

The Tusker Tribune

The student newspaper of Somers Middle School



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<http://www.somersschools.org/Domain/9>

Winter 2016

Bus Vandalism Forces Schools to Close



By Remi Saad
Tusker Tribune Staff

On Monday January 4, 2016, the Somers Central School District (SCSD) cancelled school because unknown person or persons vandalized about half of the buses located at Somers High School.

Although nobody knows how or when this incident occurred, school officials know for sure that it happened over our winter break.

The buses' tires were punctured, some of the windshields were shattered, and some of the fire extinguishers were missing and set off in the buses, and they also spray-painted graffiti on the pavement, including swear words, a swastika and other graffiti.

In an e-mail to Somers Staff, Superintendent Raymond Blanch said, in part, “. . . Certainly, we are all disheartened with such an unthinkable act. I have talked with many employees and parents that are in disbelief such a travesty would happen in Somers. Undoubtedly, this act of vandalism does not reflect the values of the school District or Somers community. I am hearing a sense of outrage from all members of the school and larger community that I have spoken with regarding this matter. . . In the past our school District and community have been faced

with significant challenges and as a collective entity we have risen above them all. I am absolutely certain that once again we will collectively rise above this atrocity.”

The state and local police are still trying to catch the unknown persons, and they are investigating this situation as a crime. The police are looking at surveillance cameras and are interrogating many people, including nearby residents and faculty members in order to track

down the culprits. They still don't know if it was grown men or women or teenagers.

Whoever did it will be sent to court and taken to jail. Not only are these people going to get in trouble with SHS, they will be getting in trouble with the police. The culprits will have to pay for the damage so SHS can buy equipment to help fix buses that might get dam-

aged in the future. This will also cost them a very large fine.

Although, I am personally happy that we got an extra day added to our vacation, I can't help but think at what expense we got that day. It is a very sad event indeed to see how anyone could destroy someone else's property that way. Always think about the consequences of your actions and the hurt it may cause people. (As my dad says, "If you're upset about something, go to the gym and work out. It works!")





The Tusker Tribune Special Feature:

Matt Kushner's "Spaced-Out Series"

Chapter 7: Slaves

"Send the first attack. I want that house destroyed."

"The one with the white?"

"Yes, the one with the white!"

"Just wanted to be sure, sir."

"Daddy run! Daddy, run like the unicorn pony! Run—"

"Quiet, girl!" The bully pony attacked me.

Meanwhile...

"Mr. Crevasse, I would like to tell you that you are not allowed to tell anyone this information."

Right when the president finished his sentence, a rumble, like an earthquake, shook the White House. Then another. Soon, the rumble was like a bomb, throwing down books from the bookshelf, sending papers flying across the room, and walls being shook to the ground.

Immediately, the president realized what was happening. He reached with his open hand, for the other was grabbing onto the desk,

opened a drawer, and clicked a button.

"I was ready for this, Dr. Crevasse."

"What did you do, Mr. President?" It was hard to yell over the commotion, but I think the president still heard it.

"You think I haven't been ready for this?"

A metal shield seemed to come out of the ground, and went around the office. A darkness covered the oval office.

Meanwhile...

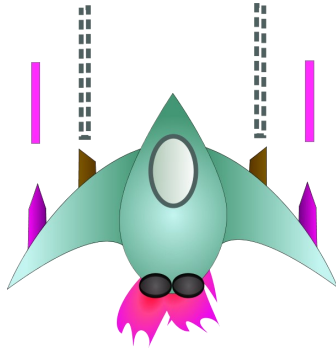
"We can't get to them, sir. They have a strange metal that shields them from missiles."

"Send over the girl. I need the dictator *dead*."

Did the mean ponies mean they were going to send me?

"Yes sir. The dictator will be dead in a few moments."

"Say goodbye... America. For you are only the first step to get our slaves back." One of dad's weird laughs came out of the pony, and it scared me.



Poetic Ponderings by Emma Lusthaus:

"The Boston Massacre"

The Boston Massacre was a fight.
The Boston Massacre was a fright.
Oh no, oh no, said all the soldiers.
Oh no, oh no, here come the boulders.

Give a scream beneath the ream of
the North Church tower.
King George will never get his power!



One wounded, five killed,
maybe they were even
grilled!

Now I know you don't
want to hear the rest, be-
cause it is definitely not
the best!



What Are Your 2016 Resolutions?

By Noelle DeMarinis
Tusker Tribune Staff

The New Year is a great time to reflect on the changes we want to make. Every year thousands of people get serious and strive to achieve certain goals for themselves. However, more often than not, these are the same goals they had from the previous year!

There are so many goals to choose from. Usually, the top three include losing weight, becoming organized, and spending



more time with family.

No matter what the goal is, you must be determined to achieve it! A John Jay student, Mia DiChiara states, "My New Year's resolution is to prepare myself more for exams."

Later on, Mia also said, "I will also work harder in class and study more." It will be interesting to see how Mia, and other people sustain their goals that they have set for themselves! I will be sure to make my own resolutions! Let's see how that works out...!



Book Review: Robinson Crusoe

By Nitin Seshadri
Tusker Tribune Staff

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe is a story about the life of a man, namely Robinson Crusoe, after he is shipwrecked against an uninhabited island during a voyage to Brazil. He was the lone survivor of the shipwreck.

