



June 2026

**During 2026, Polish Americans Proudly Celebrate the
250th Anniversary of
America's Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776,
and the
418th Anniversary of the Arrival of the First Polish Settlers
in America at Jamestown, Virginia on October 1, 1608**



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Greetings to Polonia
from the



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 **POLISH**
AMERICAN **News**

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June 2026

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**100th Anniversary of the
Benjamin Franklin Bridge
Opened (July 1, 1926 - 2026)
Connecting Philadelphia, PA and Camden, NJ**

**A Tribute to
Ralph Modjeski (1861-1940)
Polish Immigrant Becomes
Famous Engineer and Bridge Builder**



Ralph Modjeski, considered "America's greatest bridge builder", was born in Bochnia, near the city of Krakow, Poland on January 27, 1861. He immigrated to America at the age of 15 with his mother, famous Shakespearean actress, Helen Modjeska, in July, 1876. Even though Modjeski seemed destined to become an accomplished concert pianist, he went on instead to become a highly successful civil engineer and "one of the twentieth century's most famous designers and builders of bridges". In 1929, Modjeski was awarded the John Fritz Gold Medal, the

highest American engineering medal, with a citation for his genius in combining strength and beauty. He was also honored by the Pennsylvania state legislature in 1966 by a resolution citing him as one of America's "greatest inventors".

Despite his busy engineering career, he found time to relax playing the piano for several hours daily. He remained professionally active until 1936 and died in 1940. The bridge engineering consulting firm established by Modjeski in 1893 continues to operate under the name of Modjeski and Masters, with offices in Pennsylvania and several other states.

Modjeski's Major Accomplishments Include:

- **Thebes Bridge** over the Mississippi River at Thebes, Illinois opened in 1904
- **Benjamin Franklin Bridge** between Philadelphia and Camden, New Jersey - opened in 1926 (Considered Modjeski's greatest achievement)
- **Tacony-Palmyra Bridge** over the Delaware River in Northeast Philadelphia - opened in 1929
- **Trans-Bay Bridge** between San Francisco and Oakland, California - opened in 1936
- **Blue Water Bridge** connecting Port Huron, Michigan with Sarnia, Ontario, Canada - opened in 1938

**Polish American Cultural Center
Museum Online Outreach Continues to Grow**

Since the year 1997, we saw that welcoming tourists to one physical location in the Heart of Historic Philadelphia needed to be enhanced, so we expanded our **MUSEUM ONLINE** Internet link on **PolishAmericanCenter.com**.

The Museum ONLINE allows people to visit our Internet site 24 hours-day and see highlights of Historic Reflections, Featured Men and Women of Polish Heritage, Polish history, customs and special events celebrated by people of Polish heritage throughout the world. It is also used by students for school projects and is available for everyone to see from: **PolishAmericanCenter.com**.

We thank everyone who supports this ever growing project.

In 2008, the Polish American Cultural Center began and has maintained the Internet site **PlanYourVisitToHistoricPhiladelphia.com**, which welcomes tourists to visit Historic Philadelphia.

See all of our efforts at: **PolishAmericanCenter.com**

The Polish Bridge Builder

by Kaya Mirecka Ploss, PhD

The Change of Name

In the history of bridges in the United States Ralph Modjeski's name will always be remembered. He was born Rudolf Modrzejewski in Krakow in the year 1861. Early in his American career, Modrzejewski changed his name to Ralph Modjeski. He found that Americans had great difficulty pronouncing, spelling, or remembering his complex Polish name. His mother, the famous Polish Shakespearean actress, Helena Modrzejewska, who brought her family to the United States in 1876, had the same problem. Upon the earnest advice of her friends she changed her name from Helena Modrzejewska to simply Madame Modjeska.

Engineering Won

Ralph Modjeski's European education, in addition to languages and mathematics, included musical studies under Kazimierz Hofmann, son of the world renowned pianist, Joseph Hofmann. Curiously, during that same period Modjeski's fellow student, was the illustrious, Jan Ignacy Paderewski. Ralph Modjeski was an extremely proficient pianist; in seven lessons he had learned four of Kohler's etudes by heart and almost the entire sixth sonata by Mozart. If Ralph Modjeski had chosen a career in music instead of engineering the world might have gained a famous concert-pianist, but would have lost one of the finest bridge designers.

Engineering won and Modjeski completed his education in his chosen field at the Ecole des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris. He graduated in 1885 leading his class with a degree in Civil Engineering. With his mother, the famous Helena Modrzejewska, already in America, Ralph returned to the United States and began his engineering career in Chicago where he worked for seven years with one of the leading bridge builders of that time, George S. Morison.

The First Bridge

In 1893, Modjeski decided to embark on private practice in the bridge design field. He obtained his first major project - the design and construction of a seven-span combined railway and highway bridge over the Mississippi River, at Rock Island, Illinois.

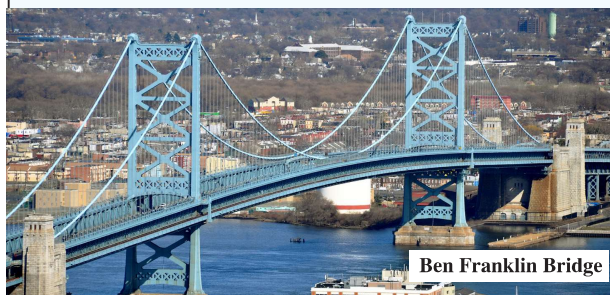
Later Modjeski developed a set of standard bridge designs for the Northern Pacific Railroad. From this point he rapidly progressed, designing an almost unbelievable number of this country's finest major bridges.

Frank M. Masters of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, was employed by Modjeski in 1904. Twenty years later in 1924 Modjeski and Masters formed a partnership. Today this firm continues to operate from offices in Harrisburg, New Orleans, Chicago, and Washington, DC.

The Bay and Ben Franklin Bridges

Time does not permit listing the many bridges in which Modjeski and his partners were involved. It is also significant to note that Ralph Modjeski was often called upon as a consultant and adviser. After several disastrous failures in the construction of the world's longest cantilever-truss rail bridge in Quebec, Canada, Ralph Modjeski was called upon and brought the project to a successful conclusion in 1918. Modjeski was also chairman of the board of consulting engineers in charge of the design and construction of the great eight mile long BAY BRIDGE in San Francisco, which was finished in 1937.

In Pennsylvania, Modjeski designed what at that time was the longest suspension bridge in the world - the present BEN FRANKLIN BRIDGE in Philadelphia. Excitement reigned in that city on the day President Calvin Coolidge, assisted by the Army corps of Engineers, opened the bridge across the Delaware River.



Ben Franklin Bridge

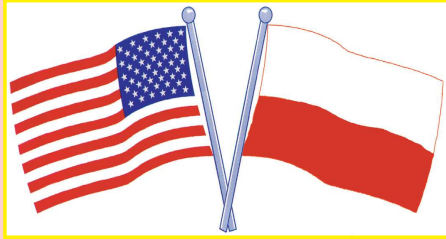
He Helped Build America

Only a few years later Modjeski designed the unusual, tied-arch Tacony-Palmyra Bridge further upstream on the Delaware. Some of Pennsylvania's most interesting bridges have been designed by Ralph Modjeski and his partners. Many of them won national awards for their artistry of design. Graceful lines, arches, and staunch utility have always characterized Modjeski's work. Almost all of the bridges that Modjeski and his partners designed are still in use.

Rudolf Modrzejewski, a.k.a. Ralph Modjeski, was almost 80 years old when he died in 1940. He was one of the many illustrious men that were born in Poland and helped to build America.

**Plan Now For A Successful
45th Anniversary Celebration of
Polish American Heritage Month**

A National Celebration of Polish History, Culture and Pride
Telephone: (215) 922-1700 - Internet: PolishAmericanHeritageMonth.com



Dear Members, Friends and Supporters,

In 2026, we mark the 418th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish settlers at Jamestown, Virginia, in October 1608.

Polish people remain an important part of America's history and culture and live in all 50 states.

This year we also mark the **45th Anniversary of the founding of October as Polish American Heritage Month**, an event which began in Philadelphia and became a national celebration of Polish history, culture and pride.

In 2026, we also mark the 1,060th Anniversary of documented Polish history, the 407th Anniversary of the first labor strike in America at Jamestown, VA, staged by Polish Settlers.

All Polish American organizations are encouraged to plan Polish American Heritage Month events in your local community and invite people to view the information on PolishAmericanHeritageMonth.com. On that site there is information about the First Polish Settlers in America, October 1, 1608 • History of General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry • Things to Do During October "Polish American Heritage Month" • Polish American Heritage Month Posters • Tracing Your Heritage • Recent Editions of the Polish American News with Historic Reflections • Some Reasons Why Polish Americans are Important to the "Great Mosaic of America."

One way that you can help us spread the word is by welcoming family and friends to join the Museum's email list. The guest book registration form is on the front page of the Museum's Internet site at: PolishAmericanCenter.com. As you read the articles in the Polish American News, we ask that you spread the word to others.

Your participation is always appreciated. Best wishes to you and yours as you plan for an enjoyable Polish American Heritage Month celebration! If you need additional information, contact the committee by telephone at: (215) 922-1700, Monday through Friday, 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. or email us at: Committee@PolishAmericanHeritageMonth.com



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**Congratulations
Reverend Jan Palkowski**

On Sunday, May 31, 2026, a beautiful event took place at St. Adalbert Church, Philadelphia, PA, the celebration of Fr. Jan Palkowski's 50th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood.



Fr. Jan Palkowski

An update will follow in July's Polish American News.

**Congratulations and Sto lat
Fr. Jan Palkowski!**

**We Salute the
Polish American Community.**

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Founded in 1935, the Polish Museum of America is one of the country's first and largest ethnic museums. Polish and Polish American history is promoted through music, artworks, and historical and cultural displays.



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Polish Americans are part of every aspect of life in America. They are well known for their contributions to the Arts, Music, Education, Politics, Engineering, Communications, Medicine, Religion, Military, Travel, Research and Development, and community events. They are inventors, builders, and professionals that make up the Great Mosaic of America.

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**This page of the Polish American News
is sponsored by Richard J. Gastowich**

60th Anniversary Festival Kick Off Event

Polish Pottery

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SAVE THE DATE

June 6, 2026

6:00 pm

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Polish- American Family Festival and Country Fair



info@polishamericanfestival.org

This event is organized by The Order of St. Paul the First Hermit, which is a non-profit religious organization.

Best Wishes from the
Polish American Citizens' Club
of Camden County, NJ

Organized in the City of Camden, NJ
on June 8, 1914

www.PACC1914.org



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The Baltimore Brief

Polonia on the Rise: Vibrant Cultural Seasons in Greater Baltimore

Greetings to our readers across the globe! The Polish-American community in Greater Baltimore has enjoyed an exceptionally active spring season, and the cultural momentum is only compounding as we look ahead toward the summer and autumn months. From solemn historical remembrances and academic achievements to high-energy community-wide festivals, Baltimore's Polish identity is alive, expanding, and beautifully integrated into the broader cultural fabric of the Mid-Atlantic region.



Submitted by Polish American Cultural Center Outreach Representative: Michael Carnahan

Recent Community Milestones & Cultural Highlights

Our spring calendar opened with foundational opportunities to gather, reflect, and share our heritage across generations. Here are a few notable highlights from recent weeks:

- **Baltimore Dyngus Day Celebration:** On April 6, 2026, the Polish National Alliance and Polish Home Club joined forces for a spectacular, high-energy Dyngus Day celebration. The collaborative event breathed immense life into the traditional Easter Monday holiday, packing the venue with community members. The festivities featured lively Polka music by the Lenny Adams Trio and dynamic folk dance showcases by Ojczyzna Polish Dancers, keeping everyone on their feet.
- **26th Annual Katyń Remembrance:** Held on April 19, 2026, at Holy Rosary Church and at the Polish Home Club (due to inclement weather - normally at the grand National Katyń Memorial in Inner Harbor East.) This solemn gathering paid deep tribute to the victims of the Katyń massacre, keeping historical truth alive. The ceremony was elevated this year by powerful choral leadership that resonated throughout the area. (More information: www.katynbaltimore.org)
- **Knights of Columbus Dundalk Council #2942 First Annual Polish Festival:** In May 2026, the Dundalk Council launched its inaugural Polish Festival to stunning success. The event drew an overwhelming response with over 800 attendees, packing the hall and outdoors area with incredible energy, authentic home-style Polish cuisine, and live polkas. It has instantly cemented itself as a highly anticipated yearly tradition. (More information: www.facebook.com/DundalkKnights)
- **Polish Heritage Association of Maryland Annual Scholarship Reception:** Investing directly in the intellectual and cultural future of our community, this annual gathering celebrated academic excellence and deep heritage roots among regional students of Polish descent, providing vital financial grants to support their future academic endeavors. (More information: www.phaofmd.org)



Spotlight: The Phenomenal Growth of Ojczyzna Polish Dancers

If one single story captures the current renaissance of Baltimore's Polish spirit, it is the phenomenal trajectory of **Ojczyzna Polish Dancers**. As Baltimore's premier Polish folk dance ensemble, the group has experienced a major surge in vitality, recently swelling to more than 20 active members.

What makes Ojczyzna's growth uniquely inspiring is its diverse composition. The current roster is a dynamic cross-section of our community, uniting working professionals, business leaders, and students. This includes brilliant international students from Johns Hopkins University, alongside local standouts—such as one dedicated ensemble dancer who will be departing this fall to attend medical school in Poznań, Poland! Through this vibrant mosaic of members, the group effectively bridges classic folklore with the global future of Polonia.

The ensemble has served as the heartbeat of our local cultural events already this year:

- **Spring Performances:** They kicked off the performance season with dazzling showcases at the St. Stephen Polish Festival in March and followed up with a headline performance at the Dundalk Knights of Columbus Festival in May.
- **Civic Leadership:** The group lent their voices and presence to the community by leading the solemn singing of both the Polish and American national anthems at the 26th Annual Katyń Remembrance ceremony.
- **Follow Their Journey:** Stay updated on their continuous performance schedule, rehearsals, and recruitment via Facebook: www.facebook.com/OjczyznaDancers

Summer & Autumn Horizons: Save the Dates!

The calendar remains packed for the rest of 2026. If you find yourself traveling through or near Maryland, you are warmly invited to join the community at these exceptional gatherings:

- **Our Lady Queen of Peace Polish Dinner Dance:** Taking place on June 7, 2026. This festive event promises an afternoon of fantastic camaraderie, delicious food, live Polka music by TKO Band, and an exclusive featured performance by Ojczyzna Polish Dancers.
- **Wianki Festival of Wreaths (Polish American Arts Association):** Scheduled for midsummer on June 20, 2026, in Washington, D.C. This gorgeous celebration brings midsummer Slavic folklore to life. Baltimore's own Ojczyzna Polish Dancers will travel to the nation's capital to perform live at this prestigious regional event. (More information: www.paaa.us)
- **Polish Home Club (Baltimore) Annual Bean Pickers Dinner Dance:** Scheduled for August 2026. A highly cherished, historically rich Baltimore tradition celebrating the late-summer harvest. This evening features exceptional food and lively social dancing. (Keep updated on schedules via the official Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1367559161858530>)
- **Holy Rosary Church Fall Polish Festival:** An absolute staple of East Baltimore, Holy Rosary has officially announced its grand autumn festival dates for September 27 and 28, 2026. Expect a full weekend block-party atmosphere filled with mountains of homemade pierogi, sizzling kielbasa, Polish import beers, live polka bands, and traditional Baltimore hospitality. (More information to come: www.holyrosarypl.com)



Submitted by Polish American Cultural Center Outreach
Representative: Michael Carnahan



A Must-See Regional Highlight: 'Titanic: An Immersive Voyage'

For those planning a trip to Charm City this season, while not specifically Polish, Baltimore's Inner Harbor features an extraordinary, globally trending cultural attraction that should not be missed. Located at the historic Power Plant building on East Pratt Street—whose iconic industrial smokestacks beautifully parallel the funnels of the historic ocean liner—Titanic: An Immersive Voyage is captivating visitors from across the country.

This world-class, family-friendly exhibition brings history vividly alive using over 300 authentic artifacts, movie memorabilia, and stunning, life-sized reconstructions of the ship's opulent first-class rooms and humble lower-deck cabins. Visitors receive a personalized passenger boarding pass upon entering, following the liner's emotional journey from its grand construction to its fateful encounter with the iceberg, which you can watch materialize across massive 3D projection galleries.

The crowning jewel of the exhibition—and an absolute must-experience—is the VIP Virtual Reality segment. This highly interactive, state-of-the-art simulation boards a virtual deep-sea submersible, plunging you 2.5 miles beneath the North Atlantic to explore the modern-day RMS Titanic wreck site. The detail is stunning, offering an edge-of-your-seat exploration that reviewers note provides a clearer view of the final resting place than an actual physical dive. It is a brilliant blend of history and future-forward technology right in the heart of Baltimore's waterfront.

- **Exhibition Location:** Power Plant, 601 E Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21202
- **Tickets & VIP Info:** Available online through Fever; please note that the interactive Virtual Reality dive requires a VIP-tier ticket. (Official Site: www.expo-titanic.com/baltimore)



Submitted by Polish American Cultural Center Outreach
Representative: Michael Carnahan



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5:30p-8:30p
PETTING ZOO

Saturday 6.20
6P-7P: MAGIC SHOW & JUGGLING
7p-8p:
BALLOON MAKING

bring a chair 

grab a friend 

have some nostalgic fun!
Let's celebrate faith, freedom, and 250 years together!

