TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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May, 2021 Special

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Volume No. 14: Issue No. 08



Tracy Gonsalves and retired Vallejo City Manager Joseph M. Tanner, Sr. The picture was taken during a Joe A. Gonsalves & Son client city managers information get-together in Sacramento. Tracy is the wife of Jason Gonsalves of the firm. Joe received a 35-year ICMA Service Award in 2008. He served as City Manager in Galt (1973-1984);

Emeryville (1984-1987); Pleasant Hill (1987-2001); Pacifica (2003-2007); Vallejo (2007-2009); and Interim City Manager in Rio Vista (2012-2013). He also held executive positions in Millbrae and Alameda. Joe earned an MPA from Golden Gate University. Joe's son Joe is currently the City Manager in the City of Lindsay.

City Government Executive Professional in Tulare County Cities

There are eight (8) incorporated cities in the County of Tulare. They include: <u>Dinuba</u>, <u>Exeter</u>, <u>Farmersville</u>, <u>Lindsay</u>, <u>Porterville</u>, <u>Tulare</u>, <u>Visalia</u> (county seat), and <u>Woodlake</u>. This issue takes a look at some of the city executives currently serving in these Tulare County cities.

Tulare County cities are in the San Joaquin Valley Division of the League of California Cities. Farmersville Mayor **Greg Gomez** is the 2019-2021 President of the Division, and <u>Dinuba Mayor **Dr. Kuldip Thusu**</u> is the immediate Past President. <u>Woodlake Mayor **Rudy Mendoza** is the Tulare County Representative on the Board.</u>

This issue does not claim to be comprehensive. It highlights some of the cities' professional executives in Tulare County. We apologize up front to those we may have missed. Not all career profiles are posted for access.





































<u>Dinuba</u> is a city in Tulare County. The city was originally named Sibleyville for engineer **James Sibley**. The city was built around a Southern Pacific Railroad depot in the 1800s. **James Sibley** and **W. D. Tuxbury** devoted more than 240 acres for the development of the new town. Trains began running in February 1888. <u>Dinuba</u> was finally incorporated in 1906. The city's 2019 estimated population is 24,461. **Luis Patlan** is the City Manager, **Daniel James** is the Assistant City Manager, and **Linda Barkley** is the City Clerk.



Luis Patlan has served as the Dinuba City Manager since July 6, 2015. Luis previously served as the City Manager in Kerman in Fresno County starting in 2012. He began his public service career as a Housing Specialist in the City of Sanger. He eventually

was promoted Director of Development Services and worked as the <u>Sanger</u> Interim City Manager. After a private sector position for about three years, he joined the <u>Kerman</u> city staff in 2007 as the Director of Planning and Development. He earned a BA from California State University, Fresno. He is a member of the International City/County Manager Association.



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Picture of the Hotel del Coronado taken by **John Bahu**. The Hotel del Coronado in Coronado, California has operated for more than 130-years. It opened in February 1888. **Elisha Babcock**, **Jr**. and **Hampton L. Story** built the iconic hotel. 23rd U.S. President **Benjamin Harrison** had breakfast at the Del and 27th President **William Howard Taft** was another Del visitor.



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Jon Shull Chief Executive Officer

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Exeter is within a 4-hour drive from either Los Angeles or San Francisco. The city is near the foothills on the west side of the Sierra Nevada mountain range. The town site was

established during the construction of the San Joaquin Valley railroad lines that passed through the area by 1888. Exeter incorporated in 1911. The 2019 estimated population of Exeter is 10,485. Adam Ennis is the City Administrator; John Hall is the Chief of Police and Daymon Qualls is the Public Works Director. Shonna Oneal serves as the City Clerk and Human Resources Manager.

Adam Ennis was appointed to replace Exeter Interim City Manager Eric Frost in June 2018. Eric, a former Visalia Finance Director, was standing in for former City Manager Randy Groom, who left the Exeter post to become the Visalia City Manager. Adam had been working as the Director of Public Works in the City of Visalia. He worked for Visalia for about 14-years, starting in the Community Development Department, and was the Public Works Director for 6-years. Adam is an Exeter native, born in the Exeter hospital, and graduated from Exeter High School. He worked for a private sector engineering company for 6-years to start his career. Adam studied civil engineering at the College of the Sequoias and California State University, Fresno.



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City Government Executive Professional in Tulare County Cities

Farmersville began in the 1850s as a community called "Deep Creek." There are headstones in the Deep Creek Cemetery that date back to the 1850s. Schools were developed to serve the children of the local farms. Discussions regarding incorporating the city began in 1945. Farmersville incorporated in October 1960. The city's 2019 estimated population is 10,703 people. Jennifer Gomez is the City Manager, and Rochelle Giovani is the City Clerk. Steve Huntley is the Finance Director, and Jeff Dowlen is the Public Works Director.



