

vital roles by providing professional and economic support in the fields of healthcare, education, and infrastructure. With Filipinos proudly being the second largest ethnic demographic on Guam, one can easily discover unique Filipino hubs filled with Filipino cuisine, fashion, and pop culture throughout Guam. Furthermore, their significant contributions are evidenced through the many community organizations formed for the benefit of charity, education assistance, and goodwill.

The peoples of the Philippines and Guam's shared history, culture, and traditions will forever bind us. Our shared pursuit of the CHamoru cultural foundation of harmony and striving to do good for all, (*inafa'maolek*) has been easily achieved and manifested in the melting pot of Guam due to the strong relationship fostered by the Filipino Community in Guam and the people of Guam.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to reflect upon the rich history & contributions of Filipino-Americans. Throughout America's history, present, and future, the Filipino community has played and will continue to play a major role in enriching the quality of life for the people of the United States, and for their outstanding contributions they are worthy of our respect and gratitude. On behalf of the People of Guam, I extend our great thanks (*un dangkulu na Si Yu'us ma'ase*) to all Filipinos in Guam and across our nation.

#### RECOGNIZING NATTY ELIAS

**HON. DONNA E. SHALALA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Ms. Natty Elias, the founder and President of Healthtex Distributors.

Over 30 years ago, Ms. Elias, took special interest in the large influx of Hispanics arriving to South Florida from Latin America. Having immigrated herself in the early 1960's from her native Cuba, Ms. Elias understood immigrant desire and nostalgia for products from their homeland. It was with this understanding and with the goal to fill that need that she launched Healthtex Distributors.

Despite initial push back from American retailers, Ms. Elias eventually grew her business from one product line into nearly 2,000 products imported from over a dozen countries around the world. Today, Healthtex Distributors is the largest distributor of Hispanic products in the state of Florida and her products are sold at over 4,000 stores across the country.

Through years of hard work and dedication, Ms. Elias has distinguished herself as one of the leading business women in our South Florida community.

#### HONORING CPL. MORRIS D. LINK

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the life of an American hero,

Corporal Morris D. Link, who is buried at the historic cemetery at St. Paul's Church in Mount Vernon, New York.

A Mount Vernon native, Cpl. Link served in World War I with the legendary 369th Infantry, an all-black regiment known as the Harlem Hellfighters, and was killed in action, receiving the French War Cross. Early on the morning of July 15, 1918, the 369th came under heavy artillery bombardment, part of the Second Battle of the Marne, as the French struggled to hold off a German offensive. The shells fell with particular ferocity on the front-line trenches, which were held by Link and soldiers of the regiment's Company K. Cpl. Link was among four soldiers killed in the action. Link was one of 85 Mt. Vernon soldiers killed during World War I. The city planted trees in honor of each of the fallen, and the sapling commemorating Link was based on Wallace Avenue at the intersection with Westchester Avenue.

Cpl. Link was one of the unit's earliest volunteers. He was born in North Carolina in 1883 and moved to Mount Vernon in the early 20th century where he lived with his wife Lizzie. Following his death in combat, Cpl. Link was interred in a French military cemetery, though three years later his remains were brought back to Mount Vernon for final burial. Cpl. Link's final resting place is memorialized with a veteran's stone.

October 12th of this year marks the 100th Anniversary of Cpl. Link's reinterment into the Mount Vernon Saint Paul Cemetery. Madam Speaker, on this solemn occasion, I am privileged to honor the memory of Cpl. Morris Link and all of the veterans who served and lost their lives from Mount Vernon and throughout my district. We owe them an eternal debt.

#### PREVENTING ONLINE SALES OF E-CIGARETTES TO CHILDREN ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 28, 2019*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on H.R. 3942, the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act. As the Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Food and Drug Administration's regulation of tobacco products, I ardently support efforts to protect America's youth from a life of tobacco use, nicotine addiction, and its negative consequences.

It is an unfortunate reality that nearly all tobacco use begins during youth and young adulthood. Research shows that 95 percent of adult smokers begin smoking before age 21 and 80 percent start before age 18. This is alarming to me, and should be alarming to everyone, because this is a crucial period for brain development. More worrisome is the fact that adolescent brains are more sensitive to nicotine, therefore young people may be more likely to develop a dependence on nicotine than adults.

In recent years, online sales for e-cigarette products, including flavored e-cigarette products that are appealing to kids, are putting a new generation at risk of a lifetime of chronic health conditions and disease associated with

nicotine addiction. Further, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns that e-cigarette products can contain other harmful substances besides nicotine. Other than a few clicks of the mouse, we have few meaningful barriers to stop young Americans from purchasing these tobacco products online.

That is why I support efforts to stop the flow of online tobacco sales. And while H.R. 3942 would require online age verification for the purchase and delivery of certain tobacco products, among other things, I believe this bill does not go far enough. If our aim is to prevent youth from purchasing these products online, then I firmly believe we should enact a complete ban against remote retail sales of all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and e-cigarette accessories. This would mean that individuals wishing to purchase tobacco products would have to do so in a face to face setting, providing a stronger barrier to youth purchase.

We should not focus alone on online sales though if our goal is to help reduce youth access and attraction to tobacco. I also believe we should take the following additional steps; raising the purchasing age to 21, enacting an across the board ban on all flavored tobacco products, including mint and menthol, and restricting the ability of tobacco and e-cigarette manufacturers to utilize deceptive marketing tactics to hook a new generation. That is why, this fall, I intend to move legislation I have authored—H.R. 2339, the Reversing the Youth Tobacco Epidemic of 2019—that contains these provisions among others. Taken together I believe these provisions would be the most meaningful step forward in working to reverse the damaging youth tobacco epidemic that is underway.

We are in a complicated epidemic of youth e-cigarette use, and this complex problem calls for a comprehensive, multifaceted solution. I thank my colleagues for offering up tools to fix the abundance of youth tobacco use, but believe we must take every step possible, including prohibiting all non-face-to-face sales in order to address this public health crisis.

#### CELEBRATING THE DEDICATION OF THE PROUD TO TAKE STAND MONUMENT

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the unveiling of the Proud to Take Stand Monument in Natchez, Mississippi.

I would like to recognize the State of Mississippi and the City of Natchez for their efforts in establishing the monument, which sits on the southwest corner of the Natchez City Auditorium at Jefferson and Canal streets.

The Proud to Take Stand Monument honors 486 civil rights activists who were arrested for attempting to protest segregation, discrimination and mistreatment by white leaders in October of 1965. The group was forced by local authorities onto buses and charged with "parading without permit," a local ordinance later ruled unconstitutional. The activists were taken to the Mississippi State Penitentiary in