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University of Wisconsin

River Falls

# STUDENT VOICE

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## UWRF ‘Year of South Korea’ seeks to bridge gaps between cultures at home and abroad

**Tori Schneider**  
**Falcon News Service**

Hyun Sung Jang is passionate about two things: teaching English and the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

The teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) major from South Korea dreams of one day becoming an English teacher to international students in an American public high school.

Jang transferred to Michigan Lutheran Seminary High School in Saginaw, Michigan, as a sophomore in 2013 with this goal in mind.

When it came time to look into colleges, Jang did lots of research.

“My first priority was my English — whether the university can provide some resources for international students to improve their English,” he said, “and also I was wondering which university has a good TESOL program.”

UWRF was one of the schools that Jang came across in his search after narrowing it down based on resources and tuition.

He ended up on the phone with Professor Marshall Toman, chair of UWRF English Department, asking a few questions about what resources the school provides.

Jang was impressed by the care Toman displayed when he spent 30 minutes answering Jang’s questions. Toman then put him in contact with Youngsoo Margolis, director of Korean



*Photo by Tori Schneider/Student Voice*  
**Hyun Sung Jang hangs out in the Involvement Center in the University Center, a favorite spot of his on campus, Nov. 20.**

partnerships, whom Jang could speak to in Korean.

“I just had a compelling feeling that I just had to apply to this university,” Jang said.

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## Not bored by boards: International Games Week comes to town

**Destrey Zarfos**  
**Falcon News Service**

Millennia ago, around 3,000 B.C., our ancestors were huddled around tables or sitting in circles on the floor, partaking in what would become a timeless tradition: board games. The earliest version of a game archeologists have uncovered comes from pre-dynastic Egypt. It was called Senet and is played much like modern day backgammon.

Fast-forward to present day, and these means of entertainment and tradition still serve us. Now the time has come to celebrate. River Falls participated in its very first International Games Week, Nov. 13-21.

According to the American Library Association, National Games Day started back in 2007. Two people organized an attempt to gather enough participants to set a world record for the most people playing the same game at the same time in libraries around the world. In 2012, National Games Day became International Games Day, and this year it became International Games Week. Events are held on all seven continents, and River Falls finally decided to get on the board.

Cole Zrostlik is the events coordinator at the River Falls Public Library, and this year he thought it was time to join the fun. “I used to participate in Games Week when I worked as a children’s librarian and loved getting news about free games,” he said. Zrostlik had quite the undertaking, planning events to span Nov. 13-21.

The week began with RFPL providing a space for community members to play games as well as create their own. Next the fun moved to Vagabond Arcade in River Falls for an adult and teen board game night. After that, Fox Den Used Books on Main Street hosted a game night. The event finished off at the same place it began, at RFPL. Different kinds of games were in the gallery downstairs, even some arcade games borrowed from Vagabond Arcade.

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## UWRF plans to say goodbye to D2L, hello to Canvas within three semesters

**Nathan Lukasavitz**  
**Falcon News Service**

In addition to learning the names of students, getting to know other professors, and becoming familiar with the campus, getting acquainted with the Desire2Learn online classroom is one of the tougher challenges that new professors face when they begin teaching at UWRF, according to one of them.

For Abigail Jackson, an assistant professor of psychology who is currently in the process of completing her first semester of teaching, D2L presented some major differences from Blackboard, the learning management system she used previously.

“The main thing that I notice about D2L, specifically compared to Blackboard, is with entering grades,” Jackson said. “I can actually do formulas on my Excel spreadsheet, and I’ve just found I haven’t really been able to get it to upload properly in D2L, which I wasn’t having a problem doing in Black-

board, so now I’m manually entering the grades into D2L.”

With more than 85 percent of all courses in the UW System utilizing D2L in some fashion, Jackson is only one of many who has experienced inefficiencies with the current learning management system. To eliminate the problems that faculty and students have with the system, UWRF is currently in the planning process of transitioning away from D2L and moving to a digital learning environment called Canvas.

“The idea is to take the back-end load off the faculty members, so they’re not having to worry about how the system works,” said Joe Kmiecch, executive director of the Division of Technology Services. “That’s what all these next generation learning environments offer. It’s to make it easier for the faculty and students to do what they’re there to do – teach and learn, and not to worry about how the bolts and nuts work in the background.”

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*Nathan Lukasavitz/ Falcon News Service*  
**UWRF junior exercise and sports science major Jeremy Menden works on OWL, the Online Writing Lab in D2L, on Nov. 22.**

## Profs, students try to find a sense of balance for university sanctioned events

**Zach Dwyer**  
**Falcon News Service**

Student-athletes are expected to travel a lot during their individual seasons, with packed schedules being accompanied by early dismissals from classes for road games. Jason Caballero is a senior history and broad field social studies major. Caballero has been on the football team for four years and has gone to away games in South Dakota, Missouri and Texas with his teammates. However, missing classes can present a variety of challenges.

“We took three trips on Friday this year,” Caballero said. “I have an education class from 2-5 p.m. on Fridays, so the teacher sets it up that you’re responsible, and he’s trusting that I will get caught back up.”

Caballero made up for this by doing the lesson plan with a fellow student on his team as they were traveling on the bus. As he’s gotten older, he’s learned to take advantage of bus rides or flights to catch up on the necessary homework for the amount of time he has to miss.

It is difficult for professors to constantly be receiving news about athletes or students having to miss class for games or educational conferences, but Caballero said there is an important way to make the situation work.

“It’s about the student-professor relationship,” Caballero said. “Time management is crucial, and establishing yourself as a good student will affect how teachers feel.”

University-sanctioned events are defined as, “Any extracurricular event (educational field trips or conferences, theatrical performances, intercollegiate athletic contests, musical performances or tours) as approved by the sponsoring Department and the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs or designee,” according to the university-sponsored off-campus activities page on uwrf.edu.

These events are usually planned out months in advance and require approval and the names of all students attending before they are excused for being absent.

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# News Briefs:

## 6th Annual Beatles Tribute: With a Little Help from Our Friends in RF

On Sunday, December 10, from 1:30-3:30, the River Falls Public Library will host. With a Little Help from Our Friends,<sup>2</sup> the 6th annual tribute to John Lennon and the Beatles organized by River Falls poet and singer Thomas R. Smith.

Smith schedules the yearly tribute to coincide with the December 8 anniversary of Lennon's death in 1980. It is, he explains, a way to remember Lennon with joy instead of grief by recreating some of his music and also celebrating the contributions of the other Beatles.

Not a note-for-note tribute band, Smith and his musical friends and accomplices play mainly acoustic instruments and invite the audience to sing along on the beloved songs. <sup>3</sup>Musically,<sup>2</sup> Smith says, <sup>3</sup>it's a cross between jug band and rock and roll, with a little Pete Seeger thrown in for good measure.<sup>2</sup>

Besides a generous selection from the Beatles and Lennon catalogs, the tribute also features poetry by Smith and other Beatles-inspired poets. This year's spoken-word guest is Michael Kiesow Moore, a Twin Cities poet, author of <sup>3</sup>What to Pray For.<sup>2</sup>

Books by participating poets will be offered for sale, and the profits donated to charity relief work in Puerto Rico.

The concert is free, suitable for all ages, and held in the lower level of the River Falls Public Library at 140 Union Street, River Falls.

## Future STEM teachers receive tuition stipends for graduate program

Ten graduate students of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls have received financial stipends from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to cover costs of their studies and start new careers teaching science or math.

The UWRF STEMteach graduate program prepares individuals with an undergraduate major in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) to become licensed middle or high school science, computer science, or mathematics teachers after one year of intensive study.

The NSF Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship was established to both encourage highly qualified candidates to enter teaching careers and provide local school districts with much needed science and math teachers, according to Earl Blodgett, UWRF physics professor and project director.

“Our program received the first installment of the nearly

\$1.5 million award in May 2017, just in time to support the newest cohort of STEMteach candidates,” Blodgett said.

Allie Blomquist of Hudson had intended to teach math after college, but became a professional golfer and golf instructor instead. During her time giving golf clinics to local youth groups in Boston, she rediscovered a passion for teaching.

