



Eugene S. Farley, Jr. Health Policy Center
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

Last week the CU School of Medicine and Salud Family Health Centers celebrated the grand opening of the Aurora Community Health Center at 6th & Sable in Aurora. This partnership will provide great access to primary care (and so much more) for the ~48,000 folks living in three zip codes surrounding the Anschutz Medical Campus. This is a temporary site for what will become the Aurora Community Health Commons on 27 acres at N. Airport Blvd. and E. Colfax Avenue.

[*A Fat Lot of Good*](#) is the title of the March 1st [Levitt lecture](#) sponsored by the CU Department of Family Medicine, as well as the title of Dr. Peter Brukner's latest book. Dr. Brukner is a world-renowned sports medicine clinician and researcher from Melbourne whose second passion is nutrition. "His book busts the dietary myths we've been living by for decades."

Census 2020 begins this month. Mandated by the U.S. Constitution since 1790, it occurs every 10 years. The count determines funding amounts that go directly to our communities. Coloradans can expect to receive a Census invitation to respond...online, on the phone or by mail, just 9 questions.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[*Coronavirus Updates and Resources*](#) is a *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* website created to assist with questions/concerns about COVID-19.

[*Waive Fees for Coronavirus Tests and Treatment, Health Experts Urge*](#) is a *New York Times* story by Reed Abelson and Sarah Kliff who report that New York is among the first states in the country to waive some fees and expenses for people who undergo testing for covid-19, as public health officials are

concerned that medical bills will discourage the poor and uninsured from getting medical care.

[*Here's Why LGBTQ Physicians Should Self-Identify*](#) is a post on the AAFP's *Fresh Perspectives: New Docs in Practice* by Dr. Kyle Leggott who talks about the importance of progressing toward an LGBTQ physician workforce that reflects our diverse communities.

[*During a Pandemic, States' Patchwork of Crisis Strategies Could Mean Uneven Care*](#) is an article on the *Kaiser Health News* site by Markian Hawryluk about a framework that was created by clinicians, ethicists and legal experts after Hurricane Katrina to guide states when informing/assisting hospitals, doctors and front-line health care workers prepare for the trade-offs that arise in a crisis.

[*Innovation in Education: CU Anschutz Palliative Care Program Gains National Nod*](#) is a story posted on the *CU Anschutz Medical Campus* site by Debra Melani about a novel, multidisciplinary teaching program created and developed by Dr. Amos Bailey, an oncologist by training, at the University of Colorado.

[*Noted scholar calls for help in breaking cycle of violence*](#) is a story by Debra Melani on the CU College of Nursing site who reports on Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell's visit to Colorado, domestic violence expert. Dr. Elias Provencio-Vasquez, Dean of the College of Nursing and Farley Center steering committee member, hosted this impressive two-day seminar, along with folks from the CU Denver's Center on Domestic Violence.

[*New mental health urgent care clinic offers alternative to ECMC emergency room*](#) is a story in *The Buffalo News* by Scott Scanlon about an urgent access clinic designed for people 18 years and older with immediate behavioral health and substance abuse rehabilitation needs who are provided "whole person care".

[*Reddit to launch new suicide prevention tools*](#) is a story on *The Verge* by Jay Peters about how Reddit, a network of communities based on people's interests, is partnering with the Crisis Text Line has developed a tool that lets users report others who appear to be at risk of suicide so that Reddit can provide them with suicide prevention resources when they might need them most.



[*Two Dogmas of Mental Health Policy*](#) is a post on the *Health Affairs Blog* by Isabel M. Perera who has found reason to doubt two common beliefs: 1) the importance of private payers, and 2) the relationship between inpatient and outpatient care.

[*Keeping Moms Alive: Medicaid Policy Changes and Ideas for Systems Transformation*](#) is a post on the *Health Affairs Blog* by Katy Backes Kozhimannil and Marie Zimmerman who propose several incremental changes

that could be accomplished in the short term to improve access to high quality care in maternal health surrounding childbirth.

[*How Connecticut Is Moving to Control Health Care Costs*](#) is a post on the *Milbank Memorial Fund Blog* by Victoria Veltri about how the governor of Connecticut issued an executive order the first of the year that requires the state to develop an annual health care cost growth benchmark that will hold insurers, hospitals, and other health care providers to a fixed rate of cost growth.

[*\\$10,000- a -day fines and other things to know about Colorado's new public health insurance option bill*](#) is a story in the *Colorado Sun* by John Ingold about a public health insurance option introduced by lawmakers that would require hospitals and insurance companies to participate or face stiff penalties.

[*How Colorado is trying to address transportation needs for people in mental health crisis*](#) is a story in *The Colorado Independent* by Forest Wilson about a new bill that seeks to set up a separate transportation system for those in the throes of a mental health crisis, that would save money, improve access, reduce diversion of law enforcement from other duties and lessen stigma and shame for the person in crisis.

[*Half cent mental health tax campaign boosts ballots*](#) is a story on *23 WIFR* in Illinois about an initiative proposed by “Citizens for a Healthy Community” that wishes to raise funds for mental health and addiction services. If passed, the sales tax stands to make nearly \$13 million annually.

[*Sacramento Briefing Explores Integration of Physical and Behavioral Health in Medi-Cal*](#) is a posting on the *California Health Care Foundation* site by Catherine Teare about how most Californians insured through Medi-Cal must navigate three separate systems of care...physical, mental health, and substance use. The author laid out the range of approaches to integration taken by other states, presented at the briefing.



[*How epidemics like covid-19 end \(and how to end them faster\)*](#) is a story in the *Washington Post* by Joe Fox and colleagues about how researchers are using mathematical models to estimate how contagious covid-19 is and how far it could spread. One model has indicated that the number of cases may peak this month.

[*Medicaid expansion tied to fewer maternal deaths, study says*](#) is a story by Jacqueline Howard for CNN about how a recent study showed that states that expanded Medicaid were significantly associated with lower rates of maternal death. The largest reduction being among non-Hispanic black women.

[*Fighting Fragmentation: Mental Health Benefits from Integrated Care*](#) is an article in the *Journal of the Catholic Health Association of the United States* website by Ben Miller who points out how data showed life expectancy on the

rise since the 1960s, but now shows a sharp decline over the last three years indicating clearly something is broken in the United States.

[*The Benefits of Exercise for Children's Mental Health*](#) is a *New York Times* story by Dr. Perri Klass about a new study that showed the link between physical activity and depression risk in adults and how exercise may offset the genetic tendency toward depression.



[*Longmont Community Justice Partnership*](#) (LCGP) provides an alternative setting where people take responsibility for crime and those they have harmed through crime. This program addresses crime across all ages in the town of Longmont, Colorado, 40 miles NW of Denver – population: ~90,000. A restorative justice non-profit organization celebrating 25 years, LCJP partners with the police department, area schools, and the municipal court.

[*How to Love Your Enemy: A Restorative Justice Story*](#) is a trailer for the winner of best feature and best director at the Front Range International Film Festival. Instead of locking up non-violent offenders, advocates in Longmont, CO, focus on the challenging but rewarding process of apology, forgiveness, and redemption that radically shifts our idea of justice and our part in it.



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