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Decorated Lockers Splash Color in the Hallways



**By Francesca Palumbo
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Do you ever walk around the school, and notice or wonder why there is wrapping paper on lockers? Well, that is because of locker decorating!

When your friend's birthday is coming up, you decorate their locker! There are all different types and styles, but they are all amazing! If you are thinking of decorating someone's locker, don't forget, you need a parent to come and supervise!

Everyone works so hard to make the locker so fun and cool! Just think about how amazing it would be to leave school and then go to school the next

morning on your birthday and see your locker decorated on the outside and the



inside! Yes, you heard me, friends even decorate the inside of the lockers! If you trust your friends, you can give them your code or leave your locker open, so your friends can leave a surprise inside, too!

Looking at the before and after is amazing! The lockers look 1,000,000 times better than they did in the beginning! Nobody should miss out, so don't forget to decorate your friends! Some are less decorated than others, but that doesn't make them any less fantastic! If your locker was decorated, did you see it yet?

So next time you walk through the hallway, don't forget to look around and admire the amazing artwork on people's lockers! And if your birthday is in the school year, this will be an amazing memory!



Bringing Joy with Bling's the Thing



**By Mia Klein
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Everyone loves the holidays but not everyone gets to spend them the way you do. So, this woman, Joan Lloyd, has put together an earring donation for women in shelters. She goes to local libraries where volunteers like me can help make earrings.

On Thursday, November 14, she came into our local Somers library so we could help and give to people who are less fortunate. She has been doing this for 14 years and not only does she do this for the holidays, she does this all year round!

Joan said every month she donates about 1,400 earrings! But what got her into this? I recall her saying that she heard a human-interest interview and one of the people discussed making jewelry for local shelters. She was afraid that there were not enough shelters around, so she Googled it,



there are more than 100 shelters in NY and NJ alone!

She started calling these shelters and not a single shelter has ever turned her down. But why does she do this? She said, "Every pair that I donate is a smile for a lady in a shelter or a child." Before she sends in the earrings, she touches every single earring to make sure they are well made and safe. Even the smallest actions can bring so much joy to someone's life.

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Happy 20th Anniversary Half Life 2!



By RJ Hall
Tusker Tribune Staff

Last Saturday, November 16th, 2024, marks the 20th anniversary of

one of the most influential and famous games of all time, Half Life 2.



Half life 2, was released on November 16th, 2004 for PC, and later released on multiple gaming consoles like the original Xbox, the Xbox 360, and the Playstation 3.



As a way to celebrate, Valve (the company that created Half Life 2) made the game free for the weekend just like they did last year for the 25th anniversary of Half Life 1. And they added workshop support, which means you can install mods to the game without having to go on 3rd party websites or sketchy websites. Some lost Demo footage from the year 2000 was also released.

Half Life 2 way a very influential game that inspired lots of games, like Portal 1 and 2, Garry's Mod, the Stanley Parable, and Team Fortress 2, which are some of the most popular and influential games of all time and are loved by lots of people.



Interesting Thanksgiving Facts



By Isabella Nevsky
Tusker Tribune Staff

Thanksgiving is in less than a week so I'm going to tell you fun facts about Thanksgiving that you may not have known.

Around 212 million turkeys are consumed in the United States every year. That means about 88% of Americans eat turkey on Thanksgiving. Another fact about Thanksgiving foods are Americans eat about 50 million pumpkin pies on Thanksgiving.

We all probably know about the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade that occurs every year on Thanksgiving day in New York City, but the oldest Thanksgiving parade is held in Philadelphia. When the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade first started in 1924, there weren't always inflatables or balloons. Instead there were live animals like camels, elephants, bears, and monkeys that were loaned from the Central Park Zoo. This stopped in 1927 because people gave the idea of having large balloons that were shaped like characters.



Cranberries are a popular food in Thanksgiving, but did you know that Native Americans used cranberries to dye fabric, preserve meat, and for medicine?

The very first Thanksgiving was celebrated in the autumn of 1621, but Thanksgiving didn't become a national holiday until 200 years later. Thanksgiving always falls on the fourth Thursday in November. This year Thanksgiving is on November 28th and next year it's on November 27th. Thanksgiving also became a national holiday in 1863.

8th Grade Italian Classes Enjoy a Trip to Arthur Avenue



By Matthew Ringer
Tusker Tribune Staff

SMS eighth grade Italian students were lucky enough to get to go on a field trip to Arthur Avenue, NY, also known as Little Italy.

It was a super fun trip and a fun way to experience what we have been learning about in our years at SMS. The first thing we did when we got off the bus was, we went to a library. We learned all about the history of Arthur Avenue. Then, we walked down to a beautiful indoor market called "Arthur Avenue Retail Market". We got a chance to buy a lot of true Italian food like pizza and cannoli. After the market, we went to a bakery that has been a family bakery for generations. We were able to meet the owner, and he talked to us about the history of the bakery. His family owned the bakery for a very long time!



went to another souvenir shop that had a little bit more of a variety of purchases. After, we went to the last souvenir shop, we went to a big, beautiful church. It was an amazing experience. It was old and had beautiful stained-glass windows.

Our last stop on our journey was at another bakery. We got to talk to the owner of that one, too. He talked to us about the history of their bakery. Then, they gave us bread samples and even let us go into the back of the bakery and let us look at the ovens they use to make the bread.

It was an amazing trip, and I learned a lot. For example, I learned the history of this iconic place. I learned all about the breathtaking history of some of the stores on Arthur Avenue. Lastly, I learned about what an amazing family-friendly place it was. I hope the Italian teachers continue this trip with the eighth graders for many years to come. Thank you to Mr. Drebycz and all the other teacher chaperones who made this event possible.

Class Trip Photos are on Page 3.

Our next stop was a souvenir place where we had a chance to purchase souvenirs. We also

Una fantastica gita scolastica!

