

# Colorado Daily

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WEATHER: Partly cloudy, high 88

**DESKTOP**

# BREAKING GROUND

New housing development development's set in motion

'The Peloton,' a mixed-use project near 33rd Street and Arapahoe Avenue will include 390 housing units and about 17,000 square feet of small retail space – and the first units might be completed by fall 2007. **SEE STORY, PAGE 4**



About 50 people attended a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday for The Peloton, a mixed-use project that will include 390 housing units and about 17,000 square feet of retail. From left, Boulder's Mayor Mark Ruzzin, Bancroft Capital founder Doug McDonald and Henry Cisneros, chairman of the real estate firm City View and former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), turn the ceremonial first shovels of dirt. The first Peloton housing units might be ready for occupancy by fall 2007. [RICHARD VALENTY/COLORADO DAILY]

## WAKE UP! WE'RE CLOSING!

The lights are out at MinneNapolis, a store at the Mall of America that sold naps for 70 cents a minute.

The nap center, which charged \$14 for 20 minutes in a private, themed room, brought in fewer than 1,600 customers during its six-month run. That was far short of owner Steev RamsDell's projections.

He blamed the failure on the high number of tourists who shop at the mall.

"We had people who said they loved our service and they'd be back next time they were at the mall — next year," he said. "We couldn't develop the repeat business."

The concept seems to work in some places. MetroNap sells space in sleep pods in the Empire State Building in New York and at the airport in Vancouver, British Columbia.

## NICE TRY GENIUS

A Wal-Mart clerk in Bentonville, Ark., noticed something familiar when a customer went through the checkout line — a credit card from her own wallet, which had been stolen two days earlier, police said.

Ashley Dawn Dover repeatedly tried to pass a credit card through an electronic scanner at the store Tuesday to pay for \$120 worth of merchandise, Police Chief James Allen said Wednesday.

Allen said the clerk then offered to try the card and noticed it was her own.

"The clerk looks up at her and says 'This is my stuff and I want it back,'" Allen said.

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"It usually takes more than three weeks to prepare a good impromptu speech."

— Mark Twain

## QUIZ

What instrument was played by Karen Carpenter of The Carpenters, when she wasn't just singing?

Answer: Drums

## THE MIX

# DOGGIE DAYS OF DENVER

'DOGmata' artists are painting for a good cause all in the name of dog. **Page B1**

**THE MIX**  
PARTY CULTURE  
**Cheers, Colorado!**  
LIQUID THERAPY HAS TURNED THE ENTIRE STATE INTO ONE BIG PARTY  
In dog's name  
'DOGmata' ARTISTS PUT ON A PAINT PARTY

**TOP THREE**  
The three best things to do this weekend  
1. MUSIC: Benefit for Michael Jones with DJs Jay and Laurence Saturday at Trilogy, 2017 13th St., 8 p.m.  
2. ART: "Summer 2006" Show at the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, 1750 13th St., through July 29.  
3. STAGE: "The Lady's Not for Burning," by Boulder's Upstart Crow Theatre, Held at the Dairy Center for the Arts, 2590 Walnut, 7:30 p.m., \$12-18.

**INSIDE**  
CLUB NOTES ON A NEW ROLL  
An ex-fallen ill Man Custer's skateboarding career has gone from his newfound pop stardom.

**MUSIC WHITE**

## BEYOND BOULDER

# A RARE, DEADLY DISEASE

Rare brain disease strikes in Denver. **Page 8**

**INSIDE**

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**COMING SUNDAY: Rock 'n' roll fantasy – in The MIX**

## COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY THIS WEEKEND

The fourth annual Community Cleanup Day, sponsored by the city of Boulder and the Boulder City Improvement Association II, will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 20. Volunteers are still needed for this event. To volunteer, visit [www.bouldercolorado.gov](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov) and click on "Community Cleanup Day" or call (303) 441-3038. Volunteers can also register on the day of the event from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Central Park band shell (southeast corner of Broadway and Canyon).

Individuals and groups will clean up different areas throughout the city from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. and meet for a post-cleanup celebration from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Central Park band shell. Volunteers will receive a free one-day pass to Boulder Reservoir and have the chance to win one of the gifts offered in the prize drawing including gift certificates for Downtown Boulder stores, Western Disposal, Eco-Cycle, a one-day pass to any Boulder recreation center and more.

## OSMP NATURALIST OFFERS NATIVE GARDENING TIPS

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) naturalist Dave Sutherland will share native gardening information and growing tips from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Friday, May 19. Meet at the Chautauqua Ranger Cottage, 900 Baseline Road. Native plants need little water or care and support the local ecosystem. For more information on OSMP and a complete list of programs, visit [www.osmp.org](http://www.osmp.org) or call (303) 441-3440.

