Senior Feature:

Advocating and Educating for the Prevention of Elder Abuse

By Jennifer Ackerman, Intern

We often expect abuse or neglect to affect children, but vulnerable adults, especially seniors, are at risk. For example, a senior may come to a doctor’s appointment looking disheveled and unkempt. Concerned, the nurse calls the senior’s emergency contact, a family member, who does not answer. The senior could be a victim of passive neglect, where the family member is not paying close enough attention to the senior’s needs and abilities. The nurse could call the Adult Protective Services hotline 1-866-800-1409 for guidance and to make a report if one is warranted.

With more than 41 million seniors in the United States, elder neglect and abuse is a serious issue. The senior could be a victim of passive neglect, where the family member is not paying close enough attention to the senior’s needs and abilities. The nurse could call the Adult Protective Services hotline 1-866-800-1409 for guidance and to make a report if one is warranted.

Some of the Catholic Charities Adult Protective Services and Senior Services program staff.

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With more than 41 million seniors in the United States, elder neglect and abuse is a serious issue. Along with physical abuse and neglect, elder abuse programs focus on financial exploitation, which occurs when a senior’s assets are being diverted for purposes benefitting family members or others who have gained control of the senior’s finances.

A new law in Illinois recently expanded the services of the Illinois Department of Aging’s Elder Abuse and Neglect Program, which has been renamed the Department of Adult Protective Services. The Department now serves all adults over age 18 who are at risk of abuse or neglect due to disability, as well as seniors.

In response to the new law, Catholic Charities has become an Adult Protective Services provider, adding five full-time positions to handle Adult Protective Services cases.

Catholic Charities employs an advocacy-based intervention model, meaning it is not our goal to punish people, but rather to intervene, educate and advocate.
SENIOR FAITH:

The Transformative Power of Daily Prayer

By Mary Ellen Kastenholz
Volunteer

Prayer comes in many forms, moments and religious practices. Daily prayer can have profound effects on how we live each day. Catholic Charities’ Board Member, Heide Kenny, shares with us the peace she finds from daily prayer and the joy of finding new ways to pray!

Heide sees herself first and foremost as a Daughter of God. She cherishes her beautiful relationships as wife to Gerry for 38 years, mother to five children and one daughter-in-law, grandmother to one, daughter, sister, aunt, godmother and friend. She is president of a successful family business, and a proud and dedicated American citizen. Heide is a lifelong donor of time, talent and treasure to parishes, Catholic schools and Catholic Charities.

Faith and prayer have always been important to Heide. She was baptized and received her faith formation at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish on Belmont Avenue in Chicago, and at the Academy of the Sacred Heart. Today, she continues to incorporate the prayers she learned in school into her daily routine: Morning Offerings, the Angelus, and Advent and Lenten practices. Heide also has devotions to several Novenas such as the Immaculate Conception, the Infant of Prague, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Joseph, and the Holy Spirit.

Heide made valiant efforts to take classes, and mark daily readings in the Bible but found it difficult to do, so she stopped. Then technology created an opportunity! The USCCB (United States Council of Catholic Bishops) website (usccb.org) created a calendar of daily readings. “I love it because if I miss a day or two, I can always go back to catch up. Now my day just does not seem right unless I start it with the Gospel reading for the day,” Heide says.

A NEW LOOK AT SCRIPTURE

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FINDING TIME TO PRAY EACH DAY

One of Heide’s greatest challenges is time. A while ago, a friend suggested that she create a “plan of life” to bring God into her daily life in ways that are important and doable – and to stick with it! For Heide the morning prayers, Gospel readings, daily Mass, prayers before meals, the Rosary and night prayers are very important. “If I make a plan each morning to weave them into each day, I am much more likely to pray than without the plan,” she explains.
The Call to Value and Honor Society’s Oldest Members

“The elderly need to be treated with love.” That was one of the underlying messages of Pope John Paul’s Letter to the Elderly, which he released 14 years ago in October of 1999. This historic letter should guide us this fall as lawmakers get back to the difficult task of implementing budget cuts in the face of an aging population.

Pope John Paul reminded us that the elderly are the guardians of our past, and the keys to our future. He cautioned us not to overvalue physical strength and vigor, for our essential human dignity does not lessen with physical or mental deterioration. On the contrary, the passing of years can bring wisdom, a longer perspective, and a better grasp of the meaning of life that should be a resource for the rest of society. We must honor our elders and ensure that our culture is one in which elderly people are treated with esteem and respect so they can grow old with dignity.

