

missed and his generosity will forever be remembered. May he rest in peace.●

TRIBUTE TO C. EDWARD BROWN

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a fellow Iowan, C. Edward "Ed" Brown, FACHE, on his election as the chair of the board of directors of the American Medical Group Association.

Mr. Brown has had a distinguished career in health care in Iowa where he has served for the last 15 years as chief executive officer of the Iowa Clinic, a multispecialty group practice in Des Moines. Ed has a long list of achievements in delivering cutting edge, quality focused health care to the benefit of Iowans, and his achievements include the Iowa Clinic's adoption of electronic medical records and information technology systems. He holds a master's degree in health administration from Washington University in St. Louis, and he is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives with over 25 years of experience in executive and senior levels of health care management.

As the head of the American Medical Group Association, Ed's vision and management skills will be put to good use in leading an organization that represents some of the Nation's highest quality and most prestigious health care delivery systems. It is wonderful to see someone with such a distinguished health care record in Iowa recognized at the national level as a dedicated leader who is committed to improving health care at such an important time for our Nation's health care system.

Ed's voice will be a valuable contribution to the health care debate in 2009 in Washington, and I congratulate him on this new chairmanship.●

ZULUS 100TH BIRTHDAY

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, this month America reflects on a series of notable birthdays and anniversaries, including President Abraham Lincoln turning 200, and the NAACP celebrating its centennial.

In Louisiana, we are honoring a special birthday that is unique to our State. The famous Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure Club will enjoy its 100th year.

The Zulus have a special place in Louisiana's history, which is as colorful as the signature Zulu decorative coconuts. For 100 years they have been an integral part of our Mardi Gras festivities and New Orleans culture. Dubbing themselves "the everyman club," the Zulu Social Aid & Pleasure club is composed of African-American men from all walks of life.

While there are several stories about how the Zulus first came about, we know they made their first appearance in the Mardi Gras parade in 1909 when William Story led the Zulus as King.

That year the group wore raggedy pants and had a Jubilee-singing quartet in front of and behind King Story.

Just 6 years later, the Zulus used their first float. It was rather modestly decorated with palmetto leaves and moss. Of course, this first float gave rise to the more lavishly decorated Zulu floats that we are accustomed to seeing today.

Since 1916, the Zulus have given the first official Mardi Gras toast to King and Queen Zulu at the Geddes and Moss Funeral Home on Washington Avenue.

Since 1910, the Zulus have been famous for the Zulu Coconut, often called the "Golden Nugget," which they throw from floats during Mardi Gras parades. The tradition developed, and they began scraping and painting the coconuts—now an indelible part of New Orleans Mardi Gras culture.

In January, I was honored to receive from Zulu president Charles Hamilton, Jr., a special Zulu coconut as gift for President Obama. Mr. Hamilton traveled to Washington by train to hand deliver the gift, which I hope to present to the President very soon. It was hand-painted by Gretna artist Keith Eccles and incorporates Mardi Gras colors and themes with the distinctive red, white and blue of Washington, DC. Mr. Hamilton has said that he wanted to give President Obama a piece of New Orleans and Zulu history. I can't think of a better representation.

In addition to the Zulu coconut, the Zulus' contribution to New Orleans is well-documented. The group proudly participates in the Adopt-A-School program and contributes to Southern University's scholarship fund. The Zulus also give Christmas baskets to needy families each holiday season.

Over the years, many famous Louisianians have taken part in the Zulu tradition. In 1949, Louis Armstrong was King Zulu. And in 1988, New Orleans native Desiree Rogers—now the White House social secretary for President Obama—served as Zulu Queen.

This year, that proud tradition will be carried on by Zulu King Tyrone Mathieu, Sr., and Zulu Queen Sheila Barnes Mathieu.

I congratulate the many generations of Zulus who have left their mark on Mardi Gras and our great city of New Orleans. I ask the Senate to join me in wishing the Zulus a happy 100th birthday—and all the best in the next 100 years.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:08 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 35. Concurrent resolution honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

At 3:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, an-

nounced that the House agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1) making supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes.

At 5:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 663. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building".

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Mr. TANNER of Tennessee, Chairman.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 663. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 12877 Broad Street in Sparta, Georgia, as the "Yvonne Ingram-Ephraim Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-754. A communication from the General Counsel, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Credit Union Service Organizations" (RIN3133-AD20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-755. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulation AA, Regulation DD and Regulation Z" ((Docket No. R-1314)(Docket No. R-1315)(Docket No. R-1286)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-756. A communication from the Chief, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Unlicensed Operation in the TV Broadcast Bands; Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices Below 900 MHz and in the 3 GHz Band" ((FCC 08-260)(ET Docket No. 04-186)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.