

The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Spring 2018

Music Can Change the World Act II



An Update



By **Donovan Smith**
Tusker Tribune Staff

The 7th grade boys who brought you the community service project, "Music Can Change the World", in the fall are back at it for the spring season with "Music Can Change The World-Act II", thanks to the support of the Music Departments and administrators of SMS and SIS as well as the Somers community.

To refresh your memory, the project was created by a group of 7th grade friends (Donovan Smith, Michael Abrenica, Jake Gannon, Eddie Baranowski, Evan Carway and Ryan Eade) who organized a collection of "canned goods and spare change" at the chorus and band nights in November and December to benefit the Communi-



ty Center of Northern Westchester.

In Music Can Change the World –Act II, the group has attended the Band Night at SIS on May 10th and the SMS Band Night Spring Concert on May 23rd and, thanks to the tremendous generosity of the Somers community, we have collected \$403 and collected about 7 boxes of canned goods!



There are two more upcoming events where the group will be out in full force.

We hope to see YOU there with spare change and canned goods in hand at the SMS Chorus-Orchestra Night on June 5th and/or at the SIS Spring Concert on June 14th.

We thank you in advance for helping us help others in and around our community.



Living History Day a Rousing Success Again



By **Krista Gallagher**
Tusker Tribune Staff

On Thursday May 24th the seventh-grade students experienced Living History Day.

It consisted of many different activities such as a 19th century school house and a game of Jeopardy hosted by the Somers Historical Society. It was a day of fun, and one that will be remembered as part of our seventh-grade year.

It started out with the opening ceremonies in the auditorium. This included George Washington speaking to us, the chorus singing America the Beautiful, Fife and drum playing Yankee Doodle, and some of our class mates talking to us.



Then we all walked out on-to the front lawn where the final part of the opening ceremonies took place. The flag was lowered to half mass as the soldiers from different time periods shot their muskets. Don't worry there were no actual musket ball inside!

After that, we split off into our assigned groups and went to the different stations. The different stations were World War 1, Medicine, SIS side for musket shooting, James Madison, Somers Historical Society, SMS parking side for many different stations, Rodger's Rangers, 19th century school house, and to finish it all off, Mr. Mul-laney's music.



Continued on Page 5

PUBG Corporation v. NetEase, Inc.



**By Liam King
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Since the recent popularity gain of the Battle Royale format, the video gaming community has had some issues.

Fortnite has been dominating the gaming industry so far. There are many other games that are trying to reach its popularity status, but a very critical feud is occurring between two game-developing companies from two sides of the world.

PUBG (*PlayerUnknown's BattleGrounds*) was released on March 23rd, 2017, and is one of the pioneers of the sub-genre. Developed by PUBG Corporation (a branch of Bluehole Studios Incorporated), PUBG set a standard for the Battle Royale category.

One hundred players sky-dive out of a plane and land on a barren island. On the map are numerous titled locations that



are very popular and teem with lots of firearms and equipment. There are also some less-popular, community-named areas that contain less provisions but are a better place to start.

As time progresses, boundaries begin to be set. A "circle" is created, and this becomes the official playzone. Players have a relatively short duration of time to get inside of the circle before they start to take damage. The objective of the game is to be the last man standing.

A Chinese technology company named NetEase Incorporated, founded almost 10 years before Bluehole Studios, thought that they could capitalize off the Battle Royale format. On November 15th, 2017, *Rules of Survival* was released on mobile.

The two games turn out to be very similar. Both games include similar-looking vehicles, levels of equipment, and even a strange fixation towards chicken.

Although I have never played PUBG before, I am a somewhat frequent *Rules of Survival* player. Based on what I have seen, *Rules of Survival* is almost a copy of PUBG.

PUBG Corporation has recently noticed this as well. Last month, they decided that they would file a 155-page law-



suit on Netease for "copyright and trademark infringement". TorrentFreak has fortunately supplied us with a PDF of the document at this link: <https://torrentfreak.com/images/pubgneteasecomplaint.pdf>

The case includes a lot of information, but it focuses especially the similarity between the two games' building structures. Both games include shipping crates, two-story houses, three-story houses (nicknamed "hotels"), and observation towers that all look alike.

Another likeness the two games share are a few locations on the map, such as the shooting range and the rural aqueduct.

