



September 5, 2022

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President's Perspective

As we celebrate Labor Day, let me express my appreciation for our employees.

We are blessed with faculty members who are experts in their fields and are committed to helping their students become career-ready professionals through an active and experiential education. Many of them also participate extensively in committees or support our students as advisors of many clubs and organizations. We are fortunate to have faculty members who have embraced their calling as instructors and use their considerable talent to position the next generation of leaders for success.

Our dedicated staff members play an integral role serving our students, keeping the university running and fulfilling our mission. It is common to see staff members on campus well after the close of business

or working behind the scenes in their off hours from home. In the case of our Campus Safety officers, they are on the job 24/7 to keep everyone safe.

I value each and every one of our employees and all of their hard work! May they enjoy the day set aside for them.

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

“Remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” – [1 Thessalonians 1:3](#) ESV

Photo of the Week



Maria Torres, a Student Support Services participant, feeds one of the giraffes at Brights Zoo. SSS held a kickoff event there Friday. Photo from Meagan Stark.

COVID-19 procedures

We have modified a few coronavirus procedures in light of recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. You can read all of the protocols [here](#).

Should you develop coronavirus symptoms, be diagnosed or be identified as a contact, you must immediately inform the appropriate group at Tusculum.

- Students need to email the Office of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tusculum.edu or call the COVID-19 hotline at 423-636-0500. They should also alert their professors.
- Employees must contact the Human Resources Department at humanresources@tusculum.edu or 423-636-7345 (extension 5345 on campus) as well as their supervisor.

Grand opening for the Wellness Center Tuesday

We encourage you to join us Tuesday, Sept. 6, at 4:30 p.m. on the lower level of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons as we celebrate the opening of the Wellness Center.

Our grand opening celebration will provide an excellent opportunity to showcase this wonderful health enhancement facility and thank all of the donors who contributed to this important cause. If you have not been to the Wellness Center, we invite you not only to come for the grand opening but also to make the facility a regular part of your routine.

The Wellness Center is open to all students, faculty and staff. Operating hours are 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and 1-7 p.m. Sunday.

The facility contains treadmills, elliptical machines and weight machines. We remind you that Dr. Suzanne Byrd, department chair and associate professor of sport science, has agreed to provide drop-in orientation sessions at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, and noon, Tuesday, Sept. 13. People can email her at sbyrd@tusculum.edu if they want to schedule a personal session on workout planning for a busy life.

The Office of Student Affairs will operate the Wellness Center and is available for questions. The facility will be under 24-hour-a-day surveillance to ensure the safety of all Wellness Center users and protection of the equipment.

Remembering a former student who has passed away

We remember with fondness a former Tusculum student who recently passed away.

Alex Gridley died at her home Saturday, Aug. 27, at the young age of 21. Her passing leaves a hole in the hearts of not just her immediate family but those at Tusculum who knew her when she was a student here.

We extend our condolences to her family and everyone at our university who crossed paths with Gridley and maintained connections with her.

If you would like to learn more about Gridley, you can read [her obituary](#).

Budget meetings this week with the Business Office

The Business Office will meet with faculty and staff members who are involved in budgets at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, and 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8. The meeting will take place in Chalmers Conference Center.

Among the discussion points will be changes in accounts and processes for this fiscal year.

Those who should plan to attend are anyone who works with or oversees a budget. The meeting should last no more than 90 minutes.

Applicable faculty and staff members only need to attend one of the sessions.

Lecture about 9/11 coming to Tusculum

Next Monday, Dr. Troy Goodale, chair of the Social Sciences Department, will deliver a free lecture at 7 p.m. in the Meen Center lecture hall on 9/11 as part of Tusculum's Cicero Lecture Series.

In his presentation, "9/11: Numbers of Notoriety, Day of Infamy," Dr. Goodale will discuss some of the sinister acts in the years preceding that day, the rise of Al-Qaeda and the cumulative response by the United States. Specifically, he will provide background information about Al-Qaeda – its origins and its activities throughout the 1990s, including the USS Cole attack and the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi; the organization's declaration of war on America; and the nation's underestimation of the threat the group posed.

Dr. Goodale, who also serves as professor of political science, will review the events of 9/11 in detail and Al-Qaeda's preparation for the multiple attacks. In addition, he will examine the aftermath of 9/11 in U.S. foreign policy, including the nation's entry into the war in Afghanistan and the withdrawal of American troops from that country.

Please join us for this important lecture. If you have questions, please email Dr. Goodale at atgoodale@tusculum.edu.

Tusculum University's Cicero Lecture Series Presents:



With Troy Goodale, Ph.D., Professor of Political Science &
Chair of the Department of Social Sciences

Monday, September 12

7:00pm

in the Meen Center Lecture Hall at Tusculum University
Free Admission

For more information 423-798-1620



Learn more about the situation in Ukraine at a free lecture

The events in Ukraine have captured everyone's attention and resulted in widespread reactions.

On Thursday, Sept. 15, the Tusculum family and the community will have an opportunity to hear directly from a man born and raised in Ukraine. Yaro Hnatusko, co-founder and executive director of Restore Ukraine, will speak at 7 p.m. in the Meen Center. The talk is free.

Restore Ukraine has converted warehouses into shelters, utilized a corporate restaurant as a food bank and distributed food for displaced citizens of Ukraine. The organization has distributed more than 500,000 pounds of food supplies in the most bombed city of Ukraine. The Johnson City Press wrote a story about Restore Ukraine's efforts in that country. You can read it here.

Hnatusko is also a Master of Business Administration student at East Tennessee State University.

Real life story of a Ukrainian about the war and his nonprofit



Real story about the aggressive and brutal war Russia took against Ukraine in 2022.

Hear about Ukrainians who fight for their freedom, rights and life.

Explore ways to help suffering families immediately.

Yaroslav Hnatusko,
Executive Director and
Co-founder of
Restore Ukraine NGO

SEPTEMBER 15, 2022
7 PM, LECTURE HALL
OF TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY



RESTORE
UKRAINE



&
TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY



WAR IN UKRAINE

For more details
scan Restore Ukraine QR-code

“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons” starting Sept. 23 at Tusculum

“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons,” a dark romantic comedy, will soon hit the stage in Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center, and all Tusculum family members are encouraged to attend!

The play will be held Sept. 23, Sept. 24, Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 at 2 p.m. in the Behan Arena Theatre, located on the lower level of Annie Hogan Byrd. All students, faculty and staff are eligible for one free ticket. Additional tickets cost \$15 for anyone 12-59 years old, \$12 for anyone 60 or older and \$5 for children younger than 5.

“Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons, Lemons” features two characters. Bernadette is an ambitious attorney, and Oliver is a laid-back musician. A new law interrupts their love story by limiting the amount of words a citizen can speak to 140 per day.

The play by Sam Steiner considers a world in which people must say less. It contemplates what people say and how they say it. This production also touches on activism, eye contact and what people can hear in silence. The cast features two Tusculum staff members – Steve Schultz, director of admission operations, and Erin Hensley Schultz, costume director. Frank Mengel will lead set design, and three students – Todd Wallin, Josie Norton and Gracie Weems – will run the show backstage.

Anyone with questions can call Tusculum Arts Outreach at 423-798-1620.

Chapel returns next Monday with a presentation from our campus minister!

We did not have chapel today because of the Labor Day holiday, but we will return Monday, Sept. 12, with another presentation by Dr. Chris Shumate, our campus minister as well as music from head women’s soccer coach Mike Joy.

Chapel sessions take place from 3:30-4 p.m. every Monday during the fall semester when classes are in session. Every week, we will address common questions about Christianity. All Tusculum family members are invited to attend.

If you are unable to attend in person, you can participate virtually at <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWL0tuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>.

For more information, please email Dr. Shumate at cshumate@tusculum.edu.



Dr. Chris Shumate

Reminder about the Sweet Tooth Tuesday competition in two weeks

The first-ever Sweet Tooth Tuesday competition is just around the corner. Faculty and staff can join us from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, around the living room of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

This event will have the same approach to the Chili Cook-Off but will focus on desserts instead! Teams can form to create their best treats, with voters determining who earns the different honors.