“I loved to figure out how to reach each unique student and see the moment of understanding and positive change happen,” she said. From this experience, she found a strong desire to “make a difference in the lives of kids, teaching them the power of math and physics.”

In return for the stipend, the candidates commit to teaching for at least two years in a high-needs school district.

As a graduate of one such school, Brett Shand of Columbia Heights, Minn., understands the importance of having “qualified, passionate teachers” at these schools. A first-generation college student, Shand was an environmental geologist before enrolling in the UWRF graduate program.

“I believe that I can have a positive impact on these underprivileged students and provide them with a quality education to prepare them for their futures,” he added. “I am well-suited to recognize the potential in otherwise overlooked students and challenge them to rise to their full potential.”

Addie Ek-Pangerl of White Bear Lake, Minn., was a chemistry tutor when she studied biology and chemistry at UW-River Falls. She was studying to be a chiropractor when she decided to switch career paths and apply to the STEM-teachprogram.

“The looks on those students’ faces when a particularly difficult concept finally sunk in were the most rewarding moments of my tutoring career,” she said.

“Because of the rigorous pace of courses and the early opportunities for field experiences in classrooms, STEM-teachstudents often give up their day job to complete this one-year program,” said Blodgett. “This forgivable loan will significantly reduce the financial burden associated with this decision.”

This was a benefit expressed by many of the stipend recipients, including Dave Ballard of St. Paul. He said that the stipend would relieve his family of some financial uncertainty and allow him to focus on teacher preparation.

“With two young children at home, we are currently unable to add to our income through additional work,” Ballard said. Ballard was working as a computer programmer and data scientist for two large data companies before returning to school to enter the STEMteach program.

“It’s not only my own interest in physics and computer science that make me excited to teach,” said Ballard. “It is also the prospect of helping students see the wonder of the world we live in and recognize their own capacity to understand, describe and even modify their own world.”

Graduate students begin intensive field experiences in the first course and continue throughout the program, culminating with apprentice teaching. Classes are on the UW-River Falls campus with teaching experiences arranged in area school districts, some of which are in economically disadvantaged areas.

New cohorts of students begin each year in the summer. For information on admissions to the graduate program, visit <http://go.uwrf.edu/stemteach>. The STEMteach Noyce Forgivable Loan will be available for next year’s candidates.

The 2017 recipients of the STEMteach Noyce Forgivable Loan are Dave Ballard of St. Paul, Adam Beston of Menomonie, Allison Blomquist of Hudson, Mark Bjork of Buffalo, Minn., Andrea Ek-Pangerl of White Bear Lake, Minn., Anna Huberty of Hastings, Minn., Amanda Norby-White of Shiocton, Joseph Norby-White of New London, Brianna Phernetton of Webster, and Brett Shand of Columbia Heights, Minn.

UW-River Falls provides lifelong learners with academic, professional development and enrichment programs that are practical, flexible, convenient and affordable.

A complete list of courses, course descriptions and online registration information is available at <http://www.uwrf.edu/ContinuingEducation/>.

## St. Croix Economic Development Corporation donates \$33,000 to St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center

The River Falls Economic Development Corporation recently accepted a donation of \$33,000 from the St. Croix Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) in support of the St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center.

The donation will support the light manufacturing space at the new innovation center. The funds came from the now defunct SciTAC organization.

“Presenting this check to the business innovation center enables the funds to come full circle,” said SCEDC Executive Director Bill Rubin. “The former SciTAC organization promoted the advancement of science and technology throughout the St. Croix Valley and there is little doubt those disciplines will thrive in a facility where start-up businesses and stage-two companies will grow and mature.”

The St. Croix Valley Business Innovation Center is a new multi-use facility for entrepreneurs and small businesses seeking assistance to grow and expand. It is located in the new Sterling Ponds Corporate Park at 1091 Sutherland Ave., River Falls.

The CIBD will manage and staff the new facility when it opens in early 2018. The UW-River Falls Small Business Development Center will also be housed at the facility.

Goals for the center include:

- Supporting and growing the entrepreneurial culture in the region
- Connecting university and college resources to the regional business community
- Strengthening the existing business support system in the region by connecting them to one another
- Improving survivability rate of new businesses

Learn more at <https://www.stcroixinnovation.org>

For full article, visit <https://www.uwrf.edu/News/SCroix-EconomicDevelopmentCorporationdonates33000toStCroix-ValleyBusinessInnovationCenter.cfm>

## Campus Events Calendar:

- **Frances Cohler Coffee Concert: Wray and James**  
**Friday, Dec. 1, 12 p.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Abbott Concert Hall, KFA**
- **Art Scholarship Sale**  
**Friday, Dec. 1, Monday-Friday, Dec. 4-8,**  
**3 p.m.-8 p.m.**  
**Gallery 101, KFA**
- **Open Mic Night**  
**Friday, Dec. 1, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.**  
**Falcon’s Nest, UC**
- **Traveling Karoke**  
**Saturday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.**  
**TBD**
- **Holiday Choral Concert**  
**Sunday, Dec. 3, 3 p.m.- 5 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.**  
**Abbott Concert Hall, KFA**
- **Diversity Dialogue: Religion & Spirituality**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**UC**
- **Holiday Plant Sale**  
**Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 6-8, 9 a.m- 3 p.m.**  
**UC**
- **Weekly Relaxation Practice**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 6, 3:30 p.m.-4 p.m.**  
**162 Hagstead Hall**

Visit [uwrf.edu](http://uwrf.edu) for a full schedule of events

## Student Senate Update: Nov. 28

Representatives from Dining Services came in to talk about issues on campus and address questions that members of the Student Senate had to ask them. Among the topics covered were:

- Feedback options that students can use to direct complaints and inquiries to Dining Services
- Frustrations regarding high prices for meal add-ons like fries, fruit and drinks
- Food allergy accommodations
- Issues with training/overwork among food service student employees
- Restrictive meal plans

Parking Services similarly came in and addressed issues regarding parking on campus, including:

- Where parking ticket funds are spent
- Strains on parking service budgets
- Frustrations regarding parking pass wait lists
- Handicap permits for students in need of special services

The Senate was unable to vote on any of the items listed in its agenda since the agenda was not posted 24 hours prior to the meeting. The bylaws will be voted on next week, and President Abby Wendt plans to move ahead with funding the holiday tree without a vote since a vote would come too late.

Wendt is planning to form an ad hoc committee for the mental health awareness week.

*The information in this update comes from the minutes posted to the Student Government Association Falcon-Sync page every week and from the live tweet posts gathered by Student Voice staff. The Student Senate meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.*

Follow the Student Voice on Twitter

@uwrfvoice

### Weekly UWRF Crime Report

- Sunday, November 19**
- Intoxicated person was reported at Johnson Hall at 2:00 a.m.
- Sunday, November 19**
- Suicide attempt/threat was reported at May Hall at 5:12 p.m.
- Saturday, November 25**
- Criminal damage to property was reported at McMillan Hall at 7:54 p.m.

Editor’s Note:  
Information for this section is taken from the UW-River Falls Police Department incident reports.

## Looking for advice?

The Student Voice has an advice columnist. To send her an anonymous note, find the Student Voice on Facebook or Twitter and click on the Google Doc link.



# Profs, students try to find balance for sanctioned events



**Jason Caballero stands during the national anthem before a game between UWRF and UW-La Crosse at Ramer Field at David Smith Stadium, Nov. 11.**

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According to Wesley Chapin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Graduate Studies, there were around 100 university-sanctioned events approved for the fall semester. The policy is especially clear on the fact that students will not be penalized for attending university-sanctioned events.

Matt Kortbein, a junior crops and soil science major, recently won first place in the national Students of Agronomy, Soils and Environmental Sciences 2017 speech contest in Tampa, Fla. This was part of an event that 16 UWRF students attended in October for the 2017 International Annual Meeting: “Managing Global Resources for a Secure Future.”

Kortbein has been on about 10 university-sanctioned trips in his time with the College Farm Bureau and the UWRF soil judging team. He said there is valuable experience that can be found outside of the classroom on these trips.

“It gives me an array of activities to solidify what I learned in the classroom,” Kortbein said. “It also helps to network with professionals and create a better relationship with my professors.”

