OFF THE SHELF

FALL 2025

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UWEC LIBRARIES

ISSUE 102



University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



"I met my wife in the library."

"My best friend and I met at Library After Dark."

"My roommate and I always used to study on the fourth floor by that one painting."

I love hearing these reminiscences from alumni about their connections to the library, or connections made in the library. These stories point to the importance and potential of the library's role in cultivating a sense of belonging on campus.

Loneliness is a growing issue in our society, and our students are no exception. According to the <u>spring 2024 American College Health Association National College Health Assessment</u>, 47.6% of Universities of Wisconsin students report feeling lonely or socially isolated. UW-Eau Claire's <u>Vision 2030</u> strategic plan prioritizes the building of students' sense of belonging, recognizing it as positively associated with student wellbeing and success.

To facilitate belonging, libraries specialize in thirds.

Libraries are "third places," a term coined in the 1980s by sociologist Ray Oldenburg to describe informal gathering spaces outside of the home (first place) or work/school (second place) that are essential to building community. The UW-Eau Claire libraries

provide spaces for informal engagement, such as seating nooks, group study rooms, exhibits, jigsaw puzzles, and even a ping pong table.

Makerspaces in both McIntyre Library and the UWEC-Barron Campus Library are prime examples of third places. On Friday afternoons I frequently visit the Blugold Makerspace in McIntyre Library's lower level to see what's happening. Students, working independently but together, are often in conversation with each other, though there is no expectation that they must be. The casual communication, loose camaraderie, and comfortable community that develops in the space makes it a favorite place to end the week, for them and for me.

Libraries employ "third things" to support belonging. Third things are common objects, spaces, or shared experiences over which people form connections. Third things – be they the weather, a book, or a livestream kitten cam – provide a focus that can diffuse discomfort or isolation by offering a low-pressure way for people to communicate and be together. I often observe connections happening among students while they are engaged in a popular library third thing – therapy dog visits. Students stop to pet the dogs and invariably find themselves seated with other students in a circle (surrounding a pampered pup) where conversation may lead from beloved family dogs to homesickness to stress over upcoming exams. A supportive – often fleeting, but not always – community emerges.

As a third place offering third things, the library is more than a place for study. It is a space for connection, comfort, and community.

We would love to hear about the connections you made in UW-Eau Claire libraries. Did you meet someone special? Experience a momentous event? Have a favorite spot? Let us know in this <u>short survey</u>. We will share some stories in our spring newsletter!

Jill Markgraf,Director of Libraries

On the cover

Photo by

Kong Yang

Oak and Pine: a Dialogue in Glass, a new art installation at McIntyre Library. Jyl Kelley, UW-Eau Claire professor of art and design, created the mosaic duo with students Will Horohoe, Haylee Schreiber, Sarah Warren, and several volunteers. The project was supported by the James R. Larson & Vicki Lord Larson Fund at the UWEC Foundation, UWEC's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, McIntyre Library, the Department of Art & Design, and College of Arts & Sciences. Click here for more on the project.

Tailoring your text

OER gives flexibility to professors, affordability to students

By Stephannie Regenauer, <u>regenasa@uwec.edu</u>

Dr. Jessica Miller, professor and chair of the Department of Languages, has been teaching at UW-Eau Claire for nearly 20 years. During that time, she has never been fully satisfied with traditional textbooks that cover French language and culture. Teaching with them felt like "cooking with someone else's recipe and ingredients" as she often found herself providing additional context in class relating to language variation or cultural practices to avoid reinforcing stereotypes.



Miller

This led her to develop her own course materials, some of which she published this fall as an open educational resource (OER) for teaching French pronunciation entitled <u>Comprendre et se faire comprendre</u>. Her book teaches students the basic rules of French spelling and corresponding sounds to help them predict pronunciation, be understood better as French speakers,

and to understand better as listeners. The electronic book also has media-based activities to weave in cultural themes.

Open educational resources, or OER, are teaching and learning materials that are openly licensed for anyone to reuse and adapt. OER offer numerous benefits including cost savings for students and freedom for instructors to find and tailor content specifically for their course.

That freedom was a big draw for Dr. Miller, who often found that traditional French-language textbooks oversimplified cultural aspects of the language and heavily centered on France, with little coverage of the wide diversity of the francophone world. This motivated her to explore OER as an alternative to traditional learning materials.

Creating her own course text allowed Dr. Miller to craft the text to align with her teaching style and the goals of her upper-division pronunciation course more directly. Her textbook was published using Pressbooks, a publishing tool that allows educators to create, adapt, and share interactive web-based books. Pressbooks also supports embedded media and interactive assessment activities, which Dr. Miller incorporated extensively in her book. Each

chapter contains a week's worth of content including interactive exercises, recorded lectures, and videos from a variety of French-speaking cultures to give students practice with various modes of communication.