The two games also share a slowly-confining map, a zone that constantly changes made simply to imprison players to a specific area.

There are so many more similarities between the two shooters, but one thing's for certain: NetEase definitely got some inspiration from PUBG.

Eagerly Anticipating Summer!



**By Matt Fitzsimmons
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Swimming, parties, camps, vacations, etc. All wrapped into a span of two months. The school year is flying, and we are on the verge of summer.

No more work, no more teachers, no more stress. Just sleep and fun. No more homework to do after a long hard day of working. Just relaxing and doing



what you want to do.

Camps are always fun as well. Hanging out with friends and just goofing off. My favorite camp is Tusker Tracks. It is when every day, you go different places. For example, you go bowling, or maybe it is mini golf, or any of a dozen other activities. It is just 10 times better than sitting in schools solving equations or taking tests and quizzes.

Continued on Page 3

A Memorable Trip to Nationals



By Ethan Wainer
Tusker Tribune Staff

VROOM! VROOM! My dad started the car. My dad and I were headed to Virginia with the East Coast Panthers to play in the Basketball Nationals. We were leaving All-Star Village after watching my brother Austin play in a baseball tournament.

As we were on our way, I was watching movies on my dad's computer.

"I wonder if we'll win?" I asked my dad.

"I hope so," dad said.

I wanted to win more than anything.

We ended up going 2-1 and played teams from New Jersey, Vir-

ginia, and Massachusetts. We had a bye first, then we won our first playoff game. Then in the Elite Eight, we were up 10-0 but we ended up losing by 15. We worked hard but they kept making shots.

Dean, one of my teammates, had 33 points and most of them were 3 pointers!



Continued on page 4

Summer

From Page 2

Camps are not the best thing about summer. In my opinion, I believe that vacations are the best part of the year!

Spending time with family can be the best. Relaxing is everything. Sitting down and just doing whatever you want. You are not able to that half as much in the 10 months of school.

To wrap things up, summer is just everything you could ask for. And don't you think we need more of it? I feel that summer time should cut in to 10 MONTHS of school.

Don't you agree?

Everyone's getting psyched for summer vacation and some nice weather. But, as a bit of a flashback, here's a video created by Tusker Tribune Staffer Joseph Melillo that shows the damage from the freak storm we so recently had. Aren't you glad summer's here?

<http://viewpure.com/Amw1YoWNZHQ?start=0&end=0>

End of Year Calendar!!!!

June 1st: Earth Science Lab Practical (during class)

June 4th: ILS Written Assessment

June 5th: Chorus/Orchestra Concert

June 7th: 6th Grade Vocabulary final exam

June 8th: 6th Grade Author's Day (1/2 day of school)

June 11th: 8th Grade Social Studies final exam

June 11th-15th: 7th Grade World Language Final (one piece per day)

June 11th-13th: Geometry Final Exam

June 12th & 13th: 8th Grade Math final exam

June 12th: Algebra Regents (12:00pm)

June 12th: Jazz Band @BOE meeting (6:30pm)

June 13th & 14th: 7th Grade Math final exam

June 13th: 6th Grade Trip (movie and park)

June 14th: 6th Grade White Team Science Unit Exam

June 14th: 7th Grade Social Studies final exam



June 14th: Earth Science Regents (8:30am)

June 15th: District Strings Concert

June 18th: FLACS (8th Grade World Language final exam)

June 18th & 19th: 6th and 7th Health final exam

June 18th: 7th Grade Splashdown Trip

June 18th: 8th Grade Graduation Practice

June 18th: 8th Grade Dance @Villa Barone

June 19th: 6th Grade Social Studies final exam

ies final exam

June 19th: 8th Grade Lake Compounce Trip

June 20th: 7th Grade Science final exam

June 20th: 6th Grade Math final exam

June 21st: 6th Grade Red Team Science end of year exam

June 21st: 8th Grade Graduation @5:30pm

June 22nd: Last Day of School – 1/2 day (11:30am dismissal)

Gymnastic IS a Sport!



**By Madison Cacace
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Do you think gymnastics is a sport? What are your opinions about it?

As most people would say, "Gymnastics is not a sport." If you survey 100 kids, more than half will respond saying that gymnastics is not a sport. But why do people think that?

