MOSAiC
ON ICE

Arctic views of climate change and the pandemic
Graduate students and artists Alejandra Abad (MFA'21) and Román Anaya (MFA'21), known as Abad□Anaya, created colorful art flags to inspire hope after the challenges of 2020. The duo hopes to change the perception of divisiveness often associated with flags as symbols.

Their flags contain uplifting phrases in multiple languages that were painted, printed, sewn or ironed on by members of the Boulder and Denver communities. Earlier this year, the flags were on display in Denver’s Art District on Santa Fe and the Boulder One Plaza.
In 2020 the U.S. saw record wildfires and hurricanes. NASA reported it as one of the hottest years in recorded history. As a public research institution, CU is called to address global challenges. The Coloradan aims to examine and celebrate how the university is influencing the world and shaping a better future.

To align with this vision, each issue moving forward will feature stories that examine a topic affecting our world and highlight how CU is creating impact through its collective work and research.

This spring, the topic is climate change.

To further engage readers, the new Coloradan Conversations series will expand on the magazine topics, gathering thought leaders to discuss the most pressing issues of our day.

If the topic and the stories pique your interest, join the next Coloradan Conversation for a larger climate change dialogue with other readers. For more information, visit: colorado.edu/coloradan/conversations

Maria Kuntz
Aerosol Superstar

Shelly Miller solves problems she cares about. As a CU Boulder mechanical engineering professor, her expertise on aerosols, indoor air pollution and urban air quality catapulted her to a global spotlight in 2020, giving her the chance to make huge world changes, fast. She discusses her work, the pandemic and what it’s like being suddenly in high demand.

When you first became an engineer, what were the problems you cared about and are now trying to solve? Growing up in California, we were sent home from school for bad air quality days. In environmental engineering classes, it really clicked for me that my interest in air pollution was related to growing up in California.

I think of the environment as a shared resource. I want to preserve and improve the quality of the air, water and environment for everybody.

What are aerosols and how do they impact health? Aerosols are simply particles suspended in a gas. The particles can be made of anything and can be solid or liquid. They are a main cause of adverse health effects and a major contribution to air pollution.

What are the biggest challenges facing schools? Schools need to understand the two main routes of aerosol transmission and how to mitigate those routes. The first is short-range exposure. This happens within personal spaces — a teacher standing over a student or kids working on a project together. They only way to mitigate that kind of interaction is by wearing well-fitting masks at all times. The second (long-range transmission) requires cleaning the air and making sure good ventilation systems are in place.

What should people be doing at home? Make sure you can open your windows — even small openings will help. If your exhaust hood vents outside, turn it on with a window open. Also, run your furnace, because the air will circulate through a pretty coarse filter. If you don’t have an air cleaner, stay socially distant and wear masks if sharing the air with others that might be infectious.

In 2020, you did COVID-centered research related to the performing arts. What do you think the future looks like for musicians? We have been really successful mitigating risk in music classes and marching bands. We haven’t had a single reported transmission to date in music programs following our guidance. Mitigation measures are quite limiting, but I wouldn’t recommend playing music without them. I think professional musicians are going to need to be tested daily or weekly to be able to do their work.

How many schools have you been working with locally or nationally? When we first shared our research, people were calling from places like Germany, France and Florida. There are probably hundreds of schools we don’t know about. In fact, my friend, whose daughter plays oboe at a college in Minnesota, said, ‘Oh, my daughter is using your mitigation strategies.’ I didn’t even know, so that was pretty cool.

Since the pandemic started, you’ve been busier than ever. Your email signature alludes to the fact that you are juggling hundreds of emails a day, work, family, sleep and wellness. How have people responded to your endeavor for balance? At first, so many of my colleagues — especially my female colleagues — got back to me and said, ‘I love your signature. I’m going to do that,’ and they did. I thought that was a really important statement to make.

Some might call you an aerosol superstar. I don’t know if I feel like a complete superstar, but I do feel that I have a way of communicating science that speaks to a lot of people. There’s an audience that really learns from what I have to say. That feels important to me.

What new directions are you taking with your research? I would be interested in doing research showing the best way to cleanse the air. There are a lot of ionizers being sold, and there’s no scientific support for their efficacy. In fact, some data show that they can cause worse problems. So, it’s important to try and help people understand which types of air cleaner are effective versus which ones are just a marketing hoax.

What changes do you anticipate happening in indoor environments post-COVID? I hope people understand that their environments affect their health, and your home is not guaranteed to be a healthy place — you need to work to make it healthy. Instead of just making buildings thermally comfortable, we need to provide enough outside air ventilation and good filtration in energy-efficient ways to maintain health.

What do you hope we learned from this pandemic about how indoor spaces impact health? I hope we learn to trust science again and know that there is a scientific process we go through that evolves and new answers come from it. I feel like we’ve moved away from that.

INTERVIEW BY MARIA KUNTZ. CONDENSED AND EDITED.
A  

In 1963, Boulderites started thinking about improving Pearl Street with a pedestrian mall. But just why did Pearl Street need attention? Boulder, which banned alcohol sales in 1907, was still dry in the early 1960s. Unfortunately, this meant all of the post-World War II commercial growth took place outside city limits.

Then, the Crossroads Shopping Center opened in 1962, sucking business from downtown Boulder like a black hole.

Years passed, and city council members began to wonder if the historic streets of downtown still held interest for the community.

In 1976, ten years after the original idea, the City Council agreed to the walkway. I had just joined the council and was able to cast a vote in favor of building the mall.

On a glorious morning in June of 1976, a friend and I cruised Pearl Street in an old VW van. Following us was a public works crew that closed each block — the last car to drive down Pearl Street — as we rode past.

Today, that stretch is graced by Beat Book Store, the County Courthouse and the Avanti indoor food court.

Within days, crews began digging up the street’s decades-old water, sewer and gas lines before the city spent millions paving over new infrastructure with the now-famous red brick.

On Halloween 1976, several hundred costumed pedestrians ventured downtown to inspect the work and strut their stuff. This was the impetus of a now long-standing annual tradition; today, a trip to Pearl Street Mall on Oct. 31 is sure to delight even plainclothes tourists or locals.

The final brick was laid in the spring of 1977. In early August, we had a formal ribbon-cutting, but Boulder residents and CU students were already flocking to it by the thousands.

The next few years were sheer magic as Pearl Street came to life. New restaurants and businesses opened. The Häagen-Dazs ice cream shop replaced the venerable Valentine’s Hardware store on the southwest corner of Pearl and Broadway — but not before the sheriff carried a box of crystalized dynamite out of Valentine’s basement.

So many musicians wanted to perform on the mall, the city created a two-musician-per-block limit.

In retrospect, I think it did something else: The Pearl Street Mall drew Boulderites and the university community closer together.

BY PAUL DANISH
Children may be less tech-addicted than previously perceived, says CU Boulder research.
DIGITS

SWEAT EFFECTS
Human sweat and bleach cleaners mix to create new airborne chemicals in gyms. One CU study says this could affect air quality.

90%
Approximate amount of time people spend indoors

1
Person exercising emits as many chemicals as five resting people

Six
Additional airborne compounds created from sweat-produced amino acids and bleach products

69
Unique compounds directly emitted from people exercising in gyms

Forty-Nine
Unique compounds originating from personal care products released by people exercising

78%
Deodorant applied in the morning evaporates from the body by noon

Leeds + Techstars Elevate
A new partnership created in November 2020 between the Leeds School of Business and Techstars, a startup accelerator, offers CU students and graduates thousands of job opportunities with companies in the Techstars Portfolio, like the email platform SendGrid and the fitness subscription platform ClassPass. The program also offers students the chance to become associates of Techstars’ accelerator teams around the world. Sharon Matusik, dean of the business school, described the program as a “game-changer” for both students and alumni.

Honoring Inclusive Excellence
In February, the CU Board of Regents approved a resolution to rename two buildings honoring alumni who embody inclusive excellence. The education building will be renamed for Lucile Berkeley Buchanan (Ger’1918) in recognition of her lifelong career in education teaching students in the South during the Jim Crow era and in Chicago public schools. Temporary Building 1 will be renamed “Albert and Vera Ramírez Temporary Building 1” to honor the academic and community engagement contributions of Professor Emeritus Albert Ramírez and his late wife, Vera.

Electronic Skin — the New FitBit?
CU chemistry and mechanical engineering researchers have developed an “electronic-skin” made from screen-printed wires and self-healing material that could potentially replace wearable fitness devices. According to the research, led by CU mechanical engineering associate professor Jianliang Xiao and CU chemistry professor Wei Zhang, this electronic skin can help quell electronic waste, which is projected to pass 55 million tons by 2021. “We want a device that is easy to recycle,” said Xiao.

Electronic Skin

Computing Before the Computer

Before the rise of scientific calculators and computers in the 1960s and 70s, cylindrical slide rules were used to complete multiplication, division and other complex mathematical operations.

This particular slide rule — known as Thacher’s Calculating Instrument — was donated to the university by the late William J. Hanna (ElEngr’43; MS’48; PhD’51), an engineering professor who taught at CU Boulder for 46 years. It was purchased in the early 1920s.

Edwin Thacher, a computing engineer who designed railway bridges for Pittsburgh’s Keystone Bridge Company, first patented this slide rule in 1881. The model pictured above was produced by Keuffel & Esser Co. in New York in 1902-03 and cost $35. Today, its estimated value is $1,050 and it is part of the CU Heritage Center collections.

“The U.S. is responsible for about 25% of historic CO2 emissions and needs to take leadership in addressing climate change. We have already experienced severe impacts, including extreme storms, extensive droughts and record wildfires.”

