UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



April 25, 2022

www.uwrfvoice.com



Taffy, a year old alpaca is visited by students on Ag Day held on the UC Mall. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)

10th Annual Ag Day on campus brings animals and leaders

Rachel Karweick

Rachel.Karweick@my.uwrf.edu

The 10th annual Ag Day on campus took place on April 19 on the University Center Mall. The event was open to all students, all community members, and all staff.

At 10 a.m. a red ribbon cutting ceremony took place because this is the tenth anniversary of Ag Day. Speakers such as Alice in Dairyland and Princess Kay of the Milky Way were guests at the ceremony. The ribbon cutting was also livestreamed on Facebook at UWRF Ag Day on Campus for community members to see who were unable to make it.

Michelle Stangler is a sophomore on campus studying agricultural marketing communications and agriculture business, she had a large role in planning this year's Ag Day on campus. "From there we will have keynote speakers every half hour in a tent just outside of the University Center," said Stangler. The speakers varied from the speakers for the red ribbon cutting ceremony to Wisconsin Fairest of the Fair and Wisconsin State FFA officers.

There was also a milk chug contest at

noon. "The winner will get a \$100 Kwik Trip gift card. We have four of those that will be given throughout the day as well as over 300 Culver's tokens, over 300 dried cranberry samples and over 400 shirts to give out. We have so many fun things planned," said Stangler. The day concluded with a free dinner and keynote speaker Kim Bremmer.

A variety of agricultural companies were in attendance as well as multiple College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science organizations. Farm animals such as lambs, calves, alpacas, pigs and more were also relaxing for students to see on the UC "This year's theme is let the good times grow. And so we really wanted to showcase how agriculture is moving forward. We know that the end consumer has so many questions and this event does that," said Stangler. "We have so many people involved in agriculture that are doing so many great innovations and different ways that we are moving forward to protect and value that end product."

The idea behind the event is for anyone and everyone to attend, whether you know a lot about agriculture or nothing at all.



Junior, Emma Wawracz visits with Taffy the Alpaca who is handled by Mark DeBoe of Wibotawot Farms. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)

More photos found on back page...

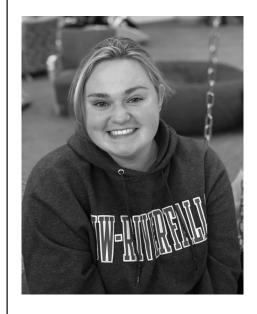
What is your biggest achievement this semester?

By Isabella Forliti



Chloe Collum

"I am proud of my Sociology 480 research project. It was a lot of work!"



Kate Curtis

"I am proud of being awarded the undergrad award in my department!"

Isaac Roehrig

"I am proud of competeing on the men's volleyball team and being awarded the psychological sciences scholarship."



Ally Langer

"I am proud to be graduating college!"



Brookes Lueck

"I am most proud of hitting a big personal record in pole vault on the track team."



Cassidy DeWitt

"Learning hard music for different concerts in the music department."

Emma Joyce

"I am proud to have gotten some workouts :n!"



Sofia Klinedinst

"I am proud I went out and got out of my room!"



2022 Chancellor's Award for Student winners announced

Student Voice

editor@uwrfvoice.com

Eight students from a variety of colleges across the University of Wisconsin-River Falls campus have been awarded the Chancellor Award for Students. This award is the highest non-academic award that can be given to a student at the university. The eight winners were celebrated at a ceremony on the evening of April 19 joined by families, friends and a variety of supporters.

The 2022 recipients are: senior Kaye Anderson, psychology/English education double major from River Falls, senior Courtney Carson, chemistry major, animal science minor from Eagan, Minnesota, senior Ian Carter, secondary education/physics double major, mathematics minor from Platteville, Wisconsin, senior Isabella Forliti, communication studies major, journalism studies minor from White Bear Lake, Minnesota, junior Brigitte Ledferd, criminology/sociology double major from Arbor Vitae, Wisconsin, senior Natalie Rodgers, communication studies major, women's and gender studies minor from Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, junior Joe Schlies, agricultural business major, finance minor from Denmark, Wisconsin, and graduate student Kit Zuelke, TESOL from Stratford, Wisconsin.

This award is given annually by the Chancellor's office to a small number of juniors and seniors. To receive this award students must first be nominated, have letters of recommendation to support the nomination, and be in good academic standing. There are four pillars in which nominators look at when selecting their students; undergraduate research, inclusivity, service to the community, and service to the university.

Once students become a finalist for the award they go through a rigorous interview process by a committee. The selection committee includes the chief of Staff (chair), one appointee from Student Affairs, one faculty member from each of the four academic colleges, and two appointees from the Student Senate.



Back row from left to right: Ian Carter, Kit Zuelke, Natalie Rodgers, Courtney Carson, Kaye Anderson, and Isabella Forliti. Front row from left to right: Joe Schlies, Chancellor Maria Gallo, and Brigitte Ledferd. (Photo by University Communications and Marketing)

Students, faculty petition against custodian outsourcing

Isabella Forliti

isabella.forliti@my.uwrf.edu

Students, parents, and faculty have shown little support for outsourcing custodial services on campus. On Monday, April 11, a group of around 40 people marched into the Chancellor's office in North Hall to protest the possibility of this outsourcing becoming a reality.

The group was led by faculty and students as they gathered outside of the building to discuss the importance of what they were going to do. A variety of perspectives were brought up, including that those on the custodial staff had endured a lot through the pandemic. Custodial staff could not social distance away from the buildings and spaces during the height of the pandemic and instead were tasked to clean places people were occupying to try to keep them safe.

Alexander Al-Najim, the Student Government Association director of academic affairs and student success spoke to the work custodial staff has done throughout the pandemic. "They got us through COVID-19, they put themselves at risk for our safety, and now it's time that we show them support to ensure our campus is safe and that they receive their benefits still."

Students and faculty marched into North Hall with a petition signed by a total of 887 people. Al-Najim said, "Over 500 signatures of the 800 signatures for the petition were students. Showing that our students value safety and community. This is not only about ensuring our community but also our safety here on campus.

"Faculty at the march expressed a multitude of appreciation for students' participation in making these big things happen.

Student Government Association President Brigette Ledferd said about the march that occurred, "The University of Wisconsin River Falls values community. We care about each other and these are real people, living real lives, with real families. It was a great show of support today to have all of the faculty, staff, and students here opposing outsourcing. We care about each other."

A research committee presented their findings to Chancellor Gallo and staff on April 15th. The Chancellor will be making a decision on the matter some time prior to the first of May.



Student Government Association President Brigette Ledferd and Alexander Al-Najim, Student Government Association director of academic affairs and student success, lead a group of students into North Hall. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)

UWRF hosts 57 different high schools for annual agricultural competition day

Lexi Janze

lexi.janzer@my.uwrf.edu

Over 700 middle and high school students attended UWRF's annual Agricultural Technology Contest (Ag Tech Day) on April 2.

Ag Tech Day is an opportunity for middle and high-school students to participate in 15 agriculture based competitions. UWRF has hosted this event for about 61 years; it has become a tradition of sorts for the campus and everyone involved. In order to have this large scale event run smoothly there is a coordinator and assistant coordinator working tirelessly.

Kendra Jentz, this year's assistant coordinator for Ag Tech day spoke more about the leg work to get this event off the ground.

"There is a lot of different logistics, whether that's making sure that we are working with the chairs which are a lot of time faculty members of CAFES to put on the contests, whether that's milk quality and products to agronomy or that is planning the logistics, such as meals and working with Chartwells and the catering service to make sure that everyone is able to get fed."

Jentz also worked with over 80 volunteers to make sure that those who wanted to be involved in the certain contests could be.

Fifty-seven different schools from both Wisconsin and Minnesota sent their teams to UWRF.

Jentz mentioned many benefits for sending students to Ag Tech Day stating, "It allows students to gain those life long skills that are going to help them for the future and is also going to allow them to explore career options. Additionally it is a great opportunity for students to come to see our campus.

After competing at Ag Tech Day students have the opportunity to move on to state and the top team there moves on to nationals. Those are FFA's standards but the UWRF Ag Tech Team also has awards that they give out as well.

