



The Tusker Tribune

99(!)



SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Issue Number 15

<https://www.somersschools.org/Page/11489>

Winter 2023

MLK Day—More Than a Day Off from School



By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff

Martin Luther King Jr. was an American Baptist, minister, and activist. He played a major role in the civil rights movement from 1955-1968 (the year of his death). Martin was born on January 15th, 1929, in Atlanta Georgia. He was assassinated on April 4th, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Martin attended Morehouse College (1944-1948). In 1948 he graduated and continued his education at Crozer Theological Seminary.



Martin Luther King Jr. Day is to celebrate Martin and his birthday. Even though his birthday is January 15th, the holiday takes place on the third Monday during the first month of the new year (January). President Ronald Reagan signed a bill in

1983 and the first federally recognized MLK day was in 1986. All of the states made it a state government holiday by the year 2000.

How is MLK Day celebrated? Martin Luther King Jr. Day is usually celebrated with parades and speeches. Civil rights leaders and politicians will normally give speeches as well. Most people also get off from school and work.

Who Was Dr. Martin Luther King?



By Gianna Peanamanda
Tusker Tribune Staff

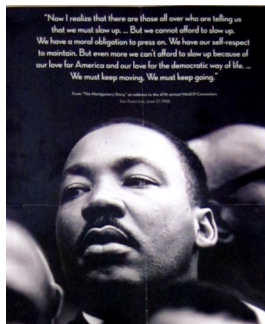
Martin Luther King's most famous speech is called, "I have a Dream".

Sadly, he was only 39 years old when he died. Surprisingly, his birth name was Michael not Martin. Also, he entered college at 15. Wow! He was arrested 29 times.

Now that I have shown you some facts, let's talk about the holiday. The holiday is celebrated because the day commemorates the life and work of Dr. King, who was a Baptist minister and prominent leader in the African-American civil rights movement.

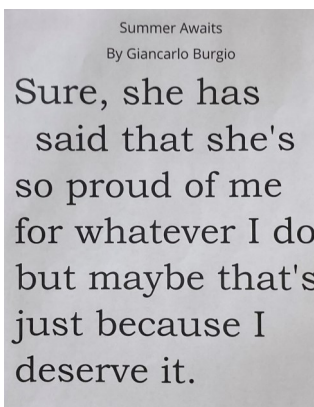
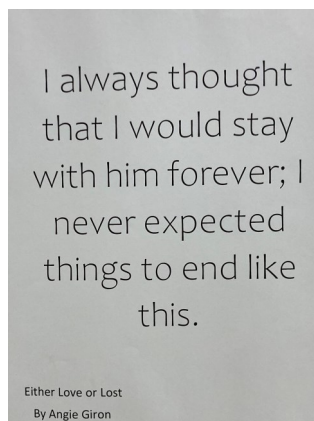
Also, Martin Luther King Day honors the life of a fighter for racial justice and equality. He was born on January 15, 1929 and assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Some famous quotes he said are, "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope." Another one is, "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate



NaNoWriMo Leads

The Tusker Tribune will publish different NaNoWriMo "leads" from this year's 8th graders over the next couple of months. You can see these leads posted in the hallways in the 8th grade wing and on the main floor of the school.



Memories from the 1960s



**By Daniel Ziegler
Tusker Tribune Staff**

My grandmother is in her 70's, and she has gone through a lot in life. So, I wondered if she remembered her childhood, and middle school. I spent some time over the break with my grandmother, and I asked her some questions that I was curious about.



Q: What was a fun memory from middle school?

A: "I liked to help the sisters (she went to a Catholic school), eat with my friends who had polio (a disease that left people paralyzed), and I liked the gym class, to play with my friends."

Q: Was middle school in the 60's hard?

A: "Middle school was good for me, but I had to take two buses to school because I had to move

from Brooklyn to Queens."

Q: What were your favorite things to do as a kid?

A: "I liked to play hopscotch, board games and bike riding with my friends."

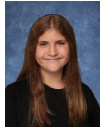
Q: What was your favorite subject or things to do in middle school?

A: "I loved learning about my religion and faith. I liked history class, as well as plays, drama and music. Those were things I liked learning about."

Q: What do you think is different now than then?

A: "I think there was a lot more respect back then, and there wasn't bad language on TV. There is more road rage now, too, but what I think is the most different is the media, and superheroes are too vengeful, nowadays. They were more interested in justice and fairness back then."

Resolution Suggestions That You Might Actually Keep!



**By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Having trouble figuring out new goals for the new year? Here are 23 New Year's resolution ideas for kids!