Sweet Tooth Tuesday is for faculty and staff members. Employees should not wait but rather determine their dessert creations and themes now if they are not finalized already!

Faculty and staff members with questions should email Nicole Rader, director of alumni and community engagement, at nrader@tusculum.edu.



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF TUSCULUM'S FINEST TREATS!

Tuesday, September 20
11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Niswonger Commons main entrance

THIS EVENT IS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF PARTICIPATION ONLY.
TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM, PLEASE EMAIL NRADER@TUSCULUM.EDU.

Supporting the university financially

By equipping our students in a caring Christian environment to be career-ready, civically engaged professionals, we empower them to make a difference in the world.

Another way we ensure our students' success is through our financial gifts to the university, which provides the resources they need and enables Tusculum to achieve its mission. We encourage our employees to complete a [Faculty and Staff Contribution Form](#).

The form is available at <https://site.tusculum.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Faculty-Staff-Contribution-Form-April-2021.pdf>. Employees can also find it on the Faculty and Staff Portal of the Pioneer Portal.

We congratulate the Thomas J. Garland Library staff, which was the first office at Tusculum to reach 100 percent giving this fall! We thank everyone who makes a gift! No amount is too small!



Members of the library team are, left to right, Kayla Yates, Lelia Dykes, Donald Townsend and Kathy Higgs.

Dr. Shelby Ward named the new director of the Center for Civic Advancement

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Shelby Ward as our new director of the Center for Civic Advancement and look forward to her leadership as the program continues to put our mission into action.

Dr. Ward, who also serves as an assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies, saw the position as an opportunity to combine her experiences of student organizing and engagement, as well as program coordination. She said civic engagement has been part of her academic career since graduate school.

“It is my hope I’ll be able to continue the projects the Center already is known for, including Nettie Day, voter registration, Constitution Day and the clothing closet/food pantry,” Dr. Ward said. “But I hope that through especially my international perspective, there are things I can add to the program, as well.”

Dr. Ward previously worked for an international study abroad program that traveled with undergraduate students to Morocco and Sri Lanka for educational and civic engagement activities. She

was also an internship experience coordinator who helped place students with a local Buddhist-based nongovernmental organization in Sri Lanka that focused on social services.

Among Dr. Ward's goals for CCA are to centralize the civic engagement conducted across campus through the center, become more globally connected and secure external funding. She said the CCA has great relationships with community partners, and she hopes to further strengthen them.

"Hands down, the students are the strongest part of the CCA, particularly those of the Bonner Leaders Program," Dr. Ward said. "It is the outreach, involvement and work of the students that make the center what it is. I know that there are more students out there on campus that have similar passions and interests, and I hope we can get them more involved."

She said the CCA is recruiting for the Bonner Program. Interested students can find more information about that program at <https://site.tusculum.edu/student-affairs/clubs-organizations/bonnors/>.

Dr. Ward also praised the work of Amanda Delbridge, who serves as the CCA's assistant director.

Dr. Ward has bachelor's and master's degrees in English and a doctorate in social, political, ethical and cultural thought, all from Virginia Tech.



Dr. Shelby Ward

Nettie Day coming Sept. 16

Nettie Fowler McCormick Service Day, one of Tusculum's proudest and longest traditions returns to campus Friday, Sept 16,

This event has evolved throughout its rich history that spans more than 100 years and honors one of our earliest benefactors. It provides an opportunity for the Tusculum family to head into the community and spend time on campus completing service work. Nettie Day is an outstanding way to demonstrate the civic engagement component of our mission.

Led now by the Center for Civic Advancement, Nettie Day is a comprehensive service day that highlights our commitment to strengthen communities. Anyone who is interested in participating this year should be on the lookout for an online signup that should be up and running in the next few days. All participants who register should plan to arrive by 8:15 a.m. on Sept. 16 in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

For further information, you can email cca@tusculum.edu.

TU | CENTER FOR
CIVIC ADVANCEMENT

#NETTIEDAY2022





Students complete a bridge project during Nettie Day in 2021.

