



CK Reporter of the Week
Margaux Dempsey, Arvada

Fun with alternative (universe) music

“Yesterday” is a fun and enjoyable movie about balancing opportunity and fame with friends and your roots, and how money may not always be the priority.

It is essentially about the Beatles suddenly ceasing to have ever existed, and only the main character, Jack (*Himesh Patel*), remembers them.

His small time solo performer career is suddenly turned around when he releases a massive amount of hit “original” songs.

This then takes you on a delightful journey of fame, hard decisions, and maybe even a bit of romance.

The story is well done and really presents some interesting thoughts and messages, along with a good plot and good characters.

I felt a few parts could have been built up a little more, making it even better, because they were a little disappointing.

In addition, certain characters were undeveloped and undefined.

For instance, a character named Rockie (*Joel Fry*) switches from kind of rude and thoughtless to polite and caring.

Some of these shifts downgrade the story a bit, but overall it is still very well crafted and has enjoyable characters that are just flawed enough to still be lovable but not overly perfect.

The comedy is well done and enjoyable, so, if you’re looking for a laugh, this movie could definitely be a good option, although some of the humor may be inappropriate for younger audiences, hence the PG-13 rating.

For that matter, younger children might not want to go anyway, since they make a lot of references to things from the time of the Beatles, and some humor and overall plot would be hard for younger children to understand, or for anyone not old enough to know a fair amount about that time period.

And, while the movie is fun and some might see it as just a comedy, romance, or musical, it is fairly thought-provoking as well, providing an opportunity to really think about things beyond just this movie.

The entire thought of the implications of something just being wiped away having such a large effect is astounding, and you could think about it for days and still have more that you could think about.

This multi-genre movie gives us all something, with romance, comedy, musical, and thought-provoking elements.

Since this story could be taken as an inspiring “Miracles Do Happen” movie or a funny romcom, it really has something for everyone.

Along with that, there are several cameos. Among these, and the most prominent, is singer/songwriter Ed Sheeran, and though he doesn’t act, his real-world job still gives him enough proficiency at it that he can still act very well and doesn’t distract from the story.

It is an engaging story not just for anyone old enough to love the Beatles, but I would recommend it to the vast majority of people.

This multi-genre movie gives us all something, with romance, comedy, musical, and thought-provoking elements.

Now go buy some tickets before this movie disappears, too!!



By Thatcher Mulholland,
13, a CK Reporter
from Broomfield

We’re all a little broken, YA novel suggests

“All Our Broken Pieces,” by L.D. Crichton is an inspirational novel about high school relationships and overcoming the hardest challenge of all: Your own mind.

The story is so cute that you will say “aww” with every page, as you follow the ups and downs of the not-so-tragic relationship of Kyler and Lennon.

(I)t has descriptive character development and will get you invested in the characters and their relationships by the end.

Lennon Davis is a beautiful, kind, and funny teenage girl.

However, she cannot stop imagining the people she loves dead.

Kyler Benton has the perfect opportunity to be a musician. He is a good writer with a haunted past, but he does not feel comfortable performing in front of people.

Lennon moves in with her dad in Los Angeles, and like a typical teenage girl, all she wants to do is fit in.

When she gets to her new school, the first thing her step-sister does is ridicule her in front of the entire class.

After Kyler comes to Lennon’s aid, their teacher decides to pair them up for a new project, but Lennon cannot seem to figure Kyler out no matter how much she tries.

Meanwhile, Kyler cannot get Lennon out of his head, especially because she lives next door.

Crichton shows what it can be like to live with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD).

The novel goes into a lot of detail about Lennon’s health issues and why she feels that she has to do things a certain way.

