

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL DIABETES MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 13, 2023

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, I rise during National Diabetes Month to recognize the monumental impact my plan to cap the cost of insulin at \$35 per month for seniors has had on the lives of millions.

There is no time off when you live with diabetes. It is a constant, ever-present disease that influences every aspect of your life.

Those born with diabetes live their entire lives checking their blood sugar every other hour, and they must constantly be wary of what they eat, what they drink, and what they must monitor to survive.

Almost 40 million Americans live with diabetes. Over a million of them are in Georgia alone.

Black Americans are 60 percent more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes and twice as likely to die from it.

Many of those who live with this chronic disease must take insulin every day to survive, and even still, it remains the seventh leading cause of death in our country.

In 1920, before insulin was discovered, it would have been exceptional for diabetic patients to live longer than a year or two.

But for over 100 years, the discovery of insulin has saved lives, and has remained the most effective treatment for all those living with this chronic disease.

We have seen this life-saving medication get further and further out of reach for those families who need it.

Why is it that in the richest country in the history of the world, children must watch their grandmothers and grandfathers ration the very drug that helps to keep them alive, just to get by?

My bill, which took effect at the start of this year, caps this life-saving drug at just \$35 a month for our seniors, a step that lowers their overall prescription drug costs and saves lives.

I thank my colleagues for convening this Special Order Hour to bring awareness to the gravity of the legislation we have passed for the American people and the need to continue this vital work.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO AND TREASURED TEAM MEMBER RYAN McDERMOTT

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Ryan McDermott. Ryan was an advocate for all North Texans. He had a talent for reaching

out to new people and organizations while truly valuing each person he met. One of his new projects was to establish constituent services expos at senior centers across DFW so he could meet people where they were and offer them help with Social Security, Medicare, or other services.

Always offering support and assistance to everyone he met, his enthusiasm showed what a truly noble soul he possessed. As an incredible advocate for our North Texas Job Fair, Ryan recruited the most new businesses of anyone on staff. His work to make the North Texas Job Fair a tremendous success connected people who needed new job opportunities with employers who were thrilled to have new workers. Ryan's efforts changed people's lives for the better.

As a member of Team Van Duyné, Ryan was always there to help others with all projects and shoulder responsibilities that made each of our days a little easier. Ryan tragically passed away on October 24, 2023, and will be sorely missed by so many.

I am forever grateful to Ryan for his incredible service to North Texas and all those whose lives he touched. We ask for prayers for his family and to remember him as the incredible man he was.

CELEBRATING BAPS SWAMINARAYAN SANSTHA DIWALI

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to celebrate the joyous occasion of Diwali on November 12, 2023 and share our heartfelt appreciation for BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Diwali. The Festival of Lights stands as a beacon of hope, faith, and the triumph of good over evil, sharing its enlightening messages of positivity and communal unity.

The significance of Diwali extends far beyond its luminous festivities; it represents a time for communities to come together, reflect on the values of compassion and righteousness, and spread the light of joy and goodwill. The Mandir's steadfast commitment to upholding the traditions and values of Diwali serves as an exemplary beacon of spiritual enlightenment and community service.

As we embrace the festivities of this occasion, let us cherish the timeless wisdom embedded in Diwali's celebration, and let its radiant light guide us toward a path of unity, compassion, and prosperity.

We are eager to join hands with the BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir in welcoming our community to celebrate Diwali, to revel in its rich cultural heritage, and to partake in the collective spirit of joy and harmony that this festival embodies.

May the divine blessings of Diwali illuminate our hearts and homes, and may the ensuing year be filled with prosperity, peace, and spiritual fulfillment for all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOBBS HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Hobbs High School Boys Soccer team.

On Saturday November 11, the Hobbs High School Eagles won the New Mexico AAAAA State Soccer championship. The championship was their first in 26 years. This capped off an amazing unbeaten season with 23 wins and a national ranking. The state final against Atrisco Heritage Academy was a thrilling game. It couldn't have been closer. The game was tied after both regular gameplay and overtime—but our Eagles prevailed 3–2 in penalty kicks. Congratulations to first-year coach Reyes Marquez and the entire Eagles team for a stellar season.

