

The Tusker Tribune

The student newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Spring 2016

Bond Should Help Fix Leaky Classrooms and Hallways



By Julianna Aiello
Tusker Tribune Staff

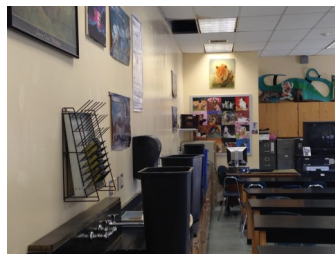
Mrs. Manko, a science teacher for the 7th grade, has a slimy situation. The roof above her classroom has a big hole in it, and every time it rains, dirty, rusty water leaks, and splatters on nearby students.

It is very disgusting, with liquid dripping everywhere. There are



buckets underneath collecting all the rain water. Most of the students try to avoid it, but they can't seem to stay away.

The walls look as if someone threw up all over it, broken



pipes on the ceiling, and to top all of that off, it smells!

Mrs. Manko said, "The students can't think; it is very distracting and very gruesome."

Editor's Note: Somers Central School District will be asking voters to pass a construction bond this year, totaling \$13.6 million, to fix roof, heat and A/C issues at all four Somers Schools. The vote will take place on May 17. This story focuses on the leaky roof issue in one of the classrooms at Somers Middle School that the bond is expected to address. Click on the link below to watch the video that outlines the bond issue:

<http://www.somersschools.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&ModuleInstanceID=31244&ViewID=94B66785-F3F0-41A8-8414-1E55691D3E9E&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=16861&PageID=7233>

Yay! One Field Trip After Another!



By Kaitlyn DeRosa
Tusker Tribune Staff

You guessed it! We have now begun.....(drum roll please!).. The Era of Field Trips! F

For the last three months of the school year, the 7th grade has at least one field trip every month.

On April 21st (TOMORROW!) we will be going to the Bronx Zoo.



On May 26th the we will be participating in Living History Day, which is an on school-grounds trip, and finally on June 20th we're going to Splash Down!



I personally can't wait and I am so excited! Also, the students who participate in Chorus, Orchestra and Band attended the Broadway show, Aladdin today!

Wow, this is going to be such a fun-packed end of the year! Woooooo!

Kobe Bryant Ends Stellar Career With a Peerless Performance



By Frankie Gallagher
Tusker Tribune Staff

On Wednesday April 13th, Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant played his final game in his 20 year career. Kobe played excellently in his final game scoring 60 points. It was a record breaking performance. He was the first player to ever score 60 points in their final NBA

land Cavaliers tweeted after the game, "UNBIELEVABLE MAN!!!!"

After the game he got a standing ovation as he was subbed out for the final time with 4 seconds left in the game.



game. He went 22/50 shooting.

LeBron James of the Cleve-

His teammates hugged him and congratulated him during and after the game as well. There is no doubt that Kobe Bryant is a future hall of famer. He may even be the G.O.A.T. (greatest of all time). Kobe will never be forgotten.



Music Mayhem!

A weekly compilation of popular tunes



By Evan Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

1. **7 Years** - Lukas Gra-

ham

2. **Panda** - Designer

3. **One Dance** (feat. Wiz Kid & Kayla) - Drake

4. **NO** - Meghan Trainor

5. **Work From Home** (feat. Ty Dolla \$ign) - Fifth Harmony

6. **Don't Let Me Down** (feat. Daya) - The Chainsmokers

7. **Pop Style** (feat. The Throne) - Drake

8. **I Took A Pill In Ibiza** (Seeb Remix) - Mike Posner

9. **Dangerous Woman** - Ariana Grande

10. **My House** - Flo Rida

11. **Work** (feat. Drake) - Rihanna

12. **Cake By The Ocean** - DNCE

13. **Never Forget You** - Zara Larsson & MNEK

14. **Close** (feat. Tove Lo) - Nick Jonas

15. **Let Me Love You** (feat. Lil Wayne) - Ariana Grande

16. **Champagne**

Problems - Nick Jonas

17. **PILLOWTALK** - ZAYN

18. **Stressed Out** - twenty one pilots

19. **LIKE I WOULD** - ZAYN

20. **Me, Myself, & I** (feat. Bebe Rexha) - G-Eazy



By Peyton DiSiena
Tusker Tribune Staff

Hello readers! I have a great book series for this short school week. It is the Pandora Series!

Basically, it is about a Greek mythological daughter of Prometheus named Pandora. She steals a box with seven sins and unleashes them into the mortal world.



In each book, she finds a sin and attempts to get it back in the box. But will she succeed? Find out in the Pandora series by Carolyn Hennessy!

Have a great week everyone and happy reading!

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

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Movie Review: U-571: The Movie



By Nitin Seshadri
Tusker Tribune Staff

Synopsis

U-571 is a 2000 World War II Historical Fiction movie. It chronicles some of the events of World War II, especially the capture of the German Enigma coding machine by the Allied Powers (US, Britain, France, etc.). If you go “across the pond” and then some (past Britain and France), you’ll stumble upon Germany, China, Japan, and the USSR (Soviet Union, would become Russia). These were the Axis Powers. The movie is set in a German U-boat called “U-571”.



