Women making waves at CSU

by Kyla Skye Allmon

A campus wide initiative is beginning to ripple through the CSU community. Striving to make CSU a premier place for women to work and learn, the Ripple Effect was set in motion by President Tony Frank and VP of Operations Amy Parsons.

“All the credit goes to Tony for thinking of it in the first place,” Parsons says. Frank charged her with the mission to find out how to make CSU one of the best places for women to work and learn.

Parsons says that there were no real issues on campus to bring about this idea. “Tony was watching a lot of the national dialogue on pay gaps and wanted to make sure that CSU didn’t have any of that going on.”

The team Parsons has assembled is now looking at pay equity, and heading up this portion of the initiative is Diana Prieto, Director of Office of Equal Opportunity and Chief Human Resources Officer. Parsons says that the university has done a good job looking at pay equity of faculty over the years, making sure it’s competitive with other universities.

“What we’ve found is that we have not paid the same amount of attention to that comparative data with regard to our state classified employees and our Lory Student Center Update

Great Plates Fort Collins
March 1-14
More than 30 downtown restaurants will offer unique evening dining specials for just $25 for a full two weeks to help support the Food Bank for Larimer County. Last year’s event raised more than $35,000 to feed the hungry in our county. Full details available at downtowndowntownfortcollins.com

Reception for Michael Carolan
March 4, 4-6 p.m.
108 Johnson Hall
The School of Global Environmental Sustainability hosts CSU professor and chair of the department of sociology Michael S. Carolan, who will discuss his latest book, Reclaiming Food Security. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and refreshments will be served.

RecycleMania/Trash Audit
March 5
The national RecycleMania competition continues through the end of March, and CSU will be checking in on what we’re tossing that should be recycled. Last year, student volunteers found that 26 percent of campus trash could have been recycled – See Events page 7

March 2014

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MAX on Track page 5
Rockwell Who? page 6

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Founders Day Celebrations

by Sarah Sparhawk

When it comes to the remodel of the Lory Student Center, every person at Colorado State University is wondering “When?” But the “Who?” is Tracey Abel.

Well-spoken and organized, Abel is the construction project manager for CSU, and has been lending her talents to the LSC construction. She received her background in interior design and started small before working her way up to stay at the university.

“I manage the scope of the whole portion for CSU: budget, schedule, and contracts between us and the design team,” she said.

Abel previously worked on the University Theater remodel. She was not originally going to work on the LSC project, but she was asked specifically to do so. After seeing the result of her theater work, and the many awards that can be seen around her office space, it is no wonder why she was asked.

“The LSC remodel will be truly unique. It does not repeat at all from interior to exterior,” she said. “The university will never have an opportunity to expand like this again.”

The new design will still be based on the vision of the original designer, James Hunter, such as the main staircase in the center, but Abel gave some small glimpses into what the new student center will feature. A large outdoor staircase, a glass overhang and an east-to-west stretching red sandstone wall are just a few of the changes faculty and staff can anticipate.

“As the heart of the campus, it was important that we stick with the history, and wanted to

See LSC page 5

Lory Student Center Update

Tracey Abel: The method behind the LSC maddness

See RIPPLE page 6
Athletics
Karla Lewis, food and beverage general manager at Colorado State University Athletic Facilities, recently received the Ovations Food Services Rookie of the Year award. Lewis has worked with Ovations at CSU since August 2012, where she oversees catering pregame meals, team functions, recruiting dinners and fan dining at venues including Hughes Stadium and Moby Arena. Ovations operates more than 135 public assembly facilities across the country.

Faculty
Three Colorado State University faculty members have been named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Patrick Byrne, Debbie Crans, and Nora Lapitan are among 388 new fellows recognized for their contributions to science and technology at the AAAS meeting in Chicago in February.

Byrne, professor of soil and crop sciences, was cited for “pioneering work on the genetics of drought tolerance and disease resistance in plants, and exceptional public engagement on the science of genetically engineered organisms.” His work focuses on the application of quantitative and molecular genetics to crop improvement.

Crans, professor of chemistry, was cited for “distinguished contributions elucidating the chemistry and biochemistry of vanadium, as well as professional service within the field of inorganic chemistry.” Her research focuses on the chemistry of transition metal compounds and she has expanded her work to include lipid and lipid-like environments in bulk and on the nanoscale.

Lapitan, professor of crop sciences, was cited for “distinguished contributions to the field of plant genomics, particularly in the study of genome organization and the genomics of important traits in crop species.” She focuses on DNA “intelligence,” examining how DNA structure fits its function and how DNA evolves to respond to the needs of the organism.
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CSU's highly regarded Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising has hired Doreen Beard as director of operations and engagement. In her newly created position, she will oversee a remodeling and expansion project that will double the museum's space in the University Center for the Arts, thanks to a lead gift from the Avenir Foundation and funding from other benefactors.

The Avenir Museum is a part of the College of Health and Human Sciences. It has moved from a collection of textiles and clothing housed in the Gifford Building to its current gallery space, accompanied by improved storage and classroom space in the UCA complex. Thanks to the Avenir Museum, design, history and textile students and scholars have access to more than 18,000 catalogued clothing, textiles and interior furnishing artifacts.

Among the jewels of the collection are designer dresses from the late Mr. Blackwell, Arnold Scaasi, Carolina Herrera, James Galanos and Calvin Klein. It is also home to the internationally renowned Hellmann lace collection, which includes rare examples of 17th- and 18th-century handmade lace.
Testing for the MAX Rapid Transit System

Fort Collins prepares for transportation addition that will cut down traffic around campus

by Hannah Woolums

Come May 2014 there will be a new transportation system that will hit the CSU campus and the Fort Collins community.

The MAX line will offer a new way to get around town and cut down on the traffic that comes in and out of campus.

The installation of a new transportation system requires a lot of preparation to make sure that it will be up and running.

The MAX system is currently going through a series of tests to make sure that when May hits, it will be fully operational and safe for riders. According to Denise White, the Public Relations coordinator for the City of Fort Collins, these tests are to make sure that all of the technology involved is working properly.

“The testing for the MAX started in February 2014, and this is done to make sure that all of the technology works the way that it should,” White said.

This includes the gates, the ticket activation booths and messaging. The MAX system will act like a train, but instead of being on tracks it will be on something called a guide way, which will basically be its own separate road. Due to this new road, training for bus drivers is underway. The testing is put on by a variety of people in the Fort Collins community. The majority of this training and testing is led by the Transfort staff and happens through Transfort itself. Carol Thomas is one individual who is helping get all of the Transfort drivers on the same page.

According to White, this training covers driving on the guide way, how to pull in and out of the stations, how to make sure all of the signals at the stations are working properly, conducting drills with emergency services, and working with snow removal to learn how to properly remove snow from the guide way.

Part of the technology will be the GPS that will now be located in each bus. This GPS will be available on an app that can tell you when your bus is scheduled to arrive, and you can even set alarms to remind you when your bus will be there.

“Each bus will have its own GPS that will follow the buses and will be able to tell people if there is a problem that will cause a delay,” Aaron Fodge, head of alternative transportation at CSU, said.

There will be very little community impact due to the testing besides the construction that has already been taking place. The team is working hard to make sure that there are minimal traffic impacts.

While the MAX line is still under construction and testing White cannot stress enough the importance to not use the guide ways. “We realize that the guide way is tempting, but we need people to stay off of it now that the buses are running,” White said.

The projected date for the public use of the MAX system is May 10, 2014.

Abel has remodeling under control

From page 1

that we stick with the history, and wanted to celebrate the original thought and architecture of Hunter’s student center,” Abel said.

Out on the construction site, it is easy to tell who is in charge. Abel, on the site three times a week, can confidently lead a tour of the site and knows where everything will be. But, she does not forget that this process would not be the same without the workers who show up in all kinds of weather, and repay them with popcorn and other snacks on Valentine’s Day for all their hard work.

