



CK Reporter of the Week
Jasmine Douglas, Thornton

CCIRA Notes

Honoring Batman, Superman creators



When people hear the names “Superman” and “Batman” they immediately know the two superheroes who are being mentioned.

When people hear the names Joe Shuster, Jerry Siegel, or Bill Finger, though, a blank expression washes over their faces.

These are the men behind two of the best known fictional characters in the world, and many people are trying to make them better known, including Marc Tyler Nobleman, who has written two books dedicated to the creators and spoke at the 2016 CCIRA conference.

“Boys of Steel” is about the creators of Superman and “Bill the Boy Wonder” about the creator of Batman.



Nobleman wrote “Boys of Steel” to let people know about Shuster and Siegel, the sole creators of Superman.

Though they were credited for their work, not many people today know about them.

Joe and Jerry were geeks before writing Superman, but felt as strong as Superman after writing about him, which is why, Nobleman said, he decided to name the book Boys of Steel.

However, he explained that he doesn’t view the two as heroes. “I think that they did a great thing, but they aren’t superheroes. A hero is someone who puts some-

one else’s needs before themselves or anything for that matter.”

“Bill the Boy Wonder” was written as a follow up for “Boys of Steel.”

Unlike Shuster and Siegel, Bill Finger hadn’t gotten recognition as a creator of Batman. Bob Kane had taken all the credit for creating the character.

Finger wasn’t okay with this, but when he tried to stand up for himself, nothing changed.

According to Nobleman, “If Bill was here right now, he would say ‘thank you.’ He wouldn’t be full of himself like many people are today.”

Bill Finger was the one who came up with the characters, the back story, the costume, the symbol, and a secret identity for Batman.

“If you are a Batman fan you are also a big Bill Finger fan,” Nobleman said, “you just didn’t know it right then.”

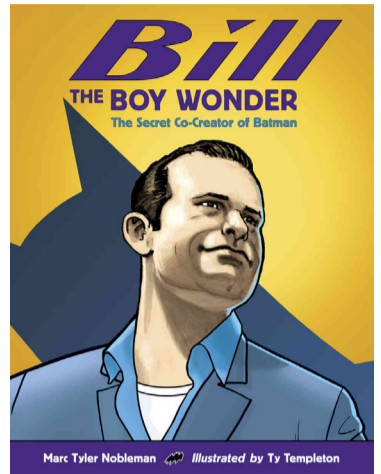
Without Finger, we wouldn’t have the Batman we know today, and Nobleman said that it is important for us to recognize him for all he has given to Batman, and giving him credit for creating Batman is one way of recognition.


Right now, Marc Tyler Nobleman is trying to get a suitable memorial and gravestone for Finger.

He said, “If Bill Finger had died today, it would be over every news station and he would be given a big memorial.”

Sadly that didn’t happen: The Denver native died in 1974.

But Nobleman hopes that his books will get the buzz about Bill Finger, Joe Shuster, and Jerry Siegel’s accomplishments out into the public.



Marc Tyler Nobleman  Illustrated by Ty Templeton



By Saloni Agarwal,
13, a CK Reporter
from Centennial

Story of Jesse Owens important entertainment

“Race” is a complex, edgy movie that I recommend highly for kids in middle school or older.

It follows the true story of Jesse Owens and his triumph at 1936 the Berlin, Olympics.

In his first year of college Jesse Owens (Stephan James) meets his life-long friend and coach Larry Snyder (Jason Sudeikis).

After only a short time of college competition, Owens earns a place on the U.S. Olympic team and goes to the 1936 Olympics.

At this time in history the Nazi Regime was on the rise to power and racism was at its core. The regime was so racist that Hitler refused to even be in the same room as Owens.

The movie is clearly a story of good versus evil, but it still portrayed the characters in surprising ways.

It wasn’t the classic “Good guys are perfect, bad guys are awful,” but shows the human side of Owens, including some of the mistakes he made.

And not every German was depicted as a monster. In fact, one German made a huge difference in Owens’ life.

