

# City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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December 2023

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Volume No. 16 | Issue No. 22



Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument trail marker. The Greater Palm Springs area offers more than 100 hiking trails. Hiking allows the mixture of a fitness activity with up-close and personal scenic nature discoveries and experiences. There are hiking opportunities throughout California.

## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited

We have come to understand that all internet lists are not worthy to rely on. A big "Thank you" to City Managers **John Kunkel** of Huron and **Alex Meyerhoff**, a former Holtville City Manager, for catching our grievous omissions. The list we used did not include Hawaiian Gardens, Hillsborough, Holtville, Hughson or Huron. We apologize and attempt to make up for our errors in this December 2023 **Holiday** issue. A sincere "Thank you" to John and Alex for their readership. We again apologize for our oversight. Happy Holidays to everyone!

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Jack & Susan Simpson, 10 Claret, Rancho Mirage, California 92270

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## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited



Hawaiian Gardens is a general law city that incorporated in April 1964. It shares a border with the City of Cypress and the County of Orange, and Lakewood and Long Beach. A high water-table and poor drainage produced flooding of the area that became known as "The Delta." The community became a service area for dairy and trucks farms. In 1927, a fruit stand opened near the intersection of Norwalk Boulevard and Carson Street. The stand was decorated with palm fronds and bamboo and called the "Hawaiian Garden;" the origin of the city's name. The stand was rumored to be a place where one could get some moonshine. The 2019 estimated population of Hawaiian Gardens is 14,159 for the square mile city.

Members of the local Lion's Club were at the center of the cityhood efforts. Following the incorporation of Hawaiian Gardens, the City Council hired, **Noyes Alexander** as City Administrator, a newsman who was a member of the local Lion's Club, as were the members of the new City Council. **Lee Ware** was the first Mayor and the first City Council included **Venn Furgeson** [a past President of the California Contract Cities Association (1973-1974)], **Robert Leach**, **C. Robert Lee** and **Glen Turner**.

Businesses grew up in Hawaiian Gardens that were known throughout the area. *Leach's Sporting Goods* on Carson Street sold sporting equipment from guns to boats and had a wonderful reputation. Owner **Bob Leach** served on the original city council and his wife Anne served on the city council in the 1970s. *Mike's Restaurant* was known throughout the area as serving the largest portions of prime rib you could buy. Mike's was owned by **Lee Kong**, who was well-known for his excellent menu. *Plowboy's Market* (1956-1999) was also a standout local business. You could find the best produce in the area at Plowboy's, owned by **George Ogawa** and his family. *Rodgers Meats* was also a well-known establishment in Hawaiian Gardens, owned and operated by **Carl Rodgers** and his sons.

## Trackdown Posse Roster

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**Don Penman**, Retired City Manager, Arcadia  
**Chuck Bryant**, Past City Admin., Hawaiian Gardens  
**Jim Lewis**, City Manager, City of Atascadero  
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### **City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown Management**

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## More State of California “H” Named Cities Revisited

Hawaiian Gardens City Manager **Ernesto Marquez** has returned to office. **Ernie Hernandez** was appointed City Manager in January 2017. Ernesto served prior to Ernie's tenure. Ernie left Hawaiian Gardens to accept the Lynwood City Manager position in March 2021 after serving as Hawaiian Gardens City Manager for four years, and Ernesto was asked to return. **Linda Hollinsworth** is the Finance Director and City Treasurer, and **Joe Jimenez** is the Director of Recreation and Community Services. **Elise McCaleb** is the Community Development Director. **Shavon Moore-Cage** is the Executive Assistant to the City Manager.

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## More State of California “H” Named Cities Revisited



Trackdown's **Jack A. Simpson** and Hawaiian Gardens City Manager **Ernesto Marquez** in 2016. Ernesto served as the Hawaiian Gardens City Manager from 2005 to 2016 and returned in 2021. Jack served there between 1969 and 1978, and as interim in 1997-1998.