In his adventures in the island, he discovers that it is very fertile. He then builds a castle in the island using its resources. Eventually, he saved a prisoner from the savages, or cannibals, who come to the island occasionally and named him "My man" Friday (because it was a Friday when Crusoe saved him).

He hunted and ate the chickens and



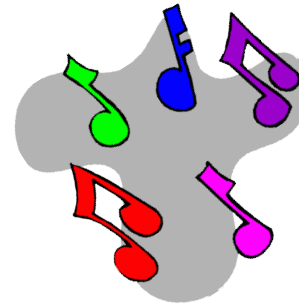
goats on the island, and grows wheat and other crops. He lived this way of life for over 35 years. Finally, he returns home to England with Friday after another ship stops at the island to unload some mutinous crew.

What this book taught me is that determination is the key to success. Without his determination, Robinson Crusoe would have perished on the island. I would recommend this book to everyone, especially thrill-seekers and people who like adventure books.



Music Mayhem!

A weekly compilation of popular tunes



By Evan Volkman

Tusker Tribune Staff

Each week there will be a newly updated Top 20 for Pop songs featuring iTunes and the Volkman Chart. Charts are accurate as of Jan. 1, 2016.

iTunes	Volkman
1. Hello - Adele 2. Love Yourself - Justin Bieber 3. Sorry - Justin Bieber 4. Stressed Out - twenty one pilots 5. Ex's & Oh's - Elle King 6. Hotline Bling - Drake 7. My House - Flo Rida 8. Same Old Love - Selena Gomez 9. One Call Away - Charlie Puth 10. Stitches - Shawn Mendes 11. Roses (feat. ROZES) - The Chainsmokers 12. What Do You Mean? - Justin Bieber 13. Here - Alessia Cara 14. On My Mind - Ellie Goulding 15. Perfect - One Direction 16. Stand By You - Rachel Platten 17. Die A Happy Man - Thomas Rhett 18. Like I'm Gonna Lose You (feat. John Legend) - Meghan Trainor 19. Fight Song - Rachel Platten 20. Hide Away - Daya	1. Sorry - Justin Bieber 2. Hotline Bling - Drake 3. My House - Flo Rida 4. Love Yourself - Justin Bieber 5. One Call Away - Charlie Puth 6. Drag Me Down - One Direction 7. Hello - Adele 8. Perfect - One Direction 9. Stressed Out - twenty one pilots 10. Stitches - Shawn Mendes 11. Roses (feat. ROZES) - The Chainsmokers 12. What Do You Mean? - Justin Bieber 13. 679 (feat. Monty) - Fetty Wap 14. Like I'm Gonna Lose You (feat. John Legend) - Meghan Trainor 15. Here - Alessia Cara 16. Hide Away - Daya 17. I Know What You Did Last Summer - Shawn Mendes & Camila Cabello 18. Stand By You - Rachel Platten 19. Good To Be Alive (Hallelujah) - Andy Grammer 20. See You Again (feat. Charlie Puth) - Wiz Khalifa

Source: <http://www.apple.com/itunes/charts/songs/>



Eugene DiLorenzo's

"APP RAP": UNTURNED



load off of a website called "Steam" (storm.steampowered.com).

The game takes place in America.

There are zombies everywhere and you become a survivor in the zombie infested ruins of a wrecked society by teaming up with friends to remain among the living, or "unturbed".



You can find

weapons almost anywhere. There are towns, where you encounter



zombies, and even cars to help you get from one place to another, or to get out of tough situations. However, to keep the game realistic, the cars have limited fuel.

I give this game a 4.5 star rating.



2016

- February 5: 7th Grade Social, 7-9 p.m.
- February 25: 6th Grade Social, 7-9 p.m.
- March 24-28: Spring Recess!
- April 22-25: Holiday Recess!
- May 27-30: Memorial Day Weekend
- June 23: LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!



STAR WARS:

May the "Marketing" Force be With You

By Hunter Duffy

Tusker Tribune Staff

Since the release of "Star Wars The Force Awakens" Legos, Die cast, Disney, and many more companies have used that publicity to make millions of dollars on merchandise. They have even sold out on select products. Some of these include the Millennium Falcon and Poe Dameron Fighter Lego sets.



Also sold out is the Rey Die cast action figure with and without her light saber. Most of the items are selling for lower prices in the Disney and Lego stores than online.

Reyes Die Cast is going for \$40.00 on ebay without a lightsaber and \$50.00 with

one. But it's on sale for only \$25.00 in the Disney Store.

The Millennium Falcon is going for \$230.00

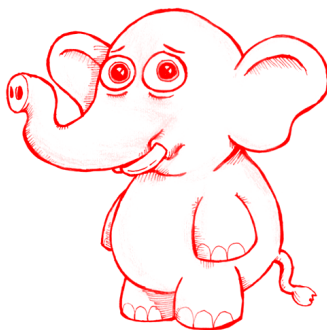
on ebay but only \$150.00 in the Lego store. Are people reselling these items for a bigger amount than they should?

Speaking of pricy Disney has spent a lot of cash on advertising their new movie. McDonalds, M&M, and Chevrolet are just a few companies advertising Star Wars. So the real question is what took the most money. Making the movie, advertising, selling merchandise or buying merchandise?



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