

Although her time as a teacher for Schuyler R-1 schools has come to an end, she will always be remembered as a world-class educator. Mrs. Applegate's impact to her community will be carried on in the students she taught. Her much-deserved retirement will be spent making new memories with her friends and family.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me and the people of the Sixth Congressional District in thanking Carolyn Applegate. I am proud to represent her in the United States House of Representatives and wish her well in her retirement.

CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH 2023

HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Mrs. MCBATH. Mr. Speaker, it is a joy to celebrate Pride 2023. Each June, LGBTQ+ Americans show pride for their community by celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of those throughout history and commemorating their long fight for dignity and equality in this country.

Over the course of many decades, LGBTQ+ Americans have secured significant gains in their efforts to live freely and authentically as their true selves. While we celebrate these gains, we must never forget the history of Pride and why we celebrate in June. June 28, 1969, marked the beginning of the Stonewall Uprising, when LGBTQ+ Americans fought back against discriminatory raids at the Stonewall Inn in New York City. Activists including Marsha P. Johnson were on the frontlines of this rebellion and took a righteous stand against the criminalization of homosexuality. The events of the Stonewall Uprising represented a seismic shift in the way Americans thought about LGBTQ+ activism. The first Pride march was celebrated one year later on June 28, 1970.

Inspired by the righteous stand taken by Johnson and fellow activists, LGBTQ+ Americans have spoken out about the dangerous repercussions of homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of hate. Despite tremendous progress in the years since Stonewall, acts of bigotry and discrimination against members of the LGBTQ+ community have claimed the lives of gay and lesbian Americans, and violence has been particularly devastating to transgender women of color. It is imperative that while we celebrate Pride, we continue to stand strong in the fight for the rights of all Americans in the face of intolerance and hatred. No American should fear expressing their true identity and living as their authentic self.

Here in Georgia, we are lucky to be served and represented by our own LGBTQ+ history makers at many levels of government. Sam Park, who represents Georgia House District 107 in Lawrenceville, made history as the first openly gay man elected to the Georgia State House in 2016. Everton Blair, a Gwinnett County native who represents District 4 on the Gwinnett County Board of Education, became the board's first openly gay member in 2018, as well as the first person of color elected to the Gwinnett County school board. Gwinnett County District 2 Commissioner Ben Ku also

made history in 2018 as the first LGBTQ+ commissioner elected in Gwinnett County. I am proud that the elected officials that I work with back home are such an important part of Georgia's LGBTQ+ history.

Since coming to Congress, it has been my honor to work with, learn from, and represent members of the LGBTQ+ community. As we celebrate Pride Month 2023, may we look back with reverence on the sacrifices made by activists and leaders who came before us, and march forward with joy and optimism for a future built on the progress of the many contributions of everyday LGBTQ+ Americans. This month and always, I am happy to celebrate Pride alongside them and continue the fight for dignity and equality for all.

RECOGNIZING DR. LAURA COLEMAN FOR 16 YEARS OF SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF BAY COLLEGE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Laura Coleman for 16 years of service as President of Bay College. Set to retire on June 30th, Laura has carved out a positive legacy for herself as the longest serving President in the institution's illustrious history. She has secured countless grants and development opportunities for students and has prioritized their success on an individual basis. Her undying commitment to her students has changed countless lives and will continue to do so long after her retirement.

Starting her time as President of Bay College in 2006, Laura strived to create the best place for students to learn and develop themselves for life beyond the classroom. She helped to spearhead the renovation of over 70 percent of campus buildings and to establish new academic and extracurricular opportunities for students to foster success on all fronts. Laura's holistic approach to cultivating a well-rounded student also led to the reintroduction of athletics in 2017, creating a greater sense of community within the institution.

With Laura at the helm, Bay College has further cemented itself as a respected academic institution and has expanded its student-centric outreach. She deserves our unwavering respect and gratitude for her tireless service to her students and colleagues during her tenure.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dr. Laura Coleman on her upcoming retirement after 16 years as President of Bay College. She has become a respected and loved fixture of the Bay College family and will be missed by many within the institution and community. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Laura and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING KURT NELSON

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today, along with my esteemed colleagues,

Senator Mike Crapo and Senator Jim Risch, to recognize the retirement of Kurt Nelson from the U.S. Forest Service. After 45 years of service as a United States Forest Service employee, Kurt retired on June 3, 2023.

