

Besides his wife and unborn daughter, Fuller is survived by his mother, Linda; a sister, Katie, and two brothers, Christopher and Sean.

The family has set up a memorial fund for the benefit of his daughter.

TRIBUTE TO BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with a great sense of honor that I rise to celebrate Black History Month and its 2007 theme—From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas. As we recall the many struggles and reflect on the immense impact African-Americans have had on this country, we are reminded that, though we have made great strides, we must continue the fight for a society that is truly equal.

The theme for this year's Black History Month, From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas, is a reminder that in striving for equality, we must examine the past. We remember those brought to America against their will, forced into slavery, working under the most inhumane conditions. From this, however, we are reminded of those who recognized this atrocity and made the decision to fight for their freedom. We pay special tribute to those who were persecuted, and in many cases murdered, for their impassioned struggle for what was right. From the earliest men and women forced into slavery to the brave soldiers, both free and enslaved, who joined forces to eventually defeat the Confederacy, thus establishing their own freedom, all are to be commended with the highest admiration and praise. Without these struggles, President Abraham Lincoln's reminder of our founding fathers' goal, the establishment of a new Nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal, would not be possible.

It is the efforts of these brave individuals that would inspire the great leaders of the civil rights movement, like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks, to persevere and make great strides toward this goal. Some of these leaders, like many before them, would face similar persecution. Some, like Dr. King, would pay the ultimate price in hopes that one day all Americans would be seen as equals. We are aware, however, that as a united society, we must continue to make strides like those generations who came before us. From the days of slavery to the days of segregation, we must continue to work toward a society that is truly equal, a society with equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the brave men and women who have led us in the ongoing fight for justice and equality. Let us take this opportunity to honor the sacrifices and contributions of all Americans who have fought for their freedom and the freedom of others. This commitment to equality, opportunity, and an end to discrimination is to be admired.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LANCE CORPORAL BUDD M. COTE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote, who died Monday December 11, 2006, of injuries sustained in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Corporal Cote was killed by an explosive device in al-Anbar province during combat operations. He was assigned to the Marine Wing Support Squadron 373 stationed out of the Marine Corps Air Station in Miramar, CA.

Lance Corporal Budd Cote was born in Corona, CA, on June 27, 1985. He spent his childhood in the Las Vegas valley before moving to Tucson, AZ, where he attended high school.

Lance Corporal Cote was a hero whose desire to serve his country will forever make an impact on his family, his community and his country. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps to serve his country in the Global War on Terror. He will not only be remembered for his sacrifice and willing service, but for the extraordinary person that he was. His warmth and optimism brightened the lives of his family and friends. He is survived by his loving wife, Zoraida, his parents, Marcella and Roland Cote and siblings, Alex, Christopher and Tiffany.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote. Lance Corporal Budd M. Cote made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

TRIBUTE TO PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT ROGER WILLIAM POWELL OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Ms. BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger William Powell, a native of Montrose, MI who volunteered for the U.S. Army on January 22, 1969. Assigned as a mechanic, Mr. Powell was sent to Vietnam on June 22, 1969, with an armor recon specialty where he became a part time scout driver and machine gun operator. Assigned to E Troop, 1st Calvary Regiment, 11th Infantry Brigade, his base camp was Chu Lie.

On August 8, 1969, his troop was in the field in Quang Ngai when they came under hostile fire from Viet Cong forces. Rocket propelled grenades landed amongst the troops, with Mr. Powell sustaining shrapnel wounds in his right eye, both hands and arms and a perforated eardrum. transferred by Medivac helicopter to an evacuation hospital in Japan, he remained under medical care for three months. A purple heart was noted on his record but not awarded, as Mr. Powell was not at that facility a sufficient time for the paperwork to be processed.

Following his recovery from his injuries, he was reassigned stateside to Ft. Knox, KY. Mr. Powell then volunteered for duty in Germany

where he remained until his discharge on January 14, 1971.

Currently residing in Zephyrhills, Florida, Mr. Powell and his wife, Tansy, have three grown children; 32-year-old Scott, 30-year-old Shalynnee and 26-year-old Shelby, all of whom reside in Michigan.

After almost 38 years, it is my distinct honor and privilege to present Mr. Powell with his long-awaited Purple Heart.

