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NEWS- RECORD

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VIEWPOINT



News-Record file photo

KAREN AND MARK CAIN perform at the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley.

UW-Fox arts center deserves support

Our family has benefited greatly from our tenure in the Fox Valley. We are forever indebted to our community. Though we try to give back to it selflessly and quietly, it often seems not enough.

So we humbly we ask a favor of the community.

RICHARD AND AMY JO AYLWARD

GUEST COLUMNISTS

As former students and continuing supporters of the University of Wisconsin-Fox Valley in Menasha, we understand its vital role — ultimately giving back far more than it takes.

We are not perplexed that it has taken so long to address a glaring deficiency at UWFV.

In a region abundant with performance venues, a new Communication Arts Center may seem extravagant. It is a necessity.

We place a premium on math and science skills to build a globally competitive workforce. Communication skills are equally important. The CAC will allow UWFV to be at its best, endowing a coming generation with these critical skills. It will be a full-time learning resource catering not only to the performing arts, but to all disciplines where the ability to communicate effectively is key.

The current “facility” was built in 1962. Outdated even in terms of modern safety, its inadequacy is blatant. UWFV works mightily to overcome these challenges. But after decades of “getting by,” it’s time we give students the best tools to thrive.

We will continue to support UWFV to our best ability. But we cannot do this alone.

I urge all Winnebago County Board supervisors to fully support funding of the CAC at UWFV. I thank Outagamie County for their support. I urge citizens to learn about the CAC project.

The time to invest in the CAC is now.

Richard and Amy Jo Aylward are Town of Menasha residents.