November 19, 1999

know soon whether this procedure worked to treat primary tumors” if the cancers have not returned, he says.

That’s part of phase II of the China project. In four to six weeks, Vance will choose 10 more patients in China to have primary tumors of the lung removed and Sewell will perform their surgeries. A month later, those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography scans — to determine whether their cancers are indeed destroyed.

Since lung cancer is aggressive, about a month after surgery is an ideal time to evaluate the outcomes, Vance says.

“We will evaluate the effects of radiofrequency ablation with and without combined chemotherapy and radiation therapy . . . to assess overall survival,” states Vance. Both mid- and late-stage lung cancer are being treated in the China project.

“We’ll collect the data, publish it, and hope to prove our hypothesis—that this will be an effective way to treat a variety of lung tumors,” Sewell concludes.

CLEVELAND WILL MISS DON WEBSTER

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Cleveland legend who is leaving our fair city and heading south. Don Webster will no longer give Clevelanders the lowdown on lake effect snow, water spouts and other area weather abnormalities from his familiar home at Channel 5, WEWS.

Instead, in retirement he’ll spend his days in beautiful Hilton Head, South Carolina, where I have no doubt he’ll nurse his golf game and his famed tan. As any Clevelander knows, when it comes to tanning, Don Webster gives George Hamilton a run for his money.

My guess is he’ll also delight the locals and tourists with his meteorological prowess whenever hurricane watch and warning warnings are announced, and wax poetic about approaching fronts and the effects of El Niño and La Niña.

Don Webster and I first met more than a decade ago when I was the Lake County prosecutor and he was the grand marshal of the Fairport Harbor Mardi Gras Parade, and our paths have crossed many times since, especially at charity events. Don Webster probably won’t enjoy this observation, but I feel like I’ve known him since I was about 10 years old.

I used to watch Don Webster every Sunday on a small, black-and-white TV in the living room of my childhood home in Cleveland Heights as he emceed Academic Challenge. My hope in mentioning this is that Don will at least feel a little bit old since he looks roughly the same today as he did three and decades ago. It hardly seems fair that Don Webster remains the epitome of vigor and perpetual youth while those of us who grew up watching him are losing our hair.

Don Webster is known to an entire generation of Americans as the host of nationally syndicated, rock ‘n’ roll dance show Upbeat. Don Webster hosted the show—the second-longest running show of its kind in history—for seven years. He got to meet just about every rock ‘n’ roll legend along the way. In fact, Upbeat photos of Webster with Jerry Lee Lewis and the late, great Carl Perkins, who sang in the “My Town” exhibit at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland.

In his 35 years with Channel 5, Don Webster did a little bit of everything—from hosting It’s Academic and The Ohio Lottery Show to working in management as station manager. But most people know his true love was delivering weather forecasts, which he’s done for more than two decades.

We will miss Don Webster and his familiar presence in our lives, but wish the best for him and his lovely wife, Candace, in their new life in Hilton Head.

TRIBUTE TO BRANDI NICHOLE GASKEY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the best students in my district, Brandi Nichole Gaskey, has just graduated from Farragut High School.

She has had an amazing four years in high school. She was a member of the National Honor Society all four years, and she was also President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes her junior and senior year.

Brandi was also involved in sports at Farragut and was voted most athletic, as well.

Mr. Speaker, recently Brandi Gaskey was asked to give the commencement address at Farragut High School. I have attached a copy of her remarks that I would like to acknowledge to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

HOPE THROUGH CHARACTER

31281

By Brandi Nichole Gaskey

Mr. Superintendent, friends, family, distinguished guests, faculty, and fellow graduates of the last class of the century, I stand before you tonight filled with excitement as I welcome you to the 1999 Farragut High School Graduation Ceremony. As we have come to the end of our formal education, to form some of us a miraculous occasion, the question was asked “Does character count?”

Although I could not think of one word to define character, I respond with an enthusiastic YES, character does count. I counts for you and me and every person we will ever come in contact with. It counts in a big way through the small things we do or say every day. Character is who you are in the dark, when no one is looking. It’s what’s on the inside, the gutsy stuff you’re made of that no one knows about, but one day every one will see. My pastor, Doug Sager, once said, “your character is your set of values that are non negotiable. It’s the quality of life given to you by God to say that is right and to stand up for it.” For you see, your character can either make you or break you because every one has character, it’s just a matter of how you choose to develop it. For example, two students at Columbine High School had the character to kill their fellow classmates, while other students at Columbine High School had the character to stand up for their faith no matter what the cost. So I’d like to share with you today how to develop your character, and exactly why it does count.

Margot Isobel once said something that reveals the importance of your true heart and true character. She said, “I think t’would be lovely to live and do good, to grow up to be the girl that I should. A heart full of sunshine and a life full of beauty and grace. One character so she is pleasing to the. I think t’would be lovely to make people glad, to cheer up the lonely, discouraged, and sad. What matter if homely or beautiful, if lovely in spirit I’m striving to be. As long as I’m striving to be.”

So you see your character can make a difference in the lives of others. It’s what’s on the inside, your inner spirit, it’s what you’ve thought about, and what you’ve felt, what you’ve developed through the years, what you’ve persevered through at home and at school, it’s your character that
INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. SUE W. KELLY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of introducing the Small Business Disaster Assistance Act.

