Second Scholarship Benefit
featuring Bart Starr

Distinguished Alumnus
Boyd Huppert

Falcon Center Update

Profile Coach Dr. Faye Perkins

Bol's Little Free Libraries
Completed in the fall of 2012, the Cascade Avenue Project is in full bloom. With lush greenery, Cascade Avenue offers a winding roadway and two roundabouts providing gateways to the UWRF campus.
Greetings from River Falls! Like much of the Midwest, we have experienced a cool and wet spring (with a nine-inch snowfall on May 2), but that has not dampened our enthusiasm for the progress made on our university’s first-ever comprehensive campaign, Rising to Distinction.

In April 2012 we publically launched Rising to Distinction with an ambitious goal of raising $20 million in five years, with a priority of funding student scholarships and a new health and human performance facility, the Falcon Center. Thanks to the generous support of our alumni and friends, we have moved past the $12 million mark only 23 months into the five-year campaign.

Among the programs being supported with charitable gifts raised through the campaign is Falcon Scholars. Upon admission to UW-River Falls, selected students are awarded a four-year, $1,000 per year Falcon Scholars scholarship. Each Falcon Scholar will also receive a $2,000 stipend, funded through student differential tuition, to be used for either a study abroad experience or participation in undergraduate research activities.

The first class of Falcon Scholars began studies at UW-River Falls in fall 2012 when they were welcomed by UW-River Falls alumni Arlin (’58) and Marilyn (’56) Albrecht, whose generous support has provided numerous scholarships and motivated fellow alumni to support the Falcon Scholars program.

Additional funding for Falcon Scholars is raised at our annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner. This past April, hall of famer and Packers legend Bart Starr appeared at the dinner where he met with alumni and friends of UW-River Falls (photos from the event are included in this edition of Falcon Features).

We are excited to announce that on May 2, 2014, Pulitzer Prize winning author Bob Woodward will speak at our third annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner. Sponsorship and registration information for the dinner, along with other ways you can get involved with Rising to Distinction, is available at http://www.uwrf.edu/RisingToDistinction.

On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I express my gratitude to you for the many ways you support the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. I hope you enjoy reading our latest issue of Falcon Features, and best wishes for an enjoyable summer.

Dean Van Galen, Chancellor
Alumni Advisory Board
The University of Wisconsin-River Falls Alumni Association has created an Alumni Advisory Board to serve as the central link between the university and its alumni. The board will meet twice a year and members are assigned to various sub-committees that meet periodically throughout the year as needed. Members of the board will gain a heightened awareness of the vibrant extended university community whose reputation affects their own; they also benefit from networking and the opportunity to serve the institution that served them. The Alumni Association builds and strengthens relationships with current and former students, faculty, and friends by keeping alumni informed about the institution and in contact with one another by providing various alumni events and mentoring opportunities.

Members of the Alumni Advisory Board include: Bradd Soutor (chair), Melissa Johansen (vice chair), Yunge Dutton (secretary), Elizabeth Barnett, Al Bosman, Cassandra Brashier, Dave Gabel, Rocky Gonzalez, Deb Gunderson, Karen Handorf, Ben Jensen, Susan Larkin, Will Rueemmele, Leslie Svacina, Bob Treadway, Diangelo Tyler, Heather Willert, and Darrell Youngberg. If you would like more information about the alumni advisory board or are looking for ways to become engaged with the university, contact Alumni Director Dan McGinty at daniel.e.mcginty@uwrf.edu.

UW-River Falls Hudson Center Expanded
The UW-River Falls Hudson Center opened in fall 2010 to meet the educational needs of the thousands of adults in the St. Croix Valley with some college credit, but no degree, by offering courses at times and in a location convenient for working adults. By fall 2012 enrollment at the Hudson Center had reached an all-time high of 414 students.

One of the largest programs offered at the Hudson Center, the Bachelor of Science adult degree completion (ADC) program in business administration, was also launched. The ADC program now enrolls 80 students, and is projected to grow to more than 100 students by fall 2013. Characteristics of students in the ADC program include:

• Average age is 41
• 78% are Wisconsin residents
• 66% are women
• 39% are first-generation college students
• 15% are veterans

The largest program at the Hudson Center is the Master’s in Business Administration (MBA). The MBA program has grown to 128 students and now offers selected courses in an accelerated seven-week format.

