

# THE HallMark

Vol. 28 Vol. 4

September/December 2023



**Strides for CJD - Bakersfield**



Kern County Public Health Director Brynn Carrigan speaks to the importance of the Vial of Life program during a news conference at Hall Ambulance on October 18.

# Vial of Life

## Program Provides Invaluable Information to First Responders

BY **MARK CORUM** | DIRECTOR OF MEDIA SERVICES

Hall Ambulance hosted Kern County Public Health for a news conference on October 18 to reintroduce the Vial of Life program.

"Vial of Life serves as such an important component of our emergency medical services system," said Brynn Carrigan, director of Kern Public Health. "It is important to remember that you or your loved one could experience a life-threatening emergency, be by yourself, and be unconscious or confused, and have no one to relay important health information to emergency responders who are trying to administer medical ser-

vices," she said. "Let's face it, even if you are awake and alert during times of crisis, it is easy to forget important details."

Hall Ambulance President & CEO John Surface spoke about how often EMS workers find themselves acting as a detective during medical emergencies. "The patient has altered mental status or is unresponsive," said Surface. "We have to figure out what's going on. A clear medical history, a complete and accurate medication list, and a list of allergies are vital to solving the puzzle."

With more than 30 years of experi-



John Surface, president & CEO, Hall Ambulance.



Jeff Fariss, Kern County EMS Program Manager.

ence as a paramedic, EMS Program Manager Jeff Fariss said, "I can personally attest to the fact that the Vial of Life saves lives." "The most important thing our first responders need when they arrive at an emergency is information," Fariss said.\*

# Strides4CJD - Bakersfield

Event Has Raised Over \$451,000 Since 2018 to Support the CJD Foundation and Medical Research

BY **MARK CORUM** | DIRECTOR OF MEDIA SERVICES

The 6th Annual Strides for CJD - Bakersfield is a wrap! Over 130 participants from across central and southern California joined us at California State University, Bakersfield, as we walked in memory of those we've lost to Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, including Lisa Marie Dunnagan, Natalie Myers, Harvey L. Hall, Nathaly Uong, James D'Avanzo, Khachatur Manukyan, Arturo de la Cerda, and Rick Houtzer.

During the Remembrance Ceremony, Mrs. Hall presented an Iris bouquet to each honoree's family while co-captain Mark Corum read



Hosting Strides for CJD - Bakersfield at CSUB holds special memories for Amy and Mrs. Hall.

the bios of their loved ones. The ceremony ended with Country Artist Paige Peel performing a song she wrote about her high school friend, Natalie Myers, who lost her battle to CJD in August at the age of 23.

Everyone then strode on the 1.1-mile leisure walk around the CSUB campus, beginning and ending at the Harvey L. Hall Family Plaza. As the walkers returned, they were treated to a BBQ lunch prepared by John Steele, Randy Raymond, and John Surface.

The event concluded with Mrs. Hall giving away several door prizes, including a Disneyland Get-a-way won by Eric Mattice!

Our greatest appreciation to our participants and sponsors as we smashed our fundraising record this year, raising over \$88,466.00!

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# CJD Awareness Day

## Central Valley Congressmen Support Resolution in Honor of Mr. Hall

BY **MARK CORUM** | DIRECTOR OF MEDIA SERVICES

For the first time, the United States Congress is recognizing November 12 as CJD Awareness Day. Mrs. Hall and I are humbled to say that the support for this bi-partisan resolution took root and grew thanks to three California Central Valley Representatives, all of whom knew and worked with Hall Ambulance Founder (and Bakersfield's 25th Mayor) Harvey L. Hall and whom he mutually admired.

The idea to seek a Congressional Resolution came from the pro bono work Akin, a leading lobbying and public policy firm, is performing on behalf of the CJD Foundation. The Akin team working with the non-profit includes senior advisor Anna Abram, senior policy advisors Kendall Hussey and Virgil Miller, consultant Dr. Mario Ramirez, and public policy specialist Derrick Stanfield.

During the CJD Family Conference in July, Hussey presented a draft of the resolution, encouraging attendees who would be making legislative visits to Capitol Hill to seek a sponsor or support.