"Here at our campus, for each contest, we have awards



From left to right: Emma Statz, Caeli Sorensen, Adam Strassburg and Jenna Snortheim help out on Ag tech Day. (Photo by Lexi Janzer)

for the team that placed first as well as the individual that placed first. We also do an award of excellence which is the award that is given to the school that placed highest in the most contests out of 7 of them that we choose," stated Lentz

This event was made possible by everyone who volunteered. Jentz expressed her gratitude towards everyone saying "Thank you for everyone who helped make it possible, whether that was the students who helped volunteer their time beforehand to make sure the folders were stuffed, the students that volunteered in the 15 different contests during that day, to the faculty members that gave up time beforehand to help plan the contests, to the individuals to um the people who put on the contests and then also Dr. Buttles, Ethan, and Cody for helping also put on the contest, and also the state officers."

Department support needed to finalize sustainabile campus community plan

Jack Van Hoof

Jack.schindlervanhoof@my.uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls' Sustainable Campus Community Plan, which is being revised for the first time since 2012, reflects the university's new approach to sustainability.

The Community Plan has been in the revision process since January and was initially scheduled to be completed by the end of this March. However, the revisions have expanded in scope, so the plan will take more time to finalize.

Mark Klapatch-Mathias, sustainability coordinator for the Office of Sustainability, said, "We need to make sure that we're integrating sustainability campus-wide. That's part of the reason why we slowed down the process."

The revised Community Plan will contain 55 priority actions related to sustainability, which fall into four categories: Academics, Engagement, Operations, and Planning and Administration. The plan will also include what the university has already done to support sustainability, and will continue to do.

"The operational categories are where we see the most opportunity for improvement," Klapatch-Mathias said. "So

that's looking at our greenhouse gas emissions and how we're designing and building our buildings. It also goes into our use of renewable energy, food and dining, and our grounds."

Other departments will need to become involved to further sustainability campus-wide.

"With 55 priority actions, maybe we can do 20 of them, maybe we can do 30 or 40. But we also need those departments to see how they can help support sustainability," Klapatch-Mathias said. "It's about working collaboratively to figure out what is actually feasible for our campus."

Several of these priority actions have already been completed or are in the process of being completed. The 2022 UWRF Sustainability Survey, which was completed this February, was one of these actions.

In addition to the Community Plan, sustainability has been a focus of UWRF's Academic Plan and Strategic Plan as well as other initiatives. "There are other teams now working on some of those plans," Klapatch-Mathias said.

"Some things could be starting now, some things we might not even start for a few years," Klapatch-Mathias said. "I think some of the departments will just start work-

ing on things right away."

Klapatch-Mathias also mentioned the Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System, or STARS, a system used by campuses worldwide. "I think if we can strategically make a plan and then have various departments move it forward, we'll get back to gold."

In 2018, UWRF held a gold rating through the STARS program. However, the university now holds a silver rating and looks to regain gold by 2024.

"If we get the plan approved in the fall and have a lot of those conversations this summer about how departments will start working on it, I think we'll just keep seeing sustainability grow and grow," Klapatch-Mathias said.

In the future, UWRF plans to release annual reports on the state of sustainability on campus, with data on what the university has done to further sustainability that year. "This will allow us a good framework to do some other communications about sustainability as well," Klapatch-Mathias said. "I'm hoping we just continue to build that momentum and keep moving forward."

Students happy with board of regents mental health discussion during on-campus visit

lexi.janzer@my.uwrf.edu

Board of Regents members visited UWRF on March 25 to talk to student representatives about issues the campus

Amy Bogost and Kyle Weatherly are two of the newest elected members on the board of regents. Bogost has a long history of practicing law and has provided training on implementation of Title IX at Tribal colleges. Weatherly is the CEO and co-founder of Frontdesk, a short-term housing provider founded in 2017. Prior to Frontdesk, Weatherly was the president and co-owner of Solaris, a medical de-

While at UWRF Bogost and Weatherly toured the campus and spoke with many different students. At one meeting students represented groups like the Chancellor's Student Ambassadors (CSA), Student Government Association (SGA), and the Black Student Union.

During this meeting many topics were discussed such as the current mental health of students on campus, the flex-

UWRF to have the flexibility that students want, and the lack of participation in extracurriculars.

Matthew Fischer who represented SGA stated, "I think one of the biggest themes that I saw come out of here is a lot of flexibility and having a flexible campus. Using that hybridization of classrooms and making sure that our university is providing the proper resources for students to succeed here."

Many students also felt that the regents brought up unexpected and important topics and were very pleased with how the regents responded to the discussion.

Kaye Anderson representing CSA's stated," I was actually really happy with how receptive they were and how many questions they asked. I thought that they seemed super interested in the conversation that we were having and that was really nice to have."

Jeslyn Andrews who represented SGA brought up how she thought this conversation was super important for all universities to move on from COVID stating, "I think it was a great way because it shows that we as a system want to

ibility or lack thereof, of classes, the lack of technology at move forward but not just move forward like everyone else but in a positive way and learn from the last two years and this experience that we've had."

> Although many topics were discussed there was a common theme when interviewing students who attended the meeting and that was they want to keep UWRF unique from the rest of the universities in the system

> "I want to be able to talk more about how we got to keep a continual focus on what made UWRF, UWRF and why we are still here and what we are known for today while still having options for everybody to be a diverse campus,"

Andrews said "One thing is a lot of regents because they come from Madison and Milwalkee, they really want us to grow as a school and they always ask us that and we really don't want that. We want River Falls to be what it is and so I think that's like one thing that I want to keep reiterating to them is like don't change because we are perfect the way



From left to right: Jeslyn Andrews, Phanice Obasi, and Linnea Milner share their thoughts with the regents. (Photo by University Communications and Marketing)



Regents Amy Blumenfeld Bogost (left) and Kyle Weatherly (right) listen to students and staff. (Photo by University Communications and Marketing)

Visit the **Student Voice** website uwrfvoice.com

Connect with us on social media:



@uwrfvoice



@uwrfstudentvoice

UW-River Falls English department marks banned books by reading 'Fahrenheit 451'

Natalie Torbert

natalie.torbert@my.uwrf.edu

UW-River Falls students and staff gathered in the Chalmer Davee Library to collaboratively read Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451." Originally, the event was set to be outside, at the outdoor classroom near Kleinpell Fine Arts (KFA). Weather issues moved the reading indoors at the library near the circulation desk.

From 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 18 volunteer students and staff took turns reading in 20-minute intervals. They finished the entire book one time through, and made it almost three-quarters in the second half of the day.

English Department Chair Mialisa Moline thought this spring would be the perfect time to host a banned book reading.

"One, censorship is all over the news. Both the left and the right have been talking about and encouraging various kinds of censorship recently," said Moline.

Most recently, a school board in Tennessee banned the graphic novel "Maus" by Art Spigelman for inappropriate language and obscene imagery.

Moline saw the banned book reading as a way to bring the community back together as pandemic restrictions continue to lift.

"This is a shared value in the English community. So, we are very interested in the topic of censorship, how broad the topic reaches, and how dangerous it is for all of us," said Moline.

Academic Department Associate Sally Bender also emphasized the importance of bringing awareness to banned books

"I think we need to be aware that books are being banned. It's not like something from the 1940s. It still continues today. I think we need to be aware of that, ask why, and maybe read the book and then decide for ourselves," said Bender.

Bender remembers her own experiences with a now controversial book series, "Junie B. Jones." Bender's grandmother took a liking to the series. "I was shocked, but she was able to see the humor in it and draw the line," said Bender

"Junie B. Jones" and many other banned books are dis-



Volunteer students and staff reading a banned book during their shift. (Photo by Natalie Torbert)

played on the second floor of KFA, just before the elevators. Student intern Taylor Kiel built the display as part of her internship and read at the banned book reading.

In her closing remarks, Moline said, "Censorship of thought, of word, of idea will not stand; nor limitations on

the sharing and building of knowledge together. Not while teachers breathe. Not while students learn."

Both Bender and Moline hope to continue having a banned book reading every school year.