Former Israeli soldier entertained and informed his audience last week

We are grateful to Mishi Neubach, a tour guide and former Israeli soldier who fought in the Six-Day and Yom Kippur wars, who shared his insights about his country during his public lecture and presentation to Tusculum Old Testament classes Thursday, Sept. 1.

During the public event, Neubach spoke about the modern state of Israel throughout his life. At that lecture, Dr. Hummel shared about the opportunity for students, faculty and staff to visit Israel in June 2023. Dr. Hummel has used Neubach as his tour guide on all of his trips to Israel.

After that tour, students and others interested in ancient history have the opportunity to excavate at Tel-Lachish for three weeks. Academic credit can be earned during the excavation through the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Those credits are transferable to Tusculum.

Several students have spoken with Dr. Hummel about these opportunities and are interested in participating. If the tour and/or excavation appeal to you, please email Dr. Hummel at president@tusculum.edu. Do not pass up these great examples of active and experiential learning and civic engagement!



Mishi Neubach gives his public lecture in the Meen Center lecture hall. To see other photos from the Office of Communications and Marketing and Dr. Hummel, please view [this gallery](#).

Have fun with the Art & Design Club!

The Art & Design Club is great opportunity for anyone who likes art, dance, music or anything else considered creative. The group gathers each week to hang out, make art and have fun.

The club has a lot of exciting things planned for this semester and would love to have additional students participate! Club meetings are held Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m. in the Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center student lounge in room 106 on the main floor.

Any questions about the Art & Design Club can be directed to Lilliana Gall, club president, at lgall1@students.tusculum.edu or to Lanna Monday, assistant professor of art and design, at lmonday@tusculum.edu.



Put your gaming skills on display!

The Tusculum University Gaming Club provides another opportunity for students to display their talent in an enjoyable and engaging way.

The club meets every Friday in the gaming lab on the second floor of the Charles Oliver Gray academic building to play Dungeons and Dragons and will periodically hold special events for students to play sports games. On Saturday, Sept. 3, some students played FIFA 2022 in the classrooms on the lower level of the Thomas J. Garland Library.

Any student is welcome to participate in these events. To learn more about the Gaming Club, please email Dakota Hammonds, the group's president, at dhammonds1@students.tusculum.edu.



Students participated in the FIFA 2022 sports game opportunity Saturday in the Thomas J. Garland Library. They are, left to right, Damien Baltide, Ignacio Cano and Eirik Dahlgren in the front row and Othmane Chagour, Pedro Concheso and Gael Afnrifani in the back row. More photos are available [here](#). Photos by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Sharing the Tusculum story on the road

As he and the admission team hit the road to recruit more students to Tusculum, Dr. Jacob Fait wants to keep the Tusculum brand visible as much as possible.

The vice president of enrollment management and financial aid, developed an idea to accomplish that goal. He decided Tusculum should add the many elements of Tusculum branding on the university's Chevrolet Suburban. That way, any people who came near the car would discover or be reminded about Tusculum and consider applying for admission.

Enter Sydney Clendening, our graphic designer, and Lilli Gall, a Tusculum student, who served as an intern in the Communications and Marketing Department. Clendening led the initiative and partnered with Gall to create the beautiful design. Bill Bledsoe, assistant professor of art and design, supported the project with his guidance and work with Foster Signs, which placed the branding on the Suburban.

For Gall, who is double majoring in studio art as well as visual communication and design, this project provided another opportunity for active and experiential learning during her Tusculum studies.