The movie is sprinkled with comedy giving the audience some breaks from the tension and drama.

The 1930’s sets, costumes, and cars added a nice touch to the realistic feel.

And the action scenes of Owens sprinting down the track were well done.



This film is a little edgy, especially the racial themes, and children under twelve years old might find it upsetting.


Middle schoolers and older will appreciate this film, however.

Jesse Owens was an iconic American hero that people should know about.



By Thomas Krumholz,
14, a CK Reporter
from Denver

Summer Plans



Young Americans
CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION.

Send your kids to the best FUNancial camps around!

Mom, Can I do this?

Run a town
Rule the world
Start a business
Manage their money

Week-long camps for 2nd - 6th graders.

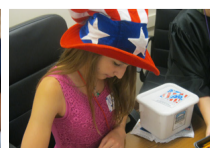
June 8 - July 29

Young AmeriTowne
International Towne
Running Your Own Biz
Junior Money Matters
Be Your Own Boss
Girls Can

Register Now!

www.yacenter.org

303-321-2265



SPOTS FILL QUICKLY - SIGN UP TODAY!



Jovan is a poet, and so are you



image/http://www.jovannmays.com

Everyone has done a poetry unit in school, where they learn about famous poets and devices.

Still, there aren't many students who identify themselves as poets.

Slam poet Jovan Mays hopes to change that by teaching youth the power of poetry.

"When I ask, 'Who in here is a poet?' less than 10% of middle and high school students raise their hands," says Jovan Mays, who has won the National Poetry Slam. "[Poetry is] the voice of the voiceless...your writing matters."

Mays' poetry program, "Your Writing Counts," has been extremely successful in introducing slam poetry in schools and stressing the importance of poetry in general.

"It makes me feel fantastic that other people are sharing my vision," he says. "Poetry is cool."

Mays discovered his own love for poetry at an early age. In fact, he won his first poetry award in second grade.

Listening to hip hop as a teenager, Mays realized that the hip-hop artists he had come to love were writing and singing about real life issues and social injustices.

Mays began following their example himself, and wrote commentaries on what was happening in real life.

He distinctly remembers writing a poem about the shooting of Amadou Diallo—a poem that caught the eye of his teacher.

After that, "I started gaining a little bit more

attention" he recalls. "All these doors started opening for me, and, when one door opened, twenty more followed."

In 2010, Mays made it to Slam Nuba, a national slam poetry competition based in Denver and, in 2011, he became the national winner.

After that, his story got picked up, and Mays began talking with educators about how to bring slam poetry into schools.

Despite Mays' success in his field, he still has not accomplished all that he wishes to.

But receiving such success from his program is a good start.

"There is a creative way to say anything, and because of that, nothing should be off-limits," he insists.

Not to anyone, and especially not to kids who maybe started out just like Mays did: a dreamer in a classroom.

Mays hopes to bring out the poet in everyone with his work, and to let everyone know that "your writing matters."



By Cara Dulin, 14, a CK Reporter from Castle Rock

First in fantasy series exciting and imaginative

"Moving Target," by Christina Diaz Gonzalez, is about a girl named Cassie Arroyo.

She has a friend named Simon and another friend named Asher, and together they go on an adventure, figuring out clues, and finding out who was in her family.

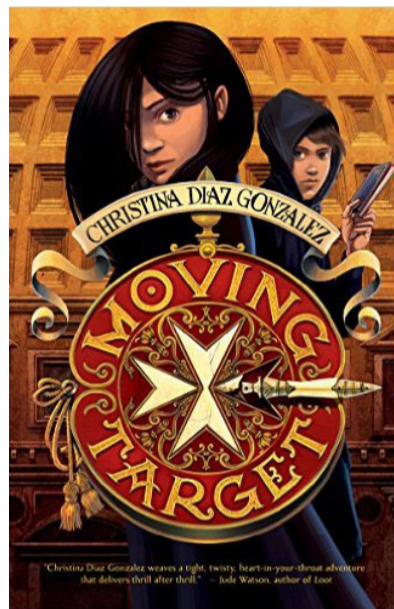
Cassie is part of a group of people who are marked, but she does not even know it.

If you are a "marked" person you should be on the run because the Hastati would be after you.

The Hastati are a people who try to kill the marked people because a marked person once used the Spear Of Destiny and started World War II.

The Spear Of Destiny is a spear that only marked people can use and that can change anyone's destiny.

I loved this story, but I think that the book should be for 10 year olds and up because there is some upsetting action, and there are parts where they need to talk themselves out of situations like being stuck in a corner facing a bully.



Christina Diaz Gonzalez did a good job of describing an Italian town. She described the people, what they were wearing, and how old they were.

When I read the book I thought who could have so much imagination!

She also uses many Spanish words, so, if you know Spanish, then you will like the book even more.

Christina Diaz Gonzalez has said there will be a sequel to "Moving Target," and I hope it will be continuing the journey of finding the Spear Of Destiny.



By Kyra Warneke, 10, a CK Reporter from Golden

Tale of competitive families is a real winner



"War of the World Records" is a story of two legendary families, that between them, have approximately 20,000 world records.

The first family is the Whipples, a family of 15. All but one of them are record breakers, and they are the 4 time running WRWC (World Record World Championships) winners.

The second family is the Goldwins, a family of 14. All of them enjoy breaking records for fun, but they are new to the WRWC competition.

These two competing families signed a precious rivalry contract that goes for two years.

The contract states that, for the next two years, the loser of the WRWC competition cannot participate in any events that the winning family is competing in.

However, they can participate in any events in which the winning family is not competing.

That way, it will be much harder for the losers of this year's competition to win the competition in the next two years.

Who will win the WRWC this year???

This is book is 343 pages, with no pictures, so, if you are not a good reader, I do not recommend it.

Otherwise, you will really enjoy this action-packed mystery novel.

The second I finished it, I wanted to see if it was a series because I enjoyed it so much.

I recommend that you read the first book in the series, "The Fantastic Family Whipple" because it contains many, much needed facts and events that happened beforehand.



By Jack Vanourek, 10, a CK Reporter from Littleton

Fossilized flower was the ancestor of many vegetables



This delicate flower, found recently in the Dominican Republic, is about 45 million years old, and you may have eaten one of its modern relatives within the last 24 hours.

It was preserved in amber, which is fossilized tree resin, and the flow of sticky resin over a flower or insect allows it to become a fossil without losing its tiny details.

Strychnos electri, as it has been named, is an ancient form of a

plant family that includes many modern flowers, vegetables and trees, including coffee, potatoes, peppers, sunflowers, tomatoes, mint and eggplant.

In fact, about a third of modern plants can trace their roots (and their branches and flowers!) back to the strychnos family and the delicate astrid flower.

But don't be fooled: This little beauty likely packed a wallop, because "strychnos" is where we get the word "strychnine,"

a poison made from a modern version of the type of tree that this fossilized blossom probably came from.

If you look into history, you'll find that, when tomatoes were first brought to Europe from America, many people thought they were poisonous, and while that's not true, other members of the family really are highly toxic.

But, tasty or toxic, they all certainly had a pretty great-great-grandparent!

Photo: George Poinar

Second in the series creates hunger for third



The five elements collide in Cassandra Clare's and Holly Black's new addition to the Magisterium quintet, "The Copper Gauntlet!"

Callum Hunt hasn't exactly had a beachfront summer.

He spent his whole time at home in "lovely" North Carolina.

His only companion is a chaos-ridden wolf named Havoc, and he sends neighbors running.

Call longs for the musty halls of the Magisterium, the school of magic where he spent last year learning how to summon fire, water, earth and air with his only human friends, Tamara and Aaron.

But before his second year, or his "Copper year" begins, he discovers that his dad Alistair, who hates the Magisterium in every way, has a plot to use a stolen gauntlet of unmatched power to remove all of Call's magic, and kill Havoc in the process.

Call escapes to join his friends Tamara and Aaron. Aaron was recently discovered to be the only Makar, or user of magic. Since the Cold Massacre and Call's mother died, Aaron is protected wherever he goes.

They hope to find safe haven at Magisterium, but with Aaron's newfound status, they run into lots of trouble, including a murder-

ous master, a group of mages in the woods, and a fast-talking fire lizard named Warren. I loved this book.

I read the first in the series, "The Iron Trial," and I have been begging for this one ever since.

Now that I've read it, I fully think that this one lives up to its standards.

It has plenty of action, and just the right amount of romance to spice it up.

My only complaint is that it can get a bit confusing at times.

When I got to the ending, I had to read it over a couple of times to make sure I fully understood it.

Other than that, I have absolutely no complaints about this fantastic novel.

The next in the series, "The Bronze Key," is set to come out in September of this year.

I cannot wait for the sequel, and after reading this book, I bet you won't be able to, either!



By Tripp Ceyskens, 13, a CK Reporter from Arvada

AKC winner points to good choices in dogs

Vik-Myst Garbonita's California Journey, a German Shorthaired Pointer, was crowned Best In Show at the 2016 Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, but you can call him "CJ."

Westminster is one of the largest dog shows in the world, and its champion gets a lot of public recognition in this country and even overseas.

But there are other ways in which dogs compete to be "best."

Westminster is a "confirmation" show, which judges each dog according to how closely it resembles the breed standard, a detailed description of how the dog should look and a less detailed description of its personality and behavior.

To put it another way, it's a sort of beauty show for dogs, and going to a confirmation show is a good way to get a look at different breeds and learn about them. At a "benched" show, you can even meet them and talk to their breeders.

But, just as marrying someone just because they're beautiful is not the key to a good marriage, getting a dog because you like the way it looks is not the best way to make that choice, either.

For instance, a German Shorthaired Pointer like CJ can be a lot of



CJ in the show ring in New York City (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

fun as a pet, but, like a lot of dogs in the Sporting Breeds category, you need to be very active to be a good partner for a dog like CJ, and it's not enough to just throw the ball in the backyard once in awhile.

The good thing about purebred dogs is that, while each dog is an individual, you can predict what they will probably be like: If you get a Labrador retriever, for instance, you must be okay with having a wet dog, because they were bred to fetch ducks, and they love to jump into water.

Some dogs are sociable with other dogs, others less so. Some bark a lot while others rarely make noise. Some even snore.

Many people prefer to get a rescue dog from a shelter. By the time you add up all the vet and food bills over the years, it isn't much less expensive than getting a purebred, but you've helped with the dog overpopulation problem, and shelter dogs can be wonderful companions.

Here's a tip: Google the breed of dog you're interested in, or, if you're adopting a mix, the breeds that it seems to mostly be a mix of.

Each breed has clubs with sites that will tell you both the good things about their breed and the reasons it might not be right for you.

The real "champion" is the dog who's your best fit and best friend.

Sudoku

	6	2			
			2		3
		3	1		
	2	5	4		
4		1			5
				4	

Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only.

The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.



Brainteaser

The first Western book printed with moveable type, a Bible, was published this day in 1455 by Johannes Gutenberg, so our answers this week will begin with P for "press."

1. Nation between Costa Rica and Colombia on the map
2. James M. Barrie's most famous character (You'll never never guess!)
3. Type of hickory nut often baked into a very sweet, gooey pie
4. In fiction, Babe, Wilbur and Mercy Watson were this animal.
5. One of the "Collegiate Peaks," it is part of Buena Vista's landscape.
6. Author of "A Single Shard" and "Long Walk to Water"
7. Huge, long-necked water-dwelling saurian of the Jurassic Period
8. Crisp type of bread crumbs used in Japanese cooking
9. Spiderman's secret identity
10. Body organ most known for producing insulin.

(answers on Page Four)

Cancer development very interesting but not yet a miracle

There was some exciting news last week at a convention of scientists in Washington, where cancer researchers told the audience of an experimental treatment with surprisingly good results.

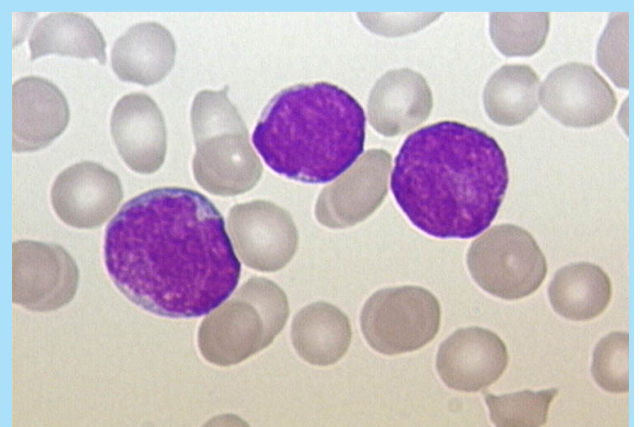
Researchers at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle had tried a new method with some leukemia patients for whom nothing else had worked.

The researchers took T-cells from other people and altered their normal ability to attack diseased tissue to specifically target the tumors in those patients.

The results were startling, and 90 percent of the patients had no remaining leukemia cells in their blood after treatment.

However, this was not a miracle, they said. There is not enough information to know if it could work again, and it's not even clear how well it worked overall: Several of the patients developed other health problems.

They cautioned the audience not to get too excited until other researchers can examine their work, until they can repeat that first success and until they gather more information about just how it worked.



photo/Christaras A

Beyond These Four Pages!

Hot Links to Cool Sites!

NASA's Space Place

<http://tinyurl.com/ckspace>

NIE Special Report

<http://tinyurl.com/ckniereport>

Headline Geography

<http://tinyurl.com/ckgeography>

Pulse of the Planet

<http://tinyurl.com/ckpulseplanet>

How to become a NextGen Reporter!

<http://tinyurl.com/colokidsreporter>



To read the sources for these stories

Cancer research

Fossilized Flowers

Westminster Winner

go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

Tales of the Ancient World

CUPID & PSYCHE (PART TWO)

(Our story so far: Jealous Venus sent her son, Cupid, to ruin the life of beautiful Psyche. Instead, he fell in love with her. But now she has been taken by the West Wind to a magical mansion, married to a husband who is not human and whom she is not permitted to see in the light.)

From that day forward, Psyche's life was pleasant, though unusual.

All day, she had invisible servants providing her with anything she wanted. She could wander in the countryside or sit quietly in the mansion. She could work at her loom or listen to beautiful music and she had the most delicate, delicious food and drink any mortal ever enjoyed.

At night, she would go to bed, knowing that, as soon as the oil lamp was blown out, her husband would enter the darkened room but she would not see him.

A few nights after that first evening, she asked again to see his face, but he refused. "You must never ask that again," he insisted. "Whatever it is that I am, I want you to love me only for who I am. I do not want to be feared as a monster nor to be worshipped as a god."

Because he was so kind to her, and good, and gentle, Psyche accepted this strange marriage and did not ask again. During the day, she would often wonder about him, but at night, his company was so pleasant that she did not mind the strange privacy upon which he insisted. And still, every morning, he would disappear before the first light of dawn as quietly as he had come.

Psyche looked forward to these evenings, but, with nobody to talk to during the day, she became lonely, and at last, one night, she asked her husband if her sisters could come to visit her.

He was reluctant to allow it, but she continued to beg for company, and at last he gave in and sent word to the sisters. On the appointed day, they went to the top of the mountain and, as they had been instructed, leapt from the mountain onto Zephyr's back for the ride to Psyche's wonderful mansion.

Her beautiful sisters had married very wealthy men and had very nice lives, but they had nothing at all as wonderful as what they found in the mansion Psyche shared with her mysterious husband. Instead of being happy for her, they became jealous.

They kept asking her about her husband. Most of all, they kept asking when they would get to meet him. Psyche tried to avoid lying to them, saying that he was away hunting during the day and only returned late, but then they asked what he looked like. At last, she admitted she had never seen him, and tried to explain his strange rule.

"What sort of creature have you married?" one of the sisters asked her.

