

Polish American Cultural Center

Pennsylvania State Senator Christine M. Tartaglione

The Polish American community is pleased to highlight one of its own community members, Pennsylvania State Senator Christine Tartaglione, who represents the 2nd Senatorial district in Philadelphia which includes neighborhoods in Bridesburg, Fairhill, Frankford, Harrowgate, Hartranft, Hunting Park, Juniata Park, Lawncrest, Mayfair, Olney, Oxford Circle, Rhawnhurst, Tacony and West Kensington.



Born in Philadelphia in 1960, Senator Tartaglione, well known by constituents as Tina, is the daughter of Eugene and Margaret Warnecki Tartaglione. Many know her mother for her service as Philadelphia's City Commissioner and a long-time member and supporter of the Polish American community. Inspired by her mother's political activities and community participation, Tina ran for the office of Pennsylvania State Senator in 1994. Since then the Senator continues to focus her legislative agenda on issues important to senior citizens, children and working families, including quality childcare, affordable health care, quality education, mental health and retardation programs, long-term care, law enforcement and emergency personnel and protection of workers' jobs. Senator Tartaglione is currently the Democratic Chair of the Labor and Industry Committee and has led the effort to increase the minimum wage in Pennsylvania by sponsoring Senate Bill 926, which is now pending in the Pennsylvania State Senate.

At this time the Polish American Congress and Polonia wish Senator Tina Tartaglione continued success and look forward to her continued participation in the community.

From the Desk of
Michael Blichasz, President
Polish American Cultural Center
and
Polish American Congress
Eastern Pennsylvania District



2006 President's Message

Dear Members, Friends and Supporters,

In recent months, **Immigration Reform** has been a major topic of concern among United States elected officials. The National Polish American Congress is working with elected officials so that everyone seeking an adjustment in their immigration status is given appropriate consideration.

Most recently, the Senate Judiciary Committee, chaired by Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter, held many hearings regarding the Immigration Reform issue. Senator Specter, a son of immigrants himself, understands this issue and it's been gratifying to hear recent discussions among Democratic and Republican members of the judiciary committee. This issue must be resolved by the full congress, so that we can all move forward. The bottom line is, if economic conditions were better in other countries, there would be no illegal aliens. But the fact that America has an outstanding economy makes the United States the place where people can attain a better quality of life, even though they regret having to leave their own homelands. In a perfect world, every country would enjoy economic prosperity, but that's not always the case. So immigration reform is necessary in the interest of justice for both the American people and for those who seek to make America their new home.

As always, we appreciate hearing from Polish Americans who have voiced their opinions regarding the immigration reform issue. I encourage you to continue to contact your senators and congressmen to let them know your feelings. In the end, we will be guided by their decisions, and it's important for you to make your feelings known now.

For your review, there are several links that you can visit to get the latest information about Immigration Reform. After reviewing them, be sure to contact your senators and congressmen.

You will find the Immigration Reform link at: PolishAmericanCongress.com The link is on the right side of the page. In that link you will find contact telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. There is also an information link with side-by-side comparisons of the Immigration Reform proposals.

As we enter the spring season and look forward to the summer, I encourage you to visit the Polish American Cultural Center Museum at 308 Walnut Street in historic Philadelphia. One way that you can help spread the word about the museum and Polish customs is by inviting people to visit the museum's Internet site at PolishAmericanCenter.org.

From the desk of
Hilary Czaplicki
Chairman of the
PAC Eastern PA District
Annual Meeting
and Censor
Polish National Alliance



In 2006, the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District, is celebrating its 61th Anniversary. One of the core provisions the founders wrote into the by-laws was an annual election of the PAC District officers. There have been 61 elections of officers during the district's nearly six decades of operation. During that time, people of commitment have served in the various offices established by the by-laws of the PAC EPD. These dedicated servants of the Polish community have differed in many ways; personalities, political views, organizational affiliation and philosophies, etc. However, one common denominator from the very first election in 1945 to the present, has remained constant and has grown in strength: Strong conviction and adherence to the principal mission of the Polish American Congress as a unifying base of the Polish American community. Elected officials over decades have demonstrated the dedication to work for a worthy common goal: progress of Polish people, their institutions, and culture. It takes a special kind of person to commit to serving as a Polish American Congress officer. Having served as Polish American Congress, Eastern PA District, president and an officer and activist in the Polish community for a significant period of time, and having observed the various personalities in offices, I feel very confident about the officers elected for 2006 and about the very secure future of the Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District. These elected officials volunteer their time and deserve appreciation for their efforts and dedication.

Elected PAC Eastern PA District Officers 2006

Michael Blichasz	President
Theresa B. Romanowski	Vice President
John J. Krakowiak	Vice President
Richard Klimek	Recording Secretary
Joanna Majewski	Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Samuel Durbano	Sergeant-at-Arms

District Vice Presidents

Alfreda Plocha	Philadelphia County
David Chominski	Delaware County
Jozef Rzeznik	Montgomery County
Lou Rakszawski	Bucks County
Elizabeth Majewski	Berks County

Executive Committee

Msgr. Bernard Witkowski	Chaplain
Msgr. Francis Feret	Vice Chaplain
Paul Sosnowski	Legal Counsel

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