

body of Congress and this Nation on a job well done.

Shirley began at Colorado Mountain College as a secretary and was later promoted to director of the college's Carbondale operations before she became the associate dean of Developmental Education and Special Programs in 1991. In that role, she has been instrumental in facilitating developmental education program that transforms the lives of students everyday. Shirley is known for her excellent managerial skills and has lead her peers and colleagues by example.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring Shirley Bowen to the attention of my colleagues before this venerable body. I would like to join all the Colorado Mountain College faculty, students, and administration in wishing Shirley luck in a happy and productive retirement. Administrators like Shirley who embody the passion of teaching our nation's youth are an invaluable asset to this community and I am sure that everyone at Colorado Mountain College will miss her. Congratulations, Shirley, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

CHARLES AND MARLENE
BEISWANGER STATEMENT

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with the greatest pleasure that I rise today to honor Charles Foster and Marlene Anne Beiswanger on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Chuck and Marlene were married on October 16, 1954 and celebrated their Golden Anniversary on October 16, 2004.

Charles Foster Beiswanger is the son of William and Meta Beiswanger of Havertown, Pennsylvania. He was stationed at Castle Air Force Base in Atwater, California during the Korean conflict, at which time he met his wife Marlene Anne Zirker, daughter of Jesse and Doris Zirker of Merced, California.

Mr. and Mrs. Beiswanger have been residents and respectable business owners of Merced, California for many years. As owners of Tioga Florist, Chuck and Marlene contributed greatly to the economic vitality of the community of Merced. They owned and operated Tioga Florist until 1985, at which time they sold it to their son, Foster. Having been provided with a solid foundation, the shop remains a thriving family business today.

In addition to establishing and maintaining a successful business, Chuck and Marlene are responsible for creating a beautiful family. Their three children have grown and married, and have begun families of their own. Today, the Beiswanger family consists of their eldest son Charles Foster, Jr. and his wife Lydia, their daughter Joanne, and her husband Ray, and their son Scott and his wife Iris, as well as, six grandchildren with a seventh expected to arrive in 2005. I would like to recognize each of these individuals as they all play vital roles in this remarkable family that the Beiswanger's have founded.

It is my honor and privilege to join Chuck and Marlene's family and friends in recognizing the very special and momentous occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Our

community benefits greatly from the splendid example they have set. Marriages such as theirs form a sound foundation for our country, and contribute greatly toward making this a better world in which we live. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in offering Mr. and Mrs. Beiswanger best wishes for continued happiness.

HONORING THE LATE GLENN
DAVID MARTINEZ

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the late Glenn David Martinez, a member of the "Greatest Generation" who passed away earlier this year. Glenn was a proud Chamorro with a great faith in God and a dedication to his island home and his country. Glenn was a fighter pilot during World War II serving in the Pacific theater with the U.S. Army Air Corps, now known as the U.S. Air Force. It is with great sadness that I inform this body of his death.

In honor of his memory, I am submitting for the RECORD a special tribute to Glenn written by his close friend, Mr. Joe M. Bamba, formerly of Agana Heights, Guam, which was delivered at Glenn's memorial service on Guam.

I am indeed privileged and honored to be asked by the family to say a last "adios to Glenn". As I tried to assimilate my thoughts to pay our last and final respects to such a fine and wonderful friend, husband, father, grandfather and brother, I wondered sometimes whether I would be able to adequately, truly, and justly convey my thoughts into words which Glenn richly deserves.

Although I knew of Glenn's reputation and heroism when we were in Guam, I was more intimately aware of Glenn, the person, when he relocated and lived in South Florida. There, we developed an exceptional kinship and fellowship. We shared few secrets here and there and we belonged to a group of fellow Guamanians in the area. In fact, he was the most eligible bachelor at that time. He was a sensitive, real down to earth, and easy to get along guy once you got to know him. He was, however, very selective with whom he wanted to associate. He often spoke of the need for our Chamorros to work together and continue to maintain our customs and culture.

In spite of his exploits and feats in the service of his country during World War II, you never heard him brag of such heroic accomplishments. In other words, in our vernacular, TI BANIDOSO. He was one of the few Guamanian Officers of the "Greatest Generation" in the service of his island home and country. Because of his health situation and ultimately his death, he would never see the beautiful and hallowed national World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., dedicated to the World War II veterans.

As a veteran, Glenn could have opted to be buried at the venerated and internationally renowned Arlington National Cemetery, but instead he decided to make Guam his final resting place and to be near his family who predeceased him. As the saying goes, you can remove a Guamanian from Guam, but you cannot remove Guam from a Guamanian.

