REMEMBERING
A FEW OF OUR LOCAL HEROES

"They who wait on the Lord shall renew strength; they who mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and never stagger."

—Isaiah 40:31

Richard Baker  U.S. Army
4th Infantry Div. 12th Regiment that landed on Utah Beach on D-Day in WWll. These men fought their way across France and helped liberate Paris. They continued to fight their way across Belgium, and then engaged in the Battle of Huertgen Forest (The Bloody Forest). They lost almost 50% of their men in that horrible cold weather battle. They sent Richard Baker’s division for a little rest and replacement to Echternacht, Luxembourg. While there, on Dec. 16th, 1944, Hitler tried his last desperate effort against the central portion of the Western Front. That was the start of “The Battle of the Bulge.” The men were back fighting fiercely again. The men of the 12th Infantry Regiment were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for their skill and fortitude in this battle. My husband also received 2 Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. The other picture of him was taken a few years ago when we visited the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C. He is wearing his 4th Division shirt & cap. Thank you for honoring our men & women in uniform in your Sun by-the-sea. On the 18th of September we celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary.

Sent in by Lillian Baker

Earl Taylor  U.S. Coast Guard – 1944
Aug. 6, 1944 — Pictured above and below with his wife Betty. Earl Taylor spent his childhood in Wildwood. The Taylor’s built and owned The Earle Motel at 401 W. Glenwood, Class of 72. Earl was home from Lemoore, CA when they had this picture taken in January, 1945. Earl had a service station in North Wildwood, he passed away in 1984. Betty resides in Wildwood Crest.

Sent in by Barbara Taylor Jaffe

Thomas Quinn
U.S. M.C. 1972-1976
HMH-362 “Ugly Angels”

CH-47 Helicopter Sqn during VietNam Era, SGT in Aviation Supply. Tom was born & raised at 401 W. Glenwood, Class of 72 Wildwood High. He hung with George Durante, Jack Trombetta, Ricky Czyewski, played baseball with George, Ricky, Billy Fisher, Jack Kirwin, is friends with Michelle Carty, LouAnn Catanoso, married Debbie Sinn. Joined Wildwood Police Dept summer of ’76, CMCSO 1979-1994, LTPD 1984-1994. Ret. (Disability-Medically forced) Tom & Debbie have a son & a daughter who are successful in their careers. They have been blessed with a new grandson, James Robert, Jr. The Quinn’s home is in VA. They think The SUN is Awesome!

Sent in by Betty Warner

Kevin McCloskey, a Mayfair Philadelphia soldier was seriously injured in Afghanistan on June 8th, 2008. The June death toll of international troops in Afghanistan -42- was the highest monthly since the war started in 2001. Kevin did his basic training at Ft. Campbell, Ky. From there he shipped out to war in March 2008 with the Army’s 101st Airborne. His tour began relatively quiet but grew more violent in June. While on a mission, Kevin’s vehicle was hit by explosives and he took the brunt of the blast, suffering 2nd degree burns over most of his body, a fractured pelvis, a shattered right arm and left collarbone, shrapnel in his right eye, and most devastating leg injuries which resulted in the loss of both his legs. Kevin turned 21 on June 22, 2008 in a veteran’s hospital in Texas. He is still in Texas recovering. Our prayers go out to Kevin and the thousands of other heroes in our country. We salute you this Veteran’s Day and always.

Sent in by The Connors

CW3 Scott Forbes  U.S. Army
Production Control Officer / Test Pilot / Coleman Army Airfield, Germany. Scott has served as a Medic Vac 1st Pilot in both Afghanistan and Iraq. He is shown above flying a med vac in Afghanistan with an Apache escort.

< Edward Braidwood  U.S. Army
Served from the South Pacific. Edward was from Anglesea and was a Dr. Mace baby!

October 1959~ Paul Lamendola writes home from KOREA, saying “They think I’ll forget my name so they make me wear it on all my clothes!”
Top Photo ~ September 1958 Privates Paul Lamendola, John Pender, Joe Sesa at Basic Training Ft. Dix. Paul was nominated “Soldier of the Month” by the U.S. Army in Korea in 1959.

Betty (Miles) & Carl Warner U.S. Army
Carl had just returned from 4 years in Australia and Betty was home on a furlough from Lemoore, CA when they had this picture taken in January, 1945. Carl had a service station in North Wildwood. He passed away in 1984. Betty resides in Wildwood Crest.

Betty & Donald O’Connor
While I was in the Army Air Force and stationed in Atlantic City working in Special Services, Donald O’Connor often came into our office at the Ambassador Hotel. Donald O’Connor (1925-2003) Dancer/Singer/Actor who starred as Gene Kelly’s sidekick in Singin’ in the Rain.

Betty Warner

—Corrie Ten Boom

HATS OFF!
To all the men & women who serve our country. May God Bless You!
November 11th is Veteran’s Day, a day we set aside to think about the sacrifices our fighting men and women have made over the years to give us freedom. Thank a Vet today!

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt made a special trip to Philadelphia to pin a medal on James Cotton, Bulletin carrier boy who sold 25,000 defense stamps, during Hail America program. This incredible story unfolds as the case of the missing newspaper boy who failed to deliver his evening route, but the truth was that when young James went after school to pick up his papers, he was held by the Secret Service to meet with the First Lady. James’ mother, Julia’s fears were turned into joy when she learned of her son’s astounding visit with Eleanor Roosevelt. After James graduated high school at 17, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served on a destroyer escort the U.S.S. Crosley. The ship was attacked by a Kamakaze fighter plane in which James was wounded. He became a recipient of a Purple Heart Medal and was treated in the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. He was honorably discharged from the service in 1946 at which time the Cotton Family moved to Wildwood, NJ. James worked for his father who began James Cotton Plumbing serving the Five Mile Beach. In the 60s, James started his own plumbing company, Anchor Plumbing. He passed away on Feb. 13, 1989 leaving behind his two children, James and Julia. His wife Theresa deceased in 1981.

Philip A. Cameron, Jr. Philip was a lifeguard on the North Wildwood Beach Patrol in the Summer of 1943. He left that September to serve in the U.S. Navy. His grandson Philip Cameron has served on the NWPB for the past several years.

Herbert & Theodore KAMMER U.S. Navy Great Lakes Training Center Herb served with the 7th Seabees Construction Battalion in the South Pacific. Ted served on the USS Baltimore. Both returned to the area in 1945. Ted worked for Acme Market while Herb owned and operated KAMMER’S BAKERY on 26th & New York Aves. (the best donuts in the world!). Recent photo taken at a Senior Citizens party held at Crest Memorial School.

Henri J. Bedard Omaha Beach – D-Day Veteran U.S. Army March 1943 - January 1946

Corp. Nicholas H. McGough RA 101st Airborne Div. 1948- Camp Breckenridge, KY

Seaman 1st Class Charles T. Catano Sr. U.S. Navy Great Lakes, IL Training Center November 1944 - June 1946