— Professor Charles Kutscher in an interview with CU Boulder Today published on Dec. 16, 2020
Alamo Bowl

Though many Forever Buffs had to watch the game from afar, they still found creative ways to cheer for their team at the 2020 Valero Alamo Bowl in San Antonio, Texas. Over the winter holiday weekend, these tried-and-true fans proved holiday cheer and team spirit are one and the same, as alumni, family, friends, students and pets all donned Buffs gear to show their support. Pandemic or not, Buffs pride can’t be stopped.
n December 1879, CU Boulder classes were just over two years into existence. The newly constructed $40,000 Old Main building sat on 51 acres of land donated to the university. Buckingham Library, situated on the second floor, had 1,500 volumes. Seventy-eight students attended the university.

It was time to report the news.

“We have not a large number of students and no loyal alumni to whom we can look for assistance,” declared CU’s first student newspaper, University Portfolio, in its inaugural issue. “But we feel sure that there are many warm friends of the University and students in all parts of the State.”

University Portfolio initially ran from December 1879 through October 1885 and ranged from three to six issues per school year. An annual subscription cost $.25, and a single copy cost $.05. Harold Thompson (A&S1882) and Henry Drumm (A&S1882), among CU’s first six graduates, served as editors.

“To all healthy college humor we will gladly open our columns. To matters of educational and literary interest we will devote what space we can,” the staff wrote in their opening letter.

The Portfolio’s first issue lamented the lack of a university glee club, reported anticipation for the upcoming Christmas holiday and exclaimed that Dr. Sewall — CU’s first president — would work the eight chemistry students 15 hours a day if he could.

Several of the businesses and individuals who paid for advertisements in the newspaper were among the 104 original donors who secured the university for Boulder.

After ceasing publication in 1885 for budgetary reasons, the paper was revived as The Portfolio in 1889 for another three-year run after the Regents approved $100 in annual financial support. That year, Helen Beardsley (A&S1889) became the paper’s first woman editor-in-chief. Student literary and poetic writings became a staple aspect of the paper.

The Silver and Gold took over as CU’s student newspaper in September 1892. It printed weekly at the request of then-CU president James H. Baker, who wanted the publication to better keep pace with the news from the growing university. Silver and Gold left behind much of the student literary submissions The Portfolio carried to free space for advertisements and news about sporting events, clubs and on-campus activities.

Its final issue printed Aug. 22, 1952, giving way to the Colorado Daily, which thrived for 20 years on campus before becoming an independent paper, and later, part of Boulder’s Daily Camera newspaper.

Today, CU Boulder has two student newspapers, The Bold, funded by the College of Media, Communication and Information, and the CU Independent, which is currently seeking funding sources separate from the university. BY CHRISTIE SOUNART
A CU team froze their ship in Arctic ice in the name of science and storytelling.

BY KELSEY SIMPKINS
When the sea ice shifted beneath him, sending a crack straight between his two feet, Matthew Shupe didn’t panic.

He calmly looked at his precious scientific equipment — installed only four feet away — and debated the merits of moving or leaving it. This was just one of the daily dilemmas he and his team faced atop the Arctic Ocean.

Tomorrow, they would head out onto the ice and do it all again.

In fact, Shupe (MAtmos’06; PhD’07) was in one of the safest places in the world at the time. As the COVID-19 pandemic developed and spread across the world in late 2019 into 2020, he and hundreds of others purposely froze themselves into the Arctic Ocean sea ice on the RV Polarstern, thousands of miles from land. Their only unplanned visitors were the occasional wandering polar bear or fox.

The crew conducted groundbreaking scientific research, studying everything from the atmosphere above their heads to the sea ice beneath their feet during the largest expedition of its kind in history. MOSAiC, the Multidisciplinary drifting Observatory for the Study of Arctic Climate, was an international effort led by the Alfred Wegener Institute with a mission to gather as much data as possible about the Arctic while deliberately stuck in it.

"It didn’t matter if you were from China, Russia, the U.S. or Germany. We were all a team," said Shupe, senior research scientist at CIRES and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). "It teaches us about humans and our ability to work together on shared priorities and interests."

Researchers brought cutting-edge technologies to the ice, opening new avenues of scientific insight and gathering almost a thousand different types of measurements. Atmospheric scientists like Shupe worked alongside those who study everything from physics to biology, a rare interdisciplinary experience in the Arctic that will allow for deeper insight into the data.

Transporting five groups of crewmembers back and forth safely during a global pandemic — without an outbreak on the ship — was perhaps the most ambitious scientific experiment of the entire expedition.

While most of the world was living in quarantine, the isolated researchers only
wore masks to guard their faces from the cold. They could hug each other, shake hands and share meals indoors. “There were days I did not think one bit about the virus,” said Shupe.

The first time Gina Jozef (PhDAtmos’24) heard about COVID-19, she was sitting in a hotel lobby in Tromso, Norway. It was January 2020 and MOSAiC’s third crew was preparing to head north on a resupply vessel to the Polarstern.

The latest news about the virus flashed across the lobby TV: Still mostly in China. “I remember thinking, I hope that doesn’t get to the U.S., but it’s probably fine,” recalls Jozef, laughing nervously. “I realized, there’s nothing I can do. But what can I do to make the best of this moving forward?” Jozef said. “It’s improved my ability to just accept things and not try to fight the situation, which was very helpful in these times.”

Most days the air was thick with fog, a challenge not only for the scientists but also for the photographers and film-makers on board.

Tasked with documenting the work on board to educate the public about MOSAiC’s scientific mission, Amy Richman (MFA’19), who filmed the first leg of the expedition, struggled to keep camera batteries warm long enough to capture key shots.

Lianna Nixon (Class’17; MEdu’21), who filmed and photographed the mission for CIRES and the Alfred Wegener Institute, fell through the ice more than once — but only up to her knees.

Despite the ever-present challenges, Nixon was inspired to capture “the joy and passion of scientists on the field every day.” “We were out there to get the story of the Arctic, and then tell that story and what might happen to the Arctic using the data,” said Jackson Osborne, an associate scientist for CIRES during MOSAiC.

You never knew what was going to happen when you stepped on the ice.

Everyday Adventures

Jozef and her team, who needed to gather meteorological measurements of the atmosphere, were initially threatened by minus 40 F temperatures. Luckily they resumed their drone flight work when it warmed up to a balmy minus 22 F.

“Every single day was a new, very exciting adventure,” said Jozef. “You never knew what was going to happen when you stepped on the ice.”

She kept busy gathering data out on the ice, but there were weeks when Jozef was left wondering how they would ever return home.

Telling the Arctic Story

With the mission complete and the crew home, they face a new kind of challenge: a world still facing the effects of COVID-19.

Nixon remembers the last time she could hug anyone freely. In October, crew-mates squeezed each other tight knowing that once they left the ship, they would enter a socially distanced world.

Now, MOSAiC’s legacy lives on through its data, its relationships and its eye-opening message for the public.

“We’re all part of the Arctic story, no matter where we live. And I think that we have a responsibility now that scientists have brought back this knowledge to continue to be part of that narrative,” said Nixon.

For Shupe, the planning and fieldwork is done, but a wealth of data now waits to be explored — a crucial part of the scientific process.

“There’s so many fantastic stories in that data that we just have to reveal, we have to find them,” said Shupe. “Now is a time to really look forward to.”

MOSAiC was funded in part by the National Science Foundation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Department of Energy.
ust after World War II, Carlton Shield Chief Gover’s (PhDAnth’22) grandfather was facing an uncertain future in Oklahoma. Philip Gover was a member of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, an American Indian nation outside Tulsa. He had lost his arm fighting in Italy and was struggling to complete his undergraduate degree.

That’s when one of his professors pulled him aside and delivered the blunt assessment: “What is a one-armed Indian going to do without an education in this country?”

Philip Gover doubled down on his studies. He finished his degree in elementary education, then went on to teach English to Navajo children — carving a path between the worlds of the Pawnee, or Chaticks-si-Chaticks (which translates to “Men of Men”), and the Chaticks-Taka (“white man”).

“My grandfather was born in a tent in 1906, wasn’t even a U.S. citizen until the 1920s,” Shield Chief Gover said. “My family has always strived to be worthy of his sacrifices.”

It’s a tightrope act that Shield Chief Gover continues to walk two generations later. He’s a PhD student in the CU Boulder anthropology department. The researcher is among the first Pawnee citizens to ever pursue graduate training in archaeology.

The road hasn’t always been easy. As Shield Chief Gover explained: “Archaeology is an inherently colonial practice.” But the young researcher joins a growing number of Indigenous archaeologists who are working to change that — embracing knowledge from both Indigenous communities and the halls of American academia.

Archaeology has also given Shield Chief Gover a way to connect with the past, present and future of his people. Since coming to CU Boulder, for example, he’s worked at the Lynch Site, a 13th-14th century town in eastern Nebraska that was once home to the ancestors of today’s Pawnee.

“I get to walk on the same surfaces that my people walked on and pick up their things,” Shield Chief Gover said.

Two Worlds
Roger Echo-Hawk (Hist’90; MA’94), a Pawnee citizen and historian living in Boulder, agreed. He’s collaborated with Shield Chief Gover, and they both argue that taking oral traditions seriously can make archaeological research better.

“The more we know about history, the more ways we have to be ourselves,” Echo-Hawk said. “If we just have the archaeology or oral traditions, those are interesting insights. But together they tell a richer story.”

As Shield Chief Gover has pursued his graduate training, he’s also tried to spend more time in Oklahoma visiting his relatives. He sits on the board of directors for the Museum of the Pawnee Nation in Pawnee, Oklahoma. And his family, motivated by the life of his grandfather, has been supportive of his choices.

On one such visit, Shield Chief Gover’s uncle gave him a piece of advice that the young researcher has taken to heart. “You come from two worlds,” his uncle told him. “Archaeology has taught you the Chaticks-Taka way, the white man way. You need to come back home to Pawnee to learn about the Chaticks-si-Chaticks way, the Pawnee way.”
Jessica Gilman takes to the skies to understand how unprecedented wildfires and the global pandemic are changing the climate and affecting our health.

By Daniel Oberhaus  Illustrations by Jeffrey Smith
When Colorado went on lockdown last March, Jessica Gilman (PhDChem’06) was in her lab analyzing air samples from wildfire plumes. Gilman had spent the previous summer in a plane, dive bombing into wildfire smoke to understand its chemistry and how it can affect human health.

