



Available Technology In Our Schools



BY: DR. R. PLETSCHE

The availability of technology in our schools has come into a question of getting a bang for your buck. Time not too long ago, most schools had computer labs that were needed to teach the students how to use a computer, send messages, and do research. But it seems now that with talking with many different teachers, most students come to school with this knowledge.

Remember the time that people complained that television and Sesame Street were the babysitters for the parents. Well now it's electronic devices. Students even in Pre-K have their own devices and are quite savvy compared to the students just a few years ago. The computer labs have little need if used to give basic instructions. It appears now that several schools still send the kids to the lab because contractually the teachers deserve breaks and the labs can be used to do work from other subjects. If done well, that is fine.

The many years I had Tech Coordinators at my schools these individuals spent most of their time keeping the equipment running. Seldom actually taught classes. Several computer salesmen have told me that the life expectancy in a school setting is three years for a computer. That is a large expense.

Educators are often told if you want to look at trends in education look to California. They are usually considered to be ahead of Illinois, sometimes so far that they have dropped programs before we even try them. That is one reason I found a report from the Los Angeles Unified School District (the second largest district in the USA) so interesting.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) presented a report stating "limited use of computers may be better than no use at all, but levels of computer use above the current average are associated with significantly poorer results."

This report helped the Superintendent to halt a \$1.3 billion program to purchase all their students an iPad. After all, the educational director of OECD stated that students who use computers very frequently in school don't out-perform students who use them moderately. They further noted that the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA test) give to nearly 60,000 15 year olds from over 30 countries and then print the ratings and we are told how much better how much certain countries do than others. The PISA test shows the average American uses the computer 25 minutes a day in school while in Australia they use it 58 minutes a day and in South Korea they use it less than 10 minutes a day. The test claimed to measure Math, Reading and Science. In the last tests that were published the United States finished about average but as you can guess South Korea easily outperformed Australia in Math and Reading.

I believe these times were money for schools is not over abundant those in charge should really look into these to see if the money should be spent to further technology.

Bernard Heerey Foundation Benefits DeLaSalle Institute



The Bernard Heerey Family Foundation renewed its support of De La Salle Institute by awarding \$205,750 for its scholarship grant program for the 2015-16 academic year. There are currently 73 students - 31 young men and 42 young women who are Heerey Scholars. This grant is awarded to families with multiple siblings attending De La Salle. Since 2007, the Heerey Foundation has awarded \$1,757,800 to students.

SCRABBLE For Literacy Challenge

The North American SCRABBLE Players Association will sponsor the 12th Annual SCRABBLE for Literacy Challenge at the Grossinger Honda Center, 6600 N. Western Ave. on Sunday, Oct. 25th from 1 to 6 p.m.

There are roughly 36 million adults in the U.S. who cannot read above the 3rd grade level. These individuals have trouble meeting the demands placed on them to be fully functioning citizens, workers, and family members. 100% of the proceeds from the event will go towards supporting adult literacy programs in Illinois, as well as the Jump Start program, which serves incarcerated youth.

The event offers three ways to play: Competitive, Just for Fun, and NASPA Tournament.

Players who choose the Competitive option can compete one-on-one to become the Chicago champion. Official rules will apply, but "Rule Breakers" will be available for purchase. First,

second, and third place prizes will be awarded.

In the Just for Fun option, "parlor" players may sit down with a table of friends to play an open game. Rules are set by those playing.

NASPA members may play in the official eight-game tournament.

Other highlights include: Beat the Champs - an opportunity to test one's mettle against World and National champs, Word Play - a challenge to find as many words as one can in a group of alpha-grammed letters, and a raffle and silent auction.

Complimentary food and refreshments, including drinks from Revolution Brewery, will be available. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for teens, and children under 12 are admitted free. To register for the event, visit www.lvillinois.org/scrabble.aspx. To find out more about LVI and becoming a literacy volunteer, call (312) 857-1582.