Catholic Charities has certainly taken Pope John Paul’s message to heart over the past 14 years, growing and expanding our programs so that we can provide affordable housing, in-home caregiving services, meal programs, and social services to tens of thousands of poor seniors each year. Each senior that is served by Catholic Charities can feel God’s love and mercy in our tender care and deep concern for them.

It is unfortunate that the needs of vulnerable seniors are rising at a time when federal and state budgets are bursting at the seams.

And yet, even with the tremendous growth of Catholic Charities senior services over the years, it simply will not be enough to meet the growing needs of our aging population. It is stunning that between 8,000 and 10,000 Americans turn 65 each day and will continue to do so until the year 2030! The news media has called this phenomenon “the silver tsunami,” lending a powerful visual image to the aging of our baby boomers. By 2030, almost one out of every five Americans—some 72 million people—will be 65 years or older.

Sadly, many older Americans are falling into poverty as they age, and as individual life expectancy increases. One of the biggest drivers of poverty in old age is failing health and the associated medical costs. Nearly 80 percent of seniors have at least one chronic disease such as cancer, hypertension, Alzheimer’s, or cardiovascular disease, and many suffer from multiple chronic conditions. With rising health care and prescription medication costs, it is not hard to understand why these conditions deplete savings and force many seniors into poverty. Chronic health conditions also increase the need for in-home medical, nutrition, and social services, and possibly placement into assisted living or nursing homes.

Safe, affordable housing for seniors is also an issue as property tax rates outpace increases in Social Security benefits, and the quality of housing stock diminishes in poor neighborhoods. Many seniors spend half or more of their monthly income on housing. Even seniors who are lucky enough to get subsidized housing are often forced to live in dilapidated, unsafe apartments because there is just not enough quality housing available.

It is unfortunate that the needs of vulnerable seniors are rising at a time when federal and state budgets are bursting at the seams. As Catholics and Christians, it is our duty to urge lawmakers not to cut the very programs which enable us to care for our elderly with the dignity and respect they deserve. Let us heed the words of Pope John Paul II and build a society that honors and values our oldest members, and above all, treats them with love.
Halloween has become the second most popular holiday in terms of decorations. It is surpassed only by Christmas. During the month of October there are many displays of witches and goblins and tombstones and bodies hanging from houses and trees. As a mental health professional who works with families devastated by suicide, I am often offended by the way death is portrayed as a source of amusement at Halloween. I believe that most people are unaware of the impact of such decorations but the lesson to be learned is that people should develop some sensitivity to others who may have experienced traumatic losses. The other lesson is that death is not something to make fun of or to fear. It is a part of life.

Death is an experience that we are all going to have sometime in the future and I think that it is important that we talk about our feelings in relation to it. One of the greatest things I can experience in my life is to help someone make the transition to the hereafter. Recently, I had the opportunity to say a Mass for a woman who was going to die soon. As we gathered with members of her family, I asked the woman if she was afraid of death and she replied that she was not afraid. In fact, she was looking forward to the experience. She was very much at peace with her state and she calmly faced her death without fear and trepidation.

Those of us who believe that there is life after death can have hope of something better … our faith can reassure us when we naturally feel afraid of the unknown.

What a wonderful example that woman was for me and her family members, of someone who saw death not as an end but as a beginning of a new life with God. Those of us who believe that there is life after death can have hope of something better “on the other side.” We may not know exactly what it will be like, but our faith can reassure us when we naturally feel afraid of the unknown.

Talking with others about their experiences following the death of loved ones can help. Many people have had the sense that a deceased loved one is near, or have even glimpsed that person. Such stories don’t scare me; they reassure me that love survives what we think of as death. It is a mystery that is so much more interesting than the scary “ghost stories” we tell as children, don’t you think? I know that when my time comes to die, if I have the chance, I want to talk about it! To me, it will be the second most profound experience of my life. The first most profound experience is when I was born. Obviously I have no recollection of my birth, but I might very well be conscious of my rebirth! Will I see loved ones who have passed on before me? Will my spirit soar like a bird? Will I see angels and other divine sights? I don’t know the answers to these questions, but I am still excited by the prospect of something incredibly good and holy awaiting us beyond death.