When Glenn left South Florida to visit Guam, he returned and brought with him his new wife, Chilang. At that time, we were celebrating the Guam Liberation Day Fes-

ivities. He introduced Chilang as "The Wind Behind His Wing" and she deservedly so earned that title.

I talked to Glenn by telephone often during the critical months before he passed on and he politely discouraged us to visit with him. Finally, he agreed to allow my wife and me to see him about a week before he died. We talked about the news of the day and he told me that three months ago, he was playing and enjoying his golf. Not once did he mention the pain he was experiencing so as to make us feel uncomfortable. I observed that he was ready to accept what was terminally happening to his body. For his peace of mind, great credit is due to Chilang; his daughter, Linda Chuckman and her husband, Alex; the local health professionals, who supported him; and his pastor, Father Jeff McCormick, who consoled and prayed with him. At the memorial service in South Florida, Father Jeff celebrated the service and Alex gave a heart warming and remarkable eulogy for Glenn.

Glenn, as a member of the military, you were familiar with the military parlance, "Permanent Change of Station", commonly called "PCS". You took those orders from your Supreme Commander, that is, the change from living on this earth to one of eternity with your beloved family, who previously passed on and who are with God. Such orders from your Supreme Commander, who is God Himself, have never been countermanded or changed. Glenn, as you leave us mortals behind to join your creator, we cite one of the passages of Matthew, "Ask and you will receive; Seek and you will find; Knock and it will be opened to you. For the one who asks, receives. The one who seeks, finds. The one who knocks, enters." This, my friend, we pray as you enter the Kingdom of God. Adios for now.

REPUBLICAN FISCAL
MISMANAGEMENT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, this Republican leadership has presided over a historical fiscal reversal from record surpluses to now record deficits. Their lack of fiscal discipline has placed our economy in a precarious position and straight jacketed future policy options.

The most troubling aspect of this policy is that they are giving the current generation, especially the most wealthy, a free lunch while they run up debts that they have consciously decided to pass on to our children. At the current debt level, each newborn child inherits \$85,000 in interest on the debt. This so-called "baby-tax" will rapidly increase unless we restore some sanity to our budgetary policies and practices.

The lack of a surplus makes it even more difficult to solve the impending bankruptcy of Social Security and Medicare, or even to enact a Republican tax reform agenda.

PATTERN OF FISCAL MISMANAGEMENT

Time and time again, this leadership has chosen to disregard its fiscal responsibilities and ignore signs of impending fiscal crisis in the hope that the problem will fix itself, or disappear altogether.

Clearly a policy of avoidance doesn't work, and it's certainly not what the American people expect from its elected leaders. You can't

simply stick your head in the sand and expect market forces to balance the national budget. That's the Congress' responsibility.

I can cite example after example illustrating how this leadership cares little about our Nation's fiscal state of affairs.

The pay-as-you-go rule, PAYGO, the budget enforcement mechanism devised to reign in deficits, worked very effectively in the nineties to bring the budget into balance and restore surpluses.

After PAYGO expired, the House leadership squandered multiple opportunities to renew it and refused to take action. It's no coincidence that we've seen record high deficits in the last 2 years.

And now this Congress is backed into a corner and forced to take action to raise the debt ceiling for the third time in 3 years, another record.

WORRISOME SIGNS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY & DEBT MARKETS

The Bush administration and leadership in the House say deficits don't matter, but in truth they do matter, and we are now staring crisis in the face. There is near unanimity among economists that our Nation's fiscal imbalance could put us in real economic peril.

In a study published just 2 weeks ago, economists Maurice Obstfeld and Kenneth Rogoff warned of "current account collapse" sparked by withdrawal of funds from international investors. They said that this issue should be "problem number one on the President's international financial agenda."

Alan Greenspan's comments today confirmed brewing concerns about the weakening dollar and decreasing appetite among international investors for "adding to [their] dollar balances."

We must heed these warnings and get our financial house in order or the delicate house of cards constructed by this Administration and Congressional leadership will come tumbling to the ground, and all Americans will pay a hefty price.

Already there are signs that the dollar's value is declining and other currencies, primarily the Euro, are slowly replacing the dollar as the favored currency among international investors. This week, the dollar reached an all time low against the Euro—one Euro is now worth \$1.30.

Our nation needs to borrow around \$2 billion a day, and 92 percent of debt securities sold over the last 4 years have gone to foreign countries. So obviously we rely heavily on foreign investment. The question is what happens if those countries abandon the dollar for another currency?