Nature Seminar for St. Jane Scouts



On Oct. 2nd, members of St. Jane de Chantel Boy Scout Troop 671, Girl Scout Troop 20531 and their families attended a Nature Seminar presented by radio talk show personality "Chauncey" (top row, 2nd from right) of the Great Outdoors program on AM 1000. Scouts learned some of nature's laws, environmental protection tips, animal & human contact, conservation, hiking and safety guidelines. Scouts were able to use this new information for upcoming nature based merit badges. Any boys or girls ages 7 to 17 who are interested in Scouting can contact Ed Melkonian at (312) 316-5825.

Snow Leopard Cubs Make Public Debut



Brookfield Zoo announces that Malaya and Daania, 4-month-old snow leopard cubs made their public debut in their outdoor habitat. The sisters have been behind the scenes bonding with their 4-year-old mom, Sarani, since their birth on June 16th.

This litter is the second for the adult snow leopard pair. Sarani and her 5-year-old mate, Sabu, arrived at Brookfield Zoo in October 2011 from Tautphaus Park Zoo in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Cape May County Park & Zoo in Cape May Court House, New Jersey.

Mayor Emmanuel Talk At Library Ctr.

The Cindy Pritzker Lecture on Urban Life and Issues will feature a conversation with Mayor Rahm Emanuel in the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st. on Thursday, Oct. 29th at 6 p.m.

Emanuel served as White House Chief of Staff to President Barack Obama and three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives representing Chicago's 5th District. He previously served as a key member of the Clinton administration from 1993 to 1998, rising to serve as Senior Advisor to the President for Policy and Strategy.

Scott Turow, best-selling Chicago author of novels such as One L, and Ordinary Heroes will participate in the talk.

The lecture is presented by the Board of Directors of the Chicago Public Library in honor of Cindy Pritzker, its former president and founder of the Chicago Public Library Foundation.

Registration is requested at Eventbrite. If all venue spaces fill to capacity, registration does not guarantee seating. Once the auditorium reaches capacity, guests will be seated in an overflow space and view the event by live simulcast. Available seating will be provided first come, first served, beginning at 5 p.m.



R. EMMANUEL

Appreciation Week For Principals

Lifetouch, Inc. and the Illinois Principals Association encourage all to celebrate Principal Appreciation Week Oct. 18th-24th.

"Principals and educational leaders impact students' lives in a significant way," said Jason Leahy, IPA Executive Director. "As a former principal and having visited dozens of schools throughout Illinois, the quality of a school's learning environment and its ability to do what is best for its students comes as a direct result of the leadership provided by the Principal and leadership team.

Zoo Photo Contest Extends Deadline

The deadline for submitting entries to the Chicago Zoological Society's 2015 Photo Contest has been extended to Monday, Oct. 26th at 5 p.m. So, there is still time to grab your camera and capture that winning shot for a chance to win the grand prize: a behind-the-scenes adventure with Brookfield Zoo's giraffes.

The winner and up to five guests will have the opportunity to meet the giraffe herd and even feed them some of their favorite food items.

Photo submissions should be 8 x 10 inches and either color or black-and-white, and must feature an animal, although they do not have to be taken at Brookfield Zoo. (Photos with people will not be accepted.) Do not frame or mat your photo. Download forms and official contest rules from www.CZS.org/PhotoContest. Forms are also available at the zoo's north and south information kiosks or by calling (708) 688-8351.

Judges will select one grand-prize winner from

all entries. In addition, a first-, second-, and third-place winner will be selected in two age categories: adult (12 and older) and child (11 and under). Winners will be notified by phone and invited to an awards reception on Saturday, November 14. Winning photos will be displayed in the Discovery Center lobby through the end of the year and on www.CZS.org.

Opening For Art Exhibit

Prospectus Art Gallery, 1210 W. 18th st., will celebrate Chicago Artists month with an exhibition titled "Made in Pilsen" through Dec. 19th. The opening reception will be held Friday, Oct. 23rd from 5 to 10 p.m.

Among the artists who will be featured are Montserrat Alsina, Roberto Ferreyra, Mark Nelson, Carlos Barberena, Erick ROHO Garcia, Ron Gordon and Marcos Raya.