Jennifer Gomez began her working career as a Legal Assistant for a law firm in January 1996. She worked in that position for more than 5-years and then took a Paralegal post with another

law firm in Visalia in 2003. After 4-years, she was hired as the Deputy City Clerk in the City of Tulare in April 2007. After more than 7-years in Tulare, Jennifer was recruited to serve as the Hanford City Clerk in June 2014. She was appointed to the City Manager position in Farmersville in May 2018 to replace City Manager John Jansons, who took the Town Manager post in Windsor. Jennifer studied two years at the College of the Sequoias and earned a BA in history from Santa Clara University and an MPA from Walden University. She has served as a volunteer for the Relay for Life program for the past 12-years, and she has volunteered for the Future Business Leaders of America since February 2001.



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-Ichiro Suzuki



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Jack A. and Susan Simpson

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Serving as the <u>Farmersville</u> Director of Finance and Administration is **Steve Huntley**. Steve joined the

city staff as Finance Director in October 2013 and got his current title and responsibilities in January 2018. He previously worked as an Accountant for the Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency (2011-2013). Steve earned a BS in business administration from Biola University. He received a Certified Public Finance Officer (GFOA) designation through Radford University.



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Roxanne Diaz is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California
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Retired LASD and City of <u>Bellflower</u> law enforcement professional **Glenn "Hutch" Hutchinson** next to a "big" cactus. Hutch also served as a member of the <u>Artesia</u> City Council.



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City Government Executive Professional in Tulare County Cities

Lindsay was founded in 1889 by Captain Arthur Hutchinson when he moved to California due to ill health. He bought 2,000 acres in the Lindsay area to establish the Lindsay Land Company. The Southern Pacific Railroad came through the area in 1889. The town was named for Arthur Hutchinson's wife, Sadie Lindsay Patton Hutchinson. Lindsay incorporated in February 1910. The estimated 2019 population is 13,463. Joe Tanner Jr. is the City Manager and Juana Espinoza is the Interim City Clerk.



Joe Tanner began his public services career in December 2005 as an Economic Development Intern in the City of San Ramon. Joe was hired as an Administrative Analyst in October 2007 and worked in San Ramon until June 2012. Joe was

appointed Interim City Manager in Rio Vista in January 2013. He served 10 months in that position. In October 2014 Joe went to work for the City of Desert Hot Springs as Director of Administrative Services. In April 2018 he became the Director of Administrative Services for the Town of Moraga. Joe took an Interim Deputy City Manager assignment in the City of Port Hueneme in 2019, and then as Interim Management Services Director in Monterey Park in 2020. Joe was appointed Lindsay City Manager in March 2020. He earned an AA from Diablo Valley College, a BA from St. Mary's College of California, and an MBA from John F. Kennedy University.

"When written in Chinese the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters – one represents danger and the other represents opportunity."

—John F. Kennedy



Porterville is the gateway to the Sequoia National Forest. When Gold was discovered in California in 1848, it brought a migration to the State of those looking to get

rich. Between 1849 and 1842 prairie schooners rolled through the streets of Porterville. Royal Porter Putnam came to the area in 1860 to raise cattle, horses and hogs. The town of Porterville was founded in 1864. In 1888 the Southern Pacific Railway built a branch line from Fresno increasing development potential. The City of Porterville incorporated in 1902. The 2019 estimated population is 59,599. John D. Lollis is the City Manager and City Clerk, and Patrice Hildreth is the Chief Deputy City Clerk and Director of Administrative Services. [Can't help it! When I think of Porterville, I think of former City Manager Charles "Guy" Huffaker.]

John D. Lollis was hired by <u>Porterville</u> in 2006 to serve as the Administrative Services Director and then Deputy City Manager in 2007. He was appointed City Manager in 2009.

Donnie Moore was appointed <u>Porterville</u> Parks and Leisure Services Director in 2012. He replaced retiring Director **Milt Stowe**, who also served as Assistant City Manager. Donnie previously served as a Supervisor in the Department.



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Tulare is found in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley. The city is named for the Tulare Lake, once the largest freshwater lake west of the Great Lakes. The name Tulare comes from the Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation. flourished Tulare headquarters of the railroad in the area. The city incorporated in April 1888. The community was challenged when in 1891 the railroad moved its headquarters to Bakersfield. The 2019 estimate population is 65,496. Rob A. Hunt has served as the City Manager/City Clerk since June 2019 and has announced his retirement. Josh McDonnell is the Deputy City Manager, and **Roxanne Yoder** is the Chief Deputy City Clerk.

