

Charter Ink

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MAY 2014

Remembering the Marathon Attacks by Samantha Circelli

The world is made up of exciting and devastating things. Last year, on April 15th, multiple families, friends, runners, and children were affected by yet another terrorist attack. The Boston Marathon, which occurs every year, brings at least 500,000 people to watch, enjoy, and support the runners of their choice. It has been an annual event that has been attracting different audiences since 1897. However, last year's was an event that went down in infamy.

Last April, thousands of runners and their supporters gathered to run this famous race. While competitors were running, with their families screaming from the sidelines, two homemade pressure cooker bombs went off on Boylston Street, within 210 yards between one another. The authorities later confirmed the bombings as a terrorist attacks, one of the worst and most publicized terrorist attacks on U.S soil since 9/11.

The bombs were created and detonated by Tamerlan Tsarnaev and his brother, Dzhokhar, who both received justice for their crimes. Tamerlan Tsarnaev was shot on sight in Watertown MA, three days after the bombings occurred after his brother evaded authorities. There was then a hunt in Watertown and surrounding areas for the remaining younger Tsarnaev brother. Watertown residents were asked to stay indoors, as well as surrounding cities, like Boston. There were 144 if not more casualties. Some had to have limbs amputated, with young children among the victims.

In remembrance of the tragic event that affected so many Americans, Simmons College held a memorial service on the first anniversary of the bombing and the Student Nurses Association hosted a blood drive. There was a host of musical performances. This is a time to reflect on our

country, our tragedies, and our strength.

President Barack Obama attended a memorial service for the victims of the bombings last year in Boston at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. He made an uplifting speech to the citizen of Boston, as well as to the rest of the country. In his speech he said, "That's why a bomb can't beat us. That's why we don't hunker down. That's why we don't cower in fear. We carry on. We race. We strive. We build, and we work, and we love, and we raise our kids to do the same." Our President could not have said it better. We are an inspirational country, and we are Boston strong.



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Senior Class Memories

by Melanie Sullivan, Kayliegh Wright, Morgan Murray
Congratulations! You made it.

13 years of school and in just a little more than a month you'll be walking at graduation. For some of you, it has all been spent here, and for others it has just been a year or two. But soon it will all be over, and you will be moving on to the next part of your life: college. While this is definitely exciting, you shouldn't completely write off high school! There have been so many good times with your friends, so many opportunities, and so many memories you don't want to forget. We asked some of the seniors to recall some of their favorite memories from their time at SSCPS, and here are some of the things they came up with:

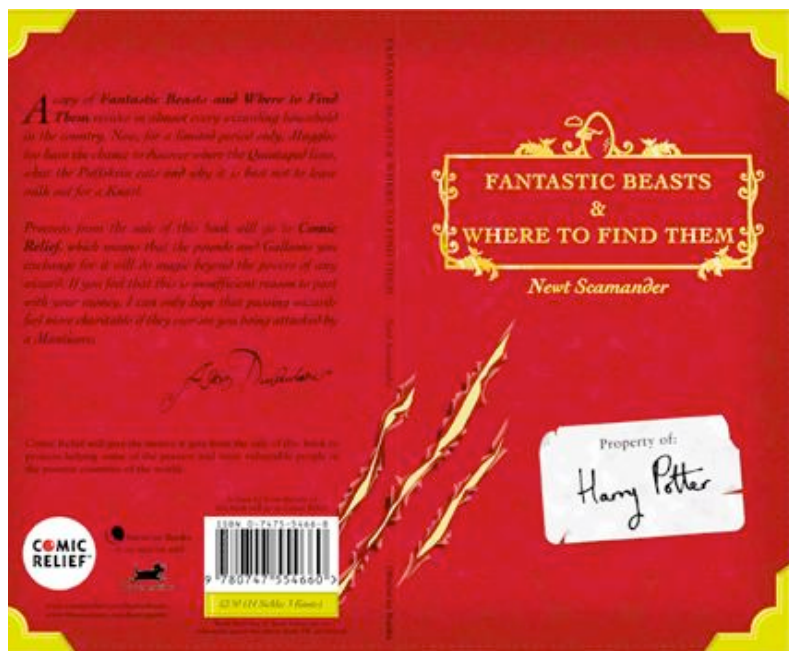
- "Team no sleep"
- "Kathy duck-slayer"
- When the building ceiling collapsed
- "occupy charter"
- "Andy"
- "Berger"
- "Wages"
- "Where's the chapstick"
- "I look like a man all the time"
- Fat Jonathan
- 8th grade trip
- "I never forget"
- Holding hands and jumping in the lake
- Titanic with Jonathan and Kenji
- Waldo
- The newscast
- Salted
- Sauced
- "Ya chips"