Presenting research and working alongside professors on these projects have been some of his most rewarding experiences at UWRF, according to Kortbein.

“It helps you realize the value of what you can get off campus,” Kortbein said. “It helps me understand things better and have more direction for after school.”

If these types of events weren’t university-sanctioned, opportunities like Kortbein’s wouldn’t be possible. Kortbein pointed out that learning in the classroom is important, but going to school at a university is about preparing one’s self for time after college. Faye Perkins, the interim provost at UWRF, also believes strongly in this concept.

“Some people call them extra-curricular activities. I would call them co-curricular,” Perkins said. “They combine with your academic curriculum to become a successful student and graduate.”

Perkins said there are networking and educational reinforcement that occur at conferences and events.

“It can really kind of take you to the next level,” Perkins said. “It can give you opportunities that you would never get by staying on campus. More and more businesses are looking for graduates that can be part of a team, whether it be athletics

or judging or a forensics team. It’s going to make you more marketable when you graduate.”

Perkins also stressed communication and time management as skills that are necessary to make this process work. Giving teachers multiple weeks’ notice is essential for giving them a chance to give the student any additional assistance for what they will miss.

“It’s the student’s responsibility to make up their work,” Perkins said. “Any problems can be alleviated by early communication.”

Perkins believes the policy is very thorough and well thought out, with keys being the fact that events can’t be within a week of finals week and notice should be given a week in advance. However, problems can arise if students don’t take their own schedules into account.

“Some students overcommit themselves,” Perkins said. “They miss too many classes, and there’s natural consequences. You have to balance that. Hopefully these experiences are adding to your academic experience and not taking away from it.”

Perkins doesn’t see the system being changed, because the system varies so greatly from student to student. Abigail Jackson, a new assistant professor in the psychology department, also thinks it’s the student’s responsibility to make sure they stay caught up.

“Students can make that decision for themselves for how much they can miss,” Jackson said. “Then they can weigh the option of going to (the event).”

This approach allows the students to act like adults and be responsible for their own time. Jackson has over 100 students, and said she can’t be expected to keep all of their schedules straight.

“My responsibility is for marking you excused,” Jackson said. “So far my students have been pretty good about finding out what they’ve missed.”

Caballero said that telling teachers early, and being there for class week-in and week-out will show how committed you are at being a well-rounded student.

“Coach (Matt) Walker preaches about getting your assignments done and doing the right thing,” Caballero said. “Be a decent kid to the professor, because the way you present yourself on the first couple of days is how they view you. Those words run through my head even into my senior year.”

# Not bored by boards: International Games Week comes to River Falls

Continued from page 1

Zrostlik decided to sweeten the deal for participants by giving away prizes in the form of codes for the online gaming platform Steam. Community members also got to break in some games. Zrostlik said that game makers and distributors have sent free board games his way for this week.

Participation built as community members popped in and out of the events or stayed for the entire time. “We won’t know how many people will participate for sure, but I am certainly hoping to get as many community members involved as possible,” he said. “We would love to see some new faces at Vagabond Arcade, and the same goes at Fox Den Used Books.”

When planning the event, Zrostlik knew he wanted to involve the community. “We love working with community partners because it helps us to better connect community members from all backgrounds and with various interests,” he said. “I

think an event like International Games Week is important for the community because games and play are universally excellent ways for community members to connect with one another. You’re never too young or too old to play!”

Kyle McKinnon took his stepson to the arcade for Games Week and enjoyed sharing the timeless activity with him. “We’ve been able to bond here,” he said. “I’ve been able to show him some of the old games I used to play, some of the tricks, things like that. We’ve really been enjoying ourselves.”

“It’s great that the library puts on these types of events. I’d say we’re very fortunate to live in a community that provides these sort of opportunities for the citizens,” McKinnon said. “I’d say it really brings the community together. This is something that I hope they do in the future and continue next year.”

After a successful inaugural year, Zrostlik says the RFPL anticipates that they will continue the event in the years to come.

# UWRF to say goodbye to D2L, hello to Canvas within three semesters

Continued from page 1

Faculty and students will very soon have the opportunity to discover how much easier and more user-friendly Canvas will be than D2L.

“We’re hoping as soon as spring/summer 2018 to be piloting some courses in Canvas,” Kmiec said. “We know that we have to be out of D2L by fall 2019. Even though our contract doesn’t end until June 2020, we have to keep the student records available for a certain amount of time. So September 2019, when students go into their classes, they should not be in between two different learning management systems. We don’t want to have students bouncing between two systems.”

Among the different reasons why the digital learning environment is thought to be a better fit for UWRF than D2L is the fact that system innovation will occur more often, continually making it more efficient for users.

“With our current learning environment, where it’s all self-hosted, you’re probably used to upgrades happening semi-annually,” Kmiec said. “In this new cloud environment, what you’ll find is things change a lot more rapidly. They’re able to do minor changes more frequently, so you don’t see a big change – you might see a button color change this week, and next week you might see something else.”

For faculty and students who are quite comfortable with the current learning management system, DoTS is making plans to prepare them for the transition to Canvas.

“That will be a big part of the transition from D2L to Canvas is the training aspect of it,” said John Murphy, the UWRF teaching and learning technology manager. “We’ll be working with faculty, representatives and student representatives to help inform what that training plan looks like. We’ll definitely be providing a variety of different training panels for faculty and students as they prepare to transition.”

# UWRF ‘Year of South Korea’ seeks to bridge cultures at home and abroad

Continued from page 1

This year, “the Year of South Korea,” at UWRF there are 17 other South Korean students studying here. Nine are degree-seeking students like Jang, and eight are here through one of the partnership programs that UWRF has formed with 13 different South Korean higher education institutions.

“We have some very special connections with Korea,” Chancellor Dean Van Galen said.

One of these institutions is Yeungjin College in the city of Daegu.

Van Galen, Margolis and Tricia Davis, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, recently visited Yeungjin College during a trip to South Korea on Nov. 4-8.

While there, Van Galen signed a memorandum of agreement that would bring more South Korean students to UWRF through a 2+2 program.

The program would allow South Korean students to begin their college studies in Daegu for two years and, after completing up to 60 credits, transfer to UWRF for two more years to earn their bachelor’s degree.

Yeungjin College also partners with UWRF to host the Daegu Gyeongbuk English Language Village.

“This is a large facility that provides English immersion experiences primarily to elementary through high school-aged children in Korea,” Van Galen said.

South Korean schools can send children to the village for a week.

Margolis is in charge of hiring the teachers for the program. Several UWRF students and graduates have gone there to teach.

Officials extended the program agreement between the two schools for another two years during the visit and also signed an agreement for an exchange program between UWRF and Yeungjin College.

The trio of UWRF administrators then visited two other universities that UWRF works with: JeJu National University and Hanyang University.

There is one South Korean student enrolled in a dual-degree program in business administration and economics at UWRF as part of a partnership with Hanyang University in Ansan, a suburb of Seoul.

A dual-degree program involves spending four to five semesters at Hanyang University, four semesters at UWRF and then another semester back at Hanyang before each university awards a degree to the student.

“Our goals of this trip,” Van Galen said, “were to support our strategic plan goal of global engagement, especially to encourage international students from South Korea to enroll at UW-River Falls and then also to look for opportunities for our students to visit and study in South Korea.”

Of the roughly 21 countries from which UWRF hosts international students, South Korea is usually No. 2, currently tied with India with 18 students on campus this semester.

These rich connections between UWRF and South Korea make it even more meaningful that the university is celebrating the Year of South Korea, said Katrina Larsen, executive director for international education.

“We picked South Korea because it is such a strong partner in many ways, and why not kind of celebrate that by having more agreements, more partnerships, strengthen our friendship with them?” she said. “It made sense for us, if we’re going to be signing a few extra agreements, the time to do that is during the year.”

Korea-themed events and activities have been put on throughout the year to provide an opportunity for faculty, students and community members to break down stereotypes and connect across cultures.

Larsen said she thinks UWRF’s Korean partners feel honored to be celebrated.

Van Galen said there is tremendous value in these agreements that bring international students to UWRF.

