

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, perhaps now more than ever, we need to recognize the critical role a free press plays in our democracy and those who play that role so well.

Today, I rise to honor the life and legacy of an award-winning journalist and dedicated public servant, Elizabeth Brackett, who died on June 17, following a tragic accident. Her death is already being felt by her colleagues at WTTW, the entire Chicago journalism community, and all of the Illinois residents who have relied on her reporting for unparalleled insight into the pressing challenges that confront our Nation and our world.

Working at four television stations spanning five decades, Elizabeth was an accomplished journalist and news program host who asked public officials questions that really matter.

In the past, people have asked if I am afraid of a journalist who raises tough questions. The answer is no. I'm afraid of a journalist who asks the wrong questions, who doesn't know what questions to ask.

Elizabeth was a journalist's journalist who knew not only what to ask, but how and why. Her thoughtful, smart, and incredibly well-researched approach made us all better at our jobs.

After retiring from her full-time position at "Chicago Tonight" in 2014, Elizabeth continued to contribute to the network primarily on environmental topics, such as the health of the lakes in which she frequently swam.

In particular, I remember one of the most recent interviews in 2017 when she asked me about efforts to keep Asian carp out of the Great Lakes. It was Elizabeth who asked me about the environmental impacts in such detail and accuracy, providing viewers, listeners, and readers alike with an in-depth understanding of the invasive species, a critical issue for our Great Lakes.

"Resourceful" and "passionate" were two words often used to describe her. Carol Marin, Elizabeth's colleague at "Chicago Tonight," said it best: "Elizabeth was always going to be your competitor. She was out there to get the story, get it first, and get the story best. That is what made her so good at what she did."

In addition to journalism, her ambition was, front and center, in her unmistakable athleticism. She began competing in triathlons at the age of 50 and became a national champion in her age group.

From beginning her broadcast career in 1977 as a researcher at WBBM-TV to becoming a weekend anchor and going on to win national Emmy and Peabody awards, Elizabeth was an institution.

I extend my thoughts to her husband, Peter Martinez, and her entire family, including 10 grandchildren.

She was a role model and a force for truth. We will all miss her expertise and energy both in and out of the news studio.

CONGRATULATING DR. BILL LAWRENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to congratulate Dr. Bill Lawrence on his retirement after over 30 years as a principal in southwest Alabama.

For the last 21 years, Dr. Lawrence worked as principal of Foley Elementary School in Baldwin County. Prior to that, he served for 10 years at W. H. Council Traditional School in Mobile County.

Being a principal is a tough job, but Dr. Lawrence thrived in the role throughout his career. He overcame many obstacles and always provided steady leadership for his students, teachers, faculty, and parents. I know that personally because I am one of those parents.

Dr. Lawrence would always go above and beyond the job description. He said that one of his proudest accomplishments was starting the Turkey Take-out program to help provide families in poverty with a free Thanksgiving meal.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District and the countless students positively impacted by Dr. Lawrence over his career, including my daughter, Laura, I want to wish him all the best upon his retirement.

Foley Elementary School and public education in Alabama will not be the same without him.

CONGRATULATING VICTOR HELMSING

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Victor Helmsing on his retirement after 35 years serving as a teacher at St. Paul's Episcopal School in Mobile.

Throughout his time at St. Paul's, he held a range of teaching positions, including everything from senior government and economics to AP U.S. Government and politics, to Western civilization.

He also helped lead various extra-curricular programs, including the Key Club for 28 years, and serving as senior class sponsor for 35 straight years. He has also been a leader among his peers, serving as chair of various administrative committees.

During various time periods, Victor served as associate headmaster, assistant headmaster, and director of the upper school, but his true passion has always rested in the classroom. I know every former student has their own story about something Victor Helmsing taught them or a way he had a lasting impact on their lives. That is just the type of teacher and leader he has always been.

So on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I want to wish Victor and his wife, Vaughan, all the best upon his retirement. His impact on St. Paul's and his former students will be felt for years to come.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DR. JOSHUA FELDSTEIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Dr. Joshua Feldstein, president emeritus of Delaware Valley University, who passed away on June 19 at the age of 97.

Born in Lithuania and raised in Belarus, Dr. Feldstein was the very embodiment of the American Dream. After fleeing Nazi persecution, Dr. Feldstein arrived in Bucks County, where he eventually received degrees in horticulture and agricultural mechanics before earning a doctorate at Rutgers University.

Dr. Feldstein's legacy is one of diversity and expanding civil rights. In the 1960s, he played a significant role in the university's admission of women, and upon taking the helm as president in 1975, he oversaw the expansion of women faculty members.

More than anything, Dr. Feldstein was a man of kindness and good faith who relentlessly sought to open doors and brighten futures for the students who attended the school he cared so deeply about.

I send my condolences to Dr. Feldstein's sons, Ted and Dan, along with the rest of his family and the entire DelVal community. May they take comfort in knowing his life was one extraordinarily well lived.

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2018 GRADUATES OF BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2018 graduates of Bucks County Technical High School, who graduated last week.

Watched by over 1,000 family members and friends, the nearly 300 graduates walked across the aisle at the CURE Insurance Arena to receive their diplomas.

I am proud to report that this impressive class earned approximately \$1.2 million in scholarships, and 72 percent of the class is moving on to continue their education.

I would especially like to recognize the students who have decided to join the Armed Services, and I speak on behalf of all of us in Bucks County when I say we appreciate your dedication to service and passion for keeping America safe.

I also applaud Principal Robert Azar and Administrative Director Dr. Leon Poeske for their work in molding the minds of the next generation.

I wish the 2018 graduates of Bucks County Technical High School and all of those who are graduating this year the best of luck in their next chapters. I encourage them to use their skills to strive to make our communities a better place.

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RECOGNIZING IRENE MOLLOY

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent,