



CK Reporter of the Week  
Eva Perak, Denver

## Lift Off worth an early wake-up

This Labor Day weekend, I visited the Labor Day Lift Off Festival in Colorado Springs.

LDLO is a three day hot-air balloon festival that has taken place annually for the past 43 years.

A huge crowd of people were already there at 6 a.m. at Memorial Park to watch the hot air balloons.

The morning sky was filled with colorful balloons! Breathtaking!

LDLO is the biggest hot air balloon festival in Colorado.

We had to leave Denver by 4:45 to see the 78 hot air balloons launch at 7 a.m.

There were two waves of balloons, each wave with just over 30 balloons, because the park is not big enough to launch all the balloons at once.

Lots of the balloons were based on things like a penguin, scarecrow, frog, dragon, and even Scar from "The Lion King."

It was interesting to see all of the balloons get filled.

First, the small baskets were unloaded from a regular pickup truck.

Then, the hot-air balloon pilot and his crew took the balloon out of the small 2 person basket, and spread the giant deflated balloon on the ground.

Two people had to open up the bottom so that cold air could fill the bal-

loon. It did not take long to fill.

The cold air had to be heated up with propane gas tanks and the process took around ten minutes from start to finish.

Most balloon festivals take place early in the morning or late in the evening because of the cooler weather and the lack of wind.

After each balloon was filled, it was lift off!

The morning sky was filled with colorful balloons! Breathtaking!

If you were not interested in watching the balloons (*but everyone from babies to older people were!*) there were other activities like bungee jumping and bounce houses, a donut-eating competition, chainsaw cutting competition, and Air Force skydivers.

However, if you wanted to do bungee jumping and other activities you would have to pay money, and watching the balloons fly is free.

If you are looking for a cheap family

fun event that is close by next fall, the Labor Day Lift Off in Colorado Springs fits the bill!



Story and photo by Eva Perak, 11, a CK Reporter from Denver

## Friendly artists, good quality art mark festival



Many of the artists had cool stories: The artists in first tent I visited, Anne London and Jim Hart, had a fascinating story about how they go to Africa once or twice a year, to teach underprivileged students.

The artists were all very friendly and, with a casual event like this, that's the kind of people you want.

They made incredible animal paintings, primarily of the African animals they see on their visits. You should go check out their website, <http://aelondonstudio.com/ArtsForAnimals/>. Their program is incredible!

And they were one of many, there was also Drew Storm and his great wood craftings (*Find him by searching Switchwood!*), Alan Potter and his ceramics,



Vincent Fink and his cubist style (*just search for Vincent Fink*) and many more.

The artists were all very friendly and with a casual event like this, that's the kind of people you want.

Overall, I thought it was a great event, and would recommend it next year to just about anyone who appreciates art.

Going to art festivals is a great pastime, and I would definitely recommend it!

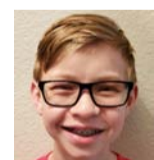
Paintings, pottery, pendants, and more!! This year's Stanley Arts Festival had 30 to 40 very talented artists, hand-picked just for this one two-day art fair.

All the artists were friendly, and willing to sell most, if not all, of their pieces.

In fact, selling art is the main source of money for many of them, so visitors got to see plenty of good art, and support the artists.

There were a few things I wish had been different, such as how the tents' categories were rather scattered, so that, if you were looking for something in particular, say animal paintings, you would have to search through a large part of the festival to find one of the three tents with animal paintings.

However, this was a mild inconvenience, and I wish there had been more exhibitors, though this would also make the quality significantly drop.



Story and photos by Thatcher Mulholland, 13, a CK Reporter from Broomfield



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# Novel combines personal, universal issues

Iris just couldn't help it.

The snow was white, crisp, and inviting. Besides, what harm could making one little snow angel do?

A lot, it turns out.

In making that snow angel, she accidentally unearths the forgotten grave of Avery Moore, and suddenly Iris starts seeing a little girl, eyes as black as the void.

