## A stormy reawakening for Capitola's fishing wharf

By BILL AKERS but the clouds parted and deed the wharf to the city the sun broke through long in exchange for a long-term enough Saturday afternoon concession agreement. All to light up the Capitola in all, it was to become an Wharf dedication ceremo- \$800,000 reconstruction nies. It was a cool, breezy project. day, the clouds adding a It isn't over yet, for Kartacular view to be had from Coastal

the occasion.

cials representing all the services. levels of government which Likening the rebuilt wharf tola's history for 125 years. blessing. Thought to be damaged Rep. Leon Panetta, said the city, county, state and this a reality." federal governments. Sat- State Sen. Henry Mello of those efforts.

ager Steve Burrell for ernments being the "mastermind" together," Mello said.
behind the resurrection of Board of Supervisors the wharf.

upon his experience as Assistant to the City Manbefore coming to Capitola, save the wharf. He was and Capitola." able to persuade the littleknown state Wildlife Con- added her praise for those servation Board to fund who brought it about; and half of the reconstruction Chet Hart, of the Wildlife costs, and to get another 25 Conservation Board, said percent contribution from that the city just got in the federal government.

ment with Rick and Jenni- is some of the last money

fer Karleen, who had The early morning skies purchased the wharf, in were dark and threatening, which the Karleens would

dramatic touch to the spec- leen, as soon as he receives the resurrected wharf, and approval of his plans, will a couple of hundred people start construction on buildwere on hand to help mark ings that will house a snack bar, bait and tackle shop, Also on hand were offi-boat launching and rental

had a hand in bringing to a ship about to be about something akin to a launched, Mayor Clarke miracle - the rescue of the called up the Rev. William wharf which has been a Corbey of St. Joseph's significant part of Capi- Catholic Church to give it a

beyond repair by vicious he was "here as an Italian sea storms, the wharf was - you realy need an Italian closed to the public 21/2 to dedicate a wharf," and years ago. Then began a said the project was "a long process of bringing it tribute to the community, a back to life - a process tribute to the way you have involving the wharf owners, all come together to make

urday's dedication cere- called the wharf "a valuamony was the culmination ble resource for this community which will give Mayor Jerry Clark said many hours of recreation the city had been "waiting and enjoyment. It is a real 125 years for this day," and example of a partnership of he gave credit to City Man-state, federal and local gov-

Chairman Gary Patton said It was Burrell, calling "the city has proved it is a good steward for this facility," and said it would ager in San Clemente become a "pleasurable place for people of the who figured out a plan to nation, the state, county

Supervisor Robley Levy under the wire with its He worked out an arrange- request for help, "for this

Originally know as Soquel Landing, the wharf opened for the first time in 1857 as a ship-loading facility for ocean-going commerce. At that time, it was heavily used by Pacific Steamship Co. vessels which carried local goods to the San Francisco area. Later, the wharf served the commercial fishing industry, finally evolving over the years as a major recreational facil-

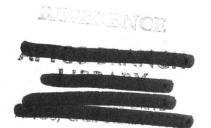
In early 1978, the wharf sustained heavy damage from a series of devastating storms which necessiRedwood City.

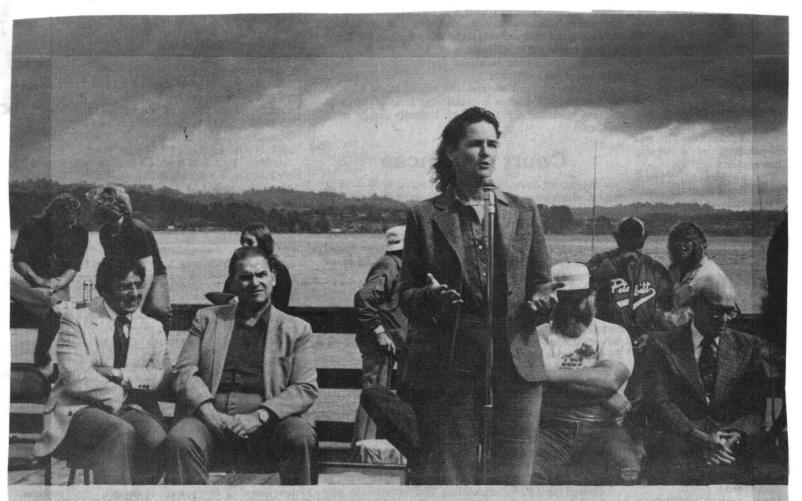
"This venture truly marks fish. the beginning of an era," said Mayor Clarke in a Cary Schirmer, 13, 14 oz. printed message. "We should all take pride in king; Rick Risso, 14, 10 oz. knowing that our future king; and Dave and Rudy generations, because of the foresight of our present citizens, will have this fishermen in the derby. The beautiful structure to pass

on to their children." A morning-long fishing catch.

we're going to get for this tated it being closed to the derby run by Councilman kind of project." tated it being closed to the derby run by Councilman public. It was then the Kar- Ron Graves was one of the public. It was then the Kar- Ron Graves was one of the leens obtained ownership day's events. The adult and began working with the winners were Mike Lyford, city on a rebuilding project. of Capitola, who caught a The rebuilding began in 141/2 pound ray; and Paul February with a contract Monk, Aptos, and John let to Alan R.Barreca of Parker, Santa Cruz, who each caught 12 ounce king-

> Youthful winners were king; James Kelly, 8, 11 oz. Potter who won a prize for being the most enthusiastic woman's prize went to Elsie Stiltner for her 11 oz.





Rep. Leon Panetta, state Sen. Henry Mello, Supervithose who helped "launch" the Capitola wharf sor Robley Levy (standing), Councilman Ron Graves Saturday.

Photo by Bill Akers