



The Tusker Tribune

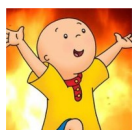


SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

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There Are Ways to Help Stop Climate Change



By Claire Cronin
Tusker Tribune Staff

A big issue in the world today is climate change. Climate change is the long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. These shifts may be natural, but since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change. Glaciers are melting, the sea level is rising, forest fires are at a new high. All of these have been caused by the climate change, greenhouse gases, gases in the earth's atmosphere that trap heat. Levels are much higher than they used to be. If you're worried, there are some things you can do.

Walk, bike, or take public transport

The world's roadways are clogged with vehicles, most of them burning diesel or gasoline. Walking or riding a bike instead of driving will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help your health and fitness.

Eat more vegetables

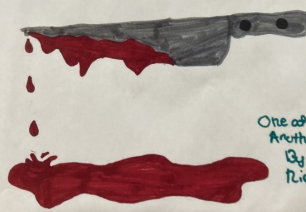
Eat more vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes, nuts, and seeds. Producing plant-based foods generally results in fewer greenhouse gas emissions and requires less energy, land, and water.

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NaNoWriMo Leads

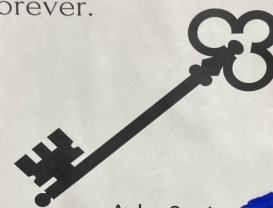
The Tusker Tribune will publish different NaNoWriMo "leads" from this year's 8th graders over the next couple of months. These leads are on display in the 8th grade wing and on the main floor of the school.

As the killer began to chase, he started breathing heavily after feeling the spine-twisting terror while a chill ran down his spine.



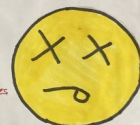
THIS WAS OUR PART 2

I Can't Be Dishonest Forever.



Audrey Cascio

Suddenly I see a flying fist coming at me, then next thing you know I'm knocked out on the floor.



Karate Eagles by Tyler Barnes

SMS's STAR Students For February 2023

Grade 6:



Johnny DeVito



Cole Harney



Gianna Peanamanda



Olivia Girolamo

Grade 7:



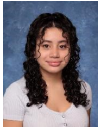
Jessa Chakides



Max Weinfeld

A STAR award stands for Students who are Role Models. The students pictured here were caught doing something that deserves the STAR recognition for the month—from common courtesy, to helping another student or staff member, to standing up for someone or cheering them up!

6 Out of 10 Global Problems and How to Help Solve Them



By Sophia Valenzuela
Tusker Tribune Staff

Editor's Note: This is an ongoing series presenting 20 global problems and solutions to fix them. This is the sixth installment. The first installment ran in the 10/14/22 issue of the Tusker Tribune.

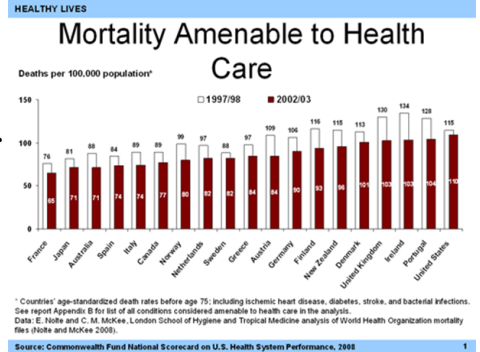
Health care is ranked 6th for top global problems we must address. This problem is mainly caused by COVID 19.

In 2021, \$44 billion was spent on health innovation. Some of the problems with the U.S health care include preventable medical errors, poor amenable morality rates, lack of transparency, high costs of care, and lack of insurance coverage.

Preventable medical errors could be surgery on the wrong person or body part, a wrong procedure, surgical instruments and sponges left in bodies, undue exposure to radiation, unnecessary CT scans leading to development of cancer, not needed surgeries/operations and medications errors.

Poor amenable morality rates is deaths from different types of diseases like diabetes and appendicitis, which are preventable given effective health care.

One way to help with this is by being a non-smoker, eating healthy foods, exercising regularly and limiting alcohol consumption. All of this can reduce the risk of different lethal diseases like heart diseases, a stroke and cancer.



Lack of transparency in the health care system causes worst quality and consistency. Having transparency can improve the trust and relationships and promote a better outcome and satisfaction.

Another problem is **high cost of health care**. Having a high costs of health care affects the earnings of many people. This could not only hold down wages but also destroys jobs, especially for less skilled workers who earn lower wages.

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Reporters and Contributors

Reagan Ciccone
Claire Cronin
Xavi Dosil
Samantha Harris
Bridget Leitner
Ruby McDowell
Ava Schmidberger
Sophia Valenzuela



Who is 'Roybn Fenty'?



By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff

Roybn Rihanna Fenty (also know just as Rihanna) recently performed at the Super Bowl. Rihanna is an icon, successful entrepreneur, Barbadian singer, and actress. She was born on February 20th, 1988 in Saint Michael, Barbados, and stands tall at 5'8".

Rihanna has a makeup and skincare brand called Fenty Beauty. The brand was created with promise of inclusion for all women. The brand has about 50 different foundation shades, as well as 50 different concealer shades. The brands products are considered to be on the affordable side.

Rihanna has two brothers, Rorrey Fenty and Rajad Fenty. She also has three half siblings from her father's side—two half-sisters and a half-brother.

Rihanna is currently married to Rakim Mayers, also known as "A\$AP Rocky". She also has a son. However, the public doesn't know much about him. All we know is that the baby is a boy and was born on May 13th 2022, and is now 9 months old.



Climate

From Page 1

Throw away less food

When you throw food away, the food rots in a landfill. It produces methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. So use what you buy and compost any leftovers.

Reduce, reuse, repair & recycle

Electronics, clothes, and other items we buy cause carbon emissions at each point in production, from the extraction of raw materials to manufacturing and transporting goods to market.

What's the Hardest Subject in School?



By Reagan Ciccone
Tusker Tribune Staff

Have you ever wondered what the hardest subject is in school? I know I have!

To accurately answer the question (and out of blatant curiosity), I have set up a questionnaire with my 8th grade friends, asking each of them separately what they think is the hardest subject and why.

The first person I interviewed for this arti-

cle is my friend, **Julianna DiScala**. She is currently an 8th grader attending Somers Middle School.

"Julianna, what do you think the hardest subject is in school?" I asked Julianna.

"Science, by

far" she tells me.

"Why do you think that?" I asked her.

"I personally think that there is a lot of work that is given to you in eighth grade science," she began to say. "I do not understand it clearly and I do not get what my teacher is saying most of the time," she continued. "Every day, there are more and more assignments being assigned to you and they are always due on the same day," she told me. "Another thing about science is that the grading is stricter compared to seventh-grade science. It was a huge shift" she concluded.

Julianna has a great point. She expressed her point and explained why she thought science was the hardest subject.

Health Care

From Page 2

This could also cause people to cancel appointments or not seek the treatment they need which could cause risk to their health which could affect their source of money. Lastly it could cause them to seek what they need for health and then put them in debt or financial risk.

Lack of health insurance coverage has affected an estimated 30 million people. Health insurance protects you from health and financial risks. No one plans to get sick or hurt, but most people need medical care at some point. Health insurances covers the costs and offers many other important benefits. Health insurances protects you from unexpected and high medical costs.

There are many problems when it comes to health care which is why its important to stay as healthy as possible to prevent having a problem with health care.

Now, moving on to the next person I interviewed. She is my friend, too. **Ashley Contreras** is an 8th grader attending Somers Middle School.

"Ashley, what do you think is the hardest subject in school?" I asked Ashley.

"Probably science but social studies is a close second" she answers.

"Why do you think science is the hardest subject?" I asked her.

"Well, in science, we tend to get assigned a lot of assessments and test," she began to explain. "Sometimes it can also be hard to understand the lessons that are being taught to us," she continued. "Overall science is very confusing," she summarized.

Ashley also had a great point, just like Julianna. So far everyone has said science.

The next person I interviewed requested I would keep them **anonymous**, but I will say they are in 8th grade at Somers Middle School.

"What do you think is the hardest subject in school?" I asked.

"Social studies or science are both definitely the hardest subjects for me," Anonymous told me.

"Why do you think that?" I asked.

"I feel like sometimes, you just do not have the motivation to do the work because those subjects do not have a particular interest to me," they told me.

I strongly agree with this point because it is personally hard for me to do work for a subject that does not have any particular interest for me.

So far, everyone has said or at least mentioned science as the hardest subject in school. I know this does not determine the truth since these opinions can be considered biased, but this is just to see what my friends think about certain subjects.

Next time we will look at more interviews from 8th graders and see what is in store for us next time. Thanks for reading!



The Tusker Tribune is the online Somers Middle School Student Newspaper. It is published weekly (except during school vacations) on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from:

Somers Middle School
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Somers, NY, USA.

Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at:

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Tusker Tribune Website:

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

Shedding Light on Electricity's Origins



By **Bridget Leitner**
Tusker Tribune Staff

Electricity is an important part of our everyday life. Electricity can be used for lighting, heating, cooling, refrigerating, operating appliances, electronics, machinery, public transport systems, and many more.

Regular use of electricity started in the 18th century. Three individuals were behind this application: William Greener, Henry M. Leland, and Schuyler Weeler.

William Greener was an English inventor and gunmaker. He developed a self-expanding bullet in 1835 and an electric lamp in 1846. He was born in 1806 and died in 1869.

Henry M. Leland was an American machinist, inventor, engineer, and automotive entrepreneur. He founded the two premier American luxury automotive marques: Cadillac, and Lincoln. He was born in 1843 and died in 1932.

Schuyler Weeler was an American electrical engineer and manufacturer who invented the electric fan, an electric elevator design, and the electric fire engine. He was born in 1860 and died in 1923.

Electricity is made of electrons. This helps conduct electricity by giving the flow of electrons a targeted direction, allowing them to move uniformly while simultaneously creating a positive

charge known as an electrical current.

