

staff or resources to carry out more than one project at a time.

While FEMA agreed that communities should spend their grants in a more timely manner, FEMA was concerned about taking steps that would undermine the planning process at local levels by placing more focus on expenditures, or infringe upon local budget cycles and negate community efforts to obtain additional funding. In response to these concerns, FEMA now requires communities to align Project Impact funding with local projects initiated within 18 months of funding. The Inspector General concurred with FEMA's action.

To deal with management issues, the Inspector General recommended that FEMA provide technical assistance to new communities on federal grant management. In response, FEMA has expanded opportunities for technical assistance through availability of regional staff, the Project Impact "How-To-Get-Started" course, and FEMA's Web site. The Inspector General also recommended improved accounting and reporting by the communities and FEMA to keep records current and accessible. FEMA agreed, implemented new procedures, and the Inspector General was satisfied with their response. Here is a successful example of the Federal Government returning money and power to local governments.

The IG report recognizes the significant amount of effort already performed by communities and the active involvement with communities that FEMA spends before mitigation projects are accepted and approved. It also recognizes that attitudinal and behavioral changes are occurring in communities through collaboration and increasing public awareness and education about disaster mitigation efforts. It states that while the benefits derived from such efforts can not be quantified, they are very important to a community that hopes to sustain disaster preparedness measures, long after the initial seed money is gone.

Perhaps these very important, but inherently unquantifiable activities are what the President's spokesman is referring to when he suggests programs such as "scout camps, training Boy Scouts in Delaware, sponsoring a safety fair and those kinds of things" were not worthwhile and demonstrated that the program was ineffective?

Which scout activities should not have been sponsored? The community service project in Pascagoula, MI in which local Boy Scouts were instrumental in developing a database of all commercial and residential structures in the 100-year floodplain? Or the Boy Scouts in Eden, NY who helped clean up debris in creeks that are prone to flooding as part of the community flood mitigation plan? Or the Ouachita Parish, LA Girl Scouts who sponsored a disaster safety fair. Perhaps the Boy Scouts in Culebra, PR, who performed an intensive door-to-door mitigation-oriented public awareness campaign, did not deserve training?

The last recommendation in the report was for FEMA to realign resources to better manage the growing number of Project Impact communities. FEMA responded by creating a new position in each region to augment Project Impact staffing needs to deal with the growing number of Project Impact communities and business partners due to the program's popularity and success.

Project Impact is not perfect. Certainly there are areas that could be improved and ways in which it could be made more efficient. FEMA's Inspector General identified several such areas. Through communication and cooperation, FEMA is addressing these issues. In no part of the report does the Inspector General suggest that the program be canceled. On the contrary, many of its recommendations are to help FEMA deal with how the program is growing so that it can continue its successes and improve upon its accomplishments.

The 50th State is vulnerable to a host of natural disasters, and Hawaii's state and local officials know that disaster mitigation is the best way to lessen the impact of catastrophic damage and loss of life. I was interested that when asked about the proposed elimination of Project Impact, the Honorable Harry Kim, mayor of the County of Hawaii and formerly the county's director of civil defense for 24 years, said, "If it were not for mitigation efforts, we would never stay ahead of the game. I hope those in authority will talk to local officials because I would be surprised if anyone would support eliminating Project Impact. The growing pains of any project should not be the cause of cancellation." I agree with Mayor Kim. I urge the President to take another look at Project Impact, which is the only federal program that requires heavy community involvement to meet FEMA's goal of reducing the loss of life and property by protecting the nation from all types of hazards.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA BICENTENNIAL

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, the Year 2001 marks Arlington County's 200th anniversary as a separate and distinct county.

On March 4, 1801, the District of Columbia was organized on land Virginia and Maryland had ceded to provide territory for the new capital. Virginia ceded part of what was then Fairfax County as its contribution to the new Federal City. This area was named Alexandria County and at the time included the Town of Alexandria as well as what is now Arlington County. Alexandria County was later returned to Virginia by the Federal government. In 1870, the Town of Alexandria became an independent city, separating from Alexandria County. In 1920, in order to

avoid confusion between the county and the city of Alexandria, the name of the county was changed to Arlington, after the Curtis-Lee Mansion located in the county.

Arlington's past laid a solid foundation for the community many of us know today, a place rich in historic value, cultural diversity and economic vitality. The Arlington County Bicentennial Task Force has been formed to coordinate commemorative activities throughout 2001. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this wonderful community located just across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C. •

#### MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO DR. CLAUDE SHANNON

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I rise today in memory of Dr. Claude Shannon, a pioneer in the field of modern communications technology. His work provided a major part of the theoretical foundation leading to applications as diverse as digital cell phones, deep space communications and the compact disc.

Dr. Shannon died on February 24 after suffering from Alzheimer's disease. He was not widely known by the general public, but he should have been. His work predated the establishment of the World Wide Web, but in 1948 he published a seminal paper entitled "A Mathematical Theory of Communication." This paper was the first to provide a mathematical model of the communication process. He was able to define "information" in a way that was unrelated to its semantic meaning by explaining the power of encoding information in a simple language of 1's and 0's. Communication then became the process of transferring information from a "source", modified by an "encoder", through a "channel", to a "decoder" at the output of a channel. This theory underlies the modern communications revolution.