Gilman, a research chemist at Boulder’s National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), put the work on hold when the organization ordered all its scientists to quarantine at home indefinitely. But as the shock of the situation wore off, Gilman realized the global pandemic had created an unprecedented scientific opportunity to study the atmosphere, climate change and human health when there were hardly any cars on the road or planes in the air. It was a situation that only a few months earlier would have been entirely unimaginable.

“It was this big national experiment that nobody anticipated or wanted,” Gilman said. “You have to try to take advantage of these really terrible situations for future benefit.”

Gilman’s expertise is in volatile organic compounds, or VOCs, a gaseous class of molecules released by everything from forest fires and car engines to hairspray and freshly cut grass.

“Nearly every decision we make involves VOCs,” Gilman said. “They really are just surrounding us on a daily basis.”

Some VOCs, like benzene and the particulates produced by wildfires, are directly harmful to human health. But all VOCs, including oil-based and naturally occurring compounds in deodorants, cleaning products and fragrances, react with sunlight and gases from cars and other combustion engines in the atmosphere to create ozone and particulate matter, the main ingredients in smog.

The pandemic created an environment that was almost like taking a time machine to the future. Chemically speaking, taking all the gas guzzlers off the road is comparable to replacing them with electric vehicles. This would trigger a dramatic drop in greenhouse gas and smog-forming emissions from combustion engines, which is a critical element in mitigating climate change and improving air quality. But at the same time, people’s consumption habits were changing as they sheltered at home. They were using more hand sanitizer and cleaning products, for example, which produce a lot of VOCs.

In the atmosphere, vehicular emissions interact with VOCs in complex and often surprising ways, and Gilman wanted to understand how this dramatic shift in human behavior affected atmospheric chemistry.

“You have this different mix of VOCs,” said Gilman, who lives in Boulder. “We don’t know yet how that affects ozone or particle formation differently than a more traditional mix.”

It may be hard to believe that hand sanitizer and other common products like paints or perfumes could be a significant variable in climate change and public health, but it’s even harder to argue with the data. Car engines were once the dominant source of VOCs, but according to Gilman’s research, a number of regulation changes and technological advances over the past few decades has lowered vehicular VOC emissions significantly.

In 2018, Gilman and her colleagues discovered that consumer products like hairspray and deodorant are producing nearly half of all VOC emissions that create ozone smog in urban areas.

“Air pollution is a result of emissions from both human activities and natural sources,” said Brian McDonald, a research scientist at the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES). “The reason we need to understand the types of things that Jessica measures is to know what emission sources are getting into the atmosphere.”

So while most of the U.S. was quarantined at home, Gilman and her colleagues at NOAA went to work. She designed an experiment to collect air samples around the clock near the NOAA lab in Boulder and help analyze samples collected from a small plane doing laps over New York City. Gilman fed the air samples into custom-built instruments in her lab that acted like robotic noses,
sniffing out the different chemicals in Gilman’s atmospheric cocktails, showing how atmospheric chemistry was changing by the minute.

The experiment went well for the first few months of the pandemic — until the wildfires started.

Gilman has spent a lot of time around wildfires, but even she has never seen anything quite like the blazes that consumed the Western U.S. last summer. In many states — including Colorado — the 2020 wildfire season was the most devastating on record. The wildfires burned a combined area larger than Connecticut and left a thick haze hanging over the entire West Coast for weeks. The smoke in Colorado quickly overwhelmed Gilman’s local measurements for COVID-related changes in VOC levels, so she pivoted the experiment to study the wildfires until they died down.

Gilman knows the grim effects wildfires have on air quality. In 2019, she spent her summer dive bombing in and out of wildfire plumes in an old passenger airliner converted into an aerial laboratory. The program was a joint experiment by NASA and NOAA to study the impact of wildfire smoke on air quality in order to improve weather and climate forecasts. Scientists from around the U.S. flew over 100 fires collecting air samples and studying the blazes with sophisticated instruments packed into the body of the plane. Gilman participated in five flights before she returned to Boulder to analyze the samples.

Each mission started at a National Guard hanger in Idaho, where Gilman and three dozen other scientists spent several hours calibrating their instruments in NASA’s winged climate lab. When the instruments were prepped, the scientists flew up to eight hours at a time to the largest wildfires burning in the Western U.S. Once they were in range of a fire, the pilots swung the jet low through the smoke plumes so Gilman and her team could collect samples. The air was pumped in through specially designed window plates outfitted with large, straw-like inlets connected to bespoke air storage containers inside the plane for storage.

It’s not a comfortable ride between the quick aerial maneuvers, turbulence, heat and smoke. Often, it smelled like someone was burning a campfire right in the fuselage, Gilman said.

“It can be really stressful when you’re on one of these air campaigns,” said Gilman. “It’s dark, it’s hot, it’s really bumpy and you’re doing all this crazy maneuvering. You’re just toast by the end of the day.”

Yet Gilman said it was this kind of fieldwork that attracted her to atmospheric science in the first place while obtaining her PhD at CU Boulder. After she completed her doctorate, she became a researcher at CIRES in 2006 and joined NOAA as a federal scientist in 2016. Since then, she has spent time monitoring air quality from ships in the Arctic ocean to remote forest research stations.

“She’s highly motivated to do atmospheric research and willing to do whatever it takes to get the work done,” said CU chemistry professor Veronica Vaida, who introduced Gilman to atmospheric research. “She’s a natural for fieldwork.”

For the past 15 years, Gilman’s research on VOCs has been a valuable contribution to our understanding of the complex relationships between human activity and climate change. Gilman and her team are still parsing the data from both the 2020 wildfire and COVID experiments. But one surprising result they found, she said, was that the pandemic roughly halved the amount of VOCs and primary pollutants from car engines in Boulder’s atmosphere compared to previous years, but the effect on ozone levels in many cities — including Boulder — may not have changed or even increased due to complex chemical effects.

Their research will be critical for making informed decisions about how to keep people safe in our climate-changed future.

“This shows the impact that humans have on the atmosphere and gives us the sense that we can change the trajectory,” she said. “I hope what we learned from COVID will help improve the choices that are made in the future to keep the air quality gains.”
Beyond the Bluebird Sky

With at least eight institutions dedicated to solar and space physics, the city of Boulder is a global mecca for science related to the sun. Since the end of World War II, CU has made major contributions to this research. In 1946, solar labs existed on campus, and today the East Campus houses the National Solar Observatory (NSO), the national center for ground-based solar physics, which is building the largest solar telescope in the world.

| The sun is the only star that we can look at with high spatial resolution. |
| The telescope contains a four-meter primary mirror, the largest of any solar telescope. |
| The Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope (DKIST) is the world’s largest solar telescope. |
| 99.8 percent of the system’s mass. |
| The sun’s charged particles hit Earth’s atmosphere during a solar storm. |
| Northern Lights occur when the sun’s charged particles hit Earth’s atmosphere. |
| The Sun is the largest object within our solar system, comprising more than 1 million degrees vs. 5,500 degrees. |
| The sun’s atmosphere is hotter than the surface. |
| It’s located in Hawaii on the summit of Haleakula, Maui, with its data center at CU Boulder. |
| Ivan Milic researches solar atmosphere by viewing polarized spectra. |
| Adam Kowalski researches solar flares. |
| Maria Kazachenko researches how eruptions on the sun work. |

Funded by the National Science Foundation
The DKIST is located on land of spiritual and cultural significance to Native Hawaiian people. The use of this important site to further scientific knowledge is done so with appreciation and respect.

CU Boulder Collaboration:
The NSO and CU Boulder share three joint faculty positions, each specializing in solar astrophysics.
As a CU undergrad, Jessica Dee Sawyer (ArtHist’03) studied the bold black lines of Piet Mondrian and Wassily Kandinsky’s striking use of color. When it came time to redesign the logo and packaging for Smarties, the beloved crunchy candy pellets that have remained unchanged since the 1950s, Jessica tapped into her background as an art history major. Jessica’s grandfather Edward Dee, her uncle, are known to the current leadership as “the dads.”

Jessica, along with her sister, Liz Dee, and her cousin, Sarah Dee, is co-president of the Smarties Candy Company, with factories in Union, New Jersey, and Newmarket, Ontario. (In Canada, the candy is called “Rockets.”) They are the third generation to helm the iconic brand.

Jessica’s grandfather Edward Dee moved to the United States from England in 1949 and started the company, known then as Ce De Candy. Edward came from a family of candymakers, so Jessica is actually a fifth-generation candymaker.

Michael Dee, Jessica’s dad, and Jonathan Dee, her uncle, are known to the current leadership as “the dads.”

“I always wanted to work with my dad. And the dads always hoped we’d end up running the company,” Jessica said. “The dads had an unwritten rule that you had to work outside the company for at least a year.”

Jessica spent that year working at the Denver Art Museum. But she was eager to join the family business, returning to New Jersey to work at the factory the next year. Liz and Sarah followed soon after in 2005. On-the-job training meant working machines, doing order entry and digging into research to understand the inner workings of the company.

“We did everything. Sarah was driving a forklift. We would dig through the accounting files to figure things out. We asked a lot of questions,” Jessica said.

Soon, each of them gravitated to the area they were most interested in, creating a division of labor. In 2017, they became co-presidents, with Jessica in charge of sales, HR, design and logistics; Sarah heading up production and operations; and Liz running food quality and safety and communications.

“I got more involved in packaging and design and hired an in-house artist,” said Jessica. “Color was the thing I was most interested in and how it plays into packaging for brand recognition.”

Since the company reins were handed over to the next generation, the dads have stepped aside, though they still serve as consultants on the board.

“They have offices,” said Jessica, “but we use them as storage.”

Before Jessica’s grandfather died last year at age 95, he would come into the factory every day.

“He’d give us a report from the floor,” she said. “He was our eyes and ears.”

