

George Walker Smith, who tonight will be honored at the San Diego Urban League's Annual Equal Opportunity Awards Dinner. Reverend Smith is the 1999 recipient of the League's Equity Opportunity Award.

Reverend Smith is a man who has distinguished himself throughout the years by his unselfish service. During his 42 years as a pastor in San Diego, he has been active not only in his parish, but in the greater community. His influence is felt not only in the religious sphere, but in education policy and political activity. He was one of KNSD Channel 39's "List of 39", a series featuring prominent and effective San Diegans. In 1998, San Diego Magazine profiled Reverend Smith as one of the 50 San Diegans who have had a major impact in shaping the city over the past 50 years.

The third of eleven children of the late Amanda and Will Smith, he early on faced a situation in his home town where schooling was not provided beyond junior high school for African-Americans. This segregated education forced him to attend a boarding school supported by missions of the Presbyterian Church.

An outstanding academic record as class valedictorian and his participation in extra-curricular activities and sports earned him a scholarship to Knoxville College. Upon graduation, he entered Pittsburgh Theological Seminary to pursue his goal of becoming a minister. He received his Master of Divinity degree in 1956 and set out to eradicate the economic and educational injustice he had experienced. His motivation to provide a quality education to all children stems from his own early experiences, which made it difficult for him to receive the education that he deserved. He determined that should not happen to another child!

Coming to San Diego shortly after receiving his Divinity degree, he became the founder of the Golden Hills United Presbyterian Church. This congregation merged with the Brooklyn Heights Church in 1981 and became the Christ United Presbyterian Church of San Diego, one of the most respected congregations in the San Diego Presbytery.

Almost immediately, he also became involved in the educational system in San Diego. His accomplishments include his election in 1963 to the San Diego Board of Education—San Diego's first African-American public official, his service as President of the Council of Great City Schools, and as President of the National School Boards Association.

During his 16 years on the School Board, he literally changed the color of the administrative and teaching staffs—bringing the advantage of diversity to the nation's 6th largest school district.

He also served on many state and national commissions and on the National Advisory Commission for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the White House Conference on Children and Youth.

He has received many honors and awards, attesting to his contributions and the high regard in which he is held, including San Diego's Outstanding Young Clergyman, Phi Delta Kappa Lay Citizen Award, Gentleman of Distinction of the Women's Guild, Temple Emanuel, and Distinguished Alumni of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He was endorsed by the Presbytery of San Diego for the

moderator of the General Assembly, the first time a San Diego Presbyterian had been so honored.

He is married to Irene Hightower Smith, and they are the parents of three children, Anthony, Carolyn and Joyce and the grandparents of five grandchildren, Taj, D'maj, Shani, Wayman, and Noni.

I am pleased to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Reverend George Walker Smith on the occasion of his recognition by the San Diego Urban League and to acknowledge his idealism and dedication to providing a quality education for all children and to making his community a better place for all of its citizens.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN P. HUSTON

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that John P. Huston, chairman of Wood & Huston Bank in Marshall, Missouri, was inducted into the 50-Year Club of the Missouri Bankers Association.

Huston began working full time for Wood & Huston Bank of Marshall after he graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1949. Huston is also an Army Veteran, having served our country in the Korean War. He is currently chairman of Wood & Huston Bank and president of Wood & Huston Bancorporation, Inc.

Huston is one of eight bankers who were honored at the Missouri Bankers Association's annual convention this summer.

I wish to extend my congratulations to Mr. Huston for his most deserved induction into the 50-Year Club of the Missouri Bankers Association. He has truly served his community and country with great dedication. I wish him well in the days head and am proud to recognize his achievements today.

#### RECOGNIZING THE BRAZOSPORT REHAB CARE CENTER AND NATIONAL REHABILITATION AWARENESS WEEK

#### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and join with the Brazosport RehabCare Center in Lake Jackson, Texas, in observing and celebrating National Rehabilitation Awareness week beginning September 12 through September 18, 1999.

The Brazosport RehabCare Center opened its doors on December 31, 1992. Construction was completed at the end of April, 1993, for a total of 14 acute rehabilitation beds.

The Brazosport RehabCare Center is located in Brazosport Memorial Hospital in Lake Jackson, Texas. The primary service areas include the cities of Lake Jackson, Clute, Freeport, Angleton, Danbury and Brazoria. This service area has a combined population of approximately 95,000. The secondary service

area includes the cities of Sweeny, West Columbus and Old Ocean with a population of approximately 16,000. The RehabCare Center has also attracted patients from Bay City and Alvin.

Comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation services are provided to individuals with orthopedic, neurological and other medical conditions of recent onset or regression. These patients have experienced a loss of function in activities of daily living, mobility, cognition or communication. Types of patients admitted into the Brazosport RehabCare Center may include those with a diagnosis of stroke, spinal cord injury or dysfunction, brain injury, amputation, multiple trauma, hip fracture or joint replacement, arthritis, congenial deformity, burns or other progressive neuralgic syndromes such as Parkinson's Disease, Multiple Sclerosis and Guillain Barre.

The services Brazosport RehabCare Center provides include rehabilitation medicine, rehabilitation nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech/language pathology, social work, psychology and recreational activities. In addition, prosthetics/orthotics, vocational rehabilitation, audiology and driver education are provided when necessary through affiliate agreements with external organizations. The goal of each service is to maximize the individual's potential in the restoration of function or adjustment by intergrating with other services.

By addressing the multiple effects that disability has on the patient and family and by integrating the combined resources of patient, family and interdisciplinary rehabilitation team, comprehensive rehabilitation programming can maximize the abilities and esteem of the patient and family and foster a healthy reintegration into the community. At the Brazosport RehabCare Center, patient outcomes are exceptionally positive. Eighty-six percent of their patients are able to return home and lead an independent lifestyle.

I am proud and honored to have the Brazosport RehabCare rehabilitation facilities at Brazosport Memorial Hospital, Lake Jackson, Texas. Please join me in recognizing the Brazosport RehabCare Center for its outstanding services and remarkable accomplishments as we celebrate National Rehabilitation Awareness week.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES F.C. RUFF—AN OUTSTANDING ATTORNEY AND PUBLIC SERVANT

#### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Charles F.C. Ruff, who left his position as White House Counsel earlier this summer. His exemplary record merits the commendation and thanks of all Americans who admire his commitment to justice and public service.

While most Americans recognize Charles Ruff from his key role in the Senate impeachment trial earlier this year, his brilliant career in public service began over three decades ago. A graduate of Swarthmore College and Columbia University Law School, Ruff accepted a position with the Organized Crime