Keep in mind all of these memories as you move on to the next part of your life!

JK Rowling's Newest Movie Trilogy

by Samantha Circelli

Attention all Harry Potter Fans! JK Rowling has just announced that she is making a new movie trilogy, based on a book she wrote between the fourth and fifth book, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. This book was a textbook for all the creatures involved in *Harry Potter*. The book will be about Newt Scamander a "magizoologist" (yes, spell check will recognize that word but not my name), who throughout the book discovers these creatures. Some are in disbelief about how Rowling can turn a 54 page book into a three part movie, but she has magic on her side! The book will take place 70 years before the events of *Harry Potter*, so none of the characters will be involved. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* was originally written to raise money for Comic Relief. It ended up raising millions, and became a guide for those who want to know more about "world of magic". Rowling is currently writing the screenplays for the movies, but Warner Bros. has confirmed they will be producing and releasing the trilogy. The dates are unknown, so keep an eye out for any flying broomsticks!



May FYIs

by Kevin McGuiness

- Lewis and Clark began their famous expedition on May 14th, 1804
- On May 20th, 1932, Amelia Earhart completed the first solo flight across the Atlantic by a woman
- On May 27th, 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge was opened
- It was once considered bad luck to get married in May
- May is International Respect for Chickens Month
- An old Cornish tradition stated that it was unlucky to buy a broom in May

Student Board Election Results 2014

by Luke MacCormack

President: Neil Feeny

Vice-President: Lauren Walsh

Secretary: Edina Lemkin

Treasurer: Noeme Trocher

PA Representative: Maryellen

Vanderveen

Board of Trustees

Representative: Van Harting

The student elections were last Friday and were conducted with great success. The position of president was won by the current vice president, Neil Feeny. For the position of vice president, Lauren Walsh won, even though her opponent, Jeremy gave most of the high school, “encouragement” in the form of free candy at lunch, and he wasn't the only

one. Tyler Dalton also tried some political tactics in his quest to win the spot of president, and even though both of their efforts were great and appreciated by the students, neither won.

All of the candidates worked hard at their goals to win. Over the past couple weeks, the high school was decorated with posters and people were constantly asking those

annoying questions like, “are you voting for me?” Not anymore.

Anyway, the speeches were great. All of them got their point across, some more serious than others. Overall, students voted for those who they thought would do the best job. Great job to everyone that ran and lets look forward to next year with the new student board!

Jaguars Sports Update

by Ethan Seal

The debate team completed their season in March, ending the season on a good note. The topic for March was whether or not single-gender classrooms are beneficial to the learning environment. The teams for the debate were Lauren Walsh and Max Goldenberg with two wins, Van Harting and Jeremy Atkins with two wins, and Ila White and Katie Aucella with one win. When asked to reflect on the season, Max Goldenberg, freshman on the debate team, said, “It went really great overall. Everyone did a great job and had a blast.” With the debate season over, students are shifting their focus to track, softball, and baseball.