- Eat more vegetables
- Eat more fruit
- Set and complete a savings goal
- Read for at least 20 minutes a day
- Find an activity or sport to complete twice a week
- Have a more balanced diet
- Go outside more
- Play fewer video games
- Cut my screen time in half
- Have more patience
- Complete all homework on Time
- Have a 90% or above average
- Study for my tests
- Get in trouble less/Do my chores
- Try new foods
- Charge my tablet (for school) more often at home
- Start to learn a new language
- Organize my time/Better time management
- Set appropriate smaller goals for life
- Try my best to not be bothered by things out of my control
- Join a new club
- Participate more in class
- Take school work more seriously

I DON'T CALL THEM
NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS.

I PREFER THE TERM:
CASUAL PROMISES
TO MYSELF THAT
I AM UNDER NO LEGAL
OBLIGATION TO FULFILL

If Your Resolution is to Be More Organized . . .



**By Lauren Crispino
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Here are the best ways to organize yourself for the new year!

People often make new years resolutions, such as to eat healthier, get better grades, to stay more focused, or to even get more organized, and here are some ways to do that.

- Get a planner. It can be a school planner or a personal planner, either way it will help you remember everything and keep track of assignments
- Start logging assignments in Schoology calendar. A lot of people forget to check the Schoology calendar, but most teachers post all due dates, test dates and important reminders in the Schoology calendar.
- Color coding for each class is a great way to stay organized. Some teachers require this, but most don't, so I suggest getting a system for this school year and future ones to come!
- If you take notes in class, use post it or book tabs and divide your notes into different sections depending on the topic or unit you're on in class! It's a very easy way to access your notes.
- Tell a friend about all this! It may seem silly but if you forget about what's in a certain folder, your friend could remember it! Also, it will motivate them to do the same and help you with it!

These are my top 5 ways to stay organized. I hope this helps!



What Would Happen if the Sun Exploded?



**By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff**

“What would happen if the sun exploded?” is not an average question someone would think about every day. However, what if the sun were to explode?

If the sun were to explode, there would be no main light source in our solar system, or barely any light at all. Planets close to the sun would be destroyed during the explosion. Mercury, Venus, and Earth would be absolutely destroyed, along with everything on those planets.

Other planets that did not explode would



be extremely dark, but also cold. Without the light from the sun, it wouldn't just be dark, it would be super cold! All life on earth and the surrounding planets would end.

If the sun ever does explode, we definitely won't be around to see it. The sun is predicted to explode, however, this won't happen for another 7-8 billion years. (Keep in mind earth only formed 4.5 billion years ago)

• **Fun Facts:**

- The sun is considered an average-sized star.
- The sun is a yellow dwarf star.
- The radius of the sun is 432,690 miles.

Stuff to Do IF We Ever Have a Snow Day

**By Jack Loscher
Tusker Tribune Staff**



Bored in the snow? Here are some fun activities to do on a snowy day!

- Build an Igloo (Need A LOT of snow)
- Have a snowball fight
- Go sledding
- Build a snowman
- Make a snow slushy
- Catch snowflakes
- Go ice skating
- Go skiing/snowboarding
- Sit by the fire
- Watch a movie
- Create paper snowflakes



Avoiding the Post-Holiday Letdown



**By Anna Huber
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Ever have that feeling in January or during the holidays? You know, the one where you feel gloomy and sad that the holidays are over or just stressed about it? That's called post-holiday letdown or post-holiday blues. Well, I'm here to tell you how to avoid post-holiday letdown!

Find things to look forward to after the holidays!

Holidays are something you look forward to throughout the months of winter.

So, when the holidays pass and you're feeling a bit blue, try to find things you look forward to after the holidays! It could be anything from an upcoming field trip for a school or maybe a new season of a show you love! Whatever it is, find the positive and build up that excitement!



Practice self-care

It brings you down when the holidays fly through just like that. So, one way to get yourself to be a bit more optimistic is practicing self-care.

What can you do to practice self-care? Well, you need to focus on yourself. Whether that's focusing on getting your grades up or setting goals, practice self-care! By doing this you can set expectations for yourself that will get you through the month of January!

Find joy in the little things

Is it your favorite movie that brings you joy? A food that you find comforting? A song that you just can't seem to get out of your head. Well, either way, find joy in the little things. This can help you get through post-holiday letdown.

Now before I end this story, remember that there are people here to help you. Maybe it's post-holiday letdown or just something else totally unrelated. There are people who care and are here to help you.

Reporters/Contributors

**Lauren Crispino
Anna Huber
Jack Loscher
Gianna Peanamanda
Ava Schmidberger
Dan Ziegler**

