



Fall is Full of Fun

By Lauren Rosenblum and Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Fall.

Fall is a fantastic time of the year with lots of fun activities! Here are some ideas for things you can do indoors and outdoors during the fall.

Outdoor Activities:

Here are some outdoor activities you can do during the fall. You can go to a farm. Apple picking is my favorite thing to do at a farm. It is fun to pick the apples, and you get delicious apples to bring home. You can also go in a corn maze! They are fun because you get to figure your way out. You can also go on hayrides. You get to see the whole farm and enjoy the scenery. You can also get apple cider donuts, which are delicious.

You can also play in the leaves. You can toss and crunch leaves, and you can make memories by doing that. The last activity you can do is to go on a hike. It is perfect weather to go on a hike--not too hot and not too cold. You can enjoy the scenery and smell of autumn. The leaves are fun to look at while hiking.

Indoor Activities

Here are some things you can do during the fall indoors. During the fall there are lots of indoor activities you can do! Like for example . . . one of the most delightful activities in fall is baking fall treats. Smelling the aroma of cinnamon around your home. You can also bake the classics--pumpkin and apple pie! (I personally don't like any kind of pie in my opinion). You can also bake warm crisped apples, or spiced cookies.

The next thing you can do during the fall is watch spooky Halloween movies! I personally love horror movies. You could sit down in a cozy spot with your buttery popcorn or some fall treats. The last thing you can do during the fall indoors is obviously make Tusker Tribune stories about fall!

That's all for today's story! I hope you are able to do all of these things, or, at least some during fall.



Yom Kippur is Thursday

By Ellie Tzadok
Tusker Tribune Staff

Yom Kippur is one of the many Jewish holidays. It starts at sunset on October 1st and ends on nightfall of October 2nd, 2025

One of the most solemn holidays in the Jewish calendar, on Yom Kippur, Jewish people ask for forgiveness. On this day, they will rid themselves of luxuries such as (no) food, electronics, fancy clothing, washing or bathing, perfumes or deodorants, and wearing leather.

Really religious people won't drink or use any automobiles. On this day, Jewish people go to synagogue to pray to G-d for forgiveness for anything they have done wrong in the past year. We hope G-d will forgive us for anything we have done wrong, whether it is big or small.

After sunset on the last night, Yom Kippur is one of the most important Jewish holidays. Now you know about the importance of Yom Kippur and the importance it holds.

Two Views on Projects and Printing in 6th Grade Tech Class



By William Mifsud
Tusker Tribune Staff

The ScooterBot in Tech class is AMAZING! It's where you get to create your own designs for a little robot.

Want to make it SpongeBob? You can do that. Want to make a Minion from Despicable Me? You can! Want to make a squirrel? You probably get the gist. You get to make your own little designs, have fun, and heck, even have a ScooterBot fight with friends!

For example, you can put two ScooterBots on a Popsicle stick and have them try to knock the other off! They are really fun to use. Especially at home! You can show it to your family, play with it with your siblings, or cousins. And heck, just for fun, maybe draw a portrait of it!

By Andrew Pucci
Tusker Tribune Staff

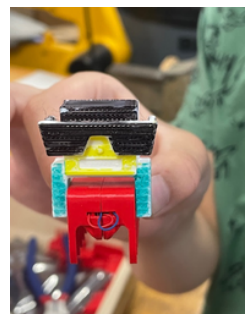
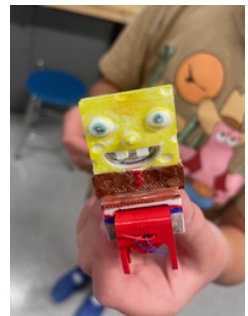
This year in Mr. Lugo's tech class, his students are learning cool things about 3D printing and creating our own projects. We have done so many cool projects already this year!

We kicked off the new school year with a 3D wrench on a website called Tinkercad, and we followed the tutorial he gave us. Tinkercad is a website where you can use shapes and items to make a design or a certain object, and then you could 3D print it. After we finished the wrench, we moved on to a more advanced project. We started making a 3D Eiffel Tower! We still had a custom tutorial from Mr. Lugo, because we were still working our way around the program. Then came our first real assignment. We were making our own custom Scooterbots!

