Private giving record shattered
For the third year in a row, alumni and friends have broken records with their gifts of financial support to Colorado State University. This year, donors gave the University $143.3 million for student and faculty support, programs, and facilities – more than $31 million above the previous year’s record.

Other highlights include:
• A record number of donors – 33,716
• Record alumni engagement and Alumni Association membership
• The highest alumni participation – 9.7 percent – in more than a decade

Thank you to all of our donors who help make CSU one of the world’s best research universities!

Public enemy No. 1: emerald ash borer and its slow-motion natural disaster
Colorado State scientists and Extension experts are on the front line in combating the emerald ash borer, an extremely destructive insect that targets ash trees. The insect, which can kill a tree in two to four years, was spotted in Boulder – home to about 98,000 ash trees – in September 2013, prompting a quarantine of all Boulder County wood to prevent its spread. CSU Extension, the Colorado State Forest Service, CSU entomologists, and other researchers have helped the Colorado Department of Agriculture respond to the difficult-to-detect insect by identifying its presence, coordinating public information about the pest, and exploring viable treatment options. For more about the emerald ash borer, visit CSU Extension’s website at: http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/emeraldashborer.html.

West Nile virus could have a bite this summer
Plentiful spring snow and rain, mixed with hot temperatures on the Front Range, have set the stage for an unusually high number of mosquitoes this summer – and potentially high rates of West Nile virus infection among birds, horses, and humans, said CSU’s Chet Moore, a researcher who has studied mosquito-borne diseases for more than 50 years. Key prevention measures include: draining standing water in the yard and garden; wearing long sleeves and pants – especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active; and using insect repellent with DEET.

CSU professor to develop proteins that could be basis for new cancer and HIV treatments
Brian McNaughton, a professor of chemistry, biochemistry, and molecular biology at Colorado State, has received a $1.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop synthetic proteins that shut down disease-causing components in cells that do not respond well to traditional drug treatments. This research has the potential to lead to new treatments for cancers and HIV.

Colorado State study: Gamers know grammar, and aren’t afraid to use it
“Online chat – especially in games – is often thought of as eroding the typing and self-expression skills of younger people, but our study shows that they are very expressive and do pay attention to how they communicate, both with text and nonverbally, with their avatars,” said Rosa Mikeal Martey, a professor in CSU’s Department of Journalism and Technical Communication. Martey is the lead author of a study that found online gaming Millennials are actually more accomplished communicators than many may have believed.

CSU appoints first woman to head veterinary training program
A veterinarian with expertise in cardiovascular physiology and equine medicine has become the first woman to lead Colorado State University’s renowned veterinary program. Dr. Melinda Frye, an associate professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, is now associate dean of Professional Veterinary Medicine in the CSU College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

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Chemistry Professor Brian McNaughton (left) and Research Experience for Undergraduates participant, Larry Kogan, work in the lab.
CSU helps plant the “GaRden” at Coors Field

Once again, the Colorado Rockies and Aramark, the Rockies’ exclusive food and beverage partner, joined with Colorado State University’s Institute for the Built Environment to plant the “GaRden” at Coors Field in Denver. The 2014 “GaRden” features a larger number and variety of crops than last year, when it was launched as baseball’s first on-site, sustainable garden producing food for use in the ballpark.

CSU lab involved in miraculous opening of 2014 FIFA World Cup

Clad in a mechanical bodysuit, paralyzed Brazilian Juliano Pinto stood, walked up to a soccer ball, and kicked it, aided only by a prosthetic exoskeleton that he controlled with his brain waves. This amazing breakthrough happened before the opening game of the 2014 FIFA World Cup — and CSU had a role in making it possible. CSU’s Idea-2-Product 3D printing laboratory developed the protective helmet liner Pinto wore. The liner fit between an electrode cap, positioned precisely on the user’s head over the regions of the brain that dictate movement, and a safety helmet. The electrodes detect brain signals and transmit them to the exoskeleton. If the electrodes move out of position, the exoskeleton does not receive the correct brain signals. Alan Rudolph, CSU’s vice president for research, was project manager of the Walk Again demonstration.

Kent Mackenzie, a researcher in CSU’s Idea-2-Product 3D printing lab, helped design, engineer, and print the helmet liner used during the World Cup demonstration.