



The Tusker Tribune

NEWSPAPER CLUB



TUSKER TRIBUNE

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

We All Must Help to Save Earth



By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff

Why should we help and take care of the earth? The earth is ours as well as many animals' homes. Without it we would have no habitat.

The earth currently has a huge hole in our ozone. What is the ozone? The ozone is a layer in our stratosphere. This layer protects us from the sun's harsh UV rays. In Antarctica, this hole affects sunlight as well as the melting icebergs.

Reducing, reusing, and recycling are very important parts of keeping life on earth. Reducing helps limit the amount of waste. You can do this by reducing your plastic use and many other ways. Reusing helps eliminate the waste of things you can use repeatedly. You can help by replacing plastic and waste with reusable alternatives. Recycling helps



Save ME!

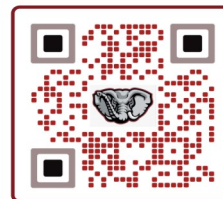
take the (plastic, cans, etc.) items you own and make them into something new instead of throwing it into the ocean or on a landfill.

Limiting your litter and items that will end up in landfills can help the earth live longer. With less waste for animals to eat, the less they will die and the more intact the food chain stays.

How do you help the earth at home? If you don't, what would you change?



BE TUSKER STRONG!



SEE SOMETHING?

SAV SOMETHING!

SCAN NOW TO
SUPPORT A TUSKER!

**BE AN UPSTANDER.
BE PART OF THE HERD.
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

SAFETY CONCERNS? WORRIED ABOUT A FRIEND? FOUND A HATE SYMBOL?
DO YOUR PART. STAND UP TO BULLYING, BIAS, AND HATE.
<https://anonymousalerts.com/somerscsd/default.aspx>



**IF IT CAN'T WAIT, TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT TODAY!
WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

A Memorable Winter Break In Orlando!



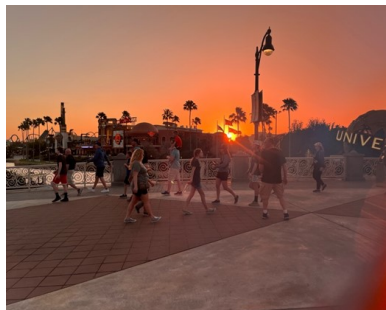
By Cassidy Pelkey
Tusker Tribune Staff

Over the break I went on vacation to Orlando Florida and my family and I stayed at Universal Studios. This is what I did during my stay there.

I left for Florida after school on Wednesday, February 16th and I was very excited the whole week and anxious to get there.

We stayed at one of Universal Studio's resorts called Cabana Bay. It was completely 50's themed and had beautiful pools and at the main building, there were shops and diners and a bunch of fun activities to do like bowling, or arcades.

On our first day there, we went to a diner in the lobby and the food was absolutely delicious. We then went to the pool, which had a lazy river attraction, so we spend most of the morning floating away on our rafts. For dinner, we took a boat to Universal's City Walk. The water was crystal clear and looked like something out of a fairy tale,



and the boat ride was very peaceful. When we arrived, my brother said that he saw a crocodile, but I don't really believe him.

When we got onto the City Walk, we browsed through a couple of cute shops and tried to find somewhere to have dinner. We eventually stopped at Margarita Ville, which my dad was very excited for.

Margarita Ville is owned by Jimmy Buffet, who is an

American musician who had a hit song called, "Wasting Away in Margaritaville". The theme of the restaurant is vacation, so all the employees were wearing something that a tourist would wear. The food there was also very good and so was the music. After we left, we watched the sunset on the City Walk which looked an explosion of bright colors and it was the perfect way to start off our vacation.

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A Quick Summary About March Madness



**By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff**

What is March Madness? March Madness refers to that time of year (usually mid-March through the beginning of April) when the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) men's and women's college basketball tournaments are held. This tournament is basically the playoffs for college basketball. There are seven rounds for the national championship. When only four teams are left, it is called the Final Four.

How do the teams get chosen for March Madness? To qualify for March Madness, a Division I college basketball team must either win its conference tournament or receive an "at-large" bid from the NCAA tournament selection committee.



Who has won the most March Madness tournaments? UCLA has won the most March Madness tournaments. UCLA has won a total of 11 March Madness titles.

Why is it called March Madness?

March Madness was a term used to describe the excitement surrounding the Illinois State high school basketball tournaments, which first appeared in print almost sixty years ago. It was coined by Henry V. Porter, who started his career as a teacher and coach at Athens High School in central Illinois. Why is this event so important? To all

the colleges and universities across the nation, March Madness is of extreme importance because it is yet another stage for a school and its athletic program and students get to shine and get respect.

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The next day, we all woke up super early because we had early access to the parks because we were staying at their resort. So, my brother Ryder, really wanted to go on the new Jurassic Park ride called the Volossacoaster, so that was the first thing we did. We got on the line and waited. But there was only one issue—it was delayed. So we waited, and waited and finally, like an hour later, the line finally started to move. It didn't take long for us to get on the actual



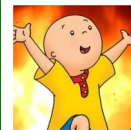
coaster, but once we did, I had a serious case of the jitters and I couldn't help but be nervous. Keep in mind, this was my first roller coaster in two years! When the coaster car took off, you would've thought that you were soaring through the sky. It was the fastest most terrifying event I think I have ever experienced. My head was tucked in the entire time, and I thought my shoes were about to go flying off. After it was over, I don't think that my feet were ever so happy to be touching the ground.

