

in Texas, Oran M. Roberts Elementary School in Houston. Roberts Elementary recently received the Texas Successful Schools Award for Exemplary Academic Performance—one of only 67 schools throughout the State to receive this prestigious and well-deserved honor.

The Texas Successful Schools Award is given each year by the Governor and the Texas commissioner of education to schools that demonstrate a high rate of attendance among its students and a score of 90 percent or above for grades 3–5 on TAAS, the statewide achievement test which measures students' proficiency in reading, writing, and mathematics.

Roberts Elementary takes a unique and creative approach to learning. With students from over 40 countries and an emphasis on fine arts and physical development, Roberts has brought a highly international flavor and a diverse curriculum to its students. Strong parent involvement and vigorous community support, in addition to a cutting-edge science program, computer lab, and new library, enabled the school to excel in providing a quality education to all its students.

One of Roberts Elementary's most outstanding programs is its fine arts program. Student artwork has been displayed throughout Houston, at the Children's Museum, the Museum of Natural Sciences, and other local businesses. The school is currently working on a mural which will be sent to a school in Turkey as part of the Houston International Festival.

I congratulate the 525 students and their principal and teachers at Roberts, and I wish them well as they will continue to strive for achievement in the field of education.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS MAJESTY KING  
BHUMIBOL ADULYADEJ—KING  
RAMA IX OF THAILAND

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 13, 1995*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to His Majesty the King of Thailand, on the commemoration of the Royal Golden Jubilee celebration which commences this month of January 1995 and continues through 1997. His Majesty will enter his 50th year of reign on June 9.

The ninth king of the Chakri Dynasty was born on December 5, 1927, in Cambridge, MA. He is now the longest reigning monarch in Thailand's history. When crowned King on May 5, 1950, at the age of 23, he said, "We will reign with righteousness for the benefit and the happiness of the Siamese people." The legacy of his royal forebears resonated with these words and his subsequent bonding with the Thai people.

His Majesty is the third constitutional monarch since absolute monarchy was abolished in 1932. He has built and strengthened his moral authority through unwavering integrity in decision making and constant pursuit of goals beneficial to his people. For nearly 50 years he has given Thailand the trusted, impartial leadership vital to surviving all threats to democracy.

Loved and admired by his people, he is never far from them. He has visited all 72 Thai provinces to observe first-hand the needs of small communities and the challenges of working people. Over the years His Majesty has been involved in numerous projects promoting small business development and the welfare of farmers, including co-op farming, irrigation, re-forestation and watershed development. In conversations with his people, he emphasizes education, public health, and self-improvement—key factors in developing and improving quality of life. He supports his theory with generous endowments to educational institutions and special projects, and he has set aside substantial space in Chitralada Palace for experimental agricultural projects.

One of His Majesty's foremost commitments is the protection of authentic Thai culture through promotion of the arts and preservation of ancient cities. Part of the authenticity of Thai culture lies in religious diversity. The Thai constitution prescribes that the King not only defend the Buddhist faith, but uphold all religions. His Majesty gives equal protection and support to all forms of worship.

His Majesty's influence can be discerned in all his numerous projects, his lifelong interest in public health, his efforts to bring peaceful solutions in times of conflict, and his generosity in helping refugees in neighboring countries. His contributions, on both a large and small scale, have made King Bhumibol the prime source of inspiration, pride and joy among the Thai people. If a country can be defined in terms of a soul, King Bhumibol Adulyadej has become the soul of Thailand.

THE 325TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH IN HARTFORD, CT

**HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 13, 1995*

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a milestone in the history of Hartford, CT—the 325th Anniversary of the Second Church of Christ, best known as the South Congregational Church.

This church, a beacon of calm in downtown Hartford, actually had its origins in a prolonged and bitter religious dispute. Reverend Thomas Hooker, who left the Massachusetts Bay Colony to settle Hartford, was the pastor of the First Congregational Church. After his death, however, his successor adopted a more rigid, autocratic view of religion. This led to a generation-long conflict that ultimately led to the General Court of Connecticut's granting a petition to establish a second church. In February 1670, 33 men and women under the direction of the Reverend John Whiting established the South Congregational church.

Since that time, this church has been an architectural presence and spiritual beacon in Hartford. The church's meeting house, its third, was completed in 1827, and is Hartford's third oldest public building. The structure has endured fires, hurricanes, and tornadoes. In 1977, it was named to the National Register of Historic Places.

Amazingly, in its 325 years, this church has had only 15 senior ministers. The roll includes: Thomas Buckingham (1694–1731), a founder and original trustee of Yale University; Elnathan Whitman (1732–1777), a prolific preacher during the Great Awakening; Edwin Pond Parker (1860–1912), a distinguished historian, writer, and hymnwriter; the Reverend Dr. Henry David Gray (1955–1970), Congregational Scholar and founder of the National Association of Pilgrim Fellowship; and Dr. John Robert Elmore (1970–1992), a national recognized leader in family and marriage counseling.

Today, the congregation is once again led by a dedicated pastor, who understands both the church's historic past and the role it can play in the city's future. Dr. Jay Murray Terbush has worked to maintain South Congregational's presence and participation in downtown Hartford and in the greater Hartford area. Under his stewardship, the church and its ministries are well-positioned for the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to commemorate this important milestone, and offer my most sincere congratulations to the South Congregational Church on its 325th Anniversary.

OPPOSITION TO NOMINATION OF  
DR. HENRY W. FOSTER, JR.

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 13, 1995*

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my strong opposition to the President's nomination of Dr. Henry W. Foster, Jr., as Surgeon General of the United States. Although this body will not take part in the confirmation hearings, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to deny the approval of this nominee.

Dr. Foster has not been straightforward with the American people. He has misled the public about his record in performing abortions. Dr. Foster stated that he performed abortions primarily to save the lives of women or in cases of rape and incest. These statements were not true.

Dr. Foster has performed numerous conventional abortions for birth control, and I understand he has also been on the cutting edge of developing a more efficient means of taking unborn life. Dr. Foster has been a leader in researching and testing experimental drugs to induce abortion.

In addition, Dr. Foster has a history of working against legal limitations on abortions. He has served on the board of directors of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and was recently listed as a member of the National Leadership Committee of Planned Parenthood's campaign to keep abortion safe and legal.

Dr. Foster's record on abortion is troubling enough to me, but his unwillingness to live up to that record is of even greater concern. Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that all medical professionals take an oath to do everything possible to save human life. Abortion is clearly contrary to, and a violation of that oath.