

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of the gentlewoman from New York, Congresswoman LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF GUILD FOR
EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

HON. DANIEL M. DONOVAN, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2018

Mr. DONOVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Guild for Exceptional Children on its 60th anniversary.

Founded in 1958 by the loved ones of those with developmental disabilities, the Guild for Exceptional Children has been a much-needed non-profit in my district. Starting as a group of parents supporting each other when needed, the Guild eventually evolved into an innovative advocacy organization that has initiated numerous options for community living for those with disabilities. Opening New York City's first group home in 1970, the Guild has been the vanguard fighting for disabled individuals. The impact that the Guild for Exceptional Children has had on our community is nothing short of incredible. This outstanding organization always advocates for those who need it most.

The Guild for Exceptional Children also provides clinical, educational, social, and career support programs for those with special needs. Everyone involved with this wonderful group can see firsthand how instrumental it is in the lives of adults and children with developmental disabilities. From the parents to the volunteers to the beneficiaries, the combined altruistic work that the Guild does simply speaks for itself. Their efforts cannot be repaid, as they fight to ensure that those with special needs are able to live a normal and fulfilling life.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Guild for Exceptional Children on its 60th anniversary. Countless constituents of mine have been helped by their fantastic efforts. For everything they have done, I thank them.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE CRAIG D. JOHNSTON

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable Craig D. Johnston on his retirement from a career in public service.

Craig received his bachelor's degree from Dickinson College before serving as an infantry officer during the Vietnam War. After returning home, Craig earned a law degree from the University of Virginia. He practiced law in Manassas for 30 years where he was a board member and past president of the Prince William County Bar Association. Additionally, he represented Prince William County on the Virginia State Bar Council for two terms.

In 2004, Craig was appointed as a judge of the Prince William General District Court of the 31st Judicial District of Virginia. In recogni-

tion of his leadership and knowledge, Craig was appointed to the Prince William Circuit Court of the 31st Judicial Circuit of Virginia in 2009. Craig was selected to serve as chief judge of both the Prince William General District Court and the Prince William Circuit Court.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking the Honorable Craig Johnston for his service to Virginia. I wish Craig and his wife, Joyce, the best as they spend more time with their children and grandchildren in retirement.

IN CELEBRATION OF MS. BETTYE
JEAN WILSON FRANKLIN'S 90TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2018

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Ms. Bettye Jean Wilson Franklin's 90th birthday.

Ms. Franklin was born on March 18, 1928 to the late Winburn Wilson and Ruby Cass Gray.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Ms. Franklin attended and graduated from historical I.M. Terrell high school. Her passion for education inspired her to work for Fort Worth ISD for 27 years until her retirement in 1990.

But it's her everlasting commitment to her faith that is well-known among her friends and family. Ms. Franklin has been a faithful member of Saint James Baptist for the past 77 years, which she contributed in various capacities, including her participation in the senior choir for 52 years.

In addition, she serves her community as a member of The Greater Fort Worth Area Negro Business and Professional Women's Club and Fort Worth Zeta Amicae Auxiliary of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Ms. Franklin is also a member of the Eastern Star Southern Beauty chapter 446 and served as Grand Secretary of the Masonic Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star of Texas for 13 years.

She is the proud mother of two daughters, Brenda Williams and Willie Mae McQueen, grandmother of four grandchildren, and great-grandmother to her seven great grandchildren.

WELCOMING THE AGA KHAN TO
TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2018

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has dedicated his life in service to humanity. It is my pleasure to welcome His Highness the Aga Khan IV, the 49th hereditary Imam of the world's 20 million Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims, to my home state of Texas in celebration of his Diamond Jubilee.

The ethics of compassion and care, tolerance and equality, selflessness and service center His Highness' deeply held belief in and practice of the Muslim faith. Particularly in recent years, the Aga Khan has pledged his voice to articulate the values of peace, gen-

erosity and brotherhood that unquestionably compose the core of Islam. He often says his obligations to his community and to humankind are inseparable. This has driven the Aga Khan to call on us to celebrate our differences of religion, culture, language and ethnicity as evidence of humanity's great beauty. Our inherent diversity, he says, should propel humankind to embrace pluralism.

Ismaili Muslims have a deep connection to Texas, the DFW Metroplex and myself. For more than a decade, I have partnered with the Ismaili Muslim community to host the Youth Summit and Diversity Dialogue, which we held first in 2007 during the Aga Khan's Golden Jubilee. It brings together students from my district with youth of all backgrounds to think critically about the challenges we can address through global citizenship. The program brings to light the positive impact young Ismaili Muslims make on the world around them.

Alongside his role as Imam, the Aga Khan has established many global humanitarian organizations, one of which is the Aga Khan Development Network. The AKDN promotes human dignity and self-sustaining growth by administering education and healthcare in many of the most impoverished and isolated parts of the developing world. Three of the most distinguished AKDN projects are the Aga Khan Academies, which offer world-class educations to children in remote, school-deprived regions. When I visited the Aga Khan Academy in Nairobi, Kenya in 2015, I was emotionally struck by the undeniable love of humankind evident in the AKDN's work to help those children reach their full potential. It became clear to me that the driving force behind each of the Aga Khan's endeavors is his desire to foster progress and peace through hope. For hope, he says, is the most powerful source of human motivation.

It is this spirit, born of the example of the Aga Khan, which led 2,500 Ismaili Muslim volunteers to help their neighbors in Houston recover from the devastation triggered by Hurricane Harvey last August. For this selfless generosity, they were presented one of the five Points of Light awards by the five living former presidents. The Ismaili Muslim community's response to the unsounded call of duty exemplifies their unrelenting effort to serve humanity at large.

Mr. Speaker, His Highness the Aga Khan—through his work, rooted in the Muslim faith—is a testament to Islam being a religion of both the intellect and humility, of both tradition and progress. The celebration of the Aga Khan's Diamond Jubilee is a monumental occasion for Ismaili Muslims across the world. I wish to congratulate the American Ismaili Muslim community and convey to His Highness the Aga Khan that he and the values of tolerance, diversity and pluralism that Ismaili Muslims uphold will always be welcome in the United States of America.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF POLLY MILLHOUSER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize the 100th birthday of Polly Millhouser.