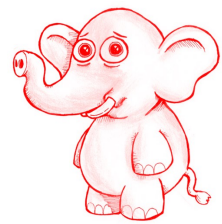


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Hey! Guess What? I *Don't* Have a Cell Phone!



By Ezra Weinstein
Tusker Tribune
Staff

What it's like to not have a phone in 7th Grade? Is it true that everyone has a phone?

I'll answer that question—the answer is no. Every single day kids, teens, adults, and even the elderly are either glued to their phone all the time or rushing to find a charging station because their phone died.

If you have a cellphone, have you ever wondered what it's like for someone without a phone? I can tell you right here, right now, that it's hard living without a phone when all your friends have one.

On a personal level, I feel very left out when my friends are all on their phones. It's like they love it more than anything else in the universe. And you wonder why there are so many car accidents; it's because people are looking at their guess what! PHONE.

But, there is one benefit in my opinion. My parents and I have noticed that not having a phone made me more social. I'd like anyone who reads this that has a phone to consider what I'm about to tell you. Being on your phone all day isn't healthy and can break up friendships. It might



seem impossible but people don't realize when they are cyber bullying people.

Instead of texting someone who's right next to you, just talk to them in person. The problem with phones is, no joke, people will stop interacting with each other and never really meet in person. It's not fake, this is our society today. Trust me, you should not be on your phone all the time. At times,

my friends have been on their phones when they could have been talking to me but they chose to ignore me. It really hurts inside. As my sister would say, "Wake up and smell the hair spray!" I mean, even my sister is glued to her device. As soon as she gets home she gets right on her iPad.

The world has changed and will be this way forever and won't change unless we make a difference. Please take this into consideration and decide to make a change. When or if I get a phone, I will do my absolute best to not be on it all the time. Also, I will actually pay for my cellular data and not leave that to my parents.

If you can relate and don't have a phone yet either, please don't turn out like most people do. And, to the people who do, please be the ones to say "it's enough," and try your hardest to not be looking at that screen.

Pound Pets Looking for Good Homes!

By Jack Tremblay
Tusker Tribune Staff

Why should you adopt a pet?

First, you should definitely adopt instead of buying from a breeder because dogs and cats that are in a pound haven't really ever felt loved by someone.

They're kept in metal cages and barley get to go out side, maybe for the occasional 15 minute walk. Most of the time, their food doesn't have that much quality.



Pound dogs and cats are mostly rescues. They are taken off the streets from an even more horrible life or they're from people who can no longer afford to keep them anymore.

Dogs that are from a breeder already have a good life. They get to go outside whenever they want. Usually their food is top of the line. However, breeders will also breed the mom so much that the mom might end up getting sick and dying. When you buy one of these puppies you are supporting that.

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ESPN Acquires Former NBA Star Paul Pierce as Regular Contributor on NBA Shows



By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

Former Boston Celtic, Brooklyn Net, Washington Wizard, and LA Clipper, 19-year veteran Paul Pierce retired in July 2017 from the Boston Celtics.

A month after the ceremonial contract was signed and Pierce was no longer a part of the Boston family, the Celtics announced that Pierce's jersey, number 34, would be retired also



as of February 11, 2018.

Two weeks ago, Pierce was hired by ESPN as an NBA studio analyst. Pierce, a 10-time All Star, and NBA Finals MVP in 2008 for the Celtics championship win, will make many appearances on NBA Countdown and The Jump. Although the NBA star is retired, he will still contribute to the NBA and their games as the millions of viewers will watch on TVs or listen in on radios to his voice as he analyzes games.

Some Great Ways to Study for a Test



By Isabella Youngs
Tusker Tribune Staff

Whether it is finding time to study or not, tests can bring a lot of stress to a student. But knowing how to study can lessen that stress.

That is why I am going to tell you good times and good ways to study. A lot kids say they don't have time to study because they have CCD, sports, clubs, etc., but what most kids don't know is they usually have time to study.



When you are watching TV, instead you could be studying; or when you are on your phone playing a game, you could be studying. Also, kids don't find studying fun so they don't like doing it but if they knew more ways to study, they would. You can study with a friend. You can use Quizlets and play the games. And you can also ask your teacher for better ways to study.

These are just simply ways to study so you can get good grades.



Student
Calibrator

Germs: Under the Microscope



By Angela Ayoubi
Tusker Tribune Staff

Ewwww! I think. I wish I could unsee that! Mrs. Obama agrees with me.

Somebody in my table decided to burnish their hands under the table, and then touch their cookie. Some of you might be thinking "gross", and that's right! If you're still not convinced that germs are a big deal- read this other scenario that I have encountered just yesterday.

You're in the classroom and you see the kid in front of you suck on their finger for a few minutes, then play with their hair, and finally- touch their personal belongings- (his/her water bottle). Consider the following: There are 40,000 droplets of mucus



coming out of you when you sneeze or cough. That's why we use our elbow. The average office desk has 400 times more bacteria than a toilet. What are you touching when you touch your desk at school?

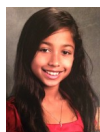
You are always touching 400 times the germs than that of a public toilet when you're at school! I mean do the math—or science, (we're dealing with germs).

Can't we all put a little more effort in keeping ourselves clean, and act like mature human beings?!

