



The Tusker Tribune



SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

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Somers Middle School PTA Fundraiser



**By Thomas Mauro
Tusker Tribune Staff**

So many words can be used to describe the Somers Middle School PTA and the Somers community during these difficult times. Compassionate, generous and charitable are the first words that come to mind.

A charitable drive that they have done in the past included a food drive at St. Luke's Church. That charitable drive was centered around non-perishable items for those in need. The caring Somers community donated non-perishable items to those who needed it most.



This charitable drive was run last November. I attended that event and the atmosphere there was awesome. The people were so nice, and the items were donated to a good cause. So many people were there at 9:00 am on a Saturday for this great cause.

The current SMS PTA charitable drive is for young families in Somers. They are collecting diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, baby cereal, and hygiene supplies. If you would like to donate to their fundraiser you can go to their amazon Wish-list. The link for that is right here:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/35YBHC67V37GH?ref=wl_share.

The next drive will likely be in the late spring. It will likely focus on stocking the pantry with food to help families during the summer when school meals aren't as easily available. Rosalind Gallino, one of the members of the SMS PTA, is quoted saying these kind words: "We are overwhelmed and grateful for the support from our community and so happy that the community as a whole—not just the SMS community—has been extremely generous in a time that has been difficult for everyone. We are also touched to see how quickly youth volunteers have assembled to help us sort and drop off supplies."

Michelle Dellorusso, another member of the SMS PTA community, is quoted as saying these kind words: "We have such a generous community who never fail to support our less fortunate families."

Thank you so much for reading and please donate.

In our next few issues, starting with this one, our writers respond to different writing prompts, and expand on them in either fiction or non-fiction stories.



The Test That Actually Turned Out Fine



**By Vince Pomponi
Tusker Tribune Staff**

I should have been to school that day. OK, well here goes nothing, off to school I go. I wonder what I missed.

OK, so now here I am in the class room and, OH NO, is there a test today! Oh crap. I am probably going to fail but here we go. Maybe she will forget about the test today since at least it is at the last period of class.

Maybe I can study during class but if she catches me, well that will not be good. Then she will know I did not study. But I was not here yesterday so there is a excuse.

OK, so it is the end of the day now so hopefully she will forget about the test. Oh no! There's one kid in class that I have to worry about, and he is Bob, the nerd of the class. He is probably going to remind the teacher that we have a test! That is not good.

"OK class, I am going to hand out the tests. Remember, no looking at notes starting now. OK, you may start," the teacher said.

Oh well, here goes nothing. Maybe I can sneak write some answers on my arm or hand. I will take out my notes for, like, two seconds, then put them away. Oh no! Here she comes! Quick, put the notes away!

Finally, it's the end of the test and it was REALLY hard. Let's see what I got . . . A 90%? Wow, that's better than when I do study. I've been stressing about this all day and now I wonder what I was so stressed about? Finally. Time to go home. I can't wait to hear what my mom thinks about this!



Flu Messes Up School Picture Day



By Juliet Gheradi
Tusker Tribune Staff

I was in the third grade and picture day was coming up. I was so excited to get my picture taken. I had my outfit all planned out. But only a couple of days before picture day, I started to have a runny nose and a scratchy throat. My mom took me to the doctor because she was afraid I had caught a bad cold. It was not just a cold. It was the flu.



I remember when my mom told me I was not going to be able to participate in picture day. My heart sank. I was so excited for picture day and them, BAM! I caught the flu.

Even though I was sad, my mom tried everything to cheer me up. But nothing worked. I was too down about not getting my picture taken. A couple days after I got over the flu, my mom told me about pictures re-takes! I was overjoyed and I couldn't wait.

Creepy Clown Vanquished!



By Giuliana Baldo
Tusker Tribune Staff

Imagine you are alone when a smiley, happy clown appears. I've experienced that before.

When I was a little kid, I went to a circus several times. One time, there was a clown, in red, white, and blue called Mr. Elm. He always scared me—his freakish smile, it was eerie. I've had multiple nightmares about him when he would come up to me and say, **"Would You Like Some Pop-corn?"** in a freakish tone. I ran. I ran as fast as I could.



I had to sleep with my parents for several nights, but then again, Mr. Elm came. He asked me the same question and then again, I ran away from him. But one day, I didn't run. This time I stood my ground and shouted, **"Go Away! Go Away!!!"** and just like that, he was gone.

Easy peasy, right?

M&M's Save a Weird, Bad Day



By Alex DiPasquale
Tusker Tribune Staff

It was a bright cold day in April and the clocks were striking 13. People were yelling and there I was standing in the middle of New York City. I was there on a trip from Wisconsin.

I thought New York City was going to be nice. But I was wrong, It



was so dirty and every one was yelling and screaming. The streets were covered in garbage. I said to myself, "Why do people say this place is so good?"

So I was about to go home, but then I saw the M&M Factory, and I went in and bought pounds and pounds of M&M's.

So at the end of the day, despite everything, I was very very happy.