**Ernie Hernandez**, Lynwood City Manager since 2021, served as the Hawaiian Gardens City Manager for four years (2017-2021). Before joining the Hawaiian Gardens city staff, Ernie served as the Deputy City Manager in Norwalk. He also previously worked in Santa Ana, Long Beach and South El Monte. Ernie earned a BA from California State University, Dominguez Hills and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

Finance Director **Linda Hollinsworth** has served as the Acting City Manager.



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**Lisa Hughes**, retired from the Anaheim City Manager's Office, celebrating her granddaughter's birthday.



## More State of California “H” Named Cities Revisited



Hillsborough was founded on land Mexican land grant land purchased by **William Davis Merry Howard** in 1846. William was the son of a wealthy influential shipping business owner from Hillsborough, New Hampshire. Wealthy people from San Francisco were attracted to the area. From its founding until 1963, the town was an exclusive community for the wealthy. Jack and Betty Ken, first-generation children of Chinese immigrants, purchased land in Hillsborough. This made them the first non-white landowners in the town. Hillsborough has no commercial zoning and has no local businesses. The only non-residential properties are four public and three private schools, government facilities, a golf course, country club and small parks. The town was incorporated in May 1910. Its 2020 population is placed at 11,387. **Doug Davis** is the City Manager and **Lisa Natusch** is the City Clerk. The Hillsborough Finance Director is **Jan Cooke** and **Nelson Corteway** is the Chief of Police.



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**--Ryder Todd Smith, President**

City Manager **Doug Davis**, who began his city manager tenure in July 2023, served previously as the Hillsborough Chief of Police. He served in the town's police department for 33 years. He was awarded the Police Valor Award in 2019 at the Lion's Club Police and Firefighter's Awards Banquet.

Finance Director **Jan Cooke** began her career with the auditing services of KPMG in 1987. After working for Gap Inc. for 16 years, she joined the Half Moon Bay city staff as Finance Director in December 2009. She was hired as the Hillsborough Finance Director in 2013. Jan earned a BASc (Bachelor of Applied Science) in accounting from Pepperdine University.

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**Senior Municipal Consultant**

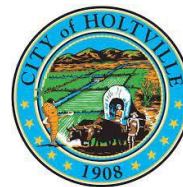
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A Southern California Edison Company's analysis shows that electricity demand in California is projected to rise by more than 80% by 2045. They estimate that by then, 90% of vehicles and 95% of buildings will

be fully electric. The State's electric grid, shows the analysis, will need to produce three times as much in new utility-scale solar and wind generation and develop the needed energy storage to meet this increased demand.

## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited



Holtville was founded in the 1880s by Swiss-German settlers. Originally called "Holton", the city was founded in 1903 by **W.F. Holt**. The name was changed to Holtville when the U. S. Postal Service decided that the name sounded too much like "Colton." The city grew with the 1890s construction of railroad service, the All-American Canal in the 1940s, and U. S. Route 80 highway in the 1920s all brought people to the community. The city was incorporated in July 1908. The 2019 estimated population is set at 6,621. Holtville is the birthplace of former Assembly Member **Joe A. Gonsalves**, founder of **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**. **Nick Wells** is the Holtville City Manager and **Adriana Anguis** is the Finance Supervisor. **George Galvan** of The Holt Group is the City Planner, and **Jack Holt** is the City Engineer. **Alex Silva** is the Fire Chief. A "Thank you" goes to **Alex Meyerhoff**, a former Holtville City Manager, for pointing out the omissions in the Trackdown "H" cities.

After working in the private sector starting in 2004, **Nick Wells** joined the Holtville city staff in June 2011 as the Finance Manager. He was appointed City Manager in September 2014. Nick earned a BS from California State University, Fresno and an MPP from Northern Arizona University. Nick is the longest-serving Holtville city manager. He is a Holtville native. He spent some time living in Nashville pursuing a singing career, and he lived in the San Joaquin Valley for about 20 years, working accounting for agricultural produce companies.

