



# The Tusker Tribune

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## 'Old Bet' is the Reason We Have An 'Elephant Hotel'



By Claire Cronin  
Tusker Tribune Staff

We all know the building named the Elephant Hotel. But what we might not know is how it started.

The Elephant Hotel started with a man named Hachaliah Bailey, who's known for starting one of America's earliest circuses. In 1808, he purchased an Indian elephant that had been brought to Boston. He named it Old Bet, and purchased her for \$1000 (\$26,900 in today's dollars).



When he first got her, he thought she would make a good farm draught animal. But what he found was that neighbors clamored to see her and were willing to pay a fee. Bailey started traveling through the area with Old Bet, then added other animals and the "Bailey's Traveling Show and Menagerie" was created. Hachaliah Bailey figured that many people around the

world would pay to see rare animals and started one of America's first touring circuses. Unfortunately, this story, like so many others involving animals and circuses, doesn't have a happy ending. In 1816, a local farmer in Alfred, Maine murdered poor Old Bet because he thought it sinful to ask poor farmers to pay to see her. Bailey memorialized his beloved Old Bet with a statue that can be seen today at the Elephant Hotel.

## March is Women's History Month



By Ava Schmidberger  
Tusker Tribune Staff

Women's History Month. It's a time to remember what women had to go through or do to show they are equal and should have equal rights and respect.

Didn't women already fight for their rights? Don't they have equal rights now?

In 2020, for every dollar the average man earned, the women would earn 82 cents. If a man earns \$100, women earn only \$82. There are still people out there saying women belong in the kitchen. We can't force them to change their thinking, but really think about it. Imagine, no school, no sports, no playing. Housework. That's all you do.

During Women's History Month, we can give extra recognition to the women who helped us get where we are. We can even talk about the women inspiring little girls in modern days, such as female gamers, Youtubers, lawyers, shop owners, and even self-made millionaires. These women show girls they can be and do anything they want in life. All they have to do is dream and work hard.



## Human Activities Affect Our Planet



By Jayden Thomas  
Tusker Tribune Staff

Over an extended period, it is observed

that the rising temperatures of the earth are having an impact.

This was affected the wildlife, animals, humans, and every living organism on earth. Glaciers

have been melting, and many countries have experienced either water shortages or flooding, along with erosion. All of this

is because of global warming.

No one can be blamed for global warming except for humans.

Human activities such as gases released from power plants, transportation, and deforestation have resulted in the increase of gases such as carbon dioxide, and other pollutants in the earth's atmosphere.

The main question is, how we can control the current situation and build a better world for future generations?



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## Be Aware of Bullying



By Jayden Thomas  
Tusker Tribune Staff

Bullying is defined as overly powered strength used when intimidating one, demanding one's request.

Cyberbullying is defined as using electronic devices such as computers, texting, cellphones, iPad's, etc. to hurt others.

Bullying and Cyberbullying are similar in so many ways. One major similarity is aggressiveness, which is used to cause harm to a victim. They both are done to cause the victim pain. Cyberbullying and Bullying are often not reported.

Bullying is done repeatedly. Those who bully are defined as having serious personal issues. There are three types of bullying: verbal bullying, physical bullying, and social bullying.

Verbal bullying is when the victim was teased, threaten or humiliated. Here is an example of how bullying happens:

Billy's mother does not feel the need that she should tell him about his father. So, he holds this big grudge and hate in his heart for people who have the perfect relationship with their fathers. Today is Donuts for Dad Day. Each student is allowed to bring their father to school with them to have donuts. Billy does not know his father, so seeing all the students with their dads makes him feel bad.

Jim is one of the star football players in the school.

His dad shows up for Donuts for Dad day. Later, that afternoon, once all the parents are gone, Billy decides to put on a show for his fellow classmates as they are getting their trays in the cafeteria. Jim gets his tray from the lunch lady, and on his way to his seat, Bill walks up. Bill asks, "Hey dude do you want your milk?"

Jim replies "Yes."

Bill says, "You better give me your milk before I embarrass you in front of the entire student body."

Jim replies "No."

Bill then takes Jim's milk off his tray, opens it up, and then pours it on top of Jim's head. That was an example of humiliation. Bill had built up so much animosity towards Jim only because he saw Jim having a wonderful time with his father. It shows that Bill was using his personal issues to get someone else back.