*** To Honor our Nation's Semiquincentennial - our Founding Fathers and our own Fathers!**
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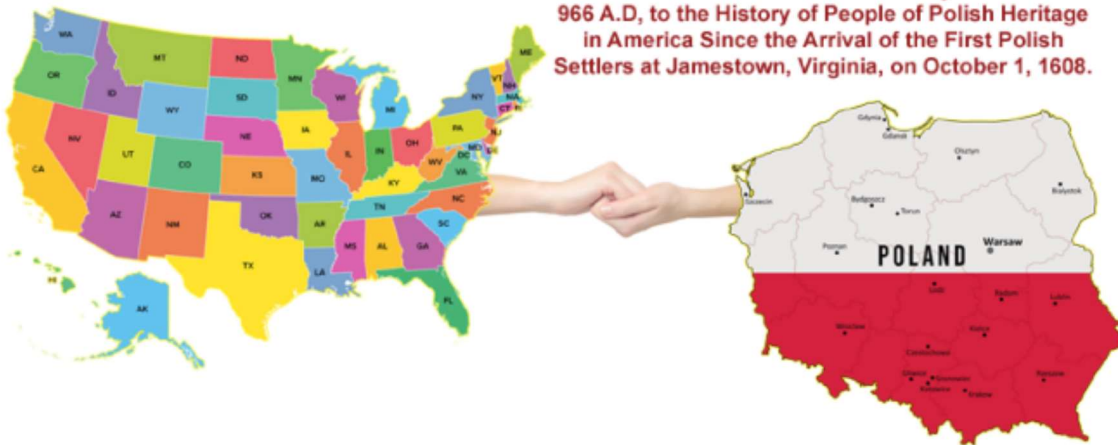











Polish American Cultural Center

MUSEUM ONLINE



Proudly Promoting Polish History, Culture and Pride from the Time of Documented History of Poland in 966 A.D, to the History of People of Polish Heritage in America Since the Arrival of the First Polish Settlers at Jamestown, Virginia, on October 1, 1608.



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-  [Featured Men & Women of Polish Descent](#)
-  [Polish Customs and Traditions](#)
-  [Tracing Your Heritage Worksheet](#)
-  [First Polish Settlers in America \(1608\)](#)
-  [Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791](#)
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Polish American Cultural Center Historic Reflections Project - June

The Polish American Cultural Center presents Historic Reflections from Polish and Polish American history on the Polish American Radio Program. Some of the dates may be the birthday or death date of a prominent person. Other dates may celebrate a milestone in a prominent person's life such as a career promotion, invention date, or some accomplishment that contributed to science, medicine, sports, or entertainment history. Other dates may be an anniversary of an historical event in Polonia or Poland's history.

For your information, we have listed a selection of historic reflections for the month of June.

To see additional Historic Reflections visit:

PolishAmericanCenter.org/hr



June 1, 1913 - Jerzy Pniewski (Born)

Jerzy Pniewski and his colleague Marian Danysz made important contributions to the development of physics. In 1952, Jerzy Pniewski helped discover the elementary particle known as hypernuclear material.

June 2, 1935 - Stanley Switlik (First Public Jump)

Stanley Switlik emigrated from Poland to New Jersey in 1907 and founded the Switlik Parachute Company. On June 2, 1935, the Switlik Parachute Company tested the first Parachute Training Tower on Mr. Switlik's farm in Ocean County, NJ, with the famous aviator Amelia Earhart as the first jumper. Stanley Switlik's Parachute Company (Switlik Survival Products) is still in business in Trenton, NJ.



June 3, 1890 - Oskar Kolberg (Died)

Oskar Kolberg was an ethnographer who specialized in Polish folklore. Today, the Polish Ministry of Culture of the Polish Government awards the Oskar Kolberg Award, considered the highest ethnographic honor, to individuals and groups that research, study, uphold and display Polish folklore, dancing and singing.

June 4, 1960 - General Jozef Haller (Died)

General Jozef Haller commanded Polish units under French Command in 1916 during World War I. Haller's Army became known as the "Blue Army" from the color of its French uniform. Haller's Army also seized Pomerania and entered Gdansk in the name of Poland in 1920. Many Polish Americans from the United States, numbering 20,000 plus, volunteered and served with Haller's Army.



June 5, 1944 - Jozef Beck (Died)

Jozef Beck was a Polish statesman, diplomat, military officer and close associate of Jozef Pilsudski. Jozef Beck served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1932 to the outbreak of WW II.

June 6, 1929 - Boguslaw Schaeffer (Born)

Boguslaw Schaeffer was a Polish composer, musicologist, and graphic artist born in Lwow in 1929. Schaeffer is a member of the avant garde "Cracow Group" of Polish composers along with Krzysztof Penderecki and others.



June 7, 1982 - Meeting of President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II

The historic meeting of President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II took place on Monday, June 7, 1982 in the Vatican Library. At that meeting, the two leaders agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the Communist empire.

June 8, 1983 - Grzegorz Fonfara (Born)

Grzegorz Fonfara is a former Polish soccer player from Katowice, Poland. He has represented the Polish soccer team at key matches and played for a leading soccer team in Tarnowskie Gory, Poland.



America and Poland - Two Nations Proud to Work With One Another

American Flag History

Flag Day - June 14th



On June 14th, Americans will mark a very important day in history.

It was on **June 14, 1777**, that the United States flag was authorized by the U.S. Congress. The American flag's red and white stripes symbolize hope and purity, and the blue

symbolizes loyalty, sincerity, and justice.

The red and white stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the white stars on a blue field represents the individual states that make up the United States of America.

The flag was **created in 1777 to inspire national unity** and create a separate identity from Great Britain. It was created in the midst of the American Revolutionary War and has united Americans ever since.

The American flag is also the symbol that helps rally supporters of the **Buy American Made Campaign**. We urge everyone to **fly the American Flag** to show our unity and concern for America, the greatest country on earth.

Polish Flag History



The official Polish flag for general use consists simply of two horizontal fields of equal size, with the top one white and the bottom one red. The flag that features Poland's white eagle set against a red shield on the white field is known as a "bandera" (ship's flag or ensign). According

to Polish flag tradition, it is meant to be flown by Polish ships at sea and by Polish diplomatic missions and other official institutions abroad. Many Polish Americans, however, consider the eagle flag more distinctive and prefer it to fly from flag posts or display it at various functions.

The colors of red (amaranth) and white began appearing on banners and flags in the 17th century, although they were still not the official national colors. **The SEYM (assembly) introduced the Polish national colors in 1831, but they were officially recognized as state colors until Poland regained her independence in 1918**, when the white and red flag was first flown. Polish institutions and offices abroad and airports, harbors and merchant vessels fly the flag with the national emblem.

Poland's **official crest is a white eagle with golden beak and talons, its head poised to the right, and set against a red shield**. The eagle first appeared on coins minted in the 12th century and subsequently on the heraldic seals of the Piast dynasty. Toward the end of the 13th century, during the reign of Przemyslaw II, the Polish eagle was depicted with a crown.



Over the years, the Polish Eagle became a symbol recognized throughout the world. It is seen on flags, in Polish publications, on Polish American specialty items, and products imported from Poland.

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PACC Historic Reflections Project - Part 2

June 9, 1922 - Jozef Tykocinski - (Made sound possible in motion pictures)

Jozef Tykocinski was a Polish engineer and inventor from Wloclawek, Poland. In 1922, Tykocinski publicly demonstrated for the first time that sound was possible on film in motion pictures. He was awarded the patent in 1926.



June 10, 1982 - Tara Lipinski (Born)

Tara Lipinski is a Polish American who at the age of 15 became the youngest winner of the Women's Figure Skating Championship. She then proceeded to win a Gold Medal at the 1998 Olympic Winter Games held in Nagano, Japan.

June 11, 1857 - Antoni Grabowski (Born)

Antoni Grabowski was a Polish chemical engineer known for compiling the first chemistry dictionary in the Polish language. He was also an activist of the early Esperanto movement, and his translations had an influential impact on the development of Esperanto into a language of literature.

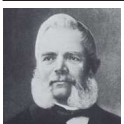


June 12, 1887 - Polish Falcons of America (Founded)

The Polish Falcons of America is a fraternal insurance benefit society headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA. It also sponsors youth groups, sporting activities, social, civic and Polish cultural events and publishes the Sokol Polski, their official publication.

June 13, 1907 - Stanley Ketchel (Won Middleweight Boxing Championship)

Stanley Ketchel was a Polish American who won the middleweight boxing championship on June 13, 1907. He kept the title for many years. A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Stanley Ketchel's real name was Stanislaus Kiecal. Ketchel is in the International Boxing Hall of Fame, and in 2004 was ranked number six among boxing's all-time best punchers by Ring magazine.



June 14, 1811 - Antoni Patek (Born)

Antoni Patek was a famous watchmaker and co-founder of one of the most famous Swiss watchmaking companies, Patek Philippe & Company. The 20 most expensive wristwatches sold at auction are all from Patek Philippe & Co.

June 15, 2006 - Dominic Pacyga (Named Acting Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences)

Dominic Pacyga, Ph.D., assumed the post of Acting Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Columbia College in Chicago. Dr. Pacyga is an accomplished scholar and administrator. He has authored or co-authored four books concerning Chicago's history, including Polish Immigrants and Industrial Chicago.



June 16, 1943 - Joseph Sarnoski (Died)

Recognized with the nation's highest military award as the "bravest of the brave," 2nd Lt. Joseph Sarnoski, of the United States Army Air Corps and a member of the elite crew of "Eager Beavers", lost his life during a combat mission over the Soloman Islands, near Australia, in 1943. He was known as one of the best gunners and bombardiers of the Air Corp.

June 17, 1966 - (One Thousand Years of Christianity in Poland)

Polish American leaders, along with Polish American Congress President Charles Rozmarek, joined President Lyndon Johnson at the White House on June 17, 1966, to unveil a painting of Our Lady of Czestochowa to mark the millennium, one thousand years of Christianity in Poland.



June 18, 1949 - Lech Kaczynski (Born)

Lech Kaczynski, former president of Poland, was born this day in 1949. He held a Ph.D. from Gdansk University in Labor & Employment Law and served as President of Poland from 2005 to 2010. Kaczynski died tragically in a plane crash en route to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Katyn Forest Massacre in Russia on Saturday, April 10, 2010.

June 19, 1873 - Valerian Sulakowski (Died)

Valerian Sulakowski served as Colonel of the 14th Louisiana Infantry and later as chief engineer to Major General Magruder of the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. One of his principal accomplishments was the construction of fortifications that protected Richmond, VA.



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June 20, 1954 - Michael Sobolewski (Born)

Michael Anthony Sobolewski is known in the rock music world as **Michael Anthony**. He is the former bass guitarist and one of the founding members of the rock band Van Halen. He is currently the bass player in Chickenfoot and the Circle with former Van Halen vocalist Sammy Hagar and guitar virtuoso Joe Satriani. He also is marketing his own brand of hot sauce called Mad Anthony's Hot Sauce.

June 21, 1918 - Ed Lopatynski (Born)

Ed Lopatynski is known professionally as Ed Lopat, a star pitcher for the New York Yankees during the period when the Yankees won five World Series in a row between 1949 and 1953. He was a "Lefty" that specialized in "bending curveballs." Ed Lopat later became manager of the Kansas City Athletics.

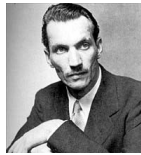


June 22, 1866 - Kazimierz Zorawski (Born)

Kazimierz Zorawski was a renowned mathematician whose work in differential geometry and fluid mechanics contributed greatly to the fields of science, mathematics, astrophysics and physics. Zorawski's work earned him a place among other Polish notables such as Nicholas Copernicus and Marian Rejewski.

June 23, 1892 - Mieczyslaw Horszowski (Born)

Pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski was an internationally acclaimed pianist and music teacher whose performances were widely recorded. Mieczyslaw Horszowski was also a teacher at the Curtis Institute and continued to teach and perform until shortly before his death in Philadelphia in 1993 at the age of 100.



June 24, 1914 - Jan Karski (Born)

Jan Karski was a Polish World War II resistance fighter and scholar. In 1942 and 1943, Jan Karski, reported to the Polish, British, and American governments on the situation in Poland, the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto and the Holocaust.

June 25, 2004 - Dr. Thaddeus Gromada (Presentation at the Library of Congress)

Dr. Thaddeus Gromada, the former Executive Director of the Polish Institute of the Arts and Sciences, on this day in 2004, gave a presentation at the Library of Congress, outlining the issues of Poland's entry into the European Union.



June 26, 1940 - Ralph Modjeski (Died)

Ralph Modjeski, internationally respected bridgebuilder, was the son of famous actress Helena Modjeska. He built the Benjamin Franklin and Tacony Palmyra Bridges on the Delaware River in Philadelphia and designed and built 30 other bridges across America.

