



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION HONORING RALPH BAXTER FOR RECEIVING THE ANNE & MICHAEL TOWBES COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

WHEREAS, Ralph Baxter is the recipient of the 2015 Anne & Michael Towbes Community Leadership Award, presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, in various forms and different ways, Ralph Baxter's life has been one of service to others. His family escaped Nazi Germany in 1935 when Ralph was just nine years old, fleeing to England, birthplace of one of his grandmothers. After German bombs destroyed his home and his father's office, Ralph and his family again uprooted themselves to create a new life. They signed on as crew on a tramp boat in order to sail to the United States in 1941; and

WHEREAS, after a short stint at college in upper state New York, Ralph volunteered for the Army and returned to Europe, fighting the Nazis in Germany and Austria, later working as a special agent in counterintelligence. He was just shy of 21 years old; and

WHEREAS, while Ralph was overseas, his parents had left New York to start a chicken farm in Van Nuys. Ralph joined them in California, studying engineering first at UCLA, then UC Berkeley. He worked at Avery Dennison for 23 years, retiring in 1990 and moving to Santa Barbara with his wife, Janice; and

WHEREAS, during their nearly quarter-century here, Ralph has supported several non-profit organizations with his time, expertise and resources. Now 90 years old, saying that he likes "the feeling of still doing something useful," Ralph continues to tirelessly support Jewish Family Service, Jewish Federation, the Anti-Defamation League, Catholic Charities and the United Way as well as several other organizations that strengthen the social fabric of Santa Barbara.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors honors Ralph Baxter for receiving the Anne & Michael Towbes Community Leadership Award.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 19th day of May, 2015 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District
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Supervisor - 2nd District
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Supervisor - 3rd District
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Supervisor - 4th District
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Supervisor - 5th District