

The Tusker Tribune

The student newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Spring 2016



REMINDER:

**"Spring Forward" this weekend! Move clocks ahead one hour!
And, change your Smoke Detector Batteries!**



SMS' 'Uniqueness Awareness Week' Promotes Tolerance; Acceptance



By Noelle DeMarinis
Tusker Tribune Staff

This past week our school took part in Uniqueness Awareness Week. Uniqueness Awareness Week is a great time to express your interests and passions.

Organized by the SMS Student Council, Uniqueness Awareness Week was founded by Emily Schreer, a former SMS student, who has tirelessly worked with current SMS students to keep the event going strong.

According to Emily, "Celebrating and accepting what makes each person unique is the best way to bring us together and bring us closer to a future without bullying or inequality."

Many students and teachers participated by wearing the designated attire for each day. On Monday, it was "Equality for all Day". The students expressed their love for different sports or activities. This showed how everyone is unique in their own way. On Tuesday, we celebrated "Anti-Bullying Day". We were supposed to wear blue to make a wave against bullying. This helped the school unite and protest against bullying issues.

On Wednesday, the school was filled with red and Somers gear. This day was named "Somers Action Day". This was to show our love and pride for the school and the community.



"Equality for All" Day involved wearing sports team jerseys to promote that everyone has a talent in something.

For Thursday, which was "Promote progress towards peace", everyone was decked out in pink or purple and pajamas! This represented the school supporting peace and love across the world.

On Thursday afternoon, over 200 students played in a spirited Dodgeball competition in a celebration of school-wide kindness and cross grade teamwork. **(See Related Story on next page.)**

Lastly on Friday, it was "World Language/ Cultural Day"! The school wanted to explain their support to all of the different races and cultures practiced by the students and teachers.

In addition, during Lunch Periods, the top student projects from 8th grade ELA classes on Social Action were invited to spread awareness about the issues that concern students. 13 projects from passionate students formed a daily convention in the cafe to promote kindness and taking action in the world. Students put an emphasis on the belief that all humans can make a difference and that all humans can be inspired to be "Global Citizens".

Uniqueness Awareness Week teaches us that we must always be open minded and accepting to others. Understanding these differences can prevent further bullying, racism and discrimination.



: The Warriors Series— *Into the Wild*

By Peyton DiSiena
Tusker Tribune Staff

Have you finished a book and are in need for a new book or series!

Well I have some news for you! Every article I will be doing a report on books and series for every reader here!

Let's start with a favorite of mine, the Warriors series by Erin Hunter. If you enjoy fantasy and animals,



then this is for you. We have here our main protagonist, Rusty, a normal housecat, wanting to be free in the wild. But when he gets the chance to live in ThunderClan, a wild band of clan cats that live in the forest, will he go and take the chance of living his dreams, or stay a housecat, being lonely for ages to come? I will leave the rest of the plot for you to find out.

Oh, and if you didn't know, in the forest there are four clans, ThunderClan, RiverClan, ShadowClan, and WindClan. I hope you check out the Warriors series, and the first book, Into The Wild. Happy reading!

Having a Ball!

Dodgeball Tourney Highlights Uniqueness Awareness Week

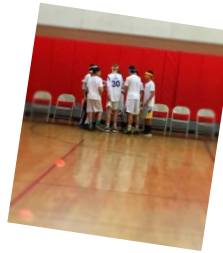
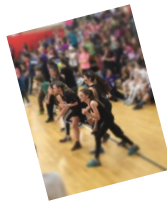


By Mia Renne
Tusker Tribune Staff

The stands were filled with enthusiastic people waiting for the games to begin.

Just before the SMS Dodgeball Tournament started, the student council had a special award to give to Emily Schreer, in honor of creating Uniqueness Awareness Week back when she was in eighth grade! She was greeted with flowers, and gave a speech about her experience of creating this huge event at SMS.

Finally the tournament begins. Game after game, dodgeballs flying back and fourth, players dodging and throwing. And finally the last person on the team standing! Gabby Parisi (grade 6) is the last one standing on her team! 6-1, Gabby's team cheering for her along with the crowd! She manages to stay in but

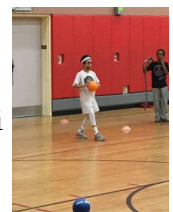


finally the other team gives it their all and gets Gabby out!

All the game were amazing, and they all got the

crowd cheering! Of course it had to come to the end, but it was amazing how many students supported Uniqueness Awareness Week and all of its very special events!

Tournament Results are as follows: The "White Mambas" dodgeball team was victorious. 8th graders Drew Lasher, Aidan Rodgers, and Thomas Parisi teamed up with 7th graders Jackson Kossow, Jett Colella, and Greg Gates who teamed up with 6th graders Jake Riina, Eli Yates, and Francesco Gioffre for the 2016 title.



