

Garden Pathways, Inc.

2007 "Woman with a Heart for Bakersfield"

Pauline Larwood



Pauline Larwood, a priceless gift of service and leadership, is a model citizen with a caring heart. Pauline's heart for Bakersfield and the greater Bakersfield community keeps giving and giving. Her expansive service and leadership in promoting education, effective government, healthy living, and environmental care have enhanced the quality of life, today and for generations to come.

Thousands of people in the City of Bakersfield, the County of Kern, and the State of California have benefited and continue to benefit from Pauline's activism and her unwavering commitment to improve our community. Pauline's leadership has improved issues related to air quality, land use, citizenship, international understanding, and Valley Fever. A governmental relations consultant since 1995, Pauline is serving her third term as Trustee of the Kern Community College District and a six-year term appointment by Governor Schwarzenegger to the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges. As a twelve-year member of the Kern County Board of Supervisors, Pauline guided policies for operation of the County, including in her role as planning commissioner. Then during her six-year tenure as the Executive Director of the Smart Growth Coalition of Kern County, Pauline continued to advocate policies to build a quality community and a healthy economy. Pauline began her professional career as a teacher and later became an adjunct faculty member at Bakersfield College. Education has continued to be an important interest.

A consummate community volunteer and well-rounded in her interests, Pauline has given countless hours of service to our community, including by reading to children. Pauline currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Valley Fever Americas Foundation, a regional Rotary project. She is Chairman of the Government Review Council of the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce and is active with California Elected Women for Education and Research (CEWAER), League of Women Voters, Bakersfield Republican Woman, American Association of University Women, and Wesley United Methodist Church. Pauline's involvement with Friendship Force of Kern County, Tree Foundation of Kern, Junior League of Bakersfield, YWCA, California Living Museum, Bakersfield Symphony, Arts Council of Kern, and American Cancer Society comprise a few of a voluminous listing of Pauline's past community leadership service. Moreover, Pauline is highly esteemed as a wonderful role model and mentor by women in the many arenas in which she is active. Pauline's distinguished public service has been noted by much recognition — most recently CEWAER named her "Woman of Distinction."

Pauline is a person of conviction; she is guided by her values. Her beliefs shape the programs and projects to which she dedicates herself. A person of humility, she is interested in getting the job done and is not concerned about getting credit for making a difference.

Married to Thomas Larwood, M.D. for thirty-five years, Pauline takes pride in their combined family of five boys, two girls, and eight grandchildren. With the children spread from New Jersey to Hawaii, Pauline eagerly looks forward to their annual reunions – family camp at Huntington Lake. An avid traveler, this year Pauline and Tom stood in awe at the Panama Canal, one of the wonders of the modern world.