The other spoke up, "I'll tell you what kind: A horrible monster. No wonder you have such wonderful food and as much as you like! He is waiting for you to grow plump, and then one night you will become his dinner!"

"Yes," the other agreed. "Do you think you are the first tender young girl he has fooled in this way? Oh, Psyche, you are in terrible danger!"

Psyche protested to them that her husband was kind and good, but they refused to believe her. They said that he only acted kind so that she would eat and grow fat. "Why else would he be so mysterious?" they insisted. "Why would an honest husband refuse to show himself?"

At last, Psyche began to wonder if her sisters were not right. On the last day of their visit, they gave her this advice: "Find out for yourself. Hide a sharp knife, and a lamp in the bedroom, and wait until he has fallen asleep. Then take the lamp in one hand and the knife in another, and, if he truly is a monster, you must cut off his head at once, before he wakes up and destroys you!"

That evening, after Zephyr had returned her sisters to their homes, Psyche hid a lamp in a large cabinet in her bedroom where its light would not be seen, and beside it put a long, sharp knife.

When her husband came into the darkened room, she pretended to be sleeping, and lay quietly listening until his breathing grew long and slow and she knew that he was asleep.

Then Psyche crept out of bed and carefully opened the cabinet and took out the lighted lamp and the knife. She slowly approached the bed and her sleeping husband and lifted the oil lamp over his head so it shone upon his face.

There, sleeping on the pillow next to hers, Psyche saw the most handsome young man she had ever seen. She stood amazed as she watched him in the glow of the lamp, and bent over to get a better look at this wonderful, kind, handsome husband of hers.

As she did, however, a drop of hot oil from the lamp dripped out and fell on his shoulder. At once, Cupid awoke, looked into Psyche's eyes with horror and sprang from the bed.

Without a word, he flew out the window. Psyche, dropping both lamp and knife, cried out and followed him, but, having no wings, she crashed to the ground outside.

Cupid paused in the air, looking down on her with anger and sorrow. "So, Psyche, is this how you repay my love? I disobeyed my mother to marry you, but you cannot keep one promise to me! Well, if you prefer to listen to your jealous sisters, you can go listen to them for the rest of your life. I am done with you forever!"

He disappeared, and, as he disappeared, so did the wonderful mansion. Psyche found herself sitting alone in a field not far from her home, and had no choice but to walk to her parents' house, weeping and ashamed.

Her sisters pretended to sympathize with her, but they were secretly happy. "Perhaps he will want a new, beautiful wife now!" they thought, and went to the top of the mountain so that Zephyr could take them to the wonderful mansion.

But when they leapt from the top of the mountain, there was no gentle West Wind waiting to take them on his back, and that was the end of them both.

As for Psyche, she did not know what to do next, and began to wander about the countryside, sadly trying to find her immortal husband and regain the wonderful life with him that she had foolishly thrown away.

retold by Mike Peterson, c. 2005 - illustrated by Dylan Meconis, c. 2005

For a teaching guide, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>



Sudoku Solution

3	6	2	5	1	4
5	1	4	2	6	3
6	4	3	1	5	2
1	2	5	4	3	6
4	3	1	6	2	5
2	5	6	3	4	1

Brainteaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!



1. Panama
2. Peter Pan
3. pecan
4. pig
5. (Mount) Princeton
6. (Linda Sue) Park
7. plesiosaurus
8. panko
9. Peter Parker
10. pancreas

ColoradoKids

is produced by
Denver Post Educational Services
Executive Editor: Dana Plewka
dplewka@denverpost.com
CK Editor: Mike Peterson
coloradokidseditor@gmail.com
We welcome your comments.

eEditions of the Post are
free of charge for classroom use.
Contact us for information on all
our programs.

Denver Post Educational Services
101 W. Colfax Ave.
Denver CO 80202
(303) 954-3974
(800) 336-7678

For tools to extend the learning in this feature,
look under "Youth Content" at:
www.ColoradoNIE.com

Stories without bylines were written by the editor.



ColoradoNIE.com