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October 2019

October is Campus Sustainability Month and we are celebrating with lots of great events and campus competitions. We can't wait to hear from Dr. Bullard, the father of Environmental Justice, tonight, and don't forget to apply for the Greenest Commodore award by October 4th– application details are below! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the FutureVU Sustainability [website](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) page. Have a sustainable October and slay some “energy vampires” this Halloween – happy fall!

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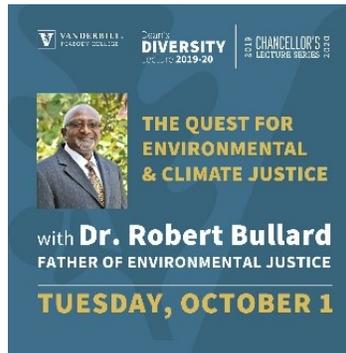
Robert Bullard, ‘father of environmental justice,’ to give keynote lecture Oct. 1

Zero Waste Trash Talk and TN Environmental Council Zero Waste Meetup – October 2

Join Zero Waste Trash Talk and TN Environmental Council's October Zero Waste Meetup, which will focus on the Nashville Metro plastic clamshell single-stream recycling ban. Event will be held at Jackelope Brewery from 7-9pm. More information [here](#).

Walk to School Day – October 2

Robert Bullard, an award-winning author and Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy at Texas Southern University, will give a lecture to the Vanderbilt community on Tuesday, Oct.



1, from 4:30-5:30pm at the Wyatt Center Rotunda. Bullard's talk, "The Quest for Environmental and Climate Justice," is co-presented by the Chancellor's Lecture Series and Peabody College Dean's Diversity Lecture Series. This event, a collaborative effort among students, faculty, staff and community members from a wide array of disciplines, is representative of the transdisciplinary and multidisciplinary environmental and social justice efforts at Vanderbilt focused on making the world a more justice-centered place.

"Professor Bullard's work on environmental issues is particularly timely for Vanderbilt as we are ever more diligent in striving toward our sustainability goals," Interim Chancellor and Provost Susan R. Wente said. "As we further our commitment to reducing our environmental footprint and being carbon neutral by 2050, we are always considering how that commitment pairs with our campus values of inclusive excellence."

For more information on the full list of sponsors and to RSVP, visit the program's [Eventbrite](#) page. Read more [here](#).

Greenest Commodore Competition Videos due October 4



[Waste Management](#) has teamed up with FutureVU Sustainability and [VU Athletics](#) to challenge Vanderbilt students and faculty, and staff to show how they are being sustainable on campus. Recycling, composting, using a reusable water bottle, taking alternative transportation, and using energy efficient

It's the 20th anniversary of Walk to School Day in Nashville! On October 2nd, over a thousand Nashville students will walk to school to enjoy active transport. This year's highlight school is DuPont Tyler Middle School, where Walk Bike Nashville will host a parade into class with the students, but any school can participate! More information [here](#).

Vanderbilt Farmers' Market – October 3, 10, 17, 24

The Vanderbilt Farmers' Market will be held every Thursday through October 31 with hours from 1:30-5pm. The market is located on the medical center plaza outside Langford Auditorium. Stop by and shop for local fruits and vegetables, dairy products, seafood, honey, flowers, and more! More information [here](#).

Tree Spree – October 6

Join the Nashville Tree Foundation for this free event! Enjoy arboretum tours of the Glen Leven Farm, tree-related activities for the whole family, and the

products are all ways you can be green. Show us how you are the “Greenest Commodore on Campus” by submitting a video (:15-:30 seconds) on what you are doing to make Vandy more sustainable. The top two videos will be invited to compete in an on-field competition during the Vanderbilt vs. Missouri Homecoming Football game on Saturday, October 19th. [Click here](#) to submit your video. Think Green and Anchor Down!

West End Neighborhood transforms with new green spaces

The Vanderbilt community can now enjoy new green spaces in the West End Neighborhood following a year of construction in the area. Once covered with asphalt and concrete, the newly transformed Green and Kensington Promenade now feature fresh landscaping as well as pedestrian- and bike-friendly pathways, creating a welcoming environment for the Vanderbilt community.



“The West End Neighborhood project is just one example of how Vanderbilt is implementing the FutureVU initiative,” Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Facilities Officer Mike Perez said. “The opening of the Green and the new Kensington Promenade is just one step in completing our overall vision for the West End Neighborhood and gives the community a glimpse of what the campus will look like in the future.” Read more [here](#).