Dr. Miller was also motivated by the



Professor Jessica Miller created her own course text, an ebook that includes interactive elements and video links.

prospect of saving her students money. While a traditional textbook for the course could be included in the university's textbook rental program, publishers often require that students purchase an additional access code for the interactive online supplemental materials that go along with the textbook. By creating her own textbook, Dr. Miller can provide interactive activities that are helpful for language learning without adding an extra cost for students.

Dr. Miller has long been teaching content from her French pronunciation textbook through modules in Canvas, the university's learning management system, but she was motivated to move this material into a Pressbooks textbook so she could give back to the French language education community by sharing her work openly as an OER. Other instructors around the world will be able to find, adopt, and adapt all or part of her book in their classrooms. Reflecting on her experience creating an open educational resource through Pressbooks, Dr. Miller says, "It takes time, but the result is positive because you'll get a product that is really tailored to your and your students' needs."

McIntyre Library purchased a subscription to the Pressbooks platform as part of our larger textbook affordability work centered on bringing down out-of-pocket textbook costs for students and increasing access to course materials. Visit the Universities of Wisconsin Open Ed Network Catalog to see Dr. Miller's book, as well as the other open textbooks published by instructors at other UW institutions.

If you're interested in learning more about open educational resources, Pressbooks, or the Library's textbook affordability efforts, email <u>Library.OpenEd@uwec.edu</u>. ■



Left: McIntyre Library hosted 'This is Norway,' an exhibit of weavings made by artist Anne T-J Møller, during early September. Below: The weaving representing November was inspired by a solo cross-country ski outing where Møller encountered a pack of wolves.

'This is Norway' travels to McIntyre

Local orgs collaborate to host weavings, artist

By **Anna Zook**, zookam@uwec.edu

A van arrived on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 2 at the loading zone on Roosevelt Avenue, containing four durable black bags usually used to transport golf clubs on airplanes.

But inside these bags were thirteen weavings and two friezes, which had traveled from Norway to UW-Eau Claire.

Accompanying these large bags containing woven art was their artist, Anne Tidemand-Johannessen Møller, who had recently made the 4,000-mile iourney from her home Lillehammer, Norway to Eau Claire for a two-week residency. Her time was sponsored by five local organizations: the Løven Lodge: Sons of Norway, the Midwest Institute of Scandinavian Waldemar Culture. the Association and Museum, L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library, and McIntyre Library.

Over the course of the morning and afternoon, the artist worked tirelessly alongside Deb Jarvar, Doug and Susan Pearson, and, because many hands make light work, multiple McIntyre staff, to install the exhibit on the fourth floor of the library. Fortunately, campus facilities had recently added a new rail system for art on the freshly painted walls for the weavings. The friezes were a bit trickier to hang along the opposing cinderblock walls - there may have been a staff member using a ladder in an unusual manner - but in the end, all pieces were safely on display.

The exhibit featured twelve weavings depicting twelve months of life in Norway, including a cornucopia of wildlife, buildings, and figures. Puffins in the May weaving were the recipients of many oohs and aahs from those viewing the exhibit. But it was the story of November's weaving that thrilled those in attendance at the artist's talk during the exhibit's



opening reception on Thursday, Sept. 4. Møller shared the tale of venturing off on her own (without telling her family) for some cross-country skiing where she happened across a pack of five wolves. She sized up them, they sized up her, their leader made a noise, and they obviously chose not to mess with the 5'2" artist on skis.





The featured weaving in the exhibit was the artist's Restauration, a piece that took eleven months to complete. This weaving celebrated Norwegian sloop that brought the first group of 52 Norwegian immigrants to the shores of the United States in 1825. Two hundred years later, a replica of the Restauration set sail from Stavanger, Norway replicating its original voyage. It arrived in New York Harbor on Oct. 9. Møller's weaving of their journey manages to convey both the arduous nature of their crossing and the hope and optimism of the "Sloopers" as they made their Above: The first of two long friezes in the exhibit depicts events from Norway's history from 1814 to 1904. A second frieze covers the following years until 2005. Left: Møller's weaving entitled Restauration celebrates a group of Norwegian immigrants who traveled across the Atlantic Ocean in 1925 to reach America. Right: This close-up photograph of a small part of Møller's second frieze shows a peace dove carrying a red wildflower.

way across the Atlantic.