June 27, 1959 - Janusz Kaminski (Born)

Janusz Kaminski was born in Poland on June 27, 1959. He immigrated to America and attended Columbia College in Chicago. Kaminski is a two-time Oscar winner cinematographer and film director. He also won the Academy Award for best cinematography twice in the 1990's - one for "Schindler's List" and the other for "Saving Private Ryan."



June 28, 1996 - Jan Lorys (Became Director of the Polish Museum of America)

Jan Lorys became the Director of the Polish Museum of America in Chicago on this day in 1996 until 2014. We congratulate Mr. Lorys on a job well done and encourage you to visit the Polish Museum of America, located at 984 North Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago, IL.

June 29, 1941 - Ignacy Jan Paderewski (Died)

Ignacy Jan Paderewski, pianist and composer, became the most noted statesman of Poland to the United States during and after World War I. In 1919, Paderewski became the first premier of the newly-created Republic of Poland. His heart is enshrined at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA, and his remains are buried in the crypt at St. John's Cathedral in Warsaw, Poland.



June 30, 1911 - Czeslaw Milosz (Born)

Czeslaw Milosz was an internationally respected Polish poet who received the 1980 Nobel Prize in Literature. In 1960, Czeslaw Milosz immigrated to America and settled in California. He became an American citizen and was a teacher at the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to his many poems, he wrote a work of non-fiction, "The Captive Mind" which is available in book stores all over the world.



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On the front page of **PolishAmericanCenter.com**, you will find a list of organizations worthy of your donation.

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All donations are appreciated.

Log on to: **PolishAmericanCenter.com**.

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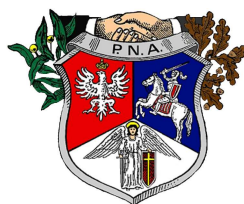
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From the Desk of Michael Blichasz

Dear Supporters of the Pulaski Day Parade in Philadelphia,

We are working to make the **93rd Annual Pulaski Day Parade** scheduled for **Sunday, October 4, 2026**, on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Center City Philadelphia, a success this year.

The Pulaski Day Parade is a community-wide event that brings many people and organizations together to celebrate Polish History, Culture and Pride. As always your participation is very important.

During the **93rd Annual Pulaski Day Parade**, we will highlight the music and dances that have united Poland and Polish Americans for centuries. We also will mark the **418th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Polish Settlers in America and the 45th Anniversary of October as Polish American Heritage Month.**

Since it's the **250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence**, we are paying **special tribute to Revolutionary War Heroes, General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry, and General Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Hero of Two Continents, as well as to Ralph Modjeski, Chief Engineer of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge in Philadelphia**, which is celebrating its **100th Anniversary** in 2026.

For now, kindly mark **Sunday, October 4th** on your calendar and look for additional information to be announced on the Polish American Radio Program and in the Polish American News.

Thanks to all Pulaski Day Parade divisions and promoters. Please help us maintain this outstanding community tradition which will be televised Live on **WPVI TV6 ABC**.

Working together we always accomplish great things for Polish American heritage and the proud history and culture we represent.

If you have any questions or suggestions kindly forward them to me at **Michael@PolishAmericanCenter.com** or call me at **215-922-1700**. On behalf of the Pulaski Day Parade committee, I wish you and yours the very best.

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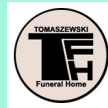
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Sto Lat! - May You Live a Hundred Years!

Often sung at birthdays and name days in Poland, much like "Happy Birthday" in the United States, "Sto Lat" is more versatile as it can be also heard at special events such as anniversaries, patriotic events and award ceremonies. Below is a Polish and English version for you to enjoy.

Sto Lat

Sto lat, sto lat niech zy-je, zy-je nam sto lat, sto lat
Good luck, good cheer may you live one hundred years good luck, good cheer

niech zy-je, zy-je nam jeszcze raz, jeszcze raz niech zy-je, zy-je nam
may you live one hundred years good luck, good cheer may you live one hundred years

niech zy-je, nam
one hun-dred years

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Field Service Technician Career Opportunity Hackensack, NJ

Universal Electric Motor Service is a family- owned company serving the NYC metro region for 75+ years. We are seeking technicians who take pride in their work and can perform or learn on-site service, repair, and installation of electric motors, pumps, fans, and rotating equipment.

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- Troubleshoot and repair AC/DC motors, pumps, and rotating equipment
- Diagnose mechanical and electrical issues on-site
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- Communicate with team members (in English and/or Polish)
- Follow safety procedures and represent the company professionally

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- Experience with motors, pumps, or similar equipment
- OR mechanical/electrical experience with willingness to learn
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Polish Language Lesson

Basic Expressions

<u>English</u>	<u>Polish</u>	<u>Phonetics</u>
Yes	Tak	taak
No	Nie	n'yeh
Please	Proszę	proh sheh
Thank you	Dziękuję	jen koo' yeah
Thank you very much	Dziękuję bardzo	jen koo' yeah bard' zoh
Hello	Cześć	chesh'ch
Good morning	Dzień dobry	jane / dough bry
Good evening	Dobry wieczór	dough bry / v 'yeah choor
My name is	Nazywam się	nah zy vam / sheh
What is your name?	Jak się pan nazywa (M) Jak się pani nazywa (F) Jak się nazywasz (I)	yaak / sheh / pan / nah zy va yaak / sheh / pa knee / na zy va yaak / sheh / na zy vash
Goodbye	Do widzenia / Cześć	doh / vee d'zen ya
Pleased to meet you	Miło mi pana poznać (M) Miło mi panią poznać (F)	me wo / me paa nah / poez nach me wo / me paa nyan / poez nach
See you later	Do zobaczenia	doh / zoh baa chen ya

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If you, a family member, or friend have a question concerning social services, call PASS and discuss your needs with a representative. All calls are CONFIDENTIAL, and PASS will either give you the information you need, handle your service directly, or refer you to the proper agency that can assist you.

Clients are asked to call in advance so that a Social Service Representative can tell you what documentation you will need to bring with you to process your request.

You can view an outline of several programs available to senior citizens and individuals of all ages on the PASS Internet site at PolishAmericanSocialServices.com.