Scooterbots are tiny red machines, that with a vibrating motor can scoot around tables. They have batteries and tiny wires inside. We added our own custom hats and designs on top of them. This is the first project that we actually 3D printed. Our assignment was to make one or two creative attachments on our Scooterbots. This project seemed to be the class favorite, and we tested them out by racing them on a racetrack made of popsicle sticks.

The project we are working on right now is making our own customized Somers Tusker. We can design it in any way we want, and it is a lot of fun watching the shape of the elephant come together. Finally, let's talk about the daily Do Now's. They give us extra points as long as we answer the question about a video, or just a question about our projects. The videos are educational and tell us about 3D printing, and they give us many different ideas on what to make on Tinkercad.

Overall, Tech class is a lot of fun, and each kid looks forward to coming to class every day.



Autumnal Equinox Means Colder Weather is On the Way

By Eli Mundis
Tusker Tribune Staff

Last Monday was what we call an “Equinox,” but what does that mean?

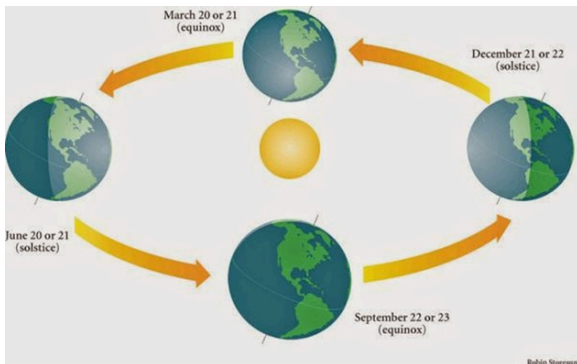
An equinox is a term to describe when the axial tilt of one of the earth’s hemispheres is equal to the sun’s rays, which means that day and night are equal in length, both being 12 hours.

There are two equinoxes per year: the Spring Equinox, and the Autumnal Equinox. The former occurs on March 21-22 and the latter on September 22-23.

Parallel to an equinox, a solstice is when the day or night gets the most time possible. There are two solstices, the Summer Solstice, and the Winter Solstice.

The Summer Solstice is when one hemisphere is pointing towards the sun as much as possible during the year. When the Summer Solstice is happening in one hemisphere, the Winter Solstice is happening in the other hemisphere.

So, you now know about equinoxes and solstices. Thanks for reading!



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY

Robin Stuenkel

Could Ohio State Win Back-to-Back Championships?

By Alden Heinkel
Tusker Tribune Staff

Ohio State is currently in first place in college football. They defeated No. 1 Texas in the first game of the season and they will play against Washington coming off a bye week.

Ohio State has an amazing team. To name a few players, there are Bo Jackson, Caleb Downs, Carnell Tate and Jeremiah Smith. The main team that stands in their way is Texas because that team will only get better and may pose a threat to Ohio State in the future.

Will Ohio State Win Against Michigan? Ohio State is doing well, and Michigan is not doing the best so far. And last year, even though Michigan upset Ohio State, Ohio State went on to win the National Championship.

In conclusion, I think it is in Ohio State’s favor being #1 and Michigan being #19. In addition, Ohio State is the defending National Champions and currently is 3-0 while Michigan being 3-1.



Helen Keller Blazed New Paths

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Helen Keller, Helen Keller was a person who couldn't see, couldn't hear and couldn't speak. You probably think that having multiple disabilities wouldn't allow you to do much in life, but somehow, she not only learned how to communicate with the world, but graduated college, became a public speaker, and published 12 books.

How did she do this? Well, her teacher, Anne Sullivan, taught her finger spelling at the age of seven. Anne did this by tapping the alphabet into Helen's hand. Helen learned to associate those finger movements with everything else around her. She also learned to communicate by feeling people's faces and throats as they talked.

Helen ended up being best friends with Mark Twain, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from Lyndon B Johnson, which is the highest award a U.S citizen can be given. She gave speeches over the world about living with disabilities.