Accompanying the thirteen weavings were two friezes, each about thirteen feet long and each containing about ten different stories. Viewed as a set. they spanned nearly two hundred years (1814-2005) of Norwegian history. The friezes included stories of rising political tensions over Norway's autonomy throughout the Century, the dissolution of the country's Union with Sweden in 1905 and subsequent celebrations of independence, struggles and victories of the Labour Party throughout the twentieth century, and depictions of Norway hosting the Winter Olympics in 1952 and 1994.

Perhaps one of the more moving images appeared at the conclusion of the 1905-2005 frieze depicting a simple peace dove carrying a red wildflower. It called to mind a quote from Kjersti Fløgstad, the director of the Nobel Peace Center, who stated that "the peace dove is an iconic symbol of peace and hope, and precisely peace and hope are something we need more than ever in a turbulent world."

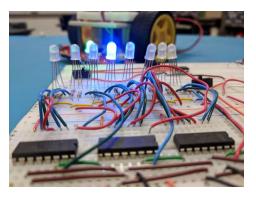
As a representative from Norway visiting Eau Claire, Møller and her



work drew members of the campus and larger community together to celebrate Norwegian history and craft for eleven event-filled days where we were all able to bask in stories of strength and hope. We were grateful for the opportunity to host her exhibit and hope she will one day return to share more stories.

Upcoming Makerspace workshops

By **Blugold Makerspace staff**, <u>library.makerspace@uwec.edu</u>



Electronics for Makers
Wednesdays (except Nov. 26)
2:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

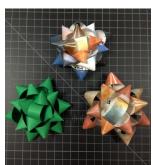
Calling all electronic enthusiasts! Take the first steps to building your own electronics and robotics projects. No electronics, Arduino, or programming experience is necessary.

Learn electronics fundamentals and work with an expert who can help you troubleshoot.



DIY Paper Bows
Thursday, Dec. 11
Noon-1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.



Crochet Level 2

Noon-1:00 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 13

Wednesday, Nov. 19

3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.



Felt Pie Garland

Thursday, Nov. 6 Noon-1:00 p.m.

Join us for this fallthemed, no-sew project! Learn how to create three types of pie in felt – cherry, pumpkin, and apple.



DIY Fabric Gift Bags

Thursday, Dec. 11 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 16 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Repair Fair joins Earth Fest

For its sophomore year, the Eau Claire Repair Fair, an event co-hosted by the Blugold Makerspace, is becoming part of a larger sustainability-focused event.

The Repair Fair will be part of Earth Fest, which will be held April 18 at the Sonnentag Center.

The upcoming event is a joint effort from UW-Eau Claire, Eau Claire County, Beaver Creek Reserve, and others.

Students gained insights from repair experts during spring's inaugural Repair Fair in Davies Center.





Open Hours Fall 2025 Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday Noon - 4:00 p.m.



Local high schoolers participating in this summer's class of the Upward Bound program posed for a photo in Centennial Hall. McIntyre Library increased its role in the program this year by facilitating a book club.

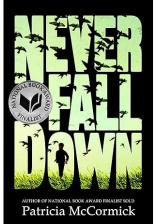
Library boosts role in Upward Bound through book club

By **Robin Miller**, millerob@uwec.edu

Each summer, the UW-Eau Claire campus hosts Upward Bound, an enrichment program for Eau Claire area high school students. For many years, Upward Bound participants have visited McIntyre Library to borrow books. This year, three librarians collaborated with Upward Bound staff to expand the library's role in the program. For five weeks, Upward Bound students visited McIntyre Library to take part in a book club led by librarians Hannah Carlton, Robin Miller, and Anna Zook.

The Upward Bound book club read the young adult novel *Never Fall Down* by Patricia McCormick. The novel is about an 11-year-old boy named Arn who survived the Khmer Rouge by playing music in the Killing Fields.

Upward Bound is a rigorous academic program, including advanced math, English, and language study, as well as



Upward Bound students selected a young adult novel about a boy who survived Cambodia's infamous Killing Fields.

electives, financial literacy, and college application planning. Knowing this, library and Upward Bound staff chose a book that would hold interest for all, without overwhelming students with another difficult assignment.

Each week, Carlton, Miller, and Zook facilitated discussion about the book and its characters. Using library resources, book club members worked

together to research aspects of the book, including the author, characters, and historical setting.

Over the course of the program, Arts Librarian Zook taught a workshop for the book group about creating zines to tell personal stories. The book group also traveled to Cambodia, the novel's setting, using McIntyre Library's Virtual Reality Studio.

Reflecting on the Upward Bound experience in McIntyre Library, Program Director Kimamo Wahome expressed "heartfelt gratitude for engaging with our students."

Carlton, Miller, and Zook are grateful, too.