Two new sports are being introduced this year to Charter: softball and baseball. The driving forces behind this have been Desmond Sullivan, Julia MacDougall, and Van Harting. These three have held fundraisers and used their resources to make the two new teams possible for the school. Athletes must begin to get in shape if they are not already for the upcoming seasons of baseball, softball, and track. Track started Monday, April 14th with practice and the team had a first meet on April 14th.



College Decisions

by Kayleigh Wright

It's the season of college decisions, and all of the seniors are currently in the month of limbo between acceptances being mailed and decisions being due. As of April 1, all acceptances were released, and all decisions must be mailed by May 1. So, the seniors have been taking the 30 days April provides to make their college decisions. For some it is easy, with the decision being clear, while for others have a lot more factors to consider. Location, tours, financial aid, majors, programs, extracurriculars and so much more affect the decision. But some students do know where they will be going to college starting in the fall, and they are:

Katie Aucella- Northeastern University
Jonathan Boyle- UMASS Lowell
Matthew Algera- UMASS Lowell
Terrence Bellevue- Bay State College
Terrence Serres- Bunker Hill Community College
Dillan Belizaire- Bunker Hill Community College
Kayleigh Wright- Dickinson College
Melanie Sullivan- Providence College
Jess Hoffman- Montserrat College of Art

Congratulations to everyone who has made a decision, and best of luck to those who are still deciding!

Promposal Contest!

by Maryellen Vanderveen

All this month high school students have been preparing for the night they wait all year for: prom. Some may be barely able to contain their excitement for the big night. Some may be awaiting the social event with dread, while others still may feel more indifferent, prom being just another high school landmark on the path to graduation and something better. Regardless of what group you fall into, unless you have decided to forgo the affair entirely, you have most likely spent a bit of time finding a date, purchasing tickets along with a dress or tuxedo and everything else that goes towards it. In all of this, it can be easy to forget the true meaning of prom - having a special night with your sweetheart and friends before school ends.

This year, the SSCPS Prom Committee, held a prom proposal contest that was meant to be a fun way to bring the students together before prom. Throughout the month of April students were able to submit their prom proposals for the cutest to be decided on by a vote from all the students. The best part? The couple with the winning proposal will be announced at the dance on May 16th where they would be reimbursed for their tickets. Prizes for runner-up entries are set to be awarded as well.

Six proposals were submitted. Some included junior Edina's, whose boyfriend from Hingham High School left flowers at the base of the stairs at her house and the words "Will you go with me to..." trailing up the stairs written in popsicle sticks. They lead to her room, which upon opening, was filled with balloons with the word "Prom?" on the floor.

Others took place in school, including senior Jeremy's, which took place at lunch when he surprised fellow senior Jessica with flowers and the big question.

Our outgoing class president Jonathon surprised his girlfriend, senior Kelsi, when he opened a locker behind him while leading prom meeting, sending a banner reading "Prom?" tumbling down. Pulling out flowers as well, he asked his ecstatic girlfriend to the dance.

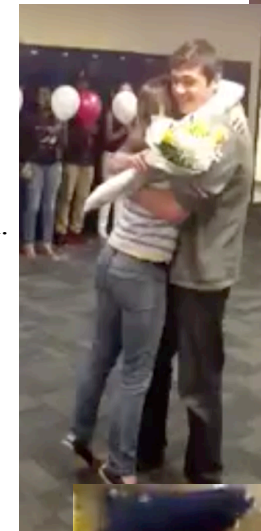
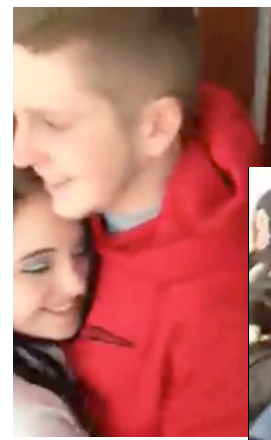
Richard asked Melissa next, leaving a trail of signs reading "will you go to..." and candy to Maria's room where a puzzle and all of their friends waited. Once she had solved the puzzle, which read "prom?", Richard came in from behind with flowers.

Corey's proposal to Katie also came as a surprise with flowers. Corey waited at the airport for two hours for Katie to arrive back from the senior's cultural trip. When she did, he was waiting with flowers and a hand drawn sign asking her to prom.

In the last few days of the contest, Tyler asked Devon to prom on Monday. He recruited a small army of friends to hold balloons that read "will you go to prom with me?" Devon was then led to the great room where she was surprised and elated.

Last but not least, Kaisaac proposed to Melanie during the last morning meeting. When announcing the arrival of senior shirts, he donned a special shirt with a message addressed to the "other senior rep", Melanie.

All of the promposals were adorable and it's certain the students will have a hard time deciding which to vote for. To find out who it will be, you'll just have to go to prom, where the winners will be revealed!





L'Wren Scott's Lasting Mark: Remembering an Icon

by Morgan Murray

Though never a household name, L'Wren Scott faithfully dressed dozens of fashion A-listers. In November 2010, first lady Michelle Obama wore a raspberry-colored design by Scott on the cover of Harper's Bazaar. Scott constructed a sparkling cap-sleeved sapphire gown for Amy Adams to wear for the 2011 Academy Awards. Rumors that Angelina Jolie would wear a wedding gown designed by Scott circulated in the fall of 2012. Reese Witherspoon, Sarah Jessica Parker, Carla Bruni-Sarkozy, Oprah Winfrey, Sandra Bullock, Claire Danes, and Penelope Cruz have also worn Scott's work.

But Scott was best known for her way with the black dress. In fact, the timeless concept of the black dress took center stage in her very first women's collection (introduced in 2006). This collection included the striking "Headmistress" dress, once worn by Madonna. This same style of dress was tweaked continuously in Scott's successive collections.

The editor at large of Vogue, Andre Leon Talley, chose one of Scott's designs to be included in his definitive work entitled "The Little Black Dress." The book was published in conjunction with an exhibit of the same name, presented in 2012 at the Savannah College of Art and Design's Museum of Art in Savannah, Georgia.

In contribution to the book, Scott said, "As a woman, a little black dress means a clear point of view. As a designer, it means business and what every woman needs. It represents what every woman wants: confidence."

Student Submissions

by Maryellen Vanderveen

Untitled by Devin Bailey

And in the context of everything I've done, up to this point, right now. I swear the skeletons in my closet and under my bed hold barrels to their skull in the thought of my departure from this place. My mind shifts in the direction of dark paths every time my eyes glaze over the burning horizon of my past. I am walking away from it but it is 110° in this desert and I am craving the refreshing mist of another fallacy streamlined to the center of my chest.

This piece was submitted by junior Devin Bailey. He wrote it to represent the struggle of moving on from a challenging past. "I'm not suicidal," he said, "but 'my departure from this place' represents suicide as a thing". Suicide represents an escape from the past, but so does the "refreshing mist". Devin described its symbolism, "You know when you go to an amusement park and there's a mist shower that you can stand under to get cool? You can stay cool for a while, but eventually you'll have to leave and then you'll get hot again." What this statement symbolizes about one's troubling past is up to the interpretation of the reader.

Monthly Jokes

by Luke McCormack

If you're not familiar with the work of Steven Wright, he's the famous erudite scientist who once said: "I woke up one morning and all of my stuff had been stolen and replaced by exact duplicates."

His mind sees things differently than most of ours do, to our amazement, and amusement.

Here are some of his gems:

- I'd kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
- Borrow money from pessimists -- they don't expect it back.
- Half the people you know are below average.
- A conscience is what hurts when all your other parts feel so good.
- A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.
- All those who believe in psychokinesis, raise my hand.
- The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- I almost had a psychic girlfriend... but she left me before we met.
- How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- Hard work pays off in the future, laziness pays off now.