Local organizations host city's first Earth Fest

Anna Gunderson

anna.gunderson@my.uwrf.edu

The first annual Earth Fest was scheduled Sunday, April 24th from 2 - 5 pm held at Glen Park, where over 45 local organizations gathered to promote sustainability with live music, free food, activities, free well-water testing, and a clothing swap. April is Earth Month, and the City of River Falls has been hosting a series of events including a Sustainability Speaker Series about the impacts climate change has on mental health and a Bluegrass Festival the weekend of the 22nd.

The first 500 people in attendance were to go home with a free tree sapling, and those who used sustainable transportation to get to Glen Park (by walking, biking, or carpooling), received a free LED lightbulb. This event was hosted by the City of River Falls, UW-River Falls, River Falls Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Bureau, Hope for Creation, and the School District of River Falls.

Mark Klapatch-Mathias is on the leadership team for Hope for Creation and is the co-chair for Earth Fest, and played an essential role in making this event a reality.

The event was funded entirely by grants and donations. Hope for Creation, which is a group made up of local churches, UWRF, and the City of River Falls, that have the goal of advancing sustainability, was largely responsible for making Earth Fest possible. Klapatch-Mathais stated, "We wanted there to be a large community event to celebrate sustainability; where we've been, where we are now, and where we want to go."

A pledge-signing took place where representatives from CVTC, UWRF, the City of River Falls, and the River Falls School District agreed to make more sustainable efforts in the River Falls community. Hope For Creation also had a pledge that individuals could sign as well. Klapatch-Mathias said, "We're really hoping to instill some sense of ownership for sustainability at the individual level, businesses, organizations, churches, and also the broader, larger entities." There was also a recognition for COVID heroes/heroines that thanked them for their help and hard work.

The bands that performed included Chris Silver, the Barley Jacks, the River Falls High School Instrumental Aca-

pella group, and the UW-River Falls Pep Band. Locally sourced foods were served, including impossible burger sliders, attendees helped plant trees, and electric vehicles were on display. Some family activities included turning t-shirts into DIY bags, mini-golf, and a petting zoo.

The wide variety of organizations that participated included some UWRF organizations, like the Bee Club and the Green Team, and community and regional organizations that actively participate in promoting sustainability. St. Croix County offered free nitrate testing for those who provided a sample of their well water. The UWRF Green Team, Our Neighbors Place, and Wiley's Wardrobe hosted a clothing swap, where people could bring an item of clothing in exchange for something new. Clothes left after the event were donated to Our Neighbors Place and Wiley's Wardrobe. Alina Health was also in attendance to provide bikes to kids through their Free Bikes for Kids program.

There is hope that this will become an annual event, but further discussion is needed.

Students compete in debate about freedom of expression

Charlie Swanson

charles.swanson@my.uwrf.edu

On April 7, a debate competition revolving around whether or not the University of Wisconsin-River Falls should adopt the "Chicago Statement" on Freedom of Expression was held on campus in the University Center.

The debate featured three teams, two of which argued against the adoption of the "Chicago Statement" on Freedom of Expression, and one of which argued for it, and two rounds of debate. The "Chicago Statement" is an overarching stance by the University of Chicago that affirms its commitment to uninhibited freedom of expression for their community. The statement speaks against things like "trigger warnings," intellectual safe spaces, and the prohibition of speakers deemed controversial, arguing that those measures prevent students from exposure to ideas and perspectives that differ from their own, thereby acting as forms of censorship.

Due to the number of teams, the team arguing for the resolution took to the stand twice to face off against both of the con "Chicago Statement" teams. Teams were composed of two to three students, with both of the pro teams having three students, while the con team had two. Each round kicked off with the opening statements from both teams, a cross-examination period, followed by the closing statements. All competitors received \$100 for participating, the second-place team was awarded \$500, and the top prize for the winning team was \$1,000. The winning team, which argued against the adoption of the "Chicago Statement, was made up of Anya Getschel, Ryan Arthur, and Blake Buchholz, all of whom represented the Forensics Club of Hudson High School. It is important to note that those arguing for or against the proposition are not necessarily for or against it.

The judges for the competition were Communications Studies Program Director and Associate Professor Grace Coggio and Communication and Media Studies Department Chair and Professor Jennifer Willis-Rivera. The teams' arguments were evaluated on the strength of their opening statements, cross-examination/rebuttal, and their closing statements.

For the opening statements, the judges were looking for a clear thesis, adequate support of any claims that were made, and an effective public speaking presence. During

the cross-examination stage of the debate, the teams were evaluated on the astuteness of their questions as they harkened back to points made by their opposition and the soundness they displayed in their rebuttals. Etiquette was also an important metric weighed by the judges throughout the debate, meaning that the speakers were expected to politely and actively listen to their opposition before taking their turn, especially during the rebuttal period.

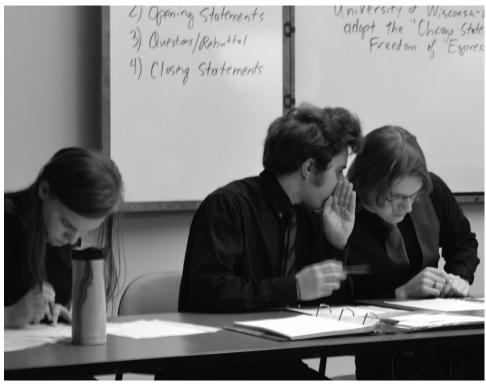
Speakers' closing statements were scored, in part, based on the depth and cohesiveness of any references they made back to their opposition in order to show an understanding of the dissenting stance. Finally, the effectiveness of the final pitch, or closing argument,

presented in a team's closing statement is factored into the judge's scoring tally.

College of Business and Economics Professor Brian Huffman put this debate on by administering a civil liberties grant, and he also served as the moderator. Huffman drew inspiration for the debate and its structure from the Oxford Union, which is a debating society in Oxford, England that draws most of its membership from the University of Oxford. Huffman sees the ability of, and opportunity for, one to argue their point of view as paramount attributes for college students in their progression.

"You have universities that have given up on freedom of speech, and I wanted to give students an opportunity to debate and make sure their minds still work," said Huffman.

Huffman selected the "Chicago Statement" on Freedom of Expression as the topic for the debate because he wanted students to explore and assess the current state of freedom of expression in academia. He feels like people are object-



senting stance. Finally, the effectiveness of the final debate. (Photo by Charlie Swaonson)

ing to controversy too often in today's society, and he is a firm believer that instead of turning away from controversial subject matter, people should confront it and immerse themselves in the surrounding discourse. Picking a more black and white topic may not have evoked any meaningful takeaways.

"I could have a debate on if the sky was blue, and everyone would join the pro team," said Huffman.

This debate competition was supposed to take place last year, but COVID-19 did what it has done best and completely disrupted the event. Going forward, Huffman wishes for the debate competition to become an annual affair on campus and would like to see much more participation from students. One of Huffman's favorite quotes comes from Oscar Wilde and it explains why he is putting an emphasis on setting the stage for debates at UWRF: "Whenever people agree with me I always feel I must be wrong."

For veterans, American Legion more than just bingo

Josh Brauer

Falcon News Service

Situated on North Main Street in River Falls, a sign advertising bingo on Friday nights stands out in fluorescent red. Behind it is a building that has stood since the 1950s. It is American Legion Post 121.

Greeting any visitor of the nonprofit organization of former service members is a bar. Shiny and pristine, faces reflect from its surface. One face is the post commander's, Melissa "Missy" Hildebrandt.

Hildebrandt joined the American Legion over a decade ago on a request from a brigadier general.

"He was the type of guy you just couldn't say no to," she said in an interview. He was the reason for ever attending her first Legion meeting. "I was involved from the minute I stepped into the door."

Post 121 has over 570 members, according to Hildebrandt. "It's like having a whole other family here."

Members range from different ages and periods; the only requirement is the individual must be a veteran of the United States military.

One such veteran is Bill Gnatzig, who has been a member of the post for over 35 years.

Drafted by the Marine Corps in 1969, Gnatzig completed his service in 1971. A writer and journalist during his working career, he worked for the Marine Corps Leatherneck magazine at a time. He is now the public affairs officer for Post 121.

In an interview, Gnatzig expressed his sentiment towards the Legion saying, "it's a way in continuing to serve."

Continuing to serve is a common theme for many of the Legion's members, and it is one echoed by Hildebrandt.