While the brand has added products, like tropical and sour flavors and a popular megaroll, the flagship product’s recipe hasn’t changed since 1949, when the first pellets came out of the presses (the original machine was a repurposed World War II gunpowder pellet press).

Billions of rolls are produced each year, and the factory runs 24 hours a day.

Still, the new presidents recognized the brand needed a makeover.

“We like retro, but it was feeling a little bit too retro,” Jessica said.

They studied the shape and twist of the plastic packaging — “We looked at so many twists!” — and added a tiny wink in the twist and in the “R” in the Smarties logo.

“It’s like a smile,” she said. “Our dads ran the company for so many years. We wanted to put our own stamp on it.”

Before the new generation took over, the company’s files were paper and stored in filing cabinets. The women overhauled the system by making files digital, creating an accounting system and hiring an IT person.

They also added 2,000 solar panels on the roof of the New Jersey factory, next to the giant silo where some 50,000 pounds of dextrose is blown in each day. The solar panels offset half the factory’s energy usage.

Since the 1990s, Smarties has also had a heart-shaped candy in its line, and when the Necco company ceased production of its popular Sweeethearts candy, Smarties Love Hearts filled the space on the Valentine candy shelf. The new presidents updated the sayings stamped on the hearts with “YOLO,” “On Fleek” and “Text Me.”

In 2019, to celebrate the company’s 70th anniversary, Smarties added a gummy-like candy called Squashies to its line. With flavors like raspberry and cream, Squashies are made in England by the Swizzels company, which is, incidentally, run by the son of Jessica’s grandfather’s cousin.

“My kids love them. I can’t keep them in the house,” she said.

Sawyer lives in New Jersey with her husband, Donald (Hist’05), who she met at CU. They have two kids, Madeleine, 7 (“like the cookie”), and Theodore, 4, who act as taste testers for new products.

“Kids are honest,” Jessica said. “They say whatever they want.”

Jessica hopes her children and Sarah’s twin girls will take over the company someday, making Smarties a fourth-generation family-run business.

“We feel so lucky to do what we do every day and to work with family,” Jessica said. “The best part is knowing we bring joy to people.”
HOW TO COPE IN A PANDEMIC

CU psychology professors share tools to improve mental health amid COVID-19.

By Doug McPherson  Illustrations by Brian Stauffer
As the world plunged into the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, Sona Dimidjian knew a parallel and more silent crisis was brewing in mental health.

Dimidjian, a CU Boulder psychology professor, immediately saw a trifecta of trouble: COVID-19 disrupted our basic daily routines, upended socializing and delivered a flood of uncertainty.

“People were challenged to navigate each of those issues right from the get-go, and we know they’ve led to more depression, anxiety, substance abuse, domestic violence … a whole host of problems,” said Dimidjian, also the director of the Renée Crown Wellness Institute, which focuses on research and programs to develop healthy young adults.

The statistics back her up. A September 2020 survey from the Colorado Health Foundation found 77% of Coloradans reported anxiety, loneliness or stress related to COVID-19.

Dimidjian and her CU colleagues say there are simple, research-based strategies that can offer relief.

A SEPTEMBER 2020 SURVEY FROM THE COLORADO HEALTH FOUNDATION FOUND 77% OF COLORADANS REPORTED ANXIETY, LONELINESS OR STRESS RELATED TO COVID-19.

“Good science is our guide, and my team has been doing research on how to treat and prevent these issues for the last 20 years,” Dimidjian said. “The good news is that the lessons learned are very relevant to the challenges we face today.”

BEHAVIORAL ACTIVATION
The first coping strategy, called behavioral activation (BA), is based on the idea that you can change how you feel by changing what you do. Studies have shown it can sometimes quell depression just as well as medication. That’s why Dimidjian also calls BA “behavioral antidepressants.”

“We know that being involved in activities that give us a sense of accomplishment, enjoyment and control is critical to a positive mood,” she said.

BA invites people to research the connection between their daily habits and moods: Which activities are draining? Which ones add pleasure, enjoyment or a sense of mastery? BA participants then add at least one pleasurable and one mastery activity to their schedule every day to make them a normal part of their lives.

Dimidjian is seeing BA work — even without the aid of mental health professionals — in research at the Crown Institute, where new and expectant women suffering from perinatal depression help each other apply BA skills.

Erin Wood, research participant and mother of two from Franktown, Colorado, said she found BA helpful not only during and after pregnancy, but also as the pandemic unfolded.

“Even though I didn’t have to take a shower or get dressed, it was important to feel like I was accomplishing something,” Wood said.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
The second coping tool is to acknowledge how the pandemic is disrupting your life.

“It’s normal to grieve for lost experiences, to feel uncertain about the future and to be angry about the state of the world,” said Roselinde Kaiser, assistant professor in CU’s Department of Psychology and Neuroscience. “These emotions don’t make us weak, flawed or powerless. Understand that stress — even coronavirus-related stress — can be an opportunity for new growth.”

June Gruber, director of CU’s Positive Emotion and Psychopathology Lab, said negative emotions — fear, anger or sadness — are normal.

“Instead of suppressing or criticizing yourself for those emotions, accepting them as being valid may stave off spiraling into more clinically significant symptoms of depression or anxiety,” Gruber said.

Kaiser suggests that after acknowledging your emotions, you can reflect on and list the issues affecting your emotions and thoughts.

Then, inventory your best coping strategies and responses to stress: “Think about what’s worked well for you in the past and why it was successful,” Kaiser said.

Next, brainstorm how you might adjust your coping strategies to the pandemic. If exercise helps but your gym is closed, see if you can find a workout online.

YOU MAY FIND THAT YOU DISCOVER NEW RESILIENCE-BOOSTING SKILLS THAT SERVE YOU NOT ONLY DURING THE PANDEMIC BUT FOR YEARS TO COME.

Finally, approach it like an experiment. “You’re testing new ways of building wellness,” Kaiser said. “Some will work better than others.”

MINDFULNESS
Dimidjian said a third tool, mindfulness, is a way to stay grounded in the present moment. “Mindfulness helps us become aware of our thinking patterns and reorients us toward the present,” she said.

“And that frees us from that sense of dread about the future.”

To become more mindful, Dimidjian suggests taking a few minutes each day to notice your breath, sensations in your body and any anxious or upsetting thoughts. Learning to pay attention to what you’re doing — whether it’s eating, walking or listening to music — and noticing when your attention wanes is what makes a mindful life, she said.

Kaiser added that even though the pandemic has led to “a profound disruption” to daily life and routines, humans can learn to cope.

“You may find that you discover new resilience-boosting skills that serve you not only during the pandemic but for years to come,” she said.

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, help is available. Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255, chat with a representative at suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat, call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room.
Soon after Tia Fuller (MMus’00) vamped the red carpet at the Grammy Awards in March 2019, she got a call from a casting agent representing the animated Pixar film Soul.

“They were looking for a saxophone player to play the music for a character (Dorothea Williams) who is a ‘badass’ and has her own band in New York that every musician wants to be a part of — which was ironic,” said Fuller, because her own quartet got its start in New York, and she, too, has a strong presence in the jazz community.

Without missing a beat, Fuller jumped at the chance.

For her ensemble role in Soul, Fuller flew to Los Angeles. “We received the music, rehearsed for a moment and then recorded it on the spot,” she said. “I thought, ‘Oh man, this is major! This is where all the work and the sacrifice, hustle — all of the tools we’ve developed over the years — come together. It is a blessing that I have this opportunity.’”

While the Soul story was powerful for Fuller, she also celebrates Pixar’s commitment to cultural authenticity.

“The story is deep,” she said. “It challenges us to look at our purpose and our spark. It really tapped into the essence of my life, and many of our lives as artists — especially now.”

Fuller has known since she was 23 years old that her purpose is to “be light for others.”

As a rising-star performer and educator, she illuminates the jazz world. Back in 2006, she cut a very long audition line to earn a coveted spot in Beyonce’s all-female touring band. With her fifth LP, Diamond Cut, she became the second-ever female artist to be nominated for Best Jazz Instrumental Album. Today, she holds a full-time professorship at the esteemed Berklee College of Music, while continuing to record and tour.

But to live her truth, Fuller can’t improvise. “With every decision, I ask myself, ‘Who am I helping? How am I tapping into my purpose? Is this in alignment with my crystallized vision for myself?’” Most of the time, the answer is “Yes.”

Like Joe, the main character in Soul (played by Jamie Foxx), Fuller’s parents were public school teachers. They rehearsed in the basement and played gigs on weekends, while both becoming assistant principals with Denver Public Schools.

“I’m from a spiritual and praying family,” she said. “There’s a saying that’s been etched into my psyche since I was 3. It’s on a poster that’s still on my bedroom door: ‘If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it.’ When I asked my mother later, she said that she was positively brainwashing us!”

After high school in Aurora, Fuller earned her BA in music magna cum laude at Spelman College and her master’s in jazz pedagogy and performance summa cum laude at CU Boulder. At CU, she began directing jazz ensembles and hosting master classes and clinics as a teaching assistant. She learned to teach theoretically, visually and analytically.

“In honoring that each student learns differently, it is always my goal to present material at least three different ways,” she said.

About the relationship between performing and teaching, Fuller said, “I think one complements the other. In performance, we are in a state of transcendence of communication, spirit and creativity. Teaching is a mirror; it allows for us to truly reflect on our process, and then articulate it to others.”

Fuller tells her students, “Music teaches life skills. It’s an aural art form that activates seamless communication and interaction. When we go beyond playing the notes and melodies and tap into the self, we become vulnerable and transparent. We are able to inspire and empower each other in a metaphysical way.”

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High Tech in the High Country

Paul M. Rady School of Computer Science & Engineering
ForeverGold, Forever CU Boulder
Alumni Association group aims to support CU Boulder’s future.

When Christine Hylbert and her late husband Peter Dietze (A&S’59; Law’62) joined ForeverGold, they were in search of the sense of campus belonging they once had.

“We wanted to have fun and pretend we were still students,” said Hylbert. “We had many friends who had close ties to CU and wanted to continue to support and be a part of the university.”