Madam Speaker, soldiers like Roger William Powell should be recognized for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to present Mr. Powell with his long overdue Purple Heart. He should know that we truly consider him one of America's heroes.

HONORING BORDEN BYRD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Borden Byrd for his heroic effort to save a possible collision between two jets on August 24, 2006.

Mr. Byrd is the air traffic controller at DFW TRACON (DIO), one of the control towers for the Dallas-Fort Worth International airport. As DFW is among the top three busiest airports in the Nation, the controllers must be focused and attentive at all times to ensure safe and smooth air traffic. If it were not for Mr. Byrd's immediate reaction and sharp eye, two jets, an American Airlines MD80 and a United Express regional jet, might have collided last August.

That day, the regional jet's pilots had entered an incorrect runway into the Flight Management System, which put the jet directly into the path of the MD80. Luckily, Mr. Byrd noticed the anticipated trajectory paths for the jets and directed the regional jet immediately to the west, out of the path of the MD80. His careful watch and proactive character saved numerous lives that day.

It is with great honor that I recognize Mr. Borden Byrd for his exceptional service not only to Dallas-Fort Worth International airport, but also to our community. His knowledge and dedication to air safety prevented a great tragedy from occurring, and I join his family and friends in congratulating him on this heroic affair.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BONNIE SCHOFIELD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I honor Mrs. Bonnie Schofield for her dedication to the community and families she served.

Bonnie has been serving 79 families in Hiko, NV, as a postmaster since 1973, 6 hours a day, 6 days a week. Bonnie's families picked their mail up at the Post Office in front of her house in an old-fashioned way. Instead of using the modern-day post office boxes, the mail was sorted into old-fashioned sacks

Bonnie handmade herself and then hung onto pegs. Families would then pick up their mail while the traditions of past generations stayed intact.

For the 30 years prior to her appointment as postmaster, Bonnie's mother-in-law held the position. Her daughter also continues the family tradition, for she was named postmaster for 2004 in Alamo, NV. Bonnie also has served the National Association of Postmasters of the U.S., NAPUS, as State president, on its State council, and representing Nevada in Washington, DC.

On December 1, 2006, Bonnie retired from her position as postmaster and, with her, lay to rest the traditions of Hiko's community. What she will miss the most is the customer interaction and personalized service. Now that she is retired, she plans on nurturing her garden and traveling with her husband of 49 years. Bonnie also plans on spending more time with her 4 children, 18 grandchildren, and 8 great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the gracious efforts of Mrs. Bonnie Schofield. Her diligence and dedication are those to be admired. I wish her luck with all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR MANUEL DIAZ

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I congratulate Mayor Manuel Diaz of Miami for receiving the "Outstanding American by Choice" award on January 24, 2007 at the White House.

The "Outstanding American by Choice" award recognizes the achievements of naturalized U.S. citizens who, through civic participation, professional achievement and responsible citizenship, have demonstrated their commitment to this country and to common civic values. The award is given to citizens who have made significant contributions to their community and to this country.

Mayor Diaz was born on November 5, 1954 in Havana, Cuba and immigrated to the United States with his mother, Elisa, in 1961. He grew up in Miami's Little Havana neighborhood and attended Belen Jesuit Prep School, Miami-Dade College, Florida International University and the University of Miami's School of Law.

Mayor Diaz was elected as mayor of the city of Miami in 2001 and re-elected to a second term in 2005. He has led the effort to reform Miami city government, improve public schools, and bring increased investment and business opportunities to Miami. Vanity Fair magazine has honored Mayor Diaz, calling him one of North America's leading environmentally conscious mayors. In recognition of his accomplishments, Mayor Diaz was honored by his fellow mayors and elected chair of the Advisory Board of the United States Conference of Mayors in 2006.

Mayor Diaz's achievements should make all Americans proud that, in this Nation of immigrants, success in life is attainable through hard work and the desire to achieve great dreams.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING 9/11 HEALTH ISSUES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, as a next step in the long fight to ensure that the heroes of 9/11 get the medical monitoring and treatment they need and deserve, today with my colleague Rep. VITO FOSSELLA, I am introducing a resolution urging the Administration to prepare a comprehensive plan to medically monitor all individuals—responders, residents, area workers and school children—who were exposed to the toxins of Ground Zero on 9/11 and to treat all those who are sick as a result.