Congressman David Valadao (R) offered to lead the resolution following my meeting with his legislative assistant, Parker Edwards. In a news release from his office, Rep. Valadao said, "Harvey Hall



Congressman David Valadao with Mrs. Lavonne C. Hall, Mark Corum, CJD Foundation President Debbie Yobs, and Board Member Clarence Hunter.

was a compassionate man with a great love for life, his family, his community, and his country. As the longest-serving mayor in Bakersfield history, he was a beloved member of our community and a dear friend of mine. I'm proud to introduce this bipartisan resolution that would designate November 12, 2023, as CJD Awareness Day to honor Mayor Hall's memory and help raise awareness for CJD patients and their families across the country."

Congressman Jim Costa (D) soon stepped forward, creating bi-partisan support for the resolution. In a social media post, Rep. Costa

said, "I lost my friend and former Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall to this horrible disease. In his memory, I'm advocating for more research dollars to go towards finding a cure."

Rounding out our hometown countenance came from another longtime acquaintance of Mr. Hall's, Congressman Kevin McCarthy (R), who, along with his wife, Judy, has supported Strides for CJD - Bakersfield and Team Big H in Memory of Harvey L. Hall for the past six years. "When driving through Bakersfield and Kern County, it is clear to see the impact our late mayor had on our com-

CJD Foundation

munity, from the emergency services provided by his ambulance company to countless improvements made through his 16 years of leadership in our city, Harvey's legacy lives on," said Rep. McCarthy. "This resolution adds to that legacy by furthering awareness of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, which is why I am proud to honor the life of my late friend and support Congressman Valadao's resolution to name November 12, 2023, as CJD Awareness Day."

Further support came from Rep-

resentative Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) and Ohio Representatives David Joyce (R) and Shontel Brown (D), where the CJD Foundation and the National Prion Disease Pathology Surveillance Center are based.

On October 26, Mrs. Hall and I returned to the nation's Capitol to thank the leg-



Congressman McCarthy graciously set aside time to meet with us in the "Board of Education Room" of the U.S. Capitol. Also pictured is Kendall Hussey, Akin Sr. Policy Advisor, who fostered the idea of a CJD Resolution.



Mark Corum, Debbie Yobs, Congressman Jim Costa, Mrs. Hall, and Clarence Hunter.

islators along with the possibility of seeing the resolution introduced on the House Floor. That morning, we joined with CJD Foundation President Debbie Yobs, Board Member Clarence Hunter; and Akin's Hussey and Dr. Ramirez to meet individually with Rep. Valadao, Rep. Costa; Rep. McCarthy;

as well as Will Mascaro, senior legislative advisor to Rep. Joyce, and Lyndsey Hannah, legislative aid to Rep. Brown.

As hoped, a Valadao staffer escorted us to the Gallery late in the afternoon, overlooking the House Floor. It was a surreal experience as we watched Congressman Valadao deliver a heartfelt introduction of House Resolution 821 supporting the goals and ideals of "Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) Awareness Day" to honor Mayor Hall's memory and help raise awareness for CJD patients and their families across the country.\*



**Thanks to Our Sponsors of  
Team Big H in Memory of Harvey L. Hall**

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Hall Ambulance Service, Inc.  
Harvey L. Hall Charitable Family Foundation

**Platinum**

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Amy Hall

**Gold**

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**Silver**

Terry Persinger Mark & Trisha Corum Tracy Burnside Michelle Garretson	Bound Tree Medical Eric Mattice Michael Gold Burton Mitchell	County of Kern Dr. Ron Ostrom Terry & Dewi Adams
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**Bronze**

Elizabeth Allen Les Hutchison Ed & Janet Smith Jennifer Att Mary Talbot	Michelle Birchfield Diane Pressley Jenny Ramirez Vera Chinn	Laura Skiba Guarantee Shoe Center Dick Taylor Andre Devereaux
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**Donation**

Mary Martinez John Jimenez Jaime Robles	Diane Nennig-Nieto Scott McCliss Keitha Turner	Steve Laird Kenneth Knight, Jr. Kayleigh Peaker
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**Strides for CJD-Bakersfield**

Continued from page 3

Of that, Team Big H in Memory of Harvey L. Hall, raised over \$83,212.00, achieving Top Fund-raising Team in the United States for the sixth consecutive year. Since 2018, Strides for CJD - Bakersfield has raised over \$451,000.00, funding medical research and programs offered by the CJD Foundation.