This little girl wants nothing more than to be remembered, but it turns out that her version of remembered is a little different than everyone else's.

"The Forgotten Girl," by India Hill Brown, follows 11-year-old Iris and her best friend Daniel as they try to find the truth about the abandoned graveyard across the street.

What they find out is definitely not what anyone could have expected, and leads them to uncover a tale of regret, danger, and segregation in both life and death.

They're determined to restore the graveyard and have the proper respect afforded to everyone buried there, but a vengeful and possessive ghost has different ideas for them.

She wants a friend, and is willing to do whatever she has to do so that Iris will stay with her - forever.

India Hill Brown has created a perfect blend of creepy, suspenseful, and intriguing.

She seamlessly integrated a narrative of racism and segregation into a thrillingly spooky ghost story, making the social issues every bit as important as any vengeful spirit.

Iris wants to be recognized as captain of the step team, but her white classmates keep pushing her to the sidelines, while they get the front page photos and television spots.



It's a story that closely mirrors that of Avery Moore, who helped desegregate the local middle school, but was reduced to a footnote and buried in a throwaway cemetery.

Beyond the spirits and spooks, this is a tale of love, friendship, and family. It's a story of righting past wrongs, and appreciating your family, no matter how much they might get on your nerves.

It tells the unfortunately all-too-common narrative of minorities being marginalized and forgotten in a way that tugs at your heartstrings.

Iris is an extremely relatable character.

Brown does an excellent job with giving her typical issues that can help connect the readers to what is going on in the book.

She puts a face to the victims of bias and racism, making it more emotionally impactful when these issues are brought up. I would give this book a 10/10 for the engaging narrative, emotional descriptions, and poignant message.

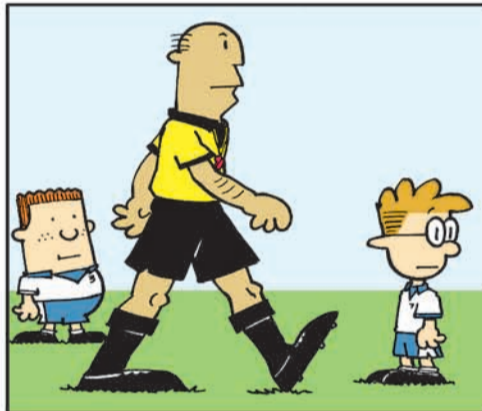
This is definitely something younger children should read, as it provides a narrative introduction to real-world issues and how they affect real-world people.

It's also a good book for people as old as 14, so I would recommend this book for ages 8-14.



By Maria Ciobanu, 14, a CK Reporter from Denver

## Big Nate



## Sudoku

		5		6	
		2			4
1	5				
	2		3		
	3				5

**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 3.



## Brainteaser

**On this day in 1849, Harriet Tubman escaped from slavery, then returned to free her family and become a hero in the fight against slavery. Our answers this week will begin with "T" to honor her.**

1. A baby frog (or toad)
2. Florida's capital
3. Popular cold-water tropical fish; types include neon, cardinal and glowlight
4. He went from being President of the United States to being the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
5. Spanish appetizers, now a popular menu item for snacking
6. In Colorado history, a prospector named Horace, or his wife, Baby Doe
7. Poseidon's weapon, or a brand of sugarless gum
8. San Miguel county town that features hot springs and a famous film festival
9. A craftsman who makes old-fashioned roofs out of reeds, or the name of someone with work featured in this week's CK
10. A person who rents a home or store from a landlord

(answers on Page Three)

## Buy a book and you might help save lives

Every day, girls and boys spend millions of dollars going to movies or sports events, or purchasing books, music and electronic games.

It's right for artists, writers, actors and athletes to make a good living for the pleasure they give others, but sometimes it seems they make a better living than anybody really needs to.

But there are exceptions: One of the most successful writers in the world is J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter books, but she keeps slipping off the list of the most wealthy people in the world.

Why? Because she keeps giving away large amounts of her money to causes she believes in.

