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Last Chance to Buy Pulseras!



**By Kari Kellock
Tusker Tribune Staff**

The Pulsera project is almost over! Monday, March 25, the beautiful, hand-made bracelets and bags will be sent back to the owners along with the money that we have made for them.

The Pulsera project was created because of the hardworking artisans in Nicaragua having a tough time getting money for food, water, homes, and other things that they need to live a full and healthy life. We do not realize that life can be so challenging and tough for people who we have little knowledge about.

But through the Pulsera project, we can learn and help others without even having to see or go there. The Pulseras only cost \$5 for any bracelet and \$15 for any bag. There are so many beautiful patterns, colors, and designs that you can pick from.

If you really like one you can place it on hold for the next day. Make sure to get one now at WIN in the foreign language hallway because they are only around now until Monday.

Check Out These Books!



**By Gemma Krissoff
Tusker Tribune Staff**

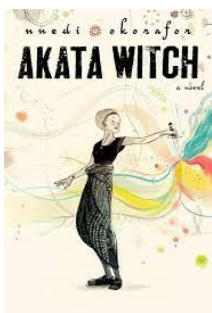
Do you need something to read? Well, you have come to the right place! I love reading, and I always love to get new recommendations because I finish books fast! It is my pleasure to share some of my all-time favorite books. They are all chapter books, so you might not like them if you prefer graphic novels or manga.

Akata Witch by Nnedi Okorafor

This fantasy novel is about Sunny Nwazue, an American-born Nigerian girl. She is Black, but she is also albino, so she looks white. She finds out that she has magic and discovers an amazing community of other people with magic that is hidden from the normal world.

But there is a problem. A ritual killer is on the loose, but most people think he is just a regular killer... little do they know, he has magic, and he is killing people as a sacrifice for an evil deity he is trying to spawn.

Continued on Page 2



It's Important to Learn About Other Beliefs



**By Brynn Robinson
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Why is it important for kids to learn about different religions?

It is important for kids to learn about different religions because it promotes the respect and understanding of different beliefs. By learning about different religions, kids can learn more about the world and how people view things, as well as to appreciate others. It helps kids become more open-minded and accepting.

Religion plays a big role in many people's lives around the world. By understanding different religions and how they work, there can be less discrimination throughout the world. They can see comparisons between them as well as form bonds showing love, kindness and respect.

Learning about different religions guides



thinking and growth. It can expose children to new ideas and concepts. They can form their own opinions based on their knowledge and respect. Another reason why kids should learn about different religions is it gives them experiences of new languages and literacy. It can help them build conversations with others and help them understand other people's religious backgrounds. This can help them navigate today's society.

By teaching kids about different religions, we give them power to make their own decisions about their beliefs and values. It can give them a sense of themselves and respect other people's beliefs. In all this helps create an inclusive society and town. This helps people be able to celebrate their differences and embracing their religions. (Our school is do a very good job with this) Check out more about this topic soon in the language hallway!

Stay Away? . . . Or Not



**By Natalie Chery
Tusker Tribune Staff**

A bird so light, a feather less than an ounce;
So calm so beautiful, more graceful than a mouse;

Seize the light of day, let the cool air breeze.
Don't leave yet, the coyote sees;
The vicious animal will rip the bird to shreds;
Laughing and dancing with all its friends.
The roar of a lion may scare it away,
The chirp of the bird may leave it as prey,
Stay away.



As the bird flies away, a new animal comes to prey;
The mouse so small, is easy to maul;
Just eating herbs all by itself;
But soon a great animal comes to hunt;
A cat so large you may consider it would shunt;

But as the cat gets hungry the mouse gets afraid.
Scattered on the outside, unknowing in the brain;
But instead of attacking, the cat lays
Beside the mouse, and under the sun;
They can see the light of day,
Don't stay away.

Books

From Page 1

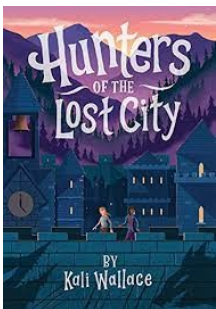
Sunny and her friends Orlu, Chichi, and Sasha must stop him before he successfully spawns an evil entity that could destroy the world.



