

# Coloradan

Alumni Magazine Winter 2016



**MANAGING THE  
GRAND CANYON**  
**CHRIS LEHNERTZ**  
(EPOBIO '85) TAKES  
CHARGE OF AN  
AMERICAN ICON

**ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:**

SOUTH SUDAN TO THE **WHITE HOUSE**

CU LAUNCHES **SPACE MINOR**

THE BUFFS ARE **GOING BOWLING**

EXAM TIME? **LET THE DOGS OUT!**

**Be Boulder.**



Alumni Association  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



# NOW

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2016**

Four of CU Boulder's five Nobel Prize winners stroll the campus together, nodding to a certain 1969 Beatles album cover.

They are, left to right, David Wineland (physics, 2012), Carl Wieman (physics, 2001), Eric Cornell (physics, 2001) and Thomas Cech (chemistry, 1989).

Jan Hall (physics, 2005), CU's fifth Nobelist, was unable to attend.

Watch a video of the photo shoot on CU Boulder's official Facebook page.

Photo by Glenn Asakawa



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**Chris Lehnertz** (EPOBio'85) takes charge at Grand Canyon National Park.

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If it's finals week at CU Boulder, it's time to let the dogs out.

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**Michael Huseby** (Bus'76) was reading *Huckleberry Finn* at age 4 — an apt start for a future Barnes & Noble CEO.

**COVER** **Chris Lehnertz** (EPOBio'85), superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park, at work. Photo by Grand Canyon National Park/NPS.

**LEFT** **Kaitlyn Turnbull** (A&S'20) is one of 225 Golden Buffalo Marching Band members, but she tends to stand out: The freshman from Clovis, Calif., is the band's only twirler — and the first in 20 years. Her sister, Brianne, twirls, too, at the University of Arizona.

Here, Kaitlyn performs at the Rocky Mountain Showdown. CU defeated CSU 44-7. Photo by Glenn Asakawa.

EDITOR'S NOTE

We all know change can be hard, but sometimes it's cause for celebration. Witness CU football's exhilarating performance this fall.

As of early November, the long struggling Buffs were 7-2 and headed to a college bowl game for the first time in a decade (see page 49). You'll also find updates at [colorado.edu/coloradan](http://colorado.edu/coloradan).

Another welcome turn of events is the debut of CU Boulder's space minor, which is open to students of every major (see page 9).

Always evolving is the *Coloradan*. As we labor over the print edition that most readers still favor, we're working to ensure the magazine is handy whenever you want it, wherever you are. Find new and archived stories on the web.

Indeed, because the website has proven more popular than our mobile app, we've discontinued the app in favor of extra web content.

The video paired with this issue's story about therapy dogs ("Stress Relief," page 37) is an example of that. Try to watch it without cracking a smile.

*Eric Gershon*



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### WOLFING OUT

CU English professor Stephen Graham Jones got hooked on werewolves as a boy in West Texas. Now he's made them the stars of his latest novel, *Mongrels* (William Morrow 2016).

#### How would you describe the classic werewolf?

The classic werewolf is pretty much straight from [the film] *The Wolf Man*, 1941. Silver was the thing that killed the wolf. The bite was what infected the wolf. Even the mark of the beast that's in *The Wolf Man* became part of the legend for a while. But in the 20th century it's been furry hands, furry head, furry feet in clothes.

#### So, part human, part wolf?

It is, it's a hybrid.

#### What are the special powers or abilities that a werewolf has?

It's violent, strong, it can smell well, has a bite. It's a predator. An ambush predator specifically.

#### Is there a canonical attitude or way of life for these werewolves?

They've been seen for decades as in contrast to the vampire, largely. The vampire

is usually this high-society monster. And so the werewolf will often be the opposite — low-income, struggling to get by, can't control their temper.

#### How do the werewolves in *Mongrels* fit into the werewolf literary tradition and how are they different?

You have to either take into account all the werewolves that have come before or you have to pretend they didn't exist. And I thought it was kind of insulting or prideful for me to just make it up as if from nothing. I went and looked back at every wolf text I could. And, of course, the most important one is *The Wolf Man*. So I studied and studied that movie.

#### Are they predators, your werewolves?

That's their instinct. But they're trying to make it under the radar, and so predation is for many of them the last resort. They try to work low-paying, cash-under-the-table jobs such [that] they can go to the grocery store and buy food.

#### Are there moments or phases for them when they would be conventional, law-abiding members of human society?

They've been kicked by society so many

times that they have a hard time being law-abiding. They're proud of being werewolves, but they don't want to get caught being werewolves, so they try to not wolf-out unless they have to.

#### Why do you think humans are drawn to monsters?

For different reasons. The werewolf — I think the reason that that's still a vital story for us is that more and more we're characterizing ourselves as kind of thinking machines, as the bipedal version of our smartphone. We always feel as a culture that we're just a half-step away from being able to download ourselves into a server somewhere. What a werewolf story tells us is that we're animal and we're human. We have base instincts. And if we don't let those instincts out periodically, then they're going to rise on their own in a bad way.

#### What draws you to monster stories and werewolves in particular?

If seven out of 10 werewolf stories I read are a failure, nevertheless I'm still going to have seen a cool werewolf, and so it's not a total failure. It's just a better gamble.

#### If a werewolf isn't a phenomenon in nature, how can we talk about its having biology?

The monster you can believe in is a scarier monster.

#### Tell me a little bit about being 12 and discovering the werewolf and its meaning for you.

I used to try to become a werewolf when I was that age. Trying to drink after wolves. Rolling in the moonlight in the sand. Eating raw meat. None of it seemed to be making me into a werewolf. Finally, 30 years later, I just decided the way I was going to see werewolves was to write a novel about werewolves.

#### What's in the works?

I just wrote a novel called *Texas Is Burning*, it's a cop novel out of West Texas. It's with the publisher now. Also I pitched *Mongrels 2* and *3* to them as well. Aside from that, I've got three other finished novels already.

#### Are there any werewolves in *Texas Burning*?

There are not. Just cops and bad guys.

*Condensed and edited by Eric Gershon.*

# Campus

News WINTER 2016

## Hot Pepper

AT MACKY, SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SONIA SOTOMAYOR WALKS THE TALK

THE JUSTICE CONFESSED: She's not one for sitting.

"I was called by my mother 'aji' — hot pepper," Sonia Sotomayor told a Macky Auditorium audience Sept. 2. "I've gotten a lot older, but I still can't sit still."

So, the U.S. Supreme Court Justice said, she planned to get up, walk the aisles and answer questions while shaking hands. It would make her security detail anxious.

"Their job is to protect me — not from you, from me," she tactfully told the chuckling audience.

Sotomayor made several appearances in Colorado leading up to Labor Day, culminating in a series of public and invitation-only events at CU Boulder. Her Macky talk was the fifth John Paul Stevens Lecture hosted by Colorado Law School's Byron R. White Center for the Study of American Constitutional Law.

**White** (Econ'38) was a Supreme Court justice from 1962 to 1993.

Initially from the stage, Sotomayor — now more than seven years into her term but still one of the newest justices and, at 62, youngest — responded to questions posed by CU Law professor Melissa Hart. Then Sotomayor made a long, slow stroll around the center section seats, talking as she went.

She touched on influential books in her life (the *Bible*, *Don Quixote*, *Lord of the Flies*), memorable cases and her own stubbornness. She meditated on judges' compulsion for consistency, the psychological gravity of working on the nation's court of last resort — and the imperative of decisiveness amid the law's ambiguity.

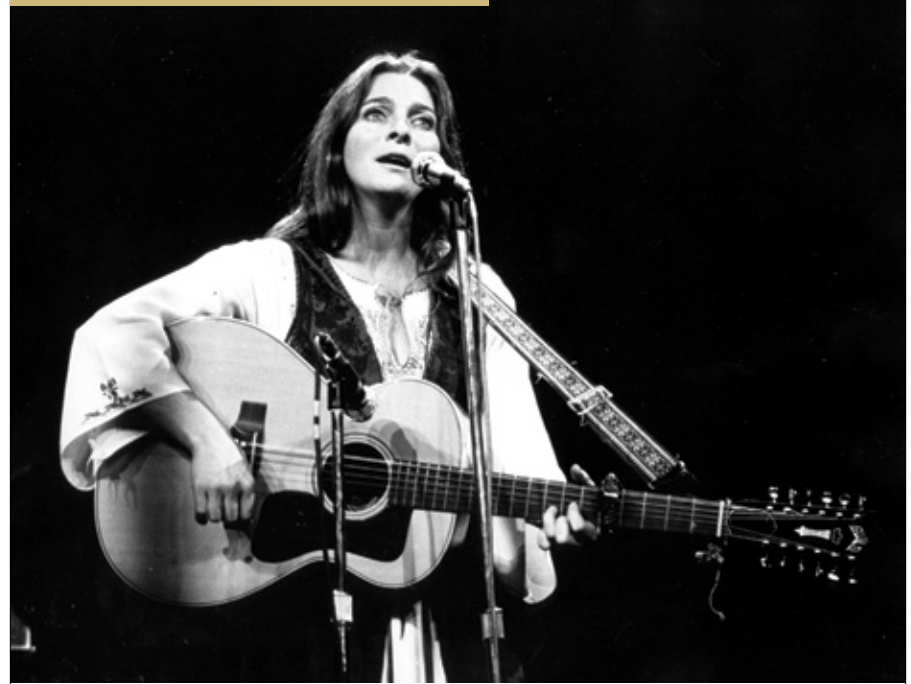
"You're not very valuable to people if you can't make up your mind," she said.

EG



Photo by Glenn Asakawa

BOULDER BEAT By Paul Danish



### THE ALBUM

BEFORE THERE WAS WI-FI, there was Hi-Fi.

The year was 1959.

A folk music craze was sweeping America.

The High Fidelity/Long Playing record, which had been invented in 1948, was (as we would say today) going viral.

There were no hippies.

But there were beatniks, and a lot of them were into folk music.

And there was a bar in Denver called the Exodus, which had tapped into the folk music craze.

All this prompted some enterprising CU students and alumni to produce a record titled *Folk Song Festival at Exodus*.

The guys behind the project were **Pat Young** (PolSci'60) and **Hank Fox** (Bus'59). Young was managing editor of the *Colorado Daily* in 1959. Fox was a recent CU grad who had started a record company in Boulder called Sky Lark.

Somehow they convinced the Exodus owner to put up \$500 for the project. They paid a bartender \$10 to design an album cover. Young wrote the album notes.

All the artists on the album were CU affiliates — students, alums and at least one young employee, a woman. One featured group would achieve national success and the employee true superstardom.

But first the album had to see light of day, and finding places to do the recording proved hard.

Young and Fox had a pal who was a late-night DJ at KBOL, Boulder's radio station.

He agreed to let them use the station's studio during his shift. They were almost arrested when the assistant station manager dropped by unexpectedly.

They tried to record the album's lone female vocalist at the Glory Hole, a bar in Central City, but it was too noisy. They eventually succeeded in an apartment with blankets on the walls for soundproofing.

No one got rich off the album. **Dave Wood** (MSpan'69), who had the last track on it, said the musicians used to joke that "We all got a check for \$7.50, and the check bounced." (Young said they did better than that.)

The group that made the national charts was the Harlin Trio, which included Buffs **H. Brooks Hatch** (A&S'63) and **Bryan Sennett** (PolSci'63). They eventually reinvented themselves as a nine-member group called the Serendipity Singers and made it onto the national charts — No. 6 on the Billboard Hot 100 in May 1964 — with "Don't Let the Rain Come Down."

Then there was the girl they had such a hard time recording. She'd been working at CU while her husband finished his degree. Her name was Judy Collins. The three tracks she performed for the album — "House of the Rising Sun," "Tell Old Bill" and "Two Sisters" — are her earliest known recordings.

*Paul Danish (Hist'65) is a Coloradan columnist.*

## CU Boulder Launches Space Minor

OPEN TO UNDERGRADS IN ALL MAJORS

BEFORE **BRITNEY WASHINGTON** (Engl'18) applies to law school, the English major wants to learn something more about galaxies far, far away. So she recently added a second minor, after classics — CU Boulder's new space minor.

"The second I saw it, I immediately signed up," said the junior from Aurora, Colo., who was raised with a telescope in the house and has a sister majoring in astrophysics.

CU's space-related exploits and those of its alumni — including nearly 20 astronauts — are legion. The new minor is intended to make space studies available to all undergraduates, whether they major in art, French, business, aerospace engineering or something else. There are no prerequisites.

"The space minor is for any undergraduate student on campus who wants to further explore their interest in space and how it could lead to a great career after graduation," said Steve Nerem, a satellite expert in the College of Engineering & Applied Science who is the program's inaugural director.

Astronomy and engineering majors are welcome to enroll, too, he said, and

could get a lot out of it: Other than a required overview course, "Pathway to Space," all courses are electives, including many in the humanities, arts and social sciences — science fiction writing, the history of space exploration and some film and music courses, for instance.

The new minor is an outgrowth of CU's university-wide grand challenge, "Our Space. Our Future," a broad portfolio of ambitious Earth science and space-related projects. There are no plans to start a space major, Nerem said.

Washington has already identified a career the new minor might help prepare her for: space law.

Last spring she and her sister, **Taylor Washington** (Astro'17), attended a campus talk by an expert in the field.

"That exists?!" Brittney Washington said she remembers thinking.

Whatever career she chooses, she's excited about space.

"There's so much stuff up there, and mystery," she said. "And it looks so beautiful."

EG



**VOYAGE TO AN ASTEROID** CU Boulder is a key player in NASA's mission to touch an asteroid, grab pieces and send them to Earth.

CU aerospace engineering professor Daniel Scheeres and colleagues will help assess near-Earth asteroid Benu before the spacecraft makes contact.

"We essentially will be weighing the asteroid to see how the mass is distributed within it," said Scheeres, leader of the mission's radio science team. "We need to know the mass and gravity field of the asteroid before the spacecraft comes in contact with it and to understand the sample we will collect."

NASA's Osiris-Rex spacecraft left in September. It will eject its Benu sample Earthward in 2023.

Learning more about Benu could, among other things, help minimize the small risk of a future collision with Earth.

*Read more about CU's role at [www.colorado.edu/today](http://www.colorado.edu/today). Search "Benu."*

### HEARD AROUND CAMPUS

**"BEYOND OUR CULTURAL BIASES, WHAT REALLY IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SHAKESPEARE PLAY, AN ORCHESTRA CONCERT AND A BASKETBALL GAME?"**

— CU Boulder professor **Roger Pielke Jr.** (Math'90; PhDPolSci'94) in a *New York Times* op-ed arguing in favor of academic degrees in athletics.

### POLICE SHOOT, KILL CAMPUS INTRUDER

Campus and City of Boulder Police shot and killed an armed campus intruder Oct. 5

The intruder, identified as Brandon Simmons, 28, a recently discharged U.S. Marine with no CU affiliation, had threatened a person in a Folsom Field parking lot with a long, bladed weapon, then went into the Champions Center and tried entering the athletic department offices. CU personnel refused to let him in, leaving him locked in a stairwell. Police shot him during a tense encounter. No one else was hurt.

A statement by Chancellor Philip P. DiStefano is available at [tinyurl.com/custatement](http://tinyurl.com/custatement).