The work will consist of paintings in oil and acrylic on canvas, mixed media, original prints and photography. Admission is free. For more information, call (312) 733-6132.

Good Health Program At Saint Richard



S. HERRICK, MFA, Ed.D

Sharon Skala, Shaklee distributor will present a program, "How to Live Long Healthy Lives" at St. Richard Parish Center, 5032 S. Kostner on Sunday, Oct. 18th.

Dr. Susan Bortz Herrick will discuss the "New Challenges of Childhood" from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and "Active Aging - Averting the

Crisis" from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. There will be tasting of Shaklee Life Shakes, meal and snack bars and a get clean magic show from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

For more information, call Sharon at (773) 890-5813 or Ruth at (630) 728-6152.

Zarzycki Observes 100th Anniversary

Zarzycki Manor Chapels Ltd. will celebrate its 100th Anniversary during 4 p.m. Mass at St. Richard Church, 50th & Kostner on Saturday, Oct. 24th.

Most Rev. Thomas J. Paprocki, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield and Rev. Krzysztof Janczak, pastor of St. Richard will be concelebrants.

A cake and coffee reception will follow until 6:30 p.m. Reservations are requested at (708) 839-8999.

Barristers Band Offers Concert

The Barristers Big Band will perform a free concert in the Cindy Pritzker Auditorium of the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S.

State st. on Friday, Oct. 16th at 6 p.m.

"The Centenerians" will celebrate the lives and music of three giants of jazz born 100 years ago: Billie Holiday, Billy Strayhorn and Frank Sinatra. Each of these artists made incalculable contributions to the world of music. The band will take you on a wondrous journey of their hits including: Billie Holiday's *Lover Man*, *God Bless the Child* and *Strange Fruit*; Billy Strayhorn's *Lush Life*, *So This Is Love* and *Blood Count*; and Frank Sinatra's *Come Fly With Me*, *All or Nothing at All* and *You Make Me Feel So Young*.

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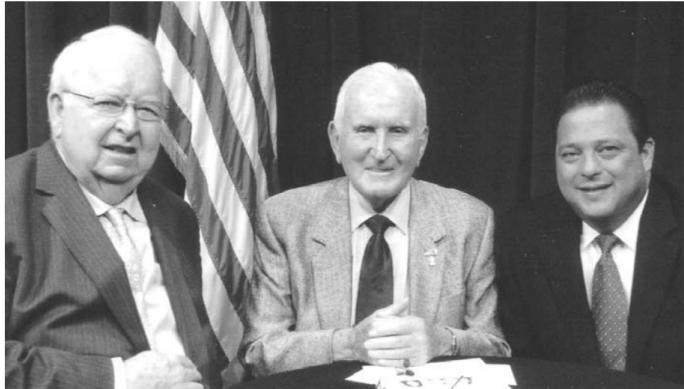


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On McElroy TV Show



Ed McElroy (center) host of "The Ed McElroy Show," recently interviewed State Representative Bob Rita (right) of the 28th District and Thomas Cusack (left) President of Cusack Insurance Agency. That show will air at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 20th and again on Tuesday, Oct. 27th on Comcast Channel 19. McElroy is Past National Commander of Catholic War Veterans, U.S.A.

Queen of Peace Plans Reunion

Queen of Peace High School is hosting a reunion for alumnae who graduated in 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, and 2010 at The Clubhouse, 298 Oak Brook Center on Friday,

Oct. 23rd from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. For more information or to reserve a seat at \$50, contact Cindy Kmetty at (708) 496-4750.

Seminar On Self-Defense

State Rep. Silvana Tabares will partner with the Garfield Ridge Neighborhood Watch with simple, yet effective, self-defense methods taught by a former police officer during a free seminar on Monday, Oct. 19 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Byrne Elementary Schools gymnasium, 5329 S. Oak Park ave.

Larry Lindenman, a 26-year veteran of the Illinois State Police. Lindenman will focus on methods of awareness and safety that can easily be integrated into daily life. Tabares said, "This will be a presentation rather than a physical activity, so I encourage residents of all ages to learn useful self-defense techniques."

