

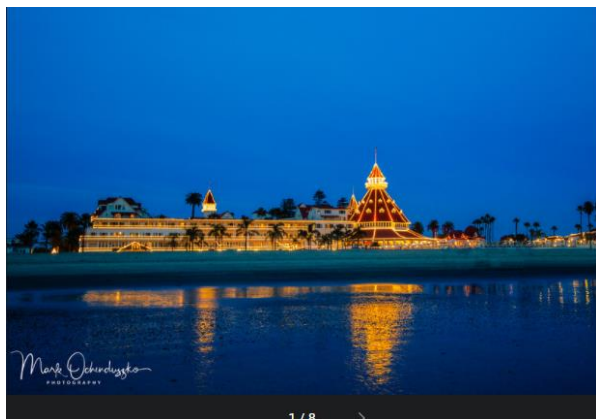
# City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

*"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the  
City Management Community"*

February, 2021

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Volume No. 14: Issue No. 03



Hotel Del" pictured at night by  
**Mark Ochendusko**, retired City Manager  
<https://www.markochendusko.com/>

## Trackdown Management is on the Move!

Please note that we are in the process of moving. We are planning our final move on March 11. We will do our best to keep production going, but should we fail along the way, please be assured that we will make it up to you. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

---**Jack A. & Susan Simpson**

Jack's cell: 562-896-5424 Susan's cell: 310-418-1035

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

This February 2021 issue of the Newsletter recognizes some of the women who work in California cities alphabetically listed between Whittier and the Town of Windsor. This is the 50th issue dedicated to women executives in California cities.

Many profiles are not available. Some city web pages neglect to present complete staffing information and many people do not post their career profiles. We apologize to those we miss. We try hard to acknowledge as many who serve as possible.

There are many highly qualified and dedicated women serving California's cities. The list is impressive. Addressed here is the rhetorical question: Where are the women in city management?

### Robert Lewis "Bob" Poff (December 13, 1934 – January 21, 2021)



Former City Manager and **HdL Companies** executive **Robert Lewis "Bob" Poff** passed away on January 21, 2021 at the age of 86. Bob served as the City Manager in San Dimas for 24-years and resigned in 1992 and joined the **HdL Companies** team. Before he joined the San Dimas staff in 1968, Bob served as the City Manager in Duarte for 6 and a half years after working as the Assistant City Manager in Claremont. A Celebration of Life is planned for Saturday, February 20 at 11:00 AM at the Purpose Church, 586 North Main Street, Pomona. The memorial will be held under a tent located in the rear of the church. Due to COVID social distancing rules, chairs will be distanced and masks are required.



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### Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

Whittier is a Los Angeles County city with roots that trace to the Spanish soldier **Manuel Nieto**, who received a 1784 Spanish land grant for 300,000 acres. In the beginning days of Whittier, **Jonathan Bailey** and his wife, Rebecca, were among the first residents. They followed the Quaker religious faith and practices. They held meetings on their porch at first, but in 1887 the first Quaker meeting house was built. Whittier incorporated in February 1898. The city's 2019 estimated population is 85,098. **Brian Saeki** is the City Manager, and **Shannon DeLong** is the Assistant City Manager. Brian followed retiring City Manager **Jeff Collier**, who was City Manager from 2012 to 2019. **Rigo Garcia** is the Whittier City Clerk.



**Shannon K. DeLong**, joined the Whittier city staff after serving as the Assistant to the City Manager in the City of Downey. She served as Acting City Manager for the 8-days between City Manager **Jeff Colliers** last day and the arrival of new Whittier City Manager **Brian Saeki**. In 2007, Shannon was hired in Downey as a Special Projects Coordination. She was elevated to Assistant to the City Manager in 2011, and in 2012 she became the Acting Library Director in the City of Downey. She also served as the Interim Executive Director of the city's Columbia Memorial Space Center (2012-2014). Shannon was appointed Downey Assistant City Manager in June 2018. She earned a BS in biology from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**), and an MBA from California State University, Dominguez Hills. Shannon received a 25-year ICMA Service Award in 2019. Shannon is a member of Women Leading Government, ICMA and CCMF.