I include in the RECORD the names of every member of the Hobbs High School Boys Soccer team:

Fabian Astorga, Jordan Barron, Juan Caamano, Juan Camacho, Diego Castanon, Zander Castillo, Joshua Chavez, Josue Davila, Azael De La Cruz, Franklin Ferrufino Lagos, Eliud Hernandez, Humberto Hernandez, Jorge Martinez, Andrik Morales, Raul Morales, Omari Patton, Brandon Rodriguez, Dominique Salas, Adrian Sanchez, Alexis Sanchez, and Nathan Villalobos.

Let's also not forget the incredible work of Coach Reyes Marquez, Assistant Coach Esteban Sotelo, Assistant Coach Chris Middleton, Assistant Coach Melvon Anders, Assistant Coach Louie Vega, Manager Haskel Nguyen, and Athletic Programs Director Brenda Wilson for their mentorship and the program they have created.

The Eagles should be proud of their accomplishments. This is the first state championship for any school in Southern New Mexico in the AAAAA classification since 2013. Their hard work and perseverance should be commended and applauded.

I often say, small places can do big things. And the Eagles have proven how much our beloved rural communities can achieve once again.

Go Eagles.

HONORING TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY WALL OF HONOR, MILITARY & VETERANS TRIBUTE WALK AT PFLUGER FOUNDATION

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride and gratitude that I join in honoring the November 17, 2023 dedication of the new Texas Tech University Wall of Honor,

• 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.

Military & Veterans Tribute Walk at Pfluger Fountain. The names of Texas Tech alumni who fought in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, the Iraqi and Afghanistan Wars, and others, can now be found at the memorial.

This powerful tribute encapsulates the unwavering commitment and sacrifices of our military service members and veterans. It stands as a testament to Texas Tech's commitment to honor and remember the generations of Texas Tech military service members and veterans who have served to protect and defend our freedom.

As Texas Tech reaches its centennial milestone, I commend Texas Tech leadership, the Texas Tech Alumni Association, and the Texas Tech Military & Veterans Alumni Network for this heartfelt recognition of the veterans who have played an integral role in the 100-year history of the university.

May this memorial serve as a perpetual reminder of the courage and selflessness embodied by our Texas Tech military and veterans.

RECOGNIZING THE LOWER FOX
DEMONSTRATION FARMS 10TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tenth anniversary of the Lower Fox Demonstration Farms (Fox Demo Farms) Network and to celebrate its success in expanding the adoption and implementation of conservation farming practices throughout the Lower Fox River Basin.

Fox Demo Farms was the first of its kind in the Great Lakes region. It was created through a collaborative agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Brown County, and four producers in the Lower Fox River Watershed of Northeast Wisconsin and funded by the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Fox Demo Farms set out to demonstrate the effectiveness and adaptability of conservation practices to reduce erosion and sedimentation, control phosphorus runoff, and address other nonpoint source pollution issues.

To appreciate the significance of the Fox Demo Farms' success, it is helpful to understand the challenges of the region. Surrounded by a rural landscape of forests and farms, the Lower Fox River basin, like many in the Great Lakes region, encompasses varied weather, geology, topography, and soil types that pose challenges in preventing eroded sediment and nutrients from entering the Lower Fox River, the Bay of Green Bay and Lake Michigan.

The Lower Green Bay and Fox River region was designated an Area of Concern (AOC) under the 1987 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. High phosphorus levels fuel hypoxia in the bay, resulting in dead zones and fish kills. Reducing the amount of phosphorus and sediment leaving agricultural lands plays an important role in efforts to delist the Lower Fox as an AOC. The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was the catalyst for NRCS and Brown County leaders to partner with farmers

to adopt, maintain, and expand leading-edge conservation strategies that improve soil health and reduce erosion.

Since its founding in 2013, Fox Demo Farms has stayed true to its mission, ensuring growers have the opportunity and resources for peer-to-peer education about experimental and innovative conservation farming practices.