Horoscopes by Astrology Psychic

“April showers bring May flowers” is what comes to mind when we think of the spring time, and if you have looked out the window lately you will notice that rain has been falling quite frequently. You know what rain does, it gives off a depressed vibe, makes you want to just curl up in a ball in your bed. Well that's what April is, a month of depression as we patiently await warm sunshine and sunny days. This month may be dreadfully long, which doesn't make sense since the weather is becoming warmer, and the sun stays out longer. However as we are stuck between the stages of winter and spring/summer we begin to mope around blaming it on the end of the year and the approaching summer. As students we will begin to slack on homework and school altogether, however this will be bad, as we (besides the super cool seniors) have more than 2 months of school left, one full quarter to get through. Ways to avoid this horrible spring slacking sickness is to take the advice of “find the fun.” This advice comes from our very own Mathematics teacher Donika Harizaj as she gets through the days by finding the fun in every task she completes. As you notice we rarely see Donika slacking, as she grades tests before the day is even over or in a bad mood, so find the fun people and that may get you through the super slacking springtime.

Month Etymologies

by Ethan Seal

We are about to enter May. May is a month. There are twelve months. Each of these twelve months has a name. These names each mean something different and each have different origins. The roots of January are from Latin *Janus*, the Roman god of doors and beginnings, marking the beginning of the new year in the Gregorian and Julian (Gregorian minus 13 days) calendars. The Julian Calendar is a calendar that was created by Julius Caesar in 46 BCE, which is .0075 days longer than the Gregorian calendar. February's roots come from Latin *februaria*, from *februa*, the name for a purification feast held in February. March's roots are also Latin, coming from the Latin word *Martius* for Mars, the Roman god of war. The Romans gave April the Latin name *Aprilis*. The traditional etymology is from the verb *aperire*, which means “to open,” possibly referring to trees and flowers “opening” during spring. May was named after the Greek Goddess Maia, who is associated with the Roman goddess of fertility, Bona Dea, whose festival was held in May. June was named after the Roman Goddess Juno or Latin word *iuniores* meaning “younger ones.” July comes from Rome, named after Julius Caesar by Marc Antony. August was originally named *Sextilis* in Latin until January and February were added to the original Roman ten-month calendar to form the Gregorian calendar. It was then named after Augustus by Julius Caesar. September, October, November, and December all held their Latin roots for seven, eight, nine, and ten past when January and February were added, making the names irrelevant, yet persistent.

Art Workshop Feature

by Sam Circelli

Watercolor, drawing, sculpting, ceramics, you name it, the art workshop students can make it! They are a wonderful set of students, and artists, from all different grades in the high school. Some of their most memorable moments included the famous fashion show which happened earlier this school year. Students were asked to make and design their own dress, to have modeled on a charter made runway, in the gymnasium. The artists did an amazing job, as well their models. Since we are flashing back to the fashion show last December, it was one of the students EOMs and has been for a while. The models made their debut as they strutted their dress down the “runway.”

The art workshop is so much more than their beautiful hand made clothes. Right now, they are working on gold leaves. Gold leaves is a painting or drawing then covered and painted over with gold paint. Morgan Rousseau shared her favorite part about her workshop, and with quiet giggle she said, “I like how we explore the different types of art.” She also spilled how Marianne has been keeping their next EOM a secret from them. Could it be an art show maybe? Who knows!

Not only are these students extremely dedicated and talented to their art, they are fun people to be around. Morgan had to finish off by chiming in, “Yes I get along with everyone! They're like my family.” So if you are interested in a creative, family like workshop, Marianne's art workshop is the perfect choice for you.

Upcoming Events

by Zain Akhtar

May 3rd-Mother and Daughter Self Defence Program at Gym- 12 PM to 3! Everyone's got to know how to defend themselves, and who better to learn some with than your mom! Think about it, you, your mom, and learning ninja moves. What could be better?

May 16th-HS Prom- Get your dress and Tux ready! Prom's only a few weeks away. This year Prom will be held in the Quincy Marriott Hotel. The theme for this year's event is Arabian Nights. Tickets are \$55 per person and \$100 per couple (Any of you ladies who need a date, as long as you pay, I got you). Cutest proposal gets reimbursed for their tickets!