Kurt started his career on June 4, 1978, in the Carson National Forest as a Wildlife Biologist. He was quickly reassigned to the Chugach National Forest as a Wildlife and Fisheries Biologist. In 1985, he was promoted to District Ranger in the Cordova Ranger District until August of 1988, when he accepted the Forest Staff Officer position in the Payette National Forest. In 1994, he joined the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project as Terrestrial Science Team Co-leader. The "Columbia Basin" Project was a monumental project that still impacts how forests and irrigation projects are managed today.

In 1995, Kurt accepted the Ketchum Ranger District position in the Sawtooth National Forest and since then he has served the community, elected officials, partners, and agencies across the Wood River Valley. Kurt has served as Agency administrator on fires all over the region and has spent countless hours sharing his wealth of knowledge with new employees on fire assignments.

His knowledge and leadership during fire season was invaluable, most notably for the Castle Rock Fire 2007 (48,000 acres), Beaver Creek Fire 2013 (113,000 acres), and Sharps Fire 2018 (65,000 acres). Each of these three fires were Type 1 long duration fires during peak August visitor seasons, which required up to 2,000 fire personnel and resulted in no serious injuries and only one home lost. There was, however, a severe impact to the local economy and the evacuation of several thousand people. Because of Kurt's excellent leadership, the agency received strong community support throughout the fires' durations and the following debris flows that damaged trails, bridges, and roads.

Kurt's leadership has also led to outstanding partnerships with the local community, a few of which include the 5BRC Coalition, Wood River Trails Coalition, National Forest Foundation, and Blaine County. Combining public and private support has allowed the Ketchum Ranger District to successfully rebuild over 100 miles of trails, rebuild several miles of road, and relocate roads out of riparian zones prone to washout and flooding. Kurt's assistance in developing these partnerships was instrumental in restoring iconic structures, developing recreational trails, and providing resources to local tribes.

There are several significant projects in the Wood River Valley area which can be attributed directly to Kurt's leadership and community relationships: the Bald Mountain Stewardship Project, the restoration of the iconic Pioneer Cabin, development of the world renowned Osberg Ridge Trail, and the Adams Gulch adaptive sports trail and trailhead which allows people of all abilities to enjoy mountain biking.

I thank Kurt for his loyal service to the Forest Service and to Idaho. We appreciated working with him. I hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 95TH BIRTHDAY OF RETIRED GENERAL ALFRED M. GRAY, THE 29TH COMMANDANT OF THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep appreciation and admiration for Retired General Alfred M. Gray on the occasion of his 95th birthday. It is an honor to recognize General Gray's exceptional contributions to our Nation and his continued service to the Marine Corps.

General Gray's illustrious career spans over four decades as he dedicated himself to the defense and security of our great nation. His leadership and strategic vision have left a permanent mark on the Marine Corps and our Armed Forces as a whole. From his service as an enlisted soldier in Korea to his role as the 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Gray's commitment to excellence and his unwavering dedication to duty have set a standard for all who follow in his footsteps.

A visionary on the battlefield, General Gray presided over changes in military training in the 1970s by placing more emphasis on large-scale operations in desert and cold-weather environments. His doctrine of maneuver warfare, adopted by the military in the 1980s, resulted in the Marine Corps' exceptional performance in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In addition to his 41 years of military service, General Gray has made significant contributions to policy research and national security through his leadership roles at educational institutions like the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. Since his retirement in 1991, General Gray has ensured that the Marine Corps remains at the forefront of innovative thinking and preparedness. He has played a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape for our military personnel and has provided invaluable insights into key national security, science and technology, and related policy issues.

Throughout his career, serving in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars, General Gray has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including two Defense Distinguished Service Medals, two Navy Distinguished Service Medals, Distinguished Service Medals from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Coast Guard, the Silver Star Medal, two Legion of Merits with Combat "V", four Bronze Star Medals with Combat "V", three Purple Hearts, three Joint Commendation Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm and Star, as well as foreign awards from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Korea and The Netherlands.

As we celebrate General Gray's 95th birthday, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring him on this special occasion and in expressing our deepest appreciation for his remarkable lifelong service to our beloved country. His contributions to the Marine Corps, national security, and education system have had a lasting impact on our nation. General Gray's legacy of leadership, integrity, and innovation will continue to inspire countless future generations of Marines and patriots. May

he have a joyous 95th birthday, and may his years ahead be filled with health, happiness, and continued blessings. God Bless and Semper Fidelis.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TERIUS "JUVENILE" GRAY, SR.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a mastermind American King of Bounce, Mr. Terius Gray, Sr. Gray was best known by his stage name Juvenile, and applauded for his work with Birdman's Cash Money Records, both solo and as a member of the label's then flag-ship group, Hot Boys in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Born March 26, 1975, to Ms. Gloaine Gray, Juvenile lived in the 10th Ward and was raised in the Magnolia Projects of Uptown New Orleans, Louisiana's 3rd Ward, attending Our Lady of Grace Catholic School.

