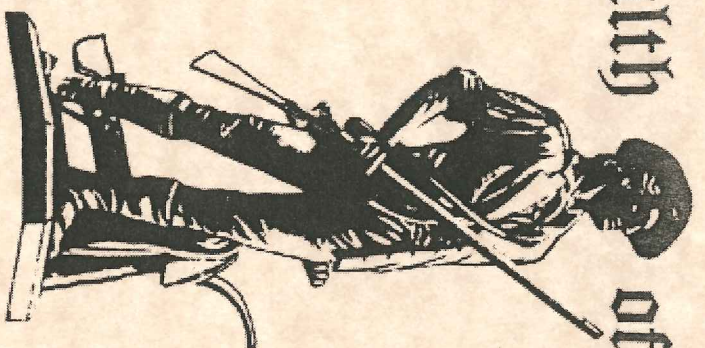


Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

- Whereas** Many residents of the Commonwealth proudly trace their roots to Poland; and
- Whereas** Polish Americans have enriched our Commonwealth and nation through their efforts to preserve their unique ethnic heritage through their music, craftsmanship, art and folklore; and
- Whereas** Throughout history, Polish Americans have made great contributions to our Commonwealth and nation, including Thaddeus Kościuszko and Casimir Pulaski who used their great military skills to help the colonists win the Revolutionary War; and
- Whereas** Polish Americans have represented the United States across the world, including Coach Michael Krzyzewski who led the USA National Men's Basketball team to gold medal victory in the 2012 London Summer Olympic Games and Alexander Vershbow – a native of Boston, MA – who currently serves as the Deputy Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); and
- Whereas** Polish Americans are a vital part the Commonwealth's rich cultural fabric and contribute significantly to all aspects of daily life, including education, medicine, commerce, agriculture, public service and technology,
- Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick**, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2012, to be

POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this fifth day of October, in the year two thousand and eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH