Model campus grows playfully at CU Heritage Center[1]
[2]

There's a light show at Fiske Planetarium and Macky Auditorium is open for viewing. Up on University Hill, people dressed as Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader mill around the lobby, waiting for the "Star Wars" film to begin. The Sink is packed with hungry, thirsty, boisterous customers. The Buffs and their opponents are getting ready for a football showdown.

It could be any Saturday night at CU-Boulder -- except for the Space Shuttle poised in front of Folsom Field.

NASA's spacecraft and the other university landmarks are miniature depictions of the real things and are new additions to the CU Heritage Center's[3]"Hit the Bricks!" exhibit[4], the campus made entirely of Lego bricks. The updates were built to celebrate CU's homecoming in mid-October; subsequent enhancements to the exhibit will be made each year as part of homecoming week, said Allyson Smith, center director.

This year's additions pay homage to the past and present. University Hill's main street is a look back to 1977, when the first "Star Wars" film drew crowds to the historic Flatirons Theatre and students danced at Tulagi's nightclub. The Rolling Stones can be seen performing at Folsom Field in 1981. Fiske's longtime light show illuminates the building's translucent roof.

The Space Shuttle, along with a large MAVEN (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) space probe, were included in the exhibit as a nod to the university's contributions to space exploration and the recent monthlong series of space and Earth-science activities that ran from mid-September through mid-October.

The "Bricks" exhibit has doubled the number of visitors to the center, said Smith, and she expects more than 45,000 people to step through the doors this year.

Further expansions of the display, designed and built by members of the Colorado/Wyoming Lego Users' Group (COWLUG), may require a move into a larger gallery where viewers can walk around the perimeter of the model, which now contains 1 million pieces and weighs hundreds of pounds.

Visitors can take home one of the most-revered university icons in Lego form: Ralphie, the CU-Boulder mascot. During the past year, about 850 you-build-it Ralphie buffalo Lego kits have been sold. The $20 kits are a limited edition. Beginning in December, a limited-edition MAVEN kit will be sold for $45.

The center's Space Exploration Gallery also has been updated with panels depicting the stories of CU's 20 astronauts, including School of Medicine alumnus Kjell Lindgren, a doctor certified in emergency and aerospace medicine who is currently aboard the International Space Station. "The panels provide a unique look into their NASA training and missions," Smith said.

The gallery also contains a moon rock, an Apollo 14 command module suit worn by Stuart Roosa, and astronaut Jack Swigert's watch and outfit from the fateful Apollo 13 mission. CU also has on display the cap Swigert was given when he and the other two crew members were rescued and brought aboard the USS Iwo Jima after an explosion curtailed the moon mission.

A football and engineering flag that CU astronaut Ellison Onizuka took aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger, which exploded just 73 seconds after launch in 1986, were recovered from the crash site in the Atlantic Ocean and returned to CU, and can be viewed in the gallery.

An exhibit honoring university-affiliated athletes and coaches who have participated in the Olympic Games will open the week of Nov. 16. A display dedicated to the university's first Olympian, David Bolen, who competed in the 400-meter run in 1948 in London, will be unveiled. Smith said CU has participated in 15 summer and 15 winter Olympic Games since 1948.

The Heritage Center is on the third floor of Old Main and is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday; admission is free. For more information about programs and exhibits at the center, call 303-492-6329 or visit www.cuheritage.org[5].

TABOR rebates, unclear revenue picture strain Hickenlooper's proposed 2016-17 budget[6] [7]

Gov. John Hickenlooper's proposed budget for the 2016-17 fiscal year totals $26.98 billion and reflects a proposed $20 million cut to higher education.

CU's share of that cut would be between $5 million and $6 million.

The governor's budget proposal, which he delivered Monday to the Joint Budget Committee (JBC), is down 0.4 percent from this year's budget. His General Fund request includes $189 million in TABOR rebates.

"This proposed budget strikes a balance between the contradictory rules in the Colorado Constitution, funding for essential State programs, and an unclear revenue picture," Hickenlooper said in a release[8]. "We had to make difficult decisions to find this balance that will affect health care providers, students from kindergarten through college, and State workers. We look forward to working with the General Assembly and the Joint Budget Committee on the final plan."

The budget plan includes no salary increases for state employees. There also is no funding for new construction projects; the request funds continuation projects and only a portion of controlled maintenance needs.

Besides TABOR requirements, demands on the budget include increases to K-12 education ($225 million increase), Medicaid and health programs ($135 million) and restoration of the state's reserve ($160 million).

Recognizing the strain on higher education institutions, the proposal recommends that authority for setting tuition rates be retained by governing boards of colleges and universities. For the past two years, the Legislature had limited institutions to no more than 6 percent tuition rate increases. The governor's request[9] notes that tuition increases next year would vary widely, but would average 8.7 percent.

