

with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

The struggle to end the transatlantic slave trade and slavery was achieved by African resistance and economic factors as well as through humanitarian campaigns. Africans fought tirelessly to overcome the brutal treatment that they endured. The years that our ancestors fought for freedom were among the most difficult times that Africans faced.

It is because of the sacrifices that our ancestors made that African Americans are free today, and able to be part of this wonderful body. We must not forget what our ancestors have done for us. We must teach our children and the generations not yet born of the sacrifices that were made in the name of our freedom. We must continue to celebrate the anniversaries such as this so our history may never go forgotten.

The 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade marks a tremendous accomplishment in African American history. It is with great honor that I am able to speak on such a significant part of my history.

TRIBUTE TO TELACU FOR ITS  
COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCEMENT  
AND EMPOWERMENT OF  
LATINOS

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 7, 2007*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I ask for unanimous consent to revise and extend my remarks.

The people of this great Nation share a common spirit and heritage. Whether born on the soil of this land or having chosen to come here in search of a better life—one free of political, social, and economic oppression, we are a Nation of pioneers. We believe in the American dream, and the promise that through our labors we can achieve educational and economic success. No barrier is too imposing, no obstacle too tall that it should stand in the way of pursuing this dream.

Two of my congressional predecessors, Senators Robert F. Kennedy and Jacob Javits, advanced legislation in the 1960s that promoted this dream by laying the foundation for an organization called TELACU. Since its founding in 1968, TELACU has become the largest community and economic development corporation in the United States. TELACU is a pioneered institution committed to service, empowerment, advancement and the creation of self-sufficiency within the Latino community.

Brought to life through a small investment appropriated by Congress, TELACU has grown to become an organization with nearly \$500 million in assets, creating thousands of jobs, affordable homes, loans to small business people, and most importantly, numerous educational opportunities for our Latino youth and veterans.

TELACU established the LINC TELACU Education Foundation, LTEF. For more than 2 decades, the Education Foundation has been working towards removing the formidable barriers that prevent Latino youth from achieving academic success. Latino youth not only struggle against the effects of low-income

households, inadequate support and counseling, but a lack of professional and academic role models, all of which contribute to why only 39 percent of Latino high school graduates in Los Angeles County go on to higher education.

TELACU Education Foundation realized that there is no more vital asset in any community than its human capital, which is why they began their efforts to reverse these trends. For more than 2 decades, the LINC TELACU Education Foundation has contributed to the development of our future Latino leaders through a variety of programs designed to maximize the potential of our youth.

The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program, established in 1983, is one program that helps students realize their dream of a college education by providing scholarships, supplemented by other essential support.

In conceiving the foundation, TELACU discovered that while financial assistance is vital for college students to achieve academic success, other factors are also important. Students who are the first in their families ever to attend college often lack the support system necessary to achieve their dream. Socio-economic factors, family responsibilities, cultural identity and financial stress create very real conflicting challenges to academic life.

The LINC TELACU Scholarship Program provides its youth not only with monetary assistance, but also counseling, leadership training, classes in time management and other subjects that will help them succeed in college.

TELACU has partnered with corporate donors, private individuals, and a vast network of colleges and universities, providing the driving force behind one of the most effective national institutions ever to impact the educational needs of the Latino community.

The LINC TELACU Education Foundation has accepted this challenge head on, combining important financial assistance with highly effective programs that ensure college completion. The foundation supports 600 college students and serves 2,000 elementary, middle and high school students and veterans each year. The success of this extraordinary foundation is best summarized by the numbers: Its scholar retention and college graduation rates are an astounding 100 percent.

Madam Speaker, I join today with community leaders throughout my State to express our Nation's gratitude to TELACU, the LINC TELACU Education Foundation and for scholarship programs like this one, for believing in the dream of higher education for all of America's next generation of leaders.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA  
HONOR AIR VETERANS

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 7, 2007*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On May 11, 2007 a group of 96 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home state of Louisiana to visit

Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit I will accompany them to visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.

RECOGNIZING DADE CITY, FLORIDA,  
FOR THEIR MAIN STREET  
RENOVATION PROGRAM

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 7, 2007*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding steps taken by Dade City leaders to renovate and improve their Main Street area. These efforts to revitalize Main Street have made Dade City one of the brightest spots on the Gulf Coast of Florida. On May 18, 2007, Dade City is celebrating its 20th anniversary as part of Florida's Main Street program.

Noticing a decline in the beauty and economic vitality of Dade City's downtown in the 1980s, local leaders began to look into joining the Main Street program. Pat Weaver, Otto Weitzenkorn, Helen Brandt and the late Lewis Abraham banded together to find the resources to send representatives to the annual Main Street meeting in Orlando.

The Orlando meeting taught these concerned residents how to implement the "Main Street Four-Point Approach," a comprehensive strategy tailored to meet local needs and opportunities. The approach encompasses work in four distinct areas: design, economic restructuring, promotion, and organization. Ms. Weaver and Ms. Brandt returned from the meeting with a plan to develop a strong base of local business owners and citizens to see this concept through to becoming reality in Dade City. In 1985, they received a technical assistance program by the Department of State, Bureau of Historic Preservation through the Florida Main Street program. In April 1987, downtown Dade City was officially designated a Florida Main Street community.

On May 18, the Downtown Dade City Main Street program is celebrating its 20th anniversary with a party at one of its highly touted area restaurants. In reflecting on its history, the Downtown Dade City Main Street program has distinguished itself as one of the exemplary models of the Florida Main Street program. In addition, it has been successful in downtown restoration projects such as the Historic Courthouse, the establishment of the Community Redevelopment Agency to fund long-range downtown projects, the facade improvement grant, and for the millions of dollars it has helped bring to downtown construction and restoration projects.

Madam Speaker, I applaud all the men and women who have contributed to the success of the Dade City Main Street program over the past twenty years. These individuals exemplify how working tirelessly on downtown renovation and revitalization can reverse the decline of a community. This program continues to remain a vital part of downtown Dade City, and