For more information, call (773) 522-1315.

Folk Arts At McKinley Library

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st., is hosting a traveling exhibit from Oct. 1st through Dec. 31st titled "Generation to Generation: Folk Arts of Illinois," curated by Lisa Rathje and Clark "Bucky" Halker, of the Chicago based Company of Folk.

The 10 panels tell the stories of artists and musicians and highlight art forms representing a variety of traditions, such as stone carving, the Irish fiddle, Mexican murals and Irish accordion.

The Fall 2015 schedule is as follows: Saturday, Oct. 17th at 12 p.m., Music: Japanese Taiko Drummer Tatsu Aoki. Saturday, Nov. 14th at 1 p.m., Art: Virginia Lai's Chinese Calligraphy. Saturday, Dec. 5th at 1 p.m., Music: Croatian Tamburitz player Joe Kirin.

For more information, call (312) 747-6082.

Halloween Events At Brookfield Zoo



Brookfield Zoo's annual Boo! at the Zoo Halloween celebration returns with not-so-scary and fun-filled activities for the entire family to enjoy on Oct. 17th-18th and 24th-25th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

Visitors can get into the Halloween spirit by learning about scorpions, giant spiders, and snakes during chats led by animal care staff. Guests can head over to Australia House at 11:30 a.m. for a chat about bats, then Regenstein Wolf Woods to learn about the Mexican gray wolves at noon.

At Hamill Family Play Zoo, there will be a chat about spiders at 12:30 p.m., followed by a chat about owls at 1 p.m. Across the way at The Swamp, there will be a chat about scorpions at 2 p.m. Feathers and Scales will offer a snake chat at 2:30 p.m. At Hamill Family Play Zoo, guests can meet the zoo's ravens at 3 p.m.

Animals receiving pumpkins at 11 a.m. are rhinos on Oct. 17th; orangutans on Oct. 18th; sloth, grizzly, and polar bears on Oct. 24th; and lions on Oct. 25th.

On the West Mall, guests can watch the Pumpkin Smasher demolish pumpkins into tiny

pieces every hour. Professional pumpkin carver Steve Dahlke will use a variety of tools to create masterpieces out of 1,000-pound pumpkins. Zoogers can pick up carving tips and tricks during his demonstrations and can even carve their own pumpkins to take home.

Ghosts and goblins of all ages can join in the costume parade, which kicks off at 1 p.m. by the North Mall and goes around Roosevelt Fountain before concluding on the West Mall. Guests can show off their Halloween attire during a costume contest beginning at 1:30 p.m. Judges will choose prize winners in four categories: scariest, best animal theme, most original, and best group theme.

Other features are a ride on the Haunted Hayride, a trek through the Craided Maize corn maze, enjoy a spin on the Creepy Carousel, build a scarecrow at Hamill Family Play Zoo, and snap photos at pumpkin patches throughout the park.

General zoo admission is \$16.95 for adults and \$11.95 for children ages 3-11 and seniors age 65 and over. Children 2 and under are free. Parking is \$10. For further information, call (708) 688-8000.

Health Fair At McKinley Park

12th Ward Alderman George Cardenas will sponsor his annual senior and community health fair at McKinley Park Field House, 2210 W. Pershing Road on Friday Oct. 16th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Seniors and residents will be provided with free flu shots, dental screenings, blood pressure screenings, prostate exams, diabetes exam, and breakfast. Information on cash assistance for seniors as well as Medical ID cards, senior ID bracelets, senior CTA passes, Medicare, CEDA light and gas bill assistance. Seniors will enjoy a free Zumba class and a beautiful walk in the

park. Rides to and from the fair will be available on request. Free haircuts will be available. For more information, call Jennifer Nunez at (773) 523-8250.

Law Program At Library Center

The Chicago Bar Association will present a workshop, "How to Find a Lawyer If You Can't Afford One" at the Harold Washington Library Center, 400 S. State st. on Monday, Oct. 26th at 12:15 p.m.

A question and answer period will follow.

Novena To St. Jude

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Quiet Mondays At M-P Library

The McKinley Park Branch Library, 1915 W. 35th st. has instituted Quiet Study Night in the meeting room on Mondays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. during September.