Former City Manager **Alex Meyerhoff** joined the Holtville staff in 2011. He has worked assignments in San Fernando, Hemet, Palm Springs, Coachella, Indio and Twentynine Palms. Alex is an Adjunct Faculty member at the College of the Desert. He also worked as the Community Development Manager for Desert Hot Springs. He is a **UCLA** alumnus.



## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited



Hughson, a Stanislaus County city, is a longtime farming community once tabbed "The Peach Capital of the World." Today the peach is no longer the primary crop in the area.

Almonds have replaced the peach as the primary crop. Almond production in the area is one of the largest in the world. Hughson's current major crops include almonds, peaches, walnuts, nectarines, cherries, apples and a few vineyards. Many orchards have been destroyed for residential and commercial development. Hughson was incorporated in December 1972. The 2020 population is 7,481. **Merry Mayhew** is the Hughson City Manager, and **Ashton Gose** is the City Clerk and Executive Assistant. **Carla Jauregui** is the Community Development Director, and the Director of Finance and Administrative Services is **Kim Weimer**. **Fabian Ramos** is the Community Development Specialist. The Hughson Chief of Police is **Fidel Landeros**.



Retired City Manager **John Donlevy** put his fifth completed marathon in the books by completing the 2023 California International Marathon in Sacramento



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Color me "Happy"! The holidays are a joyous time of year. Here is Jack Simpson and his eldest granddaughter **Brittney Nicole Sugar**.  
**Merry Christmas!**





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Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Fran was elected a University of California Alumni Regent in 2016.



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## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited



Hughson City Manager **Merry D. Mayhew** began her public service career working for Stanislaus County as a Business Manager starting in September 1984. After nearly 29 years, in March 2013, Merry was tapped to serve as

Assistant Director of the county's Department of Environmental Resources – Milk and Dairy and Solid Waste Management programs. She also served as the Assistant Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation. After nearly 35 years with the county, Merry joined the Hughson city staff in April 2019 as the Director of Finance and Administrative Services. In June 2020 she began her tenure as the City Manager for the City of Hughson. Merry is an alumnus of Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and she earned an MBA from Ashford University in Chandler, Arizona.



**Kimberly (Martinelli) Weimer** is the Director of Finance and Administrative Services for the City of Hughson. Kim began her working career in the private sector in 2003. She worked controller and accounting posts for a

number of companies. She was the owner operator of Leonardo's Café for nearly 10 years starting in 2008. She worked more private sector positions from 2017 to 2022. Kim joined the Hughson city staff in February 2023. She earned a BS in accounting with a minor in Spanish from Ball State University.



"There may be people who have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do – and I believe that. I love it when people doubt me. It makes me work harder to prove them wrong."

---**Derek Jeter**

## More State of California "H" Named Cities Revisited



Huron was founded in 1888 as a water stop along the Southern Pacific Railroad in Fresno County. The Post Office was the first building in the community

when it opened in 1877. It closed in 1883 and reopened in 1886. During WW II Huron location had three airfield training facilities- Huron Field, West Field and Indian Field part of the Lemoore Army Air Field. **Joseph Mouren** and his family are considered among the city's founding fathers. Huron, at one time, was the largest producer of wool in the U.S. Huron incorporated in May 1951. The city's population in 2019 was set at 7,281. Veteran City Manager and Chief of Police **John Kunkel** is the Acting City Manager and **Juanita Veliz** is the City Clerk. **Anita Choperena** is the Planning Technician. The City of Huron Chief of Police is **George Turegano**. The Coalinga-Huron Recreation and Parks District serves the communities of Huron and Coalinga. The General Manager of the District is **Tyler Hensley**.

