

Sonya Christian, March 11, 2021

BC's SHWC's COVID-19 Vaccination Site & Vaccinated Renegades

Bakersfield College's Student Health and Wellness Center has been approved as a community COVID-19 vaccination site and our team is eagerly waiting for the college to be designated its first shipment of vaccines. Throughout this pandemic, the Renegade community has stepped up tremendously, from faculty and staff supporting students through distance learning to BC's Nursing students who stepped up to support our healthcare system.

Our campus community has been strongly committed to being not only an engaged community partner, but a critical part of this community-wide solution. Following the opening of Phase 1b – Tier 1, members of the Renegade campus community have begun to receive their vaccinations.



The 13th Annual Sterling Silver

In lieu of the traditional dinner and award ceremony, the BC Foundation hosted the 13th annual Sterling Silver Event as a KGET Channel-17 televised special on the evening of Saturday, March 6th.

Greg and Mary Bynum were honored as Corporate Philanthropists of the Year. Patricia Mettler and Margaret "Peggy" Haight were remembered as Individual Philanthropists.

Becki Whitson was remembered with the BC Service Medal.



Energy-Water-Food Nexus Webinar

BC's third webinar in partnership with NREL covered the interconnected relationship between water, energy, and food. NREL's Jordan Macknick started the presentation with agrivoltaics, which involves combining solar and farmland to provide sustainable power while strengthening the soil around the solar panels. Lois Henry, former Bakersfield Californian journalist who now runs SJV Water, spoke of the implications of California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Brian Curtis of Concentric Power discussed microgrids being implemented at food processing plants across the state.



KCCD & Bakersfield College Awarded \$2 Million for The Kern Regional Workforce Coalition, A HTRP Initiative

The Kern Community College District and Bakersfield College has been awarded \$1,999,725.30 to convene industry, worker organizations and community around shared interests in energy, workforce, and industry needs of Kern County and the central valley. This initiative, known as **The Kern Regional Workforce Coalition**, is a High Road Training Partnership (HTRP), aimed to create a stronger, healthier, and more economically resilient community by focusing on equity, education, industry security, and job quality. In collaboration with The Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment and UC Merced's Community and Labor Center, KCCD and BC aim to scale multiple initiatives that will fall under and utilize the state's funding to improve regional outcomes regarding health, employment, energy, education, and poverty by 2030.

The project will target key local industries including energy, agriculture, healthcare, manufacturing, transportation, and logistics, and others with the goal of bolstering and strengthening these sectors with stable job growth, offering family sustaining wages, opportunities to improve the environment for public health outcomes, and ample employment opportunities for skilled workers throughout the region. Additional focus will also be given to telework across all sectors including healthcare, government services, IT/technology, and education.

The Kern Regional Workforce Coalition (Coalition) is part of the California Workforce Development Board's High Road Training Partnership, which is funded through California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health, and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.



BC's Early College Expanding Throughout KHSD

The Kern High School District is offering a select number of students the opportunity to earn an Associate's degree. With BC's Early College program expanding into the Kern High School District, students can get a 2-year head start on their baccalaureate degree, and all books and transportation will be provided to them free of charge. The KHSD Career Technical Center on Old River Road is home to several of BC's Early College courses at KHSD.

