



The Tusker Tribune

NEWSPAPER CLUB



TUSKER TRIBUNE

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

Issue Number 9

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

Fall 2021

Is Santa Claus Real?



**By Lucas Ziegler
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Is Santa Claus real? People often ask themselves that question.

Santa Claus originates from St. Nicolaus, who was a Christian pastor in the village of Myra, a former city in modern day Turkey. The legend says that long ago, Pastor Nicolaus helped three women who wanted to get married but had no dowry. A dowry is money or other valuables needed to set up a home.

Nicolaus believed that God would find a way to help the women. And so,



Pastor Nicolaus went to the women's house and quietly dropped three bags of gold coins through the shutter, landing in their shoes. His kindness and generosity spread throughout the land, and he became known as Father Christmas. This shows that Santa Claus really did come from a real person and, also why he's nicknamed St. Nick.

My family celebrates St. Nicolaus day, when gifts are left in our shoes or boots during the night on December 6.

Continued on Page 3

If You Were a Doctor, What Illness Would You Like to Cure?



**By Claire Cronin
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Most people, if they were asked right now, "If you were a doctor, what illness would you like to cure?" would answer "COVID 19 right away."

In my opinion, however, I would answer "cancer".

You might ask why? Well, here's why. Cancer is a disease that people don't have much of a choice about. Most of the time, it is hard to find cancer without a doctor.



In 2018, an estimated 9.5 million people died of cancer worldwide. To give you more of an understanding, cancer is a disease caused when cells divide uncontrollably and spread into surrounding tissues. Cancer is caused by changes to DNA.

Most cancer-causing DNA changes occur in sections of DNA called genes.

Well that was my opinion. What would you choose?

Two Terrific Reads!



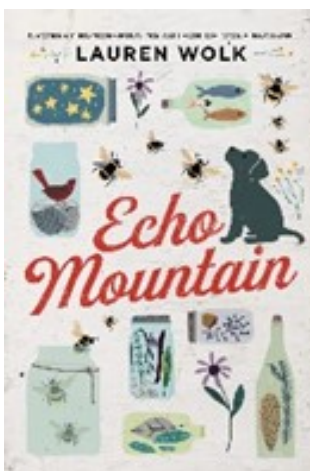
**By Eve Clark
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Ever looking for something to read? I might not have exactly what you are looking for, but I have two suggestions.

War Stories by Gordan Korman. War Stories tell the story of seventh grader Trevor Firestone, whose 93-year-old great-grandfather, Jacob, fought in World War II.



When Jacob is invited to return to France to be honored as the last surviving Allied veteran of the Battle of Ste. Régine, he invites Trevor and his father to accompany him.



I like this book because I am a huge fan of historical books, and it is a very well authored book.

Echo Mountain by Lauren Wolk. A young hero in Depression-era Maine is navigating the rocky terrain of her new life in Echo Mountain. After the financial crash, Ellie and her family have lost almost everything--including their home in town.

They have started over, carving out a new life in the unforgiving terrain of Echo Mountain. I like this book because it shows hardship.



What Would You Do If You Were Famous?



By Chloe Lee
Tusker Tribune Staff

Being famous is a big responsibility to take for not only you, but the whole world depending on how famous you are.

It would be nice to be famous but specifically I would do specific things. I would right away help anyone who needs it. Like the poor and fundraisers. I wouldn't be rude to anyone and respect everyone because everyone has the same right to do mostly anything like me, so I won't have any "more power" than them. The last thing I would do is use some of the money and enjoy myself.

To begin with, I would help the poor and some fundraisers. I don't know how much money I would

get, but I if I'm world-wide, I will most likely have millions. I wouldn't care only about the money and the fame because I never thought of using it that much.

Maybe when I am young and I get the money and fame, I would give most of

it away to my parents because they need it more than me and they took care of me for most of my life and they deserve it.

Later, as I grow up, I will probably need it to take care of myself. But there are also people who are struggling and they need money. I kind of feel bad for people who didn't get that lucky to become rich or famous like me, so I want to give them a chance.

