

Earl Hobbs was discovered to be two pounds under the required body weight at the induction center. He ran to a nearby grocery store, bought three bounds of bananas, hurriedly ate the fruit and passed the physical. Was this an example of youthful patriotism or what?

After basic training, Earl was schooled in armor at Ft. Knox, KY. He was assigned to a tank crew in the 1st Armored Division. During a battle near Algeria, Africa, his tank was disabled and the crew was forced to evacuate. They were captured by German soldiers and taken to a POW camp, Stalag 3B in Berlin, Germany, where he was a prisoner for 27 months.

While he was in this camp, fellow Clay Countian Squire Baker was incarcerated there for three or four months, then moved out to a different location. Squire and surviving members of their bomber crew had been shot down and captured. Stalag 3B was liberated by Russian allies. Earl said, "The Russians were much more cruel than our former German captors."

Rufus "Jamup" Miller, Jr. was inducted into the military at Cincinnati, Ohio, August 13, 1943. After basic training at Camp Blanding, Florida, he was assigned to K Company of the 339th Infantry, Third Battalion. They were heavily involved in the assault on the Gustav line.

This location was in Italy. K Company's losses were very heavy, nearly 55 percent. Most of the casualties in K Company were from the minefields. However, they also encountered mortar, rifle, and machine-gun fire. "Jamup" was among the wounded. The 339th Infantry was one of the three regiments of the 85th Infantry Division. In WWI, they were nicknamed the "Polar Bears."

The 85th had a proud and famous history. The second time "Jamup" was wounded was in the North Apennines Campaign in bitter fighting east of Mount Verruca. He was also involved in the PO Valley campaign as well as the Rome-Arno Campaign. After being wounded twice, Miller was transferred to the military police. June 5th, 1944, the 339th did their victory march through Rome.

Glenn Combs was at the induction center when doctors decided his feet were a little flat for the infantry. He went through basic training and into Headquarters Company of the 1st Armored Division. In December of 1942, they traveled to North Africa by ships. Glenn was involved in battles at Anzio, Kasserine Pass, Tunisia, and Algeria. After avoiding a near disaster at Kasserine Pass, the commanding general was relieved and Col. Robinett was placed in charge of operations. Because of his excellent strategy and leadership in attaining victory in a very negative situation, Col. Paul "Little Man" Robinette was promoted to Brig. General. Kasserine Pass was considered to be the first major battle won by American forces in North Africa. Glenn Combs was promoted from staff sergeant to junior warrant officer, and in a few months to chief warrant officer. Glenn said, "One of the reasons I was promoted through the enlisted ranks to officer was due to so many men getting killed in my company."

These men served approximately five years. Walt Garrison was one of the fortunate. He didn't receive a scratch. Uncle Ben wasn't so lucky. He was wounded in the shoulder by shrapnel from an exploding artillery shell on a hill near the Moselle River in France.

Walt Garrison was one of those veterans who could talk about his war experience. Ben, "Dude," "Jamup," and many others were too scarred emotionally, mentally, and physically to recall their combat duty.

I apologize that I'm unable to provide more complete information concerning the sac-

rifices these men made for our country. They and many more of those veterans are heroes and should never be forgotten. The American people who lived during the WWII era earned a reputation as "The Greatest Generation." I truly believe they deserve that compliment. Not only in military service, but also in different walks of life, many of them had exemplary attitudes and accomplishments.

At this time, Glen Combs is the only one of these men still living. He is 92 and in poor health.

Toleman Combs passed away November 29, 1995, and is buried at Nancy, KY. Rufus "Jamup" Miller died February 3, 1997, and is buried in Manchester. Benjamin Franklin Garrison died at Wilmore Veteran's Hospital December 27, 1997, and is buried at Memorial Gardens in Manchester. Walter Garrison passed away on May 22, 2002.

Years ago, Uncle Walt decided to be buried with some of the soldiers he served with at Normandy. He was laid to rest in Butler County Memorial Park "Field of Honor" near Hamilton, Ohio.

Earl Hobbs died November 25, 2003, and is buried at Memorial Gardens in Manchester. Mansell "Dude" Stone passed on July 2, 2004, and is buried in Harts Branch Cemetery outside Manchester.

TRIBUTE TO BURT BACHARACH

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I salute the life and accomplishments of Burt Bacharach, who received The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song on Tuesday night. This award is given to musicians whose lifetime contributions to the field of popular song demonstrate the standard of excellence associated with George and Ira Gershwin. Mr. Bacharach received this award jointly with cowriter Hal David, which is the first time in the history of this award that it has gone to a songwriting team. This prestigious honor not only celebrates their work, but it places them among the ranks of Paul Simon, Paul McCartney, and Stevie Wonder, all previous recipients.