I Was Absent When President Brought Puppies to School



By Zoe MacSweeney
Tusker Tribune Staff

I should have been in school that day.

I was in fourth grade and I had missed school because I was sick with a stomach bug and I was so upset that I was so mad, because I really like school and that day was going to be the best day. We had a surprise visitor and at the end of the day, they had a town meeting and the surprise visitor, and the person was Donald Trump, the president. We were so surprised and he brought in a



puppy for everyone. I was really angry because I wanted to get a puppy to bring home. I was so jealous that my friends got puppies. But one friend, Claire, knew I was sick, so she brought me this cute brown little puppy. I was so happy that I got one cause a brown dog was my dream dog and I named it Bailey. I was so happy, and my parents had to get supplies and they were about to, but then Donald Trump showed up to everyone's house and gave them puppy beds, food, and collars. I was so happy that day and it cheered me up and I was not sick anymore.

Amber Alert Turns Into a Rescue



By Lou Hochman
Tusker Tribune Staff

My phone lit and began to buzz as I woke up. My eyes creaked open and I tried to get my phone.

I picked it up and looked to see that there was an Amber Alert: "Lady gets kidnapped in a black Chevrolet."

I didn't think anything of it and went back to sleep. BANG, BANG, BANG! I woke up again and went to see who was at the door. I looked out the window and saw a black Chevrolet parked outside. I immediately dialed 911.

He kept banging and banging trying to get in. I started to get nervous as I could hear him trying to get through. I told the cops what was going on and they said they were gonna be there in 10 minutes.

I did not think that was gonna be enough time, so went out the back. I took a peak around the house and saw him. I saw the cops pull up and I started walking toward them. The cops told him to put his hands up. He went to jail and I got the lady saved.

The Roller Coaster Ride that Was NOT Fun



By Jayden Newman
Tusker Tribune Staff

It all began the night we died on the Kamikaze roller coaster. It started the day I wanted to go to the amusement park to have fun on the rides. But no one was there, so I went anyway with some friends to explore around the park that seemed abandoned.



First, we walked up to the top of a roller coaster emergency escape exit. Then we went to see the carnival games and we thought we could take the prizes, but there was nothing left. We all walked around some more until one of my friends saw that the

key for the Kamikaze roller coaster was still there. We all strapped up to get ready to ride besides the guy who was controlling the ride.

The ride started to move and we were all having fun until we got stuck right at the top upside down. My friend tried everything, but could not get it to work. Then he called 911, but we had no service so no one answers. The blood from our bodies started to

Clown Car Hangs Out With Other Cars



By Kristen Strang
Tusker Tribune Staff

Imagine you are alone when a race car appears with a clown face on it. The race car also has lighting bolts on the side.

Whenever he takes it racing, everyone looks at the clown and thinks it is very cool. When he first put the clown on the front, everyone



thought he was crazy, but now it is perfectly fine.

Every time he takes it out in public, everyone stares at him like he is crazy. When he is taking it out for a ride with his friends, they go to Foam n' Wash and hang out and race with other people who hang out there.

Every time they go there, they get Chipotle and they hang out, bet on races, and race.

My aunt's fiancé (Anthony) loves to race cars, bet with other people, and eat Chipotle because they go there almost every night. When they go they also wash



Somers Middle School
Performing Arts Department

Winter Concert Series
Week 4

featuring:

6th grade and 7th/8th grade Orchestra

&

6th grade and 7th/8th grade Band



Click on this link to view the Winter Concert Series!

<http://www.viewpure.com/gQ-LphFGjM4?start=0&end=0>

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Somers Middle School, 250 Route 202, Somers, NY, USA.
Any SMS student is eligible to write stories.

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A Weird Dinner Date



**By Peter Brennan
Tusker Tribune Staff**

I keep the things that scare me secret. You might be wondering why I do this and what scares me but if I told you, they would come after you, too.

June 5th, 2015—that was the worst night of my life, I was going out with this girl for a while now. Her name was Gabby. She was a nice, good-looking girl. If you looked at her without knowing her, you'd think she'd be the nicest girl in the world, but you'd be wrong. With every good thing, there's always something bad right behind it.

SECRETS

We were at a posh restaurant and we had only just ordered our food when she said she needed to use the restroom. I said

ok, just don't keep me waiting too long. She laughed and walked away. As soon as she was out of sight, I felt like I was being watched—everything and body stopped and looked my way. I started to sweat from the anxiety, but then Gabby came back out and sat down and everything went back to normal. It was so weird, like the people were watching me to make sure I didn't hurt her. When we paid the bill, we walked outside to a close rock bridge over looking a calm river. We stayed there for hours. We finally walked separate ways to our apartments. When I walked into mine, I went to my bed, sat down on it with comfort, opened up one of my drawers in my nightstand, and saw the camera pointed up at me, the red "recording" light glowing.

Driving and College Part Of Five Year Plan



**By Frank Iluzzi
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Five years from now, I will be driving in my brand-new car. I can't wait to drive. I don't know what type of car I want but I want something cool. Five years from now, I will be a senior in high school so I will have decided on what college I want to go to. One college that interests me is Pace University. My cousin is going there now. I am interested in studying computers. I am always interested in computers.

