

The Tusker Tribune

The student newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Winter 2016

Food Drive to Run Through Winter Break



By Noelle DeMarinis

Tusker Tribune Staff

Between January 25 and February 12, our school will be supporting the Westchester Food Bank and other local food drives.

Food pickups will be done over winter break.

Over the last few years the Food Bank of Westchester and local pantries received rodent-contaminated boxes of food, which they had to discard. This led to a shortage of supplies.

Please donate to this wonderful cause and help people in need. The food drive's most needed items include canned meats, canned fish, canned soups, peanut butter,



and canned ravioli. Beverages are needed as well, especially coffee.

The food drive also would like canned vegetables and fruits, plus canned tomatoes and sauce.

Additional items that are needed are toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap and shampoo. Please avoid anything packaged in glass containers/jars due to safety concerns. Please make sure all boxes are sealed securely and stored properly to avoid damage or contamination. Remember no perishables!

SMS Students: collections will take place at SMS during Advisory Periods on 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, and 2/10.

Thank you for any assistance you are able to give.



Power Outage in Somers Leaves SMS in the Dark



By Nitin Seshadri

Tusker Tribune Staff

On Thursday, January 7, 2016, a power outage occurred during 6th period. The outage, which affected the entire Town of Somers, came on the heels of a bus vandalism incident earlier in the week that forced the schools to close for the day.

The power outage occurred right before lunchtime for many 7th graders. During the outage, people were forced to “shelter in place” wherever

they were. The internet connection went down and power was cut to many sections of the building. Administrators and teachers walked around with flashlights while kids restlessly sat in the cafeteria or classrooms.

The cause of the outage was due to workers doing utility work and accidentally cutting a power line.

Thankfully, half an hour later the power went back up again and everyone “lived happily ever after.”

The two event resulted in a fairly rough start to the new year for Somers Schools.





The Tusker Tribune Special Feature: Matt Kushner's "Spaced-Out Series"

Chapter 8: Secret Service

I've been trained in hundreds, if not, thousands of ways to protect the president. My problem is that how are you going to be trained in every single way?

For example, if the president's office is being bombed by aliens in outer space and nothing can stop them except the metal shield that was built after Apollo 11, and you are the guard of the office, what do you do?

I recommend that you run to the defenses room and immediately start getting ready for more attacks, but that's exactly what I *didn't* do. Instead, I ran into

the office and shut the metal dome-shield and closed the huge metal door.

With my gun in hand, I stood there, realizing that the president and his guest were hiding behind the desk. All of a sudden, the bombing stopped.



"Mr.

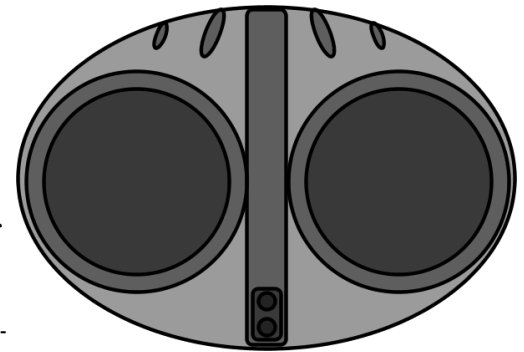
President, stay calm." I whispered, keeping my voice just barely above my breath. "If you don't already know, there is a bunker that you

can go into. The location is the carpet under the carpet in the middle of the room. Go. Now."

Two people, one the president, the other the guest, ran to the carpet, and lifted it. They quickly opened a trapdoor and went in. I covered it once they were in.

All of a sudden, a... thing appeared in the middle of the room.

"Hello, Earthling. We will spare you if you move. If you don't, you will regret it for the rest of your life." And then I realized... the thing was a pony.

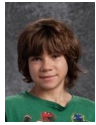


2016 School Calendar of Events

- 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!



Frog Dissection a Hit with 7th Graders!



By Eugene DiLorenzo
Tusker Tribune Staff

Last week, the 7th graders had to dissect a frog. We had to do it to help us learn about the human body because the insides of a frog are a lot like ours. The dissection took place in Ms Manko's class and in Mr. Wilbert's class.