This is a two-part proposal that seeks to provide both immediate assistance to viable small businesses and agricultural enterprises when first dealing with the damage wrought by a disaster, and more long-term assistance which seeks to provide them with the needed lift as they continue to work towards normalcy.

My bill creates a program whereby viable small businesses and agricultural enterprises would be eligible for a grant of up to $30,000 in order to provide them with the immediate assistance they need when dealing with a disaster. Additionally, the bill creates a loan program that acknowledges the great difficulties small business owners and farmers encounter during the first year following a disaster by allowing for a one-year deferral on any repayments toward the loan.

This is a compassionate, reasonable proposal that seeks to provide small businesses and farmers with assistance during a time when they need it most. I'd like to thank my colleagues who will join us in this effort to assist small business owners and farmers encounter when they need it most. I'd like to thank my colleagues who will join us in this effort to assist small business owners and farmers whose lives have been fundamentally diminished by natural disaster.

ROMANIA

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chair of the Romanian Caucus, I rise today to enter into the record remarks in support of Romania. Mr. Speaker, the Heads of State and Government participating in the Istanbul Summit will designate the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the year 2001.

ROMANIA has been fostering support for its candidacy since 1996, when President Emil Constantinescu submitted his country’s bid for the OSCE Chair in 2001. Romania enjoys U.S. support and has succeeded to build consensus around its candidacy among full OSCE members. Romania will be entrusted to chair the OSCE in 2001, and it will join Austria and Norway in the OSCE Troika, starting January 2000.

The United States and Romania in 1997, established a strategic partnership resulting in close cooperation and consultations on all issues of common interest, particularly: NATO policies; promoting stability and security in Southeastern Europe, combating non-traditional threats; military and economic reforms in Romania and its region. Romania has also been a key supporter of U.S. and NATO policy in the Kosovo crisis, assisting the U.S. and NATO in actions meant to bring stability to the Balkans.

Romania’s government and Parliament approved without reservation oversight rights for NATO aircraft at the height of the Kosovo conflict. Romania is among the regional countries which observes the embargo against Former Yugoslav Republic of Serbia at significant costs. Romania has proven to be a reliable partner of the U.S. and NATO and is consistent in improving its credentials for future integration with NATO. All Romanian political forces, as well as a large majority of the people, support the goals of integration with NATO and the EU. In December 1999, Romania will host the Southeast European Defense Ministerial (SEDM), in which the United States participates.

Within this framework, Romania takes part in efforts to operationalize the Southeast European Multinational Peace Force, the first ever attempt at peaceful military cooperation in the region. Romania is the Chairman in Office of the Southeast European Cooperation Process and, as such, has been instrumental in promoting joint positions and actions of countries neighboring the region.

Active participants in the U.S.-supported Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), Romania has lead the efforts to conclude a regional Agreement for the fight against transborder crime and corruption which was signed in Bucharest, on 26 May 1999. Romania hosts the SECI Regional Center for the fight against transborder crime and corruption. The Center was inaugurated on 16 November 1999 and acts as a critical instrument for promoting a healthy business climate in Southeastern Europe, combating non-traditional threats and transborder crime.

Therefore, it is suggested that: The United States Congress expresses support for Romania’s nomination as OSCE Chair in 2001 and readiness to cooperate with Romania in the exercise of the resulting responsibilities. The United States Congress looks forward to sending a large delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Romania, in July 2000. The United States Congress acknowledges and highlights Romania’s relevance as a regional role-model for inter-ethnic cooperation, steady evolution towards mature democracy as well as decisive efforts towards a functioning market economy, against the background of difficult challenges of the reform process.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTIN STEIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Lieutenant Martin Stein, a member of the New York City Police Department.

At a time, when police departments around this nation are under attack because of accusations of brutality, wrongful deaths and generally poor community relations, Lt. Stein continues to demonstrate a sense of professionalism and commitment which has made him a credit to law enforcement. He joined the police force in 1981 and has held a variety of positions of increasing responsibility during this time period. With a career that has covered various precincts in Manhattan and Brooklyn, Lieutenant Stein is currently the Special Operations Lieutenant for the 81st precinct. In this capacity, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the precincts specialized units: Anti-Crime; Street Narcotics; Warrants; Field Training and Community Policing Unit. He also ensures that these units work with the patrol force to respond to the calls and needs of the community.

Under Lieutenant Stein’s leadership, the 81st Precinct has seen an overall 53% reduction in crime. It is particularly significant that homicides have been reduced by 37% and shootings by 70%. These statistics indicate a real quality of life improvement for my constituents who reside in the Bedford-Sluyses section of Brooklyn which is served by the 81st precinct.

Lieutenant Stein was recently married to his wife, Mary, and has a 14 year old son Peter from a previous marriage. After three years at York College in Queens, he is currently pursuing his Bachelor’s degree in the New York State Regents Degree Program. I commend his fine work to the attention of my colleagues.

THANKSGIVING

HON. BOB SCHAFFER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, three hundred and seventy-eight years ago, Plymouth Colony Governor William Bradford “sent four men fowling, so they might in a special manner rejoice together after they had gathered the fruit of their labor.” This event marked the