Her latest donation is an \$18.8 million gift to a research facility at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland that studies multiple sclerosis.

The name of the facility is "The Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic."

It's named for J.K. Rowling's mother, who died of multiple sclerosis. And it has that name because J.K. Rowling set it up in 2010 with another gift, this one of about \$10 million.

Rowling is estimated to be worth \$750 million, but before she published the Harry Potter books she was on welfare, which affects how she spends the money her readers spend on her books. **photo/Daniel Ogren**



# 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!

<http://tinyurl.com/COkidsReporter>



To read the sources for the story about JK Rowling and her gift to fight multiple sclerosis, go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

# Hidden Treasures

Things we think you wouldn't want to miss.



## Dobby is given a friend!

The giraffe herd at the Denver Zoo has grown, and young Dobby now has a friend to buddy up with in their habitat.

A 2-year-old male reticulated giraffe named Kazi (Kah-zee), who just arrived from Milwaukee County Zoo. Kazi is just a little older than Dobby, who won't be two until February, but Dobby is a foot taller.

Kazi also has white spots inside his brown spots, typical of reticulated giraffes, which are native to Northeast Africa.

The name "Kazi" comes from the Swahili word for "labor," but not because Kazi is hard-working. In fact, his care team in Milwaukee describe him as laid-back and mellow.

His name, rather, is based on the fact that his mother went into that other kind of labor just before Labor Day, 2017.

The Zoo is expecting the two youngsters to become close friends. Giraffes have a lifespan of about 25 years, so the two boys are still a pair of kids and the Zoo is also expecting a certain amount of mischief once they get to know each other.

The other two giraffes at the Zoo are quite a bit older: Kipele is 26 and Heshimu is 17.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature lists reticulated giraffes as endangered, and their numbers continue to decrease in the wild due to habitat loss, illegal hunting and increased human-wildlife conflict.

## CK Calendar

### Saturday, September 21

Sensory friendly evening of the "Extreme Sports: Beyond Human Limits" exhibit, designed for those who need to dial back the sensory stimulation. Enjoy some low-sensory time with reduced sound, increased lighting, and a supportive environment for families with sensory integration issues. Spots limited, registration recommended. 6-8 pm, details at <https://bit.ly/2jWNXYf>

### Friday, September 20

The seven-acre corn maze at Chatfield Farm opens for weekends. For exact dates and other details, visit <https://www.botanicgardens.org/events/special-events/corn-maze>

### Wednesday, September 25

"60 Minutes in Space," 7 p.m., Gates Planetarium, Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Go "behind the stories" in space science using the best images and animation available to help understand new developments. Seating is limited to first come, first served. Please use the Main Entrance on the North side of the Museum. For details, <https://www.dmns.org/visit/events-and-activities/>

### Friday, September 27

"Abominable" opens. In this PG-rated, animated Dreamworks film, a young girl and her friends attempt to bring a yeti back from Shanghai to his home in Nepal, avoiding the villain who would dearly love to capture a yeti.

### Friday, September 27

"Maize in the City" opens. This colossal collection of corn mazes and other activities in Thornton offers a variety of activities for people of all ages. For ticket prices and other details, visit <https://www.maizeinthecity.com/>

### Friday, October 4

Deadline for Tattered Cover's 36th Annual Scary Story Contest. Young Colorado writers from kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to write an original mystery, suspenseful thriller, or humorous Halloween tale. Last year's winning stories and this year's entry form are here: <https://www.tatteredcover.com/scary-story-contest>

### Friday - Sunday, October 11-13

Pumpkin Festival, Chatfield Farms. Includes pony rides, horse-drawn hayrides, photo booths, carnival games, barrel train ride, mini-corn maze for kids 10 and under, jumping pil-

## Sudoku Solution

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

## Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. tadpole 2. Tallahasee 3. tetra 4. (Robert) Taft 5. tapas 6. Tabor  
7. Trident 8. Telluride 9. Thatcher 10. tenant

# ColoradoKids

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