"Why should I stretch? Does a cheetah stretch before it chases its prey?"

—**Ken Griffey, Jr.**

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



**Monica Lo** is the Administrative Services Director. She has nearly 20-years of municipal finance and audit experience. She has been with the City of Whittier almost 12-years. She started with the city in March 2009 as the

Assistant Director of Administrative Services. Monica was promoted to Director of Administrative Services in August 2019. Monica earned an AA from Mt. San Antonio College; a BS in business administration with an emphasis in accounting from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; and an MS in accountancy from Saint Mary's University of Minnesota.

**Virginia Santana** is the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Director. She was promoted from Community Services Manager in June 2020.

**Paymaneh Maghsoudi** is the Whittier Director of Library Services. She previously served as the Library Director in the City of Azusa from 1991 to 2001. She joined the Whittier Public Library in 2001. She earned a Master of Library & Information Science (MLIS) from the University of Oklahoma.



**Don Duckworth** and **Donnie Duckworth** in Arcadia.

Donnie is a new Firefighter. Don is a former City Manager in Visalia, Arcadia and Calabasas. He also held positions in Santa Clarita, San Clemente, Oceanside, and Simi Valley.

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**Jessica Deakyne**, Immediate Past President, Assistant City Manager, City of Novato



## Trackdown Posse Roster

### Executive Level Posse Roster:

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**Mike Sedell**, Retired Simi Valley City Manager  
**Larry F. Pennell**, Retired City Manager, Wasco  
**Kevin O'Rourke**, KOLGS/PARS; Retired City Manager  
**Glenn Southard**, Retired CM, Indio & Claremont  
**Joe Tanner**, Retired Vallejo City Manager  
**Guy Huffaker**, Retired Porterville City Manager  
**Vern Lawson**, Retired, Lancaster  
**Gary K. Sloan**, Retired La Mirada City Manager  
**Robert T. Dickey**, Retired South Gate DPW  
**Doug Dunlap**, Retired City Manager, Pomona  
**Rita Geldert**, Retired City Manager, Vista  
**Dale Geldert**, Retired CDF Director, State of CA  
**David Jinkens**, Retired City Manager  
**Joe Goeden**, Retired W. Sacramento City Manager  
**Ron Molendyk**, Retired City Manager  
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**Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**  
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**Greg Devereaux**, Retired City Manager  
**Dr. Richard Rowe**, Retired City Manager

### Posse Roster:

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**Howard Chambers**, Retired Lakewood City Manager  
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**Ken Bayless**, Ret. GM LA Vector Control & Ret. LASD Chief  
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**Doug LaBelle**, Retired City Manager  
**Paul Philips**, City Manager, Bell  
**Ray Tayler**, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village  
**Denise Ovrom**, Former CM; Principal **HdL Companies**  
**Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Pismo Beach



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Pat was honored with the League of California Cities 2019 Wes McClure Award for City Managers of Distinction.

Pat has had numerous successful experiences with public-private partnerships.  
Telephone No. 562-331-9812



## City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown Management

Jack A. and Susan Simpson



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Email: [jack@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jack@trackdownmanagement.net)  
Cell Phone No. 562-896-5424

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

Wildomar is in Riverside County. Heavy rains in the winter of 1884 washed out the railroad tracks below Temecula and along the San Jacinto River and Railroad Canyon near Lake Elsinore. Storm damage broke the California Southern Railroad financially, and the Santa Fe Railroad came to the rescue, rebuilding the rail line by 1885. The rail through Wildomar became part of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. The city incorporated in July 2008. Wildomar has an estimated 2019 population of 37,229. **Frank Oviedo** served as City Manager (2009-2013) before taking the Assistant City Manager post in Santa Clarita in January 2013. **Gary Nordquist** started in January 2013 as the Wildomar City Manager, and the Acting City Clerk is **Janet Morales**.