Huron Acting City Manager **John Kunkel** served in the Madera Police Department and as the Chief of Police in the City of Exeter for 19 years before becoming the Exeter City Manager in 2004. From 2009 to 2013, John served as the City Manager in Buelton. He joined the Kerman city staff as the Interim City Manager and performed well enough that he was hired full-time. John retired from Kerman in 2019. John ventured to Manzanita, Oregon in 2020 to serve that community as Interim City Manager before returning to California and the position in Huron. John earned a BA in the administration of justice.

**Jack Castro** started his tenure as the Huron City Manager in September 2015. Jack passed away on November 22, 2021, unexpectedly of an internal illness. **Thomas Hemphill** served as the Huron City Manager from 1994 until January 1997. He previously served as the Fowler City Administrator.



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**Anthony Gonsalves** is a long time Member of the CCMF Board of Trustees



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**Pat West** 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.

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## More State of California “H” Named Cities Revisited

Humboldt County is the only California county that has a name that begins with the letter “H”. The county is located on the North Coast of California. Its main population center is in Eureka and Arcata. The first non-native visit to Humboldt Bay was in 1806 by a Russian American Company’s otter hunting party. Humboldt County was formed in 1853 from parts of Trinity County. The 2020 population is 136,483.

There are many unincorporated communities in the state that are identified by “H” names. *Hacienda Heights* is an unincorporated suburban community in Los Angeles County. The late **John E. Maulding**, a former Superintendent of Building (SOB) with the old County Engineer’s Office was a resident. He lived with his wife Francis in Hacienda Heights. John was a county Regional Engineer. He joined the Willdan Engineering staff, and later served as the San Gabriel Valley Water Master. He was known throughout the “contract cities” in L.A. County. John was known for his magic tricks and his pocket full of “woofle” dust.

Another *Hacienda Heights* resident was the late Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department Lt. **Ken “Catfish” Johnson**. He and his wife Doris lived there. Catfish served as an aide to Assistant Sheriff **Dr. Howard Earle**, which put him in touch with many contract cities. After retirement he relocated to Florida where he survived a few hurricanes before his passing.

There are many more “H” communities in California that have not incorporated as cities. We hope that we have now covered the State’s “H” cities. Please let us know if we have missed any. We always appreciate reader’s comments and suggestions.



**Debbie Smith**, Executive Director

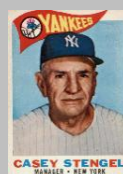
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“A lot of people my age are dead at the present time.”

--Casey Stengel

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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 Allderdice** 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, Weed, 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. The firm serves a special counsel to local governments throughout California.



Newsletters: CHW periodically distributes newsletters that highlights new developments in the law that might be of interest. [Click here.](#)





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## Northern California "Proof of Life" Lunch Tuesday, December 5, 2023

The Northern California "Proof of Life" lunch group had a nice turn out for the December 5 lunch gathering. A few new faces joined the lunch. In attendance in the order they signed the sign-in sheet:

**Bob Toone**  
**Gary Broad**  
**Hilary Strauss**  
**Chris McKenzie**  
**Terry Dugan**  
**Pat Thompson**  
**Nancy Weiss**  
**Kevin O'Rourke**  
**John Shirey**  
**Bob LaSala**  
**Jerry Newfarmer**  
**Ted Gaebler**  
**Carlos Urrutia**  
**Joe Tanner**  
**Bill Edgar**  
**Rod Wood**

\*Thank you to **Kevin O'Rourke**. Questions should be addressed to **Rod Wood**; 310-920-0092.



One of the original "Proof of Life" lunch meetings at Tap's Fish House & Brewery in Brea on Tuesday, December 9, 2014.

Left to right seated: **Terry Belanger**, **Anne Haraksin**, **Tom Robinson**, **Gary Sloan**, **Ernie Garcia**, **John Hammargren**, and the late **Ray Harris**. Standing from left to right are **Gary Chicots**, **Don Wagner**, **Jim Barisic**, **Greg Korduner**, **Bill Crowe**, **Steve Harding**, **John C. Bolan** and **Sam Olivito**.

