

FoF November 2020

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FOCUS ON FACULTY

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS NOVEMBER 2020



[CU Boulder Researcher Co-authors Study That Finds Water on the Moon](#)

CBS 4

(Oct. 26, 2020) -- The study, co-authored by [Paul Hayne](#), researches the existence of water in tiny ice patches, about the size of a penny, on the dark side of the Moon's surface.

"If you can imagine standing on the surface of the moon near one of its poles, you would see shadows all over the place," said Hayne, lead study author and assistant professor in the Laboratory of Atmospheric and Space Physics at CU Boulder. "Many of those tiny shadows could be full of ice."



[Colorado Catholics Consider Implications of Pope's Support of Same-Sex Civil Unions](#)

Fox 31

(Oct. 21, 2020) -- "It does potentially have implications for how those families interact with — and are treated — in the church," said [Samira Mehta](#), assistant professor at CU Boulder. Mehta is an expert on gender and religious studies with a focus on Judaism. She said the likely motivation behind the pope's words has long been part of Catholic doctrine.



[OSIRIS-REx poised to snatch samples from asteroid Bennu](#)

Astronomy

(Oct. 19, 2020) -- The gravity measurements indicate that the density of the near-Earth asteroid Bennu isn't constant throughout. Instead, it's clumpy, with denser regions towards the poles and less dense material at its core and equator.

"It's as if there is a void at its center, within which you could fit a couple of football fields," said study leader [Daniel Scheeres](#), professor of aerospace engineering at CU Boulder.



[Colorado Finally Got Full-Day Kindergarten, but Parents are Wary in the COVID Era](#)

Chalkbeat

(Oct. 1, 2020) -- “It’s always the case that most teachers experience a big spread in their classroom, in terms of where kids are [academically], and I would think that’s going to be even wider,” said [Mimi Engel](#), associate professor and program chair for research and evaluation methodology at CU Boulder’s School of Education.



[Fireflies Love to Synchronize Their Flashing Lights. We Finally Know How](#)

Science Alert

(Oct. 13, 2020) – “Is it something hardwired in fireflies that makes them want to synchronize?” asked physicist [Raphaël Sarfati](#), a researcher in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences at CU Boulder. “Or is it something more context dependent, maybe based on their environment?” The study led by Sarfati added the missing ingredient: three-dimensional space. The fireflies synchronize by copying the fireflies around them.



University of Colorado **Colorado Springs**



[Do Religious People Have a Moral Obligation to Help Refugees?](#)

Colorado Springs Indy

(Oct. 28, 2020) -- [Jeffrey Scholes](#), associate professor of philosophy and director of the Center for Religious Diversity and Public Life at UCCS said, in a word, “yes.” He added that people “not of religion” also have a moral obligation (and a stated desire) to help refugees. The primary reason that this is even a relevant question — it would have been utterly perplexing during biblical times — is the slow rise of nationalism across our globe for the last couple of centuries.

Also: [Opinion: Do Americans idolize guns over God?](#)

Colorado Springs Indy, Oct. 21



[The Windmill Project art exhibit installed at UCCS](#)

KOAA

(Oct. 21, 2020) -- Have you ever wondered what the wind looks like? That's what a new art piece at UCCS intends to show. Each of the two thousand, 8-foot poles is topped by what's called an anemometer – a windmill that generates enough energy to power a little LED light, said [Daisy McGowan](#), GOCA director and chief curator at UCCS.



[The Details on Colorado Springs Ballot Issue 2A](#)

KRCC

(Oct. 19, 2020) -- If voters decide to let the city keep the money that would otherwise be refunded, Colorado Springs will retain \$1.9 million to be used for public safety. The refund translates to about \$7 per household, according to [Tatiana Bailey](#), director of the UCCS Economic Forum in the College of Business.

Also: [Colorado Springs Sales Tax Revenue Increases for Third Consecutive Month](#), The Gazette, Oct. 14



[A Lot of Voters Quickly Returning Ballots in Southern Colorado](#)

KOAA

(Oct. 16, 2020) -- Political analysts say there are likely a couple of reasons for the early returns. There are voters with very strong opinions this election cycle who are motivated to vote.

“You certainly know there are going to be a lot of Democrats who’ve been anxious to vote against Donald Trump ever since 2016,” said [Josh Dunn](#), UCCS political science professor. “And there are a lot of Trump supporters who really want to go and express their support for him.”



[How Christian Faith Leaders are Squaring Climate Activism with Belief](#)

KCRW

(Oct. 16, 2020) -- Rev. [Stephany Rose Spaulding](#), associate professor and director of women's and ethnic studies at UCCS and founder of the Truth and Conciliation Commission, discusses the intersection of faith and theology with public expression.

"From the beginning of Genesis all the way to Revelations we are called to have dominion that has often been confused with domination," she said. "So when we think about the ways that all of these issues intersect, we are going to have in a very short time, millions of climate refugees, if we don't take into consideration how we are stewarding on this planet."