This book can be a bit gory, as the main antagonist is a murderer, and there is a bit of foul language. Black Hat Otokoto, the murderer might be a large contributor to my fear of serial

killers, but it was worth it because the book is so good! I think if you are a fan of Harry Potter, you would enjoy this book. This book also has a sequel, Akata Warrior. My friend recommended this book to me first, so thank you to her.

Hunters of the Lost City by Kali Wallace



This book is also fantasy, one of my favorite book genres. It is a little dystopian, too. It is about a girl, Octavia. Rewind: before all this, there was a sorcerer's war, a magic plague, and the creation of the ferox, monsters made of magic and scraps of metal invented by an unknown sorcerer. So, after all this, humans have gone extinct- except for the people of Vittoria, the last town on Earth, where Octavia lives.

But one day, Octavia meets someone from a completely different place- going against everything Octavia had ever been taught.

This book was so good I finished it in three days! Something I like in books are plot twists, and there was quite a bit of those in this book, which I loved! As I said earlier, this book is fantasy and a bit dystopian, so if you like those genres this book is for you.

Front Desk (and its sequels) by Kelly Yang

This book is a realistic fiction about racism. It is about Mia Tang, an immigrant girl from China. Her parents are hired at a motel in California and can live there. But the manager, Mr. Yao,

makes them work extremely hard and doesn't pay them much. Mia becomes friends with some people who live at the motel, such as Hank, Mrs. T, and Billy Bob. She also wants to be a writer, but her mother has doubts in her as she knows English as a second language.



On top of all this, Mia and her parents have a secret—they let immigrants stay at the motel for free since they have nowhere else to go. If Mr. Yao finds out, Mia's parents will be fired. On the brighter side, Mia has a friend, Lupe, whose parents are from Mexico.

Something I like about this book is that it puts me in a much different perspective, as I have never experienced racism or had problems like Mia's. This book also is a series- the other books in the series are Three Keys, Room to Dream, Key Player, and Top Story. This book is also based on Kelly Yang's life.

Amari and the Night Brothers by B.B. Alston

This fantasy novel concerns Amari Peters, a young girl whose brother went missing. Even after many investigations, the police do not know where he is or how he disappeared. Everyone thinks he is dead, but not Amari. Amari's determination to find him doubles when she is invited to the same program her brother, Quinton, worked before he went missing. But Amari soon finds out why Quinton never told Amari or her mom about his job. He worked for a secret magic corporation, and before he went missing, he caught a wanted magic-user criminal.



I would recommend this book to Harry Potter fans, as both books have similar concepts- a child who doesn't seem special gets sent to magic school. There was also a huge plot twist, which I enjoyed reading. This book also has a sequel, Amari and the Great Game. Someone in my ELA class recommended this book to me first, so thank you to her.

Greek Independence Day is Monday



By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff

Greek Independence Day, celebrated on March 25th, is a significant event in Greek history marking the country's liberation from Ottoman rule in 1821.

This day holds immense cultural and patriotic importance for Greeks around the world. The struggle for independence was fueled by a desire for freedom and national identity, inspired by the ideals of democracy and independence from foreign rule.

The Greek War of Independence was a challenging and bloody conflict that lasted for nearly a decade, with many heroes emerging to

lead the fight for freedom.



One figure in this struggle was Bishop Germanos of Patras, who famously raised the Greek flag at the Monastery of Agia Lavra, symbolizing the beginning of the revolution. The Greek people, united in their cause, fought fiercely against the Ottoman forces, eventually securing their independence and establishing the modern Greek state.

Today, Greek Independence Day is celebrated with parades, ceremonies, and cultural events, both in Greece and among Greek communities worldwide. It serves as a reminder of the courage and resilience of the Greek people in their quest for freedom and self-determination.

This important day is a time for reflection, pride, and celebration of Greek heritage and the values of democracy and liberty.