"We enjoyed getting to know every Upward Bound student this summer," said Miller, "and it will be fun to see our book club members return in future summers – or as Blugolds!"

All titles can be found in the Popular Reading Collection on the second floor of McIntyre Library.

List curated by Carrie Butler Becker, beckercb@uwec.edu

Black Woods, Blue Sky: A Novel

Eowyn Ivey PS3609.V54 B53 2025

The Bones Beneath My Skin

T.J. Klune PS3611.L86 B65 2025

Broken Country: A Novel

Clare Leslie Hall PR6105.M67 B76 2025

The Buffalo Hunter Hunter

Stephen Graham Jones PS3560.O5395 B84 2025

Care and Feeding: A Memoir

Laurie Woolever TX649.W66 A3 2025

Careless People: A Cautionary Tale of Power, Greed, and Lost Idealism

Sarah Wynn-Williams HM743.F33 W95 2025

The Dark Maestro: A Novel

Brendan Slocumb PS3619.L645 D37 2025

Dream Count: A Novel

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie PR9387.9.A34354 D74 2025

The Emperor of Gladness: A Novel

Ocean Vuong PS3622.U96 E47 2025

VICKOLAS BUTLER

A Forty Year Kiss: A Novel

Nickolas Butler PS3608.O48456 Z46 2024

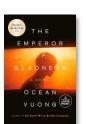
Rural Eau Claire-based author Nickolas Butler's latest is a love story about a pair of divorcees who reconnect 40 years after their brief marriage fell apart. The novel explores the hope of rekindling a romance after decades spent apart.











From Blood and Ash

Jennifer L. Armentrout PS3612.Y5467 F76 2020

Great Big Beautiful Life

Emily Henry PS3608.F5715 G74 2025

Hemlock & Silver

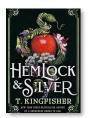
T. Kingfisher PS3611.I597 H46 2025

Horror Movie: A Novel

Paul Tremblay PS3620.R445 H67 2024

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

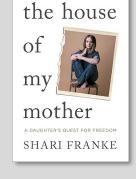




The House of My Mother: A Daughter's Quest for **Freedom**

Shari Franke HV6626.52 .F73 2025

Shari Franke reveals what it was like growing up in a home now synonymous with child abuse and the dark side of YouTube fame. Her memoir recounts emotional abuse from her mother, and a cultish life coach's harmful influence on her family.



The Lamb: A Novel

Lucy Rose PR6118.O844 L36 2025

The Let Them Theory: A Life-Changing Tool That Millions of People Can't Stop Talking **About**

Mel Robbins BF637.S4 R5758 2024

The Love Haters

Katherine Center PS3603.E67 L68 2025

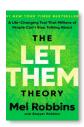
The Maid's Secret

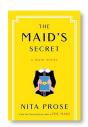
Nita Prose PR9199.4.P7768 M35 2025

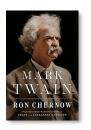
Mark Twain

Ron Chernow PS1331.C34 2025

PR9619.3.B7153 Z46 2025









The Mighty Red: A Novel

Louise Erdrich PS3555.R42 M54 2024

The Ministry of Time

Kaliane Bradley PR6102.R3333 M56 2024

Mother Mary Comes to Me

Arundhati Roy PR9499.3.R59 M68 2025

My Friends: A Novel

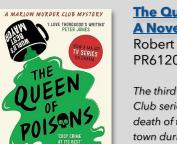
Fredrik Backman PT9877.12.A32 M913 2025

The Names

Florence Knapp PR6111.N36 N36 2025

Not Quite Dead Yet: A Novel

Holly Jackson PS3610.A35174 N68 2025



The Queen of Poisons: A Novel

Robert Thorogood PR6120.H6775 Q44 2024

The third entry in the Marlow Murder Club series begins with the sudden death of the mayor of a quaint English town during a council meeting. The club – a trio of amateur sleuths – are challenged to solve the mystery of the affable mayor's poisoned coffee.

Raising Hare: A Memoir

ROBERT THOROGOOD

Chloe Dalton QL737.L32 D35 2025

Stone Yard Devotional

Charlotte Wood PR9619.3.W625 S76 2025

Story of My Life

Lucy Score PS3619.C637 S76 2025

<u>Vera Wong's Guide to Snooping</u> (On A Dead Man)

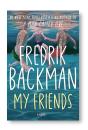
Jesse Q. Sutanto PR9500.9.S88 V46 2025

We All Live Here

Jojo Moyes PR6113.O94 W4 2025









Wild Dark Shore

Charlotte McConaghy PR9619.4.M3798 W55 2025

Ebooks and Audiobooks via Libby

Available to UWEC faculty, staff, and students.