## LEARN MORE ABOUT LIZARDS

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) naturalists Dick Jones and Lynne Sullivan will lead a brief hike along Skunk Creek and Kohler Mesa from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 20, to look for lizards and learn about their habitat and life cycle. Meet at the bottom of the driveway to the National Center for Atmospheric Research, at the western edge of Table Mesa Drive. For more information on OSMP and a complete list of programs, visit [www.osmp.org](http://www.osmp.org) or call (303) 441-3440.

## SURVIVAL SKILLS HIKE SCHEDULED

City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) naturalist Mark Wesson will lead a short hike geared towards children ages 9 through 12 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 20. Meet at the Chautauqua Ranger Cottage, 900 Baseline Road. Participants will learn how native people and settlers made fire, rope and shelters from plants and trees. For more information on OSMP and a complete list of programs, visit [www.osmp.org](http://www.osmp.org) or call (303) 441-3440.

COLORADO DAILY  
WEEKEND,  
MAY 19, 2006

# CU & BOULDER

PAGE 4

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CITY HOUSING

# Peloton wheels in motion

## 390-UNIT HOUSING/MIXED USE PROJECT HOLDS GROUND BREAKING

By RICHARD VALENTY  
Colorado Daily Staff Writer

**L**ike cyclists beginning a road race, officials representing a new Boulder housing project called "The Peloton" held a groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, heralding a figurative starting gun for construction.

**FYI**  
For more information about The Peloton, visit the Web site [www.thepeloton.com](http://www.thepeloton.com).

The mixed-use project near 33rd Street and Arapahoe Avenue will include 390 housing units and about 17,000 square feet of small retail, while a current timeline says the first Peloton housing units might be completed by fall 2007.

The project was literally named after cycling – the term "peloton" refers to the main pack of riders in a race – and speakers at the groundbreaking frequently mentioned the Peloton's convenient location near the Boulder Creek Path and a net-

work of local bike routes.

"Obviously, it's a project aptly named for the City of Boulder," said Mayor Mark Ruzzin just minutes before he turned over his ceremonial shovels of dirt.

But Doug McDonald, founder of the Peloton real estate and Bancroft Capital development firm, empha-

[See **PELTON**, Page A5]



## FUN IN THE SUN

Ruta Cariov and her son Theodore take advantage of the warm weather Thursday, as they play on a swing set at Scott Carpenter Park. Thursday's temperature got into the 80s. The rest of the week looks like it will be much of the same, so there will be plenty of time to enjoy the warm weather.

[ROBERTO MARCANTONIO/COLORADO DAILY]

CHANCELLOR SEARCH

## THE MAN?

George Peterson is the sole finalist for CU chancellor, but it is not certain if the job is his

By STEPHANIE OLSEN  
Colorado Daily Staff Writer

The search for a new chancellor at CU-Boulder has created quite the stir within the CU system.

"The regents are calling a special meeting of the board," said Michelle McKinney, CU spokeswoman. "I don't know what they're discussing. I'm not sure how the regent office will be describing what's going on."

The meeting is set for Friday to "consider a personnel matter," McKinney said.

After Elizabeth Capaldi dropped out of the race for chancellor at CU Tuesday and was named Arizona State University's new provost Wednesday, George "Bud" Peterson, the current provost at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in New York, surfaced as the sole candidate

[See **CHANCELLOR**, Page A6]

LOCAL CRIME

## Purse pursuit

KEEP YOUR FRIENDS CLOSE AND YOUR PURSES CLOSER, POLICE SAY

By HEATHER PARK  
Colorado Daily Staff

A robbery and assault last Wednesday near 10th Street and Euclid Avenue has Boulder law enforcement officials warning people to keep their purses and valuables close to them.

A 19-year-old female exchanged greetings with a man as she walked southbound on 10th Street, according to a Boulder Police press release.

She was taken by surprise when the man grabbed her purse as soon as he passed her, the release said.

When she refused to let go of the purse, the man swung her to the ground and struck her in the face.

The man then ran off northbound on 10th Street, taking what the press release described as a "gold, sparkly purse" with him.

The woman's friend found her shortly thereafter on the ground near the intersection.

The woman was left with minor injuries.

[See **THIEF**, Page A6]



A composite drawing of the face of the suspect in the purse snatching of Wednesday, May 17.  
[ILLUSTRATION COURTESY CITY OF BOULDER]



CU-Boulder campus chancellor candidate George Peterson speaks at an open forum at CU's School of Music on May 11. [COLORADO DAILY FILE PHOTO]

## CU &amp; BOULDER

LOCAL CRIME

## Another body found

MANY SUICIDES ARE OCCURRING IN BOULDER'S MOUNTAIN AREAS

By HEATHER PARK  
Colorado Daily Staff

The mountains west of Boulder are not just places for lively fun. In some tragic instances, they play host to those seeking death. According to the Boulder County Sheriff's department, many suicides in Boulder County take place in mountainous areas.

On Wednesday, Sheriff's deputies found the body of Steven Scott Behel, a 41-year-old Boulder County resident, near the 28,500 block of Boulder Canyon Drive.