To continue, I won't be like some of the other artists who are rude to their fans. I would be so thankful for my fans, and I would treat them equally because they are still human. Some famous people don't let their fans go on the stage because, well, that's kind of rude, but I would completely be fine with that unless they have a weapon, or they don't get off the stage.

Some famous people aren't even thankful for their fans, and I think that is rude because they spend money on you and that can be worth something. They have the thought and time to come to your concert or anything that you host, and you aren't thankful? That is just being greedy and rude.

I won't be used to having a lot of money and will probably think of it 24/7. I think all people will be greedy for something of what they desire so I would be a little obsessed but not really. It would simply feel that everything is free, and I won't worry about anything.

I will have a little fun, I guess, because I would buy stuff that I want and maybe go places. Fun is a little thing you can have so you should have some of it when you can before it's gone forever.

Continued on Page 3



Favorite Foods and Drinks



By Eve Clark
Tusker Tribune Staff

My favorite soda is Dr. Pepper because it is sooo good!. It's like cherry cola but better. I have a whole mini fridge of it.

The first one I tried was Mr. Pip, which is only sold at Five Guys and in South Carolina. It is the same, but it tastes a bit different.

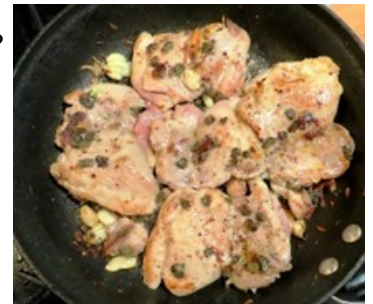
I also like raspberry iced tea. It's very refreshing.

My favorite food is my gram's garlic chicken with lemon-anchovy sauce. It has anchovies, which I did not like before, but I realized they are good.

I am not a huge fan of dessert, but if I do have it, I like chocolate ice cream or cream puffs.

What's your favorite food? I know a lot of people that like pizza and pasta. I like pasta/Italian food.

I did a poll in my class and pasta was the most liked food.



Next Week is Inclusive Schools Week at SMS! Stay tuned for our coverage of this special week!



Mowing the Lawn for the First Time



By Col Shala
Tusker Tribune Staff

I'm going to be talking about my first time mowing the grass.

It started off as my dad told me he would give me \$10 for cutting the grass. At the time, Fortnite was still popular, so seven-year-old said to myself, *I could use that money to buy vbucks.* I also thought, *that's got to be the easiest thing in the world. I'm getting \$10 for cutting the grass.*

Now we didn't have the biggest yard, so it's pretty easy to cut the grass as a 12 year old boy. But that first time, at seven years old, I didn't have any experience with the lawnmower. So my dad told me how to turn it on, and I did, but I didn't



n't know the little lever at the bottom automatically starts it moving.

I didn't want to let go, so I kept my hands on the moving mower and it kept going. Then I realized I was about to hit the curve of the walkway, and my dad yelled at me to let go of the levers.

But I didn't know which lever to let go of because I couldn't hear him over the sound of the lawn mower. So I thought he said, "Let go of one of them." Since I didn't know

which one, I ended up destroying one of the tiles of the walkway with the lawn mower. It made a really loud noise and I got really scared, so I finally let go of both of the levers and ran to my room.

My dad gave me a pep talk and I went back, he helped me and I made \$10 in vbucks.

Fame

From Page 2

I can't really do anything because I have no idea about business, but I will know it sooner or later. As I grow up, I will learn it of course but I don't know yet, so I'll leave it to my parents for now.

To conclude, money and fame are not bad things to have. It's not the answer to our problems but it could solve world problems. Helping poor people and in need isn't a bad thing and helping them is the exact thing I would do. Treating people equally is also what I would do because we are all human beings that want to live and don't want the world to end.

Have fun in your life sometime because life isn't life when you don't have fun, so have fun while you still have it. Money and fame could be powerful things to have and it's nice to have if you use it right.