Born in Missouri and raised in New York, Burt built a name for himself over his six-decade career as one of the country's most respected and honored songwriters. His partnership with Hal David created such beloved songs as "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on My Head," "What the World Needs Now is Love," "Walk on By," and "Alfie." The duo first began collaborating in the 1950s at the Famous Paramount Music Company, and among their first big hits were "The Story of My Life," made famous by Marty Robbins, and "Magic Moments," performed by Perry Como.

Following on their first successes, between 1962 and 1972 their songs were almost continuously on Billboard Magazine's singles chart. During this time they worked with an array of singers, including Dionne Warwick, B.J. Thomas, Dusty Springfield, The Carpenters, Tom Jones, Jackie DeShannon, Gene Pitney, and Herb Alpert. Together, Burt and Hal have written numerous hits that have helped launch the careers of some of America's most celebrated musicians.

Mr. Bacharach, one of the most honored and successful composers of our

time, has earned three Academy Awards and eight Grammy Awards. These include the 1997 Grammy Trustees Award, which he shares with David, and the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award. Even after being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, he is still touring and performing all over the world.

I ask my Senate colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Mr. Burt Bacharach on this well-deserved honor.

TRIBUTE TO PATROLMAN BEN CAMPBELL

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Patrolman Ben Campbell of Copley, OH, for being honored as a 2012 National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) TOP COPS award recipient for the brave and heroic actions he has displayed in the line of duty.

On August 7, 2011, Officer Ben Campbell responded to a report of shots fired in a Copley Township neighborhood and he found a very grisly scene. An armed suspect had shot eight people, killing seven, and was still at large in the neighborhood. Without waiting for backup, Officer Campbell took off on foot after the suspect. As he scoured the area, he heard more gunshots and ran in their direction. Suddenly he found himself in an open area, with no protection, but surrounded by trees and houses, any one of which could be concealing the shooter. Moments later, the suspect stepped out from behind a house and pointed an automatic pistol directly at Officer Campbell. Officer Campbell commanded the shooter to drop his weapon, and when the man refused, the Officer had no choice but to shoot, killing the suspect.

It was a horrible tragedy, but without Officer Campbell's unhesitating courage, it would have been far worse. A subsequent investigation confirmed this when more than 200 rounds of ammunition were discovered in the suspect's car.

For his commitment to the Copley community, as well as his tremendous acts of bravery on August 7, 2011, I would like to recognize and thank Mr. Campbell for his service and congratulate him on receiving the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) TOP COPS award.

2011 U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION HONOREES

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, every year the U.S. Small Business Administration, SBA, honors our country's local entrepreneurs, hardworking Americans who have built businesses from ideas and created jobs for their communities. I would like to congratulate the eight outstanding entrepreneurs from Connecticut who were recognized in 2011, most especially, A. Gregory Bachmann of Torrington, Connecticut's DYMAX Corporation, who

was named 2011 Connecticut Small Business Person of the Year.

The SBA has advocated for small businesses in Connecticut since 1953, providing assistance through the Federal Small Business Innovation Research, SBIR, Program, facilitated at Connecticut Innovations. This support has included more than \$500 million of financing, education and training, and procurement aid for individuals with big ideas and businesses wanting to expand by taking technological risks.

The winner of the Small Business Person of the Year award must meet eight sets of criteria, including staying power, growth in number of employees, increase in sales and/or unit volume, current and past financial performance, innovativeness of product or service offered, response to adversity, contributions to community-oriented projects, and the products exported and markets served.

In 1979, Mr. Bachmann inherited the business his parents had started in their basement. Now, DYMAX makes its home in a 100,000 square foot building and operates facilities globally, including in Germany, China, Hong Kong, and Korea. It offers innovative technology, such as adhesives, coatings, epoxies, masking resins, and light-curing systems, to manufacturers who rely on innovative solutions for reliable, cost-effective, and quick automated assembly. Most recently, DYMAX has successfully experimented with UV and LED technology as a cutting-edge way for companies to grow. In addition to the tremendous progress Mr. Bachmann has made since his parents' vision, I commend him for ensuring that his company remains environmentally conscious while making remarkable strides in research and development. DYMAX also gives back to Connecticut's less fortunate, and has received an award from United Way of Northwest Connecticut for "conducting the most unique employee incentive program" for contributions to their annual food drive.

In addition to the title of Small Business Person of the Year, the SBA recognizes seven other businesses or individuals in Connecticut every year as Minority Small Business Champion, Veterans Advocate Champion, Explorer of the Year, the Jeffrey Butland Family Owned Business of the Year, Region One Subcontractor of the Year, Women in Business Champion, and Financial Services Champion.

