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September 2019

Welcome back! We are so happy to have our students and faculty back on campus for the new academic year and loved meeting all the new students and their families during move-in activities. A lot of exciting, new sustainable initiatives are underway this month – Vanderbilt Campus Dining is doing their part to reduce single use plastic on campus, the Community Garden is planting for fall harvest, and we will once again participate in PARK(ing) Day! Additional information about the stories and events included in this newsletter are available on the FutureVU Sustainability [website](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) page. We hope you have a sustainable start to the school year!

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### **Campus Dining Announces “No. More. Plastic.”**

### **Fall Planting Palooza – September 4**

Join the VU Community Garden for their Fall Planting Palooza. A variety of seeds will be planted including broccoli, kale, lavender, peas, cabbage and more! Volunteers will meet in the Branscomb Lobby at 4pm and then head over to the garden. RSVP [here](#).

### **Vanderbilt Farmers’ Market – September 5, 12, 19, 26**

The Nashville Farmers’ Market will be held every Thursday through October 31 with hours from 1:30-

As part of its ongoing [sustainability efforts](#), Vanderbilt University announced it will eliminate all single-use plastic water and soda bottles in its operations throughout dining facilities, markets and vending machines.



The collaborative effort—which involved the student organizations Students Promoting Environmental Awareness and Responsibility (SPEAR), Vanderbilt Student Government, and the Vanderbilt Green Fund – and will save more than 430,000 plastic bottles per year and over 1.7 million bottles during a graduating class’s four-year experience. It is part of the university’s [FutureVU sustainability strategy](#) to significantly reduce Vanderbilt’s environmental footprint and put the university on track to be [carbon neutral by 2050](#). The amount of plastic saved in one year is enough to cover the university’s football field almost 1.5 times. Read the MyVU article [here](#). Any undergraduate can pick up their free bottle at any market location with their Vanderbilt ID.

### **Greenest Commodore Competition**



[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 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 19<sup>th</sup>. [Click here](#) to submit your video. Think Green and Anchor Down!

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](#).

### **Solar Project Development – September 4**

Area businesswoman Tiffany Wilmot will present on solar project development. This event is open to undergraduates in the campus community and is sponsored by the Program in Environmental and Sustainability Studies. Discussion held in Wilson 112 at 10am. More information [here](#).

### **Tennessee Women in Green September Meeting – September 6**

Join Tennessee Women in Green for their monthly meeting. Our very own Chelsea Hamilton will be discussing Vanderbilt University’s sustainability programs on campus. Meeting will be held on the third floor of the Bridge Building at 7:30am. More information [here](#).

## Mark your calendars for PARK(ing) Day 2019

Vanderbilt is participating in PARK(ing) Day, an international event aimed at demonstrating how public space such as parking can be transformed into usable community space. The event will take place on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 9am-5pm.



This year's park will focus on transportation and sustainability efforts underway, and the campus community will have the opportunity to preview a colorful mock "Walk & Roll Loop" multimodal pathway. Join us in the parking area behind the Law School along 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue for activities, food and fun! Detailed information in myVU is coming soon.

## University partners with local organizations to salvage Manuel House architecture



Vanderbilt University has partnered with Nashville organizations Preservation Station and Project Return in its efforts to preserve a part of Nashville's vibrant cultural history, the Manuel House.

The effort to salvage millwork from the Manuel House involved the University Facilities team working alongside [Preservation Station](#), a local business that saves and resells recycled antique building materials, as well as [Project Return, Inc.](#), a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for individuals working to rebuild their lives after incarceration. Preservation Station also partnered with another local organization, The Nashville Food Project, to provide a meal for the crews on site. Proceeds from the sale of the architectural elements will be donated to the Metro Historic Commission Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to the preservation of Nashville's landmarks.

## Dragon Boat Festival – September 7

The Cumberland River Compact Dragon Boat Festival is hosting the Dragon Boat races off the East Bank Landing of the Cumberland at 10am. The races support the work of the [Cumberland River Compact](#) to keep the Cumberland River and its tributaries clean and healthy for future generations. More information [here](#).

## Tennessee Environmental Council Block Party – September 14

The Tennessee Environmental Council is throwing a block party to celebrate participation in the Recycle Right Nashville study from The Nations & Rosebank neighborhoods! This family fun event is being held with the purpose of giving back to the community, increasing waste awareness and providing solutions to repurpose, exchange or donate items you no longer want! The block party will be held from 5:30-7:30pm at West Park Community Center. More information [here](#).