Cultures Shine During World Language Day



By Julianna Aiello
Tusker Tribune Staff

World Language Day 2016 was a complete and appetizing success!

This year's 7th graders made projects to represent the country that specific class had assigned.

Señor Guidolin had Cuba, Señora Gottlieb had Columbia, Mr. Lindia had Italy, and Mrs. Pepe has Mexico. Each class had different foods and entertainment.

Señor Guidolin: In Cuba there was plantains, rice, crèma fritas, trece leches, and much more! The entertainment was a simple dance move, and a Dominos game.

Señora Gottlieb: In Colombia there were paper flowers, arepasi, ring toss,

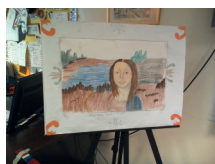
rice and a lot of other really good foods!

Mr. Lindia: In Italy there were lemon cookies, lasagna, quiche, bread sticks, pasta, and believe me, it was good! There also was a simple dance video going on.

Señora Pepe: In Mexico, you could have made a God's eye, or a mini piñata. There was Mexican soda, hot chocolate, tacos, rice.

Mrs. Messina: In France there were lemon meringues, macaroons, quiche, crepes, croissant with chocolate, and other delicious things. There were perfumes, mask making, and taking a picture as the Mona Lisa.

This Years World Language Day was the best! All the classrooms made it feel like it was the celebration in that country!



Music Mayhem! A weekly compilation of popular tunes

Top Charts for: March 10, 2016

By Evan Volkman



1. **Work** (feat. Drake) - Rihanna
2. **7 Years** - Lukas Graham
3. **PILLOWTALK** - ZAYN
4. **Work From Home** (feat. Ty Dolla \$ign) - Fifth Harmony
5. **YOUTH** - Troye Sivan
6. **My House** - Flo Rida
7. **I Took A Pill In Ibiza** [SeeB Remix] - Mike Posner
8. **NO** - Meghan Trainor
9. **Never Forget You** - Zara Larsson & MNEK
10. **Love Yourself** - Justin Bieber
11. **Stressed Out** - twenty one pilots
12. **Cake By The Ocean** - DNCE
13. **Me, Myself & I** (feat. Bebe Rexha) - G-Eazy
14. **One Call Away** (feat. Tyga) - Charlie Puth
15. **Roses** (feat. ROZES) - The Chainsmokers
16. **Hands To Myself** - Selena Gomez

17. **Save Dat Money** (feat. Fetty Wap & Rich Homie Quan) - Lil Dicky
18. **Die A Happy Man** - Nelly
19. **Hello** - Adele
20. **Middle** (feat. Bipolar Sunshine) - DJ Snake
21. **Over And Over Again** (feat. Ariana Grande) [Elephante Remix] - Nathan Sykes
22. **2 Phones** - Kevin Gates
23. **Stand By You** - Rachel Platten
24. **Hotline Bling** - Drake
25. **Don't Let Me Down** (feat. Daya) - The Chainsmokers
26. **Sorry** - Justin Bieber
27. **Company** - Justin Bieber
28. **El Taxi** (feat. Lil Jon & Osmani Garcia) - Pitbull
29. **Hide Away** - Daya
30. **Jumpman** - Drake & Future



Matt Kushner's 'Time Warp' Series

It is recommended that you read the previous chapter in the 3/3/16 issue of the Tusker Tribune.

Chapter 2

We arrived in an alleyway near my shop. "Where are we?" And then I realized where we were. "Is this where you... ugh...." I was disgusted. "Sleep?" "You better get used to it, *shop-keeper*."

"You're just as bankrupt as me. Shut up."

"Well then. How am I going to go 'back into time' as you said?"

"Here you go." The old hobo pulled out a little, 70's looking, small, chipped up, almost toy-looking, machine. It had a weird sphere in the center, and an old box surrounding it by 4 sides.

"I'm going to give this to you. Don't ask why, don't ask how I got it, and don't ask where I got it. If you want to save yourself from losing your precious shop, just put your hand on the sphere. I already set the time."

"Now, I'd like you to go back in time and stop this from happening."

"What happens if this'll just shock me, and you are just a murderer?"

"Then you have to trust me." I was going to touch the sphere nothing was going to happen, and I was going to start working for the grocery

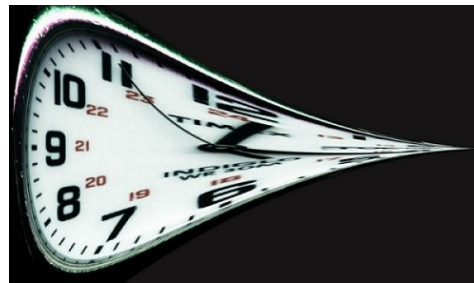
store, and call this an early retirement. That's what was going to happen.

