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Editor's note

The Daily Camera is suspending publication of its daily To-do List in light of recent local and state government declarations regarding social distancing to curb the spread of the new coronavirus and in light of the many event cancellations. The To-do List will return when social distancing measures are suspended.

Coronavirus

Cases surge among the young, endangering older adults

By Carla K. Johnson
and Tamara Lush
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Coronavirus cases are climbing rapidly among young adults in a number of states where bars, stores and restaurants have reopened — a disturbing generational shift that not only puts them in greater peril than many realize but poses an even bigger danger to older people who cross their paths.

In Oxford, Miss., summer fraternity parties sparked outbreaks. In Oklahoma City, church activities, fitness classes, weddings and funerals seeded infections among people in their 20s, 30s and 40s. In Iowa college towns, surges followed the reopening of bars. A cluster of hangouts near Louisiana State University led to at least 100 customers and employees testing positive. In East Lansing, Mich., an outbreak tied to a brew pub spread to 34 people ages 18 to 23.

There and in states like Florida, Texas and Arizona, young people have started going out again, many without masks, in what health experts see as irresponsible behavior.

"The virus hasn't changed. We have changed our behaviors," said Ali Mokdad, professor of health metrics sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle. "Younger people are more likely to be out and taking a risk."

In Florida, young people ages 15 to 34 now make up 31% of all cases, up from 25% in early June. Last week, more than 8,000 new cases were reported in that age group, compared with about 2,000 among people 55 to 64 years old. And experts say the phenomenon cannot be explained away as simply the result of more testing.

Elected officials such as Florida's governor have argued against reimposing restrictions, saying many of the newly infected are young and otherwise healthy. But younger people, too, face the possibility of severe



Patrons relax with a drink on the patio at Phyllis' Musical Inn on June 17 in Chicago. **Scott Olson / Getty Images**

infection and death. In the past week, two 17-year-olds in Florida died of the virus.

And authorities worry that older, more vulnerable people are next. "People between the ages 18 and 50 don't live in some sort of a bubble," Oklahoma City Mayor David Holt said. "They are the children and grandchildren of vulnerable people. They may be standing next to you at a wedding. They might be serving you a meal in a restaurant."

The virus has taken a frightful toll on older people in the U.S., which leads the world in total deaths, at over 120,000, and confirmed infections, at more than 2.3 million. Eight out of 10 deaths in the U.S. have been in people 65 and older. In contrast, confirmed coronavirus deaths among 18- to 34-year-olds number in the hundreds, though disease trackers are clamoring for more accurate data.

For months, older adults were more likely to be diagnosed with the virus, too. But figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that almost as soon as states began reopening, the picture flipped, with people 18 to 49 years

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VIRUS from Page 1A

underway and the health department has not yet identified particular gatherings or events that could have been the catalyst for the increase, said Chana Goussetis, spokesperson for Boulder County Public Health.

No one within the age group has died from the virus. As of Monday, eight have been hospitalized and three were admitted into the ICU, according to Goussetis.

Across the state, there are now 31,155 cases, which is up 262 from Tuesday. Of those, 5,375 have been hospitalized. There have been 1,667 deaths among cases and 1,457 of those are directly attributed to the virus. Of Colorado's more than 5.7 million population, 293,284 people have been tested.

In Boulder County, 14,363 people have been tested, with 7.19% coming back positive, according to county data.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and

Environment on Wednesday released its updated outbreak data for facilities across the state. The state notes, however, that "because facilities are focused on disease control measures during an outbreak, the number of cases reported for each facility may be incomplete."

No new nursing home investigations in the county were opened this week. The investigations at Bal-four Retirement Community in Louisville and Frasier Retirement Community in Boulder were both resolved this week.

Julie Soltis, director of communications for Frasier, said the resolve is the result of "our extremely rigorous mitigation measures that we've employed with staff and residents," adding that the new status is "a good place to be."

She said Frasier will enter into phase two of reopening Monday.

"It's very methodical. We don't anticipate going 'back to normal' unless there is a

vaccination or herd immunity, and we don't anticipate that happening," Soltis said.

"The goal of the plan is to provide our independent living residents with renewed access to various services and activities during the pandemic while also mitigating the risks," she added.

Representatives from Bal-four could not be reached for comment.

