



## Biography "Gorale Podhalanscy"

The Polish Highlanders Alliance focuses on people connected with Southern Poland: Podhale, Orawa, Pieniny and Spisz.

In November 1928, the decision was made to create the Polish Highlander Alliance of America. The founders were Karol Stach, Antoni Zygmuntowicz, Franciszek Cyrwus, Stanistaw Tatar, Stanistaw Bachleda, Anna Topor, and Henryk Lokanski.

The first president was Henryk Lokanski, his goals have reminded with the organization, that the Alliance should unite all the Highlanders that live all over the United States of America and form one Highlander family in America to preserve their beautiful traditions, while promoting their love for the Highlander dialect, literature, and Podhalan art.

The Highlanders Alliance has lasted continuously for 87 years and counts 86 small organizations from different regions.

This organization has helped Poland, churches, schools, charity organizations, and young people by sharing their love for their homeland. Highlanders have so much pride in the land of their grandfathers and great grandfathers, even now, culture unites them.

The Highlander Alliance is an Organization that will always live on and all the members will continue to work and live for their ideal, as well as honestly and truthfully fulfill their duties. This organization will continue to live on for many years and will continue to serve its community.

The Alliance perpetuated this by giving a part of Archer Street the honorary name "Gorale Podhalanscy", where the headquarters of the Highlander Alliance-Highlander House can be found.

### Reason for honoring

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### **Importance to Chicago**

The importance of the Polish Community in Chicago cannot be overstated. While this influence spreads to every corner of Chicago, this specific group of Poles from the "Highlands" has clustered on the Northwest Side and the 36<sup>th</sup> Ward specifically. We are naming this stretch of W. Belmont Ave. "Ziemia Podhalanska Way" to honor the influence of Polish Highlanders on the Northwest side and all of Chicago.

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**CITY COUNCIL**

City of Chicago

COUNCIL CHAMBER

Gilbert Villegas  
Alderman, 36th Ward  
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July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Office of Budget and Management 121 N. LaSalle,  
Room 604 Chicago, IL 60602

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Gilbert Villegas, Alderman of the 36<sup>th</sup> Ward, hereby authorize the Office of Budget Management to withdraw the funds associated with the cost of installation for this honorary street designation for "Ziemia Podhalanska Way" from my:

Ward's annual menu program budget Ward's Aldermanic expense allowance

upon passage of this honorary street designation ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-8-040 of the Chicago Municipal Code.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Justin Heath on my staff at 773.745.4636 or [justin.heath@cityofchicago.org](mailto:justin.heath@cityofchicago.org) <<mailto:justin.heath@cityofchicago.org>>.

Gilbert Villegas Alderman - 36th Ward

Sincerely,