All the Way to the River: Love, Loss, and Liberation (audiobook)

Elizabeth Gilbert

The Book of Sheen: A Memoir

(audiobook) Charlie Sheen



(ebook and audiobook) Patrick Ryan

Bury Our Bones in the Midnight Soil

(ebook and audiobook) V. E. Schwab



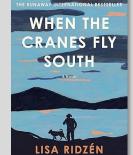
(audiobook) Aisling Rawle

Murder on the Marlow Belle

(audiobook) Robert Thorogood

Sister Wife: A Memoir of Faith, Family, and Finding Freedom

(audiobook) Christine Brown Woolley



When the Cranes Fly South: A Novel

(audiobook) Lisa Ridzén

This emotional debut novel is about Bo, an elderly man, who's worried about losing his beloved elkhound. As his aggrieved son seeks to separate his dad and the dog, Bo takes stock of his life and how he's treated his loved ones.



Mee Acces

Meet Libby

Access ebooks and audiobooks via the Libby app. To get started, go to libguides.uwec.edu/overdrive









Art collection gets preservation, attention

By Eva Peterson, peterev@uwec.edu

Many exciting developments have occurred regarding the University's Permanent Art Collection (PAC) since the previous issue of *Off the Shelf*.

Last spring, two large artworks, both known as *Figures* by Walter Quirt, were given some tender loving care and professionally reframed. I had the joy of bringing them to B-Framed Galleries in downtown Eau Claire. They were moved out of their brittle and disjointed frames into chic and sturdy black frames with UV-protective acrylic glass. These paintings now have a fresh look with extra protection and are happily hanging on display in the university's Nursing building for all to see and admire. This reframing was made possible by the generous contributions to our Art Accessions Fund.

Over the summer library staff took on the momentous initiative to transport over 100 pieces of the collection in storage from the university's Haas Fine Arts Center to McIntyre Library. This launched our development of an art storage room on the fifth floor of the library. The storage room is in its infancy, but we have big hopes of it becoming a professional storage room worthy of a museum. In addition to storage, new gallery display walls on two floors of the library have been created to feature rotating exhibits, allowing students, faculty, and visitors to engage regularly with the collection.

This fall semester, 68 pieces from the collection were showcased in the Foster Art Gallery from Oct. 17 to Nov. 12 in Haas Fine Arts Center. The Arnold Collection: A Gift to UWEC 1966-1971 was curated by UW-Eau Claire students in the spring 2025 Methodologies of Art History course along with student research on cultural stewardship by art history minor students Reagan Phillips and Emma Wiegel, and Art & Design Professor Dr. Karen O'Day. The Arnold Collection features twentieth-century works by U.S. artists, along with Asante gold weights from West Africa. This gift from Emil J. Arnold played a pivotal role in the founding of the University's Permanent Art Collection.

The Permanent Art Collection, under the stewardship of McIntyre Library, is having a resurgence. Our goals for the collection of over 500 works align with the strategic priorities of the campus and library: To foster innovative thinking, cultivate collaboration, and provide exceptional, welcoming service for all.

If you'd like to support McIntyre Library's efforts to preserve and care for the collection, please consider becoming an MVP (McIntyre Valued Partner) by contributing to our Art Accessions Fund. Stay tuned for more exciting PAC updates in future newsletters!



Protective acrylic and a new frame was added last spring to "Figures" by artist Walter Quirt. This, as well as a companion painting with the same name, reside in the university's Nursing building.

To give now, click on this **donation link** to reach the UW-Eau Claire Foundation website. Once there, select the "Art Accessions Fund (1388)" to support the university's Permanent Art Collection.

Angela returns for more time in the library

Angela Katterhagen is our library assistant at the UWEC-BC Library. We can't quite say that she is "new" to the job, because she has been with the Barron Campus since 2016.

Her journey started in the library as a Centers for Academic Success & Engagement (CASE) associate with UW Colleges-Barron County. Then her job evolved into working as our Help Desk manager and desktop support with Learning & Technology Services (LTS). But now she has landed right back where she started (and strongly believes that she belongs) in the library!



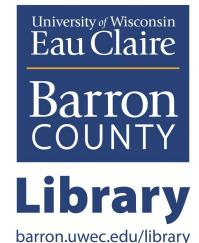
Katterhagen

Angela has been married for 34 years and has two grown kids and two cats, including a one-year-old orange cat who keeps life entertaining.

She loves family card game marathons, baking, riverside walks, and diving into random internet rabbit holes of curiosity. (Current obsession: hand-lettering. She found a book on it from 1902, which she

plans to read after learning how the Roman alphabet was adapted for use with stone.)