May your Halloween be full of treats, instead of tricks!

Words for the Spirit

Father Charles T. Rubey
Founder and Director of the LOSS Program
Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide

We’re making
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If you’re a homeowner, 62 or older, it may be right for you.

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One Room Schoolhouse

One more “School Days” memory

1. In Mom’s wig, I am George Washington; my sister, Florence, is in the white apron and the girl in the middle is Aunt Zenia, dressed as a pilgrim.
2. Three of us in swim suits ready to go swimming in the Black River.
3. The Riverside school redone as taxes were paid. Miss Root taught K through 8th grades for $45 per month.
4. School before taxes were paid!

Felicia Krupinski sent in a photos of her one-room Riverside schoolhouse in South Haven, Michigan. (Clockwise)

Elder Abuse

FROM PAGE 1

advocate. In the hypothetical case of the senior above, this means our workers would investigate to see if the senior’s family member was aware of their condition, willing to assist, and aware of resources, like low-cost homemaking and personal care services that could help the senior live independently.

Elder abuse is severely underreported. It is estimated that 1 in 14 cases of elder abuse come to the attention of authorities. Several professions are required to report suspected elder abuse and the law protects those who in good faith, report it. Sadly, 90% of all reported elder abuse is committed by an older person’s own family members, most often adult children and other extended family members. Don’t wait if you have concerns for yourself or anyone else. Get answers to your questions about elder abuse and neglect by calling 1-866-800-1409.

Sources:
Centeronelderabuse.org
Illinois Department on Aging- state. il.us/aging

Come and Pray the Rosary on Cemetery Sunday

ALL SAINTS
Des Plaines
847-298-0450
ASCENSION
Libertyville
847-362-1247
ASSUMPTION
Glenwood
708-758-4772
CALVARY
Evaston
847-864-3050
GOOD SHEPHERD
Orland Park
708-226-9951
HOLY CROSS
Calumet City
708-862-5398
HOLY SEPULCHRE
Alsip
708-422-3020
MARYHILL
Niles
847-823-0982
MOUNT OLIVET
111th Street Chicago
773-239-4422
QUEEN OF HEAVEN
Hillside
708-449-8300
RESURRECTION
Justice
708-458-4770
ST. ADALBERT
Niles
847-847-9845
ST. BENEDICT
Chicago
773-239-4422
ST. CASIMIR
Chicago
773-239-4422
ST. JOSEPH
River Grove
708-453-0184
ST. MARY
Evergreen Park
708-422-8720
ST. MICHAEL
Palatine
847-397-3284

www.CatholicCemeteriesChicago.org

↑ SCAN HERE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
The information below is very basic. For more detailed information, please visit Social Security at 1-800-772-1213.

Social Security Retirement Benefits:
If you stop working before your Full Retirement Age (FRA), you can increase your Social Security benefit in two ways. Each additional year you wait adds another year of earnings to your Social Security record. Higher lifetime earnings can result in higher benefits when you retire. In addition, your benefit will be increased by a certain percentage if you choose to delay receiving retirement benefits.

Divorces:
If you divorced after age 60, your Social Security benefits will be divided. Your former spouse may receive benefits on your record, and you on your former spouse's Social Security record. If you divorced before age 60, your benefits will begin to level off in the calendar year prior to your FRA. Once you reach the month of your full retirement age, your Social Security benefits will continue to increase until your full retirement age.

The number of credits you need to get disability benefit is 40 credits. If you are blind or disabled, and have limited financial and income resources, you may receive Social Security disability benefits.

MEDICAL BENEFITS
1. MEDICARE
Medicare is health insurance for persons 65 or older, and for young people under 65 who qualify because of permanent disability, kidney failure, or recent transplant.

2. SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI)
You may apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to receive help with living expenses, including shelter, food, and clothing.

3. AID TO THE AGED, BLIND AND DISABLED (ABD)
This program provides income support to persons who are age 65 or older, and are blind or disabled, and have limited income and resources.

4. CHICAGO WATER BILL EXEMPTION
The City of Chicago Department of Water Management offers seniors a savings on their water bills by exempting the sewer portion of the water bill. In order to qualify for the exemption, you must be at least 65 years of age. If you are 65 years of age or older, you will receive a $2,000 savings in your sewer bill. To qualify for the exemption, you must provide your social security number. You will receive a letter from the city stating whether you qualify for the exemption.