For additional information, call PASS, Monday through Friday, between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. at (215) 923-1900.

Medications and Prescription Plans

PACE PLUS is the name being used for the PACE/PACENET programs, (the Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly) that help pay for prescription drugs. The new name reflects how this program works with Medicare Part D. It can provide better coverage for those who have both PACE/NET and Medicare D. This program has two qualifying income categories for determining eligibility. Seniors, age 65 or older with incomes as follows: for PACE, a single person \$14,500; a couple \$17,700. For PACENET, a single person \$45,000 or a couple \$55,000 annually. For more info and to get an application call PASS at (215) 923-1900.



The Pennsylvania Patient Assistance Program Clearinghouse

This program works with **Pharma** (Pharmaceutical Manufacturers) to get prescription drugs for those unable to pay. For more information, call 1-800-955-0989.

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- 65 years of age or older
- have an annual household income of less than \$42,100, (approximately \$3,508 per month.)

Additional Requirements include:

- Proof of Age
- Proof of Address
- Proof of Household Income

Those who qualify will receive a 25% discount on every monthly water bill. There are many people still eligible who have not applied.

For more information or an application contact PASS at 215-923-1900. For more info visit: PolishAmericanSocialServices.com



"PASS" works closely with the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging to provide information and assistance to the elderly. For information regarding services available in Philadelphia and Southeastern Pennsylvania, call PCA's helpline number at (215) 765-9040 or PASS (215) 923-1900.

www.PCACares.org

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Pennsylvania Real Estate Taxes

The Pennsylvania Real Estate Tax/Rent Rebate Program is being administered now. New applications are available. Homeowners and renters can get back as much as \$1000 on last year's real estate taxes or rent. The income limit is \$45,000 annually for homeowners and for renters to qualify. It is important to know that only half of your Social Security or SSI counts toward the income guideline. Age requirements are 65 or older, living with a spouse that is 65 or older, widow or widower between the ages of 50 to 64 or permanently disabled between the ages of 18 and 64. For more information call PASS at (215) 923-1900.



Attention Employers!

People seeking employment often contact PASS. The staff will be pleased to alert job seekers of **Job Openings** that have been reported.

If your place of employment is about to or has posted an employment opportunity, kindly let PASS know. Call Monday through Friday, between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. (215) 923-1900, or send the job information to:

Attn: Employment Information

Polish American Social Services

Email: Staff@PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Kindly include qualifications needed, starting salary and where to go for an application and interview.

Job Seeker and Job Training Outreach

If you are considering a job training program that can help you attain or retain long-term employment, contact PASS for more information. The outreach program is especially important to individuals who are unemployed due to company closings or relocations. PASS will share information about Pennsylvania area Job Training Programs to help you become more employable in a changing job market. Call PASS's Employment Outreach Representative for more information at (215) 923-1900.

Do You Have A Resume?

PASS encourages job-seeking clients to prepare an outline of their work experience, or a resume, before they apply for any type of employment. A written resume helps job seekers present their job qualifications to a prospective employer. A PASS staff associate can review your current resume, update it, or develop a new one with you to prepare you for your job interview.

This service is available from Polish American Social Services. Call to make an appointment for this free service at (215) 923-1900.

What If I Am Satisfied With My Current Resume?

If you are already satisfied with your resume, live in the State of Pennsylvania and want to share your availability with potential employers, email your resume to PASS and your resume will be shared with prospective employers. Email your resume to:

Polish American Social Services

Employment Outreach

Email to: Staff@PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

For more information call PASS, Monday through Friday between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. at: **(215) 923-1900.**

City of Philadelphia Property Tax Freeze

If you are a senior citizen living in the city of Philadelphia and are interested in applying for the **City of Philadelphia Property Tax Freeze Program**, call "PASS" Polish American Social Services, also known as United Social Services.

To qualify for the **City of Philadelphia Property Tax Freeze Program**, you or your spouse must be 65 years of age or older. For a **single person, your total income must be \$33,500 or less and for a married couple, your total income must be \$41,500 or less.**

Those who qualify will receive a freeze on their City of Philadelphia property taxes.

Program Deadline: 9/30/26

For an application or additional information, call PASS's United Social Services Outreach Program, Monday through Friday, between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. at **215-923-1900.**

May 3rd Constitution Day Celebration at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

On Sunday, May 3, 2026, Polonia marked the 235th Anniversary of the second oldest Democratic constitution in the world (1791-2026) and Europe's first constitution. Celebrations are held throughout the world, marking this historic event.

At the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA, Polonia marked this occasion with a beautiful Mass, celebrated by Fr. Bogdan Olzacki, Prior of the Pauline Fathers, and attended by hundreds of people. Showing their unity were representatives from the Polish American Cultural Center, Polish American Congress, Polish Army Veterans District 10, Post 12 and Post 81, as well as the reenactors. During the Mass the Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Language School children performed with beautiful renditions of traditional songs.

It truly was a beautiful occasion – a unity that still unites Polonia with an indomitable Polish spirit!



National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa

“America’s Czestochowa”
Pauline Fathers and Brothers

654 Ferry Road, Doylestown, PA 18901

Telephone: 215-345-0600

Internet: PolishShrine.com





From the Desk of
Michael Blichasz
American Workers Advocate

Host of Saturday Variety Program
& American Workers Radio

I welcome you to review the information from my recent weekly commentaries and ask that you share this information with others.

AmericanWorkersNeedYou.com

Anything is Possible When WE Work Together!

Every one of us knows that life is full of risks and rewards and we also know that **ANYTHING is possible in America if we work together.** This is especially the case when we provide America's young people with the opportunity to access all levels of career opportunities while attending junior and senior high school.

Because more businesses are expanding in the United States, our supporters agree it's time to refocus the funds to educate America's young people equally on both academic and vocational career classes. It is more important than ever that we not only speak up in support of how our tax dollars are used to educate America's young people, but to also hold national, state and local elected officials and school boards accountable for what is being taught in America's schools.

For many years, offering a wide range of subjects under one roof was very valuable because it allowed students to discover what careers they felt they were best suited for BEFORE GRADUATION. It gave students the opportunity to see if they were suited for trades such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical, and welding, or if they should focus on careers like teaching, medicine, engineering or many others.