Angela says she is thrilled to be a part of this amazing team again and to be back in her "happy place." ■



New memberships created for community members

By Jennifer Duvall, <u>duvallja@uwec.edu</u>

The **B**arron **C**ounty **V**aluable **P**atron Community Library Program is a new service offered by the UWEC-Barron County Library that will allow community patrons to access books and other services available at our library.

We have always provided book lending services to the community, but the new program encourages use of the library space and allows for attendance at various workshops offered for both makerspace and research services. Our September workshops covered "Brain Dump" journaling and 3D printing basics.

Cards

- White Card Check out up to two items per visit
- **Blue Card*** Check out up to five items per visit and two workshops
- **Gold Card*** Check out up to eight items per visit & unlimited workshops

*Donations required for these cards

We are very excited to be providing these new services to our local communities. All donations from the Blue and Gold cards will go toward scholarships and library programming. ■



Sign up to be one of the UWEC-Barron County Library's Valuable Patrons today!

Patron Benefits	White Card	Blue Card	Gold Card
Use Library Spaces	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Computer Access	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Check out materials per visit	2	5	8
Workshops		2 per year	unlimited
Yearly Donor Event		\checkmark	\checkmark

Come into the library or contact us for more information!

UW Eau Claire - Barron County Library Phone: 715-788-6300 Email: ecbclibdesk@uwec.edu Website: barron.uwec.edu/library

Bonded by love & labor

Exhibit shows strength of women in rural Mexico

By Helena Sumbulla, <u>sumbullh@uwec.edu</u>

On Oct. 14, McIntyre Library hosted an opening reception for an exhibition titled *Chicāhuac: Women's Stories of Strength & Sacrifice from Rural Mexico to the Midwest.* The bilingual exhibition shares the stories of six strong women – Oligaria, Doña Conchita, Fatima, Concepciona, Veronica, and Doña Teresa – all from a small village near Veracruz, Mexico.

Chicāhuac means "strength" in Náhuat, the language the women speak. Though they live thousands of miles away, the women are tied to the lands of Wisconsin and Minnesota through love and labor. They shoulder many responsibilities in Mexico while their husbands, sons, and daughters work at dairy farms in northwest Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota, sustaining the dairy industry in this region.

Through the curated oral histories of these extraordinary women, this exhibition sheds a light on a perspective that is often neglected in discussions of immigration and migration. Their stories capture the resilience, love, humanity, and sacrifice of working to build homes and a better future in Mexico while being separated from their families who are supporting



Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers, left, examines the exhibit during its Oct. 14 opening reception. UW-Eau Claire student Olivia Villareal-Bishop, center, illustrated and designed the exhibit's panels. Dr. Cheryl Jiménez-Frei, associate professor of history, led a group of UW-Eau Claire students in the creation of the exhibit.

them from the United States.

The reception was a huge success, with over a hundred students, staff, members community attendance - including Gov. Tony Evers, who took the time to read each of the panels and asked many thoughtful questions. As attendees arrived, they were given a postcard with one of the women's pictures on it. Attendees were encouraged to write a note to the woman in English or Spanish after reading her story. We collected over a hundred heartfelt postcards that will be hand delivered to the women by Wisconsin-based Puentes/Bridges nonprofit upcoming January.

Attendees were also encouraged to make a marigold papercraft and take some marigold seeds — a symbol in Mexico for light and life. After an initial walkthrough, attendees enjoyed refreshments while listening to a presentation on the making of the exhibition.

This exhibition began as an idea from John Rosenow, fifth-generation dairy farmer and owner of Rosenholm Dairy. He is a co-founder of <u>Puentes/</u>

Bridges, which is dedicated to helping farming communities bridge cultural and language gaps between Mexican workers and the farmers with whom they work. Over the last two decades, Puentes has brought over 150 farmers from this region to Mexico on cross-cultural immersion trips.

Puentes director, Mercedes Falk, conducted the oral histories used for this exhibit on a trip to Veracruz last year and without her support, this exhibit would not have been possible. Dr. Cheryl Jimenez-Frei, and her students Sierra Ramker and Angie Martinez helped write, edit, curate, and translate the exhibition and its accompanying website.

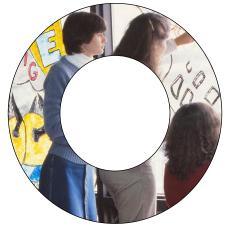
Chicāhuac will be a travelling exhibition, on display at the Wabasha Library (Minnesota) Nov. 12-29. Keep an eye out for additional showings throughout northern Wisconsin and southeastern Minnesota.

