



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

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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[The Context of Poverty](#) is a presentation sponsored by the National Cancer Institute January 11, noon-1PM MT that will focus on the intersection of race and poverty and its detrimental effects on health and cancer outcomes.

[Primary Care for All Americans: Teach-In/Learn-In](#) is a conversation about building a movement to bring accessible primary care to every American in every neighborhood and community sponsored by PC4AA January 9, 6:30PM MT. Dr. Jerome Adams, former U.S. Surgeon General, will talk about what communities in partnership with primary care clinicians can do to reduce health disparities.

[Stop being so predictable with your solutions](#) is this week's letter from Ben Miller that encourages us to lean into the creative side of problem solving.

[New online tool helps Coloradans quickly determine which public benefits they might be eligible for](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Tatiana Flowers about a tool called "MyFriendBen" created by Gary Community Ventures to increase access to basic necessities such as food and heat.

[Rare street drug that could be more potent than fentanyl surfaces in Boulder County](#) is a post on *The Colorado Sun* by Olivia Prentzel about an emerging class of drug on the streets that could be more potent than fentanyl and require several doses of naloxone to reverse overdose effects.

Editor's Note: There will be no Friday's Features 1/12/24 as I will be getting a new knee next week, but anticipate a 1/19/24 issue.



[What's Fueling Burnout in Your Organization?](#) is a post on the *Harvard*

Business Review by Rob Cross and colleagues who write that many believe burnout is driven by excessive work demands but in fact, “it’s driven by a specific type of demand-work that requires too much collaboration among individuals or teams of employees. The authors suggest ways to reduce collaboration overload.

[Navigating and Communicating about Serious Illness and End of Life](#) is a case vignette in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Drs. Vicki A. Jackson and Linda Emanuel that highlights a common clinical problem, provides a review of formal guidelines, and makes clinical recommendations from the authors.

[Community-Based Doula – Can Clinicians Share Power to Improve Maternal and Infant Health Outcomes?](#) is a perspective piece by Dolly Pressley Byrd and colleagues in *The New England Journal of Medicine* that suggests that one way to improve perinatal outcomes, including patient satisfaction, is to form partnerships between perinatal care providers and community-based doulas. Yet even where partnerships are possible, clinicians are often hesitant or unwilling to share power.

[In one Colorado mountain county, community is a mental health resource](#) is a story in *The Colorado Sun* by Tracy Ross about a new behavioral health strategic plan on the Western Slope (Winter Park and Fraser areas) that puts wellbeing in residents’ hands.

[Deciding for Patients Who Have Lost Decision-Making Capacity – Finding Common Ground in Medical Ethics](#) is a perspective piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Dr. Bernard Lo about criteria useful for surrogates when making such decisions for incapacitated loved ones.

[Have your cold or flu symptoms lingered this winter? Doctors explain why.](#) is an *NBC News* story by Aria Bendix about how experts say “many people are more susceptible to respiratory illnesses this winter because they haven’t had a recent infection or vaccination.” Also others may have gotten back-to-back infections that are being confused with lingering symptoms.



[Gun rights groups sue Colorado over ban on “ghost guns,” which lack serial numbers](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Jesse Bedayn about how Rocky Mountain Gun Owners and the National Association for Gun Rights allege the ban, which started Monday, infringes on 2nd Amendment rights.

[Indigenous Americans – The Journal’s Historical “Indian Problem”](#) is a

perspective piece in *The New England Journal of Medicine* by Dr. Davis S. Jones and colleagues as part of an invited series by independent historians focused on biases and injustices that the Journal has historically helped to perpetuate.

[What Do Trainees Want? The Rise of House Staff Unions](#) is an article by Dr. Lisa Rosenbaum in *The New England Journal of Medicine* about the rise of house staff unionization for the purpose of creating a formal process to get a seat at the table to negotiate with management as opposed to relying on program directors for advocacy.

[Black Coloradans suffer higher maternal and infant mortality rates. Three groups are working to change that.](#) is a post on *The Colorado Sun* by Tatiana Flowers about two programs that aim to expand access to health care and increase the number of Black doulas who can help mothers and their babies.

[New migrants face fear and loneliness. A rural Colorado town has a storied support network.](#) is a post in *The Colorado Sun* by Jesse Bedayn about how Ft. Morgan has become a haven for newcomers, a place where they can find a paycheck, an attorney, housing, schools for their kids while facing the threat of deportation.

[As “food is medicine” movement takes hold, Colorado Medicaid looks to pay for produce and better meals](#) is a story in *The Denver Post* by Meg Wingerter about how ensuring patients better nutrition up front is cheaper than hospital care down the line. HCPF, the agency that oversees the state’s Medicaid program, has made nutrition a priority and plans to ask for federal funding to bring healthy food to more members.



[Leveraging Patients’ Creative Ideas for Innovation in Health Care](#) is an article in *The Milbank Quarterly* by Yuna S. H. Lee and colleagues about a study in which a survey and tested strategies were developed to elicit creative ideas from patients and then the deployment of the survey with the most generative open-ended question sequence within a health care system. It involved analysis of nearly 2,000 patients that included nearly 3,000 creative ideas.

[CDC warns flu, COVID vaccination levels are low as hospitalizations for respiratory illnesses rise](#) is a *9 News* story by Rachael Krause about how around the country, hospitalizations are up 200% for influenza, 50% for COVID and 60% for RSV in the past four weeks, according to the CDC.

[Leading for Health](#) is a blog post by Chris Koller, Milbank Memorial Fund

president, in which he shares insights from state health policy leaders who participated in recent Milbank convenings in response to the reality that the United States is far from assuring a long life for all its residents.



[Researchers at MedStar Health and Georgetown Law Find Success in Integrating Lawyers into Care Teams to Support Pregnant and Postpartum Patients](#) is a post on the *MedStar Health* site that discusses the impact of a medical-legal partnership on improving maternal and infant health outcomes.

[Tapping medical-legal partnerships to boost children's health](#) is a post in the *YaleNews* by Mallory Locklear about families facing energy insecurity and other social challenges, and researchers reporting how MLPs can help address these stressors.

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