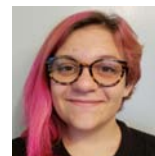
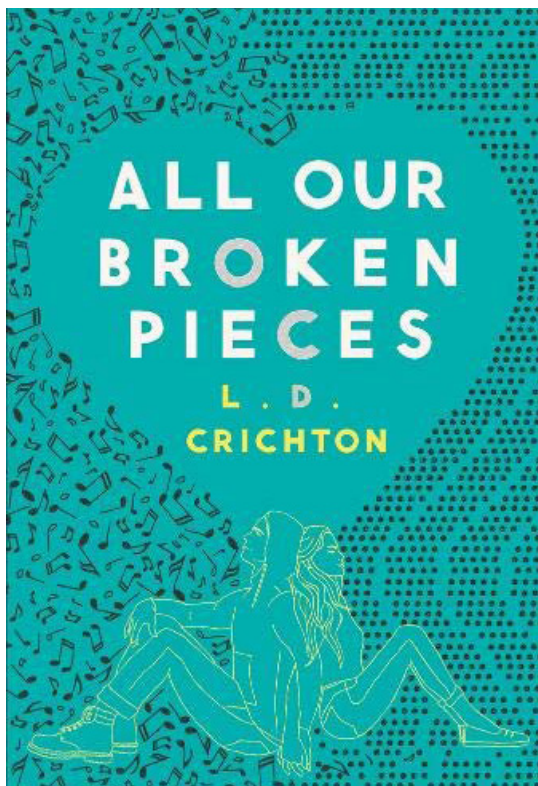
For example, she turns the lights on and off in multiples of five. She feels compelled to do this to prevent her loved ones being hurt in tragic accidents.

The book also details the struggles of being a parent of a kid with OCD by showing how Lennon’s dad approaches parenting throughout the novel.

I would rate this novel a ten out of ten because it has descriptive character development and will get you invested in the characters and their relationships by the end.

This book also shows several different perspectives of OCD and overcoming the challenges that may come along with it.

I recommend this book for ages 13+, however, because of language and some sensitive topics.



By Jaden Sutherland,
13, a CK Reporter
from Denver



Writing Is Fun!

How Would You Like To Be A Real Reporter?

Find out about all the cool benefits when you apply to be a Colorado Kids reporter at Colorado NIE.com or by emailing dplewka@denverpost.com.

New Spidey movie brings action, laughs

You may think that “Spider-Man: Far From Home” is just another Spider-Man movie coming out but its not. This latest movie is the best way you could spend 2 hours and 15 minutes. This Marvel movie was terrific, and, as always, the graphics and action scenes make it so you can never look away.

I loved this movie because it is action-packed and it is both very funny and exciting.

Tom Holland stars as Peter Parker again and Zendaya does a wonderful job playing MJ. Actually, Happy, Ned, his teachers and old friends from previous Spider-Man movies are all a real hit and kept me laughing from start to finish. Peter Parker wants to be a normal kid and have a normal summer. He and his friends plan to go on a school trip to Europe. But Nick Fury and Maria have other plans for him. They need him to help fill the shoes of an Avenger who is no longer around. Peter doesn't feel ready and wants to stay as the friendly neighborhood Spider-Man. He doesn't want to take over such a big job so ignores Nick over and over and over again. But, when he heads off on his vacation, Nick still finds ways to get to Peter, which creates a lot of funny situations and some bad language. Nick forces Peter to deal with him and a gift that was left to Peter.



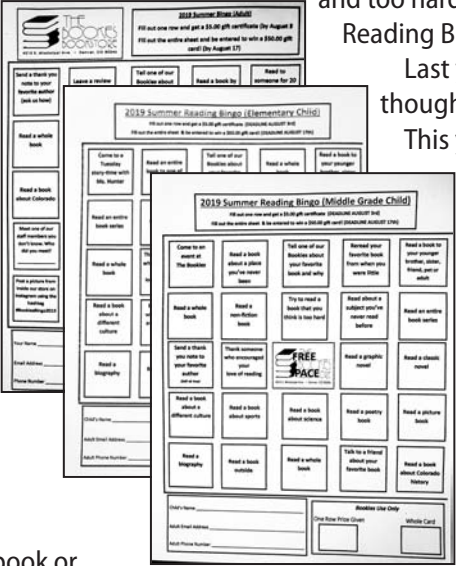
Meanwhile Elementals (which are monsters made from the elements Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water) invade Peter's school trip to Europe and we meet the new hero Mysterio (Jake Gyllenhaal). Mysterio becomes a friend that Spider-man can talk to and trust. The Elementals seem to attack wherever Peter and his friends go. This is where the action gets going and Spider-Man has to make a choice between vacation, his plans with MJ, and saving the world. I loved this movie because it is action-packed and it is both very funny and exciting. I hope we don't have to wait too long for another Spider-Man movie. “Spider-Man: Far From Home” has a great ending, but it leaves you with a major cliffhanger! And, besides that, I have to know what happens with Happy, May, MJ, and Peter. This one has a ton of comedy, action (but not over the top action), and good side stories. I think this Marvel movie should be for kids 10 and up, but, to avoid a major spoiler, you should definitely see “Avengers: Endgame” before you see “Spider-Man: Far From Home.” And you probably know this, but you should stay to the finish of every Marvel movie. There are almost always extra scenes and in “Spider-Man: Far From Home” make sure you wait extra long for two extra scenes after two sets of credits.