Beginning this fall, UWRF will offer a new Bachelor of Applied Science degree with concentrations in computer science, geographic information science and criminal justice. The new degree will provide a way for individuals who have associate degrees in one of these areas to continue their education and obtain a bachelor's degree. The Bachelor of Applied Science is an applied baccalaureate that includes advanced technical training in sciences in combination with liberal arts courses. Previously obtained college credits from an accredited school may be applied toward the bachelor program.

The growth of existing programs coupled with the addition of new programs has created the need for expansion. A reception celebrating the completion of a new 44-seat classroom was held at the Hudson Center Jan. 18. The reception was attended by university, community, and government leaders including UW System Regent Mark Tyler and State Senator Sheila Harsdorf. The reception was highlighted by remarks from Kathleen Early, a student in the ADC program. Kathy, a resident of New Richmond, spoke about how the presence of the Hudson Center has allowed her to pursue her educational goals while continuing her successful career in the Twin Cities.

Additional information on the UW-River Falls Hudson Center, including a full listing of programs offered is available at www.uwrf.edu/HudsonCenter.
Two projects, the construction of the Falcon Center and the renovation of David Smith Stadium at Ramer Field, are on track to begin construction in 2014. For six consecutive biennial budget cycles, the UW System Board of Regents requested state support for the construction of a health and human performance facility, the Falcon Center, to replace the Karges and Nelson centers at UW-River Falls. During this waiting period, portions of these 50-year-old facilities had been closed permanently due to safety concerns and maintenance costs. Finally in 2011, the Building Commission approved $50.5 million in state support in the 2013-2015 biennial budget for construction of the $63.5 million Falcon Center. Funding for the project includes an $11 million commitment by UWRF students and a $2 million commitment by the UW-River Falls Foundation, most of which has been raised in private gifts.

The Falcon Center will encapsulate and improve upon the Knowles Center and Hunt Arena. In addition, the Falcon Center will include:

- Classrooms and a human performance laboratory
- A main gymnasium containing two full-size basketball courts and seating for 2,000 spectators
- An auxiliary gymnasium that will serve as a primary physical education teaching space
- A wellness center with cardiovascular and resistive training equipment
- Aerobics studies available for classroom, recreational, and student organization use
- Faculty and athletic department office space
- Extensive site work to include additional parking, access roads, pathways, and recreational fields.

The renovation of David Smith Stadium at Ramer Field will follow a similar timeline and share common elements with the construction of the Falcon Center. This project is made possible through a financial commitment from students, a substantial contribution from the River...
Falls School District which utilizes the stadium for high school football games, and private gifts, including a generous donation from the First National Bank of River Falls and the Smith family that led to the naming of David Smith Stadium. Phase One of the David Smith Stadium renovation has already been completed with the replacement of outdated field lighting. Future improvements include:

- The installation of artificial turf, which will allow for more frequent use by UWRF students
- A modern press box, to include elevator access
- New spectator amenities including updated restroom facilities

The Knowles Center, Hunt Arena, and David Smith Stadium will continue to operate during construction. Once occupancy of the Falcon Center begins in 2017, the Karges and Nelson Center will be demolished to make room for the next generation of educational facilities at UW-River Falls.

Dr. Faye Perkins has been a faculty member in the UW-River Falls Department of Health and Human Performance (H&HP) since her arrival at UWRF in 1988. Over the past 25 years she has served in a variety of roles including chair of H&HP, head softball coach, and interim dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies. In each of these capacities she has served as a leading advocate for a new health and human performance facility at UWRF. With that new facility, the Falcon Center, scheduled for construction beginning next year, Falcon Features caught up with Faye to get her thoughts on the university, the new building, and her academic discipline.

Q: What are the biggest changes you have seen in H&HP since you arrived 25 years ago?
A: In 1988 we had only one degree, K-12 physical education with a health education minor. We now offer exercise sports science, an online degree in health wellness management, and a graduate program in clinical exercise physiology. These degrees meet the need for wellness throughout the lifespan.

Q: A fairly dramatic change is on the way with the construction of the Falcon Center. You have been a supporter of this project for more than a decade. Was there ever a point you thought, “This project isn’t going to happen?”
A: I never gave up hope. I’m just happy it is going to happen before I retire. After all of our work and energy it will be wonderful to walk into that building.

Q: What will the Falcon Center mean for the university, for your department, and for the softball team?
A: When we built the University Center it totally redefined campus. I see this building doing the same thing. When we bring people on campus, they walk into the University Center and say, “Wow! This is a quality university and a place I want to go to school or work.” The Falcon Center will invoke a similar response among softball recruits and their parents as well as prospective H&HP faculty and staff. The Falcon Center will make the campus community more physically active and interested in attending athletic events.
Campaign event featuring the legendary Green Bay Packer Bart Starr sells out

Former Green Bay Packers Quarterback and Coach Bart Starr was on campus April 19 at the annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner telling stories of his past football career and life experiences.

Those in attendance enjoyed dinner and the program while sponsors of the event had the opportunity to have a private dinner, dessert and photo reception with Starr. Event sponsors included: Arlin and Marilyn Albrecht, Brad and Sue Hewitt, WESTconsin Credit Union, Greg and Donnette Wheelock, Janet and Tim Burns, DeLonais Foundation, First National Bank and Curt and Dee Larson.

The event was a sellout raising more than $102,000 for the Falcon Scholars scholarship program. Falcon Scholars is a four-year program for select freshmen. The program addresses a university objective of increasing student retention and success, especially for those with financial need.

The third annual Scholarship Benefit Dinner featuring Pulitzer Prize winning writer Bob Woodward will be held Friday, May 2, 2014. Tickets and sponsorships can be purchased by going to the Rising to Distinction webpage at www.uwrf.edu/risingtodistinction
Retired UWRF professors and staff were recently welcomed into the home of Waldo and Suzanne Hagen to hear first-hand from Chancellor Dean Van Galen about the progress being made on the university’s Rising to Distinction campaign. All applauded the university and UW-River Falls Foundation for bringing to reality a long-encouraged comprehensive fundraising effort, while sharing their valuable suggestions and insight. Future opportunities to connect with other UWRF retirees and converse with the Chancellor are now being organized. For more information, contact Beth Schommer, University Advancement at beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3505.

What kind of a legacy will you leave?

A bequest is a gift made through your will or trust. There are several ways to make a bequest:

- Specific dollar amount
- Percentage of your estate
- Specific asset
- Remainder of your estate

For more information on how to create a lasting legacy at UW-River Falls through a bequest, please contact Beth Schommer, UWRF Foundation at beth.schommer@uwrf.edu or call 715-425-3505, or log on to http://uwrflegacy.org.

We look forward to helping you!
Although he is one of the most recognized reporters in the Twin Cities media market, anyone who has ever seen one of Boyd Huppert’s stories would be more inclined to describe him as a “master storyteller” as his love for the storytelling aspect of his job and the people who bring his stories to life is apparent in every piece he creates.

In this story, however, the tables have turned and the story is about Boyd himself, as he has been named the 2013 University of Wisconsin-River Falls Distinguished Alumnus.

Boyd has been at KARE 11 for 17 years and his work has appeared on both CNN and NBC. He has won numerous awards including the national Emmy for feature reporting and more than 60 regional Emmys, nine national Edward R. Murrow Awards, three national Sigma Delta Chi Awards, three Gabriel Awards, six National Press Photographers Association awards, and a National Headliner Grand Award.

Boyd has also become widely known for his work as an instructor. He has presented more than 100 video storytelling sessions at venues including the National Writers Workshop, Danish Broadcasting in Copenhagen, NRK in Oslo, and TV New Zealand in Auckland. He is also a longtime faculty member at the NPPA’s Advanced Storytelling Workshop, held each spring at Texas State University-San Marcos.

However, despite his many awards and accomplishments, Boyd remains extremely humble and down to earth.

When asked what his reaction was to being selected as UWRF’s 2013 Distinguished Alumnus, Boyd replied, “I thought there must be some mistake. As a reporter I receive the UWRF news releases each year announcing the distinguished alumnus. I’m always highly impressed with the people chosen. I’ve just never put myself in that category.”

Boyd grew up just south of River Falls and credits his upbringing and family influences with helping him foster a strong work ethic, good listening skills, and one might also add, his strong sense of humility.

A high school journalism class originally sparked Boyd’s interest in journalism. Sixteen-year-old Boyd then landed a part-time job at local radio station, WEVR, in River Falls.

Boyd’s broadcasting days continued at the campus radio station, WRFW, in the early 1980s when he began school at UW-River Falls and double majored in journalism and political science.

Boyd also speaks very highly of the instructors he had at UWRF.

““The practical experience I gained at UWRF, including two internships, allowed me to hit the ground running. I accepted a reporting position in Wausau before I even graduated. Everything I’ve done since has been built on the foundation I built at UW-River Falls,” he said.

