

Bakersfield, CA – On Thursday, July 3, 2008, Congressman McCarthy and other community leaders will officially dedicate the U.S. Post Office located at 427 North Street in Taft, California as the “Larry S. Pierce Post Office.” Media is invited to attend.

“It is fitting that we celebrate the life and heroism of Larry Pierce the day before our country celebrates its independence,” said Congressman McCarthy. “Staff Sergeant Larry S. Pierce is a distinguished American hero who sacrificed his own life to protect our freedoms and defend our country. Naming a post office in his honor is not just a tribute to his heroic acts, it is also a tribute to his spirit of bravery and courage that we will never forget. Taft will always remember our hero.”

What:

Larry S. Pierce Post Office Dedication

Location:

Larry S. Pierce Post Office
427 North Street
Taft, CA 93268

Date:

July 3, 2008

Time:

10:00 – 11:00 AM PDT

Local Contact:

Vince Fong, Field Representative for Congressman McCarthy
(661) 327-3611

On September 20, 1965, while pursuing hostile forces near Ben Cat in Vietnam after being

ambushed, Staff Sergeant Larry Pierce sacrificed his own life to save the lives of his fellow soldiers by throwing himself on an antipersonnel mine as it exploded. In February 1966, President Lyndon Johnson posthumously awarded Staff Sergeant Pierce the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Congressional Medal of Honor citation recognizes Staff Sergeant Pierce's "inspiring leadership and personal courage" through "extraordinary heroism, at the cost of his life." He would have been 67 years old this year, and is survived by his wife, Verlin, who currently lives in Bakersfield and his three children, Teresa, Kelley, and Gregory.

On February 6, 2008, the President signed S.2110 – the Larry S. Pierce Post Office Act – into law. The bill passed the House by a vote of 388 – 0 on January 28, 2008. On November 16, 2007, the Senate passed S. 2110 by unanimous consent. Congressman McCarthy authored the House version of the legislation, and was a leader in moving the bill quickly through Congress.