

not been established yet. "We have made some decisions on suppliers, but we are very, very early on in the process."

The Chevy Volt is set to hit markets in November 2010, Peterson said. The car is designed to travel 40 miles on an electric charge before tapping into electricity generated by a gas-fueled engine.

The bulk of SBE's sales remain in standard capacitors used in industrial lighting, welding equipment and supplies for cell phone towers.

"This is still what's paying the bills," he said.

SBE added to its product lineup when it became the exclusive provider for capacitors for Taser International Inc. in 2002, Sawyer said. SBE has sold about a million capacitors for the stun guns carried by police departments across the country, he said.

SBE landed Taser as a client because of the Barre company's history as an industry leader. "They actually approached us, basically on our reputation in the industry," he said.

In 2007, SBE's revenue was \$3 million to \$5 million. Sawyer expects those figures to be 20 to 25 percent higher this year. Despite the sales, earnings are lackluster.

SBE, a privately held company, is not turning a profit, but that's because profits are being rolled back into the research and development budget, Sawyer said.

#### FUNDING SOURCES

Department of Energy grants are helpful, but they don't offset the losses, he said.

SBE received \$850,000 from the Energy Department to perfect hybrid vehicle capacitor technology. The technology could make lighter, smaller capacitors and slice a few hundred dollars from the price of a hybrid vehicle, Sawyer said.

Grant money isn't the only source powering new endeavors at SBE. The company's eye toward innovation, and reliable revenue stream, caught the interest of "angel" investors, Sawyer said. Such investors have poured in more than \$2 million in the last four years, he said.

The work for Taser helped SBE get traction with the investment community and the existing capacitor business added a sense of security.

"There is less risk than two guys in a garage. We are an existing entity that is paying the bills," Sawyer said.

The military is interested in the power ring technology to shoot "a high energy laser" from a vehicle," Sawyer said.

The technology of the capacitors is similar. It's the sizes of the pieces that vary. Capacitors for the hybrid cars are 6 inches in diameter, substantially larger than the standard capacitors, which are ½-inch to 1-inch wide.

Capacitors being used by solar and wind energy producers to store and filter electricity are about 12 inches in diameter, he said.

York Capacitor—a similar operation in Winooski—closed in 2005 after being purchased by a South Carolina company that moved manufacturing to Mexico. York Capacitor failed to adapt, Sawyer said. "They never changed."

"I don't think we'd be in business today . . . if we didn't make the choices we made to target the markets we are now," he said.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO LARRY THORNTON

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I want to share a story with my colleagues about the accomplishments of

one of my constituents. It begins with a feature story in *Landscape Superintendent and Maintenance Professional* magazine and ends with selection as the Air Force Association's 2008 Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year Award. The link between the two is a fine veteran and fellow Hawaii resident, Mr. Larry L. Thornton.

In June of last year, *Landscape Superintendent and Maintenance Professional* magazine featured an article entitled "Maintaining Honor," on the quality of the grounds-keeping at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. The national cemetery, located on the island of Oahu and known to Hawaii locals as "Punchbowl," is a crown jewel of America's memorials, and the last resting place of thousands who so valiantly served their Nation. Millions visit Punchbowl annually, to walk the grounds, to stand silently in its beauty, and to pay tribute to those laid to rest there.

The article featured pictures of the groundskeepers, each identified by first and last name. Unbeknownst to the readers, these hard working stewards are injured veterans, some with disabilities for which others may have written them off as unable to contribute a day's labor. But thanks in large part to one man, one of their fellow veterans, they succeed beyond such expectations, one day at a time. That man, their supervisor for VA's Compensated Work Therapy Program for disabled veterans, managed to escape the feature photos. That man is Punchbowl's Cemetery caretaker foreman, Larry Thornton.

Fortunately, Mr. Thornton could not escape the limelight when he finally received just recognition for his work with disabled veterans and for his dedicated labor to maintain a national shrine. This year his work was recognized and earned him the Air Force Association's Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year Award for 2008. I join the Air Force Association in commending this fine veteran, Mr. Thornton, for his service to his fellow veterans and our Nation. His service began long before this award, and I am sure that it will continue long after it. I am doubly proud of him, as a Senator from Hawaii and as the chairman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee.●

##### TRIBUTE TO STUART POLLAK

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to pay tribute to Stuart Pollack for his many years of service to the Hebrew Free Loan Association based in San Francisco, CA.