For the alumni, parents and CU friends who have joined ForeverGold, it has delivered an integral and intimate connection with the campus through exclusive academic, athletic and social activities like symposiums, retreats, tailgates, behind-the-scenes campus tours and more.

“You learn everything that you never knew about CU,” said ForeverGold member Lynne Barnett (Edu’69).

ForeverGold is a campus movement composed of two former CU Boulder Alumni Association groups: over 1,000 Directors Club members and over 2,000 Lifetime Members.

“Everyone is just fabulous,” said Barnett. “Every time you get together with alums on a committee or at a party, they all have the same interest of supporting CU. It’s just a common spirit.”

Both social and philanthropic, ForeverGold works to support the future of the university on both the individual student level — 12 scholarships are awarded a year — and a grander scale. So far, ForeverGold members have given more than $220 million to scholarships, capital improvements and programs to impact CU Boulder.

In the coming year, ForeverGold is focused on outreach to new members, expanding events and programs, and increasing scholarship endowments to offer additional student scholarships.

“ForeverGold is not just an organization, but a movement with the goal of continuing to move CU forward,” said ForeverGold President Colin Finch (PolSci’05). “We are always looking for individuals to join, so please get involved!” Find out more at colorado.edu/alumni/forevergold.

Fill in the Black
Travel entrepreneur Funmi Oyatogun (EnvSt, Geog’12) lives in Lagos, Nigeria. When COVID-19 put her African travel business, TVP Adventures, on hold in early 2020, she created “Fill in the Black” to keep people connected in a casual and insightful way. The card game focuses on Black histories, places, inventions and stories. Words in the game celebrate Black culture and foster learning.

“The game is relevant for everyone, no matter your race or background, who wants to celebrate Blackness,” Oyatogun said.

To play the game, a group tries to guess a word a teammate is describing while that person avoids saying the other forbidden words listed on their card.

Buy the game at fillintheblack.myshopify.com.

Read a Q&A with Oyatogun at colorado.edu/coloradan.

ALUMNI CAREER SERVICES
Starting in April, you can create a more fulfilling career plan for yourself. The Colorado Career Design Fellowship — open to all CU Boulder alumni — runs April 17-May 16 and provides guidance aimed at helping you clarify your next career move. There is a $50 discount if you register by March 27, and the deadline to enroll is April 12. More information is available at bit.ly/CCDF21.

ALUMNI AWARDS NOMINATIONS OPEN
Are you making a positive impact in your community? Do you know an outstanding Buff? Let CU know! Nominate yourself or fellow alumni for one of six Alumni Awards. As the second-longest standing tradition at CU Boulder, Alumni Awards recognize CU’s best and brightest during the annual Homecoming weekend ceremony. Learn more and submit nominations by May 17, 2021, by visiting colorado.edu/homecoming/alumniawards.

JOIN THE FOREVER BUFFS NETWORK
The Forever Buffs Network, a free online community exclusively for CU Boulder affiliates, helps alumni grow a range of professional connections and reconnect with former classmates. The platform offers job postings and campus news along with networking, volunteer and mentorship opportunities. There’s also a business directory with Buff-owned businesses in a given area. Join at foreverbuffsnetwork.com.

For more information about the Roaming Buffs travel program, email roamingbuffstravel@colorado.edu, call 303-492-8484 or visit www.colorado.edu/alumni/travel.
U Boulder’s College of Music celebrated its 100th birthday in style last year with a stunning 64,000-square-foot, $57-million expansion funded by numerous private donors and a university matching capital grant.

The Imig Music Building expansion was a long time coming. Students struggled to find enough practice rooms, and rehearsal and concert spaces were too tight.

The expansion includes brand-new rehearsal and recital facilities, an upgraded chamber hall, a rehearsal-performance space with retractable seating, a state-of-the-art recording studio and a dance studio.

Innovation was at the forefront of this project, with spaces specifically devoted to exciting new arms of the department: Entrepreneurship, wellness, music technology and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Showing off CU Boulder’s trademark sandstone brick, limestone trim and red clay roof tile, the new building offers beautiful gathering places for students, faculty and music lovers complete with sweeping views of the iconic Flatirons. Construction broke ground in early 2019 and wrapped just in time for students to cross the new sandstone entrance on 18th Street to start the Fall 2020 semester.
A Campus Commitment to Impacting Climate Change

As the Coloradan pivots to examine the ways in which the university is addressing pressing issues of our time, we need alumni, now as much as ever, to understand and engage in the powerful research and education happening every day at CU Boulder. The fall issue of the magazine examined racism and anti-racism on and around campus through the personal stories of students and your fellow alumni. This issue, we’re tackling climate change.

Why climate change? It’s simple: One of the core missions of our university is to positively impact humanity, and humanity faces the existential crisis of a warming planet caused by human beings. It is essential that we do everything in our power across the university with the resources available to us to be part of the solution. Anything less would be a disservice to our history, our future and to all those who call themselves Buffs.

It’s important to reflect on this even — especially — when the world seems to be distracted by the news of the day.

At CU, internationally recognized climate scientists are utilizing the most compelling resources available to create solutions to complex interlocking and overlapping problems. We are one of the top research universities in the world for geoscience and climate science.

We have deep partnerships with a host of federal labs right in our backyard addressing this crisis, including the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and the National Center for Atmospheric Research. We are in a unique position to address this generational emergency and it is incumbent on us to do so.

We are leading by example — building one of the most sustainable campuses in the country — perhaps the world — and we are also working on the human side of the problem, impacting behavior through work at the new Center for Creative Climate Communication and Behavior Change. In short, we are a global leader in climate change research and education. The way forward to a more sustainable future runs right through CU Boulder.

The current Coloradan highlights some of the most fascinating people at CU and the problems they’re addressing. It’s also an unambiguous statement of CU’s commitment to reverse the damage being done to our planet. No matter the political or policy headwinds, CU will continue to do what it has always done and tackle the most difficult challenges of the day.

Philip P. DiStefano is the 11th Chancellor of CU Boulder.
The Double

J.J. Tompkins is CU soccer’s all-time leader in wins. Now the goalkeeper plays professionally in Norway.

Goalkeeper J.J. Tompkins (Psych’19) is CU soccer’s all-time leader in wins with 49 total. Her standout performance, however, came in defeat Nov. 22, 2019, as she made several highlight-reel saves when North Carolina eliminated the Buffs 1-0 in the NCAA Tournament.

The Phoenix native wasn’t done. She began exploring professional opportunities for after her December graduation. She considered leagues in the U.S., Europe, Japan and Israel.

Tompkins earned a tryout with Vålerenga Fotball Damer, a top-tier team in Norway. She bought a one-way ticket, passed the trial and signed in February 2020.

After moving into East Oslo, she joined club practices. She trained with the starting goalie, Hannah Seabert, the only other American on the 20-player roster. In March, though, the pandemic forced Vålerenga into lockdown.

Three weeks into her pro career, Tompkins was receiving unemployment.

She walked the city, kept in touch with family and connected with similarly isolated teammates.

“I was a bit shy, so it gave me time to meet them. We really bonded during quarantine,” Tompkins said.

After six weeks, Vålerenga began practices and the team resumed games July 5.

Tompkins got her first start Aug. 16. She dedicated it to Buffs associate head coach Jason Green’s late mother Donna.

“She was always a number-one fan. Such a special woman,” Tompkins said. With “Mama Green” written on her hand, she earned a shutout.

Tompkins stayed in goal. She collected several more shutouts. On Dec. 6, Vålerenga won the league championship. Meanwhile, the club also began play in the Norwegian Cup — a prestigious nationwide club tournament — and won its Champions League qualifiers.

A week later, Vålerenga won the Norwegian Cup with another shutout by Tompkins.

Said CU coach Green: “One trophy was huge, but to bring a double in her first season — it’s why she is now regarded as the best goalkeeper playing in Norway.”

Buffalo Bits

CU Athletics signed a five-year corporate sponsorship agreement with gaming operator PointsBet in September. The partnership is one of few in existence between a sports betting operator and a Division-1 Athletics Program.

Mckinley Wright IV (Ethn’21) became men’s basketball’s all-time assists leader when he delivered his 563rd assist in the Buffaloes’ win over Cal State on Jan. 14.

Frida Formann (Env-St’24) was named U.S. Basketball Writers Association and Pac-12 Freshman of the Week after leading women’s basketball to victories over Cal State and Stanford in mid-January.

Soccer’s Stephanie Zuñiga (Comm’19) signed her first pro contract, joining Cruzeiro Sports Club in Brazil for the 2021 season.

Nordic skier Magnus Boe (IntlA’23) won three of his first four spring races. After gold medaling once and winning Skier of the Meet for the RMISA Invitational at Utah, Boe earned two more victories Jan. 22-23 at the Denver Invitational.

CU Boulder’s Center for Athletics Program.

James Stefanou’s (Jour’21) age when he retired Nov. 9 as college football’s oldest player.

Tyler Bey (Ethn ex’21) selected overall (by 76ers before trade to Mavs) in November’s NBA draft.

Women’s basketball’s overtime win over the then-No. 1 Stanford Cardinals on January 17.

Points scored by pentathlon winner Avery McMullen (IntPhys’23) in the women’s track’s opener at the Air Force Invitational.

$73,000,000

Derrick White’s (Mgmt’17) four-year contract extension with the NBA’s San Antonio Spurs.
Will Over Skill

Sophomore Jaylyn Sherrod (Soc’23) is CU women’s basketball’s first-ever player from Alabama. Named CU’s Most Improved player and selected for the Pac-12 All-Freshman Team, the 5’7” Birmingham native reflects on leading as a point guard, choosing the Buffs and communicating on and off the court.

You became the Buffs’ starting point guard after six games last year. What was it like directing the offense as a first-year player? It was tough having to learn so much. But at the same time, it was an experience that I needed, and it helped me grow as a player and as a person more than anything.