I dissected a frog and I think it's something that everyone should try. But the only



thing is that it didn't take as long as I thought it would. However, it was a great thing for me to do because I want to become a pathologist and study human organs and tissues.

It's also a good activity for anyone who wants to become a doctor or a biologist. I would rate this 3 out of 5 stars for fun and 4 1/2 out of 5 stars for giving me useful knowledge.



Holidays Made Complete with SIS Annual Winter Concert



By Nicola DeMarinis
Tusker Tribune Staff

Editor's Note: Nicola's younger sister, Sienna, is involved with the SIS music program.



A warm winter night at SIS, time for the annual winter concert.

The 4th and 5th grade directed by Mr. Maino string orchestra takes the stage and energetically played, "I have a little Dreidel", "A Christmas Canon" and "First Christmas March".

Then came in the

4th grade chorus directed by Ms. Nomani and they were great! First, they started with "Colors Of Winter" which described the nature in winter. Then, came "A Candle for Peace", a traditional Jewish song which had fun clapping to liven up the music. Finally, "Gonna Catch That Santa" was acted out and sung with vibrant smiles on the kids' faces.



After all, the parents and the 3rd, 4th and 5th graders all had a great time.

These days social media is something most teens use. Tusker Tribune Staff Writer Evan Volkman interviewed local Somers residents over the holiday break and found these results:

Teens age 10-29:

	Social Media	Percentage
	Instagram	68%
	Snapchat	52%
	Tumblr	33%
	Facebook	19%
	Twitter	28%
	Other	7%

We polled the same questions but to residents ages 30 and older:

	Social Media	Percentage
	Instagram	19%
	Snapchat	14%
	Tumblr	7%
	Facebook	67%
	Twitter	21%
	Other	2%

In conclusion, it is clear that teens and young adult use social media more than anyone else. A combined 207% of social media is used from residents under the age of 30, and Instagram and Snapchat are the most popular. Then when people over the age of 30, only totaled a combined

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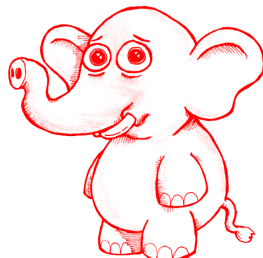


"Social Media Survey"



The Tusker Tribune Staff

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The Tusker Tribune is published online and is featured weekly on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from
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Poetic Ponderings

by Remi Saad



Hatred

Hatred is everywhere
in anyone if they choose to
hate.
Everyone has hatred.
Hatred is hard.

Nobody likes it.
They still do it.
They don't have a
choice.
Even though they
can't help it.
Try.

Something happens to people.
Inside is trapped.
You have to let it out;
but not badly.
Nobody said it was easy;
no one said it would be.



Go back to the start;
do it over.
Avoid hatred;
it's not easy.
Nobody said it was
easy.
Try.

AT Club Update

By Julianna Aiello



**Tusker Tribune
Staff**

This is the second meet for Somers Middle School's AT Club. (AT stands for Academic Triathlon). On Friday, January 8, the SMS AT Club competed against Pelham Middle School. The meet was held at SMS.

There were four teams. Teams A and C were Pelham and Teams B and D were Somers. Each team consisted of between 4 and 5 players.

The events were: Trivia, P.A.R.T.Y In a Box, Mind Sprint (there were 3 of them), and Starter Questions.

Unfortunately, the Somers teams did not win. Pelham Team A took first place and Pelham Team C took second place.

Even though we did not win, it was still a blast!

The SMS Academic Triathlon Advisor is Mr. Dell.



POETRY *In Motion*

by Jack Kerins



Poems don't always have to
rhyme;
but ensure you give them
due time.

Always write what you feel;
and ensure you don't steal.
You could write outside,
sitting by the tide.
You do your best and try
and believe you can fly.
So while poems don't always
have to rhyme;

it so happens mine did this
time.

Time to start
the first part...