Janet is a Senior Administrative Analyst when not "City Clerking." She stepped into the City Clerk's Office with City Clerk **Debbie A. Lee**'s absence.



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HATS: Here are a couple of archive pictures. The first is **Ryan Smoot**, City Manager in the City of Lomita, and the second is **Kevin O'Rourke**, past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities, and a retired Fairfield City Manager.

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



**Janet Morales**, a native of Cupertino, moved with her family to Massachusetts where she attended the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth in psychology. After graduation, she worked in a hospital, but decided to follow her parents to

Temecula, where they relocated. She is now in the California State University, Northridge public administration program. She participated in a county summer work program for unemployed young adults and earn a placement as an intern in Wildomar in 2010. She started as a part-time office assistant and was soon hired in a full-time Administrative Assistant position. She is now a Senior Administrative Analyst. Janet won a scholarship from the League of California Cities to attend the League City Managers' Department meeting in San Francisco.

According to former Wildomar Mayor **Tim Walker**, the name Wildomar came by combining the names of three founders, "Wil" from **William Collier**, "Do" from **Donald Graham** and "Mar" from Graham's wife, **Margaret Collier Graham**.

Note: Once in a while our research runs into technical difficulties beyond our ability to find answers. This city's web page carried a notice for several days that they were experiencing technical difficulties.



"It's not as bad as people think it is. Offensively, you need a little luck. And we just haven't had any." --**Mickey Hatcher**

**Mickey Hatcher and  
Bellflower Mayor Dan Koops**



## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

Williams is a city in Colusa County along I-5. The city is 53-miles north of Sacramento. The city was named for **W. H. Williams**, who laid-out the original townsite lots. The post office, established in 1874, was renamed in 1876 in his honor. Williams did not incorporate until 1920. The 2019 estimated population is 5,408. **Frank Kennedy** is the City Manager and **Mariana Pineda** is the City Clerk.

Though we found no informative postings regarding career profiles, those we found working in Williams include: **Anahi M. Garcia**, Accounting Specialist; **Alma Mayes**, Administrative Clerk and Parks and Recreation; **Vianey Velasquez**, Administrative Secretary, Public Works; **Jennifer Parker**, Police Sergeant; **Anna Monica Stegall**, City Planner; **Beverly Maxey**, Police Services Manager; **Deborah J. Rich**, Building Inspector; **Julia Gray**, Office Assistant; **Sally Barker**, Treasurer; and **Tracy L. Bybee**, Administrator.



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## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

In 1995 the City of Reno, Nevada presented Mendocino County's City of Willits with an arch sign that now stands in the center of town. It is the repurposed second version of the Reno Arch. Of course, the Reno slogan was replaced with "Gateway to the Redwoods" for Willits. **Hiram Willits** arrived from Indiana in 1857 and settled in the Little Lake Valley. **Kirk Brier** founded a settlement on Willits' land, which was originally referred to as Willitsville. The post office opened in 1861 named "Little Lake" and the name was changed in 1874 to Willits. The City of Willits incorporated on November 19, 1888. The 2019 estimated population of Willits is 4,890 people. **Brian Bender** is the City Manager (January 4, 2021 to present) and **Cathy Moorhead** is the Deputy City Manager and City Clerk.

Among the women found to serve the City of Willits are: **Michelle Johnson**, Assistant Planner; **Marilyn J. Harden**, Personnel Director; **Karen Stevenson**, Human Resources Analyst; **Brandy Sanderson**, Administrative Assistant in Public Works; and **Andrea Trincado**, Project Manager in Public Works.

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Retired Chino Hills City Manager **Doug La Belle**, is a member of the Board of Directors for the Heroes Hall Veterans Foundation. The Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) corporation, raises funds for programming and projects at the Heroes Hall Veterans Museum at the Orange Fair and Event Center. Visit the Heroes Hall web page for further information, or call: 714-708-1613.