### DIGITS

**NEARLY NAKED MILE**  
**OCTOBER 2016**

58

Temperature in degrees at the 9:30 pm start of the campus race

1.7

Total distance of the course, in miles

250

Approximate number of nearly naked racers participating in the annual spectacle

7:34

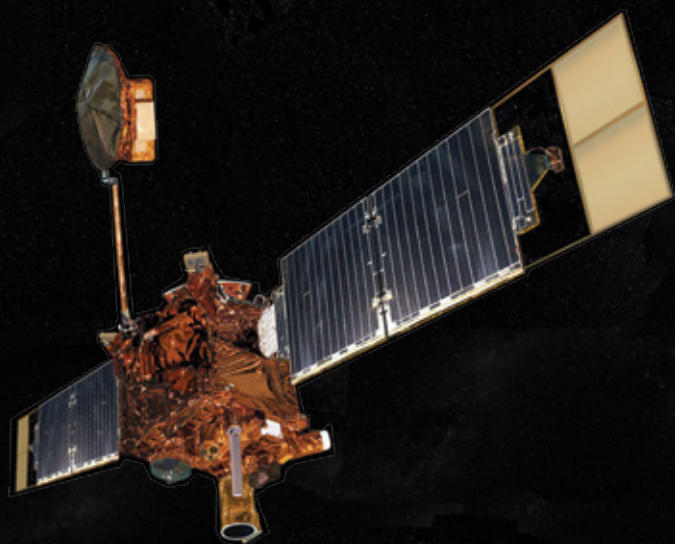
Finishing time of male winner **Phillip Rocha** (IntPhys'20)

10:04

Finishing time of female winner **Christa Boettiger** (Engr'19)

925

Articles of clothing donated by students to the charity A Precious Child





### OBSELETE NO MORE

Lori Emerson founded CU Boulder's Media Archaeology Lab in 2009 after her digital poetry class used 1983 Apple IIe computers to access bpNichol's *First Screening* e-poems — the only way to read them.

The experience inspired her to get a Commodore 64, popular around the same time, to explore that computer's differences from the Apple. Hooked on the novelty of the old machines, she kept going.

Today the lab, located in a CU-owned house at 1320 Grandview Avenue, is home to dozens of computers from decades past, plus typewriters, vintage cameras, video game consoles and a large, hand-crank phonograph machine. Visitors can disassemble an Apple II computer, go head-to-head on an Atari 2600 and copy documents on a 1960s-era mimeograph machine.

The lab enables hands-on teaching, research and artistic practice using old media that still work. Most of the technology was donated or acquired through auction sites like eBay.

Emerson's favorite is a 1976 Altair 8800b computer, which uses switches to manually process binary 1s and 0s. She's seen people rely on muscle memory from decades ago to work it.

"I often like to challenge my students to imagine what computing could have been like if it had developed along the lines of the Altair," Emerson said during a tour.

Switching on an Apple II, she held her breath as the machine blinked to life.

"It's always a relief when they turn on," she said.

CS



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### A RABBIT CALLED HARVEY

It's been a good run for CU Boulder and the Pulitzer Prizes: In 2016 professor Carter Pann was a finalist in the music category, just a year after professor Elizabeth Fenn won in history.

As it happens, CU alumni, faculty and affiliates have been winning Pulitzers — among the most famous prizes in journalism, arts and letters — for at least 71 years.

Among alumni, the tradition appears to have started in 1945, when Denver native **Mary Coyle Chase** (A&S'26) won the drama prize for *Harvey*, her comic play about a genial alcoholic, Elwood P. Dowd, and his six-foot-plus rabbit.

Over the decades, at least 15 alumni, faculty and staff — and likely many more — have won or shared Pulitzers, some while at CU, some later in life. Still others were finalists.

Some individual winners work on campus today: Besides Fenn, for instance, there's **Dave Curtin** (Jour'78), the chancellor's speechwriter, who won the 1990 prize in feature writing while working as a reporter at the *Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph* (now the *Gazette*).

Many other Buffs have shared group Pulitzers in journalism, the prize's biggest category. They include university photographer **Glenn Asakawa** (Jour'86), for staff breaking-news photography with the *Rocky Mountain News* in 2000, and **Doug Pardue** (IntIAf'69) of the Charleston, S.C., *Post and Courier*, which won the 2015 public service prize for a series about the murderous abuse of women in South Carolina.

The selection of *Harvey* over Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* — now a major theater classic — has raised some critics' eyebrows in retrospect. But *Harvey* was the prize jury's clear favorite at the time, according to Heinz-Dietrich Fischer, author of *Outstanding Broadway Dramas and Comedies*.

The year 1945 was nearly an *annus mirabilis* for CU: Not only did Coyle Chase win in drama, but novelist and story writer **Jean Stafford** (A&S'36; MA'38) was a finalist, too, in fiction. Stafford would later win the 1970 fiction prize for her *Collected Stories*.

Visit [colorado.edu/coloradan](http://colorado.edu/coloradan) for a list of other CU winners. Search "Pulitzer."

By Eric Gershon



NATIONAL PARKS

# Guiding GRAND CANYON

BUFF CHRIS LEHNERTZ TAKES  
CHARGE OF AN AMERICAN ICON.

By Eric Gershon



Christine (Chris) Lehnertz is the first woman to serve as superintendent of Grand Canyon National

Park, among the federal park system's busiest.

SUPERLATIVES COME EASY AT the Grand Canyon. So do spiritual feelings: For the English writer J. B. Priestley, the great cleft was no less than “a revelation.”

Now the canyon and much of the surrounding landscape — more than a million acres in all — are Chris Lehnertz’ to care for.

## SOMEBODY TOLD ME, ‘YOU’RE THE NEW MAYOR.’ IT’S LIKE RUNNING A TOWN.

At the end of August, **Lehnertz** (EPOBio’85) became the 19th superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park, one of the most famous and visited in the National Park system.

“How can I not have a smile on my face?” she said in an early September

interview, just days into the job.

The first woman to oversee Grand Canyon since it was first set aside as public space more than 100 years ago, Lehnertz is at home in America’s magnificent public spaces.

In her previous job, she led Golden Gate National Recreation Area,

which includes Alcatraz Island and San Francisco’s Presidio and is the second most visited National Park Service site. Earlier Lehnertz was deputy superintendent at Yellowstone. From 2010 to 2015 she oversaw the park service’s entire Pacific West Region, which cov-

ers the six westernmost states plus the South Pacific islands of Guam, Saipan and American Samoa.

In those roles she’s navigated an astonishing diversity of sometimes thorny issues — including a proposal to build the country’s largest landfill on the edge of Joshua Tree National Park in southern California and a bitter battle over dog leash policies in Golden Gate. Along the way she’s established herself as an open-minded listener and skilled broker of competing interests with a knack for fostering a sense of community among park employees.

“She’s a master at working with other folks,” said Neal Desai of the National Parks Conservation Association, an independent parks advocate and watchdog. “She treats other land managers, and stakeholders who don’t even agree with what the park service is doing or proposing, with a great deal of respect.”

Lehnertz has her work cut out for her at Grand Canyon. A primary task will be improving working conditions and morale among the park’s roughly 500 employees following a federal investigation that found “evidence of a long-term pattern of sexual harassment and hostile work environment” within the park.

“We have some important work to do on improving how we care for employees,” she said. “We know there’s been a history of sexual harassment. We are really going to have to change the organization to make sure that Grand Canyon is an inclusive, respectful work environment. Somewhere in there something went wrong. And we can’t be shy about looking at that.”

In addition to a lot of careful listening, she said, initial priorities include cultivating relationships with 11 Native American tribes long associated with the park and telling the story of climate change, an aim for the entire National Park Service.

Like many of her fellow superintendents, Lehnertz will also need to manage an intensifying crush of visitors. With 5.5 million last year — up 16 percent year-over-year — Grand Canyon is the second most visited park. The park system recorded an all-time high of 307 million.

Then there’s the everyday work of running a high-traffic tourist destination — supervising routine maintenance (“I always talk about toilets, trash and trails,” Lehnertz said), wildlife management (resident condors and bison, for instance), tending to archaeological resources, working with concessionaires and managing infrastructure upgrades. The transcanyon pipeline that supplies fresh water for thousands of park residents badly needs attention.

“Somebody told me, ‘You’re the new mayor,’” said Lehnertz, 55. “It’s like running a town.”

Lehnertz joined the park service in 2007, after a full career with several state and federal agencies with a stake in natural resources, including the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), where she spent 16 years in Denver and Washington.



## CLIMATE CHANGE IS A STORY WE HAVE TO TELL. IF WE DON'T CHANGE THE PATH WE'RE ON, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHERE OUR REFUGE IS WHEN THE CLIMATE DRAMATICALLY CHANGES.

She found her way to the Park Service almost by accident. While at the EPA, she applied to an executive training program with the Department of Interior, which runs the Park Service, as practice for a similar EPA program. Admitted, she took a temporary assignment at Yellowstone and found her colleagues congenial. After she returned to the EPA, the Yellowstone superintendent called and said, “Hey, I’ve got a deputy superintendent position open...”

“It was like a whole world opened up to me,” Lehnertz said.

Born in Texas, she grew up in Colorado, mainly around Littleton, the third of four children. Her father was a geologist who loved the outdoors.

“He was always taking the family out someplace in Colorado with his geologist’s pick in one hand and his magnifying lens in the other while mom was rounding up the kids and making sure we didn’t fall off any cliffs,” she said.

Lehnertz’ first visit to a national park came at about age 5, when the family went to see the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde in southwest Colorado, she said. Since then, she’s been to about 75 of more than 400 sites in the NPS system, from Acadia National Park in Maine to American Memorial Park on Saipan. (Of the sites, 59 are formally National Parks.)

It wasn’t until her 40s that Lehnertz first visited Grand Canyon. Soon she’ll know it as well as anyone.

Grand Canyon National Park is far more than the North and South Rims, where most visitors congregate, and it’s more than the mile-deep canyon itself. The park’s nearly 2,000 square miles include forests, deserts, plains, plateaus, streams and waterfalls, as well

as archaeological ruins and millennia of geological splendor.

It’s the superintendent’s job to balance preservation of irreplaceable natural resources with a mandate to make them accessible to the public, and to interpret them.

Assessing climate change’s effect on the parks and educating visitors about it is a high priority for the NPS, Lehnertz said, and will be for her. At some park sites in the Pacific, she said, visitor parking lots built just 25 or 30 years ago are now under water as often as not.

“Climate change is a story we have to tell,” she said. “If we don’t change the path we’re on, it will be difficult to understand where our refuge is when the climate dramatically changes.”

In the fall, as Lehnertz and her spouse, Shari Dagg, were still settling into the superintendent’s house near the canyon’s South Rim, Lehnertz was getting up to speed and looking far ahead. One of the many tasks before her is preparing the next strategic plan for the park, which celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2019.

“That sets us up this year to think about, ‘What is the future for Grand Canyon?’”

Lehnertz will have a hand in shaping that future, a relief for Neal Desai, the parks advocate.

“In my opinion, she’s the right person at the right time for the Grand Canyon,” he said.

What might come next for Lehnertz herself — after postings at Yellowstone, Golden Gate and Grand Canyon — is hard to imagine, and a ways off.

Someday, she said, “You retire and you just spend time going for hikes in all those parks you haven’t visited yet.”

*Eric Gershon is editor of the Coloradan.*

# Revolutionizing the RICKSHAW

A CU BOULDER ENGINEER AIMS TO REVOLUTIONIZE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION IN INDIA. SHE'S 23.

By Janice Podsada

IF YOU'VE BEEN TO a big city in India or China, you've probably ridden in a motorized rickshaw. They're the low-cost, three-wheeled taxis commuters use for short trips — that last mile or two from the train station to home or from home to the store — and a key piece of the urban transportation network.

## A PLACE TO START: EARTH'S SECOND-MOST POPULOUS COUNTRY.

But rickshaws are also a massive source of pollution, as **Maithreyi Gopalakrishnan** (EngrPhys, MAppPhys'16) noticed during visits to see relatives in Chennai.

"Every year we go back, the pollution gets worse and worse," said the recent CU Boulder graduate, whose family moved to Superior, Colo., from India in 1993.

Most of India's motorized rickshaws, and there are millions of them, are older models equipped with simple two-stroke engines — notorious polluters. They contribute up to 40 percent of vehicle pollution in India's largest cities, according to Gopalakrishnan, 23.

In 2014 she decided to do something about it. Then a sophomore in the College of Engineering & Applied Science, she founded a company to design and develop a hybrid conversion kit for rickshaws that would benefit the environment and rickshaw drivers alike.

"If all of India's auto rickshaws are equipped with one of our kits, we estimate it's the equivalent of taking one million cars off the road," she said.

The company, Surya Conversions (Surya means "sun" in Sanskrit), is a start-up to be sure. The firm is still per-

fecting its prototype and hasn't brought its product to market yet. Stateside, the prototype has been tested on one rickshaw, a poppy red, four-stroke import that narrowly met U.S. air pollution control standards.

But things are going well: Surya raised \$30,000 through grants, competitions and a Kickstarter campaign, and won the 2014 CU Boulder New Venture Challenge's Social Impact Competition, claiming a \$3,000 prize. A year

later, it won the Boulder Chamber's 2015 Esprit Venture Challenge and a check for \$10,000.

All this — plus a lot of time, energy and brainpower from more than a dozen of Gopalakrishnan's fellow CU students — led to the 35-pound prototype she took to Chennai for a series of field tests this fall. Data collected there about fuel consumption, emissions and other performance data will inform improvements.

Preliminary tests indicate Surya's kit could cut fuel costs by \$600 a year — equal to the conversion kit's anticipated \$600 price tag, Gopalakrishnan said. That means fuel savings could pay for the kit in a year's time.

This is important, because drivers don't earn much — annual take-home pay is roughly \$1,800, she said, "barely enough to support a family," nevermind invest in a new all-electric, electronic or compressed natural gas-powered rickshaw, which typically cost several thousand dollars.

With the Indian government pressuring rickshaw drivers to switch to cleaner models, Surya's conversion kit could become an affordable alternative.

During those family trips to Chennai, Gopalakrishnan would watch the colorful parade of open-air rickshaws weave through the city's streets.

At CU, her growing knowledge of physics led her to realize the kinetic energy produced by rickshaws' constant braking in stop-and-go traffic could be harnessed to generate electricity. Existing hybrid vehicles, such as the Toyota Prius and the Ford Fusion Hybrid, use regenerative braking to recharge their batteries — why not harness the same technology to convert a gasoline-powered rickshaw into a hybrid?

Working with other students, including lead engineer **Irfan Nadiadi** (MMechEngr'17), Gopalakrishnan developed an easy-to-attach hybrid conversion prototype that could be installed without modifying the vehicle itself.

When a rickshaw's brakes are applied, the device traps energy that would otherwise dissipate as heat and stores it in the kit's battery. Power is then transferred to the engine, allowing the vehicle to operate primarily in electric mode when it's idling or traveling at lower speeds. This results in fewer fill-ups and less total emissions, she said.

Gopalakrishnan, Surya's chief executive officer; **Kimberlee Ott** (EnvEngr'15; MCivEngr'17), chief operations officer; **Sam Winston** (Acct'15), business operations and now also with GitHub; and Nadiadi eagerly await the results of the field tests in India.

If the prototype cuts emissions sufficiently — the goal is 25 percent or more — Gopalakrishnan will try to raise \$400,000 and begin producing the kits.

It could be just the start of something much bigger, she said: "Another 35 countries use

auto rickshaws. We'd like to bring the kit to the rest of the world."

That's potentially a huge business coup, and something perhaps more satisfying, too.

"I got interested in engineering as a way to help people," said Gopalakrishnan, who is also a trained ballet dancer. "I saw engineering as a way that I could transform an idea into a meaningful and useful product."

George Deriso, an experienced technology entrepreneur and advisor for CU Boulder's Deming Center for Entrepreneurship who has advised the Surya team, believes the rickshaw hybrid conversion kit is just the beginning for Gopalakrishnan.

"I believed her invention was one of great importance, in that it could potentially improve the lives of millions in those countries that use auto-rickshaw vehicles," he said. "As I got more acquainted with her, I came to realize that Maithreyi herself is the real potential."

*For last winter's issue Janice Podsada wrote about the first microbrewery in Jordan.*



# SMARTER Than You Think

NEANDERTHALS GET A BAD RAP. CU  
ARCHAEOLOGIST PAOLA VILLA IS HELPING  
SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

By Jim Scott



O'BRIEN

LAST MAY, TWO STONE circles found deep in a French cave set off a ripple of awe around the globe. Built with chunks of stalagmites snapped from the cave floor, the circles dated to 176,000 years ago — more than 100,000 years before modern humans pushed out of Africa.

The international news media called the discoveries “extraordinary,” “remarkable” and “shocking.” Researchers said there was no doubt the circle structures in Bruniquel cave — the largest of them roughly 20 feet across and both set nearly a quarter of a mile past the entrance in total darkness — had been created by Neanderthals, close human relatives long stereotyped as knuckle-dragging dimwits.

In the days before the findings became public in the journal *Nature*, CU Boulder archaeologist Paola Villa’s phone was ringing and her email dinging. An internationally known Neanderthal expert not involved in the study, she was in hot demand for an advance, independent take.

History, has been building a case for Neanderthals as an advanced species for a decade. And Bruniquel cave, where the stalagmite circles were found, offers compelling evidence of sophisticated Neanderthal activity, she said.

It contains plenty of evidence of ancient fire, for instance. More than 100 fragments of stalagmites and animal bones bear red and black streaks made by deliberately applied heat strong enough to break rocks. In 2011, Villa and Dutch colleague Wil Roebroeks of Leiden University published a paper detailing evidence of the continuous control of fire by Neanderthals dating back a breathtaking 400,000 years, about the time they first appeared on the landscape.

“These people must have had torches,” she said of the Bruniquel Neanderthals.

One of the most extraordinary ways Neanderthals used fire was to make pitch, a sticky black liquid they invented more than 200,000 years ago to set stone tools into wooden shafts. Since the only way to create pitch from trees

was to burn bark peels at high temperatures (more than 700 degrees F) in the absence of air, Villa and Roebroeks surmised that Neanderthals dug small holes in the ground, inserted birch bark peels, lit them and capped them with stones.

“A plausible explanation,” she told *The Atlantic*, “is that this was a meeting place for some type of ritual behavior.”

The interpretation reflected Villa’s own view, increasingly popular, that Neanderthals were far more nimble intellectually than they get credit for.

Neanderthals and modern humans are both thought to be descendants of *Homo heidelbergensis*, an extinct species that roamed Africa and Europe beginning some 600,000 years ago. A bit shorter and stockier than modern humans, with a large brow and no chin and likely built for survival in colder environments, Neanderthals overlapped with humans, then disappeared some 40,000 years ago. For students of human evolution, they remain a source of deep fascination.

Villa, a curator adjunct at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural

History, has been building a case for Neanderthals as an advanced species for a decade. And Bruniquel cave, where the stalagmite circles were found, offers compelling evidence of sophisticated Neanderthal activity, she said.

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As evidence piled up that Neanderthals were a creative, successful bunch, Villa and Roebroeks threw down the gauntlet in 2014, publishing a paper bluntly refuting the idea that Neanderthals were ape-like dunces inferior to humans.

The pair, who read and speak a combined six languages, reviewed more than 140 scientific papers citing evidence of various Neanderthal activities documented over the prior 15 years. Their study advanced the case for the Neanderthal as a complex, intentional creature.

“Both Wil and I believe that progress in science depends on precision,” she said. “There are many incorrect and imprecise ideas about Neanderthals in the scientific literature.”

Neanderthals were not limited to small ranges or valleys, for instance, as some claimed — their presence has been documented from Portugal to Siberia at more than 180 sites, suggesting adaptability.

As for their supposed lack of sophisticated hunting skills, they organized big game hunts in which they drove herds of steppe bison and horses over cliffs. They were successful in catching small, fast game-like birds and rabbits. And microfossils found in Neanderthal teeth and in ancient hearths indicate they downed wild peas, olives, date palms and pistachios.

They also used weapons, including wooden spears similar to modern javelins. Villa has shown that small, sharp spear points Neanderthals created from stone flakes and cores were similar to those produced about the same time by modern humans using different techniques.

Villa can also rattle off examples of symbolism in Neanderthal culture: They buried their dead; used red ochre pigment, likely for body painting; collected feathers and talons from birds as ornaments (four Neanderthal sites in France contained deliberately cut eagle claws); and seem to have used perforated animal teeth, seashells and ivory for pendants.

In all likelihood, Neanderthals had speech, too.

“If Neanderthals had symbols, that means they had social values,” Villa

said. “I don’t think they could have organized communal hunts, or transmitted their culture from parents to children over many generations, without language.”

The reasons for Neanderthals’ demise remain murky. Some scholars have proposed that modern humans wiped them out, though Villa said there’s no evidence of mass violence. Anatomically modern humans and Neanderthals were neighbors and even lovers in some parts

## WE’RE ALL PART NEANDERTHAL.

of Europe, at least for a few thousand years. About 2.5 percent of human DNA comes from Neanderthals.

Rather than genocide, said Villa, it’s more likely that inbreeding and assimilation between Neanderthals and modern humans did them in — an inherent mating incompatibility that led to miscarriages and perhaps infertility.

“Neanderthals lived for 350,000 years under various climate conditions, longer than modern humans have been around,” she said. “They were not brutes, and we are now seeing how adaptable and exceptional they were.”

*Jim Scott (EPOBio’73) has been writing about CU Boulder science since 1987.*

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### THE NEANDERTHAL

- Humans’ closest extinct relative
- Emerged about 400,000 years ago
- Went extinct about 40,000 years ago
- Overlapped and interbred with humans
- Contributed about 2.5 percent of modern humans’ DNA, on average
- Controlled fire, made tools, hunted, buried their dead, collected and wore ornaments; possibly had spoken language

*Sources: Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History; Paola Villa, CU Museum of Natural History*

Former CU Boulder track stars **Jenny Simpson** (Econ, PolSci'09) and **Emma Coburn** (Mktg'13) each won bronze medals during the 29th summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, burnishing CU's decades-long Olympic legacy.

**Prior Olympic appearances:**  
2008                      2012

Beijing                      London

**Miles typically run per week:**

80

**Days off:**

0

**Hours slept night before medal race:**

10

**WHERE DO YOU KEEP YOUR MEDAL:**  
It's currently in a sock in my suitcase.

**WHO HAS WORN YOUR MEDAL:**  
Everyone I've taken photos with. Friends, family and fans.

1<sup>st</sup>

American woman to medal in 1,500-meter race.

## Jenny Simpson

**Age:** 29 at time of Rio Olympics

**Height:** 5'5"

**Weight:** 118

**Hometown:** Oviedo, Fla.

**At CU:** Four NCAA track and field titles, three in steeplechase, one in indoor 3,000 meters.

*"The last 100 meters, when I was running my guts out, that's my favorite part of the race," she told the Denver Post. "I love this sport. I love how competitive it is, I love how hard the 1,500 meters is."*

**PRE-RACE RITUAL:**

Braiding my hair.

**No. days between Olympic medal race and next race:**

11

**LAST MEAL EATEN BEFORE OLYMPIC MEDAL RACE:** Rice with grilled vegetables.  
**FIRST MEAL AFTER RACE:** Black bean soup with wild rice and chicken. (I cooked it myself at 2 a.m. in my apartment in Rio.)

**Days off after medal race before next training session:**

0

**NO. PAIRS OF RUNNING SHOES BROUGHT TO RIO:**  
9, including 3 pairs of spikes



**Medal:** Bronze  
**Event:** 1,500-meter race  
**Time:** 4 min., 10.53 sec.



Three other CU alumni competed at Rio also: **Jeremy Dodson** (Soc'10) ran in the qualifying heat of the 200-meter race for Samoa. **Flora Duffy** (Soc'13) competed in the triathlon for Bermuda, finishing 8th, and **Katerina Nash** (A&S ex'03) placed fifth in mountain biking for the Czech Republic.



Medals

In all, nearly 90 CU Boulder alumni have competed in the Olympics to date. Eleven have won medals.

**Prior Olympic appearances:**  
2012 • London

**Miles typically run per week:**

80

**Days off:**

0

**Hours slept night before medal race:**

8

**WHERE DO YOU KEEP YOUR MEDAL:**

In my suitcase or my purse, because I've been traveling so much. Once I'm home I'll probably keep it on a bookshelf.

**WHO HAS WORN YOUR MEDAL:**  
Hundreds of people. The day I won it I was letting every single stranger in Rio try it on and walk around with it.

1<sup>st</sup>

Olympic steeplechase medal for a U.S. woman; her time beat her own American record in the event.

## Emma Coburn

**Age:** 25 at time of Rio Olympics

**Height:** 5'8"

**Weight:** 120

**Hometown:** Crested Butte, Colo.

**At CU:** Three-time NCAA champion, twice in steeplechase, once in indoor mile.

*"The last four or five laps were tough. I just kept on telling myself to keep chipping away at the gap and once I got my position, all I wanted to do was to hold it. It wasn't until the last 400 or 600 meters when I realized that I had it and just couldn't lose it."*

**PRE-RACE RITUAL:**

The meal that I have is probably the most rigid part of my routine.

**No. days between Olympic medal race and next race:**

12

**LAST MEAL EATEN BEFORE OLYMPIC MEDAL RACE:** Bagel with banana and peanut butter, the same meal I always eat three hours before the gun goes off.  
**FIRST MEAL AFTER RACE:** Recovery bars. Probably cheesecake and a burger.

**Days off after medal race before next training session:**

0

**NO. PAIRS OF RUNNING SHOES BROUGHT TO RIO:**  
2 spikes, 3 pairs training shoes



**Medal:** Bronze  
**Event:** 3,000-meter steeplechase  
**Time:** 9 min., 7.63 sec.

NEW BEGINNINGS



## The JOURNEY

WHEN **STELLA LUNYARAMOI** FLED WAR-TORN SOUTH SUDAN, SHE BEGAN AN IMPROBABLE JOURNEY THAT LED HER TO CU BOULDER — AND THE WHITE HOUSE.

By **Mike Unger**



STELLA LUNYARAMOI'S EYES WELL UP.

"I was 5, maybe 6," she said, recalling an afternoon more than two decades earlier. "I was playing with my friends outside, building sand castles, then we heard gunshots. I remember it was December because we had just celebrated Christmas. We started running and everyone went their own way. My siblings and my parents all got separated."

**Lunyaramoi** (Int'lAF'14) never saw her mother or father again. It was the mid-1990s and the Second Sudanese Civil War had come to her hometown of Chukudum, in the country's

southeast. Salvatore Lonyaramoi and Catherine Dario were two of its roughly 2 million victims.

For weeks, Stella, the middle of five children, walked among strangers in a caravan of weary refugees toward a camp in Kenya. Her sandals disintegrated, so she finished the journey barefoot.

Despite the scarcity of food and water, and the loneliness and fright, she persevered, subsisting largely on hope.

Hope, help and determination eventually reunited her with her siblings in Kenya, took her to the United States and eventually brought her to CU Boulder.



In 2014 the journey carried this "Lost Girl" from South Sudan to an internship at perhaps the most famous residence on earth.

"I had no idea about the White House, or the U.S. or anything in America," said Lunyaramoi, now 26. "To step in the grounds of the White House, the most powerful place in the world . . ."

Sitting in an East African restaurant near Dupont Circle in Washington, D.C., on a rainy evening in September, her voice trails off. Memories of the eight years she spent at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, where violence and hunger were constant companions, seem as fresh as the spongy injera bread she uses to pinch pieces of chicken and potatoes.

Lunyaramoi's parents were teachers and passed on to her a love of learning. Always a good student, she was chosen from among tens of thousands of children at Kakuma by an agent of Sister Luise Radlmeier, a German nun, to attend a Catholic boarding school in Nairobi. Lunyaramoi was 13. From there she immigrated to the United States and in 2006 landed in Boulder, without a winter coat.

With the help of a host family — Lunyaramoi today calls **Michele** (Anth'81) and **Mike Ritter** (Chem'81) "mom and dad" — she acclimated and came to love Boulder, whose mountains remind her of her homeland.

She attended high school in town, then came to CU, where she studied international affairs, became events director for the African Students' Association and made "lifetime friends," she said.

A handful of South Sudanese refugees had come to CU before her, starting in 2004 with **Micklina Peter Kenyi** (PolSci'08; MEdu'14), who now runs a Boulder-based organization, the Empowerment Through Education Foundation, which helps educate children in South Sudan, primarily girls and women.

To be sure, Lunyaramoi knew lonely moments.

"It would get overwhelming sometimes to be the only black kid in a 350 [-seat] economics lecture hall," she said.

But CU was ultimately a transformative experience, she said: "The school has given me an opportunity to find myself."

After graduating, she was considering staying to pursue a master's degree when the Ritters encouraged her to apply for the White House internship — and she got it.

Lunyaramoi isn't supposed to discuss much of what she did in Michelle Obama's office, she said, but she called the experience "exceptional."

"It made me realize that anyone can do anything," she said.

One of about a dozen "Lost Children" to study at CU Boulder to date, Lunyaramoi today works for the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Washington. Now a U.S. citizen, she said she'll always feel her birth country within her and hopes to help rebuild it.

Lunyaramoi tells her story in *The Dawn Will Break*, a forthcoming documentary about the harrowing tale of Sudan's "Lost Girls," the moniker that has come to characterize those orphaned by the war. Co-produced by Micklina Peter Kenyi, the film will show initially at film festivals and human rights events.

Separated by age but bound by powerful shared experiences, the two women talk often.

"She is the reason all of us came to Boulder," Lunyaramoi said. "I owe it to her and am thankful for her every day."

As for the term "Lost Girls," Lunyaramoi understands it, but prefers an alternative.

"I would use 'displaced' rather than 'lost,' because I have left my country and my family, but I did not lose hope, so I am not lost," she said. "I still have myself. I still feel like I am destined for bigger and better things. Maybe there's nothing better than the White House, but I want to shoot for the stars, always."

*Mike Unger last wrote for the Coloradan about USAID Administrator Gayle Smith (Eng'78). He works in Washington, D.C.*

HOSPITALITY

# The CASTLE

BY THE TIME THE G7 LEADERS REACHED THE RESORT, **NIKOLAI BLOYD** HAD SEEN TO THE DETAILS: "NOBODY CAN MAKE SALSA AND GUACAMOLE IN BAVARIA."

By **Steven Boyd Saum**





Schloss Elmau

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING that when you manage one of the world's leading hotels and are hosting the Group of Seven — leaders of the world's most powerful industrialized democracies, accounting for half the global economy — you better be prepared for contingencies big and small.

Say you're in the Bavarian Alps and the summit occurs during the NBA finals and the president of the United States wants to catch the 2 a.m. (local time) broadcast of game two and have a snack — chips, salsa, guacamole. You need a plan.



Bloyd on the grounds of Schloss Elmau in Germany.

Especially because, as **Nikolai Bloyd** (Hum'97) well knew, "Nobody can make salsa and guacamole in Bavaria."