Bullying is done to entertain a small group of people. It can happen to anybody. The impact that it causes to the victim is long-lasting.

Bullying is considered an area of major concern in this country.



## Peer Pressure Comes in Many Forms



By Claire Cronin  
Tusker Tribune Staff

Many people at some point in their life experience peer pressure.

Some may be small situations that don't affect you like someone pressuring you to go on a roller coaster. But some situations can affect your future, Ninety percent of teens reported having experienced peer pressure. There are five different types of peer pressures.

### 1. SPOKEN PEER PRESSURE

This involves a person directly asking, suggesting, persuading, or otherwise directing a person to behave a certain way or act in a specific manner.

### 2. UNSPOKEN PEER PRESSURE

In a group setting, decisions that are made together can influence the actions of others, even without direct instructions. If an individual is among a group that chooses to do something unnormal, that individual may feel pressured to follow along simply to fit in.

### 3. DIRECT PEER PRESSURE

Among the different types of peer pressure, direct influences may be among the most powerful. Direct peer pressure can either be spoken or unspoken, and it can include forcing a person to choose a path based on what is directly presented to them.

### 4. INDIRECT PEER PRESSURE

Indirect peer pressure can be difficult to spot. Like unspoken peer pressure, it can exert a tremendous amount of influence on an impressionable individual.

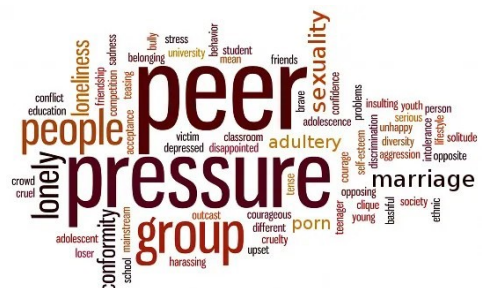
### 5. NEGATIVE/POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE

Negative peer pressure challenges moral code and beliefs, which can drastically affect a person's mental and physical health, and emotional stability.

### THERE'S ALSO POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE

Positive peer pressure, on the other hand, has the opposite effect. It can prove to be beneficial. In this specific type of peer pressure, individuals can and may adopt good traits from their social circles.

*Editor's Note: If you're feeling negative peer pressure, help is available through the SMS Guidance Department, or through Student Assistant Counselor Amanda Casey in Room 302*



## 7th Graders Compete in 'March Mammal Madness'



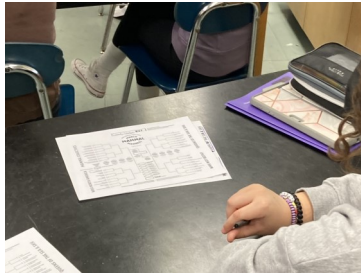
**By Claire Cronin  
Tusker Tribune Staff**

March Mammal Madness is a study unit started by 7th grade science teachers Mrs. Manko and Mr. Wilbert. Kids in their classes are participating from now through the first week in April.

March Mammal Madness started with just mammals but then branched off into other animals. So it's not just limited to mammals, even though the name has stayed the same.

Mammals are studied in four different topic areas: Wild North America, Mammal Collectives, Why Not Both? And Queens of the Sea and Sky.

Each year, there are lineups for each topic, and each animal goes against each other in the same category



*At left, kids fill out brackets similar to those found in the college basketball March Madness. Above, Mammal Madness Awards. At right, top and bottom, students in Mrs. Manko's class fill out their brackets. Below, the March Mammal Madness "Wall of Fame". Lower left, students in Mr. Wilbert's class fill out their brackets.*

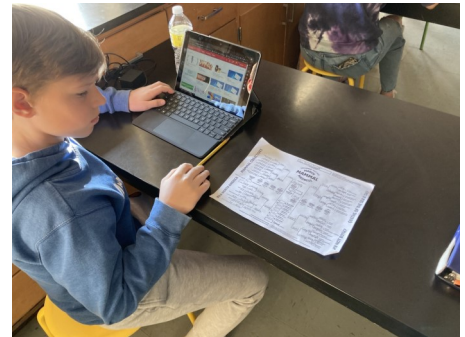
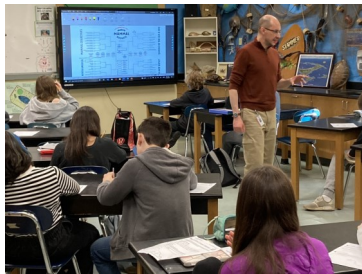


ry until only four animals remain. The last four are all from different categories until it's two, and then one finalist.