Clayton Williams and Dennis Brown are two of the 2011 awardees who are driven by their passion for the potential of small businesses and the ways they can transform lives. I have seen firsthand the tremendous roots local businesses have set in New Haven and the central part they play in the city's community, so it is no surprise that Mr. Williams, the city of New Haven's small business development officer, received the 2011 Minority Small Business Champion award. He has worked tirelessly on behalf of minority entre-

preneurs as part of the Office of Economic Development to help fund and sustain the best, most promising ideas in the New Haven area. Veterans Advocate Champion Dennis Brown was awarded for his service as vice president of Business Counseling for Connecticut Community Investment Corporation, a nonprofit that works with small business owners to secure loans and develop strategy. A veteran and recipient of an SBA veteran's loan in 1982, Mr. Brown demonstrates that dreams can be realized with persistence. I applaud the SBA for recognizing the importance of providing for our Nation's heroes who wish to run their own businesses once returning home.

In addition, every year the SBA names an Explorer of the Year in Connecticut, acknowledging that risk confronts business owners every day. 2011 winner, On Site Gas Systems of Newington and its president, Frank X. Hursey, are committed to the most cutting-edge solutions and designs for reliable sources of gas used by a comprehensive set of industries, including emergency response, food preservation, automobile, and by our military.

Often, it is family owned businesses, hoping to continue the legacy of previous generations that become reliable sources of products or services central to their communities. The SBA named Jim Nilsson, owner and managing partner of Geissler's Supermarkets of South Windsor, as the 2011 Jeffrey Butland Family Owned Business of the Year. In 1923, Geissler's was a small storefront, and now it offers online shopping and delivery. Often family businesses in Connecticut also win other categories, and in 2011, the SBA honored Region 1 Subcontractor of the Year Thomas Dolan, Jr., for his work as president of Hi-Rel Products in Essex. Hi-Rel Products was started in the early 1970s by Mr. Dolan's father, who worked out of his Old Saybrook home to experiment with reliable precision components for microelectronics. Now, this technology has applications across a wide range of industries. Currently, Hi-Rel employs approximately 100 people in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

Lastly, I would like to recognize Margaret Sheahan, 2011 Women in Business Champion, and Patrick Lorent, 2011 Financial Services Champion, for their work in Connecticut in the legal and financial lending industries, respectively. Ms. Sheahan is founding partner of Mitchell & Sheahan of Redding and provides important legal counsel in employment and union disputes. Mr. Lorent was honored by the SBA for his role as vice president and manager of People's United Bank Government Lending Department where he connects United Bank with national, statewide, and local lending programs. This important work provides vital lifelines to the small businesses of Connecticut that can continue to focus on research and

development without worrying about their protection and sustenance.

The SBA continues to raise awareness and support for Connecticut's local entrepreneurs with their annual awards. The SBA and its 2011 honorees are inspirational, showing our Nation's budding business owners and leaders how to grow an idea to global proportions—driven by the most advanced research and technology and steadfast confidence in the American legacy of starting from the beginning to achieve greatness.

PHARMACY COMPETITION AND CONSUMER CHOICE ACT

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Pharmacy Competition and Consumer Choice Act, S. 1058. In light of the Federal Trade Commission's recent decision to allow the merger of two Pharmacy Benefit Managers, creating the largest PBM in our nation, I call on my colleagues to join me in supporting this vital piece of legislation. The Pharmacy Competition and Consumer Choice Act, if enacted, would help protect patients and providers from soaring health-care costs and potentially anticompetitive conduct by PBMs, who are the middlemen in the prescription drug industry.

Over the past several years, I have spoken with many of Mississippi's pharmacists who feel powerless against PBMs and their overreaching influence in their industry. In Mississippi, where over 1 million individuals live in rural, medically underserved areas, community pharmacists play a pivotal role in providing health care to patients. These pharmacists, often the only health-care providers in an area, develop trusting relationships with their customers and communities. This legislation will help level the playing field between community pharmacies and PBMs, while ensuring Americans have access to the providers of their choice.

While a few States, such as my State of Mississippi, regulate the activities of PBMs, these powerful players in health care remain largely unregulated by the Federal Government. PBMs compete across state lines in our country, and this legislation would provide national anti-fraud oversight in each of our 50 States.

The need for this legislation is clearer now than ever. With the upcoming merger, one company will control 40 percent of the market. As one FTC Commissioner appropriately stated, it will be a "game changer."

I am an unyielding supporter of free markets, and I strongly believe this legislation would facilitate a more transparent, competitive, and fair marketplace for PBMs, pharmacies, providers, and patients. On behalf of the millions of Americans and businesses affected by the market practices of Pharmacy Benefit Managers, I urge my colleagues to pass the Pharmacy Competition and Consumer Choice Act.