Sports Update by Danny Freitas

NBA

The NBA playoffs are right around the corner, so lets take a look at some of the highlights of the end of this season.

Players of the Month: March

East- Al Jefferson (PF, CHA)

West- Kevin Durant (SF, OKC)

- Kevin Durant passes Michael Jordan with the most consecutive games with 25+ points. Jordan had 40, Durant has 41.
- Alonzo Mourning, Mitch Richmond, and David Stern are the highlights of this years Basketball HOF inductees.
- The Boston Celtics are now 25-56. They have officially been knocked out of the NBA playoffs this season.

NCAA NEWS

Congratulations to the Uconn Huskies on winning the NCAA Basketball Championship!

MLB

The 2014-15 season officially began on March 30th. Here are some beginning of the season highlights.

- Actually, on March 22nd, the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Los Angeles Dodgers played in Australia.
- The Boston Red Sox are 5-9 as of April 16th.

NHL

With the NHL playoffs just about to start, here are the results of this season.

- The Boston Bruins are 54-19-9. They are the leaders in the Eastern Conference.
- The Bruins will take on the Detroit Red Wings in the first round.
- 9 Bruins players missed practice on Tuesday, April 15th.

Would You Rather

by Danny Freitas

Would you rather.....

Have a permanent unibrow?

OR

No eyebrows?

Know 5 languages but no one in the country you live in can understand you?

OR

Only know 20% of 1 language, but everyone can understand you?

Have the pocket of a kangaroo on your stomach?

OR

Be able to change colors like a chameleon?

Eat a wet book, cover to cover?

OR

Eat 10 sweaty headbands?

Google Aims to Immortalize the Smartphone

by Kevin McGuiness

The smartphone has become one of the largest selling consumer electronics in all of history. Anywhere in public, hundreds of these devices can be spotted in the hands of people of all ages. It is safe to say as well that for many of the people that own a smartphone, it is beyond a luxury, it is a necessity. All smartphones, no matter the developer, provide an insane feature set that gives the user a real sense of user-friendliness and convenience. Phones are no longer just for phone calls, but for all aspects of life.

There is, however, one aspect of these wondrous technologies that is highly inconvenient, upgrading. Every year, sometimes multiple times a year, without fault, the major smartphone companies release new models for their phones. The updates within these can range anywhere from minor improvements to fundamental overhauls of entire systems. This creates multiple conflicts for the dedicated consumers who support these companies. For many, cellular contracts prevent them from getting the latest and greatest, while others simply cannot afford a yearly upgrade. Price also seems to be the last great barrier to entry for consumers to the smartphone market. When the price of an iPhone starts at \$199 with a contract, not everyone can afford one from the get go.

These issues are what Google is attempting to solve with what is now only known as “Project Ara”. Originally an initiative by popular smartphone manufacturer Motorola, who, up until the end of January, was owned by Google before the nearly \$3 billion deal that sold the company to Lenovo. As part of this deal however, Google explicitly demanded that the portion of the company that was working on Ara separate with the rest of Motorola and remain with Google. With a tagline of “Designed exclusively for 6 billion people”, Ara is focused around the concept of the phone being modular. This means that apart from the base, all features of the phone are completely optional and physically removable. This gives the consumer complete control over just what is actually included with a phone. Don’t want a camera? Then don’t put it on the phone. Or the camera module could just be popped off of the phone when not in use, and added back when necessary. This process would not require any expertise or tools, a setting within the phone would disable an electronically locked magnet, releasing a module clicked in to the back of the phone. Up until now this technology was purely theoretical, but Google hopes to release their first version at some point this year. Even more insane is the fact that Google is aiming for around a \$50 price-point for the base to attach the modules on. Succeed or fail, whatever Google creates wil certainly change the smartphone world.



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