By Kylee Burks, 10, a CK Reporter from Highlands Ranch

Bookies adds Bingo to summer reading fun

Is Bingo really just for elderly people? The Bookies Bookstore doesn't think so. At this Denver bookstore, summer reading doesn't need to be bland: You can spice it up with an entertaining summer-reading Bingo sheet. You don't have to be any particular age. You can be an elementary schooler, a middle schooler or a high schooler, because each age group has its own different Bingo sheet. You can earn a five dollar certificate to the store for the first row that you complete, and, if you complete the whole Bingo chart, you get entered to win a \$50 gift certificate. You actually have a good shot at winning because this year they are giving out a certificate in each age group. The odds last year were 1:50, so this year they'll likely be even better. My little sister, Ema, said, “It's a great way to earn free money while having fun reading!” All you have to do to sign up is have a parent fill out the your name, with their email address, and their phone number To obtain the discount, you can do tasks as easy as reading a book or sending a thank you note to your favorite author.

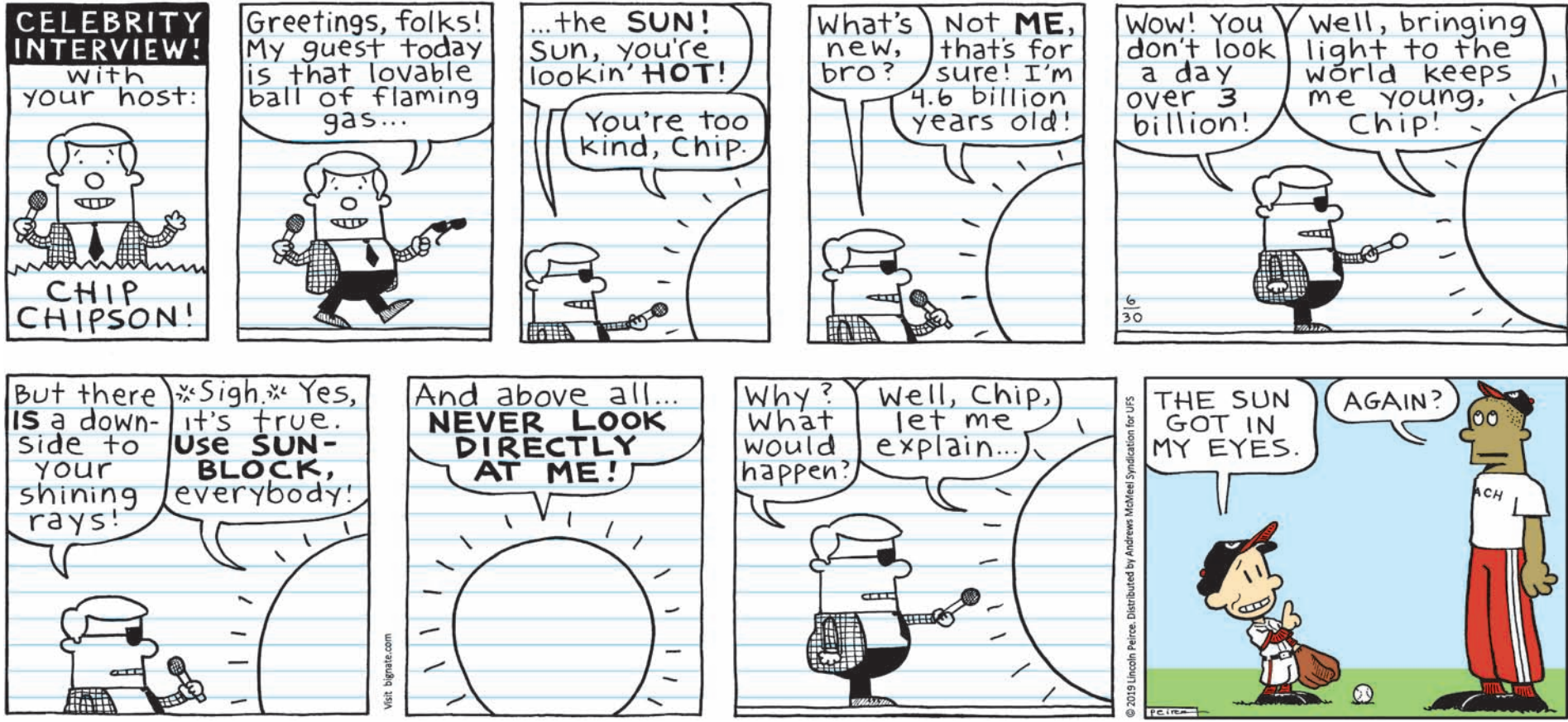


You can also do things as hard as reading a book that you thought was too long and too hard. Reading Bingo is more of a hit so far this year than last year. Last year used a baby superhero theme so that many older kids thought it looked babyish and decided not to participate. This year they decided that the superheroes were a flop and that they would rather just make it more about general reading. They also divided it into three age groups with age appropriate reading things to do, which seems to be working out a lot better. “Even though we may lose a lot of money on projects like these, it doesn't matter because we got some other kids to read a book,” explained Luke Henderson, one of the Bookies owners.



By Eva Perak, 11, a CK Reporter from Denver

Big Nate



Coastal coral suggests that ‘Glitter is even worse than Litter’