An additional resident at Life Care Center of Longmont is considered probable positive for the virus, bringing the total to 10, which is separate from the five residents who have tested positive for coronavirus. There have been two reported deaths at Life Care: one with confirmed coronavirus and one that has not been confirmed.

PowerBack Rehabilitation in Lafayette reported its fifth death within the outbreak this week, as well as another patient with probable coronavirus. PowerBack currently has ten confirmed cases.

The Peaks Care Center in Longmont currently has the highest number of residents who have tested positive for the virus through an outbreak in the county, at 48. Sixteen deaths have been reported there, connected to coronavirus, and 33 staff members have tested positive.

The state on Wednesday released guidelines that allow outdoor visitation at residential care facilities. Facilities cannot have visitors if there are any active cases or recent positive cases or outbreaks that have not competed the 14-day isolation period. Visits must be scheduled, and will be held outside. Visitors must wear a face mask and there can be no more than eight people at the gathering, according to a news release from the state health department.

Frasier Retirement Community recently created outdoor pods to host visits between residents and guests safely.

COLO. 119 from Page 1A

said she believes plans for the SH 119 corridor will provide commuters with safe and sustainable options for travel that will be faster and more efficient.

"I think it's worth noting that the vision for 119 will also have an improvement for air quality and climate goals," Jones said. "I think we are all painfully aware that the greater metro region is out of attainment for Clean Air Act ozone standards and vehicle emissions are one of the biggest emitters."

Jones called it critical to provide transportation options for biking, transit and pedestrian alternatives for travel to improve air quality. She said a benefit to plans for the project are that they can be implemented in phases.

Longmont, Boulder and Commuting Solutions are part of the State Highway 119 Coalition, which seeks to advocate for planning and implementation of the project. The Regional Transpor-

tation District, and Colorado Department of Transportation, alongside local chambers, are helping with the planning process of the project, according to Commuting Solutions.

Roughly \$93 million has been secured for the SH 119 project, including \$30 million from RTD, \$13 million from the Denver Regional Council of Governments, \$9 million from CDOT and a \$1.15 million local match, according to Commuting Solutions. There was also \$40 million obtained last year and awarded from CDOT, after the funds were made available through the passing of a transportation spending package, SB-267.

Throughout the rest of the year, the coalition will work to secure additional funds for the project and advance design and development plans. Commuting Solutions officials hope to host another public meeting on the remodel of Colo. 119 in September, but said they have not yet determined a date.

BVSD from Page 1A

District staff members also plan to conduct a review of research on school resource officers, collect data and identify applicable district policies, and create a page on the district's website on the issue.

"It's a tight enough timeline, we can demonstrate to our community that we are serious about digging into this," Anderson said.

After some back-and-forth about the timeline, school board members agreed to

make an initial decision on the issue by October, while noting policy changes and other decisions might take longer.

Two Boulder Valley school board members, Richard Garcia and Lisa Sweeney-Miran, have said they support removing police officers from schools. Other board members have said they need more information to make a decision.

Tuesday, Garcia and Sweeney-Miran expressed

concerns about taking four months to gather information and discuss the issue, with Sweeney-Miran asking the district to pull police officers from schools until a decision is made.

With some students saying they don't feel safe in their buildings, she said, not pausing the school resource officer program "feels like a dismissal of everything we've heard and learned."

Anderson responded that the district first would need

to rewrite agreements with local police departments, as well as replace the functions of school resource officers, including their roles in threat assessment and school safety plans.

"Pausing would be a significant impact on our schools," he said, adding the timeline is as expedient as possible given the challenges of restarting school during a pandemic. "There is a lot of info that this board needs to know and understand."

Boulder Valley has 10 school resource officers from police departments in Boulder, Broomfield, Lafayette and Louisville and deputies from the Boulder County Sheriff's Office, according to district officials. The officers are paid by their respective agencies and do not cost the district any money.

Other board member requests included finding a way to collect information from the students who have gotten in trouble and had

contact with school resource officers and inviting community organizations to co-host the forums.

School board President Tina Marquis said she wants to know what barriers have prevented families from sharing their concerns about student discipline and interactions with school resource officers.

"What prevented people from bringing these to leadership and the board before two months ago?" she asked.