Thanks to the many Hall Ambulance personnel who assisted with putting on another successful event. Tracy Burnside and Ruby Espinoza from the Business Office assisted with filling the event drawstring backpacks with the Bakersfield event shirt and water bottle. Event set-up and clean-up were provided by the Facilities-Maintenance Division, including Terry Adams, Mark Morse, Scott Benskinn, Ricky Hammersley, Juan Cantu, and Bricha Kendrick. Handling onsite registrations were Jackie Att, Mary Talbot, and Teresa Steiner from the Finance Department, and Jennifer Att from QA. Our BBQ lunch servers included John Surface, Myron Smith, Darrell Stapley, and Heather Lee.

Once again, CSUB provided the perfect location for our event. Our appreciation goes to the Athletics Department's Cindy Goodmon and Eddie Brewer and University Police Chief Marty Williamson and his team!\*

# A PERSONNEL NOTE

BY **VICKY RODRIGUEZ** | HR RECEPTIONIST, AND **KRYSTAL MASCARINAS** | HR ASSISTANT II

## Milestone Service Anniversaries

### 25 Years

Jaime Robles, Supply Supervisor

### 20 Years

Rochelle Pate, EMT/Assistant Training Coordinator  
Esther Silva, Finance & Payroll Assistant  
Blanca Llamas, Coder

### 15 Years

James Wagoner, Supply Technician  
Loretta Webby, EMT  
Larry Roberts, EMT

### 10 Years

Mark Corum, Director of Media Services  
Gregoria Espinoza, Collection Supervisor

### 5 Years

Vanessa Hankins-Khouli, Supply Technician

### 1 Year

Adriana Andres, Dispatcher  
Nicole Arreola, Supply Technician  
Daniel Davis, EMT  
Shivkiran Gill, EMT  
Ramon Ortiz Herrera, EMT  
Rolando Ramos, Paramedic  
Tisa Reyes, CCT RN

Amanda Yeap, EMT  
James Porras, EMT  
Jose Hernandez, Maintenance Detailer  
Yahari Salaza Gonzalez, EMT  
Brenda Ortiz, EMT  
Steven Munoz II, EMT  
Israel Martinez, EMT  
Vanessa Gonzalez, EMT  
Melissa Dunwoody, EMT  
Laura Skiba, Payroll Specialist  
Christopher Vega Bucio, EMT  
Ethan Smith, EMT  
Joseph Mitchell, EMT  
Molly Sabado, Dispatcher  
Deisy Argueta, Dispatcher  
Annalise Olenik, EMT

## Happy Birthday

11/01 Tessa Grumbine  
11/02 Elijah Finch  
11/03 Nicole Arreola  
11/03 Kevin Newsome  
11/08 Derk May  
11/09 Jose Vazquez  
11/10 Daniel Gonzalez Nunez  
11/14 Arielle Cabaniss  
11/14 Jose Flores  
11/14 Ruben Gonzales  
11/15 Jesse Gonzales  
11/17 Shannon Agcaoili  
11/18 Jose Tinoco  
11/18 J'Nise Evans  
11/19 Keifer Reed  
11/20 Jordan Martin  
11/21 David Bentley

11/21 Mathew Sullivan  
11/22 Shrey Patel  
11/24 Joseph Horack  
11/27 Melissa Dunwoody  
11/27 Jose Ordaz  
11/27 Kalina Pimienta  
11/30 Louie Sanchez

12/01 Michelle Torres  
12/02 Andrew Franke  
12/02 Kristi Robles  
12/03 Ricardo Hernandez Cervantes  
12/04 Kristofer Downey  
12/05 Edgar Palomera  
12/05 Larry Sims  
12/06 Garrett Brackett  
12/06 Brent Eichelberger

12/06 Angelina Escobar  
12/07 Anthony Hernandez  
12/09 Guillermo Argueta Hernandez  
12/09 Richard Davis  
12/09 Vladimir Dragosavlevich  
12/09 Melissa Linares  
12/11 Sean McKenna  
12/12 Johnny Amaro  
12/12 Johnny Morse  
12/14 Rodolfo Hernandez-Rios  
12/14 Anthony Miller  
12/15 Beatrice Sandoval  
12/13 Brian Holder  
12/17 Anna Aguilera  
12/17 Brian McChristian  
12/17 Lashika Britton  
12/19 Lisa Darling