When all this construction is said and done, the campus will be greeted to an upgraded Lory Student Center that is “five times” what the previous one was, Abel said, but will still be recognizable and feel nostalgic to alumni. For now, we can rest easy knowing that there is a passionate and qualified woman behind it all.
Big Women on Campus

Of the 38 named buildings on the Colorado State University campus, eight are named for women (eight and a half, if you count the new Suzanne and Walter Scott Jr. Bioengineering Building). Who were these founding mothers of CSU? And which buildings bear their names?

Special thanks to G. “Hap” Hazard in Morgan Library Special Collections for compiling this list.

Allison Hall
Inga M. K. Allison

Inga Allison joined the Home Economics department at the Colorado Agricultural College in 1908, at a time when faculty members were starting to study the unique effects of high altitude on both crop growth and food preparation. Lacking an established lab, Allison conducted her experiments on cooking at altitude with improvised equipment in challenging conditions – for example, baking in a rough Estes Park shanty located at 11,800 feet above sea level, where the baked goods failed to rise at all. Allison eventually became head of her department and expanded its focus greatly to include Child Development and Welfare, and Nutrition and Dietetics – and added a food lab. Allison Hall is a residence near the College of Business.

Corbett Hall
Virginia H. Corbett

Virginia H. Corbett joined the faculty of the Colorado Agricultural College in 1900 as a professor of literature and history and, after a short tenure as professor, became the Dean of Women. Among other duties as dean, Corbett assisted college women in finding quality homes in Fort Collins and maintained close personal contact through frequent conferences and visits to their homes, travelling by horse and surrey. Corbett oversaw the development of a special women’s governmental organization, the Associated Women Students, which emerged just before World War I. Corbett Hall is a newly renovated residence hall on the north side of campus.

Durward Hall
Margaret Durward

Margaret Durward joined the faculty of the Colorado Agricultural College as a professor of mathematics in 1909. She became the first house mother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity in 1917. In 1919 she became assistant dean of the School of Agriculture, and later the first female Dean of the school. Durward Hall was built in 1966, one of the two 12-story towers residence halls.

Gifford Building
Elizabeth Dyer Gifford

In 1940, Elizabeth Dyer Gifford became a faculty member in food science and nutrition at Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College. She was the first dean of the College of Home Economics in 1950, and hired the first male in the history of Home Economics on campus. She acted as dean until her retirement in 1976. The Gifford Building on Lake Street was dedicated that year and allowed the College’s five departments to be consolidated under one roof. It became the College of Applied Human Sciences, now known as the College of Health and Human Sciences, one of the largest on campus with eight departments and schools.

Palmer Center
Miriam Palmer

Miriam Palmer joined the Zoology and Entomology Department of the Colorado Agricultural College prior to World War I, part of President Charles Lory’s push to add credibility to the faculty. Palmer completed her master’s thesis in 1925 and became a distinguished illustrator of scientific papers as well as a world authority on aphids. The Palmer Center, near Laurel and Shields, was built in 1968, and now houses Housing and Dining Services.

Parmelee Hall
Amy Parmelee

Amy O. Parmelee became Dean of Women at the Colorado Agricultural College in 1934, the year before the school became known as the Colorado State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, or Colorado A&M. She worked tirelessly for improvements in housing conditions for women and for making more scholarships available for women who could not otherwise go to school. Her vision for an on-campus girls’ dormitory was realized in 1940 with the opening of Rockwell Hall. Parmelee Hall is a residence near the Student Rec Center.

Rockwell Hall
Aileen Rockwell

Until completion of the first women’s dormitory on campus in 1940, female students had to seek housing in sororities and boarding houses throughout Fort Collins. The new residence hall on Laurel Street was named for Aileen Rockwell, wife of governing-board member Robert Rockwell. It is now one of three buildings housing the College of Business.

Routt Hall
Eliza Routt

As wife of John Routt, Colorado’s first state governor, Eliza Pickrell Routt became the state’s first First Lady in 1876. When women’s suffrage in Colorado passed in 1893, Routt was the first woman to register to vote. Routt was also the first woman on the Colorado State Board of Agriculture, the governing body of the Colorado Agricultural College. During her decade on the board, Routt started the School of Domestic Economy, giving wide access to higher education for women, and obtained the first governorship for a female instructor. Routt Hall, formerly the Domestic Sciences Building – the forerunner of Home Economics – at the corner of Laurel and College, is named in her honor. She was inducted into the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame in 2008.

About half of the buildings on campus are not named for people at all. Which would you like to see renamed? And who should they be named for? Send your suggestions to csulife@colostate.edu.

From page 1

“arly on we’ve found that we have
not paid the same amount of attention
to that comparative data with regard to
our state classified employees and our
administrative professionals,” Parsons said.

Determined pay equity isn’t as easy as
making sure everything is even across the
board. Parsons explains that 100 people
may have the title of director; however,
they may have different responsibilities,
supervise different numbers of people, and
their jobs may include special skills. All of
these factors have to be considered.

“It’s difficult to make those
comparisons and make any sort of rational
analysis about if there are differences based
on gender or educational attainment or
years at the university,” Parsons said.

The main focus of the Ripple Effect
right now is to tackle the question of pay
equity. If any discrepancies are found at
CSU, Parsons and her team will implement
a plan to address the problem.

Right now the focus is examining
equality in levels of employment, but the
mission is to analyze the environment of
learning at CSU as well. The next step is to
turn the discussion to female students.

Female employees of CSU can engage
in conversation and topics regarding the
woman’s work environment on campus by
engaging in the online discussion board
that can be found at www.letsmakeripples.
org.

The website is closely monitored and
feedback is reviewed by the Ripple Effect
team, including Amy Parsons, Tony Frank
and Provost Rick Miranda.

To learn more about the Ripple Effect,
and to begin making ripples of your own,
visit www.rippleffect.colostate.edu.
CPC needs members to represent employees

by Debra DeVilbiss

If you have ever considered joining the Classified Personnel Council (CPC), now is the time. At the end of this term, there are nine vacancies and five alternate positions open, and we need you!

The council is the voice of State Classified employees, and its mission is to represent State Classified employees at CSU by promoting, improving and protecting their role within the University system.

Its elected members form a united voice on issues and decisions that directly affect State Classified employees. To find out more about the nomination process and how to nominate yourself or a co-worker, visit our website at http://cpc.colostate.edu.

We need you to disseminate information to their constituents, host informational sessions and employee appreciation events, to review and weigh in on bills before the state legislature, and to recognize and award employees.

A highlight of membership includes an annual trip to the Capitol in Denver to observe how laws are created, and we often interact with our local congressional representatives. In 2013 CPC had the opportunity to meet with Sen. John Kefalas, sit on the House and Senate floor, attend minority and majority party committee meetings. To see a list of the committees, visit: http://cpc.colostate.edu/about-cpc/cpc-committees/. All CPC monthly meetings are open to the CSU community, so plan to attend and check them out.

When you join CPC, you'll get the chance to make a difference. To see a list of our members, visit our website at http://cpc.colostate.edu. A reminder that new members are elected each term. The council is the voice of State Classified employees, and its mission is to represent State Classified employees at CSU by promoting, improving and protecting their role within the University system. To find out more about the nomination process and how to nominate yourself or a co-worker, visit our website at http://cpc.colostate.edu.

You've asked for it, and now it's here. Issues of CSU Life are now available, in pdf format, online at http://facultyandstaff.colostate.edu/csulife.aspx.

Back issues for a year and the current issue will be available to peruse page by page, just as you saw it in the printed newspaper. We hope you like having the issues at your fingertips; we're working to make it more interactive in the future.

Let us know what you think. Email csulife@colostate.edu.
### Theater

**Comedy Brewers Improv**  
March 9, 7:30 p.m.  
Bas Bleu Theatre, 401 Pine St.  
Tickets: $10 pre-show, $15 at the door  

An evening of Comedy Brewers combines the fast pace of hilarious short form improv games along with long-form style improv that tells a story collaboratively. From comedy to drama, short scenes to full length epics, The Comedy Brewers will engage and entertain audiences with rich characters and relationships.  

basbleu.org

**Rodgers & Hammerstein’s South Pacific**  
March 14-May 25, Thursday-Saturday evenings, Sunday matinees  
Midtown Arts Center, 3750 S. Mason  
Tickets $49-$59, includes three-course dinner  

Based on James Michener’s Pulitzer Prize winning book *Tales of the South Pacific*, this 1949 classic is one of the few musicals to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award™ for Best Musical.  

midtownartscenter.com

**The Tempest by William Shakespeare**  
March 29-April 26, 8 p.m.; 2 p.m. Sunday matinees  
OpenStage Theatre in the Magnolia Theatre, Lincoln Center  
Tickets: $18-$28  

In Shakespeare’s beloved fantasy, enchantment, humor, and justice entwine to tell one of the Bard’s final tales about embracing a brave new world.  

ictix.com

### Art & Literature

**Defined by Lace: Dresses, Frills, and Flourishes of Fashion**  
March 13, 7 p.m.  
UCA Room 136, 1400 Remington St.  

Susan J. Tomtore, Avenir Museum Curator, presents this Thursday Lecture in conjunction with the Intricate Web: Lacemaking, Trade and Tradition exhibit in the museum through May 16.

bassbleu.org

**Designs and Images**  
March 17-April 25; opening reception March 27, 5 p.m.  
Clara Hatton Gallery in the Visual Arts Building on West Pitkin Street  
Gallery hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  

Admission free.  

Showcasing artwork for Poudre School District students in grades K-12.

midtownartscenter.com

**Crow-Tremblay Alumni Creative Writing Reading Series**  
April 3, 7:30 p.m.  
University Art Museum, University Center for the Arts  
Admission free.  

Justin Hocking (MFA ’02), author of *The Great Floodgates of the Wonderworld: A Memoir* (Graywolf, 2014), a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection.

ictix.com

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### Music & Dance

**eLeMeNO-P**  
March 26, 7:30 p.m.  
Organ Recital Hall, University Center for the Arts  
Free for CSU students, $12 adults, $1 under 18.  

Contemporary a cappella singing group that will make you laugh, think and believe. Part of the Contemporary Artists Music Series, made possible by the generous support of the Bohemian Foundation.  

csuartstickets.com

**Spring Dance Tea**  
March 26, 3:30 p.m.  
University Dance Theatre, University Center for the Arts  
Admission and refreshments free.  

An informal performance event showcasing the Ballet Repertory Ensemble, the Tour dance Company, and selected work by CSU dance majors.

ictix.com

**Cendrillon (Cinderella) by Massenet**  
March 29, April 4-5, 7:30 p.m., March 30, 2 p.m.  
Griffin Concert Hall, University Center for the Arts  
Tickets: $20 adults, $10 CSU students, $1 under 18.  

The Ralph Opera Center presents the enchanting fairy tale of Cinderella in performances of Jules Massenet’s French opera, Cendrillon, based on Perrault’s 1698 version of the story. Wine and hors d’ oeuvres reception sponsored by Friend of the UCA follows the March 29 performance.  

csuartstickets.com
This spring, enhance your business skills with professional programs in finance and innovative marketing.
Ask Dr. Jenn about in-laws always on the outs

Q: I am a 40-something-year-old female who is happily married with two children. For the most part, my life is happy and secure, but I am always struggling with the fact that my husband doesn’t just dislike my family, he HATES them. It keeps me up at night. What can I do?