“It makes us a much more international campus, and I believe that is one of the special strengths of UW-River Falls that has been part of who we are for many years,” Van Galen said. “Our students from this country learn a great deal by interacting with those students. International students have a tremendous experience, and also it encourages our students to consider study abroad.”





# EDITORIAL

## Complaints about Dining Services need to be voiced

On Tuesday, Dining Services and representatives from Chartwells made an appearance at the Student Senate meeting to present information about their services and to hear the complaints of the public. The event, however, was not well advertised, so no one from the general public showed up to voice their opinions. This is not, however, because everyone is satisfied with the quality of food and services.

If you ask just about anyone who has a meal plan or has had one in the past, most people have a laundry list of complaints that they will be very willing to share. Grievances include sub-quality food, issues with lack of training/overwork among food service student employees, lack of meal diversity, insufficient food allergy accommodations and high prices for transfer meals. Chartwells has been around since the fall semester of 2015, and these complaints have been relatively constant the whole time.

The biggest problem lies with the meal plans, which students living in the dorms (except for South Forks) are required to have unless they can prove with a doctor's note that the food makes them dangerously ill. Not all students want to have a meal plan, however, either because they find it cheaper to cook their own food or because they dislike the options offered by Chartwells.

This leads to problems where students do not fully use their meals over the course of the week and end up missing out on food that they're entitled to. They might also have leftover dining dollars at the end of the semester, which they either frantically use up in the C-Store or which ends up going to the university rather than being reimbursed.

We would like to see more flexibility given to students regarding their meal plans. There should be more options for students to choose from, so that they can best pick a meal plan that fits their eating style.

Students that want to be able to cook for themselves should also be allowed to completely opt out of the system, since that not only encourages learning to cook but also reduces food waste. Furthermore, the university should be actively encouraging students to cook for themselves by offering cooking classes. Simply providing a place to easily eat fast food does not prepare students for life after college.

All these changes and more need to be made, but unless students make their case known to Dining Services, there is no way for Chartwells to know that the job they're doing is inadequate. To begin with, students should take full advantage of any surveys, focus groups or text-a-complaint options that Dining Services advertises.

If you want to go a step further, keep an eye on Student Senate agendas for open forums like the one last Tuesday, and make a point to attend. Dining Services also holds regular meetings during the school year, called Dining Service Advisory Committee (DSAC) meetings. They don't have a calendar listing dates and times, but they do provide an email address that you can request information from: [diningservices@uwrf.edu](mailto:diningservices@uwrf.edu). You can also call them at 715-425-4403.

Students who are dissatisfied with the food they are being forced to buy should make a point to get their voice heard.

Editorials represent the opinions of the Student voice Editorial Board and are prepared by the editorial staff.

# STUDENT VOICE

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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Revised air quality regulations are for profit, not the health of the public

Dear Editor,

As if the Trump administration's attacks on public health and the environment weren't enough, Wisconsin Public Radio reported on Nov. 21 that the Wisconsin State Assembly is considering a bill to eliminate all of our state's air quality regulations by the end of next year.

Wisconsin regulates 293 pollutants not covered by federal law, including 94 which have been found in Wisconsin's environment. Our legislators argue that the Department of Natural Resources can reintroduce regulations subject to approval by the legislature. Rep. Jimmy Anderson of Fitchburg objects, "It seems that we're sweeping away the entirety of the regulations that are above the federal level and asking the DNR to re-do the work."

Sarah Barry of Clean Wisconsin explains that the extra regulations are especially important in protecting Wisconsin residents from the emissions of smaller plants not regulated by the federal government, which may have the most damaging effects on health and the environment.

## Some resumes says more about your word skills than your employability

Melanie Meyers

Columnist

As a college junior I am continually looking for ways to better market myself to potential employers. For instance, during the second week of the upcoming spring semester, I will be in the Washington, D.C. area attending the Leadership Institute's Campaign Management School.

A nice touch to my resume, yes, but more importantly to me, a great opportunity to learn from experienced campaign operatives, communications and finance directors and fellow peers attending the school. This, I believe, will make me better at my job, and I encourage readers who seek to better both themselves and their careers to seek out similar opportunities in their chosen field.

This desire to better market myself led to a recent resume experience. While causally party planning, I recently discovered that you can purchase downloadable resume templates from the online store, Etsy. I have no idea how I stumbled upon such templates while seeking party paper, but I nonetheless thought it was quite intriguing beyond the humorous aspect. I found it quite hilarious that you could buy a resume template. I thought resume template development started in your high school business class and, well, ended there. I thought that they at least got drier and drier as you continued reviewing example resumes from your college's career service.

I decided I couldn't knock it until I tried. Plus, I got lucky and found a template I liked that happened to be on sale for Black Friday! I spent \$3.90 on a nice template that my friend remarked was very "legally blonde-esque" due to it's pink color format. I don't know about you, but I'm not quite sure I want to submit resumes to potential employers with faint pink touches. I figured, however, that I could easily change the color to gray. This would also benefit me when potential employers print out the resume and add it to their endless pile.

When I actually dove in to edit the document, I came to find out this resume was not easily changed from pink to

## 'Nathan For You' shows need to check the legitimacy of celebrities' stories

Bennett Ryynanen

Columnist

Nathan Fielder, host of Comedy Central's reality show, "Nathan For You", is no stranger to the needlessly elaborate. For three seasons, he's used his aptitude for the unconventional to help struggling small businesses overcome hurdles, usually through over-the-top marketing stunts.

Throughout his televised adventures, nothing has proven too daunting for Fielder, be it convincing a clothing retailer to encourage shoplifting or getting a local electronics store to lower the cost of their TVs to one dollar each. Only one setting has challenged his absurdly unexpressive demeanor: late-night talk show appearances.

In September, shortly before season four premiered, Fielder appeared on Jimmy Kimmel Live. Known for his awkward, unpolished conversational skills, he surprised the crowd with an epic, nine-minute story about an out-of-town wedding, a luggage mix-up at the airport and a run-in with the police at the worst possible moment.

It was an uncharacteristically articulate showing for Fielder. It seemed like his life off-screen had finally become exciting. However, in season four's best episode, "Nathan For You" changed its formula, revealing the truth behind the story. Titled, "The Anecdote," the episode shows the lengths it took to orchestrate each event.

After studying hours of popular late-night appearances, Fielder discovered several recurring themes that helped him construct the perfect anecdote for Kimmel. Traveling for a wedding, he would grab the wrong bag at the airport, forcing him to wear a stranger's oversized suit to the ceremony. Right after finding a bag containing a chalky substance in the pocket, he would be pulled over by the police. When asked what it was, he would contact the owner only to find out that the bag contained his mother's ashes.

Such a story would incorporate many of the recurring elements: a funny visual, a run in with the police and, best of all, a twist ending. However, "I didn't want to become the

This irresponsible move on the part of the Assembly may reflect an alarming trend toward what some call "air pollution denialism" now influencing government policy. Professor Robert Phalen at the University of California at Irvine has mind-boggling claims that, "Modern air is a little too clean for optimum health." He asserts that a certain level of pollution somehow immunizes us against dirty air. This man is a current nominee for science adviser at the Environmental Protection Agency.

Meanwhile, the American Lung Association has joined with other organizations to sue the EPA for delaying the implementation of smog standards. The EPA's manifest neglect of its mission blows holes in any argument for trusting the agency to enforce even its minimal standards.

It appears that any policy in which Wisconsin has proudly led the nation is now threatened by powerful moneyed interests with a stake in undoing our laws.

**Thomas R. Smith, a former UWRF student and poet with seven published books**

gray. That may say more about my Microsoft skills than the resume template itself, but it is definitely worth noting. Another disappointing factor was discovering that my email (a significant necessity to display on one's resume) didn't fit in the designated section. I needed to downsize the font considerably to make my email fit. However, the font ended up being an unacceptably small size.

After becoming frustrated with this resume but figuring that I only lost a few dollars, I decided to do a little more research and look for a different resume template. At this point, I was hooked on the idea of having a more creative resume but needed something that fit my needs more suitably.