Even more notable is Fox Demo Farms's success in fulfilling its vision to create a culture that encourages collaborative efforts to restore soil health, reduce runoff pollution, improve water quality, and support a strong regional economy.

During the past ten years, through its field days, roundtables, promotions, and social media platforms, Fox Demo Farms generated enthusiasm for new conservation farming practices. The Fox Demo Farms partnership with NRCS grew from four producers and Brown County Land and Water Conservation Department to eight producers, their crop consultants, land and water conservation departments at both Brown and Outagamie counties, Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District (NEW Water), and the University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Moreover, the collaborative work and success of Fox Demo Farms inspired the expansion of demo farms networks across Wisconsin to seven networks with more than 30 farms spanning 17 counties. Demonstration farms networks are also active in New York and Ohio, with one gearing up to launch in Indiana next year.

The Fox Demo Farms has created opportunities for farmers to meet and build relationships with other farmers, which helped transfer knowledge throughout the watershed. The work by Fox Demo Farms has been pivotal in transitioning farmers from being on the cutting edge of innovative practices and working in silos, to community conservation where farmers and organizations work together toward solutions.

Mr. Speaker, join me in thanking the farmers and partners of Fox Demo Farms for their leadership and perseverance in elevating the value of conservation farming practices and congratulating them on their remarkable achievements. I am enthusiastic about their continued leadership and success in engaging more farmers across the Great Lakes Region to adopt conservation farming practices.

RECOGNIZING THE HOBBS HIGH
SCHOOL CAREER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION CENTER

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Hobbs High School Career and Technical Education Center (CTECF) located at Hobbs High School.

The Hobbs High School CTECH program is one of the premier technical education high school programs in the entire nation. In 2023 alone, CTECH received numerous awards, including being named one of the top 10 high schools in the entire Nation for NC3 certification.

The program prepares the next generation of highly-skilled workers in an array of indus-

tries and fields, including transportation, manufacturing, construction and architecture, energy, information technology, culinary, and hospitality.

Educators and community members alike should be proud of their school and the CTECH program, not only for these accomplishments but also for the lasting impact that the program will have on their community and New Mexico as a whole.

Serving students since 2022, this program will create opportunities for countless New Mexicans to secure good-paying and high-demand jobs far into the future. These students will build our economy, they will build vibrant communities, they will build families that I hope stay in our beloved New Mexico. Thank you to the wonderful staff, administrators, and teachers who have made this program such a gem in our beloved state.

Yet another example of how small places can do big things and a nod to the innovation and drive of our beloved New Mexico communities.

REMEMBERING CLAY MATHILE

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor and pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of Clay Mathile, a philanthropist, community leader, and businessman from my Congressional district, who passed away on August 26, 2023.

Clay Mathile was a pillar of the Dayton community. He moved to Dayton in 1970 to begin work with lams Food Company, a producer of premier pet food products. Clay played an influential role in growing the lams brand and company, became part-owner in 1975, and fully took over ownership when Paul lams retired in 1982.

Throughout the next 17 years, Clay led lams to be a world leader in dog and cat nutrition. Equally important as enriching the lives of pets was his intention to enrich the lives of the individuals who worked at lams. Clay deeply believed that when people were fulfilled at work, it sparked a ripple effect that uplifted not just those individuals, but their families and communities. He was a man who empowered people to do their best work, created opportunities for their learning and growth, and ultimately helped people experience personal fulfillment.

Clay shepherded lams to become a leader in the pet food industry, and eventually sold the company to Proctor & Gamble. When the sale was finalized, Clay distributed \$100 million to the company's employees, giving back to those who made lams' success possible. He also committed \$100 million to fund community projects in the Dayton area, investing in Dayton's future generations.

Clay Mathile's philanthropic efforts were widespread across the Miami Valley and his generous legacy echoes still today, carried on by his family. The Mathile Family Foundation has invested more than \$500 million in grants to local organizations that focus on children, families, and education. Clay also founded Aileron, a nonprofit organization dedicated to developing small business leaders across the county, which hosts more than 15,000 business leaders every year on their campus just north of Dayton in Tipp City, Ohio.