"Deep down the Legion to me is about still serving," she said. "It's making connections with not only veterans, but also the community."

She explained the work Post 121 engages with the River Falls community.

"I'll start with the things you see all the time. We have bingo," she said. Post 121's bingo Fridays were started by the same brigadier general who introduced Hildebrandt to the Legion.

"It was his baby," she said. "It started off slow, but amazingly has grown into a pretty big thing. The neat thing about it is kids can come in and play."

The reception hall, where bingo is hosted, is decorated with military memorabilia and photos, highlighting members of Post 121 and their achievements.

Along with bingo nights, Post 121 also participates in community chicken fries, sponsors Legion baseball for high school juniors and seniors, visits all local River Falls schools on Veterans Day and sponsored three blood drives, according to its 2021 newsletter.

The blood drives are a specific passion for another of Post 121's members, Pat Singel. A Vietnam veteran, Singel "loves the blood drives" and enjoys the community work that goes into it.

This past September, Singel also worked with another nonprofit organization, Team Rubicon, in the aid of Afghanistan refugees at Fort McCoy in central Wisconsin. There he aided refugees in writing $r\sqrt{\mathbb{O}}$ sum $\sqrt{\mathbb{O}}$ s and applying for college scholarships.

Singel emphasized his experience with Team Rubicon and the American Legion as a great way to serve local and international communities.

The post commander stressed the Legion's importance in the local community.

"I want our (community) kids to see our veterans," she said. "All of our funds we raise are going back to the community in one way or another."

UWRF commencement set for May 7

A total of 850 UW-River Falls students are expected to graduate this spring and summer, according to the registrar's office. The 2022 commencement is scheduled Saturday, May 7, in the Knowles Field House at Falcon Center.

The ceremony for the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences; the College of Business and Economics, and Graduate Studies is set at 9 a.m. The ceremony for the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education and Professional Studies is at 1 p.m.

Students graduating include: Abbott, Jordyn C. Ackerman, Olivia Adler, Harmony Christina Aguado, Nicholas Reid Akenson, Daniel B. Albee, Elizabeth Brooke Albers, Sarah Alders, Libby Jean Alexander, Joseph Alleman, Chloe Rose Allsopp, Tosh Charles Helen Alsides, Dominique Willis Alvarado, Elian Andersen, Hanna Danielle Anderson, Rachel Kay Andreou, Panayiotis Andres, Holly Katherine Andrusko, Benjamin John Angotti, Danielle Angotti, Samantha Mabel Antone, Jordan Arnold, Joshua Dossie Arnt, Jacob Michael Asher, Autumn Christine Asp, Alexander Gussie Austin, Mitchell Aye, Than Dah Bailey, Keagan Lee Baker, Margaret Faith Banjo, Emmanuel Barrett, Alexis Leah Barrett, Aubrey Anna Barriger, Katelyn Ruth Baumann, Lauren May Baumann, Lindsey Ann Beall, Evalyn Ashley Beehler, Rainy Marie Beem, Katherine Cecelia Behrens, Shelby Lynn Belmont, Michael Anthony Bendickson, Angela Clare Benner, Ivy Bennett, Jacob Ryan Bents, Lisa Jean Bentson, Lillian Dei Berends, Grace Diane Berg, Geoffrey Scott Bergmann, Madison Lynn Bergsbaken, Shawn Peter Bergstrom, Lucas Charles Bergum, Bailey Theresa Bernhoft, Jenna Berray, Madison Nicole Berry, Ashley Marie Berthiaume, Kendra Grace Best, Emily Rae Bicha, Makenzie Leigh Biedrzycki, Jacob Bierbrauer, Maygen Rose Biros, Jordan Elizabeth Bishop, Mackenzie Rae Bjork, Jackson Edward Bladow, Jackie Lee Blaha, Megan Rose Blank, Alyssa Marie Blaski, Alexandra Rose

Blauert, Benjamin Allan

Boles, Jillian Marie

Bond, Angela J. Borchardt, Meaghan Borgstrom, Carson Marcella Bosch, ÄêBrayton, Natalie Boss, Faith Boyer, Haley Rose Boyum, Lauren Taylor Bradley, Jared Marshall Brand, Alexander Matthew Breeden, Kevin Patrick Brehmer, Erin Joyce Breuer, Maria Lorraine Brezina, Katelynn May Britt, Keosha Marie Brogan, Katie Marie Bronk, Mary Elizabeth Brooks, Matthew Michael Brooks, Renee April Brousseau, Hannah Celeste Brown, Abbigale Rose Brown, Brianna Bryant, Nikolina Ye, ÄêEun Buchholz, Desiree Jo Buchmann, Hannah Buetow, Byrgen Siri Buhl, Cole Burbank, Brady Thomas Burke, Alannah Dannielle Burno, Rachel Kay Burns, Rachel Jane Bush, Dylan James Bush, Madison Anne Cahill, Cayden Christopher Calder, Kayla Marie Campbell, Maddie Carlin, Cheyanne Cecilia Carlin, Grace Elizabeth Carlson, Damon James Carlson, Hannah Marie Carlson, Katie Jean Carlson, Rachel Rose Carrasco, Ariana Marta Carroll, Elizabeth Anne Carson, Courtney Nicole Casey, Payton Lynn Castrogiovanni, Nathaniel Cayo, Courtney Marie Challes, Ashley JoAnn Chase, Riley Chelius, Thomas Jurgen Chrisler, Christian Lawrence Christensen, Scott Everett Christianson, Amanda Lynn Coble, Micayla R. Coe, Alexander Robert Coles, Brook Lee Collins, Robyn Annette Cook, McKenna Renee Cornelius, Andrea Cornelius, Charles Cory, Ashlyn Rose Cristina Veloso Lima, Gabriella Crneckiy, Anne Froehlich Cruz, Connor James Dabill, Hannah Irene Dagastino, Julianna Louise Dahl, Corynne Anna Dallman, Mason Jeffery Damp, Chantell Rose Danielson, Abigail Grace Dappen, Emily Rae Dassow, Hannah Elizabeth Davidson, Chase Matthew Davidson, Kathryn Jean Davila, Daniel D'ablo Davila, Violet Rose Decker, Aidan Rose Deckert, Kayla Rae DeGroat, Emma Lynn Delgado, Paige Hammersmith Delzer, Hannah Shelby Deneau, Emma DeRoy, Connor John DeSouza, Haley Lee DeVoe, Heather Ann

deVries, Daniel Joshua

Dickison, Gabrielle Jean

Devot, Zachary Lee

Diersen, Magdala

Dietrich, Adrianna Jo Dobbs, Ann Marie Dolton, Naomi LaDean Donahue, Adalee Maise Donica, Grace Marie Donkers, Chester Elliott Dooher, Kayia Lauren Dornbush, Margaret Jane Dose, Gabrielle Jolee Doty, Jessie Lynn Douglas, Jack Martin Dove, Tyler Timothy Dovre, Luke Andrew Drankiewicz, Taylor Elizabeth Drebenstedt, Patience Olivia Duellman, Dorisa Rose Dupre, Bridget Mary Eberhardt, Ethan John Ebert, Olivia Faye Eicher, Grace Mary Eisch, Samantha Ann Elliott, Megan Rose Ellis, Diane Katherine Engel, Mitchell G. Engerman, Jessica Erdmann, Jack Thomas Erickson, Christine Marie Erickson, Jake Samuel Erickson, Sarah Marlene Erickson, William Stewart Evanoff, Amelia Claire Fall, Tayler Jean Feldt, Megan Elizabeth Fellenz, Samantha Morgan Ferkans, Brenden Scott Fern, Sarah Marie Fields, Kaitlyn Larie Fields, Sarah Beiping Filbert, Kayla Marie Fisher, Gianna Fluno, Collin Harrison Flynn, Sarah Elizabeth Foerster, David Jon Fogelberg, Madison Nicole Foley, Jennilee Foley, Michaela Marie Forliti, Isabella Joy Formanek, Danielle Christine Formanek, Joseph James Forseth, Rachel Amanda, ÄêMae Frahm, Allyssa Yvette Francis, Lucy Frank, Jake M Frederickson, Ellisa Rose Fredlund, Andrea Lynn Freeman, Pilar Marie Frie, Alexander Kyle Fritsch, Breanna Louise Froehle, Rose Victoria Frokjer, Lauren Barbara Fuerstenberg, Marissa Jean Gallion, Ryann Robert Garcia, Adalia Lee Gareis, Tori Ann Garhofer, Kathryn Anne Gawlik, Kaylin Elizabeth Getting, Paige Marie Gilbert, Madeline Nicole Gilbraith, Kiana Marie Giles, Sarah Ann Gillen, Allyson Noel Gilles, Hillary T Gillis, Jessica Rose Goehring, Bailey Jo Goetsch, Fallon Jean Goetz, Kendra Gohlke, Emma June Goldbeck, Dakota Thomas Gonzalez, Miranda Elizabeth Goulet, Renee Maria Graff, Lucas Norman Granroth, Taylor Lynn Grant, Connor Louis Graven, Shawn Edward