In my review of Etsy's additional options from different suppliers, I found a common theme. It looks as though most of the resume templates I could purchase include professional profiles, photo displays and bright, bold colors – everything I don't need. And, again, back to the humor. All of the resumes seem to be directed toward a creative career professional. In my opinion, if you're looking for a job in the creative field, I would assume you already have decent to extraordinary graphic skills and could easily design your own template.

Keeping in mind my desire to better market myself, this did not work for me. I am not sure who in fact would be best suited to purchase a resume template from Etsy. In hindsight I don't think this would help my employability or yours.

I believe most would be better off making an appointment with UWRF's Career Services and focusing on what is written next to their bullet points. That is the most important part of your resume. After all, it's where you can sell yourself the most easily. The student employees in career services will be more than happy to lead you in the right direction.

After you knock out a solid resume with their help, I recommend sending it to older cousins, your siblings and especially your mentors. Let them review and critique it – tear it to shreds – then revise it from their comments. This will make you outshine the competing applicants without spending money on a "pretty" resume.

*Melanie Meyers is a politico, who neither writes about nor majors in political science here UWRF. You can find her in the Ag study lounge, or in Eienstein's coffee line.*

next Brian Williams," Fielder confides. He simply could not tell the story if it didn't happen. The solution was simple: It would only require a few Craigslist ads to find willing participants, a wedding to travel to and a police officer in on the plan. That and \$350,000 of the show's budget. It certainly beats appearing on live TV without a conversation topic.

The first step was to find a wedding to attend. Fielder wasn't exactly drowning in invitations. Under the guise of a soon-to-be groom requiring special accommodations, he received permission to scope out an engaged couple's venue on their wedding day for research. Close enough. He then used Craigslist to find someone willing to lend him an oversized suit and their mother's ashes. The best candidate's mother was still alive, but being a good sport, she was more than willing to part with an assortment of hair and toenail clippings that were turned into ashes. They belonged to her. The producers even hired a real cop to pull him over and ask about the bag. Fielder followed through with every aspect of the scripted story. Everything technically happened.

Fielder's appearance on Jimmy Kimmel Live was a glowing success in every sense. The crowd was hanging on every word. His anecdote fit the late-night script perfectly. Best of all, nobody questioned its legitimacy. However, in many ways, Fielder's story broke the rules. None of the events arose as part of his everyday life. In reality, there was nothing surprising about the contents of the bag in his pocket. For the story to work, viewers had to take Fielder at his word. He knew that wouldn't be a problem. This episode of "Nathan For You" pointed out the disingenuous nature of our favorite celebrities' public lives and the positive reinforcement they receive for it.

Should we be more skeptical of what we hear from celebrities? More importantly, should we demand more from late-night talk show guests? If you're asking Nathan Fielder, the answer to both questions is yes.

*Bennett Ryynanen is a Freshmen studying journalism and marketing communications at UWRF. His pop culture obsession and dedication to his studies are often at odds. This column represents a rare example of overlap between the two.*



# How a tuna fish sandwich became a scarlet letter; how throwing away students’ food can cause more problems

Bethany Lovejoy

Columnist

One of the new “background” news pieces that stations and newspapers have been covering recently talks about schools throughout the United States where the food is taken away from a student for being under balanced and the student is given an alternative meal option in its place.

Several news outlets have debated this new policy popping up in schools and responses have varied across the board.

If you are from Minnesota, you’ve likely heard the name Stewartville five hundred times on the local news.

I am a 2015 graduate of Stewartville High School and can easily summarize why this may, for Stewartville, be a worse move than previous policies.

If you’ve been to Stewartville, you are naturally going to say it’s either awful or quaint. There’s never been any in-between for Stewartville; it’s just adults who weren’t raised there where are impressed with the school system and adults who were raised there or have heard of what happens there and do not drive within five miles of the place.

To understand Stewartville, Minnesota, you need to understand a fundamental part of its local economy: It is within 20 minutes of Rochester, Minnesota, where the Mayo Clinic’s main hospital is located. A large percentage of adults in Stewartville work for the Mayo Clinic in some capacity, apparently due to some housing agreement or something that went through the Mayo Clinic and nearby towns. I’m not fully sure because I am not the child of someone who works at the Mayo Clinic (more on that later).

Families who work for the Mayo Clinic receive a slew of benefits such as discounts all throughout Rochester and, in some jobs, free gym memberships. They also receive a lot of childcare resources in hopes that it will allow their employees to be more productive and less stressed.

I was a child before the time of Childcare center, I believe, but at that point there were about three day cares in Rochester where Mayo Clinic employees had a hefty discount.

Because of this, Mayo kids just kind of know each other pre-schooling, and the frequent events hosted by the Mayo Clinic just makes sure that they really know each other.

And if your parents do not work for the Mayo Clinic, they likely either work at IBM’s factory, the service industry or they farm.

And though as a child you can’t exactly put your finger on what makes people different at Stewartville, as an adult you realize that it is socioeconomic differences.

Bullying has been a problem at Stewartville for as long as anyone can remember, and though the teachers don’t go out and say, “Hey, you are going to be treated differently because of the large difference in society’s perception of your parent’s

job!” they know.

I’ve talked to a few of my high school teachers after I graduated since my best friend is dating one of their sons, and they are absolutely aware of this problem.

For Stewartville, bullying is just like this normal large thing that, once it starts will not stop until you graduate.

You might think that, wow you’re in the clear because you weren’t bullied for like a year. But out of nowhere you will get your face slammed into hard concrete and realize that you weren’t okay.

When I was a senior at Stewartville High school there were an absolute barrage of gun threats, to the point where students joked about adding guns to their senior mural.

Which is kinda just, wow.

But people were bullied, and nothing was really done, so one of them apparently wanted to kill himself in the bathroom.

Which would normally begin a story about how Stewartville high school came together and really cleaned up its act.

But it just lead to students being ticked due to the fact that a letter written by a student about being bullied led to us having to go to weekly educational meetings on not terrorizing students.

Which led to comments of, “Everyone wants to kill themselves here, he wasn’t special.”

Which I cannot deny because a lot of us went to Generose (a psychiatric building owned by the Mayo Clinic).

There’s always been a sort of pecking order at Stewartville, where Mayo kids can do a lot of things that they enjoy doing and terrorize other students. Then farm kids can kinda terrorize other students, and everyone else just sorta had to take it.

Because though it was never outwardly said, people knew whether they had more money than you.

“But Bethany,” you say, “You went there two years ago! How can you be so certain that this could still be a problem?”

I have a friend (a best friend) whose siblings go there still. She lives on this campus.

Also, I’m not dumb enough to believe that an area with a large class divide like Stewartville, Minnesota, could resolve its issues in two years.

But let me disclose: I am biased.

I did online school instead of going to Stewartville High School my freshman year, mainly because I got beaten up at a public pool the summer before and could hardly say the name Stewartville without crying. I went back to Stewartville my sophomore, junior and senior years. During that time, I still got beaten up and was often sent home to my mother because I was inconsolable.

My high school life would have been way better if I was just awesome at fighting.

I had the following exchange with a counselor hired by the school when I was a junior, and I often think about it:

Counselor: You know, several great people have been bullied, Bethany. This may feel like it, but I assure you that this is not the end of the world.

Me: A lot of people who have been bullied have also killed themselves.

Counselor: Are you planning to kill yourself?

Me: No?

Which just supports the idea that this administration knew there was a problem and just didn’t do anything about it.

Also, she gave me a book called “Queen Bees and Wannabes,” which she said might really ground my situation? My mother was absolutely furious because she felt that actually confronting students about bullying her child might have worked better.

Also, not as good of a book as it sounds.

I think of all that – just the fact that bullying has been such a problem for Stewartville High School in the past and how much of it stems from the fact that people think less of you if your parents don’t work for the Mayo Clinic – and I just feel horrible.

Because they are throwing away kids’ lunches in an environment in which students have tried to kill themselves in the bathrooms.

I think about being told that I “ain’t worth nothing,” and the way that they would describe my mother as “just an immigrant” (pronounced closer to the word ingrate, to really rub the salt in the wound) that was trying to take “everything that wasn’t hers.”

And I think about how much worse it would have been if they had thrown my lunch in a bucket and replaced it with either a tuna sandwich or a PB&J.