University of Colorado **Denver**



[What Was the Most Consequential Election in Colorado History?](#)

5280

(Oct. 21, 2020) -- "Colorado became one of the first states to grant women franchise, which nearly doubled our electorate," said [Rebecca Hunt](#), associate professor emerita of history at CU Denver. "We were pretty progressive even way back then: A provision in the 1876 state constitution had already given women the right to vote in school board elections. The only

downside of the 1893 referendum was that although African American women also got the vote, it still left out Asian American and Indigenous women.”



[Parents, Ask Your Child’s School about Reading Instruction](#)

Pagosa Daily Post (Chalkbeat)

(Oct. 28, 2020) -- , The eight-page “Colorado Literacy Dialogue Tool for Parents/Caregivers” walks parents through key questions they should ask about reading instruction. The guides are only available in English, but [Lucinda Soltero-González](#), assistant professor of literacy education at CU Denver, said she’d like to design something similar with a focus on reading instruction for English learners.



[Did You Hear about Voter Intimidation at a Denver drop box? It Didn’t Happen, Election Officials Say](#)

The Denver Post

(Oct. 17, 2020) – “I think we’re going to need to start thinking of this as one of the costs of our democracy,” said [Kelly Hupfeld](#), associate dean of the School of Public Affairs at CU Denver. “As long as we are going to have this commitment to free speech, and in particular political free speech, this is the burden of a voter.”



[No Statewide Regulation of Colorado Security Guards Creates Patchwork of Standards, Lack of Transparency](#)

The Denver Post

(Oct. 18, 2020) -- “It’s not a well-regulated industry at all and the training standards are varied at best,” said [Paul Taylor](#), an assistant professor at CU Denver who studies policing. “Many companies have a really low level of training even though many guards have pretty regular contact with the public in an enforcement capacity.”

Also: [Low-Held Gun Can Reduce Police Officer Error, Study Shows](#), Boise State Public Radio, Oct. 7



[Online Test Proctoring Claims to Prevent Cheating. But at What Cost?](#)

Slate

(Oct. 26, 2020) -- A system set up to penalize students suspected of cheating doesn’t address the root of the problem: why students cheat in the first place.

“Students don’t cheat because they’re twisting their mustaches and trying to figure out how to cheat the system — they cheat mostly because they’re overwhelmed and under-resourced and under-supported,” says [Shea Swauger](#), a senior instructor at CU Denver’s Auraria Library.



[A Key to Healthier Adult Diets: Healthier Baby Diets](#)

Wall Street Journal

(Oct. 26, 2020) -- “Early patterns of food acceptance lay the foundation for a lifetime,” says [Susan Johnson](#), professor of pediatrics and director of the Children’s Eating Laboratory at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. “Early exposure to flavor appears to translate into better acceptance over the long haul. You come to like what you know.”



[How to Smooth the Rocky Road as Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders Transition to Adult Neurology](#)

NeurologyToday

(Oct. 21, 2020) -- In childhood, pediatric neurologists often manage the individuals. But as they mature, they move into an adult medical world that doesn't have a specific place for them.

“There isn't an obvious adult provider,” said [Jessi Solomon Sanders](#), assistant professor at CU Anschutz and director of the Transition Clinic in Developmental Pediatrics at the Children’s Hospital of Colorado and in Behavioral. “If someone has been managed for 18 or 21 years by a

developmental pediatrician, there is no adult counterpart for the pediatrician to say, ‘Here, across the street in our adult hospital, you can go to see this person.’”



[Root Cause: Understanding the ‘Why’ Behind Behavioral Health](#)

Vail Daily

(Oct. 20, 2020) -- Genes may play some part in mental health disorders, but it’s not as straightforward. Instead, mental health disorders like depression and anxiety are what [Marshall Thomas](#), director of the Johnson Depression Center at CU Anschutz and the medical advisor to EVBH, calls a polygenic disorder: There are multiple effects based on multiple genes. To add to the mix, there’s also a gene environment interaction that doctors believe starts even before you’re born — a mother’s stress hormones can actually trigger certain things in a baby’s genes prenatally.



[Low-Cost, Clinic-Based Intervention Curtails Hospital Readmission Rates in Lupus](#)

Healio

(Oct. 19, 2020) -- A multidisciplinary post-discharge intervention aimed at reducing 30-day hospital readmission rates among patients with systemic lupus erythematosus is feasible, but more data is needed to determine if it is effective, according to researchers.

“Systemic lupus erythematosus often requires inpatient hospitalization,” said [Elena Weinstein](#), assistant professor in the CU School of Medicine. “About 20% to 25% of individuals with SLE are hospitalized each year.”



[No Hugs: How the COVID-19 Pandemic Has Affected Palliative, Hospice Care](#)

Healthline

(Oct. 1, 2020) – The study found failure to plan for adequate palliative and hospice care when a substantial increase in disease and death is expected is unconscionable, and it risks undermining patient-family trust, long-term emotional health, and the core values of society.

[Jean Abbott](#), a retired emergency medicine physician who teaches at the Center for Bioethics and Humanities at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, said she wanted to push the concept of doing this better, even in possible near-future pandemic lockdowns.