5. ILLINOIS HOME WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (IHAP)
This program assists low-income residents to make their dwellings more energy efficient by helping pay for repairs, insulation, and maintenance of heating systems.

6. LOW INCOME HOUSING ELECTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)
This program provides low-income persons with low income, including those who are elderly, blind or disabled, and have limited financial and income resources, a benefit known as the “LIHEAP benefit.”

7.  Extra Help” to Cut Costs of Prescription Drug Insurance
If you have Medicare and have limited income and resources, the “Extra Help” program offered by Social Security can be a great help. You may be eligible to pay much less for your prescription drugs.

8. PATHW: Medicare Advantage Plans
—Also called “Part C”—combine Part A and Part B services, and are available in many Medicare Advantage Plans that include Medicare Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO), Medicare Private Fee-For-Service Plans, and Medi-Cal + Choice plans. Most include Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D).

9. “Extra Help” is a tool that helps seniors determine which particular prescription drug plan is a good fit for them. With the “full open enrollment” for Part D plans coming up (October 15th through December 7th), there will be a lot of information coming to seniors about Part D. During this period, individuals can shop for a Part D plan that best fits their needs and can switch to a more suitable plan.

For other counties in Illinois, call the LIHEAP Hotline: (877) 795-8998. Outside Cook County, call: (877) 795-8998. For more information, visit the LIHEAP website at: http://oda.et.state.il.us/health/.

MEDICAL BENEFITS
1. MEDICARE
Medicare is health insurance for persons 65 or older, or under 65 with certain disabilities. The program is paid by your tax dollars and is funded through taxes, and other deductibles. These costs are covered by Medicare, which means you pay nothing out-of-pocket. To qualify for “Extra Help,” your annual income is limited, and you may also need to pay a “Part D” premium. To qualify for “Extra Help,” you must have limited income and resources.

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3. MEDIGAP
(Medicare Supplement Insurance) POLICY
A Medigap policy is a health insurance policy sold by private insurance companies to fill the “gaps” in the Original Medicare Plan. Medigap policies help pay some of the health care costs that the Original Medicare Plan doesn’t cover. Medigap policies are standardized so you can compare them easily. It’s important to compare Medigap policies because costs can vary.

4. HELP WITH MEDICARE CHOICES
There are services that help seniors choose the best Medicare option for them. In addition to 1-800-MEDICARE (633-4227) or online, at www.medicare.gov, you can contact AARP (888) 687-2277 or visit its website, www.aarp.org. “Medicare Interactive,” is a program of the Medicare Rights Center, www.medicareinteractive.org.

The Senior Health Insurance Program (SHIP) is a FREE statewide insurance counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their caregivers provided by the State of Illinois, Department of Aging. Contact a SHIP counselor at 1-800-548-9034.

5. MEDICAID--now called Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) Medical Benefits in Illinois
Medicaid/HFS is a government-funded program that pays for medically necessary services (including hospital care, nursing facility care, therapies, dental and eye care), supplies and medicines for persons with low income and few financial resources. Persons who are disabled, blind, or 65 years of age and older may qualify. For information, call the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, at 1-800-843-6154. You can also visit the website: www.hfs.illinois.gov. (217) 782-1200.

FOOD AND NUTRITION
1. SENIOR, MOTHER AND CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (SMACNP)
This is a program operated in Chicago, Lake and Cook Counties by Catholic Charities which gives a monthly nutrition package to low-income seniors age 60 and older and low-income mothers with young children. Contact: the program outreach coordinator at (773) 378-3127.

2. MEALS ON WHEELS
Meals on Wheels provides home-delivered meals for seniors. Catholic Charities offers Meals on Wheels in Lake County and the South Suburbs. For Lake County, call (847) 546-5733; for the South Suburbs, call (708) 596-2222. For Meals on Wheels programs in the City, call (312) 744-4016, the Senior Services Division of the Chicago Department of Family Support Services. For the rest of the state, call the Illinois Department on Aging at 1-800-252-8966.

3. CONGREGATE MEALS
These programs provide hot, nutritious meals served in a social setting at lunch time. For Catholic Charities congregate meals in Lake County call (847) 782-4267; for the South Suburbs call (708) 832-1208. In Chicago, call the City of Chicago’s Aging Division at (312) 744-4016. For the rest of the state, call the Illinois Department on Aging at 1-800-252-8966.