Stuart graduated as valedictorian from Lowell High School in San Francisco in 1955. He went on to attend Stanford University for his undergraduate degree and graduated from Harvard Law School magna cum laude in 1962. In his first year out of law school, Stuart would serve as a law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren and

to Justices Stanley Reed and Harold Burton. Following his work as a law clerk, Stuart moved on to the U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division; Special Assistant to Assistant Attorney General.

After finishing his position with the Department of Justice, Stuart went into private practice at Howard Rice Nemerovski Canady & Pollak where he served as partner for 14 years before becoming a judge on the San Francisco Superior Court, a position he held through 2002. Continuing with a long list of legal accomplishments, Stuart currently serves as an associate justice on the California Court of Appeals, Division Three. Even with his demanding schedule as an associate justice, Stuart has consistently made time for Hebrew Free Loan Association and other organizations in which he has a leadership role: Jewish Community Relations Council, the Jewish Community Federation, New Israel Fund, America-Israel Friendship League and Congregation Sherith Israel.

I commend the mission of Hebrew Free Loan Association and am thrilled by the positive impact it has on the lives of those who receive its assistance. Over the last 110 years, Hebrew Free Loan Association has provided interest-free loans to people in need; assistance in the form of a loan rather than a hand out. Stuart's many years of dedicated involvement with Hebrew Free Loan Association, including his 2 years as president, has allowed many from the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish community to realize their dreams.

After nearly 30 years of continuing service to Hebrew Free Loan Association, I remain in admiration of Stuart's strong sense of civic duty. Along with hundreds of his friends and admirers throughout the San Francisco Bay area, I wish him many more years of continued community involvement and leadership.●

##### TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT PAUL STARZYK

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of a dedicated law enforcement officer, Sergeant Paul Starzyk of the city of Martinez Police Department. For the past 12 years, Sergeant Starzyk worked tirelessly to provide the citizens of Martinez with safety and service. On September 6, 2008, Sergeant Starzyk was tragically killed in the line of duty.

Sergeant Starzyk, an Antioch resident, worked as a banker and at a local soup kitchen before he became active in law enforcement. He was hired by the city of Martinez Police Department as a reserve officer in 1992 and became a police officer in December 1994. After a brief period with the Pleasant Hill Police Department, Sergeant Starzyk came back to the Martinez Police Department in April 1997 and was promoted to sergeant in December 2007.

A member of the Central Contra Costa Narcotics Enforcement Team

and a former SWAT team leader, Sergeant Starzyk was renowned for his leadership skills among fellow officers. Throughout his career, Sergeant Starzyk demonstrated a passion for law enforcement and commitment to helping others, qualities that enabled him to become a respected and model member of the Martinez Police Department. Sergeant Starzyk's colleagues will always remember him for his professionalism and devotion to serving the public.

Sergeant Starzyk was a loving husband, proud father, and devoted friend. He is survived by his wife Shannon, a Contra Costa County sheriff's deputy, and three young children. Sergeant Starzyk served the city of Martinez with honor and dignity, and his contributions to his community and the many lives that he touched will serve as a shining example of his legacy.

We will always be grateful for Sergeant Starzyk's service and the valor that he displayed while serving and protecting the people of Martinez.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE 938TH ENGINEER DETACHMENT

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to recognize the remarkable achievement of a group of Idaho citizen soldiers, the 938th Engineer Detachment from Driggs. The 938th was recently awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation, one of the U.S. Army's highest honors. According to BG Alan Gayhart, an Idaho unit has not won this award since the days of World War II, over 60 years ago. The 938th Engineer Battalion participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom from February 2003 to March 2004. The unit operated in the capacity of fire prevention and combat aircraft protection for the 101st Airborne Division in northern Iraq. This was a difficult mission, and one that they executed with professionalism, skill, and excellence. The firefighters worked tirelessly in their protection and prevention efforts in defense of freedom, and I am happy for their safe return to family and friends. I also keep the families and friends of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in prayer as they continue on without their loved ones.