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## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



**Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra** served as the Willits City Manager from January 2018 until December 31, 2020. Stephanie began her public service career as a Staff Attorney for Legal Aid of Alameda County in 1991. In 1996 she began serving with the City of Oakland as a Risk Manager, Labor Relations Manager, and Senior Economic Development Negotiator. She left Oakland in 2004; worked for less than a year as the Vice President of Public Safety for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education organization. In March 2008 she started a 9-month tenure as a Consultant with the staff of Texas House of Representative Juan M. Garcia III. Her next work assignment from December 2008 and April 2010, Stephanie served as a Contracting Branch Manager for the Infrastructure Division of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. At the same time, from May 2006 and March 2012, she practiced law in the Austin, Texas area. After co-owning a real estate investment and property management company in Austin from February 2006 and July 2012, Stephanie became an Assistant City Attorney in the City of Alameda in June 2012. In 2013 she became the Alameda Administration Services Director, and in 2015 she left the city to become the Assistant City Manager in the City of Tracy. She appears to be practicing law following her retirement as Willits City Manager. Stephanie was admitted to the State Bar of California in December 1989. Stephanie earned an AA in political science from Santa Barbara City College, a BA in political science from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a JD from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

"Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved." –**Martin Luther**



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**Sylvia Ballin** of the City of San Fernando is the current President of the ICFA Board of Directors

At Stephanie's final Willits City Council meeting, Human Resources Analyst **Karen Stevenson** said to Stephanie in front of the audience that she "...inspired us to do better..." and "...reach beyond our comfort zone."



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## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



Former Willits City Manager **Adrienne Moore** retired in the summer of 2017 after a 4 ½ year tenure. She joined the Willits city staff in 2009 as the Human Resources Director, City Clerk and Risk Manager all rolled into one. In January 2013 Adrienne began serving as the Interim City Manager after the previous city manager left. In April 2014 she was offered the position of City Manager.

Willows is the county seat of Glenn County. The city was incorporated in January 1886. It has a 2019 estimated population of 6,072. **Scott Taylor** was appointed City Manager in September 2015 to replace the retiring City Manager **Steve Holsinger**. Scott submitted his resignation in February 2016, and Fire Chief **Wayne Peabody** was appointed Interim City Manager. **Tara Rustenhoven** is the City Clerk.

Others we discovered serving the City of Willows include: **Jody Meza** is the Library Director; **Katie Childress**, Administrative Finance Analyst; **Karen Mantele**, Planning Consultant; **Maria Ehorn**, Community Development Technician; **Natalie Butler**, Clerk; **Sandie Hobbs**, Chief Librarian; and **Carol Lemenager**, Director of Recreation. Carol also served on the Willows Cemetery District Board of Directors.



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## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



About 9-miles from the City of Santa Rosa, the incorporated Town of Windsor can be found. This Sonoma County community was incorporated in July 1992, and its 2019 estimated population is 27,128. The first European settlers arrived in the area in 1851, and in 1855 **Hiram Lewis** became the town's first postmaster. He named the town Windsor because it reminded him of the grounds around Windsor Castle in England. In 1872 the Northwestern Pacific Railroad was completed through the town, providing cheap and easier access to the Bay Area. **Ken MacNab** is the current Town Manager, **Maria De La O** is the Town Clerk, and **Sommer Hageman** is the Deputy Town Clerk.



**Jeneen Peterson** is the Windsor Administrative Services Director. During her working career she has served companies and organizations mostly in the private sector in audit, accounting and finance positions beginning with Ernst & Young in 2012. After serving as the Controller for Dominican University of California in San Rafael (April 2017-January 2018), Jeneen joined the Town of Windsor as the Accounting and Audit Manager in 2018. She moved her way up in the organization to Deputy Director of Finance (August 2018- September 2019); Acting Administrative Services Director (November 2018-September 2019); and she was appointed Administrative Services Director in September 2019. Jeneen earned a BS in accounting from California State University, San Diego. She has volunteered as a Classroom volunteer for Junior Achievement of Northern California.