Grefe, Jacob Albert

Gregoire, Paige Eleanor

Gregor, Joseph William

Grenier, Rhiannon Faith

Grimm, Grace Marie

Grimm, Jacob Michael Gronholz, Olivia Kate Groth, Ashley Gruendemann, Erica Marie Gruhlke, Summer Jean Jasmine Grundhauser, Nicholas Charles Guenther, Amanda Renee Guenther, Jesse Sarah Guinn, Kimberly Gumz, Janessa Joan Gundeck, Jack Thomas Gundeck, Nina Jeanne Gunderson, Jamie John Gustafson, Emily Haase, Marie Elizabeth Hallberg, Olivia Hope Hamilton, Fiona Merriwether Hamilton, Shevenne Marie Hammack, Marlie Jean Han, Bowen Hand, Megan Grace Hanson, Aylah Marie Harelstad, Alexia Jade Harmon, Alyssa Joyel Harmon, Jestin Stuart Harren, Sierra Kaylin Harris, Briggan Rose Harrison, Conner Lyon Hart, Sabrina Jo Hartzell, Taylor Paige Hassle, Collin Hatch, Catherine Rose Hatch, Madeline Claire Havemeier, Hannah Christine Hayward, Delaney Vanessa Hazelroth, Clare Marie Heath, Carson Leroy Heavner, Clarissa Joan Heffley, Leah Killingsworth Hegy, Colleen Scanlan Hehr, Alan Heitmann, Willy Orrin Hellegers, Natalie Jeanette Helms, Hanna Nicole Hemming, Madison Kay Hendren, Kyle Vincent Hentsch, Camie Paige Her, Autumnmae Gao Ntxheng Herman, Jennifer Susan Hermersmann, Maggie Leigh-Ann Herrick, Spencer James Herzfeldt, Brittany C. Hetke, Serenity Rachel Heussner, Kiara Angelic Hibbert, Gretchen Marie Hickey, Ryan John Hiebert, Jessica Theresa Higgins, Grace Carolyn Hildreth, Samantha J. Hill, Justin John Hill, Katie Marie Hines IV, Wallis Gartside Hines, Zachary Isaac Hintz, Krista Hintz, Lauren Luree Hira, Samuel Ely Hodd, Amy Elizabeth Hoff, Callie Cleone Hoff, Nicholas John Fredrick Hoffman, Emily Louise Hoffman, Scott Hoffstatter, Eric William Hohrman, Gretchen Marie Holst, Emma Jane Holte, Justina Grace Holtz, Ava Simone Honkanen, Dayton James Hoople, Taylor Yvonne Horgan, Benjamin William Horn, Kendyl Marie Horner, Megan Marie Houfer, Shelby Hubbard, Brady Michael Hubble, Cassandra Nicole Huber, Lilian Louise Hubing, Holly Irene Hudy, Danielle Helaine Huebscher, Jason James

Huggins, Xianna R.

Hults, Karl Human, Grace May Humphreys, Helena Hunte, Faith Emily Hurst, Grace Abigail Huschka, Charles Winter Huschka, Lauren Elizabeth Huseonica, Helena Louise Huseth, Hailey Husom, Hannah Aileen Ingli, Amber Lee Isken, Breanna Rebecca Iverson, Erica Sue Jackson, Taylor Renee Jacobson, Erika Teagan Jacobson, Nikolas Keith Jacoby, Zachary Logan Jahns, Makayla Janiak, Jada Christine Jansen, Kyra Ann Janus, Joseph Daniel Jaworski, Emma Denae Jewell, Katie Anne Johnson, Brady Todd Johnson, Dakota Bradley Johnson, Elise Victoria Johnson, Grace Elizabeth Johnson, Kathryn Reynolds Johnson, Kiana Kay Johnson, Louis Alexander Johnson, Olivia Rose Jones, Alexander Kourosh Jones, Briana Jones, Kayler Ann Jones, Mercedes Desiree Joslin, Joel Robert Jossart, Sierra Lynn Juarez, Eileen Justice, Carter Robert Kaari, Bridget Lucille Kabara, Brooke Lauren Kaegi, Lydia Perle Karpicke, Alex James Karpinski, Jennafer Joy Kassulker, Kyle Reine Kaur, Jasmine Kayfes, Jacob Michael Kaz, Raeanne Marie Keenan, Eryn Catherine Keilen, Ellie Jean Kelly, Alyssa Marie Kelly, Jack Christian Kerrigan, Keanna Rose Kewin, Kaylee Jasmek Kichler, Carly Julianna Kiel, Taylor Chantelle Kinnaird, Alison Marie Kirschbaum, Corey Franklin Kizewski, Meagan Kjome, Claire Elizabeth Klobucnik, Kayla Ann Klopp, Jarrod Stephen Koeppel, Katie A. Koester, Emily Susan Koha, ÄêJallah, Rayveen Somond Kohler, Andrew Michael Kolar, Katerina Maria Kolbeck, Elise Laura Kollander, Jordan Michelle Kolzow, Katerina Verona Kons, Alivia Koren, Jessica Marie Korkowski, Robert Joseph Kowalski, Peyton Ren Kramer, Parker James Kroening, Alexis Elizabeth Kronschnabel, Nicholas Kulvich, Kayla Ann Kunde, Marissa Mae Kuntz, Mallory Ann Kupka, Emily Ann Kurtzweg, Tanner Kvalheim, Kristen Daniel

Students graduating continued: Lahr, Christian Frederick Laing, ÄêTaylor, Lucas L'Allier, Sara Janine Smith Lamberty, Alexa Marie Lanegran II, Joanne Lillian Larsen, Siobhan Kay Larson, Mariama Kim Latterell, Sydney Rebecca Laub, Kaelin Marie LeBlond, Catherine Ray Ledvina, Lillian Julia Lee, Pa Leemon, Tracy Megan Lent, Sarah Leong, Sophia Rene Leroux, Emily Therese Levanetz, Claire Judith Leverty, Alexis Kay Lewis, Aaron James Lewis, Emma Kay Lezotte, Joseph Michael Lindau, Ella Shay Lindgren, Brendan Conrad Lindquist, Owen Linkert, Savannah Lynnore Linnell, Bryce Edward Littleton, Kristen Kay Lois, Megan Elizabeth Lokker, KayLee Bernadette Longway, Julia Lowell, Jack Fletcher Loy, Shane Robert Luangrath, Joseph Maynard Luberda, Emily Luttrell, Dawson Paul Lyman, Leah Kristine Lyons, Joelle Nicole Lysongtseng, Lykasha Lytle, Jacob Ryan Mason Mack, Jared Evan Mackey, Kyle Evan Miltz MacNeil, Ian Patrick Macpherson, Emily Grace Madigan, Carson David Magdanz, Jessica Louise Maher, Matthew Michael Maier, Zachary Jeffrey Majors, ÄêCulp, Faith Mary Malinowski, Adam Jeffery Manning, Karin Marble, Gretchen Faith Marcon, ÄêToutant, Hayley Michelle Marczak, Dylan Jacob Marion, Emalie Marie Markowski, Hannah Katherine Marshall, Bailey Anna Marx, Megan R. Mason, Haley Lynn Massie, Emily Ann Mattson, Max Bernard Matz, Stephen James Matzek, Owen William Maypark, Kasey Earlene McAllister, Casie Rae McCafferty, Nicole McCorkell, Keegan William McCrady, Katherine Mary McDonald Noelle Amanda McDougall, Natasia Valerie Mcgee, Ashley Nichole McRoberts, Sean Thomas Meidl, Colin Phillip Meihofer, Blake John Meinert, Lexyss Lvnn Mercer, Kevin Gerard Mercer, Lindsey A. Mercer, Vanessa Hope Meyer, Dani Marie Meyer, Marcus Anthony Michel, Jami Lynn Mickelson, Lyndsey Joyce Mikkelsen, Grace Elaine Miller, Crystal Ann Miller, Ernest John Miller, Kelsi Milton, Kathryn Marie Minder, Melissa Mode, Stephenie Jane Mohrland, Madalyn Nicole