Idaho has a proud history of military service. Her sons and daughters have been serving our Nation in uniform far from home since the days of the Spanish American War in the early 20th century. The Meritorious Unit Commendation which the 938th Engineer Battalion received is awarded to military commands that display exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service, heroic deed or valorous actions. The unit was recommended for the award by the U.S. Army's higher headquarters and was selected by the Pentagon for the commendations.●

#### SONY HAWAII AND SONY ELECTRONICS

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Sony Hawaii and Sony Electronics (collectively "Sony") for their Electronics Take Back and Recycle Program. Sony Hawaii, part of the larger Sony Electronics Inc., is based in Honolulu and just celebrated its 40th anniversary as a Hawaii-based company. Seventy-five percent of Sony Hawaii's business comes from selling discounted Sony products directly to U.S. military personnel around the world.

Sony has long been an industry leader in the environmentally friendly design of its consumer electronics and information technology products. Last year, Sony announced its Take Back and Recycle Program to encourage consumers to recycle and dispose of electronic devices in an environmentally sound manner. The program provides customers free recycling of their unwanted Sony products, everything from a game console to a mobile phone to a DVD. Under its program, Sony takes full manufacturer responsibility for all products that bear its brand and will recycle those products at no cost to the consumer. Its recycling locations will also accept and recycle non-Sony consumer electronics and information technology products for a small fee.

Sony has partnered with Waste Management Recycle America to utilize 138 drop-off centers throughout the country, with the goal of having 150 permanent locations and at least one recycling location in every State by September 2008. Sony's longer term goal is to have a collection location within 20 miles of 95 percent of the U.S. population at which consumers, retailers, and municipalities can have any product from any consumer electronic manufacturer recycled.

All products which are collected through the program must be recycled using the strictest environmental standards. Waste Management will store, track inventory and dismantle the products into the form of common raw materials that can be bought and sold on the global market. In some cases, it is likely that recycled plastics will be purchased for reforming into a new current model electronics product. Sony seeks at least 95 percent recycling rates, with less than 5 percent of materials going to landfills. In addition, Sony provides full public accountability of how and where the material goes and prohibits the exportation of hazardous waste to developing countries.

In addition to setting up permanent collection centers, Sony is holding numerous, highly publicized electronics recycling events, throughout the United States, including some in the State of Hawaii. Sony also offers consumers credit toward the future purchase of a similar product if they send in their old product for recycling.

Sony has stated that its goal in implementing the Take Back and Recycle

Program is to make recycling as easy for consumers as it is for them to purchase a Sony product. I commend Sony for its electronics recycling efforts.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC CHURCH

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to extend my congratulations to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Grand Rapids, MI, as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. Since its inaugural mass on September 20, 1908, Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church has been devoted to serving the many diverse needs within the Grand Rapids community, and I am pleased to join in celebrating this important milestone.

In the late 1800s, as the Italian-American population in Grand Rapids continued to grow, there began an earnest search within this immigrant community for a place to worship that would respond to their specific needs. Led by Father Salvatore Cianci and without a formal structure in which to conduct mass, the congregation was established and gathered in the basement of St. Andrew's Cathedral in Grand Rapids in 1908 to celebrate its first mass. With this mass, the congregation of Our Lady of Sorrows began their spiritual journey by seeking to minister to the roughly 75 families that lived in the area at the time.

During the early part of the 20th century, Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church continued to grow and to establish a presence in the community. Throughout both the Great Depression and World War II, they worked diligently to create a permanent residence for their church community. The church initiated fundraising efforts to help support the purchase of a permanent location, as well as to support their many community outreach efforts. After nearly 40 years in temporary locations, their determination and persistence was rewarded with the dedication of the new church structure on April 14, 1957.

Through the many challenges and changes the church and the larger community endured, Our Lady of Sorrows has remained committed to its church family. The Grand Rapids parish is presently home to more than 250 families of diverse backgrounds, including a growing Hispanic population. During their distinguished 100-year history, they established an elementary school; constructed a new convent, rectory, and church; and established a local scholarship for anyone living within the boundaries of the parish. Today, the church serves as an example of an inclusive community and has reached out to people of diverse backgrounds, facilitating an appreciation for different cultures.

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church is truly an important part of the rich history of Grand Rapids. Their influence and service to the community is apparent to the many that have benefited from the church's spiritual and