"By the way, Mr. Hobo—"

"Move! Quick!

What are you waiting for? Move! Move! Move! It's happening! Touch the sphere! You're the only one who can stop this from happening!"

"Wait! What thing?" And then I looked across the street



to the electronic shop across the road.

People. Seeming to be falling into the ground.

Cars. Seemingly attracted to the sky.

Buildings. Being ripped off their founda-

tions.

It all of it coming in a ripple, from the shop, towards us.

"Quickly! No time must be wasted. USE THE MACHINE!" And then, out of fear, and rage, and confusion, I put my hand onto the dark, almost black, sphere.

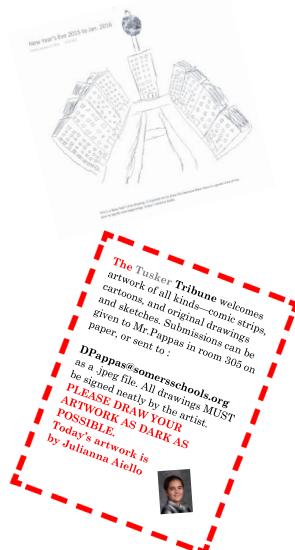
"It's a one-time use!" And then everything went black, and time as I knew it disappeared before my eyes.

The Tusker
Tribune

"Cartoons n'

Comedic

Creations"



The Tusker
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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 Somers Middle School, 250 Route 202, Somers, NY, USA. Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at DPappas@somersschools.org

Somers Middle School Drama
Club presents



March 17, 18 and 19 @ 7:0 pm

& Saturday, March 19 @ 1 pm

Tickets available @ www.seatyourself.biz

Directed by Michelle Moriarty

Musical Direction Marie Williams

Producer- Katy Faivre



Unforeseen: Chapter 1

By Steven Robeson

"C'mon mom, it's so early... do I really have to get up now?"

"School starts soon," she says while she points at the clock. **MON 6:30.**

"Oops... I didn't realize I slept this late. Sorry mom!"

I quickly put my school uniform on. I go down and eat my breakfast. My mom poured me a bowl of Fre-EZY cereal, my favorite brand. She knows me so well. I grab my books, stuff them in my backpack, and say goodbye to my dog and mother. For a second there, I almost felt like a normal kid would have felt like 200 years ago. But then I walked out the door and onto the catwalks that were being illuminated by the sun.

While I was walking to school, I see my friend Nick come out of his room. He lives under our family's room. I really wish we got his room instead of ours; his is much bigger. "What's up?" I ask him.

"The stars. And the sun," he jokes. We make small talk until we reach the elevator. For the first time in months, the big **OUT OF ORDER** sign has been removed. They finally got around to fixing the elevator. Now we don't have to walk 4 flights of stairs up the spacecraft to get to our classroom!

We arrive at our classes and split up. Sadly, we don't share classes. I sit down in my class and listen to my teacher's directions. "Alright class, here are your schedules for the week," she says as she passes around papers, "make sure you are on time for your assignments."



here aren't cruel. We get the easy things like cleaning hallways, and fixing lights or leaky

I look down at mine. Every Monday, all kids are assigned tasks or chores to do around the ship. Of course, the adults

pipes. The adults here get hard things like cooking food, working the generators, monitoring the life support systems, and even being security guards if the captain trusts them.

MONDAY AFTER SCHOOL: Clean hallway D6.

TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL:

Fix leaky pipes outside of septic room 2. Yuck.

WEDNESDAY: No assignments!

THURSDAY DURING SCHOOL:

Lunch duty. I stop and pause... be-

cause the assignment on Friday is strange, really strange. In my 6 years of school, I have never seen this before. **FRIDAY:** Skip school, report to the communication office for a special assignment.

Beep! Beep! Be-

Today I set my alarm to go off, the first time I have done that in a while. Because today was special. I glance at my clock, **FRI 5:30.** I put my clothes on, not my school uniform. Normal clothes! My mom asks me where I am going, so I show her my schedule. She sighs. Ralph, my dog, is jumping all over me.

"Stop it boy! I need to go!"

"Actually," my mom chimes in, "I need you to walk the dog. He hasn't been walked in 2 days. Bring him with you. I'm sure they won't mind. The assignment can't take that long, right? They probably just want you to clean or something."

"Yeah, you're right."

When I arrived at the office for my "special assignment", they don't even care or mention that I have a dog with me. Pets are common here. Just about every family has a dog or a cat, so I guess they just grew accustomed to them.

"Mr. Robeson? Today is a very special day. I have a message for you." He pauses, and looks around the room suspiciously as if he was checking if someone else was here. "It's from Earth."