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**Fran Mancía** may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor

**Kristina Owens** is the Administrative Operations Manager in the City of Windsor Administrative Services Department. Kristina began her public service career in October 1994 as an Account Clerk in the City of Novato. In October 1996 she went to work for the City of Rohnert Park as a Utility Billing Supervisor. Kristina joined the Town of Windsor staff in June 2010 as the Accounting Supervisor. She was promoted to her current post in April 2016.

**Julé Taylor** is the Acting Information Systems Manager in Windsor. Julé began her public service career as a Customer Service Representative for the City of Santa Rosa in February 1999. In June she became a Senior Administrative Assistant and worked in that position until December 2000 when she was named Senior Customer Service Representative. Julé left Santa Rosa to join the Town of Windsor staff in August 2005 to serve as an Accounting Specialist, and she began climbing in the Windsor staff: Senior Utility Billing Representative (July 2011-July 2015); Administrative Systems Technician (July 2015-April 2016); and Management Analyst in April 2016. Julé was appointed Acting Information Systems Manager in December 2019. She earned a BA from Sonoma State University.



**Jessica Jones** is the Community Development Director in the Town of Windsor since October 2019. She previously served as a Supervising Planner for the City of Santa Rosa, where she worked for 13-years, managing the City's Advance Planning Team.



"Never permit the pressure to exceed the pleasure."  
--**Joe Maddon**, MLB Manager

## Women Serving in Cities from Whittier to Windsor



**Olivia Lemen** is the Parks and Facilities Manager for the Town of Windsor. In October 2001 she became a Senior Program Director for the YMCA of the East Bay in Richmond. She worked at that position for a little more than

5-year, before she took the Associate Executive Director post for the YMCA of Silicon Valley in San Jose in October 2006. Olivia then signed on as a Program Manager for the Blue Sky Family Club in Emeryville in December 2007. In February 2009 Olivia became a Recreation Manager for the City of Calistoga in wine country. She joined the Windsor town staff in December 2014 as a Management Analyst. Olivia was appointed Acting Parks and Facilities Superintendent in February 2019, and in October she was promoted to Parks and Facilities Manager. Olivia earned a BA in applied mathematics from Humboldt State University. She also earned a Project Management Professional designation from the Project Management Institute.

**Linda Kelly** served as the Windsor Town Manager from December 2012-August 2017. Linda was the City Manager in the City of Sonoma (January 2008-December 2012), and the Town Manager for Fairfax (January 2006 - January 2008). Following retirement, Linda relocated to the State of Washington and has done some teaching and management consulting there.

Others found include: **Sandy Saenz, Jenny Alton, Tiffany Waite, Jonni Smith, Amanda May, Kimberly Jordan, Ellen McDowell, Sheila Wolski, Courtney Rider, Nelle Herman, Mattea Belmonte, Charity Koch, Sandi Potter, Elizabeth Cargay, and Cristina Goulart.**



<https://gonsalvi.com/>

Joe Gonsalves said: "Lobbyist are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do they had better work."

The firm was founded by the late former California State Assembly Member Joe A. Gonsalves. Until his passing, Joe, his son Anthony D. Gonsalves and Anthony's son Jason Gonsalves served as the first three generation lobbying firm in Sacramento.



**Anthony, Jason and Paul Gonsalves** are expert local government lobbyists. The firm represents fifty-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. Anthony is a member of the CCMF Board.

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**Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley** is a municipal law firm with offices in Pasadena, Grass Valley, Solana Beach, and Sonoma that represents public and private clients throughout California in municipal law, including public revenues, land use, elections, labor and employment, post-redevelopment, housing, public works contracting, utility services, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act regarding Local Agency Formation Commissions, sex offender and marijuana regulation and related public safety topics, and associated litigation. Our core commitment is to provide advice our clients find helpful, understandable, and fairly priced.