The "Proof of Life" lunch group met this year on Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2023 at the North Woods Inn & Restaurant in La Mirada.













**2024**  
**SACRAMENTO**  
**LEGISLATIVE TOUR**

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**HdL** was founded in 1983 by former City Manager **Robert "Bob" Hinderliter**. HdL expanded and improved with the help of a partnership with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, the firm's retired Executive Chairman.

**Andy Nickerson** is the President/CEO. Other members of the HdL team include **Vikki Beatley, Paula Cone, Barry Foster, Robert Gray, Kimberly Konczak, David McPherson, and Bobby Young**.



**HdL Companies** provide revenue enhancement, technology, and consulting services. HdL's team of professionals currently serves more than 600 agencies nationwide.

**HdL Companies** offers support services and software that includes sales, use and transactions taxes, economic development, property taxes, business license fees, transient occupancy tax, short-term rental compliance, rent control, indirect cost recovery, utility users tax, and cannabis regulation and taxation.

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**Matt Knabe**, Managing Partner



922 Machin Avenue  
Novato, CA 94945

#### Novato City Managers:

**Adam McGill**, 2019-2023  
**Regan Candelario**, 2016-2019  
**Michael Frank**, 2009-2016  
**Dan Keen**, 2004-2008  
**Rod Wood**, 1993-2004  
**Phil Brown**, 1974-1992



**Picking Up the Pieces:** **Raul Alvarez** is the new Montebello City Manager. **Ralph Andersen and Associates** assisted the city with the recruitment. Raul replaces City Manager **Rene Bobadilla**, who is currently the Santa Fe Springs City Manager. Raul previously served as Assistant City Manager for the cities of Huntington Park and Lynwood. He is a former District Director and Senior Advisor to Assembly Member **Anthony Rendon**. He began his public service career as a Deputy to Los Angeles County Supervisor **Gloria Molina**. Raul earned a BA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**) and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.





**More Pieces Picked Up:** Live Oak Director of Public Works, **Ronald Walker** is the next City Manager for the City of Colfax. He takes over from Interim City Manager **Mike Luken** in January. Ron previously

worked as the General Manager for the Forestville Water District, as Chief Plant Operator for the CalFire Konocti Fire Camp in Lower Lake, and Chief Plant Operator for the Pfeiffer-Big Surr State Park for the California Parks System. Ron earned a BA from Southern New Hampshire University.



This picture is by **Mark Ochendusko**. Mark is a retired Coronado City Manager who served as the Interim City Manager for the City of Del Mar in 2011. He replaced City Manager **Karen Brust**

when she left Del Mar to become the San Juan Capistrano City Manager. Mark is also recognized as a highly professional freelance photographer whose specialty is landscapes, shoreline scenes and outdoor subjects. Mark was the Coronado city manager from 1999 until his retirement in 2010. He previously served as the City Manager for the cities of Campbell and Cypress. Mark is also a former Assistant City Manager for the City of Temecula. Mark earned a BA and MPA from San Diego State University. City of Commerce City Manager **Edgar Cisneros** resigned from his position after serving there for the past 6 years. Edgar is involved in a federal cannabis corruption investigation of public officials. Assistant City Manager **Vilko Domic** was assigned the City Manager's duties. Edgar is a former Huntington Park City Manager, and his involvement took place while he served there. He became the Commerce City Manager in November 2017. He also was a longtime member of the Montebello Unified School District Board of Education.



Calexico City Manager **Esperanza Colio Warren** previously worked for more than 18 years with the County of Imperial. She was a Deputy County Executive Officer when she accepted the appointment as Calexico City Manager in July 2022.

She worked as the Imperial County Community and Economic Development Manager from April 2004 until August 2018 when she was made a Deputy County Executive Officer. Esperanza earned a BA and MPA from San Diego State University. She is an adjunct professor for San Diego State University, Imperial Valley.