So now you know Helen Keller was a person that couldn't see, couldn't hear, and couldn't speak. I hope you learned a lot or some things about Helen Keller.

Random fun fact: Helen Keller's first word was "water".



*Helen Keller with her teacher,
Anne Sullivan.*

Laufey Takes Jazz to New Levels

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Laufey is one of my favorite singers! Today I am going to talk about her. First, I'm going to list some fun facts about her. Then, I will write everything about her. If you are a fan of Laufey, then this is perfect for you! Or if you want to know about Laufey then this is also perfect for you!

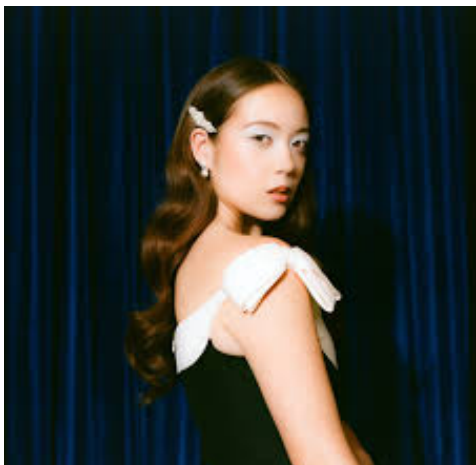
Let's start with the basic fun facts like her favorite color, her birthday etc.

Laufey's favorite color is green. The pronunciation of Laufey is Lay-Vay. Laufey is half Chinese. Laufey's music genre is Jazz. Laufey is from Iceland. Laufey's full name is Lin Bing Jonsdottir. She has a sister named Junia and they look alike. Her birthday is April 23, 1999.

Laufey Lin Bing Jonsdottir, known as Laufey, is an Icelandic singer-songwriter and musician. She rose to prominence in the early 2020s for her success as a jazz-inspired pop artist. Laufey can play three instruments which are the cello, guitar, and the piano, which is impressive if you ask me. If you haven't already listened to Laufey's music but want to start listening, I will give you some songs that I recommend listening to:

From the Start, Bewitched, Promise, Falling Behind, Dreamer, Santa Baby (I recommend listening during winter/Christmas time), *Fragile, Valentine, Magnolia*.

That's all I have to say about her I hope you learned a lot about one of my favorite artists--Laufey! And I hope you can listen to one of the songs I listed above.



Labubus Capture Kids' Imagination

By Eliana Monteagudo
Tusker Tribune Staff

What's the hype about Labubus? It started with celebrities wearing them, to the whole world going crazy about them.

There are five different types of Labubus: Exciting Macron, Have a Seat, Big Into Energy, Coca Cola, and finally, Pin for Loves, a smaller version of a Labubu.

These tiny toys are extremely hard to find, which makes their prices vary from \$30 to \$400. Beware, however. There are fake Labubus or, some might say, "Lafufus". To verify your Labubu, scan the QR code on the tag or box. As a trend, it's gone from Squish Melloes to Jelly Cats to Labubus, which have completely taken over social media.

What's the purpose of Labubus? Labubus can be collected, worn on bags, and displayed. Fits Labubus have clothing and accessories made especially for them. Gucci and Luis Vuitton have even made clothes for them! Overall, I would say Labubus are amazing and extremely in and hyped about right now.



The **Tusker Tribune** is the Online School Newspaper of Somers Middle School. It is published weekly (except for school holidays) and comprises articles entirely written by the students of

Somers Middle School
250 Route 202, Somers, NY.

Any student interested in joining the Tusker Tribune Newspaper Club should contact Club Advisor Dean Pappas at

DPappas@somersschools.org. For more information, click on this link: [Tusker Tribune School Newspaper](#)



The Tusker Tribune
SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER



They Hadn't Forgotten About Last Year

By Evan Mallamud
Tusker Tribune Staff

I walk down the hallway. TAP! TAP! TAP! Walking to my doom.

"Psst" says a voice. I gulp down my throat.

"I'm surprised she came back," says someone else.

Did everyone know about what happened last year? Was it all my fault?

