

great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Robert Ward attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion why is it important to be involved in the political process?

Founding fathers like George Washington, Samuel Addams, Thomas Paine, and Benjamin Franklin were willing to deny the most powerful nation, navy, and army (The British) in the 1770s. Why? They were tired of abuse and fatly representation that was given to the New England colonies as they argued for fair and equal representation in the British parliament. "No taxation without representation" was declared by John Hampden when asked to pay for a shipping tax to the British parliament. He argued that he shouldn't have to pay any taxes to the British government when he wasn't even represented in their parliament. The founding fathers noticed and followed suit, declaring independence for America in 1776 after the British government had refused to give equal representation for the colonies. The American Revolution took the lives of 50,000 along with thousands of French and Indian soldiers who fought for the America's ideals. America won the war with Washington's determination, Indian guidance, and new guerrilla warfare. Why was such a conflict pursued? The right to be represented and participate in the political process was why.

Thousands have died and still due to this day to protect every citizen's right to be involved in the political process. The ability to be involved gives every citizen in the country their "bite". It is the easiest way to make an impact on government and the nation short of being in the government administration. By simply participating: voting, suggesting legislation, and being involved in organizations like the congressional youth advisory council everyone can have a voice, a privilege that has been fought dearly for, and that few possess. It is crucial for those who want to have an impact to be a part of the political process.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
IMPORTANT WORK OF KA VOICE

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am excited today to recognize the very important work of KA Voice. KA Voice is working tirelessly to enfranchise and empower the more than 67,000 ethnic Koreans residing in Illinois. Through voter registration efforts, community forums, debates, and policy engagement, this non-partisan group is working to give Korean-Americans a strong voice in Washington, D.C., statehouses, and in local governments.

I have long made it a priority to work with our local Korean-American community to ensure that they have a strong voice in Congress. KA Voice has made it easier for me to hear and act on of the community's priorities. Whether it is on the issue of immigration reform, a stronger economy or better relations with South Korea, KA Voice has helped me

set an agenda in Congress that is moving our country forward.

This Saturday, March 28, KA Voice will hold its second annual national conference in Northbrook, Illinois. The conference will focus on civic engagement, which is at the heart of our democracy. I want to personally thank KA Voice President Charlie Jong Jung and his team of young leaders for bringing this important conference to Illinois and for their efforts in building a national organization or Korean-Americans.

CONGRATULATING THE LAKE
OCONEE ACADEMY SCHOOL

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to pay tribute to Lake Oconee Academy: a charter school based in Greensboro, Georgia, that was named one of the U.S. Department of Education National Blue Ribbon Schools in 2014 and was named one of the best 50 elementary schools in the United States.

Today, I want to commend Lake Oconee Academy and its vision for educational excellence and community involvement. Mr. Speaker, as you know, the National Blue Ribbon Award is given to the schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. In my opinion, the Lake Oconee Academy is more than just a scholastic entity. It is a place of opportunity and hope.

Far from being a stopping point where students survive until a better opportunity avails itself, the academy is a place where character and responsibility is held in high regard and taught daily. Students are taught the values they need to go on and succeed in life.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate Lake Oconee Academy on all of its many accolades and congratulate the students, and staff for all their fantastic endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF AL
ROTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a leader in our South Florida community, Mr. Al Roth.

It is with a heavy heart that I learned of his passing and I join other Floridians in mourning his death. Mr. Roth was a longtime Florida citrus farmer, hotelier, grocer and pioneer of both Broward County and the Town of Davie, which is located in the heart of Florida's 23rd District. His life is now part of the fabric of our South Florida history and he will be long remembered.

As Al's son Bob, of Bob Roth's New River Groves, said, "He was an icon, a machine. He just didn't give up. He was like three people. Nobody worked like him . . . He would set up a display and come back the next day and

change it. He said you have to let people know things are changing."

For as much as things changed throughout the decades, some things always remained the same, like Al's friendly smile, his kindness and his generosity.

His personality was larger than life, and always reflected the wonderful man that he was. And I know firsthand that he always made his customers and my constituents feel welcomed, happy and valued. He genuinely cared for all those around him, whether family, a customer or a passerby.

At 104 years young, Al was a mainstay of our South Florida landscape. Although Al is no longer with us, his legacy lives on in his family and the institutions he helped found for all who live in and visit Florida. I hope they will long serve as a tribute to him and the indelible mark he left on our community.

INTRODUCTION FOR THE ROBIN
DANIELSON FEMININE HYGIENE
PRODUCT SAFETY ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a long-time advocate of women's health, I am proud to reintroduce legislation that would address unanswered health concerns regarding the safety of feminine hygiene products through the Robin Danielson Feminine Hygiene Product Safety Act.

American women spend well over \$2 billion per year on feminine hygiene products and the average woman will use over 16,800 tampons and pads over the course of her lifetime. Yet, despite this large investment and high usage, there has been limited research on the potential health risks these products may pose to women.

Recent independent studies led by women's health organizations have shown that some feminine hygiene products could contain additives that may be harmful to a woman's health. While the FDA requires tampon manufacturers to monitor dioxin levels, this information is not made readily available to the public and much is still unknown about the cumulative adverse effects potentially posed by other components contained in these products. American women deserve the ability to make informed decisions when purchasing products that could affect their health.

It is time to move past menstrual health being taboo and ensure that accurate information with regards to women's health is being collected and is readily accessible. That is why I am reintroducing the Robin Danielson Feminine Hygiene Product Safety Act which directs the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to research whether the presence of dioxin, synthetic fibers, and other chemical additives like chlorine and fragrances pose any health risks to women who use feminine hygiene products. This bill emphasizes the need for more research and an understanding of additives in all feminine hygiene products.

I urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation that directs substantial, scientific research to be conducted in order to best protect the health of America's women.