Then, my mom and I went looking around and shopping. It was really cool. Everywhere we turned, it was a different environment. There was Dr. Seussland, Harry Potter World, and there was another area of the park that kind of looked like somewhere from the Middle East. It was really fun exploring and we had a wonderful time.

We went on plenty of other rides, but we ended the evening on the Hulk ride. I was very excited because everyone I know had talked up this ride very much, and I mean it's intimidating, a big green scary roller coaster that you can see through anywhere in the park. The wait was about 25 minutes and when we finally got on, I wasn't as scared as before and I was actually excited.

We raked and rocked all the way up and it stalled at the tippy top, and it was beautiful. We watched the sun set over the park and then it went down, and fast! But my hands were up over my head even after all the loops and twists. After the ride was done, my stomach was in knots and we went back on the boat and got back to our room. Everyone passed out, and the next day it was time to go to our time share and away from Universal Studios.

St. Patrick's Day Trivia



**By Claire Cronin
Tusker Tribune Staff**

St. Patrick's Day is a celebration that goes all the way back to 1631, when the Catholic church established a Feast Day honoring St. Patrick.

As most people know, next Thursday, March 17th is the traditional day to wear green in celebration of the feast in 1631. You might be wondering, "why do we wear green?" The reason we wear green is that the Irish-Americans would wear the green as a reminder that they were nationalists first and foremost.

Other reasons people wear green is because "people thought wearing green made one invisible to leprechauns, fairy creatures who would pinch anyone they could see".

Four fun facts about St. Patrick's Day:

1. Leprechauns Are Likely Based on Celtic Fairies.
2. The Shamrock Was Considered a Sacred Plant.
3. The First St. Patrick's Day Parade Was Held in America.
4. Corned Beef and Cabbage is an American Innovation.

A Glimpse of Modern Egypt



By Ava Schmidberger
Tusker Tribune Staff

If you are in 6th grade, you are probably learning or learned about Ancient Egypt. But what is modern-day Egypt like?

Well, they don't make quite as much money as us. In Egypt, they earn on average about \$3.97 per hour whereas in the US, the average earned is \$11.22 per hour. That means about **one hour** of work in the US is paid around the same as **three hours** in Egypt.



What about the average hours they work on this low paycheck? Well, in the US, adults work on average 37.5 hours a week. In Egypt the average working hours a week is 18.8

hours—a lot less than the US average. Plus they are earning less money.

What about families? In the US, the average amount of children per household is 1.93. The average amount in Egypt is 3.28 children. That's more people to take care of with a lower paycheck! But how much do they have to spend on their families? On average, the US spends \$70,258. That's a lot! On average Egypt only spends \$694 a year. Not that much compared to the US!

Global Warming is a Serious Issue



By Claire Cronin
Tusker Tribune Staff

For years, global warming has been an issue with a lot of things we commonly see contributing, like cars and factories.

Global warming can cause major issues like a rise in sea level, leading to the loss of coastal land, a

change in precipitation patterns, increased risks of droughts and floods, and threats to biodiversity (the variety of life in the world or in a particular habitat or ecosystem). If not now, hopefully in the future, fossil fuels will be in the ground, more trees will be planted, greenhouse gases will be removed from the air, and there will be financial aid to help poorer countries.



Global warming is the long-term heating of Earth's climate system, observed since the pre-industrial period (between 1850 and 1900) due to human activities, primarily fossil fuel burning, which increases heat-trapping greenhouse gas levels in Earth's atmosphere. Most rises in global warming since 1950 have been caused by humans. So together, let's all try to help stop global warming. It could be riding a bike instead of going in the car, or helping keep everything clean.



Art is Defined by The Beholder



By Eli Clavines
Tusker Tribune Staff

Art can be expressed in many ways. It takes many forms and can have value depending on the person. But why, exactly is art so important and what does it mean? Since there is such a wide variety of art forms, we'll be talking about art that's shown through drawing or painting.

Art is hard to define due to how diverse it can be.

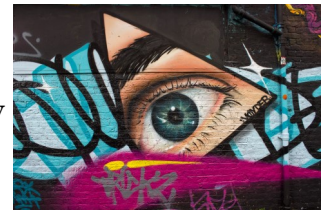
Everyone has their individual opinion on art and what exactly it is to them. Some might have a strong

passion for drawing due to how much it can show without using words. However, others feel that paintings are quite impressive but don't hold as much value to them.

I wanted to know how art is defined so I interviewed Mrs. Paciullo, one of the art teachers here at SMS, about why art was so important and if art really has a definition.

She said "Art is important first and foremost because it is fun, and it can bring joy to anyone's life. Art gives people, especially young people, an opportunity to express their creativity, their thoughts, ideas, and feelings. Art also teaches skills that you can't learn anywhere else."

Mrs. Paciullo also included, "I mean if you looked up the word 'art' in the dictionary, there would be a definition, however, there are countless ways that human beings express themselves creatively. There are so many ways that people express themselves that there really isn't a definition."



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