Because nothing helps bullying more in an environment of class divide than really making sure that someone has a visible symbol of poverty.

The saddest part is that it’s not the Mayo Clinic’s fault.

The Mayo Clinic provides benefits for its employees that really are amazing and great, and you can tell they care about these people.

It’s the choice of students to take advantage of these benefits and the social net they create in ways that harm others.

It’s the choice of administration to do nothing when teachers send said students to the office for calling others names.

Administration makes the active decision to look at a student who has decided to tell another that, “Your hair is too puffy, and your nose looks like a penis, Lovejoy.” And do nothing.

The administration made the choice to make a tuna sandwich a scarlet letter.

Maybe this would work somewhere else. Maybe students wouldn’t treat others like a second-class citizen.

But as I imagine how it would feel to have my lunch thrown away and what students would do in reaction, I think about sitting in that office waiting for my mother to come pick me up; Crying about things that couldn’t be fixed today and wouldn’t change tomorrow.

*Bethany Lovejoy is a Creative Writing major, she sleeps a lot.*

## STUDENT voices

Compiled by Yasmine Ruetz

Solve this riddle: What is black and white and read all over?

Answer: A newspaper



Zach Dwyer (Junior)  
An embarrassed referee



Aaron Leerssen (Junior)  
A deck of cards



Bethany Lovejoy (Junior)  
Oreo red velvet cake



Sophia Koch (Senior)  
A zebra that didn’t get away from the lions



Gloria Bartel (Senior)  
Two zebras fighting over ketchup...I read Laffy Taffy



Megan Geis (Junior)  
I don’t even have a good answer for this...a penguin?



# Coach Q&A: Cindy Holbrook looks to lead Falcons back into WIAC contention this season

Zach Dwyer

zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Cindy Holbrook is in her 18th season as head women’s basketball coach at UW-River Falls. She holds a career record of 235-210, and she led the Falcons to a WIAC championship in 2015-2016 with a 23-6 record. Holbrook also played in the WIAC at UW-Stout and was named WIAC player of the year in 1994. She is also the only person to be named WIAC player of the year and WIAC coach of the year.

The Student Voice sat down with Holbrook to discuss her transition from player to coach in the WIAC and her team’s 3-1 start to the 2017-2018 season.

**Q: When did you first arrive at UWRF?**

A: I’ve been here since 1995. I was the assistant basketball coach for 5 years and head tennis coach for 5 years. I taught some classes and used to help advise in the teacher education department.

**Q: What did your playing career in the WIAC help prepare you for in coaching?**

A: This conference is ridiculously good. Being familiar with the competitive level makes a big difference. The women athletes are so much stronger and faster than when I played. It’s fun seeing how the conference has grown.

**Q: What experience did you have as a women’s coach before getting the job for the Falcons?**

A: I used to coach with AAU and was an assistant at Stout for a year. I used to travel and work different coach’s basketball camps in college, but I got most of my experience here. I love this conference and the fact that River Falls is a small public school. I’m a public school person to the core. A lot of the same reasons students come here is a reason it’s great to coach here. If you want to coach DIII basketball, it’s a fantastic place to be.

**Q: How much of a role does teaching play into your passion for being at UWRF?**

A: My master’s degree is in sports psychology. I had the opportunity to teach the psychology of coaching class. I used to teach it with Connie Foster, who was our dean and chancellor for a few years. That opportunity to get into that class with a co-teacher with that experience was a great opportunity. It was a perfect mash-up for my background and you really can’t beat teaching that class.

**Q: After a strong first season (18-8 in 2001), how did you respond to three losing seasons?**

A: The first year that I coached, our team over-achieved in every way. We weren’t nearly as talented as probably anyone else in the league, but they bought into each other. When you get a team to do that they will be way better than they should be. It also takes time to grow into a head coach. It’s not the same as being an assistant, and you can’t know that until you are in that position. It took me some time to find my rhythm and recruit and build a program.

**Q: How have you managed the ups and downs of overall records from year to year?**

A: There’s a lot more variables in a team’s success than people realize. One injury can make or break a season, or you can lose five close games and a team doesn’t look as nearly good as you are. The record will vary and one or two little things will make or break your record.

**Q: What has been the team’s strongest aspect in the opening four games of play?**

A: We’re pretty balanced this year and the team chemistry is really positive. I’m not convinced that we’re doing the basketball things right now and we need to get them to buy into each other a little bit more. We need to do the hard things in the game. We haven’t got the commitment to that, and now would be better than later. I think we will have a good team if we get it. I wish I know when it will come, but you learn in coaching that you have a lot less control than you think you do.

**Q: How well has Brynn Liljander adjusted to being back on the court after her season-ending injury last year?**

A: She’s such a special kid. She’s a competitor to her core and has bounced back really well. Her demeanor and energy are really hard to replace. She’s a sparky kid and even in practice



*Tori Schneider/UWRF Communications*  
**Cindy Holbrook talks with the women’s basketball team during a timeout of a game between UWRF and Carleton College, Nov. 15.**

she’s like that.

**Q: How will the team adjust to being on the road at Gustavus, with seven of their first eight games at home?**

A: We haven’t been on the road yet, but we have a pretty experienced team, so I’m going into it assuming they’re going to travel fine. I’m more worried about if we can quit turning the ball over 20 times a game than about where we play.

**Q: What has been the effect of so many new players stepping into bigger roles on this year’s team?**

A: I think we’re deeper than we have been, and we have more variety of skills and strengths than we have had in a while. Now it’s getting them to learn each other’s strengths and rely on them and create opportunities for each other. I think that’s true any time you add new players to big roles. I feel like they aren’t complimenting each other’s playing styles yet.

**Q: What is the biggest area of improvement remaining for this team as you creep closer to conference play?**

A: We have to rebound better. Our other biggest concern is our ability to create shots for each other. Our players are having to create a lot of their own shots, and good teams don’t create shots, good teams create shots for each other.

The Student Voice is taking applications for all positions for the fall 2017 semester:

Editor

Assistant Editor

Front Page Editor

Sports Editor

News Editor

Viewpoints Editor

Etcetera Editor

Chief Photographer

Staff Photographers

Columnists

Reviewers

Freelance Reporters

Cartoonists

Proofreaders

Business Manager

Circulation Manager

To apply, fill out the Fall 2017 Student Voice applications on the Student Voice FalconSync page!



# Abbott Concert Hall renovations are seeking to increase historic facility for music advancement

Zach Dwyer  
zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu

Abbott Concert Hall has been on the UW-River Falls campus since 1973 and has been home to numerous choir and band performances ranging from UWRF students to world-famous musical acts. However, the historical structure is beginning to show its age. According to music department chair and professor Kristin Tjornehoj, basic functionality problems have become an essential target for improvement.

“It’s more of a necessity than a luxury,” Tjornehoj said. “If you have the lights on for more than two hours, you will be able to hear and feel the temperature increase, which is not a good thing. The circulation and lights are a key problem.”

The department has deemed the lights and recording equipment of the facility as insufficient for what they are trying to accomplish due to the age of the facility.

The hall is still in a completely original state, which means the color and quality of seats and equipment are set for a 1973 level, not 2017.

However, a recent \$1.2 million renovation was approved in October by the State of Wisconsin Building Commission. The renovation will replace aging and obsolete building services, fix lighting and electrical systems, replace all seating and improve upon a new orchestra pit and acoustics, according to a press release from governor Scott Walker’s office.

“We are grateful for the support of the State Building Commission for this exciting renovation project at UW-River Falls,” UWRF chancellor Dean Van Galen said in a press release. “Abbott Concert Hall is an important venue which supports academic programs and student experiences, and enhances the cultural vitality of the entire St. Croix Valley.”

Funds for the project were initially requested from the state in 2014, with the first funding approved a year later. The recent approval means the work can now be planned, with construction expected to begin in August 2018. The renovation is scheduled to be completed in time for the spring semester in January 2019.

In a time when the music department has significant fiscal constraints, which even includes difficulties in buying new music, Tjornehoj hopes it can be a springboard for the department.

“To have this kind of spark or reinforcement of our activities and an acclimation that we have value on this campus, we are celebrating,” Tjornehoj said.