4. SNAP (formerly Food Stamps)
The SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) program is administered by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and provides cash assistance (in the form of the Illinois LINK debit card) to buy approved food items. Persons aged 60 and older or disabled must meet eligibility criteria, including low income ($1,862 gross monthly income for a household of one). For more details or to apply, call IDHS at 800-843-6154. You can also visit the IDHS website at: http://www.dhs.state.il.us.

TRANSPORTATION
1. REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (includes the Chicago Transit Authority and PACE Suburban Public Transportation)
For information on accessible transportation routes, call (312) 836-7000. For information about Free or Reduced Fares for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities on CTA and PACE transportation services (excluding Paratransit) call (312) 836-7000 or go to www.rtachicago.com.

2. PARATRANSIT, TAXI ACCESS PROGRAM
The RTA offers special travel options for persons who cannot ride public transportation due to disabilities. “Paratransit” is provided by specific carriers depending on your geographic area. These carriers can pick up a disabled person at their home, bring them to a destination, and make the return trip. For more information, call the RTA ADA Certification Help line: (312) 663-4357; or TTY (hearing or speech impaired): (312) 913-3122. The Taxi Access Program only operates in Chicago (though it is administered by PACE). It allows eligible riders to purchase vouchers ($5.00 each) which are valued up to $13.50 for a one-way cab ride. Call PACE at 1-800-606-1282 and choose “4” when prompted, or visit: http://www.pacebus.com/sub/paratransit/tap.asp.

LEGAL SERVICES
CATHOLIC CHARITIES LEGAL ASSISTANCE (CCLA)
CCLA is a program of Catholic Charities which assesses clients’ legal needs and directs them to the appropriate resources, clinics, and/or pro bono (free) attorneys. CCLA may also provide appropriate legal advice to clients. CCLA will help anyone in need of legal assistance. Contact: (312) 948-6821 or visit: http://www.catholiccharities.net/ccla.

VETERAN’S BENEFITS
1. VETERANS’ RIGHTS BUREAU
The Veterans’ Rights Bureau ensures that veterans receive the benefits they have earned. They also publish a free, annual guide to veterans’ rights that they will mail to you. Call the Veterans Hotline at: 1-800-382-3000, or visit: www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/rights/veterans.html.

2. ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Overview: Call for questions regarding state benefits. Contact: 1-800-437-9824 (in Illinois); (217) 782-6641 (if out of state); (312) 814-2460 (Chicago Office), or visit: http://www2.illinois.gov/veterans/

3. CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVICES FOR VETERANS
Catholic Charities offers a range of services for veterans, including housing, counseling, and employment assistance. Call (312) 655-7700 or visit: http://www.catholiccharities.net/services/veterans.

Source:
From The Recipe Box

GOBLIN CHOCOLATE PUMPKIN MUFFINS

1-1/2 cups FLOUR
1/2 cup PUMPKIN (solid pack canned)
1/2 cup SUGAR
2 teaspoons BUTTER (melted)
BAKING POWDER
1/2 teaspoon CINNAMON (semi-sweet, 6-oz pkg.)
1/2 teaspoon SALT
1/4 cup NUTS (finely chopped)
1 cup MILK
1 cup CHOCOLATE morsels (semi-sweet, 6-oz pkg.)

PREPARATION: (Makes: 12 muffins)

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
- In large bowl, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, cinnamon and salt; make well in center.
- In small bowl combine milk pumpkin, butter and egg; add to well in flour mixture.
- Add chocolate morsels; stir until dry ingredients are just moistened. Spoon mixture into greased muffin cups, filling each 3/4 full.
- Sprinkle 1 teaspoon nuts over each muffin.
- Bake at: 400 for 18-20 minutes.
- Cool 5 minutes; remove from pans. Cool completely on wire racks.