A: A few people are lucky enough to have loved ones who get along great! Most of us, however, have some people in our families who don’t get along at all.

It is normal to feel your own stress and unhappiness when others around us who we care for deeply are not getting along. The problem often comes when you either have to hear about the conflict from both members of your family, or you take it upon yourself to try to intervene.

There are a few things we can do to manage our own stress around other people’s relationship struggles. First, sometimes we need to practice better listening. Usually when people vent to us, they don’t want us to solve their problem for them. They just want empathy and a person who won’t tell them they are wrong and crazy. My guess is you have a tendency to want to take sides with either your husband or your parents at times, but it’s important to ready yourself for their venting sessions and focus not on making them feel differently, but on just hearing their words and the emotions behind their words. Try reflecting what you hear them say and the emotions you can tell they are having.

Second, it is crucial that you not become part of an unhealthy triangle between your husband and your family. Listening to them vent is one thing, trying to intervene is a bad idea. It won’t work for you to talk to your family about your husband and his feelings, or him about theirs. This simply puts you in the middle of their conflict.

Ideally every adult should be able to manage their own conflict with another without a third person intervening and trying to influence the way the two behave or think. In fact, I believe it is the only way they will grow and learn by trying to resolve their own differences themselves without another family member between them. But until they are ready to sit together and make a plan for how to keep the peace, they won’t be ready for you to step in the middle. What will happen is your husband will be upset with you and your parents will be upset with you, and then you will resent them both for “putting you in that situation” when really it was up to you to not engage in the first place.

Families grow and change over time, just like individual human beings do. Families have a developmental process, and we can expect that over time things will change naturally. But it is also true that if families change in an unhealthy way and do not work hard to improve their relational health, they may get stuck in poor patterns of communication and behavior.

Having said that, it is not up to us individually to fix our families’ problems. Seek a therapist who is trained in family systems theory who can help you and your family members think through what they are willing to change and what they simply won’t budge on. Be patient as they weigh the pros and cons of getting along for the sake of you and the rest of the people who love them equally.

If you would like to meet with one of our therapists here on campus, we offer Commitment to Campus benefits for all staff and faculty after you have utilized your Employee Assistance Plan benefits. That means 50 percent of the cost of your therapy with us is covered by the University. We have no waitlist and therapists who are highly trained to deal with exactly these kinds of issues. Call the Center for Family and Couple Therapy at 970-491-5991 or cfct@colostate.edu for a confidential intake.

Jenn Matheson is an associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies and the director of the Center for Family and Couple Therapy. She will respond to questions from the CSU community focused on relationships on a regular basis in CSU Life. If you have a question or topic for Dr. Jenn, email her at cfct@colostate.edu.

BOOK REVIEW

Cheaponomics: A CSU professor’s take on economy

By Sarah Sparhawk

Colorado State University’s Michael Carolan, sociology department chair and professor, comments on the current state of our nation’s economy in his recently published book “Cheaponomics: The High Cost of Low Prices.”

“The book looks at how our economy is failing us, in terms of its inability to efficiently and effectively generate well-being for the majority of the world’s population,” Carolan said in an email.

Carolan has been prolific in this genre for some time, encouraging thought-provoking glimpses into the nation’s interaction with sustainability and the general well-being of the population.

His most recent book, Carolan explains, is an extension of this interest. “[‘Cheaponomics’] focuses especially on how it has evolved into a system of what I call cost-socializing socialism. Another way of putting it, more simply, is that it has gotten very good at socializing costs and concentrating benefits,” he said.

Carolan has written six other books on these subjects, and is under contract to produce two more focusing on food.

Recently, Carolan has been invited to give lectures in China and Australia due to his book’s great success.
When Russ Schumacher isn't studying intense weather events, he hangs out with Alex Trebek. The assistant professor of Atmospheric Science makes his fourth appearance on Jeopardy! on April 2, playing for a chance at more big bucks. And depending on the outcome of this Battle of the Decades show, Schumacher may be headed for a fifth. (He can't say how the January taping came out before it airs.) He's representing the 2000s along with other top players from this decade, and could compete against champs from the 1980s and '90s, with the ultimate prize of $1 million.