Glitter has long been a popular part of cosmetics, and of celebrations, but many people who might have enjoyed sparkly eye shadow or a fun glitter-bombing at a birthday party are now feeling more guilty than cigarette smokers, saying “Glitter is Litter.” Two years ago, Congress passed a law to get rid of plastic microbeads in toothpaste and facial scrubs, because it washed down the drain, down the river systems and into the ocean. But rain still washes colorful plastic glitter from sidewalks into sewers, and glitter in make-up goes down the drain and into the water system every time the users wash their faces or take a shower.

Does it really matter? A team of researchers at Boston University have found a scary way in which microplastics impact coral reefs. They studied a type of coral that grows off the coast of Rhode Island, and discovered that the coral had eaten microplastics and were suffering from it. It gets worse: They offered live coral a mix of brine shrimp and microbeads, and found that the coral ate more plastic than shrimp. And if the plastic was contaminated with bacteria, the coral might throw up the microbeads, but still die from the bacteria. It's something to think about before you add more glitter to the litter.

photo/Inkwina

‘Light Show’ sparks reflections on DAM works

Denver Art Museum’s “Light Show” focuses on physical, natural light, and on metaphorical, symbolic, spiritual light.

The exhibit came about partly due to the renovation taking place in the North Wing, requiring many art pieces to be moved from that space, inspiring this cross-departmental exhibit.

“The Light Show” is a very powerful exhibit because it made me think differently even about art that I had seen on previous visits to DAM.

This aspect of the exhibit was one of my favorite parts because, usually, museums group pieces by types or collections and viewers must see the pieces according to that grouping. What was so refreshing about this exhibit was that there were many different types of art pieces presented, and how the curators brought together pieces incorporating the physical and symbolic aspects of light.

Gay Neilson, one of the museum’s docents, or person who gives guided tours and handles special requests, met me as the museum was opening in the morning.