David Milne is a music professor in his 28th year at UWRF. He is especially excited for the opportunities the improvements will give to the academic department of the music program. Ensembles, bands, choirs and other groups all use the concert hall for recitals in their major’s curriculum.

“It’s required that they are performing in a professional concert space,” Milne said. “Groups and touring artists that have performed on our concert stage love performing on it as it is. We’re hoping to preserve the acoustics as much as possible because the acoustics are very well respected.”

With the renovations taking place for at least a semester, the department is currently looking at ways to work around the problem of relocating performances.

“We’re working with Production Services because we have to move our concerts,” Tjornehoj said. “We want to keep them on campus as much as possible, so we will have to use any space we can get. Acoustics are a significant issue in playing in different places around campus. It’s much different playing in a gymnasium than a concert hall.”

Jonah Conway is a junior music education major who has had plenty of performances for choir in the concert hall. He said the music department is resourceful and will continue to find ways to make music.

“I think that’s the beauty of what we do, that you don’t need a specific place to do it,” Conway said. “We will power

through and that short amount of time (of renovations) will be outweighed by the longevity we will get out of the new renovations and the semester we have to miss.”

Abbott Concert Hall isn’t only a product for the UWRF campus, but for the entire River Falls community. While the facility is “the premier facility for all things in music” at UWRF, according to Tjornehoj, the city of River Falls and surrounding areas also find ways to utilize the concert hall.

“Community members can rent the hall and (they) attend a lot of our concerts,” Tjornehoj said. “The music department is one of the major outreach vessels for this university. The concert hall will be appreciated by many in the valley and beyond.”

Tjornehoj and Milne used terms like a community “magnet” or “cultural center” as ways to describe Abbott Concert Hall.

“One of our strategic initiatives is globalization, and that concert hall is absolutely a beacon for globalization,” Tjornehoj said. “We’ve had six guests from other countries this year and we really do serve the whole university.”

Conway also said these necessary renovations will continue to help build the music department for the future.

“It reflects on what we are trying to do as a music program,” Conway said. “I think it will be an awesome draw for new people looking to study music at River Falls and a great thing for the department and campus as a whole.”

One high-profile performance coming to Abbott Concert Hall is the musical duo Doux, featuring cornet player Harmen Vanhoorne and composer Stan Nieuwenhuis. Their new album “Ellis Island” has already been a huge hit in Belgium a month after its release, and they’ve already gone to #7 on the billboard pop charts for Europe. The versatile musicians will be performing in Abbott Concert Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 12 at 7:30 p.m. as a part of the Frances Cohler Coffee Concert Series.



Kathy M Helgeson/UWRF Communications  
**Chancellor Dean Van Galen gives an update during the Rising to Distinction scholarship benefit, in Abbott Concert Hall on the UW-River Falls campus in 2014.**

## Music Events Calendar

**Friday, December 1, 12:00 p.m.**

Frances Cohler Coffee Concert Series: Margaret Jane Wray, voice & Layton “Skip” James, keyboards

**Sunday, December 3, 3:00 p.m.**

Holiday Choral Concert

**Tuesday, December 5, 7:30 p.m.**

Holiday Choral Concert

**Saturday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.**

UWRF Swing Dance (Falcon’s Nest, University Center, UWRF Campus)

**Sunday, December 10, 4:00 p.m.**

St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra Christmas Extravaganza (Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Afton, MN)

**Tuesday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.**

Falcon Band

**Thursday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.**

Symphony/University Band Concert with special guests Harmen VanHoorne, cornet & Sam Nieuwenhuis, guest composer

**Friday, December 15, 12:00 p.m.**

Frances Cohler Coffee Concert Series: Harmen VanHoorne, cornet & Sam Nieuwenhuis, piano

**Sunday, December 17, 3:00 p.m.**

St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra Christmas Extravaganza (Trinity Lutheran, Stillwater, MN)

**Monday, December 18, 7:30 p.m.**

St. Croix Valley Symphony Orchestra

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# ‘The Decoy Bride’ does little to separate itself from the rest of today’s romantic comedies

Bethany Lovejoy

Reviewer

If you’ve read my column for more than a hot minute, you may have realized that it features quite a large amount of both babes and romance.

You may be thinking to yourself, “Oh, when Nick Whatever was doing it there was so much more variety and craft.”

Well Nick is gone, so.

This week I watched “The Decoy Bride,” which is a British movie about a Scottish lady with a Welsh dude pretending to be American.

David Tennant plays an American (?) author who wrote a book about a Scottish island that he has never been to. This turns out pretty okay for him, because it is a best seller, and this super hot babe named Laura Tyler is all over his buns for publishing this book.

David is getting married to Laura Tyler but keeps getting wedding crashed by the paparazzi during his several attempts.

Laura is determined to make things work and forces David to come with her for their new surprise wedding destination.

Surprise! It’s the island.

The island is nothing like what David Tennant wrote, yet Laura doesn’t realize this. Probably because Laura has poor reading retention or something.

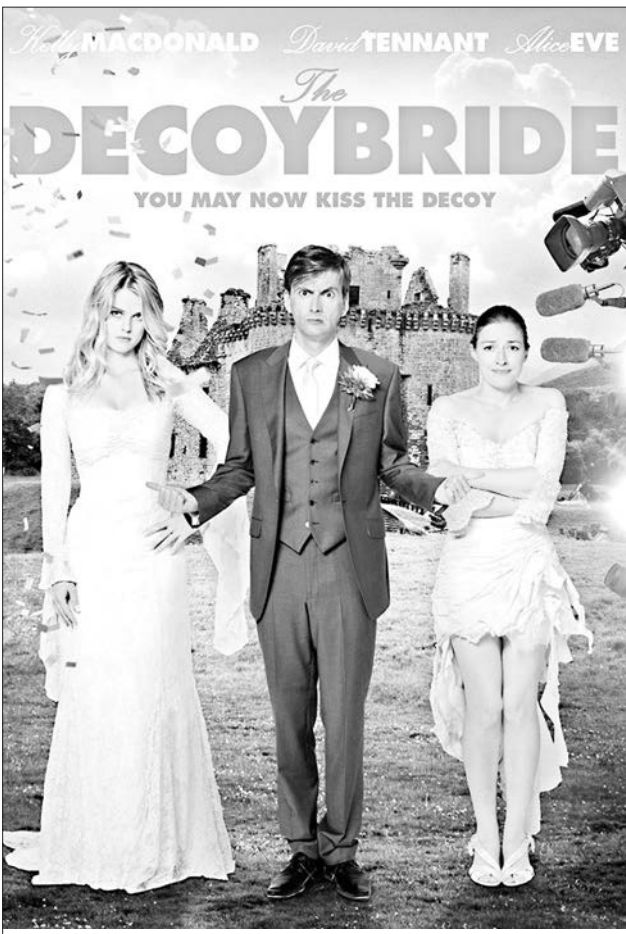
Meanwhile, on the other side of the island, there is this red-headed lady who keeps breaking up with people left and right, and is totally no longer engaged.

She’s the daughter of Maggie, who is an innkeeper and also wheelchair-bound.

Maggie is apparently the absolute worst person on the island, or at least people keep saying so.

The redheaded lady is like, “I don’t want to die alone, but man am I bad at commitment.”

Relatable.



David Tennant decides to familiarize himself with the place of his lies and goes on a tour of the island, walking into a rather decrepit old building that smells like poop.

It smells like poop because it is a bathroom: an old abandoned haunted bathroom, booooo.

Redhead lady is in this old building, as she enjoys being in haunted toilets.

David Tennant wonders, “who are you?” and red head lady

uses her feminine wiles on him.

She pops out her leg in a very sellable position and David Tennant is basically like, “Ew.”

Meanwhile the paparazzi show up and ask, “Have you see any gorgeous movie stars around here?”

“If you give me money, yes.” Maggie responds, “If you don’t, no.”

And Laura Tyler is ticked.

She basically runs off like a psycho-warrior-actress and hides in the cliffs.

Like what?

Who is she?

Jesus.

So her publicist, who was all, “I will protect you from the paparazzi,” is now all, “Heck.”