Carpinteria hosted a special Monday, November 27 recognition ceremony for the city's longtime City Manager **Dave Durlinger**. Dave is retiring after 24 years with the Carpinteria city staff. He served as City Manager for the past 22 years; since July 2001. Dave began his public service career in the Planning Department in the City of Cathedral City in July 1988. He became the City Planner in Cathedral City in June 1998. He started his Carpinteria tenure as the Community Development Director in January 1999. Dave earned an AA from Glendale College and a BA from the University of California, Riverside. In 2023, Dave received a 35-year ICMA Service Award. **Don Schwartz** is the new City Manager in Sebastopol. Don is the Assistant City Manager for the City of Rohnert Park, where he has worked since April 2014. He succeeds City Manager Larry McLaughlin, who has worked in the position since 2014. Don served as an Instructor for Sonoma State University from 2019 to May 2023. He was an Analyst to the CAO in Sonoma County from April 2005 until April 2014. Don earned a BA in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley and an MPP (Master of Public Policy) from Harvard University. Danville Town Manager **Joe Calabrigo** earned an employment agreement extension and compensation adjustment. In 2022, Joe earned salary and benefits of \$384,005. After an excellent performance review, Joe will receive a 14.2% annual salary increase. His agreement was extended to April 2025. Joe is the longest serving city manager in the East Bay. He became Danville Town Manager in 1993. He started in Danville in September 1985 as the Planning Director. Joe was promoted to Assistant Town Manager in June 1990. In 2020, Joe received a 35-year ICMA Service Award. Oakland has hired **Dr. Holly Joshi** as the Chief of the Department of Violence Prevention (DVP). Holly says that she plans to look at the root causes of gun violence, gang violence and gender-based violence. DVP will focus on prevention and intervention of community violence. One objective is to reduce the need to utilize the criminal justice system.

Apple Valley's first Mayor, **Nicholas "Nick" DePrisco, Jr.**, passed away at the age of 75 in Laguna Woods following a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was remembered at a November 4 celebration of life service in Spring Valley Lake. As the top vote-getter, he earned the position of Mayor for the newly incorporated Town of Apple Valley in 1988. He remained on the Town Council until 1996. Nick worked as a San Bernardino County Public Defender. He taught criminal law at Victor Valley College. Nick earned a BA from California State University, Hayward and a Juris Doctorate from Western State College of Law in San Diego.



**Still More Pieces Picked Up:** Sebastopol Assistant City Manager and City Clerk **Mary Gourley** served with the Department of the Army at the Presidio of San Francisco from June 1982 until March 1995. She joined the Sebastopol city staff after leaving the Army as a Planning and Public Works Technician. Mary became the Sebastopol City Clerk in September 2006. She has worked with the city for nearly 29 years. She earned an MMC from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Merced's new City Manager **Scott McBride** worked as the Development Services Director for 6 years before he was appointed city manager. He previously worked for the City of Atwater for more than 23 years. In 2017, Scott served as the Interim City Manager for Atwater. He earned a BA in environmental studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz and an MPA from California State University, Stanislaus. Scott took the oath of office in Merced on November 6.

**SHORTS:** \*Fresno City Manager **Georgeanne White** appointed two new Assistant City Managers, including former Tracy City Manager **Michael Rogers** and Visalia Assistant City Manager **Nick Mascia**. \*Retired Santa Fe Springs City Manager **Fred Latham** serves on the Board of Directors of a non-profit for a student mentoring program in Santa Fe Springs. \*Past California Contract Cities Association President (1995-1996), **Bea LaPisto-Kirtley**, a former Bradbury City Council Member, currently serves as a member of the Board of Supervisors for Albemarle County, Virginia. \*Tripepi Smith President **Ryder Todd Smith** is recognized by the Municipal Management Association of Northern California (MMANC) with the group's 2023 Legacy Award. \*Colma City Clerk **Caitlin Corley** is the next City Clerk for the City of Petaluma. \*City Manager **Elaine Andersen** confirmed that, California State University, Sacramento alumnus and Placerville City Engineer, **Rebecca Neves** is the new Folsom City Engineer, effective November 27. \*Former United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger passed away at the age of 100. \*In May 2023, Westlake Village Director of Finance **Dr. Daniel Jordan** was appointed to succeed La Cañada Flintridge City Manager **Mark Alexander** in June 2023. \***Jan Heidt**, a founding member of the Santa Clarita City Council, passed away at the age of 84. \***Jenny Rogers**, a veteran of the Beverly Hills staff as Director of Community Services, has been appointed by City Manager **David White** to serve as the City of Santa Monica's first Recreation and Arts Director. \***Craig Bassett** is the new Interim Chief of Police for the City of Corning following the departure of Police Chief **Jeremiah Fears**. \*Palo Altos' first female Mayor **Frances Dias**, who was elected to the City Council and became Mayor in 1966, has passed away at the age of 100.\*\*\*