Having a “Ruff” Day? Need to take a Break “Fur” A While? Vader Can Help!

*Thanks to Mrs. O'Shea,
Dr. Morrison, Mrs.
Bradley, and Mrs.
Cespedes for the infor-
mation on Vader! (And
for the cool photos)*



There was a special visitor in True North this week. Vader was a “doggone” hit when he stopped by. Vader belongs to Somers High School teacher Mrs. O'Shea. He visits the high school about once a week, visiting classes before tests and hanging out in the Student Life Center, to the delight of his many fans.

SMS Psychologist Dr. Morrison asked Superintendent Dr. Blanch if Vader could be brought to SMS for the True North students there, and for any other student who needed a “paws” in their daily routine.

Once the visit was arranged, kids were invited down during locks 1 and 2 to interact and get cheered up by the cute five-year-old half shepherd/half labrador retriever.

This first visit was a huge success and Ms. Morrison is hoping to schedule future visits through the end of the year, perhaps once or twice a month.

Have the Zodiac Signs Ever Interested You?

Disclaimer: Zodiac Signs are not meant to define how you live your life; they are just fun pieces of information to know.

Taurus



By Vivian Hernandez
Tusker Tribune Staff

Here are facts and fun facts about the Zodiac sign **Taurus!**

The Zodiac sign Taurus begins on April 20th and ends on May 20th. Taurus is an earth sign represented by the bull. A Taurus enjoys being surrounded by soothing aromas, soft sounds, and relaxing environments. Taurus is ruled by Venus, the enchanting planet that governs love, beauty, and money.



A Taurus isn't afraid to roll up their sleeves and work hard to earn big rewards. The Taurus is ambitious, focused, and resilient.

As their sign a Taurus is fixed, an astrological quality that reflects Taurus's steadfast, loyal nature. Signs that are fixed are excellent at maintaining systems and order.

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Gemini



By Vivian Hernandez
Tusker Tribune Staff

Have the Zodiac signs ever interested you? Well, here are facts and fun facts about the Zodiac sign **Gemini!** The sign "Gemini" begins in May on the 21st and ends in June on the 20th. The Gemini is an air sign and is represented by a pair of twins. The pair of twins represent a dual-natures personality sometimes contradictory but also adaptable.

These twins also represent the capability to view life from different angles. Because of Gemini's intrinsic duality they are often falsely misrepresented as two-faced even though that is not the case. The Gemini is also considered the "social butterflies" of the zodiac. The reason for this is because a Gemini can talk to anyone about anything.



It is said that Gemini is accordingly excellent as guiding change and transformation. Geminis are always down to try new things and are fearless thinkers! Geminis

are also quite curious and excellent pioneers. Gemini is governed by Mercury which is the planet of communication. Mercury also rules over Virgo and yet Gemini and Virgo are complete opposites. Hence the myth that Gemini and Virgo don't usually get along.

Continued on Page 5

Aries



By Vivian Hernandez
Tusker Tribune Staff

Here are facts and fun facts about the Zodiac Sign **Aries!** The Zodiac sign Aries begins on March 21st and ends on April 19th.

Aries are the first zodiac sign to ever exist so naturally, the Aries loves being number one. The Aries is part of the Fire signs which also includes Sagittarius and Leo.

The Aries is bold and ambitious, so Aries dives headfirst into even the most challenging situations! The Ram represents the Aries and symbolizes passion, motivation, and confidence. Aries is a cardinal sign that means that Aries initiates one of the four seasons, and the Aries season initiates is Spring!

Aries represents the singular spirit while other signs like Libra symbolize partnership. Aries adheres to an "every person for themselves" philosophy. While self-determination can be inspiring, Aries needs to watch out for selfish tendencies.

This sign is ruled by Mars, which is the dynamic red planet named after the Roman god of war. Accordingly, these courageous 'rams' are always armed and ready for battles.