A peer-reviewed study released last year by the World Trade Center Medical Monitoring Program found that 70 percent of 9/11 responders have suffered from respiratory ailments and 60 percent are still sick. Among those screened, 40 percent do not have health insurance. A study previously published by the New York City Fire Department documented a 12-year lung capacity loss, on average, among New York City firefighters who responded to the World Trade Center.

Despite these well-documented illnesses and lack of medical insurance, only a fraction of 9/11 responders, area residents, workers and school children are being medically monitored. Far fewer are receiving the treatment they need. Even worse, the first federal funding for treatment of responders, which was distributed in October 2006, is projected to run out sometime this summer—just months after the treatment program began.

I am pleased that the Administration has, for the first time ever, included funding in the FY2008 budget for health treatment for sick and injured 9/11 first responders. However, the \$25 million included will cover just a small fraction of the cost of monitoring and treating the thousands exposed to the toxins of Ground Zero. I am also pleased that the Administration has finally said that HHS will be producing an estimate for the health needs of first responders—but only first responders. Quite simply, a plan that takes into account only first responders is not sufficient. The hundreds of thousands of area residents, workers, school children and federal employees who are in need of monitoring and treatment deserve to be included in any plan put forth by HHS.

I am hopeful that Congress will be taking direct action in the coming weeks and months to fund current treatment and monitoring programs as well as expand those programs to include all affected residents, school children, area workers and rescue workers who came to New York from across the country after 9/11. As we work together toward bolder action, I believe this resolution urging the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive plan is an important first step in focusing the Administration's attention on the health needs of all the heroes of 9/11.

HONORING THE CITY OF PIEDMONT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mrs. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Piedmont on the occasion of its Centennial Celebration.

Prior to its incorporation as a city in 1907, Piedmont was comprised of lands owned by individuals such as Don Luis Peralta, Walter Blair and James Gamble. During the late 1800s, Mr. Blair bought 600 acres of land from the Peraltas. He built a dairy on Highland Avenue, a quarry, a hotel and an amusement park known as Blair Park.

In 1877 James Gamble, the president of Western Union Telegraph, bought 350 acres from Mr. Blair. He built a house on Hillside Avenue and planned to sell the rest of the land so others could build houses as well. He called his business the Piedmont Land Company, which he felt was appropriate for the new community due to the fact that Piedmont means "foot of the mountain" in Italian.

In the 1880s there were only seven houses where the City of Piedmont is now. During the same time Piedmont had its first and only factory, the Ladies Silk Culture Society. Over 100 women worked spinning thread from the cocoons of silk worms that grew on the mulberry trees, but ultimately there weren't enough trees and the factory closed in 1895.

While major landowners were building large houses in the middle of Piedmont during the early 20th century, many artists and writers lived in smaller houses they built themselves on Scenic Avenue. Jack London, Xavier Martinez and George Sterling all lived in the hills of Piedmont during the early 1900s.

On April 18, 1906, the infamous San Francisco earthquake rocked the Bay Area, sending thousands of city residents across the Bay into the surrounding communities. Many of those who fled the destruction in San Francisco at that time came to Oakland, Berkeley and Piedmont, which grew 10 times larger in one year as a result.

On January 7, 1907, Hugh Craig and James Ballentine filed papers with the State of California to incorporate the City of Piedmont. An election was held on January 26, 1907 and 118 men who owned land in Piedmont voted to become a city. Some residents were displeased with this result, however, and another election was held in September of the same year; the result held and Piedmont became a city by a mere 10 votes. Vamey Gaskill became the first mayor of Piedmont, but only served for three months. In May of 1907 Hugh Craig became the second mayor of the city and is considered by many to be the "father" of Piedmont. Piedmont City Hall was built in 1908.

Over the past century, the City of Piedmont has developed a governmental organization that provides its citizens with an exceptionally high level of municipal and educational services by partnering an exceptional staff with a tradition of generous community volunteerism. The residents of Piedmont have a history of service and leadership that extends from local to international endeavors. Their work contributes immeasurably to the quality of life here in