If foreign governments like China decide to divest its U.S. currency holdings; the consequences would be serious, especially considering the massive purchases by the Chinese Central Bank ever the last few years. In 2003, dollar purchases by foreign central banks were \$617 billion, compared to \$352 billion the year before. Total reserves of the emerging Asian countries rose by more than \$350 billion between March 2003 and March 2004. Japan and China alone currently hold close to a trillion dollars of U.S. debt.

Unlike in years past, we cannot assume that no other currency comes close to rivaling the dollar's strength. The emergence of the Euro substantially changes the international currency market, because, despite the soundness and stability of the dollar, the Euro has be-

come a true alternative, backed by reasonably sound monetary policies.

So the largest holders of foreign currencies in Asia could change their preference purely on the basis of financial, not political considerations.

This scenario is unraveling right now. Asian countries believe that our exceedingly high deficits are untenable and threaten the American economy. They worry that more buying could in turn destabilize their own economy.

Consequently, we increasingly find ourselves in the precarious position of having to convince these foreign governments to continue their purchasing.

CONCLUSION

The leadership has apparently backed away from its initial plan to include the debt ceiling increase in an omnibus appropriations bill. Hiding the debt ceiling increase in a larger bill would be a mistake because it would undermine the purpose of the statutory requirement—accountability. Members of Congress should explain their decision to increase the national debt. The American people deserve to know what's going on.

The Republicans succeeded in framing the recent election in terms of cultural, moral and religious values. Democrats believe that balancing the Nation's books is a moral issue. If the Republican leadership believes that the American people will continue to be distracted by "moral" wedge issues while they run up debts that will bankrupt the Social Security and Medicare trust funds and significantly harm the quality of life of all Americans, they are seriously mistaken.

As Democrats step up efforts to fully inform the American people about the magnitude of Republican fiscal mismanagement, I am confident that most will put aside their cultural and religious differences in favor of an overriding value: economic security.

Despite larger working majorities in the House and Senate, I do not plan to subordinate my views and positions to accommodate this temporarily dominant majority. There will still be opportunities in the 109th Congress to advance an alternative and more fiscally responsible budget. I will continue to engage in this crucial issue and look forward to receiving your views on this and other matters in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CELIA DUNHAM

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Celia Dunham, a talented and dedicated teacher who has been nominated for the Colorado State Board of Education's 2005 Teacher of the Year award. Celia has demonstrated a strong passion and devotion to educating our youth in one of our most important occupations for 31 years. It is a privilege to stand here today before this body of Congress and this Nation and honor her impeccable record of service.

Celia's initial decision to become a teacher came from her experience with a pilot program teaching inner city kids in college. It was here that she learned the important difference that

teachers make everyday in the lives of their students—a mantra that continues to influence her teaching today. Celia is a firm advocate of engaging students, parents and teachers in a partnership to allow students to achieve their full potential. To attain that goal, she has worked to create caring, respectful environments that encourage kids to take responsibility for their own learning. Her position as a role model for her students epitomizes the positive attitude about education that is necessary for a successful teacher.

Over the course of Celia's work in Steamboat Springs, she has been heavily involved with planning place-based education that builds student appreciation for the culture and heritage of their community. She also contributed significantly to the development of a K through 12 standards-based curriculum that concentrates on individual, on-going assessments that meets academic goals early in a student's career to make them successful in the future. The program is a proven success as the Colorado Student Assessment Program scores for Celia's school are consistently above the state average, and the school has been recognized twice as a Colorado School of Excellence.

Mr. Speaker, Celia Dunham is an intelligent, caring and devoted teacher who always puts her students first. Her commitment to the teaching profession is unrelenting and it would be a great honor for Colorado to be blessed with her continued leadership as Colorado's 2005 Teacher of the Year. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation today and recognize her longstanding dedication to the teaching profession. Thank you for your service Celia, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF CPT A. RALPH GIBSON

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Ralph Gibson on his retirement. Captain Gibson concludes a distinguished career in the military with his final post as the Assistant Chief of Staff, Religious Ministries, Marine Corps Recruit Depot—Eastern Recruiting Region. This is a man that demonstrated the true meaning of service beyond one's self. Since his enlistment in the Army in 1967, Captain Gibson served not only his country, but God as well.

Captain Gibson served in the Army and the Oklahoma National Guard until 1979. That year, having previously completed his studies at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, Gibson was commissioned as a Navy Chaplain. He continued to serve both God and country through the First Gulf War, earning numerous medals and commendations along the way. Undoubtedly, his service to the men and women of our armed forces provided the spiritual direction and comfort so desperately needed when these brave people are away from their families and loved ones.

Captain Gibson will continue his service as pastor for a church in South Carolina. I am confident that the members of that church will greatly benefit just as our servicemen and