Bloyd is general manager of Schloss Elmau, a century-old spa retreat and cultural hideaway near the Austrian border. Bavaria he knows; likewise,

his wife, Dalia Banerjee, had picked up tortilla chips at a Mexican grocery in Munich. There in the hotel kitchen, before an audience of six — secret service agents, Navy chefs and German secret service — Bloyd mixed up the salsa and guac.

Apparently, the dish went over well: Bloyd later found the plates clean.

That's a quirky story from a two-day gathering in 2015, when the eyes of the world were watching Schloss Elmau. Bigger things were afoot, of course, and if all went well, months of planning would play out as a mix of orchestrated movements and agreeably spontaneous events.

But careful planning is no guarantee that things won't go horribly wrong.

Take the high school camping trip when Bloyd was atop Yosemite's Half Dome and his appendix burst. He had to be airlifted out. Or August 2005, when Bloyd had been working a few years as assistant general manager at Schloss Elmau, and a guest room fire became a conflagration. No one was injured, but the hotel was destroyed and would take years to rebuild.

Or the vagaries of geopolitics: When preparations for the political summit began, the body was called the G8 because it included Russia. Then Russia seized Crimea and was uninvited, complicating planning at Schloss Elmau (not to mention the affairs of nation states).

For Bloyd, the road to Schloss Elmau began in Boulder, just off Baseline.

"Three years as manager at the Dark Horse in Boulder — that's the basis of all my experience leading me to the G7," he said. "Seriously."

While a student, he started working at the storied tavern as a doorman/bouncer, then as a bartender and, ultimately, as a manager. The job paid for

books and skiing and taught Bloyd the arts of inventory, marketing, accounting and customer satisfaction.

After graduation he returned home to Northern California and joined the staff of Meadowood, a luxury resort in Napa Valley, steeping himself in large-scale, high-end hospitality management.



A few years ago, if you'd asked Bloyd to name his most intense experience in hospitality, he might have cited a celebrity wine auction. But that was before the G7 summit at Schloss Elmau in 2015.

When business plummeted amid the 2001 economic recession, Bloyd wrote the owner of Schloss Elmau and expressed interest in working there until the hospitality industry rebounded in the States. Bloyd's mother is German and her family had visited the Schloss for generations. Nikolai had been there as a boy.

Founded in 1916 as a retreat offering alpine surroundings and classical music, it was gorgeous, secluded, a bit sleepy and old-fashioned, with first-rate concerts. The place drew families back year after year. Now it drew Bloyd, who served as assistant general manager through summer 2005 — when a devastating fire shut it down.

The fire posed the question: What would rise from the ashes?

As the owners sorted that out, Bloyd returned to California and managed the Auberge du Soleil in Napa Valley.

When the Schloss resort reopened in 2007 as Schloss Elmau Luxury Spa Retreat & Cultural Hideaway, it had a Michelin-starred restaurant and a Turkish-style hamam spa — the largest outside of Istanbul. Come 2010, Bloyd was back in action as Elmau's general manager.

His mission: Ensure service was world class.

With construction of a new building of luxury suites underway in 2014, it

became clear they needed to be special accommodations indeed: Germany was scheduled to host the summit in 2015 and German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Elmau, near Garmisch-Partenkirchen, would be the place.

For the world leaders expected to attend, the suites would have to be equal — 150 square meters each. Obama and Putin (if he came) would need their own elevators.

The Americans came to assess security. Other delegations reached out with requests. A month out, Bloyd hammered out details for dinner. A week in advance, the Americans laid their own communications network — fiber optic cables, CAT5, the works. They occupied the top two floors of one wing.

All this to prep for a two-day meeting, albeit an important one. Among its outcomes was a pledge by the G7 countries to go carbon-free by 2100.

A few years ago, if you'd asked Bloyd to name his most intense experience in hospitality, he might have cited a few celebrity wine auctions — "Tony Blair, Al Gore, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Nancy Pelosi all there at once."

But that was before the G7.

"This definitely took the cake," he said.

*Steven Boyd Saum is editor of Santa Clara Magazine.*

## THE ROAD TO SCHLOSS ELMAU BEGAN IN BOULDER, JUST OFF BASELINE.

guacamole. California-born and Colorado-educated, at 43 he's managed restaurants and resorts from Boulder to the Napa Valley to Germany.

So when President Obama's team let him know that, yes, a late-night game snack would be great, Bloyd had already prepped the ingredients and

# STRESS Relief

IF IT'S FINALS WEEK, IT'S TIME TO LET THE DOGS OUT.

By **Christie Sounart**

**SAURABH SOOD** (MCOMPSCI'17) IS EXCITED for the end of the semester. Not for the grueling pressure of finals, but for the opportunity to lounge with friendly dogs at CU Boulder's libraries.

He adores the animals — adult therapy dogs trained to be calm and approachable.

Sood has attended 10 CU therapy dog events since arriving from Delhi, India, in fall 2015. Petting the dogs brings him instant relief from the demands of his computer science major.

"It's the best thing," said Sood, an aspiring software engineer. "These sessions helped me realize that I need to get a dog."

Campus therapy dog visits began in 2012 at the request of the law school's then-circulation manager, Robyn Copeland, who wanted to offer students a distraction from finals. Students loved being with the animals so much that five other campus libraries — business, music, Earth sciences, engineering and Norlin — began hosting therapy dog events, too.

Now, during the final weeks of the spring and fall semesters, the libraries bring in dogs for two hours at a time. The usual favorites come — golden retrievers, huskies and labradors — plus more obscure breeds, such as Belgian tervurens.

Numerous peer-reviewed studies have discovered that petting animals helps lower blood pressure, regulate the heart and reduce anxiety. Columbia University, UC Berkeley, Kent State University and other schools also have introduced therapy dogs in recent years.

Sood, who enjoys telling his parents and twin brother in India about his therapy dog sessions, plans to adopt a rescue dog after he graduates. For now, he favors one pup in particular: **Jane Collier's** (A&S'69) 4-year-old yellow lab, Cooper.

Collier is a coordinator with Therapy Dogs of Boulder County (TDBC), a volunteer group that arranges free therapy dog visits at organizations and companies. She

and Wendy Shefte — owner of therapy dogs Pepper, a Portuguese water dog, and Stella, a goldendoodle — coordinate the dog events at CU.

Said Collier, "There's not a human being in the world that will make you feel as welcome and loved as a dog does."

Cooper is serious about his vocation as a therapy animal. In one- to two-hour increments, he allows humans to pet, grasp, hug and cuddle him without complaint.

Sometimes he comforts the seriously ill. Once, after sitting on the right side of a stroke victim, the patient placed her hand on his fuzzy head and beamed.

"They said it was the first time she had used her right hand since her stroke," said Collier.

Of all the places the pair visits, CU is a favorite, she said.

"Sometimes Cooper may have 10 sets of hands on him at one time," she said. "[Students] tell me over and over how much this has helped them decompress, breathe and clear their mind."

Therapy dogs are not service animals, which do work demanding focus, such as leading a blind person, said Daryl Holle, TDBC's website director. Therapy dogs are all about distraction.

"A therapy dog is a love muffin," he said, adding that a dog can become a therapy animal after testing by an accredited organization. "They are supposed to be petted and are dedicated to others."

At CU, as many as 40 TDBC therapy dogs visit with students each semester. Hundreds of people interact with them, and it's not uncommon to see faculty and staff crouched with the animals also.

"I've seen people who drop their bags and everything they're holding and just run up to the dogs," said Grace Haynes of the music library.

Haynes once saw a seemingly overwhelmed student sit with a dog and finish her homework on the ground.

"She left in a much calmer state and was more at peace with what she had coming up," she said.

The work is exhausting for the animals: Cooper often falls asleep afterward, said Collier. But they're good at what they do.

"All dogs are emotional support for us," said Collier. "They teach us how to live in the moment."

*Christie Sounart* (Jour'12) is associate editor of the *Coloradan*.





## Book **SMARTS**

**MICHAEL HUSEBY** WAS READING *HUCKLEBERRY FINN* AT AGE 4 — AN APT START FOR A FUTURE BARNES & NOBLE CEO.

By Dan Haar

WHEN BARNES & NOBLE, Inc. recruited **Michael P. Huseby** (Bus'76) as chief financial officer in early 2012, the bookseller coveted his background as a pioneering cable TV executive steeped in mergers and spinoffs. His new bosses also prized his knack for rolling out digital systems in consumer media.

Huseby offered all that. But his vision for Barnes & Noble grew from more than his experience merging AT&T Broadband into Comcast, helping resolve complex issues at Charter Communications and spinning off Madison Square Garden from Cablevision.

He called on his upbringing as a high school English teacher's son who was reading *Huckleberry Finn* at age 4, and on an abiding belief — rooted in sports — that being a strong competitor requires discipline and teamwork.

"I was really more interested in how education was going to change," Huseby, 62 and a father of four, said in an interview in his loft-style New York City office.

Within two years he was CEO, taking over the nation's largest bookstore chain, including both retail and college bookstores, amid an industry evolution still underway.

"I came to Barnes & Noble because of the opportunity to improve our country's higher education system, not because of the digital opportunity," he said. "At the stage of my career that I was in, I decided that I wanted to do something that I could really feel good about in terms of making a contribution."

## IT'S A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WHEN YOU OPEN A BOOK.

Today Huseby is executive chairman of Barnes & Noble Education, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-traded company created in summer 2015 when Barnes & Noble split into separate businesses for general retail and the university bookstore market. The company owns and operates more than 770 college bookstores, serving 250,000 faculty and more than five million students.

Huseby's goal is nothing short of revolutionizing the way publishers and universities deliver books and information to students and professors. He

wants to help the industry standardize and unify digital platforms, in much the same way he helped the cable industry do that decades ago.

The task will call on his ability to bring together people and institutions with conflicting backgrounds and interests — a familiar challenge. In 2014, as the new Barnes & Noble CEO, he insisted on merging the firm's digital and retail businesses, which had developed entirely independent cultures.

At Barnes & Noble Education, he said, "We'd like to be a leader in bringing together the various elements of higher education. Our mission really is to provide an improved educational experience at a lower cost, so it's available to a broader spectrum of our society... That's what's driving me."

Despite his background in electronic media, Huseby's vision preserves printed volumes as a core product, perhaps the core product.

"I always loved books, and I still do," he said. "The epitaph for the bookstore has been written a few times, and when I first came here, if you looked at the headlines, you would have thought Barnes & Noble was going to be out of business by now."

But, decades into the digital age, printed books are still selling by the millions from brick-and-mortar bookstores.

Said Huseby: "It's a personal experience when you open a book, and it's something you can really escape to as opposed to another screen that you're going to be looking at."

Personally, he favors historical nonfiction. His office bookcase gives prominence to business texts such as Michael E. Porter's landmark *On Competition*. He uses a NOOK Tablet for reading the *New York Post* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Born in Chicago, Huseby is the sixth child of parents who divorced before he was born. Raised by his mother in the city and nearby Oak Park, he was a consummate sports fan and solid athlete. He worked as a caddie, vacuum cleaner salesman and busboy, coaching basketball at the summer camp of Ray Meyer, the legendary DePaul coach, who offered him a scholarship.

Full of fond memories of a childhood year in Colorado, Huseby chose CU instead.

Colorado, he said, "felt good to me."



Huseby might have been a walk-on for the Buffaloes basketball team, but he was satisfied playing on a top-ranked intramural team and studying martial arts. He became vice president of the accounting honors society and passed his certified public accounting exams before graduation — less rigorous exams than today's, he told graduates in a 2015 commencement address at Leeds, which conferred on him its alumni achievement award.

From the start, Huseby was no backroom bean counter.

"The business school really encouraged interaction with the business community, so I was meeting a lot of people," he said.

Around the same time, he grew interested in community service. This has led to many nonprofit board positions with, among others, the I Have a Dream Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado, the latter involvement partly inspired by the fact he didn't meet his father until age 13 — though he had strong male role models in a grandfather and a World War II-vet uncle.

Huseby started his career in Chicago with Arthur Andersen LLP, later Andersen Worldwide. Within a few years, he was back in Colorado, where he led the firm's global practice in cable — and also its ski industry practice, making for some nice business trips.

In those days, cable companies, such as John Malone's Tele-Communications Inc., were consolidating a fractured industry — forming a rising platform for ambitious young executives. Huseby

joined AT&T Broadband after it bought TCI's cable business, moved to Charter Communications and, in 2004, to New York-based Cablevision, always in top finance and strategy positions.

By 2011, having helped Cablevision spin off Madison Square Garden and AMC Networks, Huseby was taking some time off and spending the summer with his teenage sons — when Barnes & Noble called. The connection was through Liberty Media, Malone's holding company, which owned a large stake in the bookseller and had its CEO on the board of directors.

"The theme that runs through all this is people and relationships as much as training and skills," Huseby said.

In his Leeds commencement address, he told graduates to seek work at employers with a commitment to keep educating them, even if the firms weren't the sexiest choice.

It's always about education. That's been Huseby's strategy, and it's worked out pretty well.

### MICHAEL P. HUSEBY

(Bus'76)  
Long Island, New York  
Former CEO, Barnes & Noble, Inc.  
Now executive chairman, Barnes & Noble Education, Inc.

*Journalist Dan Haar wrote about professional ultimate disc for the Summer 2016 Coloradan.*

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Alumni Association  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

# Alumni

News WINTER 2016

## Ralphie Gets a Museum Show

HERITAGE CENTER EXHIBITION COVERS 82 YEARS OF CU MASCOT HISTORY



IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE someone who loves Ralphie more than **John Graves** (Mgmt'09) — he not only coaches the Ralphie Handlers but also spends long hours digging into the history of CU Boulder's cherished mascot.

Graves, manager of the Ralphie Live Mascot Program, has scoured newspaper articles, made note of every known CU game in which a buffalo has appeared, interviewed handlers from decades past and worked with the university's athletic department and CU Heritage Center museum to verify the facts about the five animals that have served as Ralphie.

"My work is never done," he said.

Graves' findings to date are now public, thanks to a collaboration with the Heritage Center: "Here Comes Ralphie," the museum's newest exhibition, vividly details the 82-year-old buffalo tradition, which began with a national mascot-selection contest in 1934. The display opened in August and runs into 2018.

The exhibition includes a behind-the-scenes view of CU's current buffalo, Ralphie V, and the work of her handlers, who spend 30 to 40 hours a week training the 10-year-old, 1,200-pound female and run with her on game day.

"I just want to share her and the tradition with everyone," said Graves, 29, a former handler.

The hunt for new details also has yielded more artifacts, said Mona Lambricht, Heritage Center curator.

Items on display include the halter used to train young Ralphie II in 1978, a blanket worn by Ralphie III at the Buffs' two Orange Bowl appearances and a replica of the calf bottle used to feed the orphaned Ralphies III and IV.

Admiration for Ralphie is seemingly boundless. One button from 1996 says it all: "Ralphie for President."

CS

### BOULDER AT ITS BEST: HOMECOMING 2016

With peak fall foliage, bluebird skies and 80-degree temperatures, you'd be hard pressed to find a more beautiful place than Boulder during Homecoming 2016.

The people didn't disappoint, either.

Thousands of alumni and Buffs fans from as far as Florida, Mississippi and California and as near as The Hill reveled in the spirit of the weekend, Oct. 13-15.

The CU Boulder Alumni Association honored 12 alumni, students and professors at an evening celebration at the University Memorial Center, Buffs sipped beers by CU brewers in the alumni center's backyard and crowds in black and gold swarmed Pearl Street for a parade marshalled by 92-year-old identical twins **Betty Fitzgerald Hoover** (A&S'46) and **Peggy Fitzgerald Coppom** (A&S'46).

It all culminated Saturday night as a Folsom Field crowd of 48,588 witnessed Buffs football defeat Arizona State for the first time ever, 40-16.

As **Vanessa Roman** (Psych'07; MEdu'10) put it on Twitter: "Perfect night in this perfect place."



### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TIDBITS

For young alumni who dream big, we're offering a one-of-a-kind ski vacation in New Zealand July 30-Aug. 5, 2017. Buffs receive a four-day ski pass, eight meals and lodging for just over \$1,000. For those seeking adventure closer to home, alumni will convene for skiing in Crested Butte, Colo., Feb. 24-26. Attendees receive a two-day lift ticket, two nights' lodging at a slope-side condo and four meals for \$275, if booked by Feb. 1. Details at [colorado.edu/alumni](http://colorado.edu/alumni).



The Alumni Association is seeking devoted Forever Buffs for its Board of Advisors. Board members, who convene at CU three times a year, advocate for the association and the university. Apply at [colorado.edu/alumniboard](http://colorado.edu/alumniboard).



The 2016-17 alumni wall calendar is now available. It features photography of campus and Boulder and costs \$15, plus shipping. Buy one at [colorado.edu/alumni](http://colorado.edu/alumni).



This April Buffs are invited to host young alums or students in their homes for the third-annual Dinner with 12 Buffs. "I still remain in touch with many of the attendees from the group," said **Charlie Kercheval** (Fin'88), who co-hosted a meal in Denver last spring. "We shared a lot of great CU stories, and laughs of course!" Register to host a dinner at [colorado.edu/alumni](http://colorado.edu/alumni).

### 2017 TRIPS



#### ITALIAN RIVIERA AND CHIANTI

June 18-27, 2017



#### KILIMANJARO ADVENTURE

June 29-July 11, 2017



#### CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF ICELAND

Aug. 1-9, 2017



#### POLAR BEARS AND BELUGA WHALES

Aug. 16-22, 2017



#### INSIDER'S JAPAN

Aug. 30-Sept. 11, 2017

For more information about the Roaming Buffs travel program, email [lisa.munro@colorado.edu](mailto:lisa.munro@colorado.edu), call 303-492-5640 or 800-492-7743 or visit [colorado.edu/alumni](http://colorado.edu/alumni).



## Q&amp;A WITH THE CHANCELLOR PHILIP P. DISTEFANO

**ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT**

**You said in your annual state of the campus speech this fall that CU Boulder is becoming known as an entrepreneurship university, where you are developing graduates with entrepreneurial and creative problem-solving mindsets. What do you mean by that?**

*Forbes* recently ranked us No. 18 among national universities for entrepreneurship, but more important is that we are establishing an entrepreneurial culture across the entire campus, in all disciplines. That sounds good on paper, but our students, graduates and employees are continually demonstrating it.

**How are they demonstrating this entrepreneurial mindset?**

I'm very proud of **Maithreyi Gopalakrishnan** (EngrPhys, MApPhys'16) [see page 21], who founded a company to create affordable hybrid electric motors to replace purely gas-powered rickshaws in her native India, with the goal of reducing massive pollution and high-priced fuel for operators who can't afford to educate their children. Her team includes students from other majors around campus. They are using knowledge gained at CU to change lives and transform a society.

**Are there other examples?**

Many, and here's one outside the realm

of business — **Christine Lehnertz** (EPOBio'85) [see page 15], became superintendent of Grand Canyon National Park over the summer, the park's first female superintendent. During the 100th anniversary of the national parks this year we've all read that these treasures are challenged by resources, aging infrastructure and great popularity. Christine has a track record of innovative problem solving that put her in this challenging position. Whether it's today or 30 years ago, engineering or biology, our graduates are in a position to make a difference.

**What do you attribute that success to?**

Entrepreneurship and problem solving are important ways of life here. It is not just an academic discipline, but a way of thinking by students, faculty and staff in all disciplines — from the hard sciences to the arts.

**You've been on campus for 43 years. How has the meaning of entrepreneurship changed?**

The old definition of entrepreneurship was restricted to business schools, but entrepreneurship is a valuable life skill that can help students succeed in any career or endeavor. On our campus, it's embedded in every academic course of study today. In fact, our certificate in music entrepreneurship is the first of its kind in the country.



## Make your mark.

Winter has descended on campus, and thousands of students are clearing a path toward an incredible future. As they prepare for finals, we're reminded to show gratitude for the exceptional education and opportunities available to everyone who has left a footprint on campus.

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# Sports

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News WINTER 2016

By Jennifer Osieczanek

## Football's Big Year

BOWL-BOUND BUFFS DELIVER BEST SEASON IN A DECADE



IF YOU WERE FOLLOWING along on Twitter this fall, #TheRise quickly turned into #TheRiseIsReal.

By the midway point of Mike MacIntyre's fourth year as CU's head football coach, the team had made its biggest splash in a decade and MacIntyre was a candidate for Coach of the Year.

Clinching a bowl berth for the first time since 2007 — by Week 8 — tends to draw attention.

As CU raced to a 7-2 start, MacIntyre was hardly the only one getting noticed. Five Buffs earned Pac-12 Player of the Week honors through the first eight weeks of the season. Quarterbacks **Sefo Liufau** (Econ'17) and **Steven Montez** (StComm'19) earned awards in September; **Phillip Lindsay** (Comm'17) won in October.

True freshman kicker **Davis Price**

(A&S'20) was named Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week after making the first kicks of his college career against Oregon State, including a 54-yard field goal — the longest ever by a CU freshman.

Price, of Evergreen, Colo., followed the fantastic start by getting a lift to the Buffs' next game, against USC, from his dad — a pilot who flew the team plane to Los Angeles.

Strong safety **Tedric Thompson** (Soc'17) also earned Pac-12 honors after hauling in two interceptions in a 10-5 victory at Stanford Oct. 22.

A week earlier, the Buffs handily beat Arizona State during Homecoming Weekend.

Reflecting the strong season, CU returned to the national rankings for the first time since Nov. 2005 and also made their debut in the College Playoff Rankings, at No. 15.

**BUFFS BITS** Nearly all of CU's fall teams spent time ranked in the Top 25, including women's cross-country, which checked in at No. 1. Men's cross-country and golf, plus women's soccer, volleyball and golf were among the nation's elite — not to mention football. ... The cross-country teams swept the Pac-12 Championships for the second year in a row, two weeks after the women won the NCAA Pre-National Invitational and the men finished third. ... Junior outside linebacker **Derek McCartney** (IntPhys'16; MS'18) was one of 24 college football players named to the American Football Coaches Association's 2016 Allstate AFCA Good Works Team. It's among football's most coveted off-the-field honors, as it recognizes athletes who better the community and the lives of others.

**LEE SHOTS 61** Senior **Esther Lee** (Anth'17) tied the NCAA women's golf record when she fired a 61 in New Mexico's Branch Law/Dick McGuire Invitational in September. Only one other golfer, Stanford alumna Mariah Stackhouse, has shot a 61 in a women's NCAA competition. Lee's mark is all the more remarkable because she carded the 61 on a par 72 course; Stackhouse's came on a par 71.

During her record round, Lee tallied 11 birdies and seven pars. She posted a school record 7 under par 29 on the back nine.

"I can't remember the last time I had that much fun playing a round of golf, because everything was so easy and I just was having so much fun," she told CUBuffs.com.

Lee went on to win the tournament by crushing the CU record with an 18-under score of 198. Her five-stroke win matches the second-largest margin of victory in school history, and her three tournament wins as a Buff is a CU best.

Lee was named September's Pac-12 Golfer of the Month.

**Morten Toft Hansen** (Econ'20) claimed the men's award after four top-10 finishes, including two in the top five.



Senior Esther Lee shot a 61, tying the NCAA women's record.

### STATS

# 10

Wins in a row by CU women's soccer this fall.

# 22

Games in a row Buffs football forced at least one turnover, the longest current streak in the nation and one ahead of Alabama at press time.

# 4

Schools, including CU, participating in the Pac-12's \$3.9-million research project about student-athlete health and well-being.

# 14

Years between volleyball wins against in-state rival CSU before the Buffs' win in September.

# No.1

Ralphie's spot on the NCAA's list of "Best Mascot Entrances."



### THEY SAW POTENTIAL

Most college athletes arrive on campus with years of practice behind them.

**Melissa Latas** (Econ '17) had none in cheerleading. But she'd been a gymnast, and that put her in the running for CU's Cheer Squad: Latas, of Castle Rock, Colo., made the team as a freshman. Now a senior, she talks about sports and community, her adoptive family and an injury's unexpected benefit.

### How did you end up starting cheerleading as a freshman in college?

I was starting my senior year [of high school] and ended up breaking my foot. I didn't know what to do because [gymnastics was] what I'd done all my life. I had surgery. Then one of the people that coached at my gym said I could do cheerleading. I still liked tumbling, so I said I'd

try that. I got cleared a month before [CU] tryouts and I started doing stunting privates. I figured I'd regret not trying out so I said, 'I'll try and see what happens,' and ended up making it.

### What did it feel like when you made the team?

I was really excited. I knew it was going to be really different. During tryouts I felt really out of place because I didn't know any of these college stunting skills. But I was excited and I wanted to try something new. I knew it was going to be hard work, but it was OK. I made it, so I guess they saw potential.

### How long did it take you to feel like, 'I've got this'?

I kind of struggled a lot my first year. A lot of these people have been doing

this most of their lives. I just felt behind. Probably at nationals my first year I felt like, 'I know what I'm doing now.'

### What is the best part about cheering?

I love that in such a big university I feel like a part of something and that I'm helping contribute to the university. Especially when it's so big, you can feel lost. It's hard to meet people. It's hard to feel like you're actually a part of something. I love the team because we've all bonded, since we're always together practicing and training.

### What has it been like to be on the sidelines cheering during the football team's resurgence?

The crowd is much more engaged and they stay longer, they cheer with us, and they are actually excited about the Buffs. It's been an amazing season to

be a part of. I can't wait to see what else they accomplish.

### How old were you when your parents told you you were adopted?

They were always really open about it. My mom always says that I'm like her own child, I was the best thing that happened to them. It doesn't feel like I was adopted at all. This is a family, and we're both so lucky that we found each other.

### What would you like to see or discover in China?

I'd go back with my mom or my whole family, just because I've never really been out of the United States, to see a different culture, not the exact place I am from necessarily.

*Condensed and edited by Jennifer Osieczanek.*

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## In Memoriam

Odelia Stengel Peterson (A&S'36)  
 Sidney E. Dinner (CivEngr'40)  
 Eva Carlson Orndoff (Edu, Soc'40)  
 John Player Jr. (Geol'40)  
 Celena Eeckhout Smith  
 (Edu, Engl'40)  
 Leila Harris Steninger (Engl'40)  
 C. Robert Emigh (EiEngr'42)  
 Marge Haggard Lewis (A&S'43)  
 Robert L. Belcher (EiEngr'44)  
 Marjorie L. Boetter (A&S'44)  
 Fern Krier McInnis (HomeEcon'44)  
 Robert McKell (EiEngr'44)  
 Wayne L. Wilson (AeroEngr'44)  
 Robert R. Adams (MechEngr'45)  
 Wilbur T. Billington (DistSt'45;  
 MEcon'47)  
 Mary Archibald Clapham (A&S'45)  
 Thomas E. Dawson (A&S'46)  
 Jean Southard Goddard (A&S'46)  
 Gus C. Lease (MMus'46)  
 Loy W. Ledbetter Jr.  
 (MechEngr'46)  
 Edna Vinci Smith (Pharm'46)  
 Warren E. Garst (MechEngr'47)  
 Margaret Cushman Ledbetter  
 (DistSt'47)  
 Robert C. Mackay (Mgmt'47)  
 Julius A. Otsuki (CivEngr'47)  
 Janet Tozer Cutshall (DistSt'48)  
 Gordon D. Hinds (Law'48)  
 Frances Lafosse Macy (Soc'48)  
 R. Stephen Polkinghorn  
 (EconPolSci'48)  
 Jean Mast Proctor (A&S'48)  
 Ben Weindling (Acct'48)  
 Alfred W. Wensley (ArchEngr'48)  
 June Pahljina Witte-Jensen  
 (Nurs'48)  
 Jean Flowers Fatton (MEdu'49)  
 C. Gene Gunter (ChemEngr'49)  
 Eleanor Gray Newman (A&S'49)  
 Nancy Hall Olsen (Jour'49)  
 Charles R. Shaver (A&S'49;  
 MD'59)  
 Frederick J. J. Trapp Jr.  
 (MechEngr'49)  
 Marilyn Nielsen Brown (A&S'50)  
 Clifford H. George (MechEngr'50)  
 Claude G. Rogers (EiEngr'50)  
 Shirley Gibbons Somers (Geol'50)  
 Leonard G. Tulin (CivEngr'50;  
 MS'52)  
 Phyllis Fonda Weaver (A&S'50)  
 Sue Biddleman Wilson (A&S'50)  
 Mary Ise Wise (Mktg'50)  
 Hugh E. Berger (A&S'51;  
 EiEngr'59)  
 Mary Lutz Grantham (Engl ex'51)  
 Dorothy McClellan Mann (A&S'51)  
 Judith Wezelman Neuman (Art'51)  
 John H. Ruffner (Pharm'51)

Mary Phillips Stark (Mktg'51)  
 Jack D. Barnes (A&S'52; MA'61)  
 Esther Paper Gelman (Engl'52)  
 David L. Glaser (ChemEngr'52)  
 Lysle A. Gust (ChemEngr'52)  
 Willie T. Mikuni (Pharm'52)  
 Lynn W. Moore (Acct'52)  
 Virginia H. Nelson (A&S ex'52)  
 Camille King Reische (A&S ex'52)  
 John C. Bailar III (Chem'53)  
 Deborah Priest Courtney (A&S'53)  
 Thomas E. Donaldson  
 (ChemEngr'53)  
 Albert H. Kern (A&S'53; Law'55)  
 John W. Shawver II (EiEngr'53)  
 Paul W. Vestal (A&S'53)  
 Keith L. Zech (Acct'53)  
 William H. Brokaw (A&S'54)  
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 Herbert M. Harris (Pharm'54)  
 Howard F. Manning (DistSt ex'54)  
 Charles W. McDougal (A&S'54)  
 Edwin F. Nieder (Jour ex'54)  
 Patricia Roach Reinhardt (A&S'54)  
 Ramona Lindall Arehart (Nurs'55)  
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 Milton R. Ground (ChemEngr'57)  
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 Law'61)  
 Gladeane Goode Lefferdink  
 (MusEdu'57)  
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 Neulon Lewis Kimble (MA&S'58)  
 C. Paul Malone (A&S'58; PhD'62)  
 Dorothy Payne Nash (A&S'58)  
 Richard N. Racich (Geol'58)  
 Harry A. Tiemann Jr. (A&S'58;  
 MA'65)  
 Betty Jacquelyn Barnard (A&S'59;  
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 John L. Bayuk (PE'59)  
 Wallace M. Ginn (MEdu'59)  
 George H. Kilpatrick II (Fin'59)  
 Thomas M. Kukulian (Acct'59)  
 Ernest B. Ress (EngrPhys'59)  
 Frank M. Rosa (A&S'59)  
 George A. Quigley (Acct'59;  
 Law'62)

David Cheever (Advert'60)  
 Henry E. Kates (Fin'60)  
 Paul E. Simons (MBaSci'60)  
 Weldon D. Wegner (EiEngr'60)  
 Paul H. Gery (MPhil'61)  
 Edward W. Temple (Acct'61)  
 Beverly Witthauer Williams (Art'61)  
 Kathleen Jones Willis (Edu ex'61)  
 Robert T. Boyd (A&S'62)  
 Carl E. Casterline (A&S'62)  
 James M. De France II (Art'62)  
 Phillip S. Greenawalt (Fin'62)  
 Shirley TeMaat Hollingsworth  
 (Nurs'62)  
 Wayne E. Krueger (MEdu'62)  
 Donald K. Smith (Law'62)  
 John D. Webster (MA&S'62)  
 Maynard C. Anderson (EdD'63)  
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 Colin R. Kehe (Phys'65)  
 Lucy Rhodes Woodman  
 (MMus'65)  
 William A. Bryce (Mgmt'66)  
 Norman E. Mains (A&S'66; MA'67)  
 Ivan H. Woolf (EiEngr'66; MS'68;  
 PhD'71)  
 Holly Hollenweger Emrick-Meyer  
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 Paul Lerner (MGreek'69)

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Carl D. Plunkett (Acct'69)  
 Victor P. Tisono (A&S'69)  
 Patricia Springs Butler (A&S'70;  
 MEdu'73)  
 George H. Galloway Jr.  
 (MEcon'70)  
 Sheila Stein Horton (Hist'70;  
 MEdu'76)  
 Robert F. Sweeney (Geol'70;  
 MS'72)  
 Douglas A. Burtard (EiEngr'71)  
 Nada Djokic (Engl'71)  
 Willis H. Fischer (MEdu'71)  
 Lynn T. Vandegrift (A&S ex'71)  
 Paul A. Acosta (MEdu'72)  
 Gail H. Pring Blount (Engl'72)  
 William A. Hobbs Jr. (Jour'72)  
 Frances A. Moyer (Rec'72)  
 Susan Miller Spehar (Art'72)  
 Stuart A. Bader (Rec'73)  
 George F. Bakle (Fin'73)  
 Joanne M. Klebba (MMktg'73)  
 James C. Sorensen (Stat'73)  
 Stanley M. Sheldon (MBA'74)  
 Michael J. Yeonopolus (Mktg'74;  
 MBA'76)  
 Jo Anne Goldstein Rosenfeld  
 (Engl'75)  
 Angela Mazzone Wolf (MNurs'76)  
 Anne E. Huebner (Rec'77)  
 Charles Mena (Edd'77)

Douglas D. Scott (Econ'77)  
 Joan R. Gaskins (Edu'78)  
 Patricia Christenson Shanks  
 (Law'78)  
 George T. Strumbos (Geog'78)  
 Ronald W. Knollenberg (MHist'79;  
 PhDGeog'85; PhDHist'96)  
 Douglas L. Neithercut (Geog'79)  
 Hugh M. Roberts (PolSci'79)  
 Sylvia Kelso (MGeog'80)  
 Karen Klein Ripley (Hum'80)  
 Landon W. Lyons (MEdu'81)  
 Jacob J. Schaefer (Comm'82)  
 Brian R. Tracey (MJour'82)  
 Janie A. Jennings (Psych'83)  
 David B. Mensendiek (Econ'84)  
 John F. Medica (MCDBio'85)  
 Douglas Zolnick (EiEngr'86)  
 Mary Voerding Piasecki (Law'87)  
 Laura Parry (Rec'90; MPsy'93)  
 Steven N. Haun (Mus'91)  
 Kirsten A. Moffatt (MCDBio'91;  
 Path'00)  
 Michael J. Monroe (Psych'93)  
 Ashley Wyatt Gravelle (Soc'94)  
 Charles D. Cosman (CompSci'96)  
 Daniel O. Fenaughty (Law'96)  
 Julie Gordon McCoy (MJour'99)  
 Brently Lee Bishop (Film ex'00)  
 Philip S. Long (Fin'00)  
 Christopher Sillence (MChem'00)

Andrew G. Slater (PhDGeog'03)  
 Genevieve A. Sommervold  
 (IntPhys'07)  
 Christopher P. Zabka (Jour'07)  
 James C. Biar (Econ'08)  
 Peter J. Casey (EnvSt'08)  
 Patrick J. Valdez (Hist'10)  
 Jeff A. J. Hill (PolSci'14)  
 Peter J. Hawkes (Econ'15)  
 Claire G. Moody (Span ex'16)  
 Jason W. Cyrus (AeroEngr ex'18)  
 Nicholas T. Sieving (A&S ex'20)  
 Yuliya Zlotnikov (Engl ex'20)

**Correction:** The Fall 2016 issue of the Coloradan inaccurately reported the death of **Joseph A. Snyder (A&S'96)**. He is alive and well. We regret the error.

## Faculty, Staff and Friends

Harriet Ardalan, Past Staff  
 LaWanda Bauer, Admissions  
 W. Thomas Cathey Jr., Engineering Professor  
 Dorothy Cruthers, CU Book Store  
 Virginia Fassler, Registrar's Office  
 Deborah Jin, Physics Professor

# Letters

WINTER 2016



Tom Kennedy (Mktg'73) shared a memento from a 1969 concert he attended at Folsom Field.

## MEMENTOS OF '69

Just a couple of weeks before reading the "Return of the Dead" article [Summer 2016], I was reminiscing with a fellow

Buff about the two stadium shows we saw in our time at CU. The first was on Sept. 7, 1969, and was headlined by Country Joe and the Fish. To shore up

my memory I pulled out my handbill (above) from that show.

**Tom Kennedy** (Mktg'73)  
Rolling Hills Estates,  
Calif.

## GOOD WORKS

Regarding "Everywhere and Anywhere" [Fall 2016] on alum **Gayle Smith** (Engl'78) — her predecessor in humanitarian good works and leadership was probably **Julia Taft Vadala** (PolSci'64; MA'69). Julia was a White House Fellow, tapped by President Ford for Operation BabyLift, worked on refugee crises worldwide and finished her career at the UN. Julia was also our liaison for the U.S. government with the Dalai Lama; she loved him.

**Paula Sparre Holcomb**  
(Engl'64)  
Sedona, Ariz.

## EVERYWHERE, EMAIL

I was happy to see the article about email at Colorado ["Origins," Fall 2016]. As a Tri-Exec, I had the privilege of being part of the conversation about ubiquitous email for students when student government (then the University of Colorado Student Union, or UCSU) partnered with other campus entities in that conversation. For at least a while, the main student server was named `ucsu.colorado.edu` for that reason.

Back then, of course, we were excited to get email. Quite a difference from today, when email is a bit too ubiquitous and we find ways around it.

Thanks for an interesting feature!

**Malinda M. Matney**  
(MMus'92)  
Ann Arbor, Mich.

I recently read your article about early email at CU. I still fondly remember using Pine and

## OF MIND AND MATTER

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE ARTICLE ABOUT **AMY CUDDY** (PSYCH'98) THAT YOU PUBLISHED IN THE SUMMER 2016 ISSUE ["OF MIND AND MATTER"]. A FRIEND OF MINE HAD A BRAIN INJURY EARLIER THIS YEAR AND I WAS ABLE TO SHARE THE ARTICLE WITH HER. IT WAS SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO HER THEN, WHEN I FIRST SHARED IT WITH HER, AND IT CONTINUES TO BE.

**Wendy Stethers** (MechEngr'92)  
Kaneohe, Hawaii

Elm as clients via my old Mac II plugged into the Farrand Ethernet. My address in 1992 was `gpenn@colorado.edu`. I wish I could have kept it like many universities allow these days. I was a desktop admin for the housing department at Farrand and Baker's computer labs, so I remember crawling the early web using Netscape, too. It must have

sparked something, because I ended up leading eCommerce for major brands. Thanks for the memories!

**Gary Penn** (Hum'96)  
Lake Forest, Calif.

## CUBA COVER

I enjoyed **Glenn Asakawa's** (Jour'86) photo essay, "Colors of Cuba" [Fall 2016] in the recent issue of the *Coloradan*. He captures many of

the wonderful scenes I observed, having been to Cuba in 2008 and 2012. I, too, would go back again in a heartbeat.

That said, I'm disappointed you chose the photo of the young woman for the cover, rather than the more colorful photograph of the older woman with the cigar, her vivid headdress and brightly painted nails. Once again, as frequently occurs when attractive, young women are photographed, she is being objectified, especially by the pose she has taken.

I'm not a hardened feminist, but this cover photo is a continuation of using women, and some men, to "sell sex" on magazine/book covers, ad copy and other promotional materials. And to be honest, both genders sometimes objectify themselves by the manner in which they dress or behave in their daily lives.

Thanks for hearing me out.

**Nancy Foster** (Jour'71)  
Denver, Colo.

## HOMECOMING QUEEN

I especially enjoyed the pictures on page 48



Mary Mothershed Pryor, CU's 1962 homecoming queen, made a lasting impression on alumna Sue Hauser Mischke.

of the fall *Coloradan*. I believe the picture on the lower right is of **Mary Mothershed Pryor** (A&S'64) and her homecoming court in 1962. I was a freshman and our dorm wing in Sewall Hall unanimously nominated her for homecoming queen. She was every bit as nice as she was gorgeous! She was our resident adviser; we all loved her and we were all so thrilled when she won. I remember a very few people from my freshman dorm, but I will never forget Mary, and I'm sure I'm not alone in this memory.

**Sue Hauser Mischke**  
(A&S'66)  
Beltsville, Md.

## MORE ON ALFERD PACKER

Thanks for the interesting article on the Alferd Packer Grill ["Boulder Beat," Summer 2016]. I can attest that at least from 1957 to 1960 Alferd Packer's name was on the grill, but I cannot recall if his middle initial was. I was an undergrad in those years. In 1960 I entered the law school (you could be admitted without an undergrad de-

gree in those days) and got married to my wife of now 56 years, so had other things [to do] and lost track of the grill.

**Doug Irish** (Law'63)  
Scottsdale, Ariz.

## BRONZE!

The last *Coloradan* that I received had an article about **Emma Coburn** (Mktg'13) ["Sports Q&A," Summer 2016] and her long distance running. I wrote her last name down on a piece of paper along with women's steeplechase. I read in today's *Topeka Capital-Journal* newspaper that Ms. Coburn won the bronze medal in the 3,000-meter steeplechase at the Rio Olympics. Way to go!

**Philip Benninghoven**  
(A&S'63)  
Topeka, Kan.

## PAINTING THE FLATIRONS

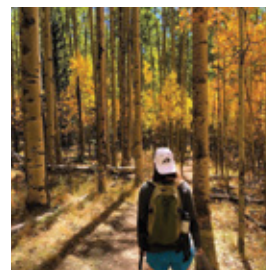
I, like so very many of your readers, thoroughly enjoyed the two-page Flatirons article [Infographic, Spring 2016]. I sure never guessed that our Third Flatiron adventure would fall between those of a roller-skater and a nudist.

On the night of Oct. 14, 1955, my roommate, **Jim McCune** (EngrPhys'57; MPhys'61), and I climbed the backside of that Flatiron with paint, brushes, stirring paddles, rope and carabiners in backpacks. While Jim stirred the paint, I painted the U.

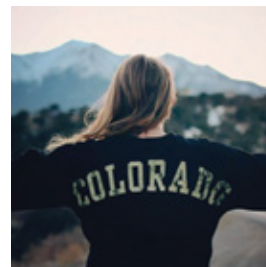
**Emery Cowan** (Jour, Span'10) told the "painting" story very well in the June 2009 *Coloradan*.

**Frank Ellis**  
(CivEngr'56)  
Pensacola, Fla.

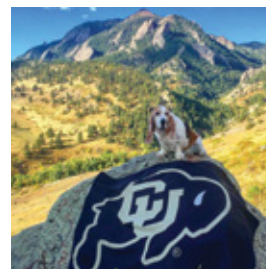
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# Coloradan

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*Coloradan* aims to connect, inform and engage readers in the life of the University of Colorado Boulder through regular communication with alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends of the university. It is published four times per year, in spring, summer, fall and winter, by the CU Boulder Alumni Association. Permission to reprint articles, photos and illustrations may be obtained from the editor.

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Pentagram Austin

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# THEN

1876

The Centennial of the United States was a momentous year in the Rockies: The Colorado territory became the State of Colorado, the union's 38th, and the University of Colorado was formally established in Boulder.

In this southward view of campus from 140 years ago, Old Main stands alone in the distance, top left, CU Boulder's first and only building. To the west, there's nary a structure on The Hill. All else that CU would become is pure possibility.





# Notes CLASS

50s, 60s & 70s WINTER 2016

**'50** The Board of Directors of the Lower Columbia Basin Audubon Society has awarded **Bill Rickard Jr.** (Btny; MA'53) and his wife **Barbara Rickard** (Zool'52; MA'57) lifetime memberships in recognition of their contributions to the establishment of the society. The couple lives in Richland, Wash.

**'51 Evelyn Golden Shafner** (Edu; MA'69; MEdu'72) has published *Champa Street*, a novel set in Depression-era Denver. She began handwriting the story in a notebook at age 80 and completed it by her 83rd birthday. The book is available on Amazon. Evelyn, a Denver native, is now writing her second novel.

**'56 Dan Dillingham** (Fin) was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. Dan, of Enid, Okla., was one of six inductees this year.

While studying at CU, **Dick Hueholt** (AeroEngr) flew left wing on the Minute Men aerobatic team, which was sponsored by the Colorado Air National Guard. The monthly *Air Classics* magazine featured the National

Minute Men Team in its September 2016 edition, 63 years after the Minute Men team was formed. After graduating, Dick was employed as a jet test pilot for Chance Vought Corp. He is now retired and lives in Argyle, Texas.

Academy Award-winning composer **Dave Grusin** (Mus) received the George Norlin Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony in October. Dave, who also has won 10 Grammy Awards, is a founding member of the College of Music Advisory Board and has been composing music professionally since the 1960s. He lives in Santa Fe, N.M.

**'60 In October, Nan Phifer** (Engl) led a workshop titled "Write to Fictionalize Your Life" at the Waking the Dreamer Festival in Longmont, Colo. Nan's book, *Memoirs of the Soul: A Writing Guide*, has received two awards.

**William J. Veigele** (PhDPhys) celebrated his 91st birthday in June and is preparing for the release of his 15th book. He served three years of active duty in WWII, taught as a professor at several universities and held positions in both environmental work and nuclear research.

William lives in Santa Barbara, Calif.

**'61 Patricia "Patty" Watters** (A&S) has published *The Biodome Garden Book*, which describes how to build a self-contained passive solar greenhouse. Her design, featured in Brewer Park in Ottawa, Canada, is studied by four universities in the area. Patty also has written 23 romance novels and a memoir, *Around the Belt*, chronicling her escapades growing up in New Orleans in the 1950s. She lives in Newberg, Ore., and has been receiving the *Coloradan* for 55 years.

**'63 Douglas Looney** (Jour) and **Mary Ann Winter Looney** (Edu) met in a freshmen English class at CU and have been happily married since shortly after college. Mary Ann, a retired teacher, is a member of CU's Women Investing in the School of Education board. Doug, a retired journalist, worked at the *National Observer* and *Sports Illustrated*.

**'67 Laura Border** (Fren; MA'71; PhD'92) retired in September as director of the CU Boulder Graduate Teacher

Program (GTP). The Colorado native taught French as an instructor for several years and in 1985 became coordinator of the GTP. When the program moved to the graduate school in 1988 she became founding director. Over 30-plus years she helped train more than 15,000 graduate students.

In October **W. Harold "Sonny" Flowers Jr.** (Engl; Law'71) received the George Norlin Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. Sonny, a lawyer, helped establish the Black Alumni Association and create an endowed scholarship for students of color at both Colorado Law and the University of Denver. Sonny and his wife, Pamela, live in Boulder.

