

and prayers as they deal with their tremendous loss.

As I've thought about Tillie over the past week, I remember that Tillie always seemed to know where she was going. She wasn't necessarily in a hurry, but she knew where she wanted to be, and what she needed to do. Many of my colleagues may remember the brisk pace of Tillie as she hustled between meetings and votes and other commitments. She was dainty but determined, small yet sure, focused yet always friendly.

Tillie was deeply dedicated to her work on the Armed Services Committee and to the men and women who serve our country in the military. In her mind, they deserved the best, and she was determined to see that they got it. She had the respect of members from both sides of the aisle, and especially the leadership of the military and the Pentagon for her commitment.

Today, as we find ourselves engaged in the Global War on Terror and we see all that our military has accomplished to further the cause of liberty across the Middle East, we should remember Tillie's hard work on their behalf. She deserves a tremendous amount of credit for recognizing the importance of a strong military, even in times of relative peace and prosperity. You never know when you might need it. And we need it today. Thanks to Tillie, and many other people, we have it.

Tillie Fowler will long be remembered here on Capitol Hill for her dedication, her grace, her love of this country and those who serve it. She set a shining example for all of us to follow—love your family, love your country, love your job, and know where you're going.

RECOGNIZING 225TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CON-
GREGATION IN GEORGETOWN

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown, which is celebrating 225 years of distinguished history on March 16, 2005. On the Sundays when I'm in Washington, I often attend this church and I'm always reminded of its unique heritage.

The church's history is deeply connected with the history of the Nation. It started with a small group of worshipers in 1760 who were organized into a church in 1780 under the eminent Stephen Bloomer Balch, pupil of religious leader John Witherspoon and soldier of the Revolution. It is the first Presbyterian Church in what is now modern-day Washington, DC, and remains the oldest church in the city of any denomination with an unbroken ministry. Men and women of every denomination worshiped there, including many leaders of the young republic.

The first, and for many years the only, Protestant church building in Georgetown was erected by its congregation in 1782. Additions were made in 1794 with Thomas Jefferson listed among the contributors. A rare charter, still in effect, was granted in 1806 to "the Presbyterian Congregation in George Town" by an act of Congress signed by President Jefferson. In 1810, the church's seal, with its

seven stars and Bible, was given to the church by the superintendent of the United States Mint. In 1821, President Monroe laid the cornerstone for the beautiful Bridge Street building which was moved fifty years later to its present site, with President Grant laying the cornerstone at that location. This is the same building in which the congregation now worships.

The Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown has always been a pioneer in the religious and cultural life of the community. In 1781, Dr. Balch became headmaster of the Columbian Academy to which George Washington sent his nephews and wards. Later, a school for girls was founded. The first book published in the District of Columbia was written by Dr. Balch, and he helped to found the first public library. As an outgrowth of the church's ministry, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches were established in Washington and Maryland.

The church's bell tolled all day when President Washington died. George Washington Parke Custis, the grandson of Martha Washington and father-in-law of Robert E. Lee, delivered an oration on the defeat of Napoleon from the church's pulpit. Memorial services for President William Henry Harrison were conducted there. During the Civil War, its building was used as a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers, including casualties after the Second Battle of Manassas and the Battle of Fredericksburg. In these and many ways, the church has been identified with the history of the nation it has sought to serve.

The church's ministry remains vibrant today. The congregation is thankful for the recent arrival of its new pastor, the Reverend Doctor Richard L. Sheffield. Under his dynamic leadership and with God's grace, I'm certain that the church will continue to play an important role in the Washington community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown on its 225th anniversary. It is both an honor and a pleasure to salute such a long-standing institution that has played such an important role in the history of our Nation.

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING WEEK

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our nation's great manufacturing base. My colleague Rep. GILLMOR introduced important legislation, H. Res. 16, to support National Manufacturing Week, congratulate manufacturers and their employees for their contributions growth and innovation, and recognize the challenges facing the manufacturing sector. I join him in applauding America's manufacturers.

I especially want to highlight aviation manufacturing, the manufacturing sector predominant in my district, where Wichita is known as the Air Capital of the World. Wichita is home to 4 major aircraft manufacturers, numerous suppliers and other support industries. I am very proud of all the men and women today and in years past who have brought that distinction to our great city.

According to the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, General Aviation manufacturing contributed over \$6 billion to the U.S. economy in 2004, exporting nearly \$1.5 billion. Approximately 80 percent of the world's GA aircraft is manufactured in the United States. The total U.S. aerospace manufacturing industry exports \$58.5 billion in products—the largest net export segment of all U.S. industry.

General Aviation Manufacturers directly employ nearly 169,000 workers around the country. Aircraft manufacturing workers are the highest-paid, highest-skilled workers in the manufacturing sector. They earn an average wage of \$47,700 annually—35 percent more than the U.S. average.

In addition, for every aviation manufacturing job created in the U.S., three additional jobs are created in other industries. In 2002, the last year for which we have complete numbers, the total impact of civil aviation on the U.S. economy exceeded \$900 billion and 11 million jobs. This amounts to 9 percent of the U.S. GDP. General Aviation contributes approximately \$102 billion (or 12 percent of the total civil aviation contribution) and 1.3 million jobs.

General Aviation manufacturers make aircraft for fire-fighting, law enforcement, scientific research, search and rescue, and agriculture. Currently General Aviation and aerospace employees are working on the future of flight: advances in propulsion, including quiet supersonic flight, new energy sources including hydrogen, and integrating satellite technology for navigational and safe flight purposes.

Manufacturing employees across America are building our future as I speak. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding their hard work, and to commit to ensuring that our manufacturing base thrives for generations to come.

IN HONOR OF TILLIE FOWLER,
FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend and former colleague Representative Tillie Fowler.

Tillie, who was sometimes called the "Steel Magnolia," represented her district in Florida from 1992 until 2000 and was a champion for the issues important to her constituents. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, she fought to keep military bases in her congressional district. During her tenure on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, she investigated the inadequacies in the country's preparedness for a domestic terrorist attack and was able to identify many of the shortcomings that contributed to our lack of preparedness on September 11, 2001. She also served as vice chairwoman of the House Republican Conference and was the fifth-highest member of the House leadership when she left Congress.

In 1997, she served on a congressional task force created to investigate the incidences of sexual harassment and abuse in the U.S. military, an issue on which she and I worked closely together. Two years ago, she was appointed by Secretary Rumsfeld to lead a