

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BAKERSFIELD

Women building better communities®

WILDFLOWER • FALL 2019



Who We Are...

Since 1952, the Junior League of Bakersfield has been committed to promoting voluntarism and to training its members for community leadership.

Junior League members share a strong commitment to service.

We seek women of all races, religions and national origins who are interested in the benefits of working together to positively impact our community.

The Junior League of Bakersfield makes a difference in Kern County through project and enabling fund grants, given annually to local non-profits.

The organization has been instrumental in funding numerous projects and activities focused on women and children.

To learn more about how to join Junior League of Bakersfield, email memdev@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org or call 661-322-1671.

Prost! to Oktoberfest Next Month

Get your Dirndl and Lederhosen ready. It's time for the second annual Oktoberfest!

This event is guaranteed to be a great night out. Come enjoy traditional German food, German Beers, and a selection of wine. A festival would not be complete without music, games, and entertainment. Come dressed in traditional Oktoberfest garments for a chance to be crowned Mister or Miss Oktoberfest!

Upgrade your Oktoberfest experience--- VIP tickets are available and will include more food, larger pours, a souvenir mug, and a VIP area with a private pouring station.



When: Saturday, October 12th from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: The Junior League of Bakersfield Community Center, 1928 19th Street. Bakersfield

Buy your tickets today! Visit Eventbrite for ticket purchases and event information.

VIP: \$85 General Admission: \$55

"Hey, House it Going?"

By, Gabrielle Alexander, VP Administration

The Junior League of Bakersfield Community Center has seen a lot of changes in its 109 years. This year is no exception. The biggest change is that the JLB will now be acting as the



Owner-Operator of the Event Rental portion of our business. We will no longer be contracting with a third party vendor to coordinate with clients to use the house for private events.

This is a very exciting change for JLB. We will now be able to grow our business and our effect on the greater Bakersfield community directly. Office

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Katie McDaris, 2019-20 President
Junior League of Bakersfield

The Junior League of Bakersfield Announces New Board of Directors

The Junior League of Bakersfield is pleased to announce its new board of directors for 2019-2020. These nine outstanding women demonstrate leadership and initiative in support of the Junior League of Bakersfield, and we are enthusiastic for this board to further the Junior League's success in supporting women and children in our community.

2019-20 Board of Directors

President

Katie McDaris

President-Elect

Tonya Vallicella

Vice President of Administrative

Gabrielle Alexander

Vice President of Membership

Stephanie Sheffield

Vice President of Finance

Stephanie Bouey

Vice President of Fund Development

Bethany Johansing

Vice President of Communications

Elaina Rusk

Vice President of Community Projects

Heather Goehring

Vice President of Sustainer Relations

Karrie Camp

Contact Us

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info@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org

2018-2019 Volunteer of the Year: Veronica Pike

Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Volunteer of the Year, Veronica Pike! Given Vern's seemingly endless energy and enthusiasm, her support of Junior League did not end with her presidency. Since then Vern has created a new website for the Junior League of Bakersfield, chaired the JLB Community Center Rentals Ad Hoc Committee which brought venue rentals back in-house, and oversaw the selection and installation of a new member management system. Vern personifies that which is the very best in community leadership and volunteerism.



Junior League of Bakersfield is a Training Organization

-Kathryn Drewry, 2019-2020 Training Chair

I joined the Junior League of Bakersfield in 2014, after seeing a 2-minute spotlight about the organization on the local morning news and hearing about their mission to develop the potential of women and improve our community. I did not know anyone in Junior League, and I entered the first meeting thinking I would sit with some nice ladies and discuss our respective roles in our community over some light snacks.

Instead, I listened to a doctor who worked for the Kern County Health Department talk about food insecurity in our community. She showed us maps of neighborhoods with no grocery stores, charts of local school districts meal plans, and statistics of the number of children living in food insecure homes. This doctor also told us what could be done to address this problem, and the doctor gave us information on proposed measures and legislation at the local and state levels. We then had a chance to ask her questions. I left that first meeting charged! I shared the information with my family that night and with my colleagues the next day. Excited to be a part of this group of women who were actively listening and learning about our community, I was ready to volunteer for any and every opportunity to help.

In the past 5 years, I have learned a lot more about our community, and I have benefited from many training opportunities that have prepared me to better serve as a volunteer. In 2016, I got to attend an Organizational Development Institute (ODI), sponsored by the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI), in San Antonio, Texas. There I met hundreds of other women, from across our nation, who volunteer in their communities. We listened to leaders in business, politics, and education, participated in workshops, and had roundtable discussions. I came back from that experience recharged and armed with a lot of exciting information and ideas to share with our league.

While I look forward to meetings where I will get to eat and visit with friends, Junior League of Bakersfield has provided me with information, strategies, and opportunities that I would not receive anywhere else. The trainings have equipped me to volunteer and make a difference in my community, and they have influenced my roles of a wife, a mother, and a teacher.

memdev@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
BAKERSFIELD

BECOME A MEMBER!