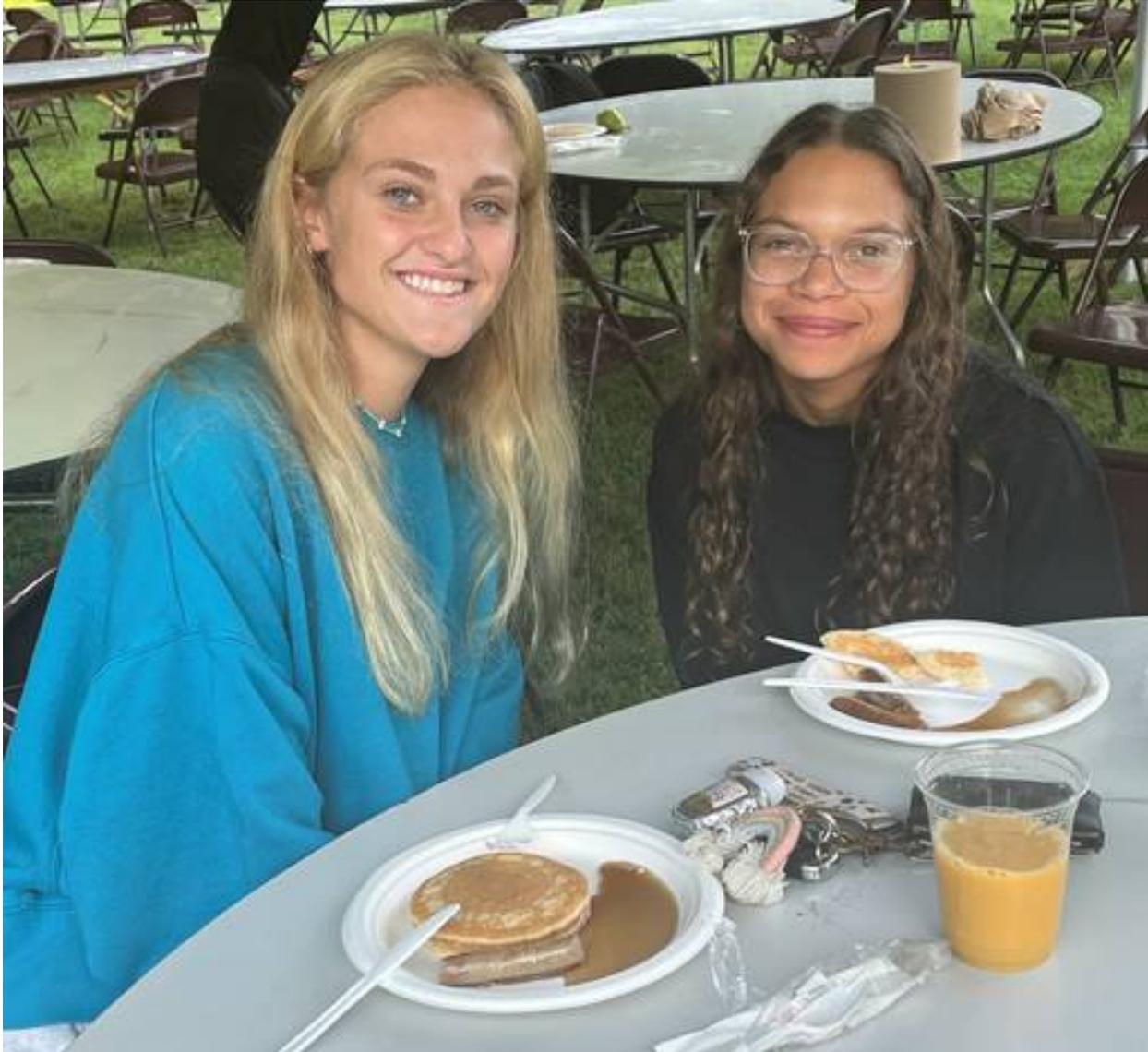
Sydney Clendening, left, and Lilli Gall stand by the Suburban. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Relive the Pioneer WOW experience

If you are already missing the wonderful moments from Pioneer WOW or were unable to participate in them, Jared Rowland, Tusculum's front-end web developer, has created a [video](#) of the experience.

Check out the events – from move-in to the Pioneer Showdown to the cookout – with a nice mixture of still and video photography. More importantly, share the video with potential new students so they can see what is in store for them when they enroll at Tusculum!

The link is available at https://youtu.be/50suiBFiW_Y. You can also find it on the Pioneer WOW page on the Tusculum website at <https://site.tusculum.edu/pioneer-wow/>.



Ellie Richardson, left, and Italia Kyle enjoy the Frontier Breakfast at the Doak House Museum during PioneerWOW.

Student Support holds kickoff event

Student Support Services kicked off the academic year Friday, Sept. 2, with a visit to Brights Zoo in nearby Limestone.