Daily Camera



Clinic provides 'Pay What You Can' services, 1B

U.S. sees virus resurgence, 3A

Boulder entrepreneur to become CrossFit CEO, 6A

Thursday, June 25, 2020 • \$1.50 • dailycamera.com

School resource officers

BVSD enacts 4-month plan

District looks to provide further community conversation

By Amy Bounds
Staff Writer

Boulder Valley Superintendent Rob Anderson has a four-month plan for a community conversation and initial decisions around a request to remove police from Boulder Valley's schools.

The NAACP's Boulder County

chapter is leading a local effort to end Boulder Valley's school resource officer program. The effort gained momentum amid nationwide protests and outcry over police brutality and killings of black people. Denver Public Schools agreed earlier this month to phase out the use of school

resource officers by June 2021.

In its request, the NAACP cited data that shows Boulder Valley students of color are disciplined — sent out of the classroom, suspended or referred to police — at higher rates than their white classmates.

Other concerns include the neg-

ative impact of law enforcement presence on students of color, students who had incarcerated parents or who were afraid of immigration authorities.

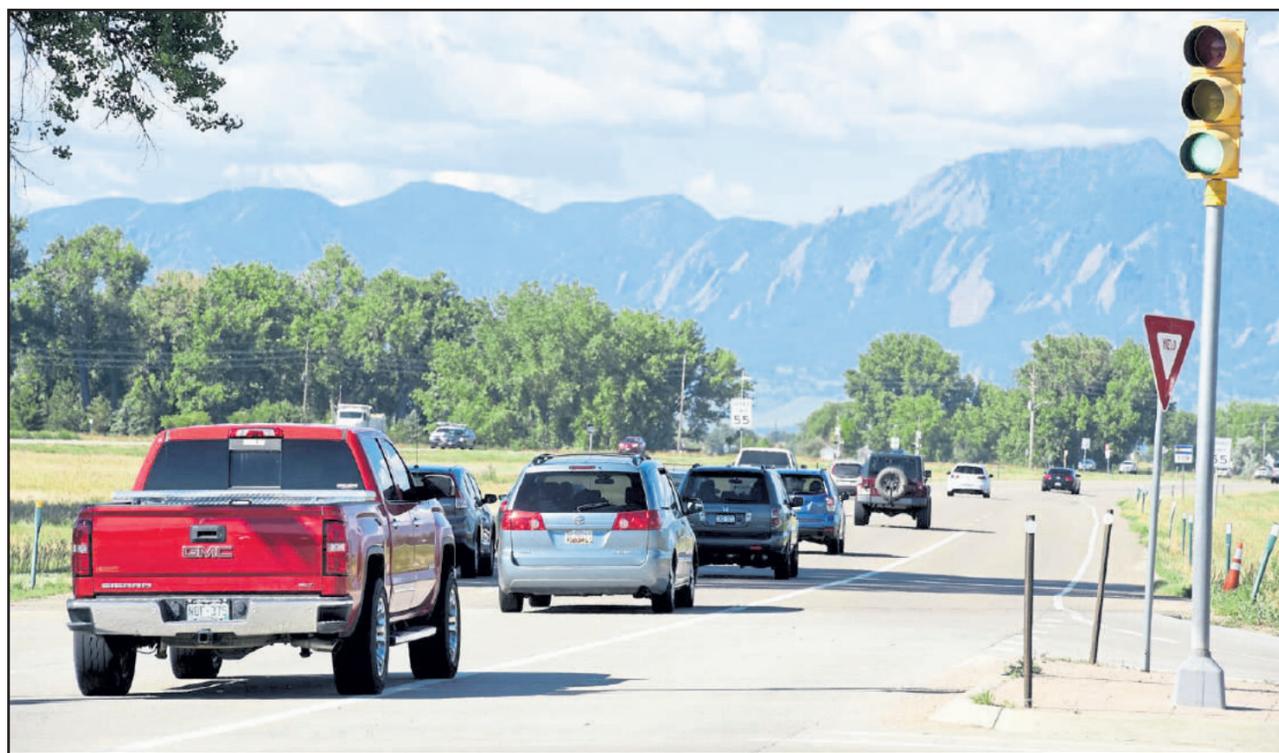
Anderson presented the community conversation plan at Tuesday's school board meeting, where board members gave the plan a green light. The district's first step is hiring a facilitator to lead the process, with some board

members asking that the facilitator be a person of color.

The plan includes four community forums in English and Spanish in September, as well as three school board roundtables over the next few months. For the roundtables, the board plans to hear from security staff and school resource officers, school principals and teachers, and student leaders.