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The firm was recognized as one of California's Top Ranked Law Firms by Martindale-Hubbell in 2014 and **Michael Colantuono, Terri Highsmith, Jenni Pancake, Michael Alderdice** and **Scott Howard** have each achieved the highest AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. **Michael Colantuono** (2011–2013) and **Holly Whatley** (2013) have been listed as among the Top Municipal Lawyers in California by the **Daily Journal** newspaper. Michael was awarded the 2010 Public Lawyer of the Year Award by the California State Bar, is a former President of the City Attorneys Department of the League of California Cities, former President and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the State Bar, and Secretary / Treasurer of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers—a prestigious organization of about 100 of the most respected appellate advocates in our State. Michael is also certified as an Appellate Specialist by the California State Bar's Board of Legal Specialization.

The firm serves as general counsel or city or town attorney of the cities of Auburn, Barstow, Calabasas, Chico, Grass Valley, Lakeport, Ojai, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, the Town of Yountville, and the Successor Agencies to the Auburn, Barstow, Sierra Madre and South Pasadena Redevelopment Agencies, to Oversight Boards for Successor Agencies in Huntington Park, Pomona, Rialto, San Bernardino, San Gabriel and Temple City, the Garden Valley, Higgins, Ophir Hill, North San Juan, Penn Valley, and Rough & Ready Fire Districts, the Orangeline Development Authority, the SELACO Workforce Investment Board, the Calaveras, San Diego and Yuba County LAFCOs, the Oak Tree Park and Recreation District, the Pine Grove, and Peninsula Community Services Districts, the Tahoe Forest Hospital District, the First Five Yuba Commission, and Upper Valley Waste Management Agency.

**Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley** periodically distributes a newsletter that highlights new developments in the law.

[Newsletters \(chwlaw.us\)](http://Newsletters(chwlaw.us))





**Picking Up the Pieces:** Longtime city employee **Marwan Youssef** is the new Westminster City Manager. He has been serving as the Westminster Director of Public Works. Marwan came to Westminster in December 1988 as the Public Works Director and

City Engineer. Prior to that he served the City of La Habra as an Assistant Civil Engineer. He earned a BS and MS in civil engineering and structural engineering from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. He also earned a Ph.D. from the University of California, Irvine. City Manager **Catrina Olson** of Nevada City has left office following a job performance evaluation. Catrina became City Manager in 2018 following the resignation of former City Manager **Mark Prestwich**, who is currently the City Manager in St. Helena. Catrina had served as the Assistant City Manager from 2013. She started with the City at the Finance Manager in 2007. Hercules City Manager **David Biggs** will leave his position at the end of March to assume the post of City Manager in the City of Orinda. David has been the Hercules City Manager since 2014. David previously served as the City Manager in Morgan Hill (1992-1995), Tustin (2010-2011), Carson (2011-2013), and Assistant City Manager in Redondo Beach (2005-2011). He held other positions in Santa Ana, Long Beach, Huntington Beach and South Australia, SA. David earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine. In 2015 he received a 35-year ICMA Service Award. Del Mar City Manager **Christa L. "CJ" Johnson** was placed on administrative leave with pay. The City did not immediately provide further details. Administrative Services Director **Ashley Jones** is serving as Acting City Manager. CJ is a former Assistant City Manager in Laguna Beach, where she served for eight years. She was appointed in Del Mar to fill in behind the retiring City Manager **Scott Huth**. She has been with the city for about a year. Paradise Assistant to the Town Manager **Colette Curtis** received the 2021 *John H. Nail Award* from the City Managers Department of the League of California



Cities. The Award is presented annually to an outstanding municipal assistant. Colette came to work for the Town of Paradise some 8-years ago. Colette's working career began in 2003 in the private sector. She earned a BA in political science from the University of California, Berkeley.