My friends walked away as I went to them. Did they hear, to?

TAP! TAP! TAP! OWW! Someone tripped me. I look up. My best friend gave me a side-eye like I didn't know everything about her, like the sleepovers meant nothing. My whole life I built up went away this summer because of one tiny thing. Tears drip down my face. DRIP! DRIP! DRIP! What was I supposed to say, the truth? They're not ready for the truth.

I walk into homeroom. The stares pierce through my skin. RINGGG! Everyone goes and I follow quickly looking at my schedule finding where to go next. I get my stuff and go to science.

Reporters and Contributors

Giuliana DeMartino
JASline Alonzo Javier
Lucas Mejia
William Mifsud
Eliana Monteagudo
Eli Mundis
Allison Posadas
Andrew Pucci
Lauren Rosenblum
The Great Outdoors Man
Ellie Tzadok

Fun Facts About Alexander Hamilton

**By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Today, I am going to be talking about Alexander Hamilton. If you know the musical Hamilton, then obviously, you're going to know who Alexander Hamilton is.

First, Hamilton was born on the 11th of January 1755 or 1757. Did you know Hamilton had an older brother named James, who died in 1786? I did not know that all till today!

Hamilton studied at Kings College, which is now known as Columbia University. That's pretty cool! Hamilton indeed led the Siege of Yorktown, successfully ending in American victory over the British. Hamilton was also involved in around 10 affairs of honor.

Hamilton did get back in contact with his father, supposedly during his Secretary of the Treasury years (only through letters) and stayed in contact until his father's passing in 1799. Hamilton had a near death experience as Secretary of the Treasury. He was almost hung for treason until he was proven innocent.

Did you know Hamilton's first love was Kitty Livingston? I didn't even know he had a love, to be honest. Hamilton had eight children with his wife Eliza. But he got her pregnant nine times, which is interesting. Hamilton didn't receive his law degree until 2018, in which his 5th great grandson, Doug, accepted it in his honor.

That's all the fun facts I researched and learned about Alexander Hamilton. Did you know all of these fun facts about Hamilton? Because I for sure did not. I hope you learned a lot!



What is Rosh Hashanah?

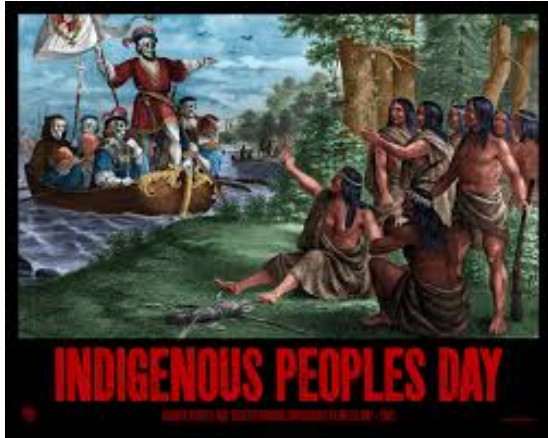
**By Lauren Rosenblum
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Rosh Hashanah is the start of a Jewish new year. It was celebrated September 22nd-24th this year, but it varies based on the Jewish calendar. It is celebrated two days in Tishrei (September). It involves the blowing of the shofar which is a rams horn. You blow the shofar because it symbolizes G-d is calling people for awakening. You say special prayers and you eat apples and honey symbolizing the hope for a sweet, new year. You also eat Challah Bread, which is a round type of bread eaten to represent the cycle of life and the sweet new year ahead.

During a service known as "Tashlich, you throw bread into a lake to "throw away" your sins, which is all the bad things you did over the past year and want to make up for it. It is a time for reflection to make up for bad things you did and that you want G-d to forgive you for your sins. It celebrates the start of a new year.



Two Takes on an October Holiday



It's Also Known as 'Indigenous People's Day'

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Indigenous Peoples Day, which happens on the second Monday in October, is a really important day. It's a chance to celebrate and show respect for the Native American tribes who have lived on this land for thousands of years. This day serves as a vital counter-narrative to the traditional Columbus Day, which has long been criticized for glorifying a figure associated with colonization, violence, and the devastation of Indigenous communities.