SEPT
17
2019

6:30PM | TUESDAY

DEWAR'S ON
CALLOWAY



2018-2019 Sustainer of the Year: Michele Hay

Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Sustainer of the Year, Michele Hay! Mikie has been a member of the Junior League of Bakersfield for 42 years, listing her skills as docentry, teaching, and tutoring when she joined in 1977. She served on numerous committees, including Ways and Means, Public Affairs, Nominating, Whale of a Sale, Provisionals, Training, and the Lori Brock Museum committees. While on the Mercy Hospital Therapeutic Center committee she was a liaison for the Association of Junior Leagues International; and helped set up a therapeutic play center at the hospital. In 1990-1991 Mikie served her last year as an Active member of JLB.

CalSPAC votes to support 31 bills of legislation

CalSPAC is an acronym for California State Public Affairs Committee. It is a coalition and collective voice of 17 California Junior Leagues comprised of more than 10,000 women! CalSPAC facilitates networking with policy makers and coordinates information to them. CalSPAC is an educational tool for Junior League members, and they relay information among Junior Leagues on state public issues. CalSPAC teaches Junior League chapters how to advocate for issue areas that are linked or directly connected to its projects and priorities. CalSPAC also helps teach Junior League chapters how to advocate for specific legislation that is relevant to Junior League priority issues (such as in health, education, violence prevention, family support and human trafficking).

CalSPAC has four conferences throughout the year: summer, fall, winter and spring. Right now, JLB's SPAC Senior, Allie Madrid and JLB's SPAC Junior, Tiara King, are preparing to participate in an online summer conference to kick-off the new year and to receive updates on legislation that Junior League of Bakersfield is currently supporting.

This past May, CalSPAC gathered together for the Spring Conference and voted on several bills of legislation that supported the mission of Junior League statewide and locally. At the end of the conference,

CalSPAC voted to support 31 bills of legislation! Two of those bills were written by Bakersfield's Senator Melissa Hurtado! The bills were focused on asthma prevention services for Medi-Cal patients (women and children) and suicide prevention (regarding strategic plans for teens). CalSPAC had the honor and opportunity to hear from Senator Hurtado about her new role as Senator of the Central Valley, which includes Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Kern counties.

Locally, Allie Madrid and Tiara King will be meeting with Kern County's local legislators throughout the year. This past year, former JLB SPAC Sr., Leslie Manning, and JLB's SPAC Jr., Allie Madrid, met with Representative Vince Fong, who has been a tremendous support for Junior League of Bakersfield! They also had the pleasure to meet with Senator Shannon Grove in May. There are future plans to also meet with Representative Rudy Salas and Senator Hurtado.



CalSPAC is a worthy and engaging committee within Junior League of Bakersfield. Allie Madrid and Tiara King are excited for this upcoming year, and they will be working diligently to keep JLB connected and give members opportunities to actively participate in CalSPAC activities. Thank you for your support of Junior League of Bakersfield! Please stay tuned on how you can become more involved in the future.

"Hey, House it Going?" *continued from cover*

Manager, Sue Dodgin, will be coordinating all of the rentals. She can be reached at events@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org or at 661-322-1671. Rates start at \$750.00 and JLB members receive a 25% discount on any rental. As always, we offer our space for free to local Non Profits that are in need of a space for training or meetings, for less than 100 people.

Last March, a campaign went out to all members to raise funds for renovations to our Community Center. As of July 2019, we have raised over \$20,000! This includes a stunning \$10,000 donation from the William & Florence Wheeler Foundation. We are beyond grateful for all the generous donations from the community to keep the house looking its best.

So what are we going to do with our loof?

We are getting NEW PAINT AND FLOORS for Wheeler Hall and other first floor areas of the Community Center! New, smart thermostats have already been installed to make it possible to increase the energy efficiency (lowering our PG&E bill). Over the late summer and early fall, we will be upgrading the look of our meeting and rental space to make it more durable and appealing to our rental market. It is our hope to be able to debut our new look at Oktoberfest on October 12. We are still accepting donations for this ongoing project, so please let us know if you would like to contribute in any way.

Please feel free to contact us at events@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org or if you have any Community Center related questions!





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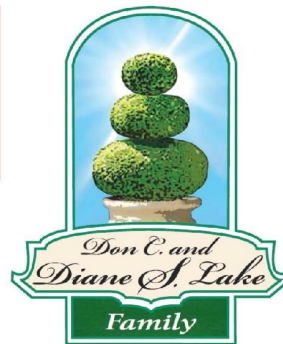
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THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS!

Junior League of Bakersfield sincerely thanks its 2019-20 Business Partners. Your support will help the Junior League of Bakersfield continue achieving lasting change in our community. Junior League of Bakersfield's projects are made possible by the generous support of:



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