“Given this property’s rich history, we knew we had to explore how we could put our values as a university to work – creating mutually beneficial opportunities for our Nashville neighbors as well as supporting our [FutureVU sustainability efforts](#),” said [Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Facilities Officer Mike Perez](#). “While this may have added an additional step to the process to demo the building, it was important for us to take the time to build relationships while preserving what we could from this historical site.”

For more information, visit the [FutureVU](#) and [Wond’ry](#) websites. Read the MyVU article [here](#).

### **University updates nighttime student shuttle service; VandyRide will enhance efficiency and safety**

Returning students will notice a new name around campus starting Sunday, Aug. 18: [VandyRide](#).

The shuttle service, formerly known as Vandy Vans, was restructured over the summer months to provide better service for students.



“We heard loud and clear from the student body that they wanted a more efficient and streamlined service. We took that feedback to heart and were able to make meaningful changes to this important service,” said [Erin Hafkenschiel, executive director of mobility](#). “Enhancing safety and efficiency were our main priorities, but we also wanted to make sure we were incorporating our university values, such as sustainability and accessibility, into the program.”

Updates to the service starting this year include earlier and longer service times from 5 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. and new routes (see map below). The changes come after a year-long study that included student focus groups and data collection. Routes with low ridership were consolidated, and other routes were changed to reflect the ridership trends of the student body.

### **Women in Green Leadership Breakfast – September 17**

Have fun, get wet and do some good as volunteers team up to clean the Little Harpeth River. The clean-up will be held from 10am–1pm, and will begin at the Warner Park Nature Center. More information [here](#).

### **Fall Gardening with the Experts – September 17**

Join Danny McKissack and Laura Barker from the Vanderbilt Plant Operations Grounds Maintenance team for “Fall Gardening with the Experts” from 4-5:30pm at the Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center. Learn how to start late vegetable and flower gardens, and receive information on seeds and transplanting as well as growing recommendations. More information [here](#).

### **Community Supported Agriculture Boxes Bring Local Produce to You – September 25**

The [Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness Center](#) and [Health Plus](#) will showcase the advantages of CSA boxes as well as prepare

To access [VandyRide](#), students can download [VandySafe through the Apple or Google Play stores](#). Once users are inside the app, they can select “route” in the drop-down menu in the upper left-hand corner and select all routes to see the routes on the map.

For complete information about the VandyRide service, including routes, stops, and times, please visit their website at

[https://www.vanderbilt.edu/traffic\\_parking/alternative-transportation.php](https://www.vanderbilt.edu/traffic_parking/alternative-transportation.php). Read the MyVU story [here](#).

### **Hatzell wins ECS Toyota 2019-2020 Fellowship**



[Kelsey Hatzell](#), assistant professor of mechanical engineering, is one of five recipients of an [Electrochemical Society Toyota 2019-2020 Young Investigator](#)

[Fellowship](#) awarded this year for projects in green energy technology.

In her proposal—Tracking Ion Transport Pathways and Hybrid Solid Electrolytes—Hatzell’s research group intends to examine transport in solid electrolytes for advanced all solid-state lithium metal batteries. “Lithium metal batteries could increase the energy density of a battery by four to five times. This would mean longer discharge times and longer driving ranges for electric vehicles,” Hatzell said. Read more [here](#).

tasty dishes using a variety of vegetables often included in the boxes. Attendees will receive samples and recipes complete with nutrition analysis for the dishes created. The discussion is set from 12-1pm at the VRWC demonstration kitchen. More information [here](#).

### **Webinar: DOE and Biological Sciences – September 26**

Are you interested in funding from the Department of Energy? This special webinar series will be presented in two sessions by Lewis-Burke Associates LLC. The webinar viewing will take place from 2-3pm in Baker Building, room 800C. Remote viewing available with advanced Registration. More information [here](#).

For more information on any of these stories, events and more, visit [vanderbilt.edu/sustainability](http://vanderbilt.edu/sustainability) or contact the Sustainability and Environmental Management Office at [futurevusustainability@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:futurevusustainability@vanderbilt.edu) or 615-322-4551.

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