

Mr. Speaker, this was a momentous day for so many people, and I just want to thank all the staffs throughout this Congress working here in this Chamber, the staffs that work for Members' personal offices, the staffs that work on all our committees for the tremendous work they have done year in and year out to help us get to this day.

#### TRIBUTE TO TERESA B. STAERK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to salute a young lady from my district Teresa Staerk who was a very special person and for me a role model. She died suddenly and tragically at 41 this past Saturday. She had great courage and strength. Her honesty and forthright manner were a model for others, her loyalty and generosity, her skill and desire to overcome her own disability to reach out to others in need. She was wheelchair bound, but she did not think of herself as having a disability. She worked for those who were disabled, and she was the pioneer in Pennsylvania for making sure that we had opportunities for transportation and mass transit for those who were in wheelchairs permanently. She worked on making sure that at our train stations we had ramps, that we had bridge plates to get individuals from the ramp into the train. She worked to make sure that our transit systems had chair lifts for especially equipped buses so those who wanted to maintain their mobility and independence could do so. She testified to our State capital in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to make sure that she was a strong voice for others who could not speak or were not as committed or did not really have the will that she had. She was a very special person. Then she came to Washington do the same thing, to speak out on transit opportunities for the disabled.

She helped everyone, and she really was a trailblazer. Not only did she work to improve mass transit and to help inspire those who have some disabilities, but overcome them like she has, but she worked to organize our Toys for Tots program at our marine base. She worked to help support the Rosalyn Boys and Girls Club in our home county. She also worked to support the Girls and Boy Scouts programs.

She took every stumbling block that life gave her and turned into a stepping stone to help her community but not to help herself. She had a thirst of life that was unquenchable, and she accomplished more in her short 41 years than most people do that are lucky enough to live twice as long.

So I am hoping that those who hear about Terry Staerk and those who have the opportunity to meet her and who will later hopefully read about her life who want to be like her, a cross be-

tween Eleanor Roosevelt and Mother Theresa, who had a compassion and a vision, someone who was as selfless as can be and only was happy when we kept on trying.

She did not understand the word no. She used to say to people what part of no do you not understand because she knew that things that were difficult just took longer but never gave up.

So am hoping that her indomitable spirit, which is in the great historic dreams of America, will be lived on by others.

Her mother said at the funeral last night:

Teresa lived her life day by day, moment by moment. For her each day, each moment, was rich and full despite the obstacles she encountered. This was due not only to her own determination, courage and zest for life, but also to you, those of her family friends. She was a vibrant, beautiful woman who was like the wind, free to travel, to learn and to see all that there is to see, and for her dreams that were unfulfilled, I hope that we can continue her dream.

I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. SHAYS. I appreciate the gentleman yielding. Just as I finished my statement on something my staff had written about what was life was like 20 years ago, the staff member said I just returned last night from visiting the wall where there are over 50,000 American soldiers who lost their life in Vietnam, and I could have added that 20 years ago we had soldiers in Vietnam who answered their country's call when the last time we had a balanced budget, and a number of those men who were sent to Vietnam never came back to see the day we have today where we are once again going to have a balance budget, and I thank the gentleman for allowing me that opportunity.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of the very sensitive from the Congressman from Connecticut because we would not have the opportunity to be here in Congress to serve in a great privilege as it is if those people who had not fought in Vietnam and in other wars for this country to give us the right to serve here in peace. So to each of them I salute them and join the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. SHAYS] in that additional tribute which is very fitting for today and this historic setting.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JEFFERSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, on August 1.

Mr. METCALF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHAYS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

#### EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matter:)

Mr. DAVIS.

Mr. CALLAHAN.

Mr. SKEEN.

Mr. FORBES.

Mr. WELLER.

Mr. QUINN.

Mr. HILL.

Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

Mrs. ROUKEMA.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

(The following Members (at the request of Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous matter:)

Mr. HAMILTON.

Mr. FARR of California.

Mr. WAXMAN.

Ms. NORTON.

Mr. MCHALE.

Mr. KUCINICH.

Mr. SABO.

Ms. KAPTUR.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

Mr. BLUMENAUER.

Mr. BAESLER.

Mr. POSHARD.

Mr. BORSKI.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 430. An act of June 20, 1910, to protect the permanent trust funds of the State of New Mexico from erosion due to inflation and modify the basis on which distributions are made from those funds.

S. 670. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 to eliminate the special transition rule for issuance of a certificate of citizenship for certain children born outside the United States.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, July 31, 1997, at 10 a.m.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XXIV, executive communications were taken from