She has worked at DAM since 2010, giving her 9 years of knowledge around the museum, which allowed me to better understand the artwork.

With her help and experience, I definitely learned more than I would have on my own, which made my experience much more rewarding.

One piece that caught my eye was an amazingly detailed chandelier hanging from the exhibit ceiling.

While the exhibit did have a section dedicated to lamps and lighting, this chandelier was in a different area, and due to its complexity and detail, I found it mesmerizing.

Another piece that moved me was symbolic/spiritual. I have always loved paintings with angels and seeing how the artists portray the wings differently in each work.

This piece, which was painted in the 14th Century, has three angels incorporated in it and is titled “Abraham and the Three Angels,” by Josse Lieferinxe. The wings are beautifully detailed and look more like a photograph than a painting.

Another piece that I absolutely loved was the interactive glass corridor walk by Lucas Samaras called “Corridor #2.” This is a rectangular mirrored box that you walk through and a truly unique concept that I will most certainly not forget.



Denver Art Museum, Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation

There are many interesting art pieces in the exhibit that will appeal to and enlighten all kinds of viewers.

“The Light Show” is a very powerful exhibit because it made me think differently even about art that I had seen on previous visits to DAM.

I would certainly go back to this exhibit again with a friend or family member.

I believe this exhibit is satisfactory for all ages. While there is a higher thinking aspect that asks teenagers and adults to consider and understand more of the meaning behind each piece, there are also interactive parts that younger children would enjoy, such as coloring projects, and the corridor walk.

I really enjoyed this exhibit and recommend it for the whole family.

“The Light Show” brings perspective to how different pieces of art, even when from seemingly opposite styles and cultures, can all shed a little light.



By Katherine Gagner, 14, a CK Reporter from Boulder

Supreme Court declares Gerrymander legal

The Supreme Court has never ruled on whether there is a Bigfoot, or whether a seamonster named Champy lives in the depths of Lake Champlain, but last Thursday, it ruled in favor of the Gerrymander, not to say it existed but to say it can continue to exist.

The Gerrymander was first seen in this political cartoon, which was printed in several newspapers in 1812.

In those days, newspapers did not even try to be neutral, and the Gerrymander only appeared in papers that favored the Federalist Party.

The terrible beast’s name is a combination of “Gerry,” for Massachusetts governor Elbridge Gerry, and “salamander” for its long, twisting shape.

Those names you can see printed on its body are towns in the Boston area, and, in fact, its shape is a map of a single voting district in the area.

Governor Gerry had drawn up a map showing the various areas in each of which people would vote for a state representative. The reason the Gerrymander is so twisty is that Gerry wanted an area in which most of the voters were members of his party, the Democratic-Republicans, to make sure the Democratic-Republican candidate in that area would win.

State legislatures are supposed to draw maps every few years to show where state legislators should come from.

It would be easy to simply draw squares, but most communities aren’t square: They’re bordered by rivers or mountains or the sea coast.



Each district should also have the same number of voters, which makes it even more complicated.

But gerrymandering is even more complicated than that, because the people drawing those districts are trying to make sure their party has a majority in as many districts as possible, to keep the other party from winning elections.

If a state legislature has the same number of legislators from each party, districts will probably be fair. But if one party has a majority, they can vote to approve a gerrymandered map.

By putting most of the voters for the other party in just a few districts and making sure their party has more voters in all the other districts, they can win more elections and keep their power.

The Supreme Court was asked to decide if this is fair, or if it means that one party never has a chance. The specific cases they were asked about were in North Carolina and

Maryland, but apply to the whole country.

The Justices voted 5-4 that there is nothing in the Constitution that keeps state legislatures from creating gerrymandered districts.

That doesn’t mean that gerrymandering is fair or that it’s right.

It means that states have to make their own laws on the topic and draw up their own voting district maps, and it’s none of the federal government’s business.

Colorado, by the way, recently solved the problem by appointing a special commission to draw the lines without interference from political parties.