According to deputies, a passing motorist called in a complaint on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. about a

vehicle that had been parked on the north shoulder of Boulder Canyon Drive since early Sunday morning.

Deputies searched the area, and found the body of Behel, the vehicle's owner, approximately 200 yards from the vehicle.

Boulder County Coroner Thomas Faure told the Colorado Daily Thursday that Behel died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

In 2005, there were 54 suicides overall in the county, according to the Coroner's office. There have been 19 so far in 2006.

Lt. Phil West, public information officer for the Boulder County Sheriff's Department, says that mountain suicides are a frequent

occurrence. He speculates that mountain suicides occur for a number of different reasons.

"Since mountains are a private and very pretty scenic location, it is a place for people who are down and lonely to be introspective. Another reason could be that they don't want to be discovered. They may also be trying to minimize the impact of their loved ones coming home and finding a body in the house," he said.

A very similar suicide occurred Aug. 3, 2005 when a 51-year-old man shot himself at the 4.5-mile marker of Flagstaff Road.

Contact Heather Park in regard to this story at (303) 443-6272, ext. 113, or at editor@coloradodaily.com.

## PELTON: New development

[PELTON, from page A] sized several extra reasons why the location will be convenient for more people than cyclists.

The Peloton is about a three-block-walk from the Twenty Ninth Street retail district, and will be within walking distance of at least five supermarkets, as well as just a short walk from the upcoming Boulder Transit Village at 30th and Pearl Streets.

"We hope to have a very diverse community," said McDonald. "We hope to have young people, young couples and empty-nesters, all living and working side by side in a vibrant community and enjoying the walkability."

And a person who knows a thing or two about housing, former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Henry Cisneros, was on hand for the ceremony.

Cisneros is currently the chairman of City View, a national real estate investment and development company that will finance the Peloton project. He said he learned during his 1993-1997 stint as Secretary of HUD that he wanted to work on housing development projects for the rest of his career.

"I saw not only the transformation of cities, which I've always been committed to and part of since I was Mayor of San Antonio (in the early 1980s), but I also saw the effect on families when they get a crack at homeownership," said Cisneros. "I saw the effect on families of finally being able to say they own their own home."

At least 39, or ten percent, of Peloton housing units will be permanently affordable, ranging in price from about \$100,000 to \$140,000. John Pollak, director of the Division of Housing for the City of Boulder, said the Peloton will also

pay a fee to the city's affordable housing program for future affordable housing projects.

The city requires new residential projects to be at least 20 percent affordable, but allows an option of providing less affordable housing and paying a "cash-in-lieu" fee instead.

"This will allow people with various ranges of income to be part of our community as well as part of our workforce," said Pollak.

Peloton housing units will range from about 650 to 1,900 square feet. Market rate units will range from about \$300,000 to \$800,000 with an average market rate price in the high \$400,000s to the low \$500,000s.

Also, several speakers Thursday said The Peloton is an example of adaptation – both for the city and for developers.

McDonald said the project was once a "crazy idea" of his, in part because The Peloton is located on the old Exabyte site – land once zoned industrial.

McDonald said he "bounced the idea" off of Vince Porreca, a local independent land use contractor, and received a thumbs-up.

"He said with commitment, time and resources it can be done," said McDonald. "Without Vince, there's no question that this project wouldn't be where it is today."

The Peloton team went through the city planning process and the land was eventually zoned for high-density residential redevelopment, but McDonald said the city's staff and boards sent plans "back to the drawing board" a number of times.

He also said the scrutiny made for a better end product, and thanked City Manager Frank Bruno, Planning Director Peter Pollock, former Senior Planner Liz Hanson and former Planning Board chair Macon Cowles for "tireless" work on the

project.

Cowles was on hand Thursday, and said the board asked for and received greater "permeability" in the project to attract people walking and biking by, as well as exterior design that will be "a delight to the eye."

"One of our hearings was during the Summer Olympics, and we told them if you want this density, this has got to score a 9.5," said Cowles.

Cowles said the current plan scored at least a 9.5, while Jon Simisky, Bancroft senior vice president for development, said the building exteriors will feature a "wonderful blend" of earth tones and other pleasant colors.

"It's really going to work in harmony with the massing and articulation of the buildings," said Simisky.

Peloton residents will also enjoy a rooftop deck with a swimming pool and two hot tubs, a fitness center, a movie screening room, a meeting room and underground gated parking – for those who need a car.

And Cisneros said the project will help one of the "most special communities in the nation" adapt to one problem – an imbalance between the number of jobs in town and Boulder's available housing stock.

"Failure to do this will result in people having to leave the community, which will lead to people commuting back in here and traffic congestion," said Cisneros. "It will change the profile of the community in terms of who can afford to live here, so keeping an eye on that jobs and housing balance is really important."

Contact Richard Valenty about this story at (303) 443-6272 ext. 126 or valenty@coloradodaily.com.



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