What were the biggest takeaways from your first year? Learning how to lead, be more vocal and communicate with my teammates and coaches to get us all on the same page. We all have different personalities. It was figuring out how to get the best out of each person on the team.

How did offseason training go for you? When I got home, I worked out with my trainer. I met him when I was in ninth grade. I went to Florida with him a couple of times and worked with [Saints quarterback] Jameis Winston. With the [CU] team, it was Zoom. We did a lot of calls, a lot of film sessions, trying to find ways to learn, even though we couldn’t be training in person.

Did you ever play basketball with Jameis? We did play. It was me and a couple of my old teammates and a couple of guys who we worked out with. There’s video out there. If you lost, you had to run. We won, so that was good.

What’s something you make sure to do when you’re in Birmingham? I eat at places that I don’t get the chance to eat at up here. A place called Granny’s, a food truck. They do shrimp and grits, and it’s really, really good. There’s a line down the street.

You’re the first player in program history from Alabama. Why did you choose CU? Because they were really invested. They showed the most interest in getting to know me and not just me, but also my family and the people around me. I’m not a fan of the snow, but I love the people. I love the atmosphere. I love the energy.

Can you share something you’ve learned from Coach JR Payne? I told Coach, ‘I don’t know how you do it.’ It seems so stressful to be a second mom to 16 girls on the team and have her own children. It’s the mental toughness of all the coaches really, because they have their own lives and families, too.

Why did you change your number from 1 to 00 over the offseason? In high school, I did the same thing. I really grew as a leader and as a communicator on my high school team. And I saw myself doing that as a sophomore here. I thought: why not remind myself what I went through and how I came up out of it?

Junior Lesila Finau (Psych’22) began last season as the starting point guard. This season, you’re both starters in the same backcourt. How does that work? It has made it a lot easier for our offense because it puts in another ball handler. You have basically two point guards out on the floor. Sila brings a lot to this team.

How do you stay in control? That’s what I bring to the table. My job is to bring energy and just do what I do because I’m not 6’4.” I’ve gotten a lot better at how to change speeds at times.

You’re known to say, “It’s will over skill.” What motivates you? My will is what got me here, the intangibles. I don’t need to score 30 points. I don’t need to have a great three-point percentage. Honestly, so many people now get lost in having more skill instead of that fight, that toughness and that grit.

What’s one thing Buffs fans would be surprised to learn about you? I am a nerd. I like Greek mythology and Shakespeare. I have a tattoo from Shakespeare on me. When I have free time, I’m normally reading a book. It’s crazy because I really do not like school.

INTERVIEW BY ANDREW DAIGLE. CONDENSED AND EDITED.
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Western Nevada College in 1996, **Anthony Calabro** (SocSci) served as a regents professor in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Reno. He was granted emeritus status in 2005.

While studying abroad at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and the University of Oslo, Norway, in 1959–60, **Romayne Troost Kazmer** (DistSt) wrote letters to her family about her travels. Now, she has compiled those letters into a memoir titled *Letters That Moved My Father*.

After graduating from CU and getting her master’s degree from The Ohio State University, **Charlotte Roe** (A&S) went on to become a leading activist in labor organizing and union support. Today, Charlotte is a national field rep for the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations and a diplomat with the State Department, serving on four continents.

Professor emeritus of history at the University of Montana, **Frederick Skinner** (Hist) is happy to report that his long-standing research and writing project *Beethoven in Russia: Music and Politics* will be published by Indiana University Press. Frederick writes that his study covers “the reception of Beethoven’s music in Russia since 1801, with a focus on the revolutionary movement and ancillary cultural and political developments.”

To document the lives and stories of African Americans throughout Colorado history, **Clementine Pigford Washington** (CommDisor) has been working on a self-publishing project that she hopes to finish in 2021.

A resident of Boulder County since 1965, **Bonnie Carol** (Psych) has been a valued member of Colorado’s musical community for decades. She is one of only a half-dozen female dulcimer builders in the U.S., having won or placed in most dulcimer contests since she started in 1971. Bonnie’s dulcimers are now on display at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American Art exhibit and Museum of Musical Instruments in Phoenix, Arizona.

After getting his master’s in English from UC Davis, **Tom Chase** (Engl) spent 40 years teaching at a community college in Corvallis, Oregon — though music has been his most treasured hobby. Tom writes that his love for music helped him adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic as he played with his band over Zoom and made recordings while in quarantine. He and his bandmates even made an album titled *Pandemic Blues*. When it is safe to travel, Tom and his wife plan to take a trip to Colorado so he can show her campus and the Rockies.

**TOM CHASE’S LOVE FOR MUSIC HELPED HIM ADJUST TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AS HE PLAYED WITH HIS BAND OVER ZOOM AND MADE RECORDINGS WHILE IN QUARANTINE.**

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After getting his master’s in English from UC Davis, **Tom Chase** (Engl) spent 40 years teaching at a community college in Corvallis, Oregon — though music has been his most treasured hobby. Tom writes that his love for music helped him adjust to the COVID-19 pandemic as he played with his band over Zoom and made recordings while in quarantine. He and his bandmates even made an album titled *Pandemic Blues*. When it is safe to travel, Tom and his wife plan to take a trip to Colorado so he can show her campus and the Rockies.

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Both are now retired: she, as a university professor emerita and he, as a museum curator emeritus.


'73 When he marched with the Golden Buffalo Marching Band in 1970, Bob Larsen (MCDBio) played the French horn. Now, he is excited to be starting his term as a board member of the Silver Buffs Marching Band Alumni. Bob’s book, *Wounded Workers: Tales from a Working Man’s Shrink*, intertwines Bob’s own experiences with real stories of cops, firefighters, bank tellers and more.

John Poiri (MJour) was named Writer of the Year by the Outdoor Writers Association of California. He was recognized for his many achievements, including four first-place awards: Best Outdoor Feature Photograph, Best Outdoor Photographic Series, Best Outdoor Video and Best Outdoor Internet Site.

'77 Perkins&Will Denver is an architectural design firm that specializes in sports, recreation and entertainment facility design. The firm, which employs the talent of Don Dethlefs (EnvDes; MArch’79) and Joseph Dyer (MArch’08), recently landed on the *Sports Business Journal*’s “Power Players List.”

After completing her master’s degree at CU, Melody Moore (Soc; MPubAdmin’87) studied protocol at the White House during the Carter administration, then began her career as a research scientist and managing associate for U.S. and international research and training projects. She also served as interim director at the National Evaluation Data and Technical Assistance Center and as an adjunct faculty member at Georgetown University. She retired in 2017 from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Live performances may be paused for now, but Macky Auditorium still hosts live-streamed events.
The frosty Flatirons make for a glorious view outside of the CU Events Center.

In September 2020, Daniel is a UCLA professor in ecology and evolutionary biology and a member of the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability. He spends his summers in Gothic, Colorado, studying yellow-bellied marmots.

While working at IBM, Jennifer Hatfield (Advert) submitted many patent disclosures for the IBM Call for Code Embrace initiative, which seeks to support racial justice by calling on Congress for change. Jennifer writes that it was very rewarding to connect with others and use technology to make the world a better place.

In February 2020, Boulder native Alexander Munn (Hist) was hired as chief legal officer of BBPOS, a worldwide manufacturer of point-of-sale terminals and software for global banks, merchants and distributors. Prior to this new position at BBPOS, Alexander was senior litigation counsel at BPE Law Group, PC, based in Sacramento, California.

Linda Pelaez Hattenbach (Psych) of Lakewood, Colorado, is beginning a new venture designing collegiate jewelry — starting with her alma mater. She invites you to visit revelrydesigns.com for her CU- and Rocky Mountain-inspired jewelry.

Kim Dvorchak (WomSt) is executive director of the National Association of Counsel for Children, a Denver-based nonprofit dedicated to legal advocacy for children across the country.

Last August, Michelle Ray (Arch) was named workplace studio leader for SmithGroup’s Phoenix, Arizona, office. Her work will include building design teams to solve the complex challenges presented by mixed-use projects. Michelle is also the co-founder and co-chair of Arizona Kids Build, an award-winning student mentoring program aimed at teaching elementary school students how the built environment affects both their well-being and the world around us.

In the Bay Area, Jean Walsh (Hist) was elected director of Alameda-Contra Costa Transit, the bus operator of the East Bay in California. Jean writes that she ran against a 20-year incumbent and won with 76% of the vote. In her new role, she will be representing more than 285,000 residents.

Katie Writer (Geog) has been pursuing her journalism career documenting climate change in Alaska. Her recent art and photography show River Shadows and Bushwheels was on display at The Hanger in Talkeetna, Alaska, through February 2021.

Combining hospitality expertise and design savvy, Amy Shapiro Morris (Econ) founded her own design firm in 2019. The Morris Project, based in Brooklyn, New York, helps hospitality professionals think holistically about strategy and design.

In 2020, Kenneth (Ken) Frenchman (Mktg) joined several colleagues to launch their own law firm, Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna. The firm plans to continue representing a client base of Fortune 500 companies, hedge funds and private equity firms. With over 20 years of experience representing clients, Cynthia Hegarty (PolSci) has been hired as legal counsel for Winthrop and Weinstine. She is also the chair of the Minnesota State Bar Association’s Bankruptcy Law section.

Faegre Drinker partner Heather Carson Perkins (Acct; Law’98) has been elected to the governing committee of the American Bar Association Forum of Franchising. She also co-presented at the 42nd Annual Forum on Franchising and served a three-year term as editor-in-chief of the forum publication The Franchise Lawyer and associate editor of The Franchise Law Journal.

Frances Tourtelot (Advert) and Allison Langeler Hastey (Soc’04) recently celebrated six years of owning Merritt+Grace, a Denver-based marketing agency. They write that they use their combined 35+ years of marketing expertise, which started while they were stu-

Students at CU, to serve a variety of clients, including the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment, former office of Governor John Hickenlooper and Cirque du Soleil.