12/19 Alexandria Navarro  
12/19 James Tollison  
12/19 Melissa Ung  
12/20 Arturo Patino  
12/20 Ethan Smith  
12/21 Norma Gonzalez Lopez  
12/22 Rachel Castro  
12/22 Kirk Chambers  
12/22 Donnie Self  
12/23 Michelle Monroe-Gaeta  
12/23 Bryan Newton  
12/23 Dave Taylor  
12/24 Chase Wooten  
12/29 Alejandro Martinez  
12/29 Selene Orozco  
12/31 Christian Larsen  
12/31 Zachary Nelson



## License Plate Winners!

Displaying your Hall Ambulance Care, Compassion & Community license plate frame can make you a winner!

If your license plate number is shown, take your registration to the administrative receptionist to claim your prize. Prize claims must be made by December 29, 2023.

# THE HallMark

Founder of Hall Ambulance Service  
**Harvey L. Hall**  
 (1971-2018)

Chairman of the Board  
 Chief Administrative Officer  
**Lavonne C. Hall**

President & CEO  
**John Surface**

Secretary-Treasurer of Corporate  
 Financial Services/CFO  
**Jackie Att**

Editor  
**Mark Corum**

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**Mark Corum**

The HallMark is published for the staff, friends, and family of Hall Ambulance Service, Inc. Comments, questions, or suggestions should be directed to Mark Corum, director of media services at: [corumm@hallamb.com](mailto:corumm@hallamb.com).

Established in 1971, Hall Ambulance Service is the 9-1-1 paramedic provider for 94% of Kern County, California's population. The Company serves the communities of Bakersfield, Arvin, Lamont, Frazier Park, Tehachapi, Rosamond, Mojave, California City, Boron, Taft, Shafter, Wasco, McFarland, Delano, and surrounding areas.



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## Harvey L. Hall Inducted into the Bakersfield High School Hall of Fame

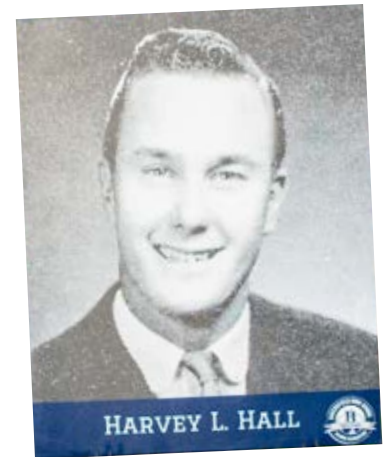
The Bakersfield High School Hall of Fame took place at the Stockdale Country Club on October 14, with 11 inductees honored at the inaugural event.

The Alumni Association conferred the Community Service Award on Harvey L. Hall for his lifetime of benevolence to the city he adored and the people he loved.

As founder of Hall Ambulance, Hall has been recognized by the National EMS Museum and the California Ambulance Association as one of 17 native Californians whose impact shaped EMS in the United States.

In 1999, Mr. Hall ran for office, becoming Bakersfield's 25th (and longest-serving) mayor of the City of Bakersfield.

He always remembered his Driller roots and prioritized education in his community and political service. This included donating his entire public service salary to award \$253,000 in financial aid



to 297 local students.

Joining Mrs. Hall and their daughter, Amy, were several members of the Hall Ambulance Management and Corporate Teams, all wearing purple in honor of Strides for CJD - Bakersfield, which took place the following day.\*

## Celebrating National First Responders Day



Hall EMT Academy uses silver screen to find the next generation of EMTs



Hall Ambulance, the community, and local media celebrated this year's National First Responders Day in a big way!

Recognition kicked off the day before, with Historic Union Cemetery hosting its Annual First Responders Recognition Day.

Assistant Manager Heather Lee appeared on KGET's Studio 17 Live after being nominated for Dignity's First Responders Photo Contest for her dedication as a paramedic and performing as Siren the Rescue Dog at numerous community events.

On First Responders Day, the *Bakersfield*

*Californian* published its annual special section saluting Kern County's hometown heroes. The center spread featured an article from Mr. Surface thanking our EMS personnel. The second article highlighted how we are using the silver screen to attract the next generation of EMS workers with the Hall EMT Academy.

In appreciation, Hall Ambulance employees received an acrylic keychain commemorating First Responders Day.\*

The Bakersfield Californian