See BVSD, 2A

Colo. 119



Traffic along the Diagonal Highway at Niwot Road on Wednesday. Commuting Solutions, alongside Longmont and Boulder leaders, are discussing what potential solutions are for multimodal transportation along the highway.

Cliff Grassmick / Staff Photographer

Leaders talk plans to remodel road between Longmont, Boulder

By Kelsey Hammon | Staff Writer

Boulder County community leaders provided a vision of what Colo. 119 could look like if it could be remodeled to allow better flow for multiple modes of transportation, including a corridor-wide bike path, express lanes and bus rapid transit.

While the plans have been in discussion among city and county leaders since a 2014 Northwest Area Mobility Study identified the corridor as a priority for improved mobility, Wednesday marked a first chance for the public to listen in and get an overview of the project during an online kick-off membership meeting.

Commuting Solutions, a Louisville-based nonprofit advocating for transportation improvements in the northwest metro region, helped to host the conversation over Zoom. Audrey DeBarros, Commuting Solutions executive director, joined Longmont, Boulder, county, RTD and state transportation officials in providing detailed plans for the project. Residents were invited to listen in and to type their feedback in a comment section.

Estimated to cost roughly \$253 million, the Colo. 119 project aims to address projected population growth and increased traffic on Colo. 119, also known as the Diagonal Highway. The remodel would focus on the roughly

20-mile stretch of road that connects Boulder to Longmont. Roughly 45,000 vehicles a day travel Colo. 119, and traffic is anticipated to increase 25% by 2040, according to the Commuting Solutions online outline of the project.

Additionally, with plans for the Northwest Railway, a roughly 41-mile rail line from Longmont to Denver, not expected to be completed until 2045, according to Commuting Solutions, officials wanted to address commuting options in the interim.

Scott Cook, the CEO of the Longmont Chamber of Commerce, said in the Wednesday meeting that he has heard from several business owners, who shared frustrations about commuting through the Hover Street and Colo. 119 intersection, including that it can be difficult to navigate and its design makes it challenging for drivers to see available businesses.

Cook added that a commuter bike way and high-frequency bus operations, also known as bus rapid transit, would open up more

employment opportunities for the community, which he said is important to Longmont's businesses.

Part of the funding needed to complete the roughly \$253 million project could come from a \$17 million federal grant that Longmont applied to for a remodel of the Hover Street and Colo. 119 intersection. Phil Greenwald, Longmont's transportation planning manager, discussed the plans during Wednesday's meeting and how it would be a part of the highway's improvements. The city is expected to find out in September if Longmont was selected for the grant.

The vision for Colo. 119 is modeled after an overhaul of U.S. 36. The roughly \$497 million project took place between 2012 and 2016 and improved multi-modal transportation on U.S. 36 from Federal Boulevard in Westminster to Table Mesa Drive in Boulder, according to CDOT.

The vision for the Colo. 119 project is to create an expanded highway with managed lanes, where express lane drivers would pay a toll and high frequency bus traffic would have a primary lane for travel. This would be in addition to general purpose lanes and a paved, corridor-wide bike way.

Boulder County Commissioner Elise Jones

See COLO. 119, 2A

CORONAVIRUS

Boulder County sees 35 new cases

25 positive tests reported between ages 20 and 29

By Brooklyn Dance
For the Camera

Boulder County reported 35 additional coronavirus cases on Wednesday, ending the almost-weeklong decline in new daily cases. Of those cases, 25 were reported in the 20-to-29-year-old age group.

No new deaths or hospitalizations were reported with the jump in cases, and two patients have recovered since Tuesday. There are now 1,313 cases across the county, 158 of which were reported in the last seven days. To date, there have been 71 deaths and 174 hospitalizations.

Recovery by individuals in the county increased by two from Tuesday to 527.

Following last Thursday's 50-case spike, the number of new cases each day seemed to be declining, with Tuesday only recording six new cases. The midmonth spike largely fell into the 20-to-29-year-old age group, with ties to Black Lives Matter protests and parties in Boulder's University Hill neighborhood. Wednesday recorded 386 cases within the age group, and that number has stayed twice as high as any other age group this week.

Disease investigations for Wednesday's 35 cases are still

See VIRUS, 2A

Weather

High: 90 | Low: 60
An afternoon t-storm

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