Boyd met his wife, Sheri, at the Pierce County Fair back when they were both 17. “It was 1979. I was showing dairy cattle for 4-H and Sheri was marching with the Prescott High School Band,” Boyd said. “It could have been a
Little Free Library, Ltd., co-founded by Todd Bol, a 1979 graduate of UW-River Falls, was recently awarded the 2013 Innovations in Reading Prize by the National Book Foundation.

Little Free Libraries are small, handcrafted wooden boxes that follow the “take a book, leave a book” model and the placement of them in neighborhood communities has grown into an international movement. It all began in 2009 when Bol installed a library he built in his front yard and filled it with giveaway books as a tribute to his late mother. His personal free library ultimately sparked an international fascination in Little Free Libraries as not only promotional tools for literacy, but community builders as well. The number of Little Free Libraries has grown to more than 6,000 in 42 countries.

In March, Bol and his Little Free Library co-founder, Rick Brooks, won a “Movers and Shakers” award from the American Library Association. Two documentaries have featured Little Free Libraries and nearly 1,000 media publications have covered the movement in just the past year, with discussions for additional promotions and projects underway.

Bol resides in Hudson where his Little Free Library workshop/headquarters is based.

Find more information on Little Free Libraries at http://www.littlefreelibrary.org/

IN MEMORIAM:

Dr. Josephine (Josie) Paterek

Josephine D. Paterek passed away on July 6, 2012. Josie, as friends and family called her, was hired by River Falls State University (later renamed UW-River Falls) after completing her Ph.D in Speech and Theatre at the University of Minnesota in 1961. While at River Falls, Josie taught Speech, Intro to Theatre, Theatre History, Acting, Set Design, Costuming, Creative dramatics for Children, Children's Theatre, and Puppetry. She also directed more than 60 plays and costumed over 120 plays while at UWRF. She retired as a full professor in 1978. Her friend and colleague, Professor Emeritus of Speech Communication and Theatre Arts Jerald Carstens writes, “Josie served many years at UWRF and she was very involved in all aspects of the arts and community outreach. She had many student devotees and was the essence of a fine professor. She probably published more than anyone in the department then or now. However, she was humble and reached out to students who may have been otherwise overlooked. I sent a contribution to the UWRF Foundation General Scholarship Fund in her honor, money which will be used to assist a needy student. I would encourage others to do the same. Josie would approve!”
Upcoming 2013 UW-River Falls alumni events

SAVE THE DATE: Quarter Abroad/ Semester Abroad 50th Anniversary

Are you an alum of the signature UW-River Falls program Semester Abroad: Europe (formerly known as Quarter Abroad)? Then you need to mark Oct. 12 on your calendar. Plans are underway to gather on the UW-River Falls campus to reunite, socialize, honor program founder Robert Bailey, and videoconference with some current program participants in Europe. Plus, it’s Homecoming weekend. What better time to come back home to UW-River Falls. For more information on the event, to submit a story to our online scrapbook, or to register:

www.uwrf.edu/semesterabroadeurope
e-mail: qasae50@uwrf.edu
phone: 715-425-4891

Be sure to provide your up-to-date contract information for the reunion mailing list!

Join us on Facebook to see who else is coming:

UWRF Quarter/Semester Abroad: Europe!
A bientôt! Hasta pronto! Bis später! A presto! Brzy se uvidíme! See you soon!

Homecoming 2013

The 2013 UW-River Falls Homecoming celebration is set for the week of Oct. 7-13. The week will include a variety of events for students and alumni including the Homecoming parade, tailgate party, and Homecoming/Hall of Fame football game against UW-Platteville on Saturday, Oct. 12. Numerous constituent groups will host alumni celebrations before and after the football game, scheduled for a 1 p.m. kickoff. More information on Homecoming 2013 will be made available at www.uwrf.edu/universityadvancement/alumnirelations/homecoming2013.cfm.

David Smith Stadium at Ramer Field transformation tailgate with unveiling of renovation plans
Saturday, Oct. 14 (Homecoming)
Lunch: noon - 1:30 p.m. ($8 per person)
Brief program: 1:00 p.m.
R.S.V.P.: events@uwrf.edu

UWRF sports

Keep track of Falcon athletics, game recaps, team and individual statistics, photographs, video and audio feeds and player and coach interviews, by going to www.uwrfspports.com. This summer the Falcon website will undergo a redesign and the new look will appear around Sept. 1, just in time for the start of the 2013 fall sports season. The new design will bring out featured items like upcoming events and where to find live stats, audio and video feeds.