The core of Indigenous Peoples Day is about acknowledging the truth of history and celebrating the vibrant present and future of Indigenous nations. It is a time to learn about the vast contributions Indigenous peoples have made, and continue to make, to society, from environmental stewardship and sustainable practices to advancements in science, art, and governance.

It's about understanding that Indigenous peoples are not relics of the past, but dynamic communities with distinct languages, traditions, and contemporary lives.

That's all for now I hope you learned a lot about Indigenous Peoples Day.

Why Do We Celebrate Columbus Day?

By Lauren Rosenblum
Tusker Tribune Staff

This year, Columbus Day is celebrated October 13th. It is celebrated on the second Monday in October. It is a federal holiday. It is also the same day as Indigenous Peoples Day.

Some schools (like ours) are off on Columbus Day since it is a federal holiday.

Christopher Columbus was born IN 1451 between late summer to early fall, likely between August 25th and October 31st, as his exact date is not known. He was born in Genoa, Italy. He died May 20th, 1506, in Valladolid, Spain. His father was a weaver and he was also a small time merchant.

Columbus Day is the anniversary Christopher Columbus came to the New World in 1492. This holiday marks the date on October 12th, 1492, when Columbus landed in the Bahamas. He became the first European to explore what is now known as North America. He was the person to find a new continent. Columbus is known as the "Man Who Discovered America".

His 1492 voyage took him across the Atlantic Ocean, and he thought he landed in Asia. He opened the "New World" to Europeans, and that brought more settlement. He wanted to find a new trade route to Asia.

We celebrate Columbus Day to recognize the achievements that Christopher Columbus has made and his settlement into the New World.





What is the Ryder Cup?

By Giuliana Demartino
Tusker Tribune Staff

From Friday September 26 to Sunday September 28, a fun event takes place this year on Long Island called the Ryder Cup.

The Ryder Cup is a golf tournament held every year in which the two teams--U.S.A. and Europe-- play against each other. Each year, the contest is played at a different golf course. This year, the Ryder Cup is being held at the Bethpage Black Golf Course in Farmingdale N.Y.

This year, the players competing as Team U.S.A are Sam Burns, Patrick Cantlay, Bryson DeChambeau, Harris English, Ben Griffin, Russell Henley, Collin Morikawa, Xander Schauffele, JJ Spaun, Justin Thomas, Camron Young, and two-time Master winner Scottie Scheffler.

The players on Team Europe are Matt Fitzpatrick, Ludvig Aberg, Tommy Fleetwood, Tyrrell Hatton, Rasmus Hojgaard, Viktor Hovland, Shane Lowry, Robert MacIntyre, Sepp Straka, Justine Rose, Jon Rahm, and 2025 Masters winner Rory McIlroy.

The Ryder Cup happens about every two years. The U.S.A won more Ryder Cups than Europe overall. The event is named after Samuel Ryder because he donated the trophy giving the Ryder Cup its name. The Ryder Cup is not part of the PGA Tour. Golfers such as Bryson DeChambeau, who is in the LIV golf league, not the PGA, can participate in playing in the tournament.

I can't wait to see who wins this year's Ryder cup. Who are you cheering for, Team U.S.A or Team Europe? I am cheering for Team U.S.A.



How to Find the Best Fishing Spot

By The Great Outdoors Man
Tusker Tribune Staff

Today our main topic will be what to look for when fishing in a new area. Once you get to the fishing area, always check if there are leaves bottom of water. Fish prefer the bottom of the water is clear, to make room for their nests.

Second, check the number of frogs or minnows. Too many bait fish means there's no predatory fish, like bass, to eat them and people mainly catch predator fish. Unless when you're trying to catch bait fish to catch predatory.