City Manager **Rob Hunt** was hired by the city in January 1993 as a Parks Supervisor. He became a Parks Services Specialist in April 1997, and in September 2002 Rob was promoted to Associate Planner, and then Senior Planner in October 2005. He was appointed Parks, Library and Recreation Director in October 2012, and became the Community Development Director in July 2013. Rob was named Community Services Director on April 29, 2017. He was appointed City Manager in 2019. Rob earned a BS in Industrial Technology from California State University, Fresno. Rob has announced that he will retire and step down in July 2021.

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<u>Tulare</u> Deputy City Manager **Josh McDonnell** began his public service career as a planner with the County of Orange in December 1996 in <u>Santa Ana</u>. He worked as a Senior Planner and Chief of Community Planning

before leaving Orange County in January 2004 for a Supervising Planner position with the County of Santa Barbara. In June 2006 he took a planning position with a private company, working there for more than 5-years. In September 2011 Josh joined the City of Visalia staff as Assistant Community Development Director and City Planner. He moved to the City of Tulare in August 2017, first as Community and Economic Development Director, and then in October 2019 he was appointed Deputy City Manager. Josh earned a BS from California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and MURP in urban and regional planning from the University of California, Irvine, and an MA in political scient from California State University, Fullerton.



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

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Visalia, home to the College of the Sequoias, is the Tulare County seat. When California became a State in 1850, the area that is now Tulare County was included in the large County of Mariposa. In 1853 Visalia was named the county seat of the new Tulare County. Early growth in Visalia, located along the Kaweah River, can be attributed to the gold rush. In 1859 Visalia was added to the Butterfield Overland Stage route from St. Louis to San Francisco. Visalia incorporated in February 1874. The 2019 estimated population of the city is 134,605. Randy Groom is the City Manager, Jason Salazar is the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief is Douglas McBee. Michelle Nicholson is the Chief Deputy City Clerk.



City Manager **Randy Groom** has served <u>Visalia</u> since January 2018. He previously served as the <u>Exeter</u> City Manager between June 2010 and 2018. Prior to that Randy worked as the Director of Administrative Services for the Visalia Unified

School District. He began his public service career as a Crime Analyst Intern for the Fresno County Sheriff's Department (1982-1985). He worked for the <u>Visalia</u> Police Department (1985-1989) as a Police Specialist/Crime Analyst and Reserve Police Officer. In 1989 he joined the <u>Visalia</u> city staff as a Systems Analyst and Programmer, and in 1994 he became a Deputy City Manager (1994-2003). Randy earned a BS from California State University, Fresno. In his spare time, Randy is a volunteer search and rescue K9 handler.



"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

—Jackie Robinson

Woodlake was established by land developer Gilbert F. Stevenson in 1910. He built a storage facility and plotted a town which he named "Woodlake." The city was incorporated in September 1941. The first settler was a miner named Tom Davis. Tom started a cattle ranch in 1853. Ten years later, Reverend Jonathan Blair led a wagon train from Missouri and founded a community along Bravo Lake that he called "Stringtown." In 1867 most of Stringtown was flooded and many of the settlers moved on. The 2019 estimated population of Woodlake is 7,658. The City Administrator is Ramon Lara, and Irene Zacarias is the City Clerk.

Ramon Lara, a <u>Woodlake</u> native, has served as the City of <u>Woodlake</u> City Manager since May 2012. He earned a BA in business management economics from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

There are many unincorporated communities in Tulare County, including: Advance, Angiola, Auckland, Badger, Balance Rock, Blanco, Cabin Cove, Cairns Corner, Calgro, Johnsondale, Kaweah, North Dinuba, Roads End, Rocky Hill, Three Rivers, Ultra, White River, Wimp, Yokohl Valley, and Zante. Tulare County has an estimated population of 469,407 with a 0.34% growth rate.

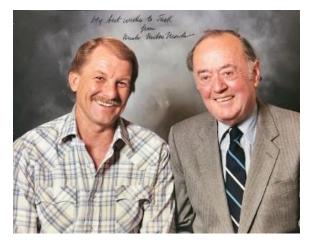
A look at unincorporated Three Rivers shows a population of 2,182. The town's name comes from its geographical location near the junction of the North, Middle and South Forks of the Kaweah River just above Lake Kaweah. The town is near the entrances to the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. A post office was established in 1890 for the Kaweah Colony just outside of the Town of Three Rivers. Though one of the most interesting, Three Rivers is just one of the communities with an interesting history. ***



Retired <u>Duarte</u> City Manager **Darrell George** and retired Deputy City Manager **Karen Herrera** at Angel Stadium in <u>Anaheim</u> for a game just after the team released baseball legend **Albert Pujols**.