Participants should register at the front desk. For more information, call (312) 747-6082.

FHM Scouts Plan Pancake Breakfast

Five Holy Martyrs Scout Troops 465 and Cub Pack 3469 will conduct their annual Pancake Breakfast in the Francisco School lower hall on Sunday, Nov. 1st from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tickets are \$6 for ages 5 and over. For more information, call Jim Koziel at (773) 575-0207.

Children's Programs At A-H Library

The Archer Heights Branch Library, 5055 S. Archer has scheduled an interesting and informative array of programs for children.

Movement, music, and stories: Thursdays, Oct. 15th through Nov. 19th: 11-11:30am. Ages 0-4, parents stay and participate in this program with their little ones. Stories, songs, finger plays, flannel stories, baby bounces, and more will be tailored to the age group.

Followed by open playtime for kids and social time for parents from 11:30 a.m. -12 noon. Story times for other ages and different days or times will be added based on parent feedback.

Polish Heritage event - Handmade Cards Workshop with Malgorzata Dreszer: Saturday, Oct. 17th from 3-4 pm. Kids and families with create handmade cards with felt, beads, ribbons, buttons, and handmade paper.

Choose Kind Chicago: Monday, Oct. 19th from 4-5 pm. Recommended age group: 7-12. Discussion of characters and experiences from R.J. Palacio's book Wonder, and read alouds and book-talks about kindness, acceptance, difference, and bullying.

Halloween Origami ("Scary-gami"): Monday,

Oct. 26th from 5-6 p.m., recommended for ages 8+. Registration required at children's desk or by calling (312) 747-4921. Halloween-themed origami such as pumpkins, bats, and a basket.

Native Chicago: Thursday, Oct. 29th from 4-5 pm. Registration and permission slips are required. Open to all ages and families. Kids under 7 must have guardian with them. We will walk through the neighborhood and learn about and discuss historical uses of native plants that still live around us, including medicinal and edible uses.

Homework Help At Brighton Library

The Brighton Park Branch Library, 4314 S. Archer will have a teacher to help students with their homework every Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. except for holidays and school breaks.

The teacher speaks English and Spanish and can help all students from kindergarten to 12th grade. This service is free, and no appointment is necessary.

For more information, visit the library or call (312) 747-0666.

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Wine Tasting At Brookfield Zoo

The Chicago Zoological Society Women's Board will sponsor a Wines in the Wild fundraiser in the Discovery Center of Brookfield Zoo on Saturday, Nov. 7th from 7 to 10 p.m.

Participants will sample wines and liquors from around the world, great food, silent and live auctions.

The cost of \$100 includes the tasting, zoo admission, parking and commemorative wine glass.

For more information and reservations, call (708) 688-8393.

MWRD Completes Annual Audit

Chairman of Finance Frank Avila announced that the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago received a clean bill of financial health during an annual audit.

Illinois law requires the preparation of financial statements and any other data necessary to reflect its true financial condition and operations within six months of the close of each fiscal year.

"The sound financial footing of the District gives us flexibility in managing the uncertainty of day-to-day operations, and



F. AVILA provides validation to taxpayers who have come to expect fiscal responsibility from our agency," said Avila.

Maker Lab Offers Workshops

The Maker Lab, Chicago's first free and publically accessible maker space, features introductory workshops and open shop for personal projects and collaboration.

A workshop which provides an introduction to Inkscape and laser cutting will create custom wine charms on Monday, Oct. 19th at 6 p.m.

The West Lawn Branch Library, 4020 W. 63rd st., will present six weeks of 3D printing, vinyl cutting and craft workshops on Mondays, Tuesdays and Saturdays beginning Oct. 26th. For registration information, call (312) 747-7381.

Free Days At Field Museum

Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore drive is offering free admission on Oct. 30th, Nov. 1st and 22nd; Dec. 5th, 6th and 13th.

The facility is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Christmas Day. Final admission is at 4 p.m.