Juvenile began his career as a teenager with bounce music that made him a huge local star. He released his debut album *Being Myself* in 1995. After signing to Cash Money, Juvenile released *Solja Rags* in 1997, which included the major local hit "Solja Rag". A year later, he released the multi-platinum *400 Degreez*, which included his first nationwide hits "Ha" and "Back That Azz Up" (featuring Mannie Fresh and Lil Wayne). Both became very successful songs charting on the Billboard Hot 100 and the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart. Powered by these two singles, *400 Degreez* was eventually certified 4x platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America. He released other successful solo albums for Cash Money: *Tha G-Code* (1999)—certified Double Platinum, *Project English* (2001)—certified Platinum and *Juve the Great* (2003), which included the number-one hit "Slow Motion" (featuring Soulja Slim). It was his breakout on the national rap scene. These albums each were very successful as they both reached the top 10 of the Billboard Hot 200.

After leaving Cash Money, Juvenile released several other albums, including *The Beginning of the End* (2004) with group UTP, which included the anthem "Nolia Clap" and the solo number-one album *Reality Check* (2006). Juvenile's manager Aubrey Francis and Cash Money's Baby met and worked out a deal for Juve and CMR to partner for another album. Juvenile returned to Cash Money Records in 2003, releasing *Juve the Great*. *Juve the Great* was certified Platinum; it featured the number-one hit "Slow Motion" featuring Soulja Slim. It was the only number-one hit for Juvenile and Slim before Slim died in November 2003. The last Hot Boys album *Let 'Em Burn* came out in 2003.

In 2005 Juvenile signed a new deal with Atlantic Records for himself, and a separate label deal for his UTP Records imprint. UTP Records is the label that was started by Juve along with his longtime manager Aubrey "Pied Piper" Francis, and older brother Corey. The group called "UTP" (Juve, Skip, and Wacko) released the hit song "Nolia Clap" as part of UTP Records first album release. It was pro-

duced by Juve along with producer XL Robertson for Atlantic Records. Juvenile also performed the song "Booty Language". It was part of the soundtrack for the movie *Hustle and Flow*. Juve performed with fellow New Orleans rapper Master P and other hip hop artists raised funds and supplies for some hurricane victims and in 2006 he returned home to New Orleans.

In a 2009 interview with Allhiphop.com, Juvenile stated that his album *Cocky & Confident* would take a totally different direction from his last project, which was made when he was still "mourning Katrina." He also revealed that he decided to work only with fresh, young producers on the album and discussed his respect for younger artists like Soulja Boy. *Cocky & Confident* was released in December 2009.

Juvenile released his tenth studio album *Rejuvenation* on June 19, 2012, the first single from the album is "Power" featuring Rick Ross. Juvenile collaborated with Lil Wayne, DJ Khaled, and Drake for the album.

In April 2021, Juvenile was awarded a key to the city of New Orleans by Mayor LaToya Cantrell. Juvenile is recognized as a trailblazer of the Southern style of hip hop, bringing the now-dominant rap style to national airwaves with multiple hits; he has transcended cultural borders by spreading the vibrant musical style and culture of New Orleans with his timeless hit, "Back That Thang Up".

Beyond the music industry, Mr. Gray has undertaken several successful business ventures, including his own hit beverage, which is brewed in Louisiana's 91st District on the street that his great-grandmother and grandfather once lived; and shares his incredible success with his close-knit family that includes his wife, Sherdonna Gray; daughters, Shermetrius Gray and Kayliyah Williams; and sons, Demetrius Gray and Terius Gray, Jr.

Juvenile is most deserving of the highest recognition for proudly representing the city of New Orleans and the state of Louisiana as a globally recognized musical artist. I am proud to acknowledge Terius "Juvenile" Gray for his musical and cultural contributions, recognizing his pivotal role in popularizing the New Orleans Bounce style of music around the world, extending sincerest wishes that he continues to flourish in all of his endeavors, both in Louisiana and across the Country.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
SALLY CHEN

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and celebrate the service of Sally Chen, a truly remarkable staffer who is leaving the New Democrat Coalition following two years of service.

As the New Democrat Coalition Vice Chair of Member Services, I've had the pleasure of working alongside Sally and seeing firsthand her outstanding work ethic and steadfast commitment to public service. From bolstering our offices' franking programs to organizing trainings for legislative staff, Sally's thorough understanding of all things New Democrat Coalition has greatly contributed to the strength