

receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Zech Frye is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Zech Frye is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Zech Frye for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF METROPOLITAN PHILIP SALIBA

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Metropolitan Philip Saliba, who led the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church in North America for nearly 50 years and who passed from this life on March 19, 2014. Metropolitan Philip was the longest-serving bishop in any branch of Orthodoxy in the United States and leaves behind a tremendous legacy of service to the Orthodox Christian community.

Metropolitan Philip began leading Antiochian Orthodoxy in 1996 and frequently visited St. George Antiochian Orthodox Cathedral in Toledo and St. Elias Antiochian Church in Sylva. His leadership will be greatly missed, as he played a key role in inspiring unity among Orthodox churches during his tenure. His compelling vision for unity was noted by The Toledo Blade, where he was quoted as saying: "As long as we are fragmented and known by Antiochians and Greeks and Serbians and Bulgarians and Russians, we will have no impact as a church on this country".

His eminence is remembered fondly for his personal warmth and compassion and has been described by his parishioners as a "visionary". One of the metropolitan's many accomplishments includes the founding of a church camp, Antioch Village, in Bolivar, Pennsylvania, which flourished under his direction. Indeed, he was lauded for this achievement, and for his other successful endeavors in expanding the reach of the church.

A staunch advocate for inclusion, Metropolitan Phillip welcomed converts without connections to the church's Middle Eastern roots and expanded the role of women in the church. He insisted on the creation of a women's organization and appointed women to the archdiocese's board. The metropolitan also urged the church to modernize in other capacities, by using English during liturgies and by beginning a clergy retirement program.

Under his purview, the number of parishes in the diocese quadrupled in size—a true testament to the significant impact of his leadership. Indeed, his imprint on the Orthodox Christian community will live on, as will his memory. To his brothers Nassif and Najib

Saliba, and all those whose lives he touched, we offer our heartfelt sympathy. We hope that they draw comfort in the days ahead and in the memories of this extraordinary man and the gift of his life.

HONORING MS. FLORENCE FANG

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and contributions of my dear friend, Ms. Florence Fang, as she celebrates her 80th birthday and a lifetime of serving her community.

In her historic trip to China, First Lady Michelle Obama highlighted the work of the 100,000 Strong Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening US-China relations by sending American students of all economic and social backgrounds to study abroad in China as exchange students. By emphasizing foreign exchange education, programs like the 100,000 Strong Foundation are training young Americans to become global leaders in a new world where countries and economies are increasingly connected.

It comes as no surprise that the founders of the 100,000 Strong Foundation include leaders from the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley, notably the energetic and passionate Florence Fang. Ms. Fang is known internationally for her civic work, especially on building positive relationships with China, and in helping to develop our nation's future leaders.

Ms. Florence Fang was born in China and educated in Taiwan. In 1960, she immigrated to America, and was later adopted by the United States as an American citizen.

Ms. Fang and her husband, John T.C. Fang, had three sons who were born and raised in San Francisco: James, a graduate of Hastings Law School and currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Rapid Transit system; Teddy, an Ethnic Studies graduate from UC Berkeley who was publisher of the Independent and SF Examiner newspapers; and Douglas, who received his Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Southern California and passed away in 2003.

In 1991, when the White House held a National Leadership Conference to discuss America giving China "Most Favored Nation" status, Ms. Fang was the only delegate invited to stand on the dais beside former U.S. President George H.W. Bush in the White House ceremony.

At the May 29, 1992 Asian/Pacific American Heritage Presidential Dinner, Ms. Fang shared the same stage with President George H.W. Bush, where she delivered a speech about her life in America, titled "An Asian American Story".

In 2006, she donated the priceless San Francisco Examiner newspaper archives to the UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library, where she delivered a speech and drew applause from UC Berkeley's Chancellor and professors. It is one of her most prized moments.

Also in 2006, she donated \$3 million to help build UC Berkeley's East Asian Library. And in 2008, she donated a building to Peking University for the School of Chinese as a Second

Language Department to teach the whole world Chinese language and culture.

In January 2013, together with the Ford Foundation, she became a co-founder of the 100,000 Strong Foundation, which was born out of U.S. President Obama's initiative in 2008 when he visited China's then-president Hu Jintao, to send 100,000 American students to study in China.

On March 22, 2014, Ms. Fang accompanied First Lady Michelle Obama when she spoke to students in Peking University on the First Lady's trip to China.

On April 4, 2014, over 100 organizations will join together to host Ms. Fang's 80th birthday celebration. They also arranged to have two Kepler celestial bodies or stars named after Ms. Fang as recorded with the Space Telescope Science Institute.

Ms. Fang has held many local and national positions. She was appointed as National Small Business Commissioner by former U.S. President George H.W. Bush, Stature for Women Commissioner by California Governor, and San Francisco Film Commissioner by former Mayor Willie Brown Jr. Currently, she holds the titles of: Honorary Trustee of Peking University, Honorary Professor of Wuhan University, Founder and Board Member of the 100K Strong Foundation, and Chairwoman of the Florence Fang Family Foundation.

As a result of her own life experiences, Ms. Fang has particularly focused her life on education and American and Chinese cultural exchange.

When she first immigrated to the United States in 1960, Ms. Fang did not speak any English and had never had a chance to study in an American school. Then, in the early 1970s, her husband suddenly became very ill and was hospitalized in the intensive care unit. Ms. Fang was forced to make a living for her family, and she had to single handedly run her husband's printing shop business. It was during these years that she learned much of her English from reading invoices coming into the business.

Today she has achieved her American dream, and it is articulated by what former U.S. President George H.W. Bush wrote in his 1999 preface for Ms. Fang's unpublished biography:

America is a tale of immigrants who came to this land to build a nation and better their own lives.

The Florence Fang story is yet another chapter on the American experience. Her pursuit and fulfillment of the American dream serves as a reminder that America is truly the land of opportunity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on March 27, due to a death in the family. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

Thursday, March 27, 2014: rollcall No. 148: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended H.R. 4278, "yea."