"I was a grad student here at CSU the first time I was on in 2003," he said. "That time I won $64,800 in four games. Then they asked me back for the Tournament of Champions in 2004 – while Ken Jennings was still on his run, so I didn't have to play him."

That's when Schumacher, by then working on his Ph.D., won $250,000 in four days. Atmospheric Sciences relocated to C.B.& Potts each day at 3:30 p.m. to watch him play (the show now airs at 6 p.m. on Channel 7 in Denver).

What did Schumacher do with his winnings 10 years ago?

"I bought my then-girlfriend an engagement ring, and we had a much more elaborate wedding than we would have had otherwise," he said. "We put a down payment on a house, did some traveling, saved some." They've been married nine years now. Like all contestants, Schumacher remembers the question he missed in Final Jeopardy!

"The answer in the category Internet Terms, was 'It is named in honor of a Monty Python sketch that used the word more than 100 times in 2 1/2 minutes,'" he recalled. "Colleagues were leaving cans of Spam on my desk for weeks."

Schumacher on Jeopardy! again

Russ Schmacher with Alex Trebek during Schumacher's first appearance on Jeopardy! in 2003. Photo courtesy Russ Schumacher

Founders Day Gallery

Feb. 11, 2014, marked the 144th anniversary of the founding of what is now Colorado State University. To celebrate, students handed out cookies on the plaza and everyone signed a giant birthday card. CAM the Ram dressed up nice to appear at the state Capitol in Denver, and President Tony Frank presented the Founders Day Medal to Jean and Tom Sutherland, in recognition of the dedication of CSU and the Fort Collins community. Photos courtesy CSU/ Creative Services.
CSU COOKS

Caprese Salad Sorrento Style

Mix up your traditional holiday fare with a taste of the Bay of Naples. Communication Studies Assistant Professor Julia Khrebtan Hoerhager and her husband Philip provide their take on this classic dish all the way from Sorrento, Italy. The red ripe tomatoes, fresh green basil leaves and snowy mozzarella even dress up the table in festive colors of the season – and the Italian flag. Buon Natale and felice anno nuovo!

Ingredients

- 1 dozen vine-ripened small tomatoes, ideally organic heirloom
- room temperature mozzarella di buffala from Campania region in Italy (D.O.C. only)
- room temperature fresh basil, some chopped, some whole leaf for garnish
- extra-virgin cold-pressed olive oil aceto balsamico di Modena (D.O.C. only)

Directions

Slice the tomatoes and mozzarella, chop the basil, and arrange in circular form on a nice large plate. Salt the tomatoes as needed. Decorate with basil leaves, drizzle with olive oil generously and only a hint of balsamic vinegar. Serve as an antipasto or for whenever you want a little piece of Italy to come visit Colorado.
T-Phifer’s Guinness Irish Stew

This stew is a wonderful feast for St. Patrick’s or any day!

Ingredients

- 1/2 pound bacon cut into 1/2-inch dice
- 32 oz. beef stock
- 3 large potatoes, sliced
- 1 medium white onion, peeled and diced
- 3 carrots, sliced into coins
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1 can or bottle Guinness Stout
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 4 bay leaves
- 2 pounds sirloin steak, cut into bite-sized cubes
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup flour
- 4 tablespoons vegetable oil

Directions

1. Start by frying the bacon until just crisp. Drain and set aside.
2. In a large pot, combine beef stock, carrots, potatoes, onion, carrots, brown sugar, Guinness, red wine vinegar and bay leaves in a large pot. Boil on medium heat until vegetables are tender.
3. In a separate pan, heat vegetable oil to medium heat.
4. Pour flour in shaker bag and coat steak.
5. Place steak and any remaining flour in pan and cook until brown, seasoning with salt and pepper.
6. Add bacon and steak to liquid, cover and simmer on low heat until meat is tender – 2 hours or more – stirring often. Broth should thicken and create a rich, thick stew.

