

to a dispersed one. They have fanned out throughout the country and will continue to exploit the political mess in Libya.

Libya will unfortunately remain a terrorist foothold for years to come. This is the legacy of the current Administration in North Africa.

The mess the U.S. have left there has spread throughout the region. It endangers Egyptian allies to the east, and the weapons unleashed with Qaddafi's fall have fueled terrorism in places like Syria, Nigeria, and the Sinai Peninsula bordering Israel.

The United States' airstrike campaign in support of the Libyan forces retaking Sirte is only a small step. Until the U.S. can devise a truly comprehensive long-term strategy to stabilize Libya and defeat the terrorist groups hiding there, Libya will continue to threaten regional and international security. Treating the symptoms while ignoring the underlying disease will not solve the problem.

The U.S. forcibly overthrew a regime in Libya, creating chaos that led to a failed state where terrorists flourished and thousands of Libyans died. The U.S. now has a responsibility to work towards a stabilizing solution in Libya. Going forward, the U.S. should be much more cautious before it helps overthrow another regime.

IN RECOGNITION OF CONGRESSMEN ROBERT HURT, RANDY FORBES, AND SCOTT RIGELL

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three colleagues of mine who have served their Districts and the Commonwealth of Virginia with distinction. Congressman ROBERT HURT from Virginia's Fifth District, Congressman RANDY FORBES from Virginia's Fourth District, and Congressman SCOTT RIGELL from Virginia's Second District have dedicated years of their lives to public service.

Since coming to Congress in 2001, RANDY FORBES, as Chairman of the House Armed Services' Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, has worked to build a stronger defense for America to help ensure the safety of our nation and has worked with all of us to help our veterans. He also made it a priority to foster partnerships with local officials and other community leaders, earning a reputation for stellar constituent service as a representative.

Congressman SCOTT RIGELL has more active duty and retired military personnel in his district than any other district and has made it a priority to assist them. He had a major role in keeping all East Coast aircraft carriers based in Norfolk.

I had the distinct pleasure of serving with Congressman HURT in the Virginia General Assembly, where he served beginning in 2001 before running for Congress, and he is a gentleman, statesman, constitutional scholar, and most important of all a true friend to the Commonwealth of Virginia. ROBERT has been a leader here in Washington with his great work on the Financial Services Committee and striving to help our small businesses as well as veterans, to name just some of the ways he has worked for a better life for those in his District.

While the Commonwealth of Virginia loses three committed public servants in this body, we all greatly appreciate the years they have put into advancing the priorities of their constituents and the lives of all those in Virginia and in our country.

I know they will continue to serve the public in a variety of ways.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and honoring these gentlemen for their service to their Districts and for representing their constituents and the Commonwealth in which we call home.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 590, and YEA on Roll Call No. 591.

HONORING LOUIS A. PICANI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as the son of an ironworker and former union member myself, I know firsthand just how critical our area's union members are to our country's shared prosperity and success. This year, the Yonkers Democratic Committee is honoring Louis Picani, a dedicated union member who has fought for working men and women in Westchester for over 30 years.

Louis has spent his entire career as a visionary, fighting for workers' rights, fair wages and benefits, workplace safety, and the right to organize. He has been a dedicated union member since he joined Teamsters Local 456 over 30 years ago, where his natural leadership ability quickly emerged and enabled him to be appointed Shop Steward for the City of Yonkers Department of Public Works in 1992. In 1994, Louis became a Trustee of the Teamsters Health and Welfare Fund. In 2005, he was elected as a Teamsters Local 456 Trustee and appointed as a Teamsters Local 456 Business Agent. Louis has been a member of Joint Council 16's New York Teamsters Political Action Committee, and in 2016, was elected President and Principal Officer of Teamsters Local 456. He also serves as Vice President of the Westchester Putnam Central Labor Body.

But Louis' good works extend beyond his labor advocacy. Incredibly, he is also a licensed drug and alcohol counselor.

Louis continues to represent Teamsters members and all labor organizations who serve our work force so proudly. He is incredibly deserving of this honor and recognition, and on behalf of the 16th Congressional District I want to congratulate him on this special occasion.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Civil Air Patrol, celebrated on December 1st and to honor its all-volunteer members. Since 1941, volunteers have lent their talents in dedicated service to protect Americans and our nation. Their work is deeply appreciated.

The Civil Air Patrol came into existence just six days before the events of Pearl Harbor and was comprised of many civilian aviators, including women and African Americans who were not allowed to fly for the military at that time. Members flew in support of defense forces and provided the military with professional and cost-efficient assistance, which they have continued to provide ever since—characterized by Congress as non-combative, humanitarian force in 1946, becoming the official Auxiliary to the U.S. Air Force in 1948, and most recently becoming part of the U.S. Air Force's Total Force in 2015.