The first match aired the night of Monday March 14<sup>th</sup>. For March Mammal Madness you have to guess before based off of animal's strengths, weaknesses, diet, and habitat.

nesses, diet, and habitat.

For the animals' battle, it is an online simulated battle between two animals, and there is a wild card match which starts off the March Mammal Madness.



## Reflecting on COVID



**By Claire Cronin  
Tusker Tribune Staff**

COVID 19 started about two years ago, and COVID19 has affected millions of people's lives.

At the beginning, everyone thought it would be two weeks off of school. Then, two weeks went to four, and then went to six.

When people realized how serious COVID really was, everything went crazy. People were buying out stores of paper towels and hand sanitizer, and everybody stayed home.



Unfortunately, many people passed away from COVID 19. As of right now, there are 6.04 million deaths from COVID19 worldwide.

Luckily, as of now, COVID 19 hasn't caused as many deaths as in the beginning. COVID 19 started to get better when the vaccine came out.

Unbelievably, the first case of COVID was discovered in December 2019. And By 12/11/20, the Pfizer vaccine became the first to receive emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Now, COVID 19 isn't affecting as many as the beginning and New York is slowly going back to normal.

## March 25 is Greek Independence Day



**By Katelyn Kourakos  
Tusker Tribune Staff**

We honor the Greeks fighting for democracy and freedom after the struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire, which occurred in 1825. Greek Independence Day falls on March 25<sup>th</sup> and has been celebrated annually since the end of the Greek revolution in 1832.



*Some of Mr. Pappas's students celebrating Greek Independence Day in 2021.*

The first revolt of the revolution began on on February 21, 1821 and lasted through March 6, 1821, in the Danubian Principalities. It was soon put down by the Ottomans.

For the next 11 years, the revolt continued, ending in 1832, when Greece gained its independence.

During the celebration of Greek Independence Day, no meat is allowed to be eaten. However, allowed foods include fruit, cheese, beans, olives, and all vegetables.

In the celebration of Greek Independence Day, towns and villages throughout Greece hold a special flag parade. There are also armed forces parades. The biggest one takes place in Athens, Greece's capital.

This day celebrates the bravery and boldness of the soldiers who fought for their lives and freedom for their country, carrying their pride and determination with them.  
*Editor's Note: Mr. Pappas will be holding a Greek Independence Day celebration in his classroom, room 304, on Friday, March 25. Free Greek-American flag lapel pins will be handed out to anyone who stops by, while supplies last.*

## Is Schoology really that great?



**By Reagan Ciccone  
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Hi!

I'm sure most of you can agree here that Schoology is a pain. Sure, it grades stuff automatically, but submitting work is a problem. Have you ever submitted a blank copy of something without knowing and finding out later when it's too late? It's happened too many times for me, even though I saved the document to my folders.

In fact, all this "tech" stuff is confusing. Don't get me wrong—I'm glad we have computers—but I'd rather just hand in papers instead of risking getting a 0% because I submitted a blank document.

Another thing that bugs me is when it marks something missing even though you did it? My science teacher says to ignore that, and that Schoology does that on its own.

That type of stuff really drags my grade down. What do you think? Would you want to use Schoology or use another website?



## 'STAR' You for Real?



**SMS's STAR Students Who Go Above and Beyond**



**STAR:** Adam Kimmel, 8th Grade

**NOMINATED BY:** Mrs. Baldes

**WHY?** Being a good friend to a classmate.



**STAR:** Gigi Vincentz, 6th Grade

**NOMINATED BY:** Mrs. Miskiewicz

**WHY?** Making peace bracelets and selling them to raise money for Ukraine

## We're In the Home Stretch!!!!



**By Akosua Adobea-Wiredu  
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Hey guys! I just wanted to bring the terrifying realization of how the trimester ends TODAY!!! 3/18/22!!!

Isn't that crazy? I know we were all probably worrying about how long this school year would be, but we're nearly at the end!



All we have is one trimester left. So, our grades for this trimester will be finalized and everything. Make sure y'all keep up on the missing work you have and make sure that's turned in before the end of today.

I don't know about the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders, but I know I'm excited for Trimester 3 because of the fun trips we'll be going to and because we'll be graduating. The next few months will go like in a snap though, so let's