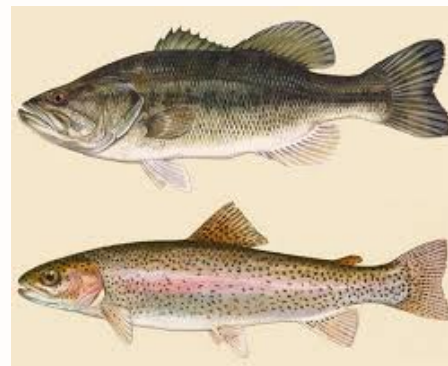
Next, don't use big bait for a small pond. It's best to use big bait for a pond at least 50 by 50 feet, or if you know from experience that there's big fish in that pond or lake.

That's it for our main topic, let's get to the next topic:bait. It all depends on what fish you're trying to reel in. If you use real worms for a fish like the Pumpkin Seed fish, these guys are really tricky and can easily steal your bait if you're not careful.

Next up is bass. It all depends what type of bass and what stage in its life. You're trying to catch young bass. I personally recommend real worms but for the rest, you can use a good old fishing lure.

Next are trout. Now trout only bite lures that look like insects And you do that in a technique called fly fishing. There will be more on fly fishing later.

Well, that's it for today see you next time on The Great Outdoors Man.



Bach, Chamber Orchestra and Jazz!

By Lucas Mejia
Tusker Tribune Staff

Hello and welcome back to The Daily Life Of a 6th Grade Musician. Now let's start on our music history. Today, we'll focus on Bach. He was born on March 31, 1685, in Germany. After being in an orphanage at age 10, he lived with his brother. He then continued his musical career in Lunenburg, where in 1723 he was hired by Thomas Kantor. More on Bach later.

Since this Friday, 6th graders don't have orchestra, so no fiddle Friday for us. If you think you need help, come to school early. Mr. Gilbert gives extra help lessons to those who need it.

If you joined Chamber Orchestra, know that the Schoology and music sheet are set up and released by September 25th. We're really hitting the ground running! If you forget your computer or it's out of battery, we will also be given paper copies of all the music, except for what we use in clubs.

If you want to practice for clubs now, you can ask Mr. Gilbert for a paper copy. Also, while we're on the topic of clubs, don't forget to go to Jazz. The first meeting is October 17. We think all the spots for your instruments will be ready; it's not a guarantee but it's a possibility.

That's all we have for today see you next time on The Daily Life Of a 6th Grade Musician.



Drama Club Puts the Spotlight on You

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff



*SMS Drama Club featured in a previous musical performance-
-Seussical the Musical.*

I recently joined Drama Club as a 6th grade student at Somers Middle School. I joined Drama Club because it caught my attention, and I thought it was really interesting. I have an interest in acting and joined to improve my acting skills. I also have an interest in singing, and in Drama Club, I have opportunities to sing.

I also want to improve overcoming my stage fright. I have stage fright, where whenever I'm on stage for anything like concerts, I get anxiety and feel a lot of pressure to not mess up.

Drama Club can be a fantastic way of building confidence and sometimes even new friendships. Drama Club can help even finding new skills. Drama club can also help with reading comprehension.

Many performances include dancing, which if you love dancing, then Drama Club could be a perfect fit for you! After a performance, the feeling is very nice of accomplishing something that usually makes you nervous to do. If you really feel like going out there this year, then I recommend joining Drama Club!

We Can All Help Stop Pollution

By Jasline Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

What is pollution? Well let me explain. Pollution is anything that makes the earth and anything on the earth as well as plants, animals, people, sick and dirty. It's when things that can be harmful like trash, chemicals or even too much heat or light, get into the air, water or soil making it unsafe for us to breathe, drink or live on earth.

There are 3 different types of pollution. We have air pollution, water pollution and land pollution. Let's start off with air pollution. Air pollution is smoke from cars, and factories that make the air bad to breathe in.

Water pollution is when trash or chemicals get into oceans or rivers making the water dirty for sea animals; fish, or other sea creatures.

Finally, land pollution is when we throw away too much trash, like plastic and old food, it makes the land we live on dirty.

How can we prevent pollution? Well, you can use the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. You can buy products with less packaging and avoid using plastics one time by using reusable grocery bags. Find new purposes for an item instead of throwing it away. Properly sort recycled materials. We can all help out!