And then he logically plans, “We’ll have a fake wedding, make the paparazzi take photos of that, and then Laura will come out of the hills and we can get her real married.”

But who do they know who is desperate enough for both cash and attention to pretend to be a bride?

The red-head girl takes about 100 bucks and some lint to say, “sure.”

And then they get fake married.

But, plot twist, someone did bad in the props department because the wedding papers they signed? Real.

Which is about 75 bucks wasted.

The rest of the movie is those two trying to get divorced and find Laura, only—

Surprise!

What they’re really finding is each other.

Ew.

I mean it was a good movie. I actually really liked it, but it’s not a stand out.

The only real actor in it is David Tennant and you can tell they blew their budget by hiring him alone. But the other characters are nice. Not memorable, but nice.

*Bethany Lovejoy enjoys chicken tenders, trips to Aldi with her mom and pasta.*

## Net neutrality is under threat, but you can take action

Carl Meeker

Columnist

It began as a series of experiments in the 1960s. Few at that time could have envisioned how their creation would revolutionize every facet of our world.

In the late 80s and early 90s, the internet was released to the public. At that time it was home to message boards, emails and little else. Now it is populated with movies, shows, funny videos of animals and political, social and economic movements. It allows us to communicate with others around the entire world in a matter of seconds in ways that were science fiction only several decades ago.

One of the guiding principles of the internet has been the concept that all information is equal. Internet service providers, or ISPs, cannot discriminate against what you do on the internet whether that’s organizing a protest against those same ISPs or binge watching Netflix and Hulu. They cannot

arbitrarily throttle and slow down that connection. This is the principle of Net Neutrality.

Over the last decade, many of these ISPs have begun to test that principle by slowing down connection speeds to numerous online services, blocking a site that was organizing a labor strike and blocking facetime services like Skype and VoiP.

The Federal Communications Commission is charged with regulating all communication services from the telephone to the internet. In response to the ISPs push against this founding principle, the FCC, under the Chair Tom Wheeler, issued new regulations in 2015 classifying all ISPs as Title II Common Carriers. This allowed the FCC legal footing to enshrine and enforce Net Neutrality.

Numerous ISPs, including Time Warner, Comcast, Verizon and AT&T, have been fighting this tooth and nail by pouring millions of dollars into the pockets of various politicians. They want to be able to slow down, if not outright block, other internet services that compete with services that they provide. They want to be able to censor the internet and anything that might threaten their business model and profit margins. They are anti-consumer, anti-free speech, anti-democracy and anti-innovation.

In 2017, Ajit Pai, a former lawyer to Verizon, was made the new Chair of the FCC. Under his guidance, the FCC has been pushing for the repeal of the Title II classification of ISPs. On Dec. 14, 2017, the FCC is holding a vote to repeal these regulations.

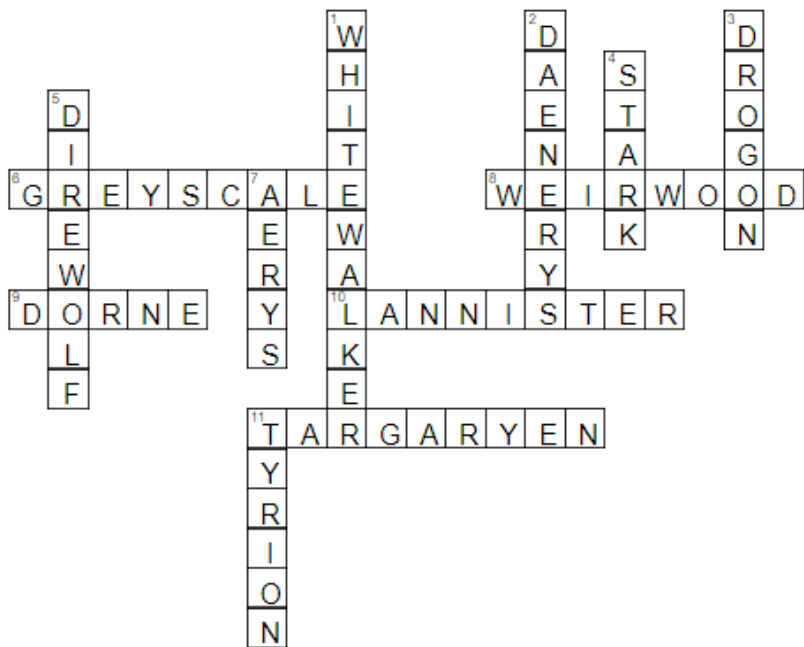
The future of the free and open internet is at a crossroads. Will it be controlled and dominated by entrenched corporate interests? Or will it continue to be the bastion of innovation and free speech it has always been?

We must fight! There are numerous organizations that are working to fight this repeal. For more information you can check out battleforthenet.com, the ACLU, freepress.net, eff.org and fightforthefuture.org. However, these organizations need our help. Through these sites there are various methods to contact your government representatives. It doesn’t take more than 15 minutes to contact them and let them know that you support the regulation of the internet as a Title II Common Carrier.

*Carl is a non traditional student, completing his undergraduate in Environmental Science. He has 2 AA degrees in Philosophy and Chemistry.*

### Last Week’s Answers

#### Game of Thrones



Find Freddy’s lost feather in this issue of the Voice and win two free movie passes to the Falls Theater!

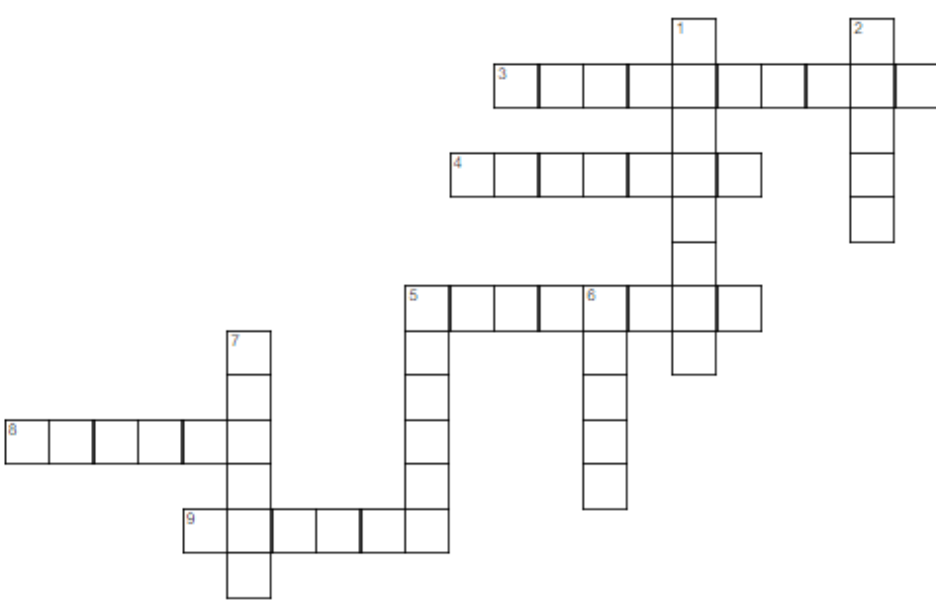
The first person to report the find to [zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu](mailto:zachary.dwyer@my.uwrf.edu) AFTER 10 a.m. Friday wins!

Now Playing: “Murder on the Orient Express”

The winner will be announced on the Voice’s Twitter and Facebook accounts:  
**@uwrfvoice**  
**facebook.com/Uwrfstudentvoice**

### Puzzle of the Week

#### Famous Scientists



#### ACROSS

- 3 Renaissance astronomer who put sun, not earth at the center of the universe.
- 4 Known for his work with black holes.
- 5 E=MC2
- 8 Best known for book “On the Origin of Species,” and corresponding theory.
- 9 Came up with the laws of motion.

#### DOWN

- 1 Her contributions to the discovery of DNA structure were only recognized after she died.
- 2 Pioneer in radioactivity research, 1st and only woman to win Nobel Prize twice.
- 5 American inventor, developed phonograph and light bulb.
- 6 Serbian-American inventor, contributed to alternating current electricity and was reputed to be mad.
- 7 Founder of modern science of genetics - experimented with pea plants.

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