The Search and Rescue efforts of the Civil Air Patrol are credited with saving an average of 75 lives every year and their Disaster Relief efforts and ability to work closely with partner organizations have been vital to our nation's security and wellbeing. Their service was particularly notable following the terrible events of September 11th, 2001, Hurricane Katrina, and Hurricane Sandy.

I am proud to call myself a member of the Civil Air Patrol. Earlier this week, I was presented with the grade of Lieutenant Colonel and membership in the Patrol's Congressional Squadron. The distinction was presented to me by Lieutenant Colonel Harold Damron and two wonderful young members of the Civil Air Patrol from my district, Cadet Second Lieutenant Laivi Grossman and Cadet Airman Basic Nancy Kahdeman. I thank them and the entire Civil Air Patrol for this opportunity.

The organization's Cadet Program has been a tremendous resource to this nation, providing leadership training to youth, ages twelve through twenty-one. The Program promotes education in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, both for participants within the program and their local communities. This is done with a focus on Aerospace and Aviation, developing a passion for them in our younger citizens and ensuring our preeminence in these areas as well as Cyberspace. I believe this effort to be especially important now, as our nation's future and security depend upon the ability of the next generation to lead global progress in these areas.

Civil Air Patrol volunteer professionals serve in every state of the nation and as nonprofit resources within thousands of communities. I am proud to support the work that these men and women continue to do, and I am very pleased to be celebrating this milestone anniversary with them.

IN HONOR OF THE 155TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF BALL'S BLUFF

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the 155th Anniversary of the Battle of Ball's Bluff fought in Loudoun County, Virginia, on October 21st, 1861. Being one of the earliest battles of the American Civil War, Ball's Bluff had an enormous impact on military affairs for the remaining four years of conflict.

On October 20th, 1861, Brigadier General Charles Pomeroy Stone and the Union forces under his command engaged the Confederate forces of Colonel Nathan Evans on the banks of the Potomac River near Leesburg, Virginia. Stone's forces had crossed the river and were subsequently repelled and defeated by their Confederate counterparts. This battle was unique in American history because, as Union forces were withdrawing across the Potomac, Colonel Edward Baker, a sitting U.S. Senator, was killed in action. The defeat, coupled with Colonel Baker's death, was the catalyst for the creation of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. Colonel Baker remains the only United States Senator killed in battle, and Ball's Bluff proved to be indicative of the long war to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in recognizing the 155th Anniversary of the Bat-

tle of Ball's Bluff. We must always remember and honor those who sacrificed their lives to preserve our nation in its darkest hour.

HONORING JOHN DECICCO JR.

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a leader in our community, John DeCicco Jr. whose humanitarian work is being recognized by The Pelham Civic Association at their Annual Dinner Dance Gala. John is one of three honorees for "Persons of the Year" on November 4, 2016 in my district.

John is the President and CEO of DeCicco & Sons Food Markets. He is a longtime volunteer member of the Pelham Civics, a major contributor to Pelham Civics "Needy Cases Program," which provides food baskets for hundreds of needy families. He also spearheaded the Pelham Civics' 75th Anniversary Dinner Dance Journal in 2014, raising over \$12,000.

John is known for his countless acts of altruism, philanthropy, and charity. He has worked with The Veterans of Foreign Wars, The Wounded Warriors, The Boy and Girl Scouts in an effort to support the community and those in need. He was the recipient of the 2015 Rotary Club of the Pelhams Award for his work supporting children and families.

John also works closely with career placement for special needs students, was a Past Advisory Board Member for the Fordham University Graduate School of Business Entrepreneurship, a former Junior Board Member for the Westchester Italian Cultural Center, Past President of the Pelham Chamber of Commerce, and has worked closely with Governor Cuomo, County Executive Rob Astorino, ConEdison, and NYSEDA in leading an effort to promote "GREEN Markets for the Future" the first of which was opened in Larchmont in December of 2015. The store, which is founded on the principle of being environmentally friendly, has received the EPA's Green Chill Platinum Certification.

John's business, DeCicco & Sons, is also a long-time contributor to Pelham School PTAs, and was the recipient of the 2015 New York State PTA Congress "Golden Oak Award" for exemplary support of the school districts, PTAs and students. DeCiccoss also received the 2015 Westchester's Best Family-Owned Business Award, for continued commitment and active support to the communities in which they live and work, the 2016 Independent Green Business of the Year Award. John married Luisa DeCicco, Ph.D., another honoree, and have two children.

It is an honor to present John with a CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at The Pelham Civic Association Annual Dinner Gala. I want to thank him for all he has done in the community and all he continues to do on behalf of Pelham. Congratulations to all honorees of the evening.