

Elected Officials Salute Polish American Heritage Month

The Polish American community is a vibrant part of Pennsylvania and the United States of America. It is important for your community to continue to commemorate the diversity on which this great country was founded.

Senator Arlen Specter
United States Senator, Pennsylvania



Best wishes for an enjoyable Polish American Heritage Month to my Polish American friends in Pennsylvania. Thank you for keeping your communities a vibrant part of America's ethnic diversity.

Senator Bob Casey, Pennsylvania
United States Senator, Pennsylvania



Best wishes to the Polish American Community as you celebrate Polish American Heritage Month. Your national efforts to maintain Polish heritage in the mosaic of America is sincerely appreciated.

Congressman Robert Brady
1st District, Pennsylvania

It is my pleasure to send my warmest greetings to the Polish American Heritage Month Committee. The City of Philadelphia is the home of people with many different ethnic backgrounds. While it is important to work together as Philadelphians, we must not forget the uniqueness of our various ancestries. To all those dedicated to the preservation of America's Ethnic Mosaic, keep up the good work!

Congressman Chaka Fattah - 2nd District, Pennsylvania



I would like to offer my heartfelt best wishes to the Polish American Heritage Month Committee and the Polish American Congress. It is wonderful to know that the Polish American Community does so much to encourage unity, mutual respect and cooperation on both the national and local levels. The dedication of the Polish Community in Philadelphia to enhance positive public awareness of Polish causes, traditions, and the contributions of persons of Polish descent is truly admirable.

Congresswoman Allyson Y. Schwartz
13th District, Pennsylvania

I join with members of the Pennsylvania State Senate in extending congratulations to the Polish American community during Polish American Heritage Month. I am proud to share your heritage and recognize your accomplishments.

State Senator Christine M. Tartaglione
2nd District, Pennsylvania



Congratulations and best wishes to my Polish American constituents as you celebrate Polish American Heritage Month during October. Sto Lat!

State Senator Constance H. Williams
17th District, Pennsylvania



Heartfelt best wishes to the Polish community as you celebrate Polish American Heritage Month. I am proud to represent Bucks County, the home of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

State Representative Kathy Watson
144th District, Pennsylvania

From the Desk of
Mary Ann Zerkowski, Treasurer
Berks County Polish American
Board of Education
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Berks County Polish American Heritage Association 15th Anniversary

On Sunday, October 7, 2007, with the outstanding leadership of chairlady Linda Wrobel, the Berks County Polish American Heritage Association will celebrate its 15th Anniversary and National Polish American Heritage Month with a banquet. The Berks County Polish American Heritage Association was founded in 1992 by Thomas Gajewski, Dolores Taras, and Mary Ann Zerkowski. For fifteen years, the members of the association have been promoting Polish history, culture and heritage with the most significant achievement being the establishment of the Berks County Polish American Cultural Center at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington Street in Reading.

During the banquet several members of the Polish American community will be honored for their outstanding contributions to the association and to the community at large. Music will be provided by the Pennsylvania Villagers from Palmerton, Pennsylvania. The banquet will be held at the Reading Country Club, 5311 Perkiomen Avenue in Exeter Township. Persons attending the banquet can order marinated shoulder tenderloin of beef with merlot bordelaise or blue swimmer lump crab cakes with remoulade sauce. The cost for PAHA members is \$40, non-members \$50. For more information or to make a reservation call Linda at 610.372.7673.

"THE HAPPINESS" MOVIE SCREENING - OCTOBER 20

"The Happiness", a film by Craig DiBlase, won "Best Documentary" at numerous film festivals around the country. The film documents the culture of polka music and dance, with performances by Jimmy Sturr, LynnMarie, and many others. Polka fans, this is a must see!

The film runs October 20th to 24th at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts. A special screening will be held on Saturday, October 20th, at noon in the GoggleWorks Theatre, followed by a question and answer session with the director, Craig DiBlase. The Berks County Polish American Heritage Association will host a reception after the question and answer session. For more information call Linda at 610.372.7673.

If you visit the GoggleWorks to see the movie be sure to stop in the Berks County Polish American Cultural Center, Room 509, to view an exhibit that celebrates Dozynki harvest festivals.

SZOPKA - CRACOW CRECHE WORKSHOP

Marilyn Wlazewski has very generously donated her time and talent to coordinate a Szopka Workshop sponsored by the Berks County Polish American Heritage Association at The GoggleWorks Center for the Arts on Sunday, November 4, 2007, beginning at 1:00 P.M.

The workshop promotes a Polish folk craft from the city of Cracow, Poland, that dates to the Middle Ages. Art educator and instructor, David Motak, will present an audio-visual presentation on Poland, Cracow, and the historic origins of the art form. Each registration receives illustrated step-by-step course instructions and a kit to build a 16 inch szopka to assemble and decorate. Family teams of parent/child or grandparent/grandchild can register for only one fee. Registration Fee \$40, Materials Fee \$20, Total Fee \$60. If you are interested in attending the workshop and creating your own family heirloom, call Marilyn at 610.779.5523 for more information.

WIGILIA DINNER

The Berks County Polish American Heritage Association will host its third annual Wigilia Dinner on Saturday, December 1 at the Sterling Guest Hotel, 1120 Centre Avenue in Reading. Doors open at 6:00 P.M. for a social hour, dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M. For more information call Gerry Wernicki, the co-chair of the dinner, at 610.372.1945.

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