

# **Best Selling Novelist to deliver Deakaban Lecture**

On Sunday June 4, 2006 at 3:00 pm The Piast Institute will present a lecture by best selling Polish American novelist Suzanne Strempek Shea at the Polish National Alliance Hall 10211 Conant Ave in Hamtramck. Ms Strempek Shea's lecture will be titled "Writing Polish American Lives". The presentation is the fourth in the Piast Institute's Dekaban Series named in honor of Dr. Anatol and Pamela Dekaban who endowed a unique on-going faculty exchange programs between the Universities of British Columbia, Michigan and Glasgow and counterpart universities in Warsaw. The Piast Institute oversees these programs on behalf of the Dekaban foundations.

Ms Strempek Shea's novels of Polish American Life have been consistently on the New York Times best seller lists. They include *Selling the Lite of Heaven*, *Hoopi Shoopi Donna*, *Lily of the Valley*, *Becoming Finola*. All were published by Washington Square Press. Winner of the 2000 New England Book Award which recognizes a literary body of works' contribution to the region, she has also written two memoirs: *Songs from a Lead-lined Room: Notes-High and Low-From My Journey Through Breast Cancer and Radiation* and *Shelf Life: Romance, Mystery, Drama and other Page-Turning Adventure From a Year in bookstore*. She has also freelanced for publications including *Yankee Magazine*, *The Boston Globe Magazine*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Organic Style*, *The Bark* and the former *New England Monthly*.

Suzanne is a member of the faculty at the University of Southern Maine's Stonecoast MFA program in creative writing. She has also taught fiction and memoir in the MFA program at Emerson College in Boston. A native of Western Massachusetts, she still lives there, in the village of Bondsville. Ms Strempek Shea's books will be available for purchase at the lecture. She will autograph copies for purchasers. For more information and reservations call Ms Virginia Skrzytniarz at 313-664-0321.