Let's go back to scenario 2. I'll bet when that kid was touching the inside of his mouth, he didn't realize this: There're more bacteria in your mouth than there are people in the world.

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SMS' Christopher Lux Gets Front Row Seat to Hurricane Maria



By Julia Wilkinson
Tusker Tribune Staff

At exactly 6:15 in the morning on September 24th, teachers at SMS could have been getting ready to teach, students at SMS could have been preparing for the bus or to be driven to school.

But nobody could have been doing anything more dangerous than 6th grader Christopher Lux. Ever heard of Hurricane Maria hitting Puerto Rico that day?

Christopher Lux was on vacation on the island, when Maria attacked.

This is a follow-up article from my article published last week (**Puerto Rico's Struggle Has Just Begun**). This is about the survivor of one of the deadly hurricanes that occurred this year.

Many of you have heard of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Hurricane Harvey is known for hitting Texas with 52 inches of rain. Hurricane Irma is known for being a Category 5 in Cuba, with 155 miles per hour winds.

Hurricane Maria was a combination of Harvey's rain and Irma's wind speeds, making it

even more dangerous for Lux and his family to be on a simple vacation, that would soon turn to a disaster.

"I was staying in a hotel down in Puerto Rico when Maria hit," Lux states. "When the power went out, workers had to come room to room unlocking doors."

One of the most major things about this hurricane was that it took Puerto Rico's power out. It would take months for power to be reestablished in this country once again.

"My family and I kept going out into the lobby to charge our electronics," Lux went on. "And towards the end of my trip and Hurricane Maria, our hotel was running out of food. It was very frightening to be locked up in a hotel running out of supplies, knowing that there is a monster

outside our door."

Luckily, Lux and his family returned back to Somers after Maria passed safely, able to tell the tale.

"The day we came back, I went right away to school. I just couldn't sleep at night." So 6th graders, here is a thought: The student who had suffered so much could be sitting right next to you in class.



Germs

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Or when people lift their shirts, that there have been 1,458 different types of bacteria found in one single human belly button.

Start carrying around hand sanitizer or wash your hands before and after lunch or dinner, as well as when you come home from school, and before leaving the bathroom. Try leaving a tube of hand sanitizer, suspended onto your backpack, or a pack of disinfectant wipes. They'll all come in handy.

Stay germ free, and make an effort to keep yourselves clean, and remember a clean life = a long life! See you soon on the "Student Calibrator"!

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 Advisor Dean Pappas at

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Pound Pets

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In addition, purebred dogs are really expensive! A Labrador retriever can go anywhere from \$200 to \$800. However, pound dogs and cats cost much less and are sometimes free. They're also vaccinated and "fixed".

Don't you want to buy an animal from the pound and support a cause you believe in? You could be the one to give it the life it never had before. Every stray animal deserves a safe and loving home!



Linda Chapman & Our SMS Library History!



**By Angelina Ayoubi
Tusker Tribune Staff**

In the past the SMS Library had been a gym and was converted into a library. This lovely library has now been around for 16 years now, and is preparing to be renamed!

The library's new name dedication was held today, October 5, 2017, and is a new marking point on our library. The library was renovated in January 2001 and sadly, about 15 years later, Linda Chapman unfortunately passed away.

I have recently spoken to Ms. Gelman, who recently retired as SMS Library Media Specialist, and she has helped me gather information on the library, and Linda Chapman, whom she knew herself.

In the center is a picture of Linda Chapman from Vineyard Gazette. Vineyard Gazette states, "She made enormous contributions to the art and science of teaching, not just in Westchester County, N.Y., where she taught both students and teachers, but nationally as well.

An early innovator and leader in the integration of internet technology and curriculum, she served as a national keynote speaker and frequent presenter for the American Library Association, as well as for numerous other national library, technology and curriculum conferences. She directed the libraries of four different school districts in her career, designing and overseeing the construction or renovation of multiple school libraries in the process. She had one foot in school administration, one foot in the classroom, and her heart in the library learning center.

Always a visionary, Linda did groundbreaking work at the very advent of the digital age that advanced student research as a means to achieving information literacy and developing critical thinking. She and her colleagues in Som-



ers, N.Y., paid careful attention to the developing science of how the brain learns, designing and implementing educational techniques to apply that knowledge to the discipline of teaching. As an adjunct professor at Long Island University, she taught and nurtured a generation of school librarians, ensuring that her legacy would carry forward not just through those she directly guided and taught, but also through those who in their own turn were guided by those she had taught."

Ms. Gelman has also told me what working with Ms. Chapman is like. She told me about Linda's beliefs

and personality as well. Ms. Gelman said that Linda believed that every school should have a strong library, and she always came in full of enthusiasm, kindness, and was passionate in learning too.

Ms. Chapman had put her heart and soul into the library; working with the architect who renovated the library, and picking out furniture. Ms. Gillman specifically said "Linda thought the library should be formal, but it should be functional, too."

The last question I asked Ms. Gelman was, whether she thinks Linda Chapman would have liked how the library is now. Ms. Gelman replied with "definitely", and said that she would be proud. Thank you Ms. Gelman, for providing me with this information and I hope that you have a great retirement. You deserve it!

We will always remember Linda Chapman for the amazing things she did and all of her accomplishments.

More to come on the "Student Calibrator".



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