

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a very special tribute to one of this city's most distinguished churches, New Bethel Baptist Church; and to its pastor, a leading citizen, former House colleague, and my predecessor as District of Columbia Delegate, Reverend Walter Fauntroy. The church is celebrating the 100th anniversary of New Bethel.

New Bethel Baptist Church is revered in this city for its leadership on many levels. The church is not only a spiritual center. This historic church, located centrally in the historic Shaw district, also is a leader of social innovation and programs that serve its community in diverse and essential ways.

New Bethel's wide ranging service to its community and our city is not surprising. The church's spiritual leader, Reverend Walter Fauntroy, is not only a talented and dedicated minister of the gospel. He has long been a major figure in the civil rights movement even before being elected to Congress. Reverend Fauntroy served for 19 years as a distinguished Member of the House and has been a leader of many activities for social and economic justice here and in the nation since resigning his House seat. Pastor Fauntroy's life and work have added to the unique place New Bethel occupies in the life of his church community and of the District of Columbia.

New Bethel is among the oldest and most distinguished churches in the city. In its hundredth year, it is almost half as old as the city itself. The group that formed the church met first in the home of Brother Benjamin Graves under the guidance of Dr. W. Bishop Johnson, Pastor of the Second Baptist Church. The membership grew and purchased a building on 15th Street, NW. Under the leadership of the Revs. Alfred A. Agerton, Samuel Washington and Richard L. Holmes, the congregation experienced steady growth.

In 1903, the Rev. William D. Jarvis accepted the call to the pastorate, and the church embarked on a 37-year journey of spiritual growth and prosperity. In February 1915, the first worship service was held in the building at 9th and S Streets, NW., which had been purchased from the Grace M.E. Church. Before Dr. Jarvis' retirement on October 1, 1940, the church had grown to 600 worshipers and had become a welcome fixture in the community.

In May 1941, the Rev. C. David Foster, of Philadelphia, PA, was unanimously called to the pastorate. Under this leadership, the church grew spiritually, numerically and financially, and the building underwent extensive renovation.

On January 19, 1959, the Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy, a son of the church who had served as supply pastor, received a unanimous call from the members to serve as pastor. For forty-three years, he has responded to the spiritually needs of the congregation and the rapidly-changing dynamics of the community. Existing organizations have been revitalized and new ones have been created. The position of full-time Assistant Pastor was established, and a ministerial staff was implemented. A tithing program was launched and,

in 1973, New Bethel constructed the C. David Foster House, an eight-story building with 75 units for low and moderate-income families of the Shaw area and other displaced persons.

In 1977, the old structure at 9th and S Streets was razed, and a striking new building was constructed on the site and dedicated and entered in 1982. Today, guided by the pastor's five-year plan, the church continues its mission of service to church members and to the Shaw community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to offer this tribute to my predecessor and to his distinguished congregation. I ask that this body join me in saluting our former colleague, the pastor, and the members of the New Bethel Baptist Church on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO: PAGOSA
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the Pagosa Fire Protection District of Archuleta County, Colorado for their service and dedication during one of Colorado's most formidable fire seasons. Last summer, the Fire Protection District played an integral role in containing the Missionary Ridge forest fire that burned over 70,000 acres in Southwestern Colorado. Today, I would like to pay tribute to their heroic efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

When the Missionary Ridge fire first erupted last June, the citizens of Durango, Bayfield and the surrounding communities called upon the Pagosa Fire Protection District to protect their loved ones, homes, and communities from what would become the worst fire in area history. The fire began in a ditch beside Missionary Ridge Road just 15 miles northeast of Durango and grew to consume more than 70,000 acres, 56 residences, and 27 out-buildings.

Although the Missionary Ridge fire was a devastating reminder of how destructive forest fires can be, it also served to remind us of the men and women who risk their lives to protect their fellow citizens on a daily basis. The Pagosa Fire Protection District has served the citizens of Archuleta County since 1948 and oversees a 161 square mile region. The district relies upon its Fire Chief Warren Grams, Manager Diane Bowers, Assistant Chief of Maintenance Manuel Trujillo, and volunteer firefighters to remain on call, prepared to fight fires or provide medical assistance on a moment's notice.

Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I recognize the Pagosa Fire Protection District of Archuleta County before this body of Congress and this nation. I want to commend the Chief and all of the Fire District's fire fighters for their determination, courage, and resolve during last summer's efforts on Missionary Ridge. Without the help of the Pagosa Fire Protection District and others, the added devastation to our community, environment, and quality of life would have been unimaginable. Their tireless commitment throughout the fire season has served as an inspiration to

us all and it is an honor to represent such an outstanding group of Americans in this Congress.

TRIBUTE TO RYAN KRABILL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a member of my Washington, D.C. staff who is leaving my office to pursue full-time employment. During his time with us, Ryan Krabill has tirelessly served the people of the Second District of Oregon as our intern. His positive outlook on life and strong work ethic will be greatly missed.

Mr. Speaker, whenever something needed to be done, Ryan readily stepped in and offered to help. From simple tasks like answering phones to attending briefings and drafting letters, Ryan proved himself to be an extremely reliable and efficient worker. My staff came to depend on him heavily, and he never let them down. This is all the more remarkable given that in addition to interning full time at my office, he also held a full time job at Starbucks in the evening!

Ryan originally hails from Albany, Oregon. He attended Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, where he earned bachelors' degrees in Business and Biology. After college Ryan spent two years in sales, where he honed the professional demeanor and devotion to customer service that he so often demonstrated on the phone and when greeting constituents in my office. Ryan had always been interested in politics, and decided to leave sunny California for Washington, D.C. Luckily, my office was able to take him on as an intern while he explored his options for a full time Capitol Hill career. With the skills he has demonstrated in his service to the people of Oregon, I'm sure he will be an asset to any office.

Mr. Speaker, my office has been lucky to have an intern like Ryan. His strong work ethic and upbeat attitude will no doubt serve him well in any position that he chooses to pursue and will truly be missed around the office. Best of luck in the future Ryan, and keep up the good work.

SIERRA NATIONAL FOREST LAND
EXCHANGE ACT OF 2003

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 8, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, to facilitate a Forest Service land exchange that will eliminate a private in-holding in the Sierra National Forest in the State of California and provide for the permanent enjoyment by the Boy Scouts of America of a parcel of National Forest System land currently used under a special use permit, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Mr. RADANOVICH (for himself, Mr. NUNES and Mr. DOOLEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources