This Year’s Pulaski Day Parade Theme is “Saluting Polish Scientists as we mark the 100th Anniversary of Marie Sklodowska Curie receiving the Nobel Prize in Chemistry”

We will also highlight the following Polish scientists for their noted contributions to the world.


Casimir Funk: Polish-born biochemist from Albany, NY. He discovered that substances in food could prevent or cure certain diseases. He was therefore credited with the first formulation of the concept of “vitamins” in 1912, which he called vital amines or vitamins.

Dr. Walter Golaski: American mechanical-bio-medical engineer and inventor of the first practical artificial blood vessel replacements. Dr. Golaski was also a long-time member of the Polish Intercollegiate Club of Philadelphia.

Paul Baran: An early developer of the Internet, ATM technology and DSL modern technology. He was born in Poland in 1926 and immigrated to America in 1928. Mr. Baran has connections to Philadelphia through Drexel University, where he did his undergraduate work.

Karol Olszewski & Zygmunt Wroblewski: Polish physicists and chemists who were the first in the world to liquify oxygen, nitrogen and carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in 1883.

Irene Joliet-Curie: The daughter of Pierre and Marie Sklodowska Curie was a recipient of the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1935 for her discovery of artificial radioactivity. This made the Curies the family with most Nobel laureates to date.

Marian Rejewski, Jerzy Rozycki and Henryk Zygalski: A team of cryptologists, who cracked the German Enigma code during World War II.

Dr. Hilary Koprowski: American virologist and immunologist, and inventor of the world’s first effective live polio vaccine, based on oral administration of attenuated polio virus.

Jozef Tykociński: Polish engineer and inventor. In 1922, Tykociński publically demonstrated for the first time that sound was possible to be on film in motion pictures. He was awarded the patent in 1926.

Stephanie Kwolek: Polish American chemist from New Kensington, Pennsylvania who discovered Kevlar, the material now used in bullet proof vests. Her discovery has saved many lives. Kwolek was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1995.

Stefan Dzewiecki: Polish scientist, journalist, engineer, constructor and inventor who invented the kilometric counters for taxi cabs. Dzewiecki distinguished himself mainly in aviation and ship building.

Jan Jozef Ignacy Lukasiewicz: Polish pharmacist and petroleum industry pioneer who built the first oil refinery in the world. Among his other achievements were the discovery of how to distill kerosene from seep oil, the invention of the modern kerosene lamp and the construction of the first oil well in Poland in 1854.

Mark your Calendar
Saturday, October 15, 2011
Since everyone had a great time at Applebee’s Flapjack Breakfast last year in October, you’re invited to another Applebee’s Flapjack Breakfast, sponsored by the Polish American Cultural Center Museum Volunteers, on Saturday, October 15, 2011, from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M., at the Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar, 2535-37 Castor Avenue, in the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia.

Tickets are only $5.00 per person and you can enjoy an unlimited amount of pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee or tea. What a great bargain - and also a great way to both celebrate October as Polish American Heritage Month with family and friends and support the Polish American Cultural Center Museum. Tickets are available at the Museum Gift Shop. For more information, call Theresa Romanowski at 215-922-1700.

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