

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING CORPORAL JOHN
ALVIN PEDERSON

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal John Alvin Pederson. Corporal Pederson was born near La Crosse, Wisconsin on January 15, 1926. He honorably served in the 1st Battalion, 232nd infantry Regiment as an Army Corporal in World War II from 1944 to 1945.

During his time as a soldier, Corporal Pederson showed bravery, resilience, and selflessness. He saved the life of his Assistant Squad Leader, Robert Bailey, who was severely wounded, by securing medical assistance. He helped capture 8 to 10 German soldiers in a basement stronghold, freeing 40 to 50 civilians.

Corporal Pederson's dedication to our country and his fellow soldiers is a testament to his character and integrity. We honor his service and express our sincere appreciation for the profound impact he made. He is a true hero, and his legacy will be remembered and honored for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO ALLISON KENNEDY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month we lost a treasured consumer, public health and safety advocate. Allison Kennedy passed away on May 10, 2023, after recently suffering a brain aneurysm. She was 36 years old.

Allison Kennedy served as the Director of Government Relations for Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety (Advocates). She was well known and well respected on Capitol Hill as an ardent and trusted champion for safe roads, safe vehicles and safe road users. During her more than ten years with Advocates, she cultivated a safety legacy that will continue to prevent crashes and save lives for generations to come.

Allison's untimely passing is a monumental personal and professional loss for the Advocates' team and for all those who work closely with the organization, myself included. She will be remembered as a dedicated public health and safety activist, wonderful colleague, caring friend, cherished daughter, devoted wife and dedicated mother.

I include in the RECORD the following obituary and I send my condolences to her husband, Brian, their two young sons, Christopher "Kit" and Callahan "Cal," her parents, Erin and Michael, her entire family, and all her loved ones.

Allison Elizabeth Kennedy of Burke, Virginia passed to her eternal reward on May 10,

2023, after a brain aneurysm at 36 years old. A devoted mother, beloved wife, and cherished daughter, Allison was full of life and love.

Allison was born in Visalia, California on February 16, 1987, to her loving mother, Erin, and adoring father, Michael. At three years old, she moved back to her family's hometown of Vancouver, Washington, where she grew up. However, she frequently liked to remind her husband that she too was a Californian.

Although Allison was an only child, she grew up surrounded and supported by her large and loving extended family in Washington, anchored by her Nana and major role model Nita King. Allison had loving uncles and dotting aunts.

Life for Allison revolved around her family. She loved her grandfather, Jim, beyond words. She especially loved the precious time she spent with her father outdoors or working on household projects together, even FaceTiming her dad 3000 miles away to help her put a table together. She loved traveling with her family, including to the off-road races in Baja, especially with her Uncle David.

She excelled in her studies, cheerleading, and mock trial during high school. Her friends Emily Young, Liana Richey, Jessie Cook, and many others made her teens, college years, and early twenties a time of great joy.

She attended Washington State University, graduating in 2010. She received her master's degree from American University in Washington, D.C. in 2014.

After starting her graduate studies at Washington State University, she began a three-month internship in Washington, D.C. Within weeks of moving to D.C., she fell in love with the city, the politics, and a man named Brian. Their love started on their first date as they sat talking in her apartment until three in the morning.

Allison quickly decided to stay and was hired as a lobbyist for Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, where she helped promote safer transportation policies. Under the leadership of her professional mentors, Cathy Chase and Jackie Gillian, Allison grew into a fierce and successful advocate whose work led to the adoption of critical safety-minded policies, including many of the key safety provisions of the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. For generations to come, Allison's legacy will be measured in the countless lives of children, teen drivers, pedestrians, and motorists that her work helped to save. She loved and was adored by all her colleagues at Advocates.

Throughout her time in Washington, D.C., Allison was also drawn deeper into her Roman Catholic faith. She tells a story of running on the National Mall and receiving a call to return to the Church. She was confirmed and faithfully adhered to her faith. She became engaged in church activities including working at the Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, where she helped to lead couples through their preparation for the sacrament of Holy Matrimony. In Washington, D.C., she established lifelong friendships, especially with Sondra Gribbin, Courtney Daniel, Addie Horton Kahrs, and countless others. Allison was always the first to volunteer to coordinate events and had the ability to make anyone feel like an old friend, even upon their first meeting.