Monaghan, Daniel Thomas Monroe, Chandler Evan Monson, Karina Lea Moonen, Emma Angela Moor, Jessica Ann Moris, William Ernest Morrison, Kassandra Lynn Morse, Kaylee Elizabeth Moseley, Rachel Lin Mossuto, Madeline Virginia Mroczenski, Katlynn Ann Mueller, Lauren Ann Muerhoff, Landon Ross Muller, Geraldine Ruth Munch, Hannah Grace Munneke, Jordyn Marie Murphy, Lillianna Faith Musselman, Kaitlyn Alexandra Nagel, Grace Ann Nahkala, Erika Elizabeth Nanez, Renee Lynn Nauber, Jordan Nauss, Jackson Liam Nelson, Carlie Brooke Nelson, Lacey Rose Nelson, Natalie Lynn Nelson, Paige Raeann Nettell, Kaitlin Rose Nguyen, Mor Chia Nicolai, Amy Niebur, Alyson Nicole Noble, ÄêMeraz, Alexis Marie Nonemacher, David Wesley Nutzmann, Alex Robert Obasi, Phanice Mogutu O'Bryan, Brenden Michael Odden, Daniel Oliver Olakunle, Ezekiel Kevin Oleson, Ashley Carol Olinger, Mariah Olive, Maxwell James Olsen, Timothy Paul Olson, Amy Rachel Olson, Colton Francis Olson, Erin Adele Olson, Kirah Lynn Olson, Madeleine Sinclaire O'Malley, MeShaun Delores Oradei, Alia Marleen O'Reilly, Cristina Grace Osman, Ali Osmond, Delaney Erin Ostroviak, Katherine Ostrowski, Evelyn Lee Oswald, Mitchell Seth Ott, Jacob Alan Otto, Jack Emmett Pace, Frances Ruth Pacheco, ÄêHernandez, Jennifer Pahl, Alex Jordan Palazzo, Joshua Michael Palmer, Elisabeth Margaret Palmer, Haley Mae Palumbo, Emily Suzanne Pankow, Shauna Mae Panning, Kathryn Virginia Park, Chanhee Parker, Lexi Mae Pass, Paige Marjorie Patterson, Robert Pattock, Emma Rose Paulson, Emilee Healing Paulson, Kevin Michael Pearson, Rachel Joy Pechacek, Gabrielle Rosa Peck, Sidney William Pederson, Emily Margret Pescinski, Kaitlin Elise Petersen, Grace Peterson, Breanna McKay Phan, An D. Philips, Samantha Marie Phillips, Bryce William Pierson, Alexandra Michelle

Pittsley, Leo Isaac

Place, Peter Gordon

Podmolik, Callie Jo

Poulos, Madeline Joy

Poncelet, Mary Elizabeth

Priester, Rachel Lauren Hope

Prissel, Emily Proehl, Madison Clarise Proehl, Matthew Allen Pundsack, Juliana Ellen Putnam, Jolie Rose Ouade, Deanna Quagliana, Stephanie Quinones, Amber Marie Oureshi. Emmarah Racheli, Desdamona Tisha Bueno Ragsdale, Macy Elyse Rappaport, Chapin Isak Redepenning, Rachel Ann Rehm Jr, Burton Anthony Rein, Trevor Jason Reineke, Stephen Michael Rerick, Isabella O'Neill Rice, Gabrielle Rene Ricker, Dylan Lucius Rieken, Tristan Rielly, Megan Elizabeth Ries, Clairissa C. C. Ries, Rebecca Kaitlyn Rietveld, Anna Rebecca Riley, Aaron William Riley, Owen Thomas Risius, Ryan Matthew Rivard, Lauren Rivard, Zeb Richard Gerald Rivera, Elizabeth Rivers, Amari Rizzo, Linnea Robarge, Thomas Robbins, Haiden Robertson, Cally Christine Robertson, Kimberly Ann Robinson, Josie Marie Rodgers, Natalie Kaye Roever, Daniel A. Rogall, Russell David Rohman, Kacey Roman, Nicole Katherine Rosich Jelena Ross, Daniel Stephen Ross, Grace Voge Rothe, Janae Christine Rudolph, Alayna Barbara Ruen, Ashlyn Elisabeth Russ, Marie E. Rutten, Elizabeth Saeed, Amal M Saemrow, Judd Thomas Sampson, Josie Clare Sandekian, Sophia Grace Sanders, Kara Lee Savage, Grace Collette Saxon, Sophia Eden Schaefer, Alaina Schalk, Alexis Kathleen Schillo, Cory Edward Schluttner, Jordanna Nicole Schmidt, Alexis Schmidt, Avery Elizabeth Schmitt, Lauren Marie Schober, John Schrank, Eva Lindsey Schreiber, Joelie Mae Schubring, Katelin Margerite Schult, William Riley Schultz, Kyle Justin Schulz, Camryn Anthony Schulz, Nicole Marie Schumacher, Catherine Schuster Madisyn Debra Schutz, Riley Nelson Schwanke, Samantha Mary Schwartz, Christopher Thomas Scott, Stephany Amber Seefeldt, Allyson Marie Seeger, Alec Sefcik, Ali Marie Seidl, Breanna Rose Sell, Kailey Selness, Michael Scott Selness, Samantha Mary Lee Semmen, Josephine Carle Serre, Brandon Adelore

Severson, Caitlyn Marie

Severson, Morgan Kaye

Sforza, Deanna

Shamrock, Grace Elizabeth Shannon, Rory Shaw, Teague Shenouda, David Sameh Sherr, ÄêNelson, Flora Shirley, Kaitlyn Nichole Shock, Alice Leigh Sigl, Shawna Jade Silva, Anthony William Simones, Kaitlyn Simpson, Joseph Simpson, Katie Sipiorski, Samuel Lambert Sisneros, Alicia Michelle Sisneros, Savina Catherine Skabroud, Camryn Lynn Skibbie, Josephine Laura Skog, Raelyn Marie Smelter, Alison Kae Smith, April B. Smith, Catherine Elaine Smith, Elizabeth Ann Smith, Grace Margaret Smith, Grant Thomas Smith, Madeline Jean Sokol, Zachary Prosper Solberg, Gabriel Allan Sommers, Alexa Michelle Sowieja II, John Leonard Spaeth, Luke Michael Spradley, Nicholas Ryan Springman, Reilly Jo Stachowski, Natalie Ann Standly, Bryan James Staska, William Robert Staudt, Johnathon Stecker, Hayden Wayne Stedman, Derek Michael Steffen, Cole Steidl, Kennedy Stenzel, Samantha Stern, Michael Joseph Stewart, Allison Laverne Stober, Rebecca Lillian Stonemark, Austin Michael Stout, Hannah Elizabeth Stremcha, Katherine Margaret Struthers, Hailey Ann Stumpf, Sophia Sundravel Balamurugan, Arjunbala Sutherland, Bethanie Katherine Sutton, Jayne Brytani Swanson, Andrew James Swanson, Emily Lynn Symond, Alexis Karla Taylor, Mackenzie Irene Teymurlu, Mahammadjamal Thao, Payton Chu, ÄêYi Thiele, Margurite Inez Suzanne Thieschafer, Angela Thompson, Marisa Kay Thomsen, Alex Christopher Thornton, Taylor Joy Thull, Bricarah Storm Tido, Stacy Gabriel Tietz, Heath Andrew Toensing, Jessica Jean Toland, Melissa Alexandra Tollakson, Cassandra Lynn Tonsager, John Simon Torbert, Natalie Ann Torkelson, Kora Ann Traynor, Jacob William Trevis, Alaina Renee Truszinski, Joseph Michael Turbeville, Jillian Jeanette Udulutch, Emily Rose Ullerup Mathers, Ellen Van Blaricom, Ryan Richard Van Ermen, Emma Marie Hatsuko Vance, Micah Key Vande Kamp, Logan Vanden Branden, Hailey Anne Vanderhye, Kaliopi Anastasia Zoe Venzke, Caleb Matthew Vetterkind, Camille Villneauve, Rachel Mae Vinje, Shawn

Voelker, Emily Ann

Voigt, Braden John

Vold, Bailey Volk, Katelyn Renee Voss, Morgan Elizabeth Voye, Hannah Grace Vue, Billy Gi Vue, Pachia Walker, Amber Marie Walker, Destiny Wallace, Kylee Marie Walsh, Tori Cheyanne Walt, Micah Peter Walters, Haley Marie Wampler, Shelby Rose Wandtke, Mikayla Jo Wanous, Kyle Michael Ward, Emilee Jean Warlof, Jack Michael Warner, Sydney Mychael Warren, Madison Joy Watson, Skylar Lynne Weaver, Jon Todd Weber, Anika Dee Weid, Madeline Rebecca Weiler, Breanna Eve Weinberger, Olivia Welch, Emma Elizabeth Welnetz, Zoe Caitlyn Welsh, Nathan Glenn Weltzien, Curtis Keith Wendt, Kaylee JoAnna Wenz, Emily Marie Werdin, Molly Irene West, Lucas John Weyer, Kaitlyn Marie Weyer, Katie Lynn Whaley, Alicia Nicole Whipple, Caitlyn Danielle White, Lauren Nicole Wichman, Kailey Lyn Wille, Joan Lynn Willett, Andrew Eric Williams, Destiny Michelle Williams, Grace Elizabeth Wogahn, Abigail Grace Wolf, Desiree Ericka Woll, Joshua Thomas Wolman, Addison Lee Wood, Brooke Wood, Maya Nichole Worm, Rachel Marie Wright, Julia Dianne Wright, Zach Collin Wussow, Colin Ron Xiong, SieQoua Xiong, Zong Yang, Jonathan Shia Yang, Julie Dluabci Yang, Maisee Nancy Yang, Txee Cynthia Yokiel, Molly York, Sydney Nicole Young, Maria Jane Youngren, Skylar Faye Zacharias, Payton Alura Zarling, Miriam Anna Zaspel, Alyssa Michelle Zeman, Jenna Anne Zentzis, Lvdia Zimmer, Grace Ann Zitnak, Benjamin Zmolek, Abigail Jae Zobrist, Madison Alene Zylla, Brady Richard

Junior breaks longstanding 1977 track and field record

Charlie Swanson

charles.swanson@my.uwrf.edu

Junior Lexi LeFever notched yet another school record on her belt for the UW-River Falls Women's Track and Field team, running a blistering 12.02 seconds in the outdoor 100-meter dash at the Hamline University Invitational on April 2.

LeFever surpassed longtime UWRF record holder Jane Ubbelohde's time of 12.14 seconds, a time that has stood since 1977. The record-setting performance also set the new benchmark for the meet itself, surpassing the previous mark of 12.18 seconds. Her standout showing at the meet also included two more first place finishes. LeFever won the long jump by leaping 5.56 meters, and her 4x100 meter relay took home the gold by running the race in 49 seconds.

LeFever opened last year's outdoor season with a time of 12.3 seconds in the 100-meter dash, and she entered this year's Hamline University Invitational with the top seed time of 12.2 seconds, which was her personal best. The conditions for the meet were windy, but not to the level that would deem the record illegitimate. LeFever, who favors running indoors, knew she had gotten off to a great start in the race, but she definitely did not foresee herself making history.

"I had no expectation at all to break that record," said LeFever

Upon hearing the third-place time, LeFever knew she had set a personal record for herself. Next, Bethel's Sarah Stellmach's second place time of 12.11 seconds, which also bested the meet record, was announced, to which LeFever turned towards her in awe and congratulated her. She now knew that her time was of a caliber she could not have imagined. The new gold standard for 100-meter dash at the Hamline University Invitational, 12.02 seconds, was cemented in the record books with LeFever's name etched next to it.

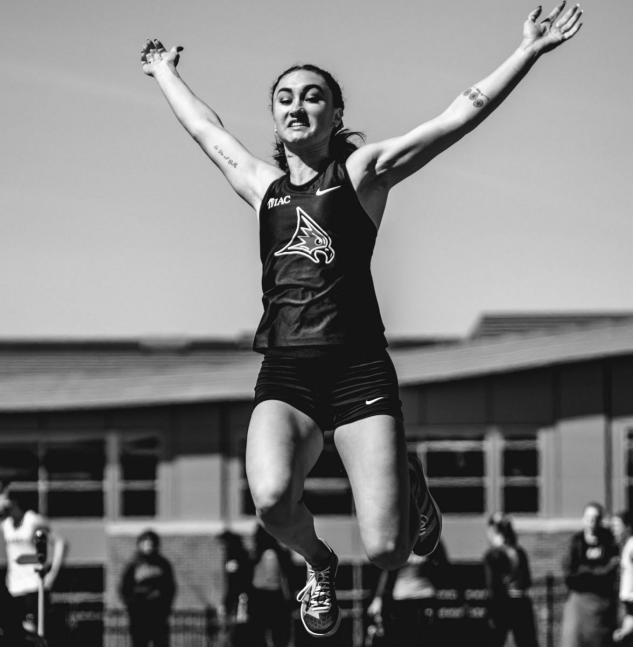
"I thought, are you joking? This can't be real," said LeFever. Like she does when she is barreling down the race courses, LeFever's decorated track and field career has certainly taken a few turns along the way. She began competing in the sport when she was in sixth grade. Throughout high school, LeFever was a state competitor in her 4x200 meter and 4x100 meter relays. Once she started qualifying for state in her individual events, LeFever's confidence really grew, and she began to set her sights on the collegiate level.

"I was like, huh, I must have a real talent in this sport," said LeFever.

After exploring her options, LeFever decided to commit her talents to the UW-Eau Claire Blugolds. However, running with the blue and gold threads on just didn't feel quite right for her. LeFever posted faster times while she was in high school than she did at UW-Eau Claire, and she simply struggled to break out there. LeFever sensed a change of scenery was necessary, and all it took was a tweet for her to identify her future stomping grounds.

The aforementioned consequential tweet was an announcement from UWRF that they had hired Colleen Sowa as the new head coach for track and field. Before helming the track and field operation at UWRF, Sowa served two years as a volunteer assistant coach for the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers and seven years as the head girls track and field coach at River Falls High School. Le-Fever, hailing from Hudson, was familiar with Sowa tracing back to her high school racing days, and the prospect of receiving Sowa's tutelage and moving closer to home was extremely appealing, so she jumped ship and transferred to UWRF in January 2020. Despite only getting to work with her at UWRF for one season (Sowa rejoined the Gophers after the 2021 season), LeFever credits Sowa immensely for unlocking her potential.

"Colleen Sowa definitely had a big impact on me when I started performing how I never thought I could perform," said LeFever.



Lexi LeFever competeing in long jump. (Photo by Sam Silver)

Even though her new Falcon fit felt right, LeFever needed to work out a few kinks before hitting the ground running. She still had to acclimate herself to her new team, and she knew she needed a coaching adjustment.

"Me transitioning as an athlete was kind of hard," said

Then, LeFever's development was stunted by the extraordinary curveball posed by the onset of COVID-19. The 2020 NCAA Indoor Championships and the entire outdoor season was subsequently canceled, preventing LeFever from gaining traction in her inaugural season with the Falcons. While the competitions and team training came to a screeching halt, LeFever's drive to improve did not.

"The summer after COVID is when I really got my act together," said LeFever.

LeFever ramped up her training regimen that offseason and wound up reaching a level she had previously never thought was attainable. In 2021, LeFever staked her claim to three UWRF Women's Indoor Track and Field records: the 60-meter dash (7.71 seconds), 200-meter dash (25.03 seconds), and the long jump (58.2 meters). Her runner-up performance in the long jump at the 2021 NCAA Division III Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships garnered her All-American honors, making her the first Falcon All-American since 2013.