Obituaries

NATALIA ANNA BUDZ formerly of Garfield Ridge, age 25, daughter of Anna (nee Duda) & Kazimierz Budz; sister of Kevin; granddaughter of Marianna (Franciszek) Duda and Ludwika (Tadeusz) Budz; niece of Kazimierz (Aniela) Duda, Stanislaw (Jozefa) Duda, Barbara (Janusz) Gil, Maria (Andrzej) Budz, Jan (Joanna) Budz, Wladyslaw and Anna Budz. Natalie was a graduate student at Governor State University. Funeral services were held Oct. 9th at Sacred Heart Church. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery.

BETTY FALKOWSKI (nee Smith) wife of late Edward L.; mother of Edward S. (Linda M.) and late Cheryl; grandmother of Pamela; sister of late Ralph (Mary Lou) Smith, late Lillian (late Joseph) Falkowski and late Daryl Winters. Funeral services were held Oct. 10th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer, Jonathan F. Siedlecki, director. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery.

CASIMIR W. KASPER World War II First Lt. U.S. Army Veteran, husband of Victoria (nee Malazdra); father of Gretchen (Gary) Smith, Norine Kasper and Tim (Karen) Kasper; grandfather of Allison, Justin, Jason (Michelle) Smith, Ken (Kim) Kasper and Karly (fiance, John Hackert); great-grand father of Tyler and Joseph Smith. Casimir was a member of Five Holy Martyrs Holy Name Society, Commander of F.H.M., Catholic War Veterans and F.H.M. Choir. Casimir was also the co-founders and past president of Illinois Fiber Specialty Co. Funeral service will be held Thursday, Oct. 15th at 9:15 a.m. from Szykowny Funeral Home, Jonathan F. Siedlecki Director, 4901 S. Archer to Five Holy Martyrs Church for 10 a.m. Mass. Interment will be at Resurrection Cemetery.

ELEANOR A. KING, wife of late Elmer; mother of Richard (April), late Donald (Margaret) and late Maggie King; grandmother of 3; great-grandmother of 6; sister of late Leo (late Claudia) Zelaski. Funeral services were held Oct. 9th at Szykowny Funeral Home, 4901 S. Archer, Jonathan Siedlecki Director. Entombment was at Resurrection Mausoleum.

Shedd Aquarium Schedules Events

Summer may be over, but the fun never ends at Shedd Aquarium this fall. Go behind-the-scenes in a guided tour to learn about some of Shedd's 32,000 animals, or spend the night getting to know them better at Shedd's Spooky Seas overnight.

There's still time to feel the silky-smooth backs of stingrays before Stingray Touch closes for the season, or maybe sip a brew made with hops grown just outside Shedd's doors. Visit on an Illinois Resident Discount Day or take advantage of the inaugural Museum Week this October.

Illinois residents will have free access to the main exhibits as well as discounted rates to Wild Reef, Polar Play Zone and Abbott Oceanarium, Oct. 19, 20, 26, 27 and Nov. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24.

For more information, call (312) 939-2438.

Lipinski Plans Pumpkin Parade

Congressman Dan Lipinski will sponsor his Pumpkin Jamboree Parade on Saturday, Oct. 31st Kick Off will be at 11 a.m. from 59th & Nordica and proceed east on Archer ave.

For more information, call congressional aide Frank Salerno at (312) 886-0481.

All Souls Memorial Service



An All Souls' memorial service and a monthly Mass for the beatification of Venerable Maria Kaupas will be held in the Sisters of St. Casimir Motherhouse chapel at 2601 W. Marquette rd., on Saturday, Nov. 7th at 9:30 a.m. Names of the deceased will be reverently read at 8:45 a.m. and photos will be displayed in the sanctuary. The celebrant will be the Rev. William Malloy, Pastor of St. Barnabas Church. Light refreshments and conversation will follow, all are invited.

Photos of the deceased may be brought to the Mass. Names to be included in this remembrance must be received by Oct. 28th. For more information, call (773) 349-8064. Sister Virginia Gapsis, SSC, places a candle on the altar displaying photos of deceased loved ones at the 2014 All Souls' Remembrance service.

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