Aries have extraordinary courage and will often run into places where no one will ever think of. This can often lead them to trouble, but these rams don't care and face their problems head on! How daring! Here are 10 fun facts about the Aries:

1. As the first sign of the Zodiac, they are bold and ambitious
2. They're always up for a challenge
3. They are passionate and confident leaders
4. They are uncomplicated and direct in their approach, without taking time for unnecessary details
5. They're very optimistic
6. Because they are optimistic, they tend to learn lessons the hard way
7. They're always here to protect their loved ones
8. Aries speak their minds no filter whatsoever!
9. They are very loyal
10. Unexpectedly, they are a very emotional sign



Mae Jemison Reached for the Stars and Made It



By Noah Samuel
Tusker Tribune Staff

March is Women's History Month, and that celebrates all the things that women have done to help shape our history, both past and present. One of the outstanding women that has excelled in medicine, engineering, and aeronautics is Mae Jemison, the first Black female astronaut in space – two groundbreaking achievements.

Early Life

Mae Jemison was born on October 17th, 1956, in Decatur, Alabama. From a young age, Jemison knew that she wanted to study science and possibly go to space one day. As a child, Jemison liked to observe nature to learn more about science. She was frustrated that there were no female astronauts, and that she wasn't receiving the support she should have gotten from her teachers.

Jemison also had a love of dance. She started ballet at 8-9 years old and learned many styles of dance throughout her schooling. At only 16 years old, Jemison attended Stanford University, and when she graduated in 1977, she had a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and African/African American studies. It was during her time spent at college that Jemison first thought about applying to NASA.

Medical Career

Jemison then went on to Cornell Medical School to become a general practitioner. When she graduated college in 1981 with an MD degree, she worked as an intern for a year and then got a full-time job. In 1983, Jemison joined the Peace Corps and served as a medical officer for two years, overseeing the pharmacy, labs, and staff. She provided



medical care, wrote self-care manuals, and developed health guidelines. She later worked with the CDC for vaccine research.

NASA Career

After serving in the Peace Corps, Jemison settled in Los Angeles, California. She took a graduate-level engineering course and, to pursue her dreams of going to space, applied to be an astronaut in October 1985. After the postponing of further space missions due to the *Challenger* disaster, Jemison reapplied to NASA in 1987, and was chosen for NASA's Group 12. She flew her only mission in 1989, as part of the STS-47 crew on the space shuttle *Endeavour*. She was appointed as Mission Specialist 4 and Science Mission Specialist, for the eight-day mission. She conducted many tests onboard, including two bone cell experiments and tadpole research.

Post-NASA Career

Jemison founded many organizations after her NASA career, including the Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence. One of their projects was *The Earth We Share*, a science camp held across the US at places such as Dartmouth College, as well as internationally in Switzerland, South Africa, and Tunisia. Jemison was a professor of environmental studies at Dartmouth College from 1995 to 2002. She continues at age 67 to advocate for science education and getting students involved with science.

So now you know who Mae Jemison is, and all the things she has done to set records and achievements, as well as improve our modern-day technology. Being a female of color make the matter extra special. How would you like to someday change the world?

Presented by Somers Middle School

DRAMA CLUB

Disney Aladdin JR.

Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman, Tim Rice and Chad Beguelin

Based on the Disney Film written by Ron Clements
John Musker, Ted Elliott & Terry Rossio
and directed and produced by John Musker & Ron Clements

THURS MAR 21 7pm
FRI MAR 22 7pm
SAT MAR 23 2pm & 7pm

Somers Middle School
Dr. Marien Performing Arts Center

Inclement weather date
Sun Mar 24 @ 2 PM

Tickets available for purchase online:
<https://somersms.seatyourself.biz>
OR
SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!

Gemini

From Page 4

Gemini expresses emotions externally whereas Virgo is processes internally. A Gemini takes the act of expression very important than what is being said. They must remember to be thoughtful with their words due to their social personality. Even when embarrassed a Gemini simply just moves on! Here are 10 fun facts about Gemini:

1. They are social butterflies! They'll never have trouble making friends.
2. Gemini can be surprisingly shy at times.
3. Gemini are one of the most perceptive and observant signs of the Zodiac.
4. They're very genuine.
5. They're great communicators.
6. Gemini also tend to overthink everything.
7. They never overreact.
8. Their mood can change in an instant.
9. They seek meaningful relationships.
10. They'll always speak up to defend their friends.

