CU COMMUNITY GRABS HEADLINES AROUND THE GLOBE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

BOULDER ASTRONAUT SCOTT CARPENTER DIES AT 88: ‘HE WANTED TO BE THE BEST’

Legendary Boulder-born astronaut and CU-Boulder alumnus Scott Carpenter — who in 1962 became the second American to orbit the Earth and also was the first person to explore both the heights of space and depths of the ocean — died Oct. 10. Daily Camera, Oct. 10

CU-BOULDER’S CONSERVATIVE SCHOLAR DEBATES LIBERAL OVER ‘EXTREME’ GOP

CU-Boulder’s Steven Hayward says the Republican Party served Americans well when it pushed back against President Barack Obama and the Affordable Care Act. “Is the Republican Party too extreme?” Hayward asked. “My answer is, ‘I certainly hope so.’” Daily Camera, Oct. 28

NASA’S MARS ORBITER REMAINS ON TRACK FOR NOV. 18 LAUNCH

As the Mars orbiter (Maven) prepares for takeoff in November, scientists are eager to see what knowledge will come of the mission. Previous missions have shown that liquid water once flowed on the surface of Mars, whose atmosphere was thick and warm enough to hold water and potentially to support microbial life.

“But somehow, that atmosphere changed over time to the cold, dry environment that we see today, one that is too cold, with an atmosphere too thin to be able to support liquid water,” said CU-Boulder’s Bruce Jakosky, the mission’s principal investigator. USA Today, Oct. 28

IS EUROPA TOO PRICKLY TO LAND ON?

A deadly bed of icy javelins could be awaiting any spacecraft that tries to land on some parts of the ice-covered world Europa. The very best images of Jupiter’s moon only see 10 meters per pixel, at best, said Daniel Hobley of CU-Boulder. That means that if giant ice daggers do exist, they could still be several meters long and escape detection. Discovery, Oct. 26

CU’S WILLIAM KUSKIN TAKES COMICS SERIOUSLY

William Kuskin’s Comic Books and Graphic Novels is one of four free, not-for-credit CU-Boulder courses being offered through Coursera. Of the hundreds of MOOCs offered by Coursera, this is one of only eight English courses — but it’s also the most popular of CU’s MOOCs. Westword, Oct. 24

THEATER COMPANY ON TRACK TO POST POSITIVE BALANCE FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2006

The Colorado Shakespeare Festival, which in recent years has come under scrutiny by CU-Boulder for losing money, expects to finish 2013 with a significant profit, according to the festival’s interim director Tim Orr. Daily Camera, Oct. 20
STARGAZERS WORK TO REDUCE LIGHT POLLUTION

Seeing stars? Stargazing is a vastly different experience today than it was a century ago. Fabio Mezzalira, director of the observatory at CU-Boulder, blames the artificial lights that turn our cities as bright as day. Voice of America, Oct. 16

CU-BOULDER CHANCELLOR: TUITION AT ITS ‘BREAKING POINT’

Tuition is reaching its breaking point at the CU-Boulder campus, CU-Boulder Chancellor Phil DiStefano said during last month’s fifth annual State of the Campus speech. DiStefano described the main challenges the university faces, including how to deal with rapidly declining state funding without raising tuition. Daily Camera, Oct. 15

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO COLORADO SPRINGS

UCCS SCORES TOP 50 RANKING FOR WOMEN IN STEM

The San Francisco-based College Database recently ranked UCCS as one of the top 50 colleges in the nation for advancing women in science, technology, engineering and math. Among public and private universities, UCCS ranked 50th for the number of women enrolled in STEM programs. UCCS and CU Denver were the only Colorado universities or colleges included in the rankings. Colorado Springs Business Journal, Oct. 17

UCCS EXECUTIVE TRAINING PROGRAM READY TO BROADEN ITS REACH

For two years, an executive training program in the College of Business at UCCS has been quietly offering its services to a limited number of leaders in the health care and financial services industries. Now, the Office of Professional and Executive Development is ready to market its training and development services to a wider audience. The office is being led by Shawna Rogers, who was promoted in July to become its full-time director. The Gazette, Oct. 14

RECIPES FOR GOOD SCHOOLS HARD TO FIND

There’s no simple fix for America’s struggling education system as parents demand more accountability of schools and success for their children, while educators try to address stagnant student test scores and a system that lags behind education provided elsewhere.