'95 Adam Bedard (CivEngr), co-founder of ARB Midstream, was named a finalist for the Entrepreneur of the Year 2020 Mountain Desert Region Award, which honors entrepreneurial business leaders whose ambitions deliver innovation, growth and prosperity while creating companies that transform our world.

As a junior at CU, Sande Golgart (Mktg) was a forward on the varsity basketball team. Almost 27 years later, as the president of California-based company Zonez, he has helped in the company’s creation of Clean Zonez Panels, which filter air at individual workstations, rooms and other spaces.

This January, Billy Humphrey (Engl) was featured on the Travel Channel’s Expedition Bigfoot for an encounter he allegedly had with the creature on his West Virginia property near the New River Gorge Bridge. Billy was a nonbeliever before the sighting, when he says he and his wife saw Bigfoot at about a 30-foot distance. He was also featured on Animal Planet’s Finding Bigfoot on Valentine’s Day.

While living in Hawaii, Lisa Lucas (EnvCon) published her book, Seed to Sea: Kumulipo Connections Volume 1. She writes that she misses Colorado, her old home.

'96 Currently the longest-tenured college president in the state of Wisconsin, Patrick T. Ferry (PhDHist) will retire as president of Concordia University Wisconsin and Ann Arbor in June 2021. When he retires, Patrick will have served 24 years as president of the Mequon-based school, with seven of those also at the helm of the Ann Arbor campus.

Dawn Davis Loring (MDance) has co-written a textbook titled Dance Appreciation that was published by Human Kinetics in January 2021.

'98 Dean of the School of Arts & Humanities at Sonoma State University Hollis Robbins (MEngl) has published her sixth book, Forms of Contention: Influence and the African American Sonnet Tradition. Hollis credits Professor Kelly Hurley, Professor Nan Goodman and Professor Katherine Eggert for helping her to hone the craft of studying literature while she was a student at CU.

After leaving her job at Samsung in Seoul, Julia Yoo (Law) earned her law degree at CU and founded the Law Center for Women Prisoners, a nonprofit focused on assisting and advocating for incarcerated women. Three years later, she joined the law firm Iredale & Yoo in San Diego. She continues her work fighting police misconduct at the National Police Accountability Project, where she was the first female and the first person of color to be named president.

'99 Caryn Hartman (Anth, RelSt) of Denver won the 2019 Nautilus Award for Best Children’s Illustrated Fiction Book for Dorje the Yak, a dual-language story in English and Tibetan.

Hunter Sykes (Geog, Hist) produced and directed an award-winning conservation documentary, The Hunter Legacy. The film examines 80 years of conservation and change in Kenya through the eyes of the descendants of big game hunters. The production was filmed in part by fellow Buffs alum Darren Campbell (EnvCon’94).
Berklee professor and CU alum Tia Fuller (MMus) is the saxophonist behind the music of Dorothea Williams, a character in Pixar’s new film Soul.

Writer and assistant professor of politics Ahmed Khanani (IntlAf) serves as co-director of the Center for Social Justice at Earlham College. His book All Politics Are God’s Politics: Moroccan Islamism and the Sacralization of Democracy was published in January.

In 2004, Melissa Stockwell (Comm) became the first woman to lose a limb in the Iraq War when she lost her leg to an IED during a routine patrol in Iraq. After a long and challenging recovery, Melissa went on to win three paratriathlon world championships and a bronze medal at the 2016 Rio Paralympics. Melissa’s memoir, The Power of Choice: My Journey from Wounded Warrior to World Champion, was published in 2020.

To say that Kyla Duffy (Mktg, Span) has been keeping busy since graduation would be an understatement. After a two-year stint as the national sales manager at Eldorado Climbing Walls in Boulder, Kyla started a publishing company, earned a master’s degree and began teaching sales management at CU. In 2012, Duffy joined a circus in Japan and stayed with it for seven years, meeting her husband. Most recently, she moved to Mexico, launched her own business and wrote Launch a Powerful Job Search in 7 Days, released in 2020.

Dave Simeone (Engl) was recently hired as a digital project manager at Loptr LLC, western New York’s leading cybersecurity firm.

Travis Macy (Hum) grew up watching his dad compete in Ironman races and ultra-marathons, eventually following in his father’s adventurous footsteps. To date, he has completed over 120 ultra-endurance events in 17 countries. In 2019, Travis and his father teamed up with several others to compete in World’s Toughest Race: Eco-Challenge Fiji, hosted by Bear Grylls on Amazon Prime.

Lucy Ohanian (Law) and Effie Seibold (MJour’03; Law) were both recipients of Colorado Law’s Dan Barash Scholarship, which is awarded to students who hope to be public defenders. Now, Lucy is chief deputy

Students bundled up and donned their masks this winter for snowy days on campus.
MADDDIE HAS DONATED MANY OF HER MASKS AND COVERS TO COMMUNITIES IN NEED, WITH THE MISSION OF BRINGING BAND PROGRAMS BACK TO SCHOOLS.

of the Colorado State Public Defender’s Office, where she recruits and hires our state’s public defenders. Effie is the training director for the Colorado State Public Defender’s Office and has worked with three-quarters of the lawyers who have also received the Dan Barash Scholarship.

Clay Pruitt (Film, Thtr) wrote and directed a short film, Our Place Together, starring a Tony Award nominee. The film held its North American premiere in August 2020 at the Outfest Los Angeles LGBTQ Film Festival. The film follows two young husbands as they confront a diagnosis and its ramifications. Clay writes that the film was inspired by both of his parents’ cancer diagnoses and corresponding struggles.

Law firm Holland & Hart welcomed 15 attorneys, including Colorado Law alumni Brad Williams (Law), Jordan Bunch (Engl’08; Law’11), Kevin McAdam (Law’10) and Nathan Mutter (Law’15), to the firm’s partnership in January 2021.

Rajesh Bagchi (DBA) was named the R.B. Pamplin Professor of Marketing by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors in July 2020. The American Marketing Association ranks Rajesh among the top 20 marketing scholars worldwide, based on publications in marketing’s top journals during the past decade.

Julia Rhine (Class) was promoted to shareholder in Brownstein’s Denver office in January 2021. As a member of the firm’s Energy & Natural Resources Department, Julia helps her clients traverse Colorado’s oil and gas landscape.

Drawing experience from her Colorado upbringing, Stephanie Harper (Engl) wrote a novel, Wesley Yorstead Goes Outside, released in October 2020.

Lifelong horn player Maddie Levinson (MMus) has sewn over 1,300 French horn bell covers and “brass masks” to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while allowing wind and brass musicians to continue playing together. Maddie has donated many of her masks and covers to communities in need, with the mission of bringing band programs back to schools. “If there’s anything I can do to bring joy back to musicians, I’m on it,” she said.

In May 2020, Christine Thai (Fin, IntPhys; MBA’17) co-founded and became the CEO of Therapeasy, a mental health organization helping people find therapists. To date, the platform has on-boarded over 140 Colorado mental health providers and facilitated over 830 client matches.

In December, Kaitlin LaFlamme (Fin) graduated with an MBA in leadership and change management from CU Denver, where she was an outstanding graduate. She wrote, “I will always be a Buff, but I am now a proud Lynx, too.”

In January 2021, Kissinger & Fellman P.C. announced that attorney Brandon Dittman (Law) had become a shareholder in the law firm. Brandon joined Kissinger & Fellman in 2015.

Sam Goodman (PhDChemEngr) writes that he has authored a book on “climate change, how we can take action on it right now and how that will impact society.” Titled Beyond Carbon Neutral, his book is slated to be published in April 2021.

While studying engineering at CU, Tyler Huggins (MEngr’13; PhDCivEngr) and Justin Whiteley (MMechEngr’14; PhD) bonded over their mutual love for science and passion for creating change. In 2014, the duo founded Meati Foods, an alternative meat company that makes steak- and chicken-like products from fungi. The company raised $28 million in its Series A funding round.

While studying at Colorado Law, Ariel Diamond (Law) served as editor-in-chief of the Colorado Technology Law Journal and an active member of the Silicon Flatirons student group. Now, as an associate attorney at the global law firm DLA Piper, she advises telecommunications industry members on compliance issues. She also does pro bono work representing clients in immigration cases.

Rhodes Scholar Serene Singh (Jour, PolSci) was crowned the 2020–21 National All-American Miss, winning the world’s largest pageant.

The frosty Flatirons make for a glorious view outside of the CU Events Center.
INmemoriam

1930s
Caroline Morrison Brown (Eng'37)
Jean Campbell Brown (A&S'39)
Rosemary Aley Landon (Zool'39)

1940s
Priscilla Smith Murphy (Zool'43)
William J. Pietenpol (ElEng'43)
Mary Yeager Duval (Law'45)
Elizabeth Tomlinson Ehrlich (Geol'46)
Elizabeth Green Ellick (A&S'46)
Patricia Donovan Bugas (A&S'47)
Frank T. Dillon Jr. (DistS't74; MScPhDr'49)
Shirley Kemper Green (A&S'47)
Elizabeth Atzenholfer Greeson (A&S'47)
W. Bret Kelly (Eng'47)
Jack S. Rook, Jr. (DistS't47)
Sue Hirama Wells (Nurs'47)
Patricia Bailey Witherspoon (A&S'47)
Margaret Maier Craighead (DistS't48)
Ruth Erickson Fox (MAS'48; MS'52)
Robert H. Franch (A&S'48; MD'52)
Dexter M. Brinker (Phys'49; RAL'52)

1950s
Beryl T. Adams (ElEng'50)
Robert L. Berry (ArchEng'50)
Whitney A. Bradley (Geo'50; MS'52)
Margaret Miller Bucsimi (AeroEng'50)
George L. Duval Jr. (AeroEng'50)
Mary B. Dickey (Eng'50)
Alben S. Godfrey (MechEng'50)
Robert Hahn (A&S'50)
Frank O. Diner (PoliSci'49)
Patricia E. McCallister (ChemEng'50)
William T. Carr (Law'49)
Merritt C. Warren (Law'49)
Lois Horan Wheeler (A&S'49)

