



EUGENE S. FARLEY, JR.
HEALTH POLICY CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

FRIDAY'S FEATURES

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NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS

[*Healthy Places Lamar*](#) includes three videos that tell the story of the Lamar Loop, a multi-year project in Lamar, Co, that began with a \$1 million grant for infrastructure improvements and programs designed to create a healthier and more active community.

Registration is now open for the July 24-26 [Colorado Health Symposium](#). This year's theme: "The Intersection of Housing, Health and Inequity."

[*Bioethics during times of war: Where are we today?*](#) is a story in *CU Anschutz Today* about how a recent campus Holocaust remembrance event examined medicine and morality.



COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PREVENTION

[*Columbine survivor Austin Eubanks found dead at his home in Steamboat Springs, coroner confirms*](#) is a story by Jace Larson and Oscar Contreras for *The Denver Channel* about how Eubanks, who battled a drug addiction of his own, had dedicated his life to inspire others to overcome addiction.

[*Sick and Grieving: The Toll of Unsolved Murders*](#) is a story on the *Colorado Trust* site by Julia C. Martinez about the staggering numbers of homicides across the country that go unsolved, and how this paralyzes families and communities with emotional pain, fear, and distrust.

[*See Billie Eilish Advocate for Mental Health in New 'Seize the Awkward' PSAs*](#) is a story in *Rolling Stone* by Althea Legaspi about a public service announcement video featuring Billie Eilish, a 17 year-old singer, who advocates for mental health and reaching out to friends when in pain. Billie has been open about her own depression and night terrors, and how these

problems have controlled everything in her life.

[*Mental health first-aid kit: Lady Gaga is working on high school program to reduce stigma*](#) is a story on the *Today* site by Marguerite Ward who discusses a pilot program, Teen Mental Health First Aid backed by Lady Gaga, among eight high schools across the country that is slated to expand this fall.

[*The Other Reasons Kids Aren't Getting Vaccinations: Poverty and Health Care Access*](#) is an NPR story by Selena Simmons-Duffin about how low-income children often miss vaccinations because of family struggles... transportation, work, no insurance and not knowing they can receive vaccinations without such. It's not always about religious and ideological reasons for low vaccination rates...may have more to do with poverty and access to health care.

[*Finland gave people free money. It increased their trust in social institutions.*](#) is a story on *Vox* by Sigal Samuel who discusses a landmark experiment in basic income that involved the Finish government giving jobless citizens a regular infusion of cash with no strings attached.

[*Reimagining Health – Flourishing*](#) is an opinion piece in *JAMA Network* by Dr. Tyler J. VanderWeele and colleagues about a new measure of wellbeing...”the flourishing index” that divides universally desired factors contributing to flourishing into six key domains...happiness and life satisfaction, physical and mental health, meaning and purpose, character and virtue, close social relationships, and financial and material security.



[*PCPCC Applauds Colorado and Vermont for Laws that will Measure and Increase Primary Care Investment*](#) is a story on the PCPCC website that commends Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Vermont Governor Phil Scott for signing into law legislation in their respective states that will enhance primary care services and payment.

[*2019 Legislative Session Summary*](#) is a posting on *Center for Health Progress* that reports on bills this group advocated for or opposed.

[*New Zealand's Next Liberal Milestone: A Budget Guided by 'Well-Being'*](#) is a story in *The New York Times* by Charlotte Graham-McLay about how New Zealand's government is requiring new budget spending to fit one of five categories promoting "well-being." Other countries are also rethinking whether GDP measurements are the best gauge of a nation's success.

[*Minnesota lawmakers strike deal on opioid response bill*](#) is a *Star Tribune* story by Torey Van Oot who reports that a deal reached this week by Minnesota lawmakers could generate more than \$20 million a year in fees from prescription drug makers to combat the opioid epidemic.

[Washington pioneers public health care option, but controlling costs remains tricky](#) is a post on *CNN Politics* by Tami Luhby about how Washington State is the first to authorize the creation of a state-run public health insurance option on its ACA exchange. Legislation was signed this week to make this option available in 2021.



[Consumer-Facing Data, Information, and Tools: Self-Management of Health in the Digital Age](#) is a *Health Affairs* publication by Karandeep Singh and colleagues that describes the major initiatives that have led to consumers' increased access to both their own health data and performance data for health care providers and hospitals; and explores how search engines and crowd-sourced review websites help and hinder the dissemination of medically accurate information.

[How Much U.S. Households with Employer Insurance Spend on Premiums and Out-of-Pocket Costs: A State-by-State Look](#) is an issue brief posted on *The Commonwealth Fund* site by Susan L. Hayes and colleagues who report how nearly 24 million Americans are enrolled in employer health plans, and have spent a large share of their income on health care. The report highlights include: premium contributions, out-of-pocket costs, high cost burdens, and total household spending.

[The Struggle to Hire and Keep Doctors in Rural Areas Means Patients Go without Care](#) is an NPR story by Kirk Siegler who cites data from a recent NPR poll that found that one of every four people living in rural areas said they couldn't get the health care they needed recently...one-quarter of whom cited health care facility was too far or difficult to reach.

[When LA's Air Got Better, Kids' Asthma Cases Dropped](#) is an NPR story by Richard Harris who cites a recent study published in *JAMA* that discusses improvements in health outcomes in 12 different communities in the LA area where there has been reductions in air pollution over the past two decades.

[Using Data to Provide Better Health Care to New York's Homeless](#) is a *Harvard Business Review* post by Laura Jacobson and colleagues who discuss the massive homeless population problem in New York City, and the use of data science to identify and "phenotype" its homeless patients to help tailor their care and match them to the right hospital and community-based supports...ultimately including housing itself.

[Accountable Care Organizations' Performance in Depression: Lessons for Value-Based Payment and Behavioral Health](#) is an article in the *Journal of General Internal Medicine* by Nathaniel Counts and colleagues who consider the Depression Remission at 12 Months pay-for-reporting measure, used by CMS for two years.

[Suicide Rate for Girls Has Been Rising Faster than Boys, Study Finds](#) is an

NPR story by Sasha Ingber and Rhitu Chatterjee who report findings from a new study in JAMA Network Open showing that girls are steadily narrowing the gap between number of boys who die from suicide and the number of girls.



MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS

[*This overlooked aspect of opioid recovery has become a focus for health centers*](#) is a post on *Think Progress* by Amanda Michelle Gomez that discusses how medical-legal partnerships are an alternative to Trump's rigid law and order approach.

[*Billionaire unveils fund to defend people from medical-debt collectors*](#) is a story for CNBC by Jeff Daniels about Idaho's wealthiest man who just launched a "consumer protection fund" to defend people from "overly aggressive medical debt collectors."

[*Tomorrow is Now: New Directions for Children's Philanthropy*](#) is a post on *Capita Social* that discusses what funders should learn to help children and families flourish in 2019 and beyond.



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