

City Council awarded Levin a commendatory resolution citing her work “registering voters for decades, her belief in the Constitution and making the Constitution work.” Her leadership and dedication to furthering our civic responsibility is an example to all.

Sylvia is survived by her son and daughter, Chuck Levin and Susan Levin, and her sisters Dottie Sadowsky and Daisy Neustadt.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Sylvia Levin.

SUPPORTING AMERICAN LEGION
DAY

SPEECH OF
HON. PHIL GINGREY
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strongest support for H. Res. 679, a bill that recognizes American Legion Day and commends the exemplary service of the veterans of the United States Armed Services. The American Legion was granted a charter by this body on September 16, 1919, and since that time the Legion has remained active on the local, state, and national level as a volunteer service organization for our nation’s veterans.

Today, it is an honor to express my deep sense of gratitude to the thousands of veterans who are members of the American Legion. The American Legion provides many volunteer opportunities for our nation’s troops when they retire from the Armed Services. Some of these include donating millions of man hours to the medical facilities of the Veterans Administration, sponsoring Boy Scouts of America troops all around the country, and awarding millions of dollars for college scholarships. These incredible volunteers give back to the very communities that they have already sacrificed so much for throughout their careers.

Community involvement is only one aspect of the American Legion. These Legionnaires also provide an extraordinary amount of support for troops returning from war in Iraq and Afghanistan. Legion Posts all around the nation have been involved with providing financial assistance to veterans displaced by natural disasters or families of veterans that are struggling to pay for basic needs such as housing. The American Legion has a Family Support Network that provides much needed assistance to families of members of the Armed Services, and the organization focuses on reintegrating troops returning from deployment into the workforce in the United States.

It is appropriate that we take a moment to recognize and say thank you to the active duty members of our Armed Forces for their dedication, sacrifice, and honor. Each and every day, they keep this great nation safe and protect the freedoms that we enjoy. We are proud of all of our servicemen and women and are eternally grateful for their efforts in the Global War on Terror. Furthermore, let us not forget those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and let us say a gracious thank you to them for their willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for liberty.

The families of those who serve our country on the front lines also deserve the admiration

and appreciation of each and every citizen. These family members often watch their loved ones travel to far away lands in support of a cause and an ideal so much greater than any one individual. Indeed, our democratic form of government is a testament to the courage and valor of our Armed Forces. The support given to our servicemen and women by their loved ones is irreplaceable, as it is the foundation for the bravery inherent in those who labor steadfastly in the defense of liberty.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the brave men and women who sacrifice—and have sacrificed in the past—for our present freedoms deserve our fullest support. Our nation’s servicemen and women represent the best our country has to offer, and they must be treated with the respect and honor they deserve. Recognizing American Legion Day in 2009 is just one small reminder of the invaluable contributions made by our troops at home and abroad, and it is my hope that we will continue to do all we can and more for the veterans of our Armed Forces. The American Legion is an exceptional organization for veterans and communities all around the nation, and we now reaffirm our commitment to these heroes by recognizing this day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. BARTLETT. Madam Speaker, I submit the following: Funding of \$2,000,000 is necessary to continue the development of a power dense Integrated Power System (IPS) and Hybrid Electric Drive (HED) technologies suitable for surface combatant and submarine propulsion, enhanced power generation and power conversion. Power dense electric machines and power conversion solutions enable hybrid propulsion systems that save fuel and provide increased critical power for additional payload capabilities. These developments allow an advanced IPS or HED system to be incorporated in future and existing warships, including the re-started DDG51 line, DDG512 Modification, Ohio Replacement, and a future CG(X).

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE
THEOKOTOS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise to observe the 85th anniversary of the Church of the Nativity of the Theokotos, a Serbian Orthodox Church in Clairton, Pennsylvania.

For those of us who may be unfamiliar with Orthodox Christianity, Theokotos is Greek for “God-Bearer” or “one who gives birth to God,” and it is the Greek title for Mary, the mother of Jesus. Consequently, the Church of the Nativity of the Theokotos is also sometimes referred to as St. Mary’s Serbian Orthodox Church.

Serbs began settling in southwestern Pennsylvania in large numbers about 100 years ago. Until they obtained their own church, the Serbs in Clairton attended services at the Serbian Orthodox Church in McKeesport. But once the number of Serbian families in Clairton exceeded 40, they established their own parish and began working to establish their own church. In 1924, the nascent congregation purchased a Presbyterian church, and moved it to its current location in the 500 block of Third Street in Clairton. Work on the church was completed and it was consecrated 2 years later.

Soon Serbian Orthodox Christians from the nearby communities of Elizabeth, Monongahela, and further up the Monongahela River came to worship at the church and eventually the parish came to include these communities as well.

The church hall was substantially expanded in 1941, and in 1945, the parish purchased a rectory across the street.

On September 19, the congregation will celebrate the 85th anniversary of the church and the Slava celebration, or feast day of their patron saint, with a Holy Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at 10 am.

This will be a bittersweet occasion as it will be the last such celebration at the Church of the Nativity of the Theokotos. The congregation has shrunken from 600 people 50 years ago to less than 50 today, making it the smallest parish in the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of Eastern America. The church is closing after the last liturgy there on Sunday, September 27, 2009, bringing to a close nearly a century of serving as a place of worship and community fixture for the Serbian Orthodox faithful in Clairton and the surrounding communities.

I want to recognize this occasion by congratulating the congregation and friends of the Church of the Nativity of the Theokotos on 85 years of the Serbian Orthodox community of the Mon Valley.

HONORING MATTHEW PALNOW

HON. DONALD P. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this opportunity to recognize a heroic resident of the 16th District of Illinois, Matthew Polnow of Rockford. Mr. Polnow works for the U.S. Postal Service and is a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

On June 11, 2008, as he was delivering mail on his postal route, Carrier Polnow witnessed a crushing three-vehicle accident. In a matter of seconds, he ran to the first car, checking to make sure that the occupants were not injured. Then he went on to the second vehicle, a truck, where fortunately no one needed assistance. Carrier Polnow continued to the third vehicle, a van used to transport handicapped and wheelchair-bound individuals, which was beginning to burn. The driver’s airbag had deployed, and the driver alerted Carrier Polnow to a handicapped passenger still inside the smoke-filled van.

With smoke continuing to circulate and flames erupting from the engine, Carrier Polnow went to work. He managed to free the