Reporters/Contributors

Claire Cronin
Eve Clark
Chloe Lee
Anya Khourana
Col Shala
Akosua Adobea-Wiredun
Lucas Ziegler



Amusement Parks



By Cole Shala
Tusker Tribune Staff

This story is going to be about amusement parks.

I've always had fun times at amusement parks, and I've always loved them, except for this one time when I went to an amusement park with my immediate family (no cousins this time, although I really love my cousins.)

Anyway, moving on, one time when I was a lot younger, I went in this amusement park called Quassy Amusement Park. I used to go to this place almost every year for my birthday and I really loved it, but one year, I got old enough to ride one of their rollercoasters. It's always been saved for the last ride, and my mom suggested that I try it.

The first time, I walked up very confidently and waited in the line for 10 minutes. But then I got scared and decided not to go on the ride.

The following year, I did the same thing, but this time, I actually went on the ride. And I got so scared after that I didn't go on a roller coaster for the next two years.



Santa Claus

From Page 1

My mother used to ask us to shine our shoes and put them by the door so St. Nick can find them. The gifts are small like candy, chocolate, or games. Also, during modern day Christmas, we put up stockings that symbolize St. Nicholas's shoes, the ones he left the gifts in.

Nicolas was so full of God's love that it poured through everything he said and did. He was kind, generous, loving and caring for the people of his village. Modern day Christmas has a root in St. Nick's giving, kindness and sharing and its meaning is as real today as it was when he was alive.

Excerpt from She.Suffered.Stockholm



By Akosua Adobea-Wiredu
Tusker Tribune Staff

I hear a knock and before I tell the person to come in, the door bursts open. "Come on. You're coming with us," a familiar voice booms.

Five different officers, three I recognized as Officers Ambrose, James, and Clark, are all escorting me to a room. My heart is pounding out of my chest, and I want to say something, but I'm too terrified they'll do something.

I have no choice but to walk swiftly as the officers are, practically pushing me to our destination.

When we finally got there, I realized we were back in the room where the glass box was. Theo is in the right corner of the room with six more officers surrounding him.

"Melissa and Theo, sit down," Officer Ambrose barks.

I stand there like a statue, afraid to even move.

"Didn't sound like a question, did't it? Hurry up!" The voice of Officer Ambrose



voice shakes the room and Theo and I scurry away to our seats.

Officer Ambrose yanks the door open for both sides of the glass box and we stand inside of it. Even Theo looks horrified, and if it wasn't for the fact that I was frightened, myself, I would be laughing.

Officer James bangs the red button harder than it needed to be and our seats pop up.

"I'm sure you guys know why you are here right now," Officer Ambrose says in a deep voice while walking around the glass box. He presses the red button again and a black board appears on the wall.

I saw the picture that was shown on the news. White Airforce, gray sweatpants, white t-shirt, and my curly black hair in a bun. Blood drains from my face and I don't know whether I'm feeling relieved or terrified.

Relieved for the fact that they'll send me home because they found the missing girl. Or terrified of the fact that Theo will get executed for all his crimes and that I'll probably be sent to jail for identity fraud.

Christmas Gift Ideas



By Anya Khourana
Tusker Tribune Staff

If you're like me, you're probably really excited about Christmas! I love the Christmas food, decorations, but most importantly, gifts! I love Christmas gifts!

In my opinion, the best part about Christmas gifts is giving them! But sometimes, I have no idea what to give to people so I thought that this story would really help some people!

For my mom, I love to gift her jewelry! So that would be a really good gift idea for your mom! Personalized jewelry is the best to give! Trust me, your mom will love it!

For my dad, I like to gift him personalized things just like my mom! Sometimes I give him a mug, sometimes I give him a sweatshirt and sometimes I just give him whatever I can think of! He always loves it!

If you're like me, you have an older sister! For my older sister, I like to give her clothes because that's what she likes! Mostly sweatshirts but sometimes t-shirts or dresses too! So maybe you can gift some of these to your family!

Hope this helped! Happy holidays!



The Tusker Tribune

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

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, 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.

Website:

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

NEWSPAPER CLUB



TUSKER TRIBUNE