytelling Festival, he has served as a featured teller at the Smithsonian Institute, and the World's Fair.

He is the recipient of both the ORACLE Circle of Excellence and the Lifetime Achievement Awards from the National Storytelling Network and has been the guest host for NPR's *Good Evening*.

Davis is also known as a prolific writer. He is the author of eighteen books and more than forty original recordings.

For more information about Donald Davis, visit **www.ddavisstoryteller.com**.
For an updated schedule and to reserve a seat go to **www.PioneerLife.org/events**

SAVE THESE DATES

History Lecture by Dr. Lloyd Bailey

Education on the Frontier

Saturday, September 7 at 3 PM

Young Family Reunion

Saturday, September 21

10:30 AM to 4 PM

Member's Day

Saturday, October 5

10 AM to 6 PM

Donald Davis Residency

November 18 - 21

see inside for details

Christmas Open House

Sunday, December 8





See our NEW blacksmithing area and watch Paul Lundquist in action.

To build a cabin you need axes, adzes, wedges, go-devils, froes, drawknives, augurs and then nails, hinges, latches and maybe even locks. To cook you need fireplace cranes, grills, trivets, spits and utensils like forks & knives, pots and pans.

To make all these you need the smiths hammer, tongs, chisels, punches, bending forks and many special tools. All of these things and many more tools can be made on site now thanks to the generous loan of equipment by **Paul Lundquist** for our new smithy.



Collecting fresh hen eggs.

Note from the President/CEO

Geraldine Plato

NEW is a word I think of in the spring, but at the YoungHome Place, there are many NEW things to see this fall.

If you haven't yet toured our NEW farm buildings, please join us for a fall event. There is so much to learn and see in our recently constructed tool shed, spring house, blacksmithing building, garden, log yard, henhouse, corn crib, milking barn, and more. We have been fortunate to hire **Dylan Wilson** to design and build these building under the direction of **Earl Young**, who has spent countless days directing this work.

Our neighbors **Nancy and Tom Hunnicutt** worked with us to showcase the astonishingly beautiful Dottery root cellar that is a simple hike adjacent to The Center. This exhibit is not open to the public, but you can sign up for a tour to see it, hear the touching story about its history, and learn how our ancestors preserved their food for the winter.

Thanks to the volunteer work of **Steve Young**, we have enhanced our archives and history offerings by creating a special room devoted to just that in the Foundation office.

All of this could not have happened without you. Your membership helped us meet the \$50,000 challenge presented to us by the **Foundation for International Education**, which in turn allowed these significant NEW projects to happen.

We have a NEW website too. PioneerLife.org. is where you will find regular updates for things we have planned. If in doubt, check this site. We're also keeping our old site live StratwbridgeYoungFoundation.org so you can get information there too.

Special thanks to **Janice McKinney** for her work on the website. Thanks to **Jim and Mary Ellis Young, Dudley Crawford**, and **Sarah L. Ernst** for sharing their wonderful photographs.

Participate Learning Teacher Fellowship 2019

Over 75 international teachers were hosted by The Center for Pioneer Life this summer as part of a partnership recently formed with **Participate Learning**, a Chapel Hill based company that is the largest international teacher exchange program in the United States.

Grounded in the history of the Appalachian people and their lives, The Center's program aimed to share with these teachers a more authentic picture of the people of the southern mountains than has been commonly depicted.

The Center recruited two local cultural leaders, James Beard award-winning author, **Ronni Lundy**, and bestselling author and illustrator **Debra Frasier** to create this unique, immersive experience. These iconic local treasures worked with staff and volunteers to create a comprehensive and meaningful summer learning opportunity that allowed teachers to explore the challenges of our pioneer ancestors through hands-on experiences and creative writing exercises while building community with other Participate Learning teachers and lesson plans to take into to their classrooms.

Teachers came from Jamaica, Columbia, Honduras, Costa Rica, Mexico, China, United Kingdom, Venezuela.





This Year the Young Family Gathering will be Saturday September 21

10:30 AM- 12:00 Registration

12:00 PM pot luck lunch

The Morningstar Singers will provide entertainment.

Please bring a covered dish and the corresponding recipe to add to the HomePlace collection. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket too. Drinks will be provided.

The Josiah and Frances Ray Young Cabin and new farm buildings will be open for tours. There have been several additions to the site since our last Gathering. If you haven't already visited you are in for a treat! Find **Steve Young** in the archives and history room in the Foundation Office building to learn about and share your Young ancestry.

Thanks to **Erica Edwards** for organizing this event.

Join us for a Members Day Ice Cream Social Saturday, October 5, 10 AM to 6 PM

We'll be offering farm tours of our new buildings, demonstrations, a hike to the Dottery Root Cellar, kids activities, and more. You are invited to bring a lunch and a blanket if you would like to picnic on the grounds. We'll provide drinks all day.

10 Registration Pick up a schedule for the day

11 AM to Noon The Story of Log Buildings

We are excited to welcome **Jennifer Cathey**, Restoration Specialist with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office as she discusses the history of log buildings. This talk will cover the types and development of log buildings. Seating is first-come-first-served.

3 PM Ice Cream Social and Members Meeting— enjoy a scoop on us and learn about our plans for the coming year.

5 PM Music by Dylan Wilson and Friends