Allison and Brian were engaged in December 2014 and married in November 2015. They first lived in Northeast Washington, D.C., then moved to Maryland in 2019, and finally found their dream home in Burke, VA in 2022.

Allison longed to be a mother, Allison and Brian tried for nearly five years. In 2021, they received the gift of Christopher "Kit" Colm, through adoption, who blessed their home with the fullness of love and joy. Allison thrived as a mother. In every way, she knew how to care for Kit and help him blossom. In 2022, Brian and Allison found out they were pregnant. Callahan "Cal" was welcomed into the world in January 2023. The final months of Allison's life were filled with happiness and contentment as she thrived as a mother of two.

She once told Brian, "I always want things on Allison's time and Allison's way, but God always shows me that His ways are better. He knew we couldn't have Cal until we first had Kit." We pray that we may understand God's ways someday.

Allison and Brian loved each other far better than the storybook way. Because their devotion manifested in the real act of love: caring for each other and living to be one another's support. Disagreements and challenges and just laying around in your pajamas are what makes life real and worth living. Allison and Brian weren't perfect, but they tried to love each other perfectly. Her devotion was manifest every day to Brian.

Allison is survived by her loving husband, Brian, her sons Christopher and Callahan; mother, Erin; father, Michael and his partner Barbara; her mother-in-law, Diane; father-in-law, Kevin; her grandmother Nita; grandfather Skip; her sister-in-law Michelle; her brother-in-law Sean and his wife Ashley; her aunt, Mary, her uncles: Lynn, Rick, Scott, Jimmy, Jeff, Sean and dozens of cousins and thousands of friends.

She is preceded in death by her grandfathers: Jim, Martin, and Les and her grandmothers Marvonne and Ruth, and her uncle David.

A Visitation will be held on May 22, 2023, from 3:00-6:00 PM at Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home at 9902 Braddock Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032. The Funeral Mass and Reception will be held on May 23, 2023, at 10:30 AM at St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church at 5222 Sideburn Rd., Fairfax, VA 22032. A Celebration of Life for Allison will take place in the coming months, details forthcoming.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to make votes due to unforeseen circumstances.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 228 and YEA on Roll Call No. 229.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT C.
FREEMAN ESQ.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize and congratulate Robert Freeman on receiving the 30 Under 30 award presented by Business First of Buffalo to individuals who have impactful careers and accomplishments in their industry.

Mr. Freeman started his education at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, and continued his education there earning a Juris Doctor from the University at Buffalo's School of Law. During his time at the University at Buffalo, Mr. Freeman was a member of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, and a recipient of the Milton Plesur History Honor Award.

Mr. Freeman is a partner at Nesper, Ferber, DiGiacomo, Johnson & Grimm, LLP, where he has been since Oct. 2019. There, he focuses his practice on commercial and residential real estate law. Some of his previous work experience includes internships with the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial District, and the Erie County District Attorney's Office.

Outside of work, Mr. Freeman is actively involved with Saints Peter and Paul's Chapter of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul and is an on-ice volunteer with the SABAH program. Also, he is a member of the UB Law Alumni Association and sits on the Town of Amherst's Employee Suggestion Merit Award Board. He is a proud recipient of the Father Nelson Baker Service Award and is an Eagle Scout.

Today, I ask that we recognize and give thanks to leaders in the Western New York Community, such as Robert Freeman for his continued dedication and selfless service to his community.

HONORING THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA LIONS MOBILE SIGHT AND HEARING SCREENING UNIT

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight and Hearing Screening Unit. Since 1976, they have dutifully served our community members—including approximately 550,000 children—across Virginia's Seventh District in the counties of Culpeper, Prince William, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and the City of Fredericksburg.

The Mobile Sight and Hearing Screening Unit's primary mission has been to detect vision or hearing impairments that may restrict someone's ability to learn or develop emotionally—and then refer these individuals to healthcare providers. Virginia volunteers have conducted screenings at schools, churches, county fairs, and health clinics across Northern Virginia at no cost to patients.