Happy Birthday
FROM: Keenager News

Victor Dominelli 10/24
Betty Igaravidez 10/27
Frances Geyer 10/28
Phillip Bretz, Jr. 10/30
Mary Lou Halerz 10/30
Donald Bux 10/31
Elizabeth K. Calderon 10/31

Extraordinary Eighty
Gert Dakl 10/14
Patrick Cleary 10/15
William Ersfeldt 10/18

Belated Birthdays
80 Walter Braziumas (no date)
**Rose’s Puzzle Corner**

**BY ROSE LAGIOS**

| M | S | D | O | D | G | E | M | J | A | G | U | A | R | T | H | S | S | T | R |
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| W | M | B | O | A | D | Z | A | M | T | L | I | I | B | C | U | O | D | D | O | K |
| K | Y | E | L | T | N | E | B | D | C | S | T | G | A | K | N | T | E | B | A |
| O | L | D | S | M | O | B | I | L | E | A | U | D | A | E | D | O | C | H | B |
| D | A | B | O | N | H | M | P | S | R | L | I | B | S | R | A | M | R | L | E |
| U | U | V | U | S | E | D | L | E | U | L | O | T | I | H | I | N | E | P | D |
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**Automobiles**

- American Motors
- Aston Martin
- Audi
- Bentley
- BMW
- Buick
- Cadillac
- Chevrolet
- Chrysler
- Delorean
- Dodge
- Duesenberg
- Ferrari
- Fiat
- Ford
- General Motors
- Honda
- Hudson
- Hyundai
- Infiniti
- Isuzu
- Jaguar
- Kaiser
- Lamborghini
- Lexus
- Lincoln
- Mazda
- Maserati
- Mercedes
- Mercury
- Mitsubishi
- Nash
- Oldsmobile
- Packard
- Plymouth
- Pontiac
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**Your Benefits**

SEE PAGE 6
St. Jude Novena

Requested by: JP, MSS, SW, CAJ, AK, JB, AV, FJS, BH, JC, KF, CCD

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus pray for us; St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us; St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

The Novena is an eight day devotion. Say the prayer nine times a day. By the eighth day your prayer will be answered. If you would like to acknowledge your gratitude for its influence in your request, please contact Keenager News and we will include your initials in the publication of this monthly novena. No payment required.

Please consider a gift to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago in your will or trust.

Just a simple sentence is needed:
“I give the sum of $_______ (or all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) (or ______% thereof) to Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago to be expended by it in furtherance of its objects and purposes.”

For more information contact Margaret Hughes
Associate Director of Annual Fund
(312) 655-7012
mhughes@catholiccharities.net

www.keenagernews.org
Humor & Nostalgia
dy Joe Eberhardt
Reprinted from the Joe Eberhardt archives.

Taxi Driver’s First Day on the Job

During a ride in a taxicab, the rider touched the driver on the shoulder to ask him a question.

Upon the touch, the cab driver flinched, screamed, then went into a panic and almost wrecked the cab. Finally the driver got control and pulled to side of road.

Still shaking, he turned to his rider and apologized. He said, “Sorry about that. This is my first day as a cab driver. For the past 20 years I have driven a hearse.”

In these days of compact discs, and electronic music files (“MP3’s”) it is fun to take a look back at the dawn of recorded music. Enjoy this walk down Memory Lane.

REMEMBER: It was the most hallowed possession that ever graced the parlor. (It was called the “parlor” before it became the “living room”).

Thomas Edison called his invention the “Talking Machine,” but to us it was the Victrola, and later, the phonograph.

The varnished, ornate cabinet was about as high as a chest of drawers in your bedroom. On the right side of the cabinet was a handle for cranking the spring inside to wind the motor.

It was not electric. When you opened the top cover you saw a metal arm with a circular head. Soldered to its center was a piece of metal that held the needle.

Needles had to be changed after five or six records were played. When the records did not play right, someone scolded, “You forgot to change the needle.”

Happy Birthday FROM: Keenager News

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October Birthdays

Wonderful Hundreds
106 Rachel M. Solecki 10/6
103 Msgr. Richard O’Donnell 10/15
101 Rose Szczepanek 10/6
100 Rose Truckenbrud 10/2
100 Nora Butler 10/26

Nifty Ninety
Richard Holmes 10/1
Henry A. Tiontek 10/2
Nora B. Walker 10/8
Sophie Vital 10/11
Raymond Coyne, Jr. 10/18
Jennie M. Piascki 10/20
Lois Breen 10/26
Victoria Grosh 10/27

Continued on PAGE 9

Birthdays: Please send birthday submissions for seniors turning 80, 90 or 100+ years old, at least eight to 10 weeks in advance to: Keenager News, 721 N LASALLE ST, CHICAGO, IL 60654 or phone us at (312) 655-7425. We regret we cannot print between-decade birthdays.