There are three primary electrical parameters: the volt, ampere, and the ohm. **The volt** is the pressure that is put on free electrons that causes them to flow and is known as electromotive force. **The ampere** defines the flow rate of electric current. **The ohm** is the unit of resistance in a conductor.



Have you ever wondered if electricity ever runs out? Well, since the pumping of charge is the cause of electric current in a circuit electricity system, the current will never stop flowing as long as the pump remains on, and the circuit remains uninterrupted. So, this means that the current relies on the pump.

Yes, there are a lot of positives in using electricity, such as electricity being used to power cars, which lessens our dependence on fossil fuels and helps with climate change. But in other uses, electricity can cause electric shock and burns from contact with live parts. Electric shock can have symptoms that include pain, tingling, numbness, weakness, or difficulty moving a limb.

In conclusion, and like I said before, electricity is an important part of our everyday life and has many pros and cons to it. For example, a pro is how it powers electrical cars, and a con would be how it can cause different injuries. But overall, I think we can all agree electricity is extremely helpful and useful in our lives.

You Should Still be Cautious About COVID



By **Samantha Harris**
Tusker Tribune Staff

Coronavirus is an infectious disease, commonly called Covid-19. It weakens or destroys the human respiratory system and causes breathing difficulties. It is an epidemic that spreads like wildfire all over the world.

The deadly virus was first identified in Wuhan, China in 2019. In March, the WHO declared Covid-19, or coronavirus, to be a pandemic affecting the world. Infected people are isolated from everyone because the virus spreads through coughs, sneezes, etc. of infected people. Victims were also separated from



their families and loved ones. Other symptoms seen in Covid-19 patients include fatigue, sore throat, muscle pain, and loss of taste and smell.

There have been vaccines produced over the years that make it less common for people to have the disease. The vaccine has two shots that are usually taken 1-2 months apart. There is also has a booster for extra protection for those who need it.

Fortunately, Covid-19 has faded, and the yearly Covid-19 cases had decreased. If everyone does their part in getting a vaccine and staying sterile then hopefully, we won't have to worry about Covid-19 anymore.

Six Stars for Lion King Jr.



**By Xavi Dosil
Tusker Tribune
Staff**

The Lion King Jr. play was the best play I have seen in awhile. I give it 6 stars out of 5.

When you walk into the lobby, you will notice the concession stand. Bring some cash for snacks.

The production did a great job making this play a reality. I loved how the actors used every inch of the theater. The costumes were bright and creative.

The cast was all very talented in acting and singing. I did not realize Scar was Aiden



Quinn until after. Aiden was brilliant as Scar.

The behind the scene crew did an amazing job as well.

If you don't have a ticket buy one for this weekend. Don't worry there are no bad seats!

Remaining performances are Friday, March 10, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 11, at 2 and 7 p.m. (Inclement weather date is set for Sunday, March 12,

at 2 p.m.). To purchase tickets online, visit

<http://somersms.seatyourself.biz>

Photo courtesy of TapintoSomers.net

Serena Williams Continues to Inspire



**By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Serena Williams is one of the most famous female tennis players ever. Although Ms. Williams retired in September of 2022, she continues to inspire young female athletes all around the world.

Ms. Williams stands tall at 5'7" and is 41 years old. She has a net worth of \$270 million! Mrs. Williams is often referred to as the "G.O.A.T" of tennis (greatest of all time).

Serena Williams is married to Alexis Ohanian, a 6'5" American internet entrepreneur. Serena Williams has



one child, a daughter, who goes by Olympia. However, her full name is Alexis Olympia Ohanian Jr.

Serena Williams has a total of 6 siblings! She has two brothers, Ronner and Richard Williams. She also has four sisters, Yetunde, Lyndrea, Isha, and Venus Williams.

Venus is also a famous tennis player, however, the rest of her siblings live their life off cameras and keep to themselves.

Serena has won many awards in her lifetime, including, Best Female Tennis Player, Best Female Athlete, NAACP Image Award, and Teen Choice Award for Choice Female Athlete. (As well as tons of others!)



Teams Vie for a Place in March Madness



**By Xavi Dosil
Tusker Tribune Staff**

This week, lots of people are watching their favorite basketball team in the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) play for their respective conference title.

It's called "Championship Week". It's when all the conference titles are decided before selection Sunday (March 12th at 6pm on CBS).

If a team wins a Division I conference title (ex. Big 12), they get an automatic bid into March Madness. Take the Big 10, for example (semifinals and final this weekend on CBS). Their tournament started March 8th with the first round matchup.



The winner of the first round match advanced to the 2nd round Thursday night. The winners of the 2nd round will be in the quarterfinals. By the way, the 2nd round and quarterfinalists are decided already, so when it gets to the quarterfinals, things start to heat up fast.

Once all the titles are decided, it will be time for the selection show. When all the teams await their fate whether their performance in the year

was enough or not enough to go into March Madness.

This week defines a lot of teams' chances to get into March Madness. Let's see which teams can make it into March Madness this week. Good luck to all teams.