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- Attendance at this event by a public official will constitute acceptance of a reportable gift





Message from HdL Companies in memory of a good friend:

On Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> we lost our Founder, Bob Hinderliter, to pancreatic cancer. Bob passed peacefully, and during the last months of his life, looking back, he felt most grateful for the full life he led. His greatest joy came from being a husband, father, and grandfather. He was also a successful entrepreneur and very proud of the business he founded and how it had grown to have such a positive impact on local government agencies across the nation. Bob is survived by his wife Debbie, his three children Matt, Lisa, and Paula, and seven grandchildren.

In August 1983, after working for ten years as City Manager of Commerce, Robert "Bob" Hinderliter, 42 years old, resigned from his post to begin a new career in the private sector. Bob believed that cities were failing to utilize sales tax data to their best advantage, and by the fall of 1983 he had developed the first computerized sales tax data program devoted exclusively to analyzing California sales tax allocations. On October 12<sup>th</sup>, 1983 the firm, Robert Hinderliter & Associates, was awarded its first contract with the City of Monterey Park where Lloyd de Llamas was the City Manager.

It was in early 1985, with eleven more cities having been added to the client list, that an article about the company was published in the Los Angeles Times. The Times article was noticed by Dick Nevins, a Board Member at the State Board of Equalization representing the 4<sup>th</sup> District that included much of the Los Angeles basin where Bob's clients were located. Mr. Nevins liked to make presentations to city council members in his District and share some of his unique insights on the SBE's closely guarded sales tax data. When Mr. Nevins read about cities sharing their confidential sales tax data with Bob's company, he drafted letters to all of Bob's clients informing them that they could no longer provide him with the confidential information.

Soon after, Bob, and two of his clients; city managers Frank Tripepi and Jack Simpson met with Mr. Nevins to try and broker a compromise, but Nevins refused. Without access to the data, Robert Hinderliter & Associates would be out of business.

For the next six months Bob, with the help of Frank Tripepi, Jack Simpson and lobbyist Joe Gonsalves worked on legislation (AB1611 – Author: Dominic Cortese) that would allow consultants to have access to the confidential sales tax data if they were so authorized by the local governments they served.

In July 1985 Governor George Deukmejian signed AB 1611, which amended section 7056 of the State Statute. If not for this legislation HdL would likely not exist today.

In 1987 Lloyd de Llamas purchased 50% of the company and the firm's name was changed to Hinderliter, de Llamas & Associates. The two partners had complimentary skill sets which strongly contributed to the company's success. Through the combined hard work and ingenuity of Bob and Lloyd the firm grew rapidly, while continually staying focused on hiring talented staff and providing outstanding customer service - priorities which continue to be hallmarks of the organization today.

Today, we stand on the shoulders of those that came before us. Today, we are most grateful for the foundation that they laid for our continued success. And today we say goodbye to a man that had a profound and lasting impact on our lives. Bob, thank you for the life you lived, the company you founded, and the significant positive impacts each has left on so many. We salute you.

Andy

**Andrew Nickerson** | President/CEO

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