Tony Phifer is a Public Relations Coordinator in the Division of External Relations.
Effective alternatives to declawing a scratching cat

by Dr. Rebecca Ruch-Gallie

As many pet owners know, cats like to scratch -- and this natural behavior can result in shredded furniture and other troubles. For many years, cats were routinely declawed to prevent such problems, but the tide is turning on this surgical procedure as a growing number of people begin to question it.

Declawing as a last resort

In fact, some debate is rising over whether declawing should be deemed illegal in Colorado. Although no other state has completely outlawed declawing, more than 20 other countries have banned the practice.

The American Veterinary Medical Association advises that declawing of domestic cats – called onychectomy – should be considered only after attempts have been made to prevent the cat from using its claws destructively, or when its clawing presents a health risk for owners.

Why the concern over onychectomy? It is the surgical amputation of all or part of the end bones of the cat’s toes. Declawing removes not only claw, but bone. It is not a procedure we, as veterinarians at Colorado State University, choose to perform without careful thought.

Up to three-fourths of cats entering animal shelters in the United States are euthanized for a variety of reasons. Cats are relinquished most commonly because their owners are moving or because of unwanted behavior -- including missing the litter box, called inappropriate elimination; aggression between animals in the house; and destructive behavior, usually clawing in the wrong spot.

How can we help avoid declawing or relinquishment?

First, it’s helpful to know that scratching is a natural behavior. It conditions the claws by removing aged cuticle; serves as a visual and scent territorial marker; provides defense from attack; and stretches the muscles of the limbs, thorax, and back.

Here are some ways to redirect scratching and to prevent damage from the behavior:

• Train your kitten to a scratching post. Food and toy rewards will encourage your cat to scratch on the post rather than on your couch. The ideal post depends on the cat. Some cats prefer upright or vertical posts, while others prefer horizontal surfaces. Some prefer soft surfaces, like carpet, while others like sisal. All cats prefer their posts to be in a main living area, and the more scratched up, the better!
  • Trim nails. If you don’t know how to clip cat nails, ask your veterinarian. Kittens can be trained to this procedure with rewards and a little patience. Ideally, trim a few claws at a time after a good play session.
  • Discourage scratching. If you don’t like kitty’s favorite scratching spot, make it less attractive. Consider using double-sided tape or feline facial pheromone spray to make the surface less attractive. Your veterinarian may have other suggestions.
  • Create fun in the house. Cats like fun and challenging environments. To accomplish this, use tactics such as hiding meals, providing multiple levels for play, and visually stimulating your kitty. That will help keep your cat entertained and out of trouble. The Indoor Pet Initiative website is a great source for creating the perfect home for you and your pet.
  • Plastic nail caps. Vinyl nail caps, which are temporarily attached to the claws with nontoxic glue, may be another option. These caps are sold under the brand Soft Paws and Soft Claws.
  Your veterinarian might have other suggestions to provide alternatives to declawing.

Brittany is a 6-month-old, female Pit Bull puppy that is oh-so-excited about life. She thinks everything is fun, most especially you, your friends, your friends’ friends and the friends of your friends’ friends. Come meet Brittany at the shelter and get ready for a grand adventure together. She can be your partner in crime for $100 at the shelter today!

To visit with featured pets or any other adoptable animals, stop by Larimer Humane Society at 6317 Kyle Ave. in Fort Collins. The Shelter is open 11a.m.-7p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10a.m.-5p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more info, call (970)-226-3647 or visit larimerhumane.org.
The new year brings a season of transition. As snow turns to rain, then sun, and a little more snow, we turn to beers inspired by fresh starts and fresh ingredients. Here are three of our favorites, plus as always, our latest Roots Release beer—an experimental, limited-release beer inspired by our five-barrel pilot system and typically available only in our Ft. Collins taproom.