Enigma’s Historical Significance

The Enigma Machine was a German encoding and decoding machine that used a mathematical cipher method. It had three rotors that could be set at random, so there could be over 75 possibilities per letter. It was impossible for anyone else to decode it because of this. You had to have an Enigma at both the sending and receiving areas to encode and decode the messages sent between the places. As a result, it was a coveted item for the Allied Powers (see above). When the Allies got hold of the Enigma it was one of the defining moments of the War.

Terms to know

Skipper: the captain of a ship

U-boat: A German submarine

Enigma: a paradox or question. Was the oddly fitting name used for the German cipher machines (see above).

Plot

A British Destroyer has just arrived home with news that it has destroyed the U-boat U-571. However, the submarine isn’t sunk; it is merely disabled. It radios home to Germany for help and the Americans catch wind of this com-

munication (although they cannot decode it because the German ships use the Enigma coding machine for radio messages). The Americans rightly suspect that the U-boat is just disabled and a German resupply ship is to come and assist the U-boat in a few hours. The American Navy decides to mount a plan to capture and scuttle (self-destruct) the U-boat. They modify an old submarine to look like the Nazi U-boat that would pose as the resupply ship. While sailing they decide to hide the Nazi symbols with a tarp cover to prevent unwanted attack.

As for sailors, they decide to interrupt the 48-hour liberty period of some Navy soldiers in a party. Some army soldiers dressed in green garb stormed into the bar and barked “This club’s taken now”. This aroused a big uproar in the crowd as a Navy skipper yelled “These people have a 48-hour liberty pass!” The soldiers yelled back “Not anymore. This is a TOP SECRET operation.”

When the navy soldiers arrived at the dock, they were surprised to see mechanics transforming an old US submarine to look like a Nazi U-boat. After standing in a queue and receiving orders from their superiors, the sailors go to their respective stations and prepare for their outing.

Once launched, the submarine navigated its way toward the disabled U-boat and when they are in its vicinity, they remove the tarp cover hiding the Nazi symbols from the submarine.

A special boarding party departs the submarine on a life raft and boards the German U-boat claiming that they have “fresh eggs”. The Germans unknowingly allow the Americans to board the boat. Then the Americans start shooting and kill all the people on the German U-boat when they discover that the “resupply” ship’s crew is actually American.

It would have seemed that the job was over. But catastrophe strikes! The German resupply ship arrived, and sinks the American boat (despite its Nazi markings), leaving the American boarding party on the German boat with nowhere to go. They somehow are able to decipher the German-labeled controls and sink the German resupply ship with torpedoes.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Matt Kushner's 'Time Warp' Series

It is recommended that you read the previous chapter(s).

Chapter 8

"Wait. Mr. Treer, repeat the plan. I'm sorry, I'm just confused."

I really was confused. The plan literally made no sense.

"Fine! First, we will break into the main entrance, or the electronic shop entrance. After that, we split. You go and distract the D.E.F.E.N.D. units and—"

"How will I be able to do that? I can barely outrun them!" I exclaimed, still confused.

"I'll show you later, Harry. Anyway, while you are distracting the units, we will find the power core. There, Flogger and I will dim the power. Then, production will cease due to the low power. We will lock ourselves in the power core room, and this is where you come in again."

He motioned to a messy, quick-drawn diagram that Treer drew earlier during the first explanation of the plan.

"You, while attention is drawn off of you, will place these bombs."



Treer then picked up a small device, almost the size of a bouncy ball. "Place them in each of the storage rooms, where the time machines are held. Then, we will set the power core to explode."



Both of us, Flogger and I, will meet you at the exit parallel to our entrance. Once we escape, the power core will explode, leaving the lower levels majorly damaged. Then, one of us can set off the mines in the storage room, and the mission is complete. Capiche?"

"Ca...piche?" I guess I understood. Now all we had to do was follow the plan that Mr. Treer has formed.

"Treer." It was Mr. Flogger. "Are you sure? About this?"

"Yes, Flogger. I am sure. Let's go gear up."

Then Mr. Treer went behind the counter and he was putting in who knows how many passcodes. Then, a door opened from the back of the counter. Mr. Flogger and Mr. Treer went through the door. I followed, guessing that it was an act that meant I was agreeing to help them. I really hoped I was helping the right team.

And that I already didn't to any damage.

U-571 (Continued from page 3)

Soon after, however, a German battleship appears, and is ready to sink the U-boat which the Americans are on. With the U-boat's deck gun, the Americans destroy the battleship's radio shack, preventing them from radioing home with news of the enemy. And in one swift move, with the one remaining torpedo, they sink the battleship.

My thoughts

U-571 was an awesome movie! Its storyline kept me hooked till the last minute and I didn't want

to stop watching it. This movie has now got me hooked on World War II and I have started watching some WWII documentaries. I would recommend this movie to anyone.

Info for parents: This movie is rated PG-13.

Editor's Note: Click on this link for the U571 Trailer:

<http://viewpure.com/2imOf6-H3tI?start=0&end=0>