Community collaboration leads to redesigned Fleming Yard



When the new academic year began, students, faculty and staff filled the university’s classrooms, residence halls, and centers, as well as a

announcement of the winners of the 2019 Big Old Tree Contest as well as the identity reveal of the Victor Johnson Award recipient. Event will be held from 3-5pm at the Land Trust for Tennessee’s Glen Leven Farm. More information [here](#).

River Talks: How National Policies Affect TN’s Clean Water – October 10

Amanda Garcia, managing attorney of the Nashville office of the Southern Environmental Law Center, will explain recent federal proposals from the EPA, Forest Service, and other agencies, and discuss their potential impacts on Tennessee’s clean water. Meeting will be held on the third floor of the Bridge Building at 12pm. More information [here](#).

TN Craft Fair – October 11-13

Join the Nashville tradition of celebrating and supporting American handmade crafts at this premier event on the lawn in Centennial Park. Shop local, one-of-a-kind, finely crafted artwork directly

dynamic, newly redesigned space: Fleming Yard. The redesign of the outdoor space, located between Alumni Lawn and Sarratt Student Center, was the culmination of collaborative initiatives among students, faculty, and administrators from the Division of Administration.

In 2018, students took a deeper look at Fleming Yard during Troxel's class on sustainable design and made it the focus of their DIVE (Design as an Immersive Vanderbilt Experience) project. "Our students studied energy, storm water and waste solutions to optimize the sustainability and accessibility of the space," Troxel said. "Their energetic work drove tangible solutions that most of them would be able to see and use."

Students offered their research, ideas, and feedback to Division of Administration Chief of Staff Leigh Shoup, University Landscape Architect Robert Waits and Director of Sustainability and Environmental Management Andrea George and presented final design concepts to Kopstain and Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Mike Perez. The final design represents a significant reimagining of the space while maintaining all of the trees in the area. It features recycled plastic decking and furniture, accessible pathways and routes, a hydration station for filling water tumblers, LED lighting, audio speakers for future outdoor events and a storm water capture and filtration system that will supply water to a fountain sculpture later this fall.

"Applying sustainable and human-centered design principles to reimagine Fleming Yard shows that Vanderbilt is committed to creating a built environment that enables community to flourish all over campus," said Jerom Theunissen, BE'18. Read more [here](#).

Bronson Ingram College receives LEED Gold certification

from the juried, award-winning artists. More information [here](#).

Waste Not Want Not: Cooking with Food Scraps – October 22

Join the Nashville Food Waste Initiative at Warner Park Nature Center for a cooking class with Chef Mic True, an international vegan gourmet chef, who will demonstrate how to cook with less waste. Class will be held at 5:30pm. More information [here](#).

Nashville Meeting of Air and Waste Management Association – October 23

Vanderbilt will be hosting the Nashville meeting of the Air and Waste Management Association from 11am-1pm in Bryan 101. There will be an overview of the Vanderbilt sustainability program and a tour of campus the community is invited to join. Email [Steve Gild](#) to RSVP.

River Talks: What's Up with Climate Change Denial – October 24

Why do some people readily accept the science of climate change and

Vanderbilt's [E. Bronson Ingram College](#) has been awarded LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. The council's [Leadership in Energy and Environmental](#)



[Design](#) Green Building Rating System is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance sustainable buildings. Organizations must apply for the certification, which is recognized as proof that a building is environmentally responsible and a healthy place to live and work.

“We believe that community and sustainability are symbiotic, and this Gold LEED certification from the USGBC is a resounding affirmation of that approach,” [Interim Chancellor and Provost Susan R. Wentz](#) said. “I congratulate the leaders, faculty, students, staff, donors and partners whose vision and talents have created this remarkable residential college, which will provide sustainable living and learning spaces for generations of students to come.”

Bronson Ingram College, which achieved LEED Gold status in the New Construction category, opened its doors to 340 residential students in August 2018 and marked the completion of Vanderbilt's 21st LEED-certified project since 2007. The college features state-of-the-art accommodations inside stunning Collegiate Gothic-style architecture. The building includes living spaces, a communal dining hall, a great room, a performing arts rehearsal studio and three courtyards. Read more [here](#).

others do not? Sociologist and sustainability professor Emily Stutzman will present on the social science behind the phenomenon of climate science denial. Meeting will be held on the third floor of the Bridge Building at 12pm. More information [here](#).

Commons Unplugged – November 3-9

Save the date for the 2019 Commons Unplugged! Commons Unplugged is a week-long sustainability and natural resource conservation event. Commons students will participate in an energy conservation competition, and three events will be held that are open to the public: Green Activity on November 3, Green Forum on November 5, and Green Fair on November 7. Stay tuned for more details!

For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit vanderbilt.edu/sustainability or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at futurevsustainability@vanderbilt.edu or 615-322-4551.

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