To help insure the positive changes we need to continue to move forward in America's schools, **I once again, urge you to contact your elected officials and school board representatives** and encourage them to offer both academic and vocational career classes under one roof in a school setting where students learn not only from teachers but from the example of their fellow students.

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American Workers Radio Panel



Michael Blichasz
Founder
American Workers Radio
Program Host
AmericanWorkersRadio.com



Bruce Eissen Powell
Business Advocate



A National Network Promoting American Businesses and American Made Products

Listen to American Workers Radio on your iPhone or Android smartphone

Thriving Businesses in America Help All of Us!

Every week we ask you to direct more of your dollars to support American Made products and services provided by American workers.



The American people continue to make positive things happen in the way business is done in America every time they question store personnel as to why they don't have a larger selection of American made products available. It is good to hear from our supporters that

store personnel have been telling them that if more American made products were available from their merchandisers, they would be sold in our store. The fact that customers are receiving this response means our requests are leaving a lasting impression on business owners and investors who see that customers are dissatisfied and willing to shop around to support American made. Kindly continue to speak up in support of American made because it has been helping to get more American made products in circulation.

As you shop around remember that National Small Business Weekend takes place the First Friday, Saturday and Sunday of every month. Kindly go out of your way to support your local businesses. For more information visit: **NationalSmallBusinessWeekend.com.**

I also encourage you to visit: **USDebtClock.org** where you can see reports on America's economy and American workers. The statistics come directly from the United States Census report and United States Department of Labor report. **The U.S. Debt Clock is located on the front page of AmericanWorkersRadio.com**

Help us spread the word about the **Buy American Made Campaign** and spend more of your dollars on products and services offered by American workers and the businesses that employ them.

Engineers, Realtors, Investors, Educators & Workers!

We continue to ask America's businesses to **promote "American made"** on their labels and packaging. In addition to urging America's school boards and teachers to promote practical job skills, we need America's Engineers, Realtors and Investors to unite to help rebuild America's industries and create millions of new jobs in the United States. **Uniting all entities will help private sector businesses bring America's industries back to life which will benefit all Americans.**

It's time for America's Realtors to showcase properties where businesses can manufacture, distribute, promote and sell their American made products. It's time for Engineers to provide ways to improve America's manufacturing techniques to improve their ability to compete in a global economy. It's time for Investors to invest in America's business infrastructure and create all levels of employment opportunities. Getting everyone to see the benefit of doing business in America is then up to America's consumers, who have the ability to keep American made products moving off store shelves which will create more job opportunities for American workers.

After years of discussing the employment situation in America, we all see **there is ABSOLUTELY no reason for the United States to be the sales point for foreign made items** while tens-of-millions of Americans remain unemployed or underemployed.

In order to get more people involved, you're asked to spread the word about the positive efforts of the **Buy American Made Campaign** so that America's Elected Leaders, Teachers, Engineers, Realtors, Investors, Business owners and Workers become the united force behind America's economy. Thanks for your participation.

Support Your Local Businesses Throughout the Year and During

National Small Business Weekend

The First Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Every Month



Since
2012

As more Americans help to spread the word about restoring jobs and America's economy, everyone is urged to help us promote **"National Small Business Weekend."** We began this special campaign in **March, 2012**, in response to local businesses stating that they lost customers to larger stores. In order to help local businesses, we encouraged supporters of the **Buy American Made Campaign** to shop local more often and began the **National Small Business Weekend** effort to show our supporters how important local businesses are to their communities.

The fact of the matter is that there are millions of locally-owned private sector businesses in communities all over the United States. **Locally owned businesses employ over 60 million American workers** and they need your business throughout the year to keep people employed.

For more information, visit NationalSmallBusinessWeekend.com.

Tune in to American Workers Radio, Every Wednesday: AmericanWorkersRadio.com

Listen live or to re-broadcasts 24 hours a day at AmericanWorkersRadio.com

For more information, email: Michael@AmericanWorkersRadio.com

American Workers Need You • Spread the Word!

Memorial Day Parade - May 25, 2026

Bridesburg Section of Philadelphia, PA



Polish American String Band.



Aqua String Band.



Woodland String Band.



Fralinger String Band.



Cinnaminson High School Marching Band.

On Monday, May 25, 2026, thousands of communities throughout AMERICA sponsored MEMORIAL DAY Events, Wreath Laying Ceremonies and Parades, to honor all who served in America's Military and died during their service to the United States of America.

Thousands attended Memorial Day Ceremonies in the Bridesburg Section of Philadelphia. It was a great TRIBUTE to all who fought and died for America.

On Sunday, May 24th, there was a Memorial Day Mass at St. John Cantius Church. On Monday, Memorial Day, there was a Service at the Bridesburg American Legion Post #821, followed by a Wreath Laying Ceremony at Holy Redeemer Cemetery, and concluded with the Bridesburg Memorial Day Parade.

Compliments to the Bridesburg Memorial Day Committee and Parade organizers. Participants included Veteran Associations, Musical groups, String Bands, High School Bands, Scouting and Youth Groups and many proud members of the Bridesburg Community.

Guests included: PA Senator Christine Tartaglione, PA State Representative Joe Hohenstein, Philadelphia Council member Mike Driscoll and Michael Blichasz, Polish American Cultural Center in Philadelphia.

Compliments to all who helped organize all efforts to honor the memory of all who died during their military service to America.



Bridesburg Cougars Athletic Association.



Greater Kensington String Band.



Highland Regional High School Marching Band.

This page of the Polish American News is sponsored by Laura Andres

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For More Information, Call John Wisniewski at (215) 906-1825.

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POLISH AMERICAN News

Place your business ad in the next edition of the Polish American News. For more information, call 215-922-1700, Monday through Friday, 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Support Your Local Businesses Throughout the Year and During
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NationalSmallBusinessWeekend.com

This message presented by **American Workers Radio**
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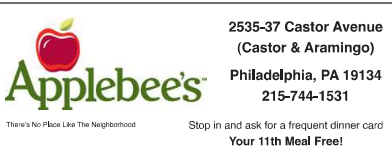
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