Following up such a wildly successful breakout year is certainly a tall task for any athlete, irrespective of their sport. With great success comes great expectations and pressure, and LeFever has had to cope with those byproducts of success as she strives to continue breaking down

barriers.

"This year has been hard on me mentally because of how well I did last year," said LeFever. "You just have to put all of your knowledge and hard work in from the practices and approach things one meet at a time."

Based on the boom that has been her encore to last year's breakout season, it seems like LeFever is having no trouble navigating the pressure and holding serve. She has been impressive all year long, and the UWRF women's outdoor 100-meter dash record is merely one of many feathers she has put in her cap so far in 2022. For her indoor season, LeFever was named All-Region by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association in the long jump, 200-meter dash, and the 60-meter dash. At the NCAA Indoor Championships last month, LeFever's third place finish in the long jump earned her another All-America nod.

LeFever intends to continue her assault on the UWRF record books, with her aim set on the outdoor marks for the 200-meter dash and the long jump. Her indoor long jump school record of 5.82 meters is identical to that of the outdoor long jump school record, giving her the confidence that she can leapfrog it. LeFever especially has her eyes on Alyssa Rasmussen's outdoor 200-meter dash record of 24.58 seconds which was set back in 2012. She craves this record because, as she says, "the 200 is my baby."

LeFever has multiple opportunities left to secure those records, with the UW-La Crosse Phil Esten Challenge meet taking place on April 22-23, the Macalester Invite on April 30, and the WIAC Outdoor Championships and the NCAA Outdoor Championships coming up in May.

Considering COVID, University readies students for workforce

We at the Student Voice feel that especially considering the COVID-19 pandemic and how the world is still adapting to life in and through a pandemic, UW-River Falls has prepared students for the workforce.

We feel confident that the resources available on campus are sufficient and guided towards fostering students in a way that prepares them to work in a variety of different fields catered to their majors. Starting from the beginning of our college careers, even considering the pandemic, advisers have been easily accessible for career advice. Help is available around every corner and if students have a question about their careers they can go to either their adviser or career services and generally find an answer to their question.

We feel that a variety of opportunities have still been available to students and have been adapted to work on multiple platforms. Whether this is online, in-person, or hybrid, there are options for all students to be flexible throughout the past few years.

An important thing to do when in college when

it comes to preparing for a future career is gaining experience by obtaining an internship. We feel that the University overall provides a variety of spaces where students can look for and acquire internships. Different departments seem to offer these opportunities more or less depending on what year students are in. All departments use and have access to Handshake as well. Handshake is a platform that career services and a variety of other departments on campus use for students to apply for jobs both on and on-campus as well as find other volunteer opportunities.

Overall, we discovered two main themes when it comes to how UW-River Falls has handled career preparation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The first theme we found was that different majors and departments handle career prep differently but overall they utilize a lot of the same resources on campus. The second main theme we found is that all of the opportunities are there and have been maintained throughout COVID, it is just up to students to take advantage of those opportunities.

Student Voice

Assistant Editor Front Page Editor General Manager

Editor

Reporter Reporter Reporter Reporter Reporter

Reporter Reporter

Sports Reporter Faculty Advisor Isabella Forliti Charlie Swanson Taylor Kiel Anna Gunderson Natalie Riddle Lexi Janzer Jack Van Hoof Emma Statz Rachel Karweick Polly Covert Anna Gunderson Charlie Swanson Andris Straumanis

Visit the Student Voice website uwrfvoice. com

stays low

Polly Covert

polly.covert@my.uwrf.edu

As the temperature outside rises here on campus, the number of positive COVID tests are going down. With masks optional on campus, taking small steps forward and out of the pandemic has been a success so far. While the pandemic continues, there seems to finally be some light at the end of the tunnel. Remaining mindful of the COVID safety precautions taken over the last two years will sustain the well-being and low positive test rates on campus.

After the rapid rise and fall of Omicron, there have been no high-consequence COVID variants since. In the hopes that Omicron was the final severe variant, it's ideal to stay cautious seeing how quickly some variants can spread.

While pushing through these last few weeks of classes, it's crucial to continue washing hands frequently as the flu and common cold are both visiting campus this spring. As mentioned many times before, taking steps to prevent the spread of illness throughout campus should be practiced daily. Social distance if you're feeling ill, refrain from touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes, and don't go to class if feeling under the weather.

Students who do feel under the weather are urged to get tested. Testing remains open in Hagestad by appointment. Appointment hours are now Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a link to appointment scheduling on the Falcons Forward website.

As masks stay optional on campus, they remain normalized and can be worn out of comfort or safety. Masks are still effective at reducing the spread of COVID. Influenza is spread mainly through droplets as infected people talk, cough or sneeze, so masks will reduce the spread of the flu as well. As a Falcon family, it's essential to be respectful of peers' wishes and preferences when it comes to virus safety.

Free N95 masks are still available on campus at various locations such as the information desk in the University Center, the front desk at the Fitness Center, the circulation desk at Davee Library, and at every front desk in each residence hall. For more locations on where to obtain a free N95 mask, visit the Falcons Forward website.

Students are encouraged to continue to be mindful of COVID to finish off the semester strong.

is published monthly during the regular school year.

All editorial content in the Student Voice is determined by the newspaper's Editorial

The opinions expressed in editorials and columns do not represent those of the newspaper's advisor, student population, administration, faculty or staff.

Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less, and include a first and last name and phone number. They can be submitted at 304 North Hall, River Falls, WI 54022 or to editor@uwrfvoice.com.

The Student Voice reserves the right to edit any material for content, libel or space. It

The Student Voice is a student-written and managed newspaper for UW-River Falls, and also reserves the right to withhold letters. All letters, news releases, briefs, display ads and classified ads must be able to be submitted no later than Wednesday at noon during the week of publishing. Information on publishing schedule can be obtained by contacting the

> Because of high production costs, UW-River Falls community members are permitted to collect one copy of the Student Voice per issue. A single copy of the Student Voice is valued at \$1, and additional copies may be requested from the editorial staff via email. Newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

Spring has sprung: Lemon turmeric tea cake

Natalie Torbert

natalie.torbert@my.uwrf.edu

"I don't want lemon bars, I want this lemon cake," said my roommate and dear friend, Maddie.

She's right, because the first time I made this, I fell in love. I'll admit, I'm a fan of anything lemon. From lemon poppy seed muffins to lemon tarts, I love them all. So, when this recipe popped up on my page, I knew it was fate.

Lemons often go overlooked as you make your way down the grocery aisles. Their acidity makes them perfect for bringing out bright and fresh flavors. Lemon zest packs a flavorful punch as it contains lemon oil, which is where most of that tart, lemon flavor comes from.

Also, lemons just remind me of spring, because of their bright and bold color. This lemon tea cake's vibrant yellow color is sure to put you in a happier mood. Shh, turmeric is the secret to its bright orange color.

The recipe is from one of my favorite chefs, Allison Roman. Roman is a cook and an author on the

New York Times's best-seller list. Her approach to cooking is flavorful yet approachable food done well. I am never left disappointed after making one of her dishes.

You'll need to put in some elbow grease. Juicing lemons is no walk in the park. Roman's recipe calls for the zest and juice from one lemon, but I usually end up using one and a half. The remaining lemon half will be used for the garnish. If you are not a fan of the fresh lemon slices on top, you can ditch them

The thin slices of lemon on top are mainly there for the aesthetic. Also, the sugar helps candy the lemon slices, giving them an extra crunch. Personally, I think they add an extra punch of lemon flavor. Some might think it's overkill, so you could still get that crunch with the sugar layer.

Prepare yourself for the fresh and bright aroma of lemon cake filling up your home. If you plan on taking it to a party, hide it. Your roommates might get to it first, it's that irresistible.



Lemon Tumeric Tea Cake. (Photo by Natalie Torbert)

10th Annual Ag Day



Marie Prodell holds 4-week old goat, Penny. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)



Three little pigs outside of the University Center for Ag Day. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)



Three alpacas visit campus and students during Ag Day. (Photo by Isabella Forliti)