Former Del Rey Oaks City Manager **Daniel Dawson**, 61, has been ordered by Judge **Andrew G. Liu** in a restitution hearing following Daniel's felony conviction, to pay \$72,000 to the City for violating Government Code Section 1090. Daniel was found guilty of entering into a contract for the Garden Center's well in his capacity as City Manager while having a direct financial interest in a lot he purchased. **Jeffery J. Hoyne** is the Del Rey Oaks Acting City Manager. Santa Barbara City Administrator **Paul Casey** appointed **Rebecca Bjork** to the Assistant City Administrator position. She currently serves in Santa Barbara as the Interim Community Development Director, responsibilities she will retain along with her new Assistant City Administrator duties. Rebecca has worked for the City of Santa Barbara for the past 32-years. She most recently served as the Director of Public Works. She earned a BA from Grinnell College and an MPA from California State University, Northridge. **Janay Duran**



**McKinney**, wife of San Dimas Assistant City Manager **Brad McKinney**, was a junior midfielder on the 1998 Azusa Pacific University Cougars' women's soccer team that earned a 24-0-1 season record, and won the GSAC

Championship, the first in the Azusa Pacific program's history. The Cinderella team went on to win the NBAIA National Title for the 1998 season. After 18 years with the CJPIA, Administrative Programs Manager **Tammie Haller** announced her retirement in December 2020. During her tenure with the Authority, Tammie oversaw administrative and support operations, including human resources, benefits, personnel policies, and recruitments, as well as directed the Authority's facilities and maintenance operations and safety programs. California JPIA's Alex Smith, who began his Authority tenure in March 2009 as Finance Director, has been promoted from Chief Financial Officer to Deputy Executive Officer. Alex will engage more substantively throughout the organization, assuming responsibilities for supervising human resources, insured programs, and maintenance, as well as underwriting and onboarding new members. He also will continue to oversee finance operations.

"Don't let yesterday take up too much of today."

—Will Rogers



**More Pieces Picked Up:** Former Barstow City Manager **Nikki M. Salas** has joined the CJPI Authority as Human Resources Manager. She previously served as Director of Human Resources for Napa County, Senior Human Resources

analyst for Riverside County, and Assistant Human Resources Division Manager for the San Bernardino County Special Districts Department. She was recognized as the 2015 California JPIA Capstone Award Winner for Excellence in Risk Management for her work as Assistant Town Manager for the Town of Apple Valley. She earned a BA in business administration from California State University, San Bernardino, MBA from the University of Redlands, and Ed.D. in organizational leadership from Brandman University. Malibu City Manager **Reva Feldman** does not anticipate completing her term. She will resign because of "unprecedented personal and professional attacks by Council Member **Bruce Silverstein**." This was stated in a four-page letter dated January 16 by Reva's attorney. Her employment agreement is set to expire in May, 2022. She is willing to stay on as City Manager until the City finds a successor. She seeks a \$375,000 buyout with benefits, and a nondisparagement agreement by the City. Sacramento Deputy Fire Chief **Chad Augustin** has been appointed to be the new Fire Chief in the City of Pasadena effective February 22. Chad began his career as a Sacramento firefighter paramedic, and rose through the ranks over the past 20-years. Pasadena City Manager **Steven Mermell** praises the new Chief's "...impressive qualifications and well-rounded experience..." The new Chief earned a BA from Waldorf University, and a Master of Legal Studies from the University of Arizona. Sacramento Mayor **Darrell Steinberg** wishes to reject City Manager **Howard Chan**'s proposal to add new police officer positions to the city budget. Howard proposes to add 10 new sworn officers. Mayor Steinberg says the money should be spent on affordable housing, youth programs and participatory budgeting. **Tim Davis**, President of the Sacramento Police Officers Association says that police officers are exhausted from a long year of increased violent crime, dealing with the pandemic, and consistent mandatory overtime due to protests and riots.

**SHORTS:** \***John Russo** of **SynchroniCITY Associates** was primarily responsible for bringing the Cheech Marin Centre for Arts, Culture and Industry to the City of Riverside during his tenure as City Manager.



**Susan Simpson, Marlene Tomlin Towns and Candice Fullencamp** a few years ago at a Bellflower reunion.

\*Wildomar City Manager **Gary F. Nordquist** began his public service career in 1990 as an Administrative Analyst in the City of Fontana. \*Storm surf and high winds have once again uncovered the SS Monte Carlo that crashed onto the Coronado beach on January 1, 1937. \***Frank Kennedy** is the current City Administrator in the City of Williams, home to Granzellas Gourmet & Gifts, famous sandwich shop on I-5. \*Martinez City Manager **Eric Figueroa** is a past President of the Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC) (2005), and he is a former member of the Board of Trustees for the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). \*Prior to becoming the Fairfield City Manager in December 2019, US Air Force veteran **Stefan Chatwin** served as the City Manager in the City of Imperial and Santaquin, Utah. \*Cerritos, San Dimas and La Cañada Flintridge City Attorney **Mark W. Steres**, an alumnus of **UCLA** and **USC**, retired effective December 31. \*Compton Assistant City Manager **Michael Antwine** served as the Assistant City Manager in the City of Novato from September 2017 to October 2019. \*League of California Cities Los Angeles Public Affairs Manager and Legislative Director **Kristine Guerrero** earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**), and an MPA from the University of Southern California (**USC**). \*Signal Hill City Manager **Hannah Shin-Heydorn** earned an MS in management from the Naval Postgraduate School. \*Sierra Madre City Manager **Gabriel Engeland** previously served as the City Manager in Trinidad, Colorado. \***Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis** is the first woman elected Lt. Governor of California. \***George Lewis** served as City Administrator in Cascade Locks (1987-1997) and Dundee, Oregon (1997-2001) prior to becoming the Williams City Administrator and Planning Director (2001-2003).



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## Notes and Letter from Readers:

Thanks for recognizing my election as President of the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRIP) in the January Special edition of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown. It's an honor to serve, and I see it providing great value to our members.

**Jonathan R. Shull**, Chief Executive Officer  
California Joint Powers Insurance Authority

Regarding the passing of **Bob Poff**. I knew **Bob Poff**. I used to like to call him "puff" or "pouff." For a couple months right after I retired in 1999, I took an interim job as CAO of Nevada County. It lasted about 3-months from November to January or so. One day when I came into the office a staff person told me **HdL** was coming by today to do their periodic audit. I didn't even know we had a contract with them. So I asked who it would be; thinking maybe Hinderliter or de Llamas both of whom I knew. But it was Bob. I didn't know he was working for **HdL**. And he didn't know I was there. So, I told the staff person that when he showed up I wanted him/her to tell Bob I was really pissed-off at **HdL**. So, when he came into the office he looked grim - until he saw it was me. He got a big smile on his face and said something like "You SOB, you had me worried." Just having a little fun. He was a good guy and will be missed. Man oh man, at 87 I'm now missing a lot of good guys. Stay well, Jack, and enjoy your new life in the desert. Mary Jane and I are usually over there at least once a year for a car club event. It's called Palms to Pines and on the Saturday we do a caravan up to Idyllwild for lunch - usually in November on the weekend of the UCLA-USC game. A number of us UCLA types get together after the game to cry in our beer. BTW, we do love living in the desert, but it does require some lifestyle adjustments to deal with summer. -

—**Roy Pederson**

Thanks Jack. Yes, a real loss. **Bob Poff** was the city manager of my hometown and throughout my service to San Dimas, a great mentor, and father to twin daughters that were my high school classmates. He influenced many and was great at everything he did. He will be greatly missed.

—**Mark Alexander**



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Built as a Bank of America branch, it is now an antique store on Viking Way in Lakewood.