Summer vacations are upon us and many are taking to the road in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Be careful out there.



A 1970s pic of former City Manager **Jack Simpson** and the late State Senator **Milton Marks**, **Jr.** of <u>San Francisco</u>. Senator Marks died in December 1998.



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Harvey Englander founded EKA in 2005. He has been at the center of California's public and business life for more than 40-years. As a strategic planner, Harvey has created and successfully executed numerous public relations and public affairs campaigns covering a wide variety of industries. **Englander Knabe & Allen** specialize in developing and implementing Position –A- Strategies for its clients, public or private. Harvey is a **UCLA** graduate.

Matt Knabe is the Managing Partner. He is one of the founding partners. Matt specializes in political consulting, public affairs, government relations and issues, and communications strategy and community relations. In addition to his work, Matt is personally involved in giving back to the community. He is currently President of the Paramount Education Project. Matt graduated from Pepperdine University in 1996, were he played for the Pepperdine University Men's Golf Team. It is hard to find someone with better interaction with local city managers, and elected officials than Matt.

Marcus A. Allen is a former Chief Deputy Controller in Los Angeles and Deputy Chief of Staff in charge of operations and finance in the Mayor's office. Prior to working for Los Angeles, among other posts, Marcus worked as the Chief Deputy at the Los Angeles County Probation Department, and as a Public Affairs Planner for the Southern California Gas Company. He earned a BA from UCLA and a MPPS from the University of Chicago.



Picking Up the Pieces: San Clemente Interim City Manager Erik Sund has been selected to be the next San Clemente City Manager. Erik worked with former City Manager James Makshanoff and Interim City Manager Bob Dunek for the past 6-years. James

left in January 2020 for a position in Pomona, and Bob, who came out of retirement from his Lake Forest City Manager post, left in June. Erik has served as Interim City Manager since Bob left. Erik previoulsy worked as the Director of Financial Managemet in Long Beach, purchasing Manager in Downey, and he was a Senior Buyer for the City of Irvine. Enrique C. Zaldivar is the new Chief Executive Officer (City Manager) for the City of Baldwin Park. Enrique will replace longtime CEO Shannnon Yauchzee, who is retiring after 7-years in the position. Enrique previously served 13-years as the General Manager for the Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment District (LASAN). He began his career in 1985 as an Associate Engineer with the City of Los Angeles. Enrique, after attending classes at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), earned a BS in civil environmental engineering from California State Polytechnical University, Pomona. He will start his new <u>Baldwin Park</u> assignment on June 7, 2021. San Joaquin County Sheriff Pat Withrow told the Lathrop City Council that there will be no more service contracts between the Sheriff's Office and the city as long as the Lathrop City Manager is **Stephen J. Salvatore**. <u>Lathrop</u> is in the process of transitioning to its own police department after more than 30-years of contract law enforcement services from the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff contends that the City owes a million dollars on the current services contract. Steve has served as City Manager since September 2012. Before that he was the Deputy City Manager and then served as Interim City Manager in <u>Lathrop</u>. City Manager **Christopher Boyd** will retire this month after a long law enforcement and management career. He has worked for the City of Citrus Heights for the past 16-years. Chris served as the Chief of Police in Menlo Park from March 2002 until January 2006 when he became the Chief of Police of Citrus Heights. Chris began serving as sthe Citrus Heights City Manager in October 2016. He graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1999. He also earned a BS from the University of Idaho and an MPA from the College of Notre Dame. He is a past President of the CAlifornia Police Chiefs Association (2014-2015).

"Make happy memories!" -- Anonymous



Iconic <u>San Diego</u> by Interim City Manager in <u>Coronado</u> **Mark Ochenduszko**. Mark is a professional Fine Art
Photographer. https://www.markochenduszko.com/