Should state revenue exceed expectations, the governor recommends the $20 million cut to higher education be restored, thus resulting in flat funding compared to this year; he also calls for 2 percent salary increases for state employees.

The JBC begins official consideration of the request at its Nov. 12 meeting.

The Colorado Trust Gives $3M for Chair in American Indian Health[10]

Veterans celebrated in series of campus, community events [11]

Colorado Shakespeare Festival announces 2016 season lineup[12]

New phase of campaign explores what 'learn with purpose' means to members of university community [13]

Student retention equals campus connection[14]

Bianco receives Floyd G. Hudson award [15]

Margarita Bianco, associate professor of special education at CU Denver'sSchool of Education & Human Development, received the 2015 Council for Learning Disabilities Floyd G. Hudson Outstanding Service award during an Oct. 1 awards presentation in Las Vegas.

Noel talks Tivoli hauntings[16]

An interview CU Denver students and history professor Dr. Tom Noel about the many haunts of the Tivoli Student Union on the Auraria Campus.

Hansen presents on leadership[17]

Mandy Hansen, director, Office of Global Engagement, presented a five hour workshop at the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers Educators Conference Oct. 20 in St. George, Utah.

In memoriam[18]

Names of current and former University of Colorado faculty and staff who have died in recent weeks. List compiled by Employee Services.
CU-BoulderGordon E. Fox, 89, classified staff retiree. Oct. 16, 2015. **Lynn B. Hogan,** 62, faculty retiree. Sept. 24, 2015 **Paul C. Murphy,** 67, faculty retiree. Sept. 11, 2015. **Jack Fred O'Neil,** 85, classified staff retiree. Oct. 15, 2015. **Edward Joseph Sheehan,** 53, classified staff. Oct. 22, 2015. **CU Anschutz Medical CampusEric Seelenfreund,** 23, faculty. Oct. 26, 2015.

Todorovic named chair of Department of Anesthesiology[19]

Vesna Todorovic, MD, PhD, MBA, has been named the chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and will be joining

us here at the School of Medicine in January, succeeding Thomas Henthorn, MD, who has served as chair of the department since 2000. Vesna is currently the Harold Carron Professor of Anesthesiology and Neuroscience at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. She has been at University of Virginia since 2001.

Western Movie and a Whiskey featuring Last of the Mohicans[20]

If you have been wondering whether or not the Wildlife Experience was going to continue their movie nights, the wondering is over. We have attended several of these events and even if it's a movie you've seen on TV a million times, it's way more fun when it's on the huge screen. You are treated to a great cocktail hour with 2 martini tickets each and a delicious array of foods prepared by different sponsors each month. You are then ushered past a large display of popcorn boxes free for the taking into the Imax theater to watch your show.Cost: $28 Adults, $18 Designated Drivers

Whiskey and a Western | Last of the MohicansFriday, Nov. 13
Cost: $28 Adults, $18 Designated Drivers
Ages: 21+
Tickets??????[21]

The epic tale of Hawkeye, Magua and Chingachgook comes to life as you've never seen it before on our 53-foot movie screen. The Last of the Mohicans is a tale of love, revenge, loyalty and honor in the midst of the French and Indian War. The sweeping cinematography will immerse you in 1757 America as the men and women of a fledgling country struggle for life and love.?

Links
[1] https://connections.cu.edu/spotlights/model-campus-grows-playfully-cu-heritage-center[2] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/heritage_lego_top.jpg[3] http://cuheritage.org/[4] http://cuheritage.org/hit-bricks/[5] http://www.cuheritage.org/[6] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/tabor-rebates-unclear-revenue-picture-strain-hickenlooper-s-proposed-2016-17-budget[7] https://connections.cu.edu/sites/default/files/tabor_top.jpg[8] https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/governor/news/gov-hickenlooper-proposes-fy-2016-17-state-budget-plan-calls-drop-spending-and-accounts-tabor[9] https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0TNL0CtD9wXaVZDMFlsMlhqQWs/view[10] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/colorado-trust-gives-3m-chair-american-indian-health[11] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/veterans-celebrated-series-campus-community-events[12] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/colorado-shakespeare-festival-announces-2016-season-lineup[13] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/new-phase-campaign-explores-what-learn-purpose-means-members-university-community[14] https://connections.cu.edu/stories/student-retention-equals-campus-connection[15] https://connections.cu.edu/people/bianco-receives-floyd-g-hudson-award[16] https://connections.cu.edu/people/noel-talks-tivoli-hauntings[17] https://connections.cu.edu/people/hansen-presents-leadership[18] https://connections.cu.edu/people/memoriam-30[19] https://connections.cu.edu/people/todorovic-named-chair-department-anesthesiology[20] https://connections.cu.edu/events/western-movie-and-whiskey-featuring-last-mohicans[21] http://southdenver.cu.edu/events/event/last-of-the-mohicans/