**'69 Gary Anderson** (MechEngr) received the Alumni Recognition Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's

87th Annual Awards Ceremony in October. A former business executive, Gary has pursued investing and philanthropy in retirement. Gary and his wife, Linda, live in Golden, Colo.

In 2015 **Doug Pardue** (IntlAf) was part of a four-member reporting team at the *Post and Courier* in Charleston, S.C., that won a Pulitzer Prize for Public Service for an investigative series about why South Carolina is among the deadliest states for women. The series, "Till Death Do Us Part," can be viewed at [postandcourier.com/tilldeath](http://postandcourier.com/tilldeath). Doug writes that he is a proud CU alumnus.

**'70** During a visit to CU Boulder in October, **Helen Louise Young** (MGeog; PhD'75) and her wife, Vivienne Armstrong, shared the story of their advocacy for LGBTQ rights and equality in the U.S. Helen and Vivienne met at CU in 1971 and have since

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been important contributors to the gay rights movement through their work in politics, health-care and activism.

**'71 In October Kathy Escamilla** (Span) received the Robert L. Stearns Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. A professor at CU Boulder, Kathy has been researching and advocating for America's bilingual students for three decades. Kathy and her husband, Manuel, live in Louisville, Colo.

In 2012, **Kam Kaminske's** (Jour) book, *The Magician's Secret*, was published by Amazon. Kam began her writing career as her first woman in the press box at CU. She worked for more than 12 years in the public relations field and is now a freelance writer in Los Angeles.



Carlton Stoiber (Phil'64; Law'69) drew this at The Sink with his wife, Susanne (PolSci'66).

READ THE OTHER DECADES OF CLASS NOTES ONLINE AT [COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN](http://COLORADO.EDU/COLORADAN)



Any guesses where the photographer was standing? Email us at editor@colorado.edu.

In 2011 *National Geographic* nominated **Jonathan Turk** (PhDChem) and his 27-year-old partner as one of the “Top Ten Adventure Teams” in the world. His fourth book, *Crocodiles and Ice: A Journey into Deep Wild*, was published in September. The book highlights Jon’s award-winning polar expedition circumnavigating Ellesmere Island in the Canadian Arctic and details his path from a suburban Connecticut childhood into a life in Earth’s wild places.

**Richard Van Scotter** (EdD) has released his first novel, *Thin Ice: Race, Sports, and Awakening in the 1950s*. The story takes readers to a time and environment that nurtured much more than the “Silent Generation.” The era was a gateway to excesses in sports,

commercialism and lifestyles. It also sowed the seeds for heightened social awareness, which he explores through teacher Sam Hartman and his students at “Elk Woods High” in southern Wisconsin. Richard lives in Longmont, Colo.

**75 Anita Sanchez** (DistSt; MPubAd’77; PhD’88) has been consulting, training and coaching in business, government and nonprofits around the globe with her husband, **Kit Tennis** (Psych’75; MPubAd’77; DBA’86). Her latest book, *The Four Sacred Gifts: Indigenous Wisdom for Modern Times*, will be published by Simon & Schuster in August 2017. Anita serves on the boards of Bioneers and the Pachamama Alliance. In their spare time, Anita and Kit lead trips into the Amazon

to live and learn with dream culture tribes whose worlds are threatened by rainforest destruction.

**76 Richard Heede** (EnvCon, Phil; MGeog’83) was featured in *Science* magazine in August for his controversial work on quantifying which companies are responsible for putting carbon into the atmosphere. Rick, who is the director of the Climate Accountability Institute, has more than 30 years of experience in subjects related to climate change, including mitigation strategies and the geography of carbon. Rick was born in Norway and immigrated to the U.S. at age 15 with his parents. He spent most of his life in Colorado and now lives on a houseboat anchored in Sausalito, Calif.

## PROFILE MARK JOHNSON



### THE ROOKIE

ABOUT FOUR YEARS AGO, Det. **Mark Johnson** (Engl’74) found himself in a crawl space getting shot at by a man who’d minutes earlier

fatally stabbed a police officer.

Johnson never contemplated this situation in his previous job as executive director of the United Way of Southwest Alabama, which often involved hobnobbing with Mobile’s well-to-do.

But nagged by the feeling that the work wasn’t his calling, he’d become, at the age of 50, a policeman.

“I realized that if I ever wanted to be a cop, I could afford to at this point, having savings from a good career and both my kids having been through college,” he said from his home in Fairhope, Ala. “And I knew if I didn’t do it soon, I’d be too old.”

The change didn’t come easy, as Johnson details in his recent memoir, *Apprehensions and Convictions: Adventures of a 50-Year-Old Rookie Cop* (Quill Driver Books).

Easing the concerns of his wife, **Nancy Hecht Johnson** (Jour’74), whom he’d met at freshmen orientation at CU, was one obstacle. Later he suffered the jibes of “old man” and “papa” from fellow police academy recruits.

But perseverance led to a 12-year career with the Mobile police force, ultimately as a detective.

“I thought I had the wisdom to be a new kind of cop,” said Johnson, now retired. “I’d be tough but compassionate. I would enlighten law enforcement and be the best cop they ever had. I was disabused of that fantasy in short order.”

He quickly reconsidered his practice of providing brochures about social services to suspects: “People looked at me like I was from another planet!”

Johnson honed his street smarts and tempered his idealism without abandoning it.

“Sometimes people took my advice and later thanked me for

it,” he said. “I’d refer them to agencies or rehab centers, and their lives turned around. That was one of the most gratifying parts of being a cop — helping people make significant changes in their lives.”

Johnson grew up in Louisiana and St. Louis and majored in English at CU, “hoping to write the Great American Novel.”

After some post-graduation fits and starts, he joined United Way, initially in its public relations department. The work promised a steadier paycheck than a fledgling novelist’s. He and Nancy married and started a family. Johnson rose to executive director, first in Wisconsin, then in Alabama.

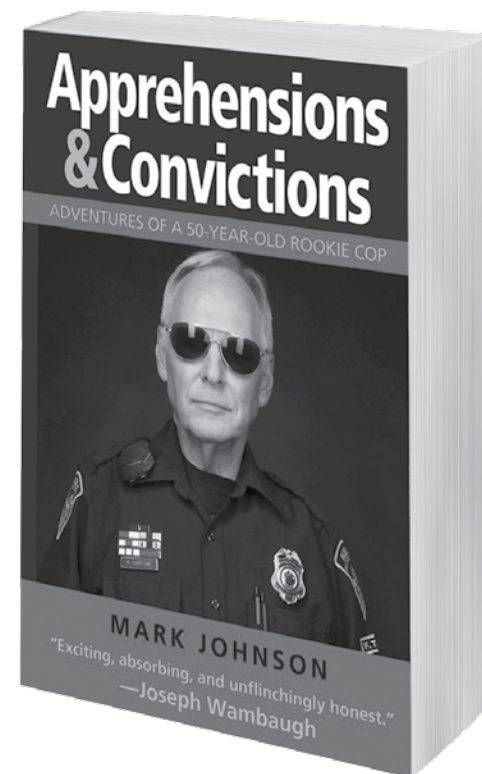
It was a safe life, a good life and ultimately not the right life for him.

That brings us back to those tense moments in the crawl space. The cop killer did not escape, or survive. Johnson took a gunshot wound to his arm.

He still has bad dreams about that day, but never regrets changing careers.

“The only reason I quit is I’m too old for this job,” said Johnson, now 64 and a grandfather of five. “Two decades of United Way work was very satisfying, but police work was even more satisfying. It was the best job I ever had.”

By Bill Weir



# Notes CLASS

80s & 90s WINTER 2016



CU alumni representing Colorado craft beer companies at Buffs on Tap, Homecoming 2016.

**'80** **Laura Marello's** (MEngl) book, *Maniac Drifter*, has been published by Guernica Editions, Toronto. Earlier in 2016, Laura released a collection titled *Balzac's Rose and Other Poems*. Laura has published four other books and received numerous grants and fellowships. She lives in Lynchburg, Va.

**'81** **Michele Ritter** (Anth) received the Alumni Recognition Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony in October. Michele's philanthropic and humanitarian causes include CU's College of Music, the Italian department, developmentally disabled adults and the "Lost Girls" of South

Sudan. She lives in Boulder with her husband, **Mike Ritter** (Chem'81).

**'82** **Scott Baines** (Fin) and son Nick competed in the 2016 Oregon Golf Association Parent-Child Chapman in August and won with a score of 62. Scott, an alumnus of CU's golf team, was in the reverse role when he won with his father, Ken Baines, in 1977. Advancing their legacy, he won the event with his oldest son, Mitch, in 2008 and has now completed the trifecta.

**'83** In October **Kimberly Orr** (Mktg), a past president of alumni chapters in metro Denver and Los Angeles, was named CU Advocate of the Year for exceptional advocacy on behalf of the university. Kimberly regularly promotes events and works to advance the program

via social media, marketing concepts and regular attendance at CU events. She lives in Centennial, Colo.

**'84** **Geary Larrick** (DMus) is celebrating 50 years since the 1966 publication of his first article in *Percussive Notes*. He now has author citations in *Books in Print*, *Music Index*, *RILM Abstracts* and *WorldCat*. Geary performs on percussion and piano in central Wisconsin, where he is a retired music professor.

In October Lockheed Martin executive **Kathryn Tobey** (ChemEngr; MS'94) received the George Norlin Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. Her husband, **Brett** (ArchEngr'83; MA'89), and sons **Nicholas** (EnvDes'16) and **Samuel** (MechEngr'14) are also CU alums. Her extended family has earned

13 CU degrees. Kathy lives in Littleton, Colo.

**'86** **Shari Miles-Cohen** (Psych) co-edited the book *Eliminating Inequities for Women with Disabilities: An Agenda for Health and Wellness*. Shari is a senior director for the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.

An original artwork created by **Bill Sawicki** (ArchEngr) was included in the 40th anniversary group exhibition "A Building with a View: Experiments in Anarchitecture" at the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans. The show ran August through October.

**'87** Since his 2013 retirement from Colorado Law, **Al Canner** (Law) has been digging into a unique style of fiber art he's developed. One of his pieces was featured at the Northern Colorado Weaver's Guild 42nd annual juried fiber art exhibit in Fort Collins. Three of Al's pieces are on display in CU's Wolf Law Building. Previously Al served as executive director of the Colorado Hospice Organization.

**Ed Reinhardt** (A&S ex) received the Alumni Recognition Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. After a tragic accident during a CU football game in 1984, Ed had to relearn basic speech and movement. He has since spent his life traveling the country with his father speaking about the importance of a fighting spirit. Ed lives in Centennial, Colo.

Keene State College in New Hampshire named **William Seigh** (MDance) interim provost. In 2011, he

was honored as the Distinguished Teacher of the Year at the school. He began his position July 1. William also serves as president of the American College Dance Association.

**'89** **Diane "Betsy" Ulrich** (IntlAf), an Illinois orthodontist, is serving as president of the Illinois Society of Orthodontists for the 2016-17 term. She lives in Atlanta, Ill.

**'90** Boulder resident **Cam Low** (Advert) was named CU Advocate Cheerleader of the Year. A member of the Boulder Alumni chapter's board, Cam frequently volunteers at CU events and uses social media, graphic design and photography to promote them.

**David Novotny** (ElEngr; MS'96) received a Department of Commerce Silver Medal for his work as part of a National Institute of Standards and Technology team. The team designed and implemented a new type of high-frequency antenna measurement system based on accurately controlling an industrial robot with a laser tracker.

**'91** **Katie Writer** (Geog) lives in Alaska and recently started a recycling program in her small community of Talkeetna. In its first year, Talkeetna Recycling Works diverted more than 14 tons of material from the landfill to a recycling center and made it possible to drop off recycling for free.

Santa Clara, Calif.-based Gigamon Inc. named **Fred Studer** (Fin) chief marketing officer. He oversees all aspects of

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global marketing, including creative marketing and product management.

**'92** Denver author and illustrator **Stan Yan** (Acct), a former stockbroker best known for his zombie caricature illustrations, will be trying to help parents of fearful kids sleep this fall with a reading of his new bedtime picture book, *There's a Zombie in the Basement*, and an interactive monster drawing demo. Stan decided to become a full-time cartoonist in 2005.

**'93** Veteran TV producer **Josh Bingham** (Comm) will serve as senior vice president for Critical Labs, a new program that will give 10 millennial producers the resources to develop new unscripted projects for traditional media, digital and over-the-top platforms. Josh lives in greater Los Angeles.

In 2014 **Clint Folsom** (Bus) was elected mayor of Superior, Colo., and has entered the second half of his four-year term. Clint owns Folsom & Company Real Estate and manages several rental properties in Boulder that are leased to CU students. During his time at CU, Clint was a member of the 1988 Presidents Leadership Class and is still an active supporter of the program. Clint and his wife, Leslie, have two children who attend schools in Superior.

Boulder County-based real estate brokerage, Blazer Real Estate, LLC, owned by broker **Ken Wiseman**

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(Mktg), calls itself Boulder's first "dog-friendly" brokerage and will be donating 5 percent of all sales commissions to an animal charity of the customer's choice. This is Ken's third real estate brokerage. He recently moved back to Boulder with his wife, Shannon, and four dogs after spending five years in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

**'94** Award-winning producer and voice actor **David Vincent** (Jour ex) is known for hundreds of characters in anime series and video games such as *Super Smash Bros.* and *Street Fighter*. David lives in Los Angeles.

**'95** **Holly Wagstaff-Bellomo**

(Advert) has been hired as Romano's Macaroni Grill's new vice president of marketing. Holly served in the same position for Denver-based Noodles & Company. She lives in Denver with her husband, David, and their children.

Quirk Books published **Bonnie Burton's** (Engl, Jour) new work, *Crafting with Feminism: 25 Girl-Powered Projects to Smash the Patriarchy*. It includes finger puppets of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Bell Hooks and Frida Kahlo. Bonnie lives in San Francisco.

**Julie Wehmeyer** (Arch) is an associate principal with GreenbergFarrow, a nationally recognized architecture, engineering, planning and development consulting firm. Julie is a registered architect in Illinois and is an active member of the American Institute of Architects.

**'97** **Jonathan Berohn** (MEngl; MPolSci'05) launched a political satire website, [www.dontfruitthebeer.com](http://www.dontfruitthebeer.com). Jonathan, who has an undergraduate degree from Harvard, has taught classes on both political science and creative writing and is a published author. He lives outside of Boulder with his wife and has two children in college.

Sambazon, a leading maker of açai-based products co-founded by former Buffs football player **Ryan Black** (Fin), can be found in most grocery stores, juice bars and cafes in North America. Ryan, the CEO, started the company following a surf trip to Brazil in 1999 with his brother and a friend. He lives near the beach in San Clemente, Calif., and his interests include travel, music and surfing.

Helicopter pilot and U.S. Navy commander **Patrick Burrus** (ChemEngr) is in charge of the Helicopter Maritime Strike Weapons School Atlantic in Mayport, Fla. A Nebraska native, he enlisted in the Navy in 1987 and has served tours in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**Emily Brett Seiden** (Kines) has published her first novel, *Found*, based on her experiences as a former ICU nurse. The story is about a fictional travel nurse who escapes near-death experiences. Emily lives in Scottsdale, Ariz., with her husband, three kids and their rescue dog, Farley.

**'98** **Doug Slaybaugh** (Acct) started his own business, The CPA Coach. Doug was previously an audit partner with EKS&H, a professional services

firm based in Colorado. Doug is being certified as a professional coach to challenge and encourage CPAs, accountants, finance executives and professionals to exceed their own expectations.