Sudoku

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

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

Although they wouldn’t publicly announce it for two more days, on this date in 1776, the Continental Congress voted to declare the colonies independent from Britain, so our answers this week will begin with “I” for Independence.

1. There are many places called “Springfield” in the United States, but only this state has Springfield for its capital.
2. This plant is grown for the intense blue dye that can be made from it.
3. Inuit and Eskimo people don’t really live in this type of house; they just make it from blocks of snow as a temporary shelter when they are out hunting or traveling.
4. A species of antelope, or the Chevrolet car named for it.
5. Adjective for things having to do with an emperor, and not just in Star Wars.
6. This multi-island nation has the largest number of Muslims in the world.
7. Six-legged arthropod with a head, thorax and abdomen
8. The covering on a wire that keeps you from getting shocked, or the material that helps keep a house warmer in winter.
9. A scientist who studies fish.
10. Animal without a backbone

(answers on Page Four)

Beyond These 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 CK Reporter!

tinyurl.com/COkidsReporter



To read the sources for these stories

Glitter Litter

The Gerrymander

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

Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. Illinois 2. indigo 3. igloo 4. impala 5. imperial 6. Indonesia
7. insect 8. insulation 9. ichthyologist 10. invertebrate

Hidden Treasures

Things we think you wouldn't want to miss.



These cats like fish, and each other

Ronaldo and his son, Miso-chi, may look like regular house cats, but if you went to the Denver Zoo to see them in person, you'd quickly realize they're about twice the size of a domestic shorthair cat.

Here's another interesting difference: While their claws do retract partially, they never quite disappear into their paws like most felines.

You may know that cheetah claws don't retract at all, and that their paws are more like dogs' feet than cats' because they are built for fast running. Well, Ronaldo and Miso-chi are fishing cats, and so it probably helps them to have a few hooks out all the time!

Fishing cats are from Southern Asia, where, as you might guess, they live in swamps, near lakes and other places where the fishing is good. They're endangered in the wild and there are only 50 of them in zoos.

Because it's important to help them survive, Miso-chi's mother, Namphom, was sent to another zoo to breed with a male fishing cat there.

That left the Denver Zoo with two fishing cats and a possible problem: They'd never had two adult male fishing cats living together and, since fishing cats are solitary animals in the wild, there was a chance that two cats of the same sex would have serious problems living together.

That photo, of course, is a spoiler: The zoo began slowly, putting one fishing cat out front for the public to see while the other stayed in the private enclosure, before they tried putting them together and watching very, very closely in case it turned into a serious cat fight.

As you can see, however, they are getting along quite well, and, if you go to the Denver Zoo and visit Village Hall inside the Toyota Elephant Habitat, you can watch father and son just hanging out and being cool cats together.

CK Calendar

Today!

"Spider Man: Far From Home" opens at local theaters. Read Kylee Burk's review in this issue!

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day! Fill a picnic basket and find a place to watch the fireworks! (*But leave your dog at home and maybe leave the TV on to mask the scary boom-boom going on outside.*)

July 5, 6 & 7

Cherry Creek Arts Festival -- Three days of art, music, food and fun at Cherry Creek North. More information at <https://cherryarts.org/>

Sunday, July 7

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science will open its Discovery Zone at 7 am for a special, two-hour low-intensity session for kids who find noise, crowds and flashing lights more than they want to experience. Their families are also invited to this free event, but reservations are required. Go to <https://bit.ly/2Zoj1iG> for more information.

Sunday, July 7

The Colorado Music Festival (CMF) presents its family concert "Peter and the Wolf" with Really Inventive Stuff, animators and vaudeville-inspired storytellers for orchestras, at Chautauqua Auditorium, 900 Baseline Rd., Boulder, 3-5 pm. The program includes Saint-Saëns' "Carnival of the Animals" and Serge Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf."

Friday, July 19th

"The Lion King" live version movie opens in area theaters. We'll have a review, of course!

Saturday July 27

Harry Potter Birthday Party, Bookies Bookstore, 4315 E Mississippi Ave, Denver, 11 am to noon. Details coming at <https://thebookies.com>

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