Steve McClary is the new Interim City Manager in the City of Malibu. Steve previously worked as the Assistant City Manager in Camarillo, and as the City Manager in the City of Oiai. He began his local government career in 1997 in the City of Fillmore. He was a newspaper reporter in Fillmore before embarking on his public management career. Lauren Lai is the new Director of Finance for the City of Milpitas. Lauren is a CPA and previously served as Finance Director for the City of Monterey. She is also the former Finance Director in Marina and Capitola. Lauren earned a BS in accounting from San Jose State University, and an MPA from the University of Missouri. She succeeds Finance Director WIter Rossman, who is not the Milpitas Deputy City Manager. Former Pleasant Hill City Manager James Alkire passed away April 22, 2021 at the age of 86. Jim began his public service career in Highland Park, Illinois where he served as Assistant City Manager and Finance Director (1964-1966). In 1966 he moved to Centralia, Illinois as City Manager. Jim moved to California in 1970 to become the Pleasant Hill City Manager until his retirement in 1987. Jim was an avid Oakland A's fan. A Celebration of Life was held May 8 at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Retired City Manager Joe Tanner said, "Jim was a great guy, smart as hell and a very tough person to follow as the Pleasant Hill City Manager. He was unquestionably one of the best in the business and always supported me." Jim earned a BA from the University of Texas and a Masters degree from the University of Pennsylvania. In 1986 he was recognized with a 20year ICMA Service Award.



Former <u>Pasadena</u> City Manager and past President of the City Managers' Department of the League. **Cynthia Kurtz**

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More Pieces Picked Up: Tom Hatch served as the City Manager in the City of Costa Mesa from March 2011 until December 2018. Tom earned a BA and an MPA from

California State University, Fullerton. He currently serves as the Chief Human Resources Officer for the County of Orange. Indicating that he finds the State regulatory structure coercive, <u>Galt</u> City Council Member **Jay Vandenburg** asked, "Has anyone ever pushed back on them (the State) to drop the fees to actually make it easier to build affordable housing?" <u>Galt</u> City Council Member **Rich Lozano** said the State is blackmailing local jurisdictions with grants and revenues. **Lorenzo Hines, Jr.** is the <u>Galt</u> City Manager.

SHORTS: *Cerritos Senior Business License Officer Arcy Hinojosa is planning to retire after 30-years of PERS service, and she may be looking to fill her time with a new private sector position. *Temecula City Council Member Jessica Alexander received criticism after referring to COVID-19, which originated in China, as the "China Virus." *Murrieta City Manager Kimberley Summers was selected by Assembly Member Kelly Seyarto to received the 2021 Woman of the Year

Award for the 67th Assembly District. *Joseph M. Tanner, Sr., the CEO at JT Associates in Pleasant Hill, a Life Member of ICMA, served as City Manager in Galt, Emeryville, Pleasant Hill, Pacifica and Vallejo. *Randy Davis,



former Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of American Canyon, a supporter of live music performances, says, "Parks make life better." *Retired Indio City Manager Mark Scott (2017-2021) previously served as City Manager in Beverly Hills (1990-2003), Spartanburg, South Carolina (2003-2009), Culver City (2009-2010), Fresno (2010-2013), Burbank (2013-2016), and <u>San Bernardino</u> (2016-2017). *Bishop City Attorney Dean J. Pucci is the son of Inyo County Supervisor **Rick Pucci**, who is a former Bishop City Administrator and Assistant City Manager in Temple City.*Calistoga Parks and Recreation Director Rachel Melick previously worked as an Aquatic Director for the Tiburon Peninsula Club (2008-2015) and as a Program Coordinator for Sonoma County Regional Parks (2015-2016) after earning a BA from San Jose State University. *Jennifer Pierce, a Marketing Professional and Proposal Specialist with HdL Companies for nearly 10-years, who earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton, once worked as Public Relations Assistant for Capitol Records (1989-1992). *Every City Manager is seeking direction moving forward regarding public events.***



A large gathering assembled to celebrate **Matt Knabe**'s birthday on February 26. Matt is the managing partner at **EKA**. That is Matt on the right in the blue shirt. A belated Happy Birthday Matt!

Notes and Letters from Readers:

Wanted to touch base and provide you my current email following my retirement from **HdL Companies** in December. I so enjoy staying up to date on all the local government goings-on. I believe you are moving to new digs in the Palm Springs area. Quite a change in scenery but you will be joining an impressive cadre of retired CM's.

This has certainly been a challenging time but hopefully life will more closely resemble normal once the vaccine is more broadly distributed so we can all avoid the scourge of this disease.

Your initiative (and Susan's) is important to keep us connected.

-- Denise Ovrom

Moving to another home is a no fun, very difficult experience, particularly at senior citizen age. I'm hopeful that you'll enjoy the new home and the desert.

Be happy and healthy.

--Lou Shepard

Thank you, Jack. I can honestly say that I learned a lot about perspective and job balance from you, my friend. I've always appreciated your advice and comments over the years.

--Jeff Stewart

NOTE: I am most proud to be "friend" to many dedicated professionals, who served and continue to serve the public in local government...where the rubber meets the road. You contribute on the front lines and the public should be grateful for your service...I am.

---Jack A. Simpson,

Trackdown Management