Dr. Shannon's work showed that every kind of information source—text, images, video, data—has associated with it a quantifiable information content that mandates how efficiently it can be represented, the basis for "data compression." For instance, he showed that, no matter how clever you are, you can't represent English text with less than about 1.5 bits per letter. Dr. Shannon also established fundamental limits to how efficiently one can transmit information over imperfect communication channels; his work on reliable transmission formed the theoretical basis for the modems, satellite links and computer memories that are pervasive today. These aspects of Shannon's work became the foundation of what we now call "Information Theory."

As important as Dr. Shannon's 1948 masterwork was, it was not his sole contribution to the emerging information age. As a graduate student at MIT, Shannon made a profound and fundamental contribution to the field of

computer design when he showed that a then-obscure branch of mathematics called "Boolean algebra," the algebra of 1's and 0's, could be used to design circuits for computation and switching. The result was what some have called "the most influential master's thesis in history." Shannon's work on cryptography during World War II also formed the modern theoretical framework for secure communication systems.

The Washington Post pointed out in Dr. Shannon's obituary that his achievements are at the core of the technology that delivers the Internet and its various applications, from music to video to e-mail. His work has had applications in fields as diverse as computer science, genetic engineering and neuroanatomy. Some have called his 1948 paper "the Magna Carta of the information age."

Dr. Shannon was also renowned by his friends and colleagues for his eclectic interests and capabilities. He rode down the halls of Bell Labs on a unicycle while juggling; he invented a rocket-powered Frisbee; and he developed "THROBAC-I," a computer that computed in Roman numerals.

There are only a few authentic geniuses in this world. Dr. Shannon was one and today we remember him for his accomplishments.●

#### RECOGNIZING ROBERTO ESTRADA AND THE WORLD'S LARGEST RED ENCHILADA

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, Saturday, March 10, 2001, marks a special day for the city of Las Cruces, NM. In a special ceremony, Las Cruces and Mr. Roberto Estrada will enter the Guinness Book of World Records. Roberto led the effort to make the world's largest three-layered, flat enchilada last October 8th during the annual Las Cruces Whole Enchilada Fiesta. This culinary triumph measured 33.89 feet in circumference, with a diameter of 10 feet, 5 inches.

Roberto Estrada has worked toward this day for about 20 years, each year slowly increasing the size of the enchilada. He is a native of Mesilla, N.M., and a graduate of Las Cruces High School. A community-spirited chef, he began pressing corn tortillas at the age of 15. In 1968, Roberto bought an old tortilla factory and created the New Mexico Mexican Food. He expanded and opened a restaurant next door, appropriately named Roberto's.

The Whole Enchilada Fiesta is a three-day celebration of southern New Mexico's traditions, people and great food. The community celebration centers around making a gigantic enchilada. Chef and founder of the fiesta, Estrada combines Southwest ingredients to make the crowd-pleasing enchilada.

You must realize a lot goes into making this enchilada. The recipe calls for 975 pounds of ground corn, grated cheese and chopped onions, in addition

to 250 gallons of red chile sauce and vegetable oil. Roberto designed the special equipment used to cook the enchilada, including the press, carrying plate, cooking vat and serving plate.

A downtown street in Las Cruces is closed for creating and cooking the enchilada. To start, 250 pounds of ground corn dough, or masa, is placed on the press and carrying plate and pressed to make the tortilla. It is then cooked in a vat of 550-degree vegetable oil. Once cooked, the colossal corn tortilla is laid on the serving plate. Roberto then ladles chile sauce and spreads cheese and onions on the tortilla. This completes the first layer of the enchilada and the whole process is repeated two more times. More than a dozen volunteers help carry the ingredients and work the equipment.

All these ingredients, equipment and labor come together to create what is now known as the "Largest Red Enchilada." After approximately two and a half hours from start to finish, the zesty dish is completed and served to the spectators who gathered to watch this event.

New Mexico is known for its diverse culture, great weather, and excellent food. Now there will be proof in the Guinness Book of World Records that the largest enchilada has been made by Roberto Estrada of Las Cruces, NM.

In a state that cherishes its chile, red or green, this is a Guinness honor that belongs in New Mexico. To pinpoint it even further, the Mesilla Valley in southern New Mexico is one of the more renowned chile growing regions in the country. And I salute Roberto for taking the initiative as part of the Whole Enchilada Fiesta to bring the world's attention to our love of good and spicy food.

I extend an invitation to anyone interested in being a part of this great annual event in Las Cruces.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RENÉ JOSEY

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is an honor for me to recognize René Josey, who recently stepped down as U.S. Attorney for the District of South Carolina after five years. Mr. Josey brought 10 years of experience practicing law to the job and built a reputation for being more than just an administrator. He took an active role during his tenure as district attorney, prosecuting 13 criminal cases and earning the genuine respect of his staff and fellow attorneys. Although he raised his profile at the office, he remained an unassuming public servant and focused his energy on the tasks at hand.

His accomplishments are numerous, not the least of which include the group of experienced litigators he brought on board who have strengthened our state's legal system. René Josey has returned to private practice with Turner, Padgett, Graham & Laney, a Columbia, South Carolina law firm with offices in his hometown of Florence and in Charleston. It has been

a pleasure for both me and my staff to work with a talented individual like René and we wish him all the best as he continues his successful career.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 624. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation.

S.J. Res. 6. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, relating to ergonomics.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 31. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation and supporting National Donor Day.

H. Con. Res. 47. Concurrent resolution honoring the 21 members of the National Guard who were killed in the crash of a National Guard aircraft on March 3, 2001, in south-central Georgia.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 12:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 19. Joint Resolution providing for the appointment of Walter E. Massey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The enrolled joint resolution was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 624. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.