In fact, gymnastics is a sport.

People say football and basketball are sports. But there's no football and basketball event in the Olympics. But there is for gymnastics!

When you think "Olympics" the first thing that pops into mind is 'Gymnastics.' So why do people not see gymnastics as a sport?

In fact, if you didn't already know, 70% of the people who are asked the question "is gymnastics a sport" answer

"no". And on the other hand, only 30% of the people respond yes. Most people think it's considered an form of art because it allows the person to



feel the emotions while doing a skill, and because you follow a specific routine rather than score a ball in/through a net. But gymnastics IS considered a sport because it requires strength, flexibility, speed, and agility.

Even after many people arguing whether they think gymnastics is a sport or not. Still, the majority of people said that it is an art not a sport. In my opinion, and in some other people's opinions, we think gymnastics is a sport. But the real question is, what do you think? Do YOU, think gymnastics is a sport?

Kilauea Shows No Sign of Stopping



**By Andre Possante
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Most of you know already that Kilauea, the

most active volcano rooted in Hawaii, has gone off again and started erupting on May 3. Hawaii has been in great distress, and by the looks of it,



they might need assistance by the National Guard or the government. It's destroyed houses, buildings, and has set of sadness in millions of hearts in Hawaii.

People are evacuating, and they're doing it quickly or else being at risk to violent lava.

**Continued on
Page 5**

Time for Youth Football!



**By David Jocson
Tusker Tribune Staff**

The football season is just around the corner.

I think that kids should play football. It's a fun sport to play. It helps with teamwork, agility and more.

The coaches can be tough on you, but they just want you to get better.

Somers has been to West Point four times in a row, where the championship games are played.

Football is both a physical and mental sport. They physical is all the hitting and tackling, and mental is the plays that tell you where to run the ball, who to block, who to throw to, and so on.

This sport teaches kids how to work as one and come together.

In Somers, we practice four days in a row, for two hours each day. We then have two days off, and we play our games on Sundays. If you want to play this season, go to:

[http://somersyouthfootball.org/
Page.asp?
n=33384&org=SOMERSYOUTHFOOTBALL.ORG](http://somersyouthfootball.org/Page.asp?n=33384&org=SOMERSYOUTHFOOTBALL.ORG)

Signups are open me until football season starts.



Nationals

From Page 3

I can't believe we lost! But we kept our heads high and my dad, who was our coach, gave us a pep talk.

All of us got t-shirts, bags, and a whistle. Before we left, my team and I went in the pool for the last time. We raced,

played keep away, and tackled each other. After that we packed up and got on the road. My dad and I were talking about how I can improve on my skills.

"We'll get them next year!" I told my dad.

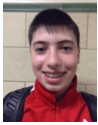
"Heck yeah!" my dad said.

"This was one of the best experiences in my life!"

"Mine too," said my dad. As soon as I came home I was so happy to see my dogs, my mom, and my brothers. I learned that hard work and perseverance are important and to not give up.

To this day I am still practicing basketball skills and we hope to go to the Nationals again and win one day!

Somers Honors Its Veterans



By Joseph Melillo
Tusker Tribune Staff

On Monday morning of May 28, 2018, all the groups of Somers participated in a parade to honor not only the veterans, but also the brave soldiers still in service.

Some of the groups that participated are: Somers Cub Scout Pack 1, Somers Boy Scout troop 228, Somers Boy Scout Troop 376, the Girl scouts of Somers and the Volunteer Fire Department, police, and numerous other organizations.

After the parade there was a ceremony at the Ivandale cemetery. The



organizations that marched in the parade were allowed into the ceremony.

During the cemetery, they had veterans come up and say a

short speech, they had a priest do an invocation and the organizations that participated in the parade sang the national anthem of America and God Bless America.

The ceremony was about half an hour. After the ceremony and parade they had donuts and muffins at the Elephant Hotel and hot dogs at the Fire house next to CVS Pharmacy.

Thank you for your service veterans!

Tomato Debato



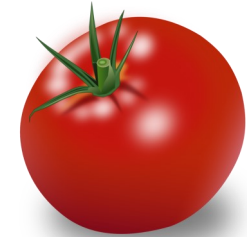
By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

Many conspiracy theorists are questioning what type of food a tomato is. Is it a fruit? Is it a vegetable? Both? Neither? Well, if you read on, you'll find out.