**Steve Soich** (MMus) finished his first year as dean of students at Sobesky Academy, an alternative school in Lakewood, Colo., serving students with severe emotional disabilities. He is assistant principal for the 2016-2017 school year and is working on a degree to be an Educational Leadership Specialist (EdS) through the University of Colorado Denver.

**'99** Inspired by a property tax bill, **Chris Bullock** (Mktg) of Massachusetts founded ClearGov, a company that helps citizens understand government spending.

*US News and World Report* named **Dan Lipman** (PolSci) the Denver Area's 2017 "Lawyer of the Year" for medical malpractice law – plaintiffs.

California science teacher **Sandra Starr** (EPOBio) and her students were recognized by the Entertainment Industry Foundation with a Think It Up Innovation Award. Along with \$5,000 for her program, Sandi and one of her students also were recognized at the Teen Choice Awards.

Lola Red PR, founded in Boulder in 2001 by **Alexis Walsko** (Mktg), won the Gold Picks and Grand Gold Picks award from the Public Relations Society of America in 2016 for its work with Boulder-based Sphero, a consumer electronics company focused on robotics.

## PROFILE GEORGE CODDING

### ARSON INVESTIGATOR

GEORGE CODDING HAS LOOKED at fire from many angles — as firefighter, prosecutor and now as head of a global group of fire investigators.

"There is science involved in the investigation, even if you find someone running from the scene with gas cans wearing black clothing," he said. "Sometimes things get clearly criminal, but you've got to be rigorous in how you approach it."

There are tens of thousands of suspected arsons in the United States every year. As president of the 9,000-member International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), **Coddling** (IntlAf, PolSci'84; Law'89) is leading the charge to further professionalize examination of a crime that has been around since shortly after man discovered fire.

A top goal is ensuring that investigations are as scientific as can be.

Like all good scientists, fire investigators form a hypothesis about how a fire started and then test it, Coddling said. They follow patterns and examine chemical traces, considering everything from the properties of flammable liquids to how polyester clothes burn.

"Fires leave a lot of patterns and evidence, but these have to be evaluated cautiously," said Coddling, a volunteer investigator with the Louisville, Colo., Fire Department whose day job is senior assistant attorney general for the State of Colorado. "As a fire develops, early patterns are often obscured or overwhelmed by later ones."

It's essential, he said, that "the science is good."

Coddling (whose father, George Coddling Jr., directed CU Boulder's International Affairs program from 1965 to 1993) took an early interest in fire, joining Boulder's Cherryvale (now Rocky Mountain) Volunteer Fire Department just after high school. He kept up with firefighting as an undergraduate and law student at CU, and long afterward.

"I remember doing response calls when I was taking classes at the Fleming Law Building," he said.

After Coddling joined the Boulder district attorney's office in 1996, then-DA Alex Hunter encouraged his interest in arson investigations. This led to his involvement with IAAI.

The group joins fire departments, police, scientists, engineers, private investigators and insurance companies, all with the common goal of finding answers to a crime typically driven by revenge, mischief or monetary gain. The organization focuses on training and outreach through 79 chapters worldwide.

Coddling, who became president this year, has traveled widely giving talks about fire investigation — including one in Brazil for which he learned enough Portuguese to present for nearly an hour. (He also speaks French and Spanish.)

As fire science has improved, it has generated concerns that some arson convictions rest on shaky evidence; the IAAI serves as an expert resource when old cases are revisited.

Among the most notorious was that of Todd Willingham, a Texan convicted of murder in a 1991 fire that killed his three young children. After Willingham was executed, key evidence was called into question.

That case underscored the high stakes of fire investigators' work, Coddling said.

"Fairness and justice require that criminal arson convictions have a strong basis in fact and science," he said.

By **Ken McConnelllogue** (Jour '90)



# Notes

CLASS

00s & 10s WINTER 2016

## '01 Nicholas Bernstein

(MAeroEngr; PhD'07) works for a company that produces anatomy teaching tools and surgical simulators for medical schools and residency programs.

**David Wolf** (Law, MBA) received the Kalpana Chawla Outstanding Recent Graduate Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. David is COO of BSW Wealth Partners, a multi-family office and wealth advisory firm with offices in Boulder and Denver. He has been an active member of the Leeds advisory board and has spoken at CU conferences, on industry panels and in classes and judged competitions. He also has mentored and hired numerous CU students. He lives in Boulder.

## '04 Giordin Perlman

In September (AeroEngr) gave a talk at the CU Discovery Learning Center on autonomous systems. Giordin is the chief engineer for Northrop Grumman. Her team made aviation history in April 2015 with the first autonomous aerial refueling demonstration of an unmanned air vehicle. Giordin and husband Steven married late last year. They live in California.

**Nathan Seidle** (EIngr) received the Kalpana Chawla Outstanding Recent Graduate Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. In 2003, Nathan opened a one-man business reselling circuit boards from Europe. His Boulder-based firm SparkFun now employs more than 100 people. He lives in Boulder.

## '05 Michael Berry's

(MPolSci; PhD'08) book *The Modern Legislative Veto* has been published by the University of Michigan Press. Michael is an associate professor of political science at the University of Colorado Denver.

**Thomas Carroll** (IntlAf, PolSci), an associate with the international law firm Faegre Baker Daniels, has been named a 2016 Volunteer of the Year by the Downtown Denver Partnership. After graduating from CU, Thomas received his law degree from New York University and now lives in Denver.

**Colin Finch** (PolSci) received the Leanne Skupa-Lee Award at the CU Boulder Alumni Association's 87th Annual Awards Ceremony. In 2015, he was the CU Advocate of the Year. Colin lives in Boulder.

**James Gleeson** (PolSci) is serving as director of communications for Dr. Jill Biden at the White House. He previously

worked for the U.S. House of Representatives as well as the Colorado General Assembly. James lives in Silver Spring, Md.

**Dan Palm** (Fin) and his wife, Courtney, have launched a baby sleep-training app called Cradle. The app allows exhausted parents to tailor a sleep plan specific to their family's needs, helping them keep consistent with their sleep training so they can get their child to sleep through the night. Cradle is currently available for download in the App Store. Dan and Courtney live in Centennial, Colo.

## '06 Chris Avantage

(Advert) of the VIA advertising agency in Portland, Maine, appeared in *Adweek's* list of "50 Creatives Whose Brilliant Ideas and Beautiful Craft Will Make You Jealous." Chris made the list for many reasons, including his re-branding efforts for Maine Beer Company and his work on a TV ad for Perdue chicken.

Intellectual property attorney **Amy Kramer** (ChemEngr; Law'09) was awarded the 2016 American Bar Association's "On the Rise – Top 40 Young Lawyers" by the Young Lawyers Division. Amy is a sixth-generation Coloradan and is involved in several nonprofit organizations including serving on the board of advisors

for the Downtown Denver branch of the YMCA of Metropolitan Denver. She also chairs the YMCA young professionals committee for Janet's Camp, which has raised more than \$1 million to send low-income children to summer camp. At CU, Amy serves on the Engineering Advisory Council and the GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Board in the College of Engineering & Applied Science.

## '07 Landon Mock

(Psych), leader of the Washington, D.C., CU Alumni Association chapter, married Caitlin Donnelly on Sept. 24. The couple was introduced at a Buffs football watch party in D.C. a few years ago and got engaged while on a hike in spring 2015.

Their wedding reception overlapped with the CU vs. Oregon football game and the CU fight song rang throughout the venue after CU won.

## '08 Jevan Fox

(Engl) writes that he is keeping CU Boulder front-of-mind at all times. He is helping launch Bixler Collegiate ([bixlercollegiate.com](http://bixlercollegiate.com)) licensed fine jewelry, and is launching in a big way with CU. The line, in sterling silver and 14k gold with diamonds and gemstones, will be available via the company website and local retail outlets, as well as through the Alumni Association. Jevan resides on the East Coast with another Buff, his wife **Jerusha Fox** (Engl'11).



Commander **Robert Marks** (BioChem'98) and Lieutenant Junior Grade Erin Gauck MacDonald, a CU Boulder NROTC graduate and CU Anschutz alumna, worked together aboard the USNS Mercy, a hospital ship, seen here off the coast of Indonesia on Aug. 24.

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**Nichole Geddes** (Advert) of Heat ad agency in San Francisco appeared in *Adweek's* list of "50 Creatives Whose Brilliant Ideas and Beautiful Craft Will Make You Jealous." Nichole was recognized for her creative work on TV ad campaigns for the travel site Hotwire.com and EA Sports' football video game *Madden 16*.

## '09 Marissa Hermanson

(Jour) married Graham Moomaw, a journalist at the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. Marissa is a lifestyle journalist who has contributed to *Southern Living*, *Forbes Travel Guide*, *Cosmopolitan* and other publications. She lives in Richmond, Va.

**Patricia Krus** (MClass) and Joshua Stanfield were married in May. The ceremony was held at the Sunrise Amphitheatre on Flagstaff Mountain above Boulder with a dinner and dance reception hosted at CU Boulder. Josh and Patty honeymooned in Costa Rica, then traveled to Germany in September to continue the celebration. They live in Boulder with their Aussie kelpie, Tessa.

**Jeff Ruppert** (MCD-Bio), co-founder and COO of Evo Hemp, one of the first hemp food companies in the U.S., has been leading the firm's growth since 2011. He's happy to support fellow CU Boulder students and currently works with senior **Gabriela Moy** (ChemEngr ex'17).

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**'10** After spending a few years in Asia observing people eating insects, former Marine Corps officer **Dave Baugh** (Mgmt) and twin brother Lars started a sustainable cricket-based protein brand. Lithic, an Aurora, Colo.-based venture, creates products that are gluten, soy and lactose free, and their cricket-based bars contain more than 15 grams of protein. Dave writes that around 80 percent of the world eats insects regularly and says that they were ready to get Americans on board.

In October, **Kevin Smith** (Acct, MS) married **Sara Weisberg** (EnvSt'10) in Bodega Bay, Calif. Kevin and Sara celebrated by going on safari in Kenya and Tanzania. The couple resides in San Francisco.

**'11** Maji Safi Group, co-founded in 2013 by Boulder native **Bruce Maj Pelz** (EnvSt), empowers local community health workers in Tanzania to fight waterborne diseases by teaching lifesaving water, sanitation and hygiene practices. Bruce works with the Boulder community and CU at a variety of levels to promote awareness of the global water sanitation crisis and social responsibility.

**'12** Flautist **Hannah Darroch** (MMus) was one of this year's recipients of the Arts Excellence Award given by the Wellington Committee of the Dame Malvina Major Foundation in New Zealand and will receive prize money for her further studies. Hannah has been

involved in music education, community outreach and arts administration in the Wellington region. She will be studying at McGill University in Montreal in the Doctor of Music program majoring in flute performance.

**Brendan Mullins** (Arch) is helping international design firm Stantec launch its second virtual reality research initiative. Brendan, who will serve as VR research lead, has a blended background in architectural design and digital media with design experience in gaming and buildings. He lives in San Francisco.

**Marni Spott** (Ger, IntlAf; MGer'12), previously Herd program manager at the CU Boulder Alumni Association, is now pursuing a career in culinary arts. She will be earning a dual master's degree in culinary arts and international business at the Culinary Arts Academy in Lucerne, Switzerland. Marni hopes to apply her new skills to an agri-tourism business.

Former CU golfer **Emily Talley** (Comm) and former CU cross country skier **Andreas Høye** (Acct, Fin'14) were engaged in August on top of Mt. Tallac at Lake Tahoe in California. Emily and Andreas live in Oslo, Norway, Andreas' hometown.

**'13** In his senior year at CU, **Douglas Cushnie** (Film, Span) made a film in Nicaragua. Now at the American Film Institute, he's working on socially conscious film projects and fundraising for his thesis, "Neemkomok," a short film about a lesser-known side of California history.

The Green Bay Packers signed a contract extension making **David Bakhtiari** (Comm ex) one of the NFL's highest-paid tackles. In 2013 David started every game at left tackle, becoming the first rookie to do this for Green Bay since 1978.

**Jamie Gay** (MCDBio; MEdu'15) was chosen by the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation as a member of its 2016 cohort of Teaching Fellows. Jamie is one of 34 early career high school mathematics and science teachers to receive the award this year. She began her second year of teaching at Longmont High School this fall.

**'15** Former Norlin Scholar **Alex Dudley** (DistSt) spent the last year working to save rhinos in Tanzania. He was inspired to return to the country after discovering a passion for conservation during a CU study abroad trip. Rhinos have fascinated Alex since a visit to the Denver Zoo when he was two. Alex concluded his trip in August but will continue to work on behalf of the rhinos and the African communities that host them.

In July, after their final semester at CU, science aficionados **Carissa Marsh DeGregori** (MCDBio) and **Luke DeGregori** (Phys'16) got married. The couple met in middle school, started dating in high school and is almost as passionate about science education as they are about each other. The wedding's theme appropriately centered on science education and featured Erlenmeyer flasks as centerpieces. Carissa and Luke live in Boulder.

## PROFILE LAUREN GLENDENNING



## ASPEN INSIDER

**LAUREN GLENDENNING's** (JOUR'05) office is four blocks from one of the most famous ski resorts in America. She takes full advantage.

At least three times a week during ski season, she catches the lift around 8:45 a.m., snowboards several runs on Aspen Mountain, then starts her workday by 10.

Her morning routine is a perk she enjoys as a resident of Aspen, the 3.66-square-mile Rocky Mountain ski town known worldwide as a playground of the rich and famous.

Glendenning is editor-in-chief of the *Aspen Times*, a daily print newspaper for Aspen and surrounding Snowmass Village. Her work covers an eclectic mix of stories appealing to an audience of tourists and permanent and seasonal residents. Depending on the time of year, the print edition has a circulation of 12,000-15,000.

"There's a lot more happening here than bros on a mountain," said Glendenning, 35, who came to the *Times* in 2014 after managing other editorial projects for Colorado Mountain News Media, which owns the paper. "It's a fascinating place to work."

During the summer and winter high seasons, the city's yearly population jumps from less than 7,000 to about 27,000. The stories range in subject from finding the best mountain biking to wildfires to crime.

Much of Aspen's buzz comes from its reputation as a draw for celebrities, but also from major annual events such as the Winter X Games sports competition, the Aspen Security Forum, the Aspen

Music Festival and the Food & Wine Classic, which draws some of the food industry's biggest names.

In July, Joe Biden and Newt Gingrich both spoke at the Aspen Ideas Festival, and in August Donald Trump made a campaign stop and Hillary Clinton attended a fundraiser in the area.

Despite the steady influx of celebrities — Glendenning has spotted Caitlyn Jenner, Goldie Hawn, Kate Hudson and Elle Macpherson, among others — the newspaper does not play paparazzo.

"People don't 'ooh' and 'ahh' over celebrities here," Glendenning said. "These people come here to relax and chill out."

Like other newspapers, the *Times* faces its share of hurdles, including modest staffing levels and the pressure to stay fresh in the digital world.

Glendenning embraces the challenge. "She is the type of journalist who sees a way to tell a better story and makes that happen, even if it means writing code at 2 a.m. to get an integrated map to work correctly, which actually happened when she was tracking bear sightings in town," said Samantha Johnston, the paper's publisher.

Fortunately for the *Times*, print still thrives in Aspen, which is also home to a rival daily paper, the *Aspen Daily News*, a rare circumstance in big cities today, never mind a small mountain town.

"Walk into any coffee shop in town and you'll see every local with both papers in front of them," said Glendenning. "It's how people start their days here."

By *Christie Sounart* (JOUR'12)