Many studies show that family income is the primary indicator of how well a child will do in school, said Mary Snyder, dean of the College of Education at UCCS. But there are other factors, she said. The Gazette, Oct. 12

2 BY 2 AND 2X4S: THE BUILDING OF NOAH’S ARKS

Paul Harvey, an expert in American religious history at UCCS, says the Noah story, regardless of God’s promise to never flood the Earth again, is resonating on an apocalyptic level.

“Even if you don’t think there’s going to be a flood, evangelicals think there is going to be some kind of catastrophe at the end of the world as part of the Book of Revelations. And so they’re still responding to it even if they may deny exactly the climate part of it,” he said. WBUR, Oct. 3
UCCS RECEIVES MILITARY FRIENDLY COLLEGE AWARD

UCCS has been named one of the top military friendly schools for the fifth year, an honor bestowed by *Gi Jobs* magazine and its publisher, Victory Media. *Colorado Springs Business Journal*, Oct. 2

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

FEW PROBLEMS WITH CANNABIS FOR CALIFORNIA

California’s 17-year experience as the first state to legalize medical marijuana have shown the warnings voiced against partial legalization — of civic disorder, increased lawlessness and a drastic rise in other drug use — have proved unfounded. As marijuana legalization in Colorado and Washington draws near, researcher Daniel I. Rees of CU Denver said that based on a study, they expected younger people in those states to use marijuana more and alcohol less. *The New York Times*, Oct. 26

SURPRISE: GUYS AND GIRLS BOTH CHECK OUT BREASTS

“I thought it was interesting that it was both men and women who did this,” said Stefanie Johnson, an assistant professor of management at CU Denver. “Maybe it was because women are engaging in social comparisons: ‘Let me look at that woman compared to myself.’” *Health News*, Oct. 30

THE IRONIC OBJECT MARKS LANNY DEVUONO’S CURATORIAL DEBUT AT REDLINE

When Lanny DeVuono moved to Denver a few years ago to take the helm of the fine-arts department at CU Denver, she was not only already an experienced professor, but also an accomplished painter known for her conceptual realism and a widely published art writer. *Westword*, Oct. 24

HUNDREDS OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS ACCEPT FAKE SCIENCE PAPER

Numbers of open access publishers are increasing, said Jeffrey Beall, a library scientist at CU Denver, who names what he calls “predatory” publishers on his website. He said that predatory open-access publishers exploded last year and numbers continue to grow at a rapid pace. *The Guardian*, Oct. 4

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

GET MOVING WITH CANCER

The CU Anschutz Medical Campus opened the Colorado Center for Health and Wellness to provide patients the opportunity to make sustainable changes to achieve healthier lifestyles. Lifespans of cancer patients who exercised 2.5 hours a week averaged more than three years longer than those who do not exercise, said Wells Messersmith, M.D. *9News*, Oct. 17
COLORADO HOSPITAL COLLABORATIVE LANDS MAJOR RESEARCH GRANT

A collaborative research enterprise involving six major Colorado health centers and two universities has received a $48.4 million federal grant to continue and improve its work on translating clinical studies into breakthroughs in patient care. Denver Business Journal, Oct. 22

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SUGAR

Many of the issues brought about by excess sugar consumption are believed to be completely unrelated to obesity and more about how the substance is metabolized in your body.

“Studies in animals show that fructose intake can alter your ability to control appetite, reduce your ability to burn fat, and induce features of metabolic syndrome, such as raising blood pressure, increasing fat, and causing fatty liver and insulin resistance,” says Richard Johnson, M.D., professor of medicine at CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Shape, Oct. 17

FREE FAMILY THERAPY OFFERED FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH BIPOLAR DISORDER

Colorado Family Project, a group of clinicians and researchers based at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, is conducting a study of family-based therapy for youth with mood swings and a biological parent with bipolar disorder. The treatment focuses on helping youth and their families understand and cope with mood swings, develop plans for preventing moods from getting worse, communicate more effectively, and solve family problems. 9News, Oct. 20

FALLS TIED TO POST-OP COMPLICATIONS IN OLDER PEOPLE

Falls are not necessarily the reason older people do poorly after surgery. The number of falls before surgery represents how frail an older person is. “It’s one more marker for older adults that lets us see who is going to do poorly after an operation,” said Thomas Robinson, M.D., at CU Anschutz Medical Campus. Reuters, Oct. 9