1990s
Terry Wolf (Math'70; MCompSci'72)
William C. Ankeny (Phys'71)
Jill Mascaro Furst (Mar'71)
Mary S. Haskins (Hist'71)
H. Barton Mendehall II (Law'71)
Henry W. Neill Jr. (MBA'71)
C. Robert Perdue (Fin'71)
Carl Shafer (PhDPhys'71)
Cynthia Runyon Shanker (Psych'71)
Louis R. Turt III (MBA'71)
David M. Turner (MEd'71; MA'92)

Sharon A. T. Babb (Jour'72)
Jack S. Bottoms (PhDMEd'72)
Kent R. Douglass (Law'72)
Cindy L. Furst (Mgmt'71)
Gretchen H. Gelzer (PhDSpan'72)
Alice F. Holman (Soc'72)
James F. Manning (Mktg'72)
Nancy A. Moseley (Eng'72)
Herb Orvis (A&S ex'72)
Joanne R. Mael (SOC'72; MA'94)
Mark E. Rodekohr (MECn'72; PhD'74)
Wyman G. Smith (PoliSci'72)
Edward A. Steele (Edu'72)
Merwyn D. Steineracher (Arch'72)
Mary P. Cook (ex'73)
Herbert F. O. Eckhoff (Ger'73; MMus'75)
Harry E. Faught Jr. (Mktg'73)
Philip M. Francis (MTaleCom'73)
Jane A. Heinz (Hist'73)
Coila Goodin Maphis (Art'73)
Jacqueline Pollin Mintener (Eng'73; MA'76)
Amy Sargent Riesler (Soc'73)
Edward G. Anderson (ElEng'74)
Leanne M. Gibson Baker (Jour'74)
David E. George (Psych'74)
Edmund K. May (ChemEng'74)
David B. Mercer (Mktg'74)
Lyle J. Owen (Jour'74)
Thomas W. Cowan (PhDGeol'75)
Mary E. Diaz (Soc'75)
Conway H. Olmsted (PhDSpan'75)
Jeffrey Lyen Beck (EnVis'75; MArch'79)
LeRoy E. Welke (PhD ex'75)
Joanne E. Ball (Geog'76)
Lois W. E. Bueler (PhDEng'76)
Colinda Worlow (CowMng'76)
Robert Hernandez (PE ex'76)
James T. Jensen (Rec'76; WMBA'76)
Ann B. Mygatt (PubAd'76)
Garrett J. Pfeifer (Fen'76)
Thomas F. Ross (Bio'76)
Tommy J. Woznicky (MechEng'76)
Patrick A. Fowler (PhDMus'77)
Pat Gilmore (Hist'77)
John R. Hoffman (EdD'77)
Steven R. Johnson (Pharm'77)
Brenda E. Bleden (Ex'78; MEng'78)
Ana M. C. Canas-Bernard (A&S'78)
Doris I. H. Heslinga (MEdu'79)
Continued on page 63...
Beyond a Moment, a Movement

I grew up in Boulder in the 1940s and 50s, living in the boarding house my mother ran for college students on the Hill. The Coloradan always brings back powerful memories. The Fall 2020 issue with its emphasis on racism was particularly meaningful given my subsequent involvement with the civil rights movement. During vacations with the CU dorms closed, my mother would feed those (mainly international) students who were not able to return home, with a special meal at Thanksgiving. I got an amazing education eating with them.

Kristi Bishop
(Mktg’07; MBA’10)
Erie, Colorado

COVID Economy

Thanks for the feature on Richard Wobbekind. I first met Rich in the late 1980s when I began my career in local and regional economic development. We’ve been collaborators ever since and now are friends, too. Much of what I know about the Boulder and Colorado economies I learned from him. “First and foremost an educator,” indeed!

Clif Harald
(DistSt’75)
Boulder

Fake News

I take issue with the “Fake News” article in the recent Coloradan. There have been recent congressional hearings on the unmitigated power of organizations such as Facebook, Google and Twitter. Interestingly, CU professors Hopp and Ferrucci write that Facebook now removes news it deems inaccurate and sends out warnings to those who have liked or shared it. The question I would ask — who is to judge our freedom of speech? Short of obscene content, I would say it is entirely up to the reader to decide, not journalists, professors or tech giants.

Pete Rabbitt
(Mktg’64)
Newport Beach, California

The issue of misleading the public through incorrect information or deliberate disinformation cannot be overemphasized. Tiny, local events can be magnified and dispersed as “national news” via a simple post on the internet. Fabricated posts — designed to distort facts and inflame human emotions — are used to distort our values as a nation and incite distrust and hostility among our citizens.

The “Fake News” article in the fall issue of the Coloradan only touches the surface of this clear and present danger to our democracy. I suggest developing a focus group — made up of individuals at CU in collaboration with other institutions in the state — to develop a concerted effort and strategies to help turn this around. It’s not enough to just sit back and think or write about it. Our “best and the brightest” need to start changing how we deal with this attack on our information systems, with intent to disrupt, manipulate and tear apart our society.

John Radley Matis
(Geol’67)
Loveland, Colorado

I wanted to respond to the article titled “Fake News.” Unfortunately, this article misses the point. No doubt there are many fake stories of the kind the author points out — I do not question those. But what the author, and most likely the university, fails to recognize is that most mainstream media has gradually become fake — meaning they only espouse and endlessly push one left-leaning ideology.

When I was a journalism student at CU in the early 90s, we discussed concerns about concentration of ownership, but nothing was done about it. And here we are, where one idea — progressivism, globalism, name your ism — is all the media will show.

I hope universities, the news, social media and tech companies start re-embracing a respect for the free exchange of ideas that the First Amendment protects,
then start rejecting the concept of “safe spaces” where no one can even consider ideas to wrangle the best ones.

Laura Wright
(Jour’92)
Fort Worth, Texas

Yard Signs
With CU being a forerunner on environmentalism, I would have hoped that the “Yard Signs” article would have noted the massive downside of all those signs. So. Many. Signs. Welcome to preschool, every team ever played on, every birthday, graduation, political symptoms… Here’s a movement: Stop putting out so many signs, and spare our earth all the vast dumping of signs in landfills — not to mention the mining, energy production and most likely toxic paints and dyes that go into making them.

Natalie Nordin
(Econ’93)
Atlanta, Georgia

Readers remind us to consider the environmental impact of yard signs.

INmemoriam continued

Cynthia A. Myers (Acct’78)
Linda Olbert Trowbridge (Econ’78)
Mary Hinsey Buchberger (Fin’79)
Edward J. Connelly Jr. (PhDMus’79)
Roy E. Moxley (ElEngr’79)
Mary Hinsey Buchberger (Fin’79)
Linda Olbert Trowbridge (Econ’78)
Cynthia A. Myers (Acct’78)

1980s
Eula L. Perry (A&S ex’80)
Karen M. Wardzinski (Law’80)
Charles A. Ammen (Engl’81)
Peter A. Barbieri (MMus’81; PhD’87)
Michael R. Davey (ArchEngr’81)
Joy Cipoletti Giordano (Acct’81)
Michael J. Nelson (Acct’81)
Jean Irey Scharfenberg (Edus’81)
Virginia J. Sutter (Soc’81)
Catherine Good Duncan
(CommDissor’82)
Pamela J. Edwards (Comm’82)
Scott W. Larson (MechEngr’82)
Paul J. Lautenbach (CivEngr’82)
Jim L. Swanson (Mktg’82)
Robert A. Thomas (PhD’82; MechEngr’82)
Michael D. Tanner (A&S ex’83)
David J. Redford (Engl’85)
Vincent E. Carter (Fin’86)
Douglas A. Donofrio (Law’86)
Mary K. Krimendahl (DistSt’87)
Frank J. Ricotta (EdD’87)
Jeffrey D. Wasowicz (Bio’87)
Richard T. Behrens
(MEICompEngr’88; PhD ENgr’90)
Todd W. Gathright (InfSys’88)
Margaret G. Robb (PhD ex’88)
Karen Tucker (Mus’88)
Donald J. Ward Jr. (Engl’88)
Elana B. Straub (Econ’89)
Robert L. Thamges (MTeleCom’89)
Timothy I. Murphy (Fin’89)

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2000s
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Joshua L. Evans (Mkines’03)
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Marina G. Verde (Engl’04)
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Sophie Lheritier (MBA’07)
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Garrett Sartori (EngrMgmt’12)
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Nicklaus G. Downing (Mgmt’16)
Stephen Brock Hovey (Mgmt’16)
Dane T. Mailhiot (Econ’17)
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Julian N. Taranow (MCDBio’19)

2020s
Jai R. Rajagopala (PolSci’18; MPubAdmin ex’20)
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Dylan J. Olivias (Psyc’20)
Nora Meade (A&S ex’19)
Landon W. Rabern (Psyc ex’21)
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director@cuboulder.edu; 303-492-8484
Koenig Alumni Center, University of Colorado, Boulder CO 80309-0459

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Contributors
Glenn Asakawa (Jour’86), Rachel Binder, Patrick Campbell (EnvDes’11), Casey A. Cass, Ally Dever (StComm’19), Margie Grant, Jessi Green, Kalee Kwiciel, Lisa Marshall (Jour, PolSci’94), Nicole Morris (Comm’16), Tom Needy, Jennifer Osieczanek, Julie Poppens (Engl’98), Lauren Price (MJour’17), Kelsey Simpkins (MJour’18), Daniel Strain, Matt Tyrie, Nicole Waldrip

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Design and Art Direction
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Though Pearl Street wasn’t always so developed, it has been a Boulder hub since 1859. The thoroughfare began as a muddy road—patrons ambled down wooden sidewalks, and miners in wagon convoys paraded past storefronts on their way into the winding canyon. Automobiles arrived in the early 1900s, and this popular street became the first paved road in Boulder. Though it has changed over the years, two things have remained: Pearl Street is the heartbeat of the city and has always held the same sweeping Flatirons views.