

Dennis M. Barry's career with the county encompasses 20 years with the Planning Department, later established as the Community Development Department, 10 years as Community Development Director, and 4 months as Interim Director of the Department of Conservation and Development.

In his role as Contra Costa County General Plan Review Program Manager in 1987, Barry led the General Plan Congress, which produced the first comprehensive update to the General Plan in over 25 years. As Director of Community Development, Barry spearheaded the Urban Limit Line through the County process including public hearings and adoption by voters. Throughout his career, Dennis M. Barry has been dedicated as a consummate planner and innovative leader.

Throughout his illustrious career, Dennis M. Barry received several awards for his service to the residents of Contra Costa County. These awards include the following: the Contra Costa County Employee of the Year in 1991, CSAC Challenge Award for the County Growth Management Program 1990, and for the Countywide General Plan in 1991; and CSAC Circle of Service Award.

Dennis M. Barry's outstanding service to Contra Costa County also included several policy changes that significantly impacted land use, housing projects and public safety. He assisted in drafting and placing Measure C on the ballot in 1990, which established the Contra Costa County 65/35 Land Preservation Plan. He drafted and brought Ordinance 96-50, Land Use Permits for Development Projects involving Hazardous Materials and Hazardous Wastes, for hearings. Barry was involved in the formation of the Dougherty Valley General Plan Amendment and Specific Plan, which requires 25 percent of the units to be occupied by low and moderate income families.

As Dennis M. Barry retires, I would like to thank him for his dedication to the quality of life for the residents of Contra Costa County, and his leadership in the field of planning. I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING PAULA BARALDI

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the achievements of Paula Baraldi and to congratulate her upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the Madera Chamber of Commerce. Mrs. Baraldi will be honored at a reception on Thursday, August 21, 2008 at the Fourth Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards and Board of Directors Installation Dinner.

Mrs. Baraldi was born and raised in Madera, California to Enrico and Armanda De Cesario. She has one younger brother, Robert. She graduated from Madera High School in 1946 and immediately began working for a public accountant. In 1951, she married Ralph Baraldi and moved to Huron, California. In 1954, they moved back to Madera. At this time, she, her husband and Louie Mariani started a redi-mix concrete plant. Her brother Robert had also opened his own business, De

Cesari Stationery. Robert was called to service in Vietnam, so they sold the redi-mix business and acquired the stationery store. Mrs. Baraldi owned and operated De Cesari Stationery for many years. She believes her success has been due to her family, friends, great customers and strong work ethic.

Mrs. Baraldi has concentrated many of her efforts in community service to ensure that Madera would continue to grow as a friendly city and a solid place to raise a family. She served as director and treasurer for the board of directors of the Madera Chamber of Commerce. She participated in the Retail Merchants and Governmental Affairs Committee. She was heavily involved in the women's movement of the 1960s and 1970s. She has also been involved with the Soroptimist Club of Madera, Madera Historical Society, American Cancer Society, National Association of Republican Women, Association of Stationers, San Joaquin Paleontology Association and a member of Saint Joachim's Church.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Paula Baraldi upon being awarded with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Baraldi many years of continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL MURPHY,  
RECIPIENT OF THE ST. MADELEINE SOPHIE AWARD

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael Murphy, a recipient of the prestigious St. Madeleine Sophie Award from Sacred Heart Schools. Established in the year 2000, the St. Madeleine Sophie Award honors individuals in the Sacred Heart community who have made a sustained and significant contribution to the Schools and embody the goals and criteria of a Sacred Heart education. The individuals honored are selected by a committee comprised of the senior administrative team in conjunction with the Chair of the Board of Trustees and are honored at a reception and at the Mass of the Holy Spirit, the first all-school liturgy of the school year. The recipients will be VIP guests at various SHS events throughout the year and featured in their alumni magazine, The Heart of the Matter, for their commitment to the mission of Sacred Heart education.

Michael Murphy was chosen along with three other distinguished recipients to be recognized with the award for his dedication to the goals and criteria of Sacred Heart Schools. Michael (Mike) Murphy; father of Patrick (SHP 2007), has been teaching at St. Joseph's School of the Sacred Heart for 16 years as a middle school teacher. Mr. Murphy was also ordained a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of San Francisco in 2006. As classroom teacher and deacon, Mr. Murphy has provided spiritual guidance for his students while encouraging them to examine their spiritual lives. He challenges his students to be aware of social justice issues and to engage in service learning. Through discipline, humor and hard work, Mr. Murphy makes a difference in the lives of his students. He

stepped in as interim principal for St. Joseph's for the 2007-08 school year and he accepted the role graciously and proved an effective leader for a community in need. Under his strong leadership, the St. Joseph's community reestablished many of its outreach efforts, developed a master plan for new construction and began the first year of a five-year strategic plan.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Michael Murphy as he is recognized by the St. Madeleine Sophie Award. Through his many contributions to his family and friends, and especially the Sacred Heart community, he has more than earned the St. Madeleine Sophie Award through his special leadership and commitment to excellence. He has established a lasting legacy at Sacred Heart Schools in the life of every student who comes through its distinguished halls. Our community and our country have been strengthened by Michael Murphy and it is a privilege to honor him and his work.

HONORING REVEREND CHARLES  
BELCHER

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2008*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the wonderful life of Reverend Charles Belcher. His vibrant spirit, insatiable commitment to service, and his unwavering compassion for the human family will be sorely missed by all those who had the honor of knowing him and coming in contact with his ministry. We lost this exceptional community leader and dedicated man of God on August 9, 2008.

Reverend Charles Belcher was born on January 17, 1939, in Schaal, Arkansas, to his loving mother, Lottie Belcher, and her husband, the late Reverend Jim Belcher. At the young age of 5, Charles' family moved to California. Although this was in some way the adopted home of his family, the contributions Reverend Belcher and his parents made to the Greater Bay Area are humbling in their sincerity and magnitude.

Education and personal growth were always extremely important values to Reverend Belcher, which he fostered throughout his life and promoted among the many young people that looked up to him. Charles Belcher graduated with honors from El Cerrito High School. He earned his bachelor's degree from Utah State University and later received a master's degree in divinity from San Francisco Theological Seminary. He would go on to earn a prestigious PhD from Ashland Theological Seminary. Reverend Belcher married Ms. Ethel Scott with whom he had a daughter, Kimberly, and a son, Charles II. At age 57, he married Ms. Doris Denson, and his loving family grew with the addition of Doris' children Bonita, Tony, Dana, and Sheila.

Reverend Belcher was widely known as a spiritual leader with great integrity and honor. In the Bay Area he served at numerous churches, including the St. Peter CME Church in El Cerrito, the Bee Bee Memorial CME Cathedral in Oakland, and most recently the Resurrection AME Church of Richmond.