Eras Tour (Taylor's Version) on Disney+ Pt1 (Lover and Intro)



**By Giuliana DeMartino
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Are you ready for it? The Eras Tour movie got released on Disney+ on Thursday, March 14 at 6 PM Pacific Time with more songs than the regular Eras Tour movie. In this story I am going to tell you the hits and misses in the Intro and Lover Era.

The first thing that pops up on the TV was the Midnights Clock and a timer counting down starting with 13 seconds. In the background, you hear the Eras Tour intro, which is a bit of Taylor's song, "Miss Americana and the Heartbreak Prince". The part of the song you hear is "It's been a long time coming." It repeats repeatedly.

When the timer ends, the first dancers come on stage with these flag things and walk around. Then when all the dancers are on the stage, the background audio says, "it's fearless." After that, all of Taylor's other albums get named, from "Self Titled" to "Midnight" in a unique way to match the song. When the intro song finishes, the dancers gather in the middle of the stage and put the flag things towards the ground. Fans start to cheer when the flags come up and underneath was the iconic Taylor Swift with her iconic lover bodysuit continuing with the song.

I would rate the introduction to the tour an 8/10; it was short and made me a bit emotional because of the excitement.

The first era is Taylor's 8th album Lover. The first song is "Miss Americana and the Heartbreak Prince," continuing from the introduction. She doesn't finish the song but straight after that, she sings one of her popular songs, "Cruel Summer".

When Taylor gets to the bridge of Cruel Summer, she says, "Does anyone here know the lyrics to this bridge? Prove it!" Fans start singing along and screaming at the tops of their lungs. She finishes singing Cruel Summer. Fans cheer even more while Taylor is giving a little speech about her tour.

By the end of her speech, she puts on a glittery, silver blazer, that matches her shoes and to finish her speech up, she says, "You're making me feel like I'm *The Man*," and starts singing "The Man", track four of Lover. A huge office type building and some desks appear on the stage. She climbs up the stairs in the building as the song goes. When the bridge comes, she reaches the top floor. She stays on the top floor until the song is over. When "The Man" is over, she goes straight to sing "You Need to Calm Down", with the blazer on.



One thing that is exciting about this song is that the lover house appears on the screen and the office disappears. Taylor says, "Let Me See Your Hand!" She, her dancers and her fans wave their hands in the air. When the song ends, Taylor takes off her blazer, grabs her pink guitar and makes a speech about her tour. When she is done with her speech, she plays "Lover" (not the album, the song) the background dancers are doing a couple's dance. She finishes Lover and the lover house disappears as she starts to sing "Archer". The song finishes, and it starts to go to the Fearless era. I will rate this era a 9.2/10 I like it a lot but I did not like that "Miss Americana and the Heartbreak Prince" was shorter.

Well, this is the end of part 1. I hope you liked learning about the Lover era at the Eras Tour. I will have to give overall this part a 9.6/10.

Taurus

From page 3

Taurus's prioritize consistency and reliability in all areas of their lives. What a Taurus perceives as dedication is often regarded by other zodiacs as stubbornness. A Taurus takes time to trust the people they get to know. They take loyalty and stability very seriously.

If a Taurus found out they trusted the wrong person, they will feel disappointed in themselves and start to distance themselves from others including people they trust. Moving on, here are 10 fun facts about the zodiac sign Taurus!

1. The Taurus is one of the most grounded zodiac signs.
2. A Taurus has a strong memory.
3. They rarely talk about personal things, unless they are extremely comfortable with a person.
4. They have a ton of patience but once that patience runs out, they can explode.
5. A Taurus is ready to make a lot of sacrifices for the ones they love, as well to protect them.
6. They tend to work out their problems alone.
7. They're very honest.
8. If a Taurus isn't sure of something, they won't waste their time.
9. Taurus is the most stubborn Zodiac.
10. A Taurus is very ambitious.

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