A few days ago, at the lunch table, my peers and I were just joking around, making stupid conspiracy theories, and one of them was that a tomato was whether a tomato was a fruit or a vegetable.

First, I said that it was a vegetable because it grows in the ground. Then I said that it was a fruit because it has seeds. And since I couldn't make up my mind, I then said that it was both a fruit and a vegetable. So, since I couldn't decide for myself, I asked a majority of the 6th grade for their opinion.

After surveying, approximately 57% of the students said that a tomato is a fruit while just under 10% said a tomato is a vegetable. So, about 2/3 of the 6th grade students surveyed took a one-food-section side.



Continued on Page 6

Kilauea

From Page 4

Some background information is: Last Eruption: January 3rd, 1983. Its elevation: 4,091 feet and there is a large pit crater near the caldera of the volcano.

Anyway, destruction by the volcano has been unbelievable and depressing, and new information tells us that its volcanic haze is reaching residents of Guam. But if this doesn't stop, there is no telling how much damage it could do! Maybe even destroying the world...?

History

From Page 1

The different stations were located mainly outside on the front lawn, but there were four stations in different classrooms.

You may be wondering what Mr. Mullaney's is. It is when Mr. Mullaney, a white team social studies teacher, reads us a bunch of poems and we have a sing along of



songs about America. You get a packet of all the songs and poem as well. From there you are dismissed to go to your locker and to the buses.

In conclusion, seventh-grade Living History day is a great experience! It might seem boring because it is an in-school field trip, but it is something you don't want to be absent for!





The Tusker Tribune Staff

Liam King
Donovan Smith
Matt Fitzsimmons
Ethan Wainer
Noah Volkman
Madison Cacace
Andre Possante
Joseph Melillo
Krista Gallagher
Shira Sofko

The Tusker Tribune is featured online and 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

Tomato *From Page 5*

But on the both-or-neither side of the debate, about 31% of students said that a tomato is both a fruit and a vegetable, and 2% of 6th grade students surveyed said that a tomato is not a fruit nor a vegetable, and that tomatoes are going to take over society as we know it.

In conclusion, although more than half of the 6th grade believes a tomato is a fruit due to it having seeds, I say that it is a hybrid food that is both a fruit and vegetable. If you disagree, well then, um, uh, um, you're wrong.

'Gender' Subject to New Meaning



By Shira Sofko
Tusker Tribune Staff

So you guys will probably say there are only two genders, "girl" and "boy".

But there is a new gender, *non-binary*, where the person doesn't consider the self the same gender they were assigned.

Then there is a *transgender*, which is different when the individual doesn't like being the gender they were assigned.

The third gender in more detail is they don't consider themselves a female or a male. Also,

you might have picked up the term "non-binary" from Thomas Sanders, the ex-Viner and current

YouTube. His outro is "take it easy, guys-girls and non-binary pals peace out."



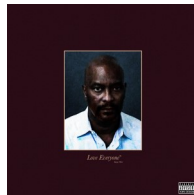
Music Report



By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

I met you when I was 18 (the playlist) - Lauv

The star behind the chart-topper "I Like Me Better" has dropped his long-awaited album, titled *I met you when I was 18 (the playlist)*. With the unusual sentence-style album wording, and the album cover just being his logo, *I met you when I was 18* should be good.



Love Everyone – Kanye West

Love Everyone. Ye. Oh, boy. There's not much information on the track list or features, other than T.I. (nicknamed Tip). The only information that I can pull from this is that there is that two of the songs are "Ye vs. The People" and "Lift Yourself" (dubbed the "Poopdi-Scoop Song").

Remix) - Maroon 5

Maroon 5 is soon to be having their 25th anniversary of music-making, and more specifically, hit-making. Their most recent album from September 2017, *Red Pill Blues*, has hits like "Don't Wanna Know", "Cold", "Wait" and "What Lovers Do". Adam Levine and his band have gotten rappers to be on remixes of their songs and originals ("Don't Wanna Know" with Kendrick Lamar, "Cold" with Future and remix with Gucci Mane, "Wait" with A Boogie wit da Hoodie) and now, "Girls Like You", a personal favorite of mine with Cardi B.

