

Girl Scout Troop to honor Kathy Cloninger, the new Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of the USA. Kathy is fully deserving of the mark of distinction that Girl Scouts of the USA has placed on her as new CEO. She is a proven and respected leader.

Ms. Cloninger has a wonderful, long, and highly regarded history in Girl Scouting. For decades she has been a steadfast advocate for girls. Kathy comes to Girl Scouts of the USA from Cumberland Valley Girl Scout Council in Tennessee where she served as CEO. During her tenure there, she had incredible success increasing membership, especially in under-served communities, and her innovative leadership helped to create some of the most contemporary programming in Girl Scouting. Kathy has been bestowed with many prestigious awards recognizing her for her character and her profound vision.

Most notably, Kathy is a woman with a strong sense of purpose and a commitment to advancing her vision for Girl Scouts. Her goal is to increase the organization's strength as a national, aggressive advocate for girls in this country, and I am certain she will accomplish this goal with grace and ability.

Girl Scouts of the USA is the world's pre-eminent organization for girls, and for 92 years it has been dedicated to empowering girls to grow strong. Over 50 million women, including myself, have been Girl Scouts. Today, the organization continues to address contemporary issues affecting girls and boasts a membership of nearly three million girls and one million volunteers. I am proud to be part of such a remarkable organization and look forward to watching Girl Scouts of the USA grow and thrive under Kathy's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Kathy Cloninger in her new position and praise her for the exemplary work she has done and will continue to do as the new Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of the USA.

#### HONORING JOHN ROUNSAVILLE

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 2004*

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, this month begins a new year in which Congress will face new challenges and opportunities. The same is true in Mississippi where Governor Haley Barbour presented his first State of the State Address last night, after his inauguration earlier this month. A new administration requires experienced and talented individuals to shape the policy and politic of the state. Governor Barbour has one of those rising Mississippi stars in John Rounsaville. Today I make these remarks to honor John's service to me, to recognize the challenges we faced together as he now embarks on this new opportunity.

It was January 1999 when John Rounsaville first joined my team. After graduating from Calhoun City High School, he earned a degree in agribusiness and followed that with a Masters of Business Administration, both from Mississippi State University. He came to Washington, DC to work on my staff to address, among others, agricultural issues—a \$4.6 billion industry in Mississippi.

He demonstrated a keen insight on the legislative process and quickly grasped the intri-

cacies of Capitol Hill politics. Quickly, he moved from Legislative Assistant to Legislative Director, and most recently as my Deputy Chief of Staff. Over the years I grew to trust his counsel and respect his instincts as we successfully moved legislation into law, brought appropriations to Mississippi, protected our state's military facilities, and represented the needs of my constituents here in the Nation's Capital.

Now John has returned home to Mississippi and will serve as policy adviser to our new Republican governor. Our office will miss his experience, knowledge, and skills, but Mississippi will continue to benefit from his hard work to the service of our great state.

Governor Barbour has hired a good man. John mastered the practices and methods of success in Washington, but never forgot those Mississippi values taught to him by his parents. John never lost his roots, never forgot his home, and never lost sight of our goal to serve Mississippi. John's heart has always been in Mississippi and now he returns there to continue to advance smart, conservative, positive public policy.

John Rounsaville left a formative mark on the shape and operation of my office. We will miss his good nature, humor, and dedication to his work. But I thank him for his service to this office and to Mississippi.

#### HONORING CHIEF LARRY D. PLANTS

### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 2004*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Larry D. Plants as he retires after 25 years of service as a member of the University Police Services at California State University, Stanislaus.

Born on July 1, 1952, Chief Plants has spent his life as a public servant to our community. After obtaining an Associates Degree in Police Science from Butte Junior College he went on to receive a Bachelors Degree from California State University, Stanislaus in Organizational Communication.

As a police officer with the City of Modesto Police Department and then with the City of Reno Police Department, Chief Plants earned the respect of his fellow law enforcement officers. Always a professional, he was then hired by CSU, Stanislaus as a member of the University Police where he excelled and earned the respect of students, faculty, and fellow officers. He was then promoted as Chief and Director of Public Safety. At this post, he was responsible for the Office receiving nearly \$1 million in grant funds.

Not only has Chief Plants been a dedicated member of the CSU Public Safety Department but also to his profession. He is a member of the Central Sierra Police Chiefs Association and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement. Chief Plants has also been the Past President of the Stanislaus County Peace Officers Association and served as the 2003 President of the Stanislaus County Law Enforcement Executives.

Chief Plants is an extremely dedicated member of the community. Further evidence of this commitment is his involvement in civic

organizations such as the Civitan Club, Theta Chi Fraternity, and the Evangelical Free Church.

Chief Plants' career as a dedicated police officer and community leader is a testament to his character. While being Chief of his Department was his second biggest honor in life, he quotes his first biggest honor as his family.

As a fellow brother of Theta Chi Fraternity it is my honor to recognize all of Chief Plants' achievements and to congratulate him on his retirement.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

### HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 21, 2004*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today, in honor of Catholic Schools Week (January 25–31, 2004), I would like to recognize the contributions of Catholic schools to the academic and moral education of children in Guam and throughout our nation. Also, I would like to thank my colleague, Mr. David Vitter, for his steadfast support of Catholic education in our country and for introducing House Resolution 492, honoring Catholic Schools Week.

Guam has a long and rich history of Roman Catholicism dating back to the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. The island eventually became an important stop along the Spanish Galleon Trade Route, eventually bringing Padre Diego Luis de San Vitores, who was on his way to the Philippines, to Guam.

Padre San Vitores would return to Guam in 1668, with a party of missionaries to bring Christianity to the people of Guam. They established a mission in the village of Hagatna which later became the site of the first Catholic Church and is now the seat of the Archdiocese of Guam. From these humble beginnings, the Roman Catholic faith has continued to grow, expanding its ministries to meet the changing needs of the faithful.

Recognizing the need for quality education rooted in the moral values of the Catholic faith, the first Bishop of Guam, Bishop Appollinaris Baumgartner invited the Religious Sisters of Mercy from North Carolina, the Stigmatine Fathers of Massachusetts, and the School Sisters of Notre Dame from Wisconsin to come to Guam where they eventually opened schools in villages throughout the island. Today, members of these Orders, as well as members of the Dominican, Franciscan, Jesuit, and Marist Orders continue to teach our children in the Catholic education system.

Guam's first Chamorro Bishop, Archbishop Felixberto Camacho Flores, made Catholic education a priority increasing the number of Catholic schools, expanding programs and improving school facilities.

Today, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hagatna remains committed to serving the people of Guam. Under the direction of the Most Reverend Anthony Sablan Apuron, OFM Cap, DD, Metropolitan Archbishop of Hagatna, the Catholic schools on Guam have remained committed to providing a quality academic education, grounded in faith and emphasizing service to humanity.