

For over 20 years, Woody contributed his wit, intelligence, and passion to the Fresno Bee and our community. His work was widely read by the people of our Valley, and his regular column reflected his own personal biography while informing so many of our daily lives.

Born in 1924, Woody was a Montana native who served in World War II. He dedicated his career to the printed word, and his work in the newspaper industry took him from the Martinez News-Gazette to the Paso Robles Press. Along the way, Woody worked as a reporter, an editor, an advertising salesman, and a publisher.

The Fresno Bee and its readers were lucky enough to land Woody in 1967. His Around Here column became a mainstay of its pages, and the stories and wisdom he passed along touched so many in our Valley. While Woody's column ended in 1989, I can still remember opening the Bee and turning to the latest edition of Around Here.

Outside of work, Woody was dedicated to his family and helping those in need. His charity over the years was remarkable and he will be remembered by his generosity and compassion.

Madam Speaker, my thoughts and prayers are with Woody's family and friends as we honor the life of an individual who contributed so much to our Valley.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE
ENERGY AND CLIMATE PART-
NERSHIP OF THE AMERICAS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution to support the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas. This resolution focuses on an initiative launched by President Obama in Port of Spain, Trinidad during the Summit of the Americas in April 2009. The President called on all governments to join him in an Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) to address the common challenge of securing reliable or affordable access to energy.

Many countries like Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, and El Salvador responded to the President's invitation and are working in a variety of efforts to promote energy efficiency, fight climate change and increase energy access. What makes ECPA stand out is that it's not a U.S.-led or wholly U.S.-financed initiative but a collaborative and flexible process for moving the hemisphere forward on issues of energy security. As Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has called it, ECPA is like "Facebook," any country "can start an initiative and invite others to join and countries can be part of as many initiatives as they choose." ECPA helps strengthen energy security by encouraging energy alternatives and by letting governments share best practices and expertise about what policies and technologies can help them meet their national objectives.

This resolution highlights the valuable work that ECPA does to strengthen energy security in the Western Hemisphere. Under ECPA, some of the more than 2,000 Peace Corps volunteers serving in this Hemisphere will be

trained in renewable energy and energy efficiency efforts to educate their host communities and implement small-scale renewable energy projects. Another ECPA initiative in Central America addresses the issue of the regional power grid. Six Central American countries have been working for many years to interconnect their power grids in order to reduce power blackouts. With U.S. assistance under ECPA, these countries can address some of the last regulatory hurdles to trade power in a regional market once their grids are interconnected.

The resolution also notes the important role played by other countries under ECPA. Brazil is leading an effort to encourage sustainable and energy efficient low-income housing, and promote urban development and planning. Mexico will lead an energy efficiency working group, while Costa Rica and Peru have created energy efficiency centers. Trinidad and Tobago and Chile are developing renewable energy centers to promote sustainable energy practices in the region.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution supporting the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas. The Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas bolsters energy security, reduces energy poverty and encourages low carbon growth in the Western Hemisphere. This resolution also encourages the efforts of the United States government to expand collaboration to other countries in Western Hemisphere as well as promoting active participation by the private sector and civil society. I urge my colleagues to strongly support this resolution.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
DOLPH BRISCOE, JR.

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express condolences and celebrate the life of a true Texas hero and my friend, The Honorable Dolph Briscoe, Jr. His legacy is one that is admired by people from all political backgrounds and influences across the state of Texas.

With family roots running back to an original signatory of the Texas Declaration of Independence, former Governor of Texas Dolph Briscoe, Jr. had in his blood to serve the citizens of this great state. Also the son of a cattle rancher, he never lost his humility though he amassed fortune, land and political fame known to few. As a freshman member of the House of Representatives in 1972 when Governor Briscoe took helm of the state, I came to admire the quiet dignity and authority by which he led the way for laws that would protect and enhance the rural Texas farm and agricultural way of life.

A man of few words, his actions reflected his dedication to the State and the preservation of its history and its history makers. He was a great supporter of the University of Texas at Austin, and in 2008 was aptly honored as the namesake of the UT Center for American History. He has been quoted as saying, "I firmly believe that we cannot really understand the present without knowledge of

the past." Mr. Briscoe was not only a dedicated public servant but also a caring family man. I was fond of his wife Janey, who passed in 2000, and respected their devotion to their family.

It would be difficult to describe Texas without including the great impression made by Governor Briscoe. He will be missed. A man of cowboy hats and boots, Mr. Briscoe was a true native son. I urge my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss and celebrating the life of Mr. Dolph Briscoe, Jr.

THE FAMILY OF SIMON SAKO
SIMONIAN: SURVIVORS OF THE
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 15, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide Congressional Record Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

Below is one of those stories:

FROM SIMON SAKO SIMONIAN, AN ARMENIAN MAN, ON BEHALF OF HIS FATHER, NERSES, AND GRANDPARENTS, JOHNNY AND GOLANBAR

"My Grandfather, Johnny, and my Grandmother, Golanbar, lived in Orumieh, a city in Iran close to the Turkish border. They had been blessed with four children (one of them named Nerses, my Father). My Grandfather was a well-educated and knowledgeable person. He was fluent in more than 12 languages, as well as one of the few people at that time who was able to properly and accurately translate and describe the Bible. He was a respected man—a religious man devoted to God. He was so highly respected that whenever the Consul of the U.S. would go there, he would always request to meet with my Grandfather.

"During the Armenian Genocide, the Shah (King) of Iran was a very weak person; therefore the Turks were able to enter Iran and do the mass killing and elimination of Armenians and Christians in that area.

"One day, during the dark years of the Armenian Genocide, a group of Turkish soldiers knocked on my Grandfather's door. One of the Turkish soldiers told my Grandfather that they were going to kill him and that he should speak now or never if he had any requests. My Grandfather said that his only wish is for them to let him pray just one more time. He was allowed to step forward to the courtyard for his prayer. As soon as he