The event gave the students in this free, federally funded program a chance to visit the splendor of one of Northeast Tennessee's special attractions. The students also had a chance to hear firsthand from Wayne Thomas, dean of the College of Civic and Liberal Arts; Dr. Troy Goodale, chair of the Social Sciences Department; and Jordan Baker, assistant professor of biology. The three spoke to students about their own journeys as first-generation students.

SSS serves first-generation and income-eligible students and provides them access to workshops, personal coaching, seminars and trips, mentoring, opportunities for additional scholarships and assistance with graduate school exploration.



Left to right, Mirna Jacinto-Ramirez, Juliana Flores Martinez, Maria Torres, Gwen Gustafson and Avery Carper relax at Brights Zoo. Photo from Meagan Stark. To see additional photos from Stark, please visit [this gallery](#). We do not have any photos of the male students on this trip.

Reminders

- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic located in Room 008 of the Meen Center is open for medical care. The clinic will see patients Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 1-3:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary. Patients can self-pay or use their health insurance. Students can apply for payment aid, if necessary.
- Homecoming is Wednesday, Oct. 19-Sunday, Oct. 23. You can learn more about this can't miss event and see the schedule by visiting <https://go.tusculum.edu/homecoming/>. The theme for this year is "There's No Place Like Homecoming."

- Nominations of faculty and staff members for the President's GEM Award in September are now being accepted. The deadline is noon Wednesday, Sept. 28. Dr. Hummel will announce the recipient at the President's Coffee Friday, Sept. 30. To suggest someone, please complete [this short form](#).
- Tusculum is doubling its available bandwidth. Starting in early September, we will launch better and faster speeds for Wi-Fi and Ethernet connections. You can learn more [here](#).
- 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, Sept. 6, and Thursday, Sept. 8, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT fitness class**

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 11 a.m., in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **Snappy's Street Tacos food truck**

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2 p.m., in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons; **Free Float Friendsday**

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m., Chalmers Conference Center; **yoga**

Thursday, Sept. 8, 8 p.m., Old Gym; **yoga**

Community

Saturday, Saturday, Sept. 3, 9 a.m., Doak House Museum; **Greeneville Farmers Market**

Athletics



Eddie Watson, a freshman wide receiver, returns a punt 60 yards for a touchdown during Tusculum's blowout 70-13 victory over St. Augustine's University to open the season. Photo by student photographer Kari Ham

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 6 p.m., Pioneer Arena; **women's indoor volleyball team vs. Mars Hill University**

Friday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m., Emory & Henry College; **women's indoor volleyball team vs. Emory & Henry College**

Saturday, Sept. 10, and Sunday, Sept. 11, time TBA, Lincoln Memorial University; **men's and women's tennis teams at LMU Invitational**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 8:30 a.m., Morristown; **women's cross country team at Walters State Invite**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 9:15 a.m., Morristown; **men's cross country team at Walters State Invite**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 1 p.m., Chowan University; **football team vs. Chowan University**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m., UVA-Wise; **women's indoor volleyball team vs. UVA Wise**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 5 p.m., Pioneer Field; **women's soccer team vs. Lenoir-Rhyne University**

Saturday, Sept. 10, 7:30 p.m., Pioneer Field; **men's soccer team vs. Lenoir-Rhyne University**



The women's indoor volleyball team will be at home Tuesday, Sept. 6, for a match against Mars Hill University. In action last week against Carson-Newman University McKayla Willey, a freshman outside hitter, digs the ball as her teammates watch from the sidelines. Photo by Kari Ham, student photographer

Please visit the schedule on the athletics website for potential changes with games.

Faculty and staff birthdays

- Monday, Sept. 5 – Daniel Beddingfield
- Monday, Sept. 5 – Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey
- Monday, Sept. 5 – Rachael Barnett
- Wednesday, Sept. 7 – Holly Ratcliff
- Thursday, Sept. 8 – Jason Morris
- Friday, Sept. 9 – Tiffany Brown
- Saturday, Sept. 10 – Kelsey Trom
- Sunday, Sept. 11 – Dr. Anne Acker
- Sunday, Sept. 11 – Mikaela Cooney

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!