Also, in five years, I might have a part-time job. I am unsure where I will work. I want to save money for my future.



The 'Slender Man' Horror



**By Lia Babon
Tusker Tribune Staff**

I wish I could tell you why we wanted to do this. My friends and I always made fun of Jake and the things he and his weird friends say.

We always thought they were lying and joking around, but turns out it's all real, I am Caroline Shane, and this is what happened.

February 3. My friends and I were all together and Amy said,

"Jake and his friends are doing this stupid summoning of slender man."

We all laugh, and Sasha shows us a black computer screen

"Here it is," she says.

We all turn to watch the screen; the screen explains how when the first bell rings, we must close our eyes. Once the second one rings, we open our eyes. Then, the third bell rings and we blink twice.

"Ding." The first bell rings. We all close our eyes.

"Ding" goes the second, and shortly after, the third one rings. Suddenly, pictures and signs flash on the screen. Once it stops, we all laugh

"It did nothing" Amy said.

"Yeah," I agree.

But I notice something off with Sasha. She's quiet and sits there staring at the screen.

I'm running through the woods and something tall is coming for me. I hear bells as I shiver. I see a faceless man running right at me. He grabs and starts to strangle every last breath out of me and I wake up gasping for breath.

The next day at free period me, Amy, Sasha and I walk around the track.

"Have you guys had these weird dreams about that video?" I ask

Amy paused before she talks. "No." Her voice trails

off.

"Sasha, are you okay?" I ask.

She nods. She's sweating and staring into space. We walk around. Amy and I talk about the math quiz we have Friday.

Later . . .
"We don't know where she went, sir," we say to the police.

Sasha's missing. One minute we were with her, now she's gone. We didn't even hear a sound.

Later that night, Amy and I walk home from school. While we pass Sasha's house, we see no lights on. We both look at each other and walk to the front door. We knock, hoping her dad would answer, but no response—only the sound of the door opening. I turn on my phone flash light and Amy and I walk in. The floors creak, It smells like cigarettes.

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So Glad I Didn't Ignore That Call!



**By Libby Hochman
Tusker Tribune Staff**

My phone lit up and began to buzz. I was nervous to pick it up so I waited a few rings and held my breath.

Two weeks ago, I tried out for this lacrosse team that I didn't think I was going to make. There were so many good players and I missed the cage at one point when it was my turn. They said they would call between 5-10 days, but it had already been 14 days.



When I finally decided to answer the phone, my hands were shaking! I could barely pick it up. My friend also tried out and she got a call last week saying she made it. I pick it up.

Coach Jones: "I tried calling you last week but you didn't pick up the phone."

Me: "Oh sorry I thought it was a random person"

Coach Jones: "I hope you can still join us on the team. You would be a great addition"

Me: "Of course, I would love to join! Thank you so much!" I felt so happy that I built up the courage to pick up the phone.

A Really Unusual Mirror Reflection



**By Angie Perez
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Just imagine. You're home alone because your parents are both working and you're old enough to be home alone. You decide to go to the room with just a mirror and clean the mirror.



You are in a room with nothing but you and a mirror. Grabbing the cleaning spray and wiping the mirror, you decide to stare at the mirror.

You stare at the mirror until something appears. You stop, and just keep staring at the mirror, and try and understand what's happening. A big, tall man who is smiling. He is in a clown suit, and he is smiling. He isn't doing anything else. He's just smiling.

Slender Man Continued from Page 4

We walk into her room and look around for any sign she might have left. Amy opens the closet and finds Sasha's secret box.

"Open it," I say.

She opens it. We both look and see a pile of papers of a man with a black suit on, very tall, and no face—only a white wrapped head. We both hear her computer ding. We walk over; I tap the space key.

The screen lights up and there are messages: "There's no turning back", it says.

"Bzz!" Amy's phone rings. "UNKNOWN CALLER", it reads.

She answers. The screen has a video showing them walking closer and closer to the house.

"Oh no!" Amy says in fear. "What's going on?"

"I didn't tell you. I did research about all this and other people have this problem too. He takes them!"

"You're crazy. Is this some sort of prank? Who's on the phone Amy!" I screech.

"I don't know, but we need to run-," she cuts off

Three long black hands grab her and yanks her into the woods. I stand there in shock. I rush home and my house is gone.

"What?" I mumble to myself. All of a sudden, he appears. Once I saw him, I feel stuck.

"HELP!" I scream. Before I can scream any louder, a hand jolts out of his chest and crabs me by the neck and pulls me forward and ties me to a tree with the vines on the tree. I try to scream but can't. He ties me in a cocoon. Before I can't see anymore light, I see many more cocoons. I take a deep breath and scream, "HELPPPP!"

He's real. And he will come for you like he came for me and my friends and many others. I wish I could tell you how to stop him and tell the others in the world to not do what me and my friends did. . . .



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