Libraries serve as important perspective-shaping spaces where conversations are encouraged, and we are so grateful to Puentes/Bridges for selecting McIntyre Library to host these important cross-cultural stories.

Homecoming

turns







By Alaina Hammond, Special Collections & Archives summer intern

This summer, Special Collections & Archives installed a new exhibit in the Alumni Room of the Davies Center. This exhibit. titled 100 Homecomings: 100 Ways to Celebrate, displays the ways Blugolds have celebrated homecoming for the past 100 years.

I designed the exhibit with the assistance of Head Archivist Greg Kocken and Associate Archivist Sarah Beer. This project was created to acknowledge and celebrate the 100th anniversary of homecoming this fall.

When I started my summer internship in June, I began

looking into old editions of the student newspaper, *The Spectator*, and *Periscope* (campus yearbooks) for information about past homecomings. I gathered countless photographs in digital, negative, and print form. I dug through box after box of memorabilia items to see what could be displayed in this exhibit.

After months of work, the exhibit opened on Tuesday, Aug. 5 in a small ceremony in the Alumni Room. Glass display cases contain various pieces of memorabilia, photos, and interactive multimedia components, spanning homecomings from the very beginning to the present. Highlights include football and marching band uniforms, a championship game ball, multiple buttons, and other



Top: Images from past UW-Eau Claire homecoming celebrations. **Above:** Homecoming memorabilia from different years is seen in the exhibit currently on display in the Alumni Room in Davies Center.

pieces of past UW-Eau Claire merchandise.

Homecoming initially began at UWEC in 1924. This event was planned on short notice, making it so very few alumni could "come home." Additionally, the weather and score of the homecoming game were not ideal for the student body.

With a final of 6-3, the Blugolds lost to UW-Whitewater in that low-scoring football game played on Nov. 7, 1924. As *The Spectator* reported, "The game was played on a field with snow and water."

But the next year, 1925, a first successful and official

homecoming was declared. In the 100 years that followed, students celebrated their school pride in a variety of ways.

My main takeaway from all my research was that homecoming at UW-Eau Claire has hardly been consistent, but in the best way. Multiple traditions and celebrations have come and gone. Among them were blue-and-gold beanies, tricycle races, and an annual giant bonfire the student body eventually decided to discontinue.

I am very proud of all the work I've done over summer and even more satisfied with how the exhibit turned out. I am grateful to Greg and Sarah for giving me this opportunity, and thankful to everyone else who made this possible.

Welcome, Hannah

By Hannah Carlton, carltohv@uwec.edu

My name is Hannah Carlton (she/her), and I excited to join McIntyre Library as the Instructional new Services Librarian! In this role, I will coordinate the information library's literacy instruction efforts, provide reference and instruction services, and serve as the library liaison to Speech, Language, and Hearing Science, Education Studies, and Special Education and Inclusive Practices.



I have always been an avid library user, but becoming a librarian was a bit of a surprise. A few years after finishing my undergraduate degree, I started volunteering at my local public library and fell in love. Volunteering eventually led to a job teaching digital literacy classes and working in

the library makerspace. That first library job sparked my passion for libraries as a site of lifelong learning and information literacy instruction.

After completing my MLIS at Dominican University in Chicago, I worked for two years in the library at Moraine Valley Community College in the Chicago suburbs. In 2021 I took a job at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, as an Instruction Librarian, where I taught credit-bearing information literacy classes.

Outside of the library, I am an enthusiastic runner, gardener, cook, and reader. I have recently taken up trail running, and I am so excited to explore the Eau Claire area. I can often be found on trails at Lowes Creek County Park or exploring county and state parks further afield.

I have a (mostly) thriving apartment garden and love to trade tips about gardening and cooking with produce from the garden. I am also a dedicated mystery buff, and I am always looking for (and willing to give!) recommendations.

Please feel free to stop by my office (Library 1001C) if you're in the area or email me at <u>carltohv@uwec.edu</u>. ■

Archives documents come in handy for REAL IDs, citizenship proof

By Sarah Beer, beersj@uwec.edu

Archives can invoke images of dusty books, old papers, and genealogists trying to fit together the puzzle pieces of their family history. While these images aren't wrong, they aren't the whole picture, either. Archives also serve a very real, practical purpose for community members: proof.

Starting May 7, 2025, REAL IDs became required for flying within the United States or visiting a military base or other federal buildings (For more information on REAL ID, visit the <u>Wisconsin Department of Transportation Website</u>).

To obtain a REAL ID, you must show proof of name changes if your name is different than what's on your birth certificate. One example is if you changed your name when you married but then got divorced, you need to show proof of that divorce. This is where archives can help.