Thanks to advances in technology, Lions Clubs are now able to use portable sight and hearing equipment to conduct screenings in

our communities. As a result, the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight and Hearing Screening Unit conducted its final mobile screening event on March 29, 2023. The last remaining van is now being sold, and the remaining funds will be used to purchase new portable sight and hearing equipment, which will be distributed to Lions Clubs across Northern Virginia. For the past 47 years, the Northern Virginia unit has admirably exemplified the Lions Club International's motto, "We Serve."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring all the men and women of the Northern Virginia Lions Mobile Sight and Hearing Screening Unit for their years of dedicated, selfless service to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDIANA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise today to congratulate the Indiana Jewish Historical Society as the organization celebrates its 50th anniversary. In honor of this momentous occasion, I would like to take the time to honor the Jewish community in the state of Indiana and to commemorate the organization's mission of historic preservation.

The Indiana Jewish Historical Society is a non-profit organization that works to collect and safeguard historical Jewish records, documents, photographs, and other pertinent materials related to the history of Jewish people throughout the state. Through exhibits, educational programs, publications, and a yearly podcast, the organization continues to share the story of Indiana's Jewish community with the public. As our society faces increasing division and intolerance, the Indiana Jewish Historical Society seeks to promote understanding and to celebrate diversity. For its remarkable contributions to preserving Jewish history and culture throughout the state of Indiana and beyond, the Indiana Jewish Historical Society is to be commended.

At this time, I would like to acknowledge the leadership and Board of Directors consisting of members from throughout the state of Indiana. The Executive Director is Michael Brown, and the Board of Directors includes Kevin Krulewitch, Barbara Goldman, Lori Katz, Larry Adelman, Alan Gilbert, Trent D. Pendley, Elaine Zuckerman, John Planer, Sheila Greenwald, Kevin Corn, Mike Wolinsky, Isabel Silverman, Alex Feldman, Tory Schendel-Vyvoda, and Steven Bulloff.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Indiana Jewish Historical Society on its 50th anniversary. The work of this truly admirable organization is a great asset to the people of Indiana, and the leaders and members are worthy of the highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. VERNETTA JORDAN GLASS AS SHE CELEBRATES HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of the U.S. and, I might indicate, is a member of my family, the Glass Family. Before my mother married my father, her maiden name was Glass. The lady that we celebrate today as she celebrates her 100th birthday is Mrs. Vernetta Jordan Glass. I am proud to wish her a happy birthday and to wish all of my Glass relatives well.

Vernetta Jordan Glass was born on May 27, 1923, in the historic town of Mound Bayou, Mississippi. Of course, Mound Bayou traces its origin to the 1820s to a white planter, Joseph Davis, the older brother of Jefferson Davis who was President of the Confederate States who left the Union and formed the Confederacy which led to the Civil War. After the war, Joseph Davis sold his land to a former slave, Benjamin Montgomery, and it was Isiah T. Montgomery who led the foundation of Mound Bayou in 1887.

Vernetta was born on May 27, 1923, in Mound Bayou, Mississippi, and grew up in this all-Black town. She went to school, church, and was taught values by her parents that have guided her life to this day. She married Winston L. Glass, and she and her late husband migrated from Mississippi to Detroit, Michigan, in 1947, where they created for themselves very productive lives and raised seven highly-educated and accomplished children.

After retiring from her nursing career, Vernetta increased her volunteer activities at her church, the community center, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, and senior citizen centers. Understanding the value of electoral politics and the Civil Rights Movement, for many years Vernetta worked elections as a judge.

She is grandmother to more than 50 grand and great grandchildren and enjoys visits from friends and family. She also loves music and gardening and is a superb scrabble player.

As she reaches the ripe age of 100, I am pleased to wish this dynamic lady who has accomplished so much a happy birthday, and, by the way, I am pleased to know that she is my cousin.

RECOGNIZING MS. LINDA C. DAVIS

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ms. Linda C. Davis, also known as the "First Lady of the 75th Ranger Regiment," for her many years of dedicated service to our country.

Originally from Alexandria, Virginia, Ms. Davis worked as a clerk steno at Lawson Army Airfield in Georgia when she applied for a position at the 75th Ranger Regiment. On