As an Area Research Center, McIntyre Library's Special Collections & Archives hold divorce records for five counties in Northwestern Wisconsin. For example, we have Eau Claire County divorce records spanning from 1857 to 1978.

Come May, the archives was flooded with calls and emails from researchers who had divorced and needed copies of said records. These requests certainly weren't unusual – we get them fairly often from people applying for Social Security benefits – but the number of requests was above normal. We had about a dozen requests in the span of just two weeks for divorce records specifically for REAL IDs.

Around this same time, the archives also received requests for naturalization papers for patrons seeking citizenship. Countries within the European Union follow the

principle of jus sanguinis (right of blood) and grant what is called Citizenship by Descent. While the laws vary from country to country, the idea is simple: if you can prove that a parent or ancestor originated from that country, you can apply for citizenship. The archives holds naturalization documents for all six of our Area Research Center counties (Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Eau Claire, Rusk, and Taylor counties), with some of them as recent as 1980. So while we were fielding divorce requests, we were also sending out naturalization papers for Czech and Hungarian citizenship to people across the country.

All this is to say, besides how busy we were in the month of May, that while the archives has records that go back hundreds of years, sometimes it's the more recent ones that take center stage.

Library Staff News: April 2025 — October 2025



Dr. Heather Fielding, far left, and Greg Kocken, far right, co-led an immersion trip that included a visit to the Institute of American Indian Arts in New Mexico.

Greg Kocken, associate professor and head of the library's Special Collections and Archives, co-led a 13-day Honors Immersion trip this summer to New Mexico alongside Dr. Heather Fielding, professor and director of the Mark Stephen Cosby Honors College. Students from UW-Eau Claire visited museums with collections of Native American pottery. Later in the trip, students saw artisans creating pottery. Senior **Maggie O'Brien**, a lead student assistant at the library's Main Desk, was among students who went on the immersion trip. <u>Click here</u> to read more about the immersion trip.

Stephannie Regenauer, OER & digital learning librarian, recently completed the Open Education Network's <u>Certificate in Open Education Librarianship</u>. It's an eight-month program that teaches librarians about open education and prepares them to build and grow open education initiatives on their campuses.

Sarah Beer, associate university archivist, covered five states (Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Iowa) in five days during a 1,723-mile road trip in late June. She visited Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota, Badlands National Park and the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota. During the trip, she also drove along the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Kate Hinnant, professor and the library's head of instruction and communication, saw her twins graduate from high school and head to opposite sides of the country for college. Sally is at San Diego State University, majoring in environmental science, and Leo is studying art at the University of Maine.

Jill Markgraf, director of libraries, was an invited presenter at the University of Alba Iulia Blended Intensive Programme, held May 18 to 23, in Krems, Austria. She co-presented "The Global

Ecosystem of Information," "Strategies for Navigating a Complex Information Landscape" and "The Library is a Living Laboratory for the Global Community of Scholars" with Matt Rosendahl, library director at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

For Halloween, McIntyre Library faculty and staff dressed up in costumes inspired by famous works of art. A couple of the library's student workers joined in for a group photo.

Employee costumes paid homage to Pablo Picasso, Michelangelo, Renee Magritte, Vincent van Gogh, Henry Somm, and other artists.



Sarah Beer took this picture of Theodore Roosevelt

National Park during a June road trip.



SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARIES

Our supporters often ask us how they can help the libraries at UW-Eau Claire keep up the great work. Here are some ideas!



Nurture Student Employees (\$500)

\$500 would fund one scholarship, awarded annually to a UW-Eau Claire student who works in the libraries.

Enhance Library Exhibitions (\$530)

\$530 to purchase a conservation chest mount form that could be used to safely exhibit historic clothing from Special Collections and Archives.





Your gift to the McIntyre Library Advancement Fund can be designated for one of the items on our wish list. To share your support, go to blugolds.uwec.edu/library, select the McIntyre Library Advancement Fund, and make a note of the wish list item in the comments field.

Special match available on Giving Day

On Giving Day – Tuesday, Dec. 2 – the library is launching a special initiative to raise funds for the Library Student Employee Scholarship – an opportunity to recognize and support the contributions of our student workers.

To kick off the campaign, longtime library supporter and professor emerita Dr. Sally Webb has generously offered a \$1,000 matching grant. That means every dollar you give on Dec. 2 will be doubled – up to \$1,000 – making your impact go even further.

Your donation helps us honor the hard work of our student employees and invest in their academic and professional futures. Join us in celebrating their contributions and making a difference this Giving Tuesday.

Click here for details on this match and others available on Giving Day.

Thank you to our McIntyre Valued Partners (MVPs)

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