TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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

October, 2020 Special

Volume No. 13: Issue No. 19

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Jill Vinsonhaler Meyer fishing at beautiful Lake Tahoe. Jill displays a Mackinaw catch. Jill is a former member of the Joe A. Gonsalves & Son professional legislative representation staff.

Professional Women in Cities from Upland to Vallejo

This Special October, 2020 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown addresses some of the women who work in California cities alphabetically listed between <u>Upland</u> and <u>Vallejo</u>. We hope you enjoy our efforts to identify women professionals who work or worked in city governments. This is the 46th issue dedicated to women in cities.

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

Of course, it is impossible to report career profiles that are not there. When individuals fail to post information, it is undiscoverable. We apologize to those we miss. Please believe that we try hard to acknowledge all those who should be.



<u>Upland</u> is at the foot of the San Gabriel Mountains in San Bernardino County. It was originally established as an irrigation colony by **George** and **William Chaffey**. It was a small rural agriculture town. <u>Upland</u> was one of the communities located on the National Old Trails Road, established in 1912 as the first national coast-to-coast highway. The citrus industry in <u>Upland</u> continued to flourish until the mid-1940s. <u>Upland</u> incorporated in May, 1906. It has an estimated 2019 population of 77,140. **Rosemary Hoerning** is the City Manager, and **Keri Johnson** is the City Clerk. The Chief of Police is **Darren Goodman**.



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Rosemary Hoerning served as a Supervising Engineer in the City of Ontario starting 1990. In 1997 she was hired as a Division Engineer for the Long Beach Water Department, and she worked there until 2001 when she was hired to be the Deputy City Engineer in

the City of <u>Upland</u>. In 2004 Rosemary became the <u>Upland</u> Deputy Public Works Director and in 2005 the Assistant Public Works Director. In 2008 she was appointed Director of the Municipal Utilities and Public Works and City Engineer Department in the City of <u>Redlands</u>. Rosemary left that position in 2011. She was appointed <u>Upland</u> Interim City Manager in 2019, and she became City Manager in February, 2020. Rosemary has earned a BA in civil engineering, an MPA and she is a Licensed Professional Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor with the State of California.

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Former City Administrator **Wesley Wolf**, Founder Cell No. 949-235-0525
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Trackdown Posse Roster

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Ray Tayler, Retired City Manager, Westlake Village



"Any game could be my last, and any at bat could be my last. I'd hate to think it ended without me giving my best effort." --Darin Erstad



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City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown

Penned by Trackdown Management Jack A. and Susan Simpson 16707 Gerritt Avenue Cerritos, California 90703-1442

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Happy Halloween!
Be Safe Out There!
This is Trackdown Granddaughter
Presley Simpson Guarino.

Professional Women in Cities from Upland to Vallejo



Michelle Madriz served as a Water Resources Department Intern with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency in Chino Hills in July, 2003. In 2004 Michelle went to work as an Environment Control Intern II

in the City of Fontana. After serving in an environmental post on the private side (2005-2007), she went to work for the Mojave Water Agency for 7-months in 2007 as Water Conservation Coordinator and Executive Director of the Alliance for Water Awareness & Conservation. From July, 2007 until August, 2014, Michelle worked for the Laguna Beach County Water District as a Water Use Efficiency and Community Relations Specialist. Michelle worked for the Santa Fe Irrigation District as a Water Conservation Coordinator from January, 2015 until February, 2016. In January, 2017 she joined the staff in the City of San Juan Capistrano as a Water Conservation Coordinator. Michelle move to the Upland city staff in July, 2017. She is a Management Analyst in the City's Utilities Department. Michelle attended classes at California State University, San Marcos, and she earned a BS in environmental science with an emphasis in water resource management from California State University, San Bernardino.



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Jessica Deakyne, President, Assistant City Manager, City of <u>Novato</u>



Solano County's City of <u>Vacaville</u> is located about 35-mile from <u>Sacramento</u>. Early community pioneers include **Juan Manuel Cabeza Vaca** and **Juan Felipe Peña**. The two families settled in the

Lagoon Valley in 1842. The Pena Adobe home is the oldest standing building in the city; built in 1842. The city incorporated in August, 1892. The estimated 2019 population of Vacaville is 100,670. Since April, 2020, **Aaron Busch** is the City Manager, and **Michelle Thornbrugh** is the City Clerk. Former <u>Vacaville</u> City Manager **John Thompson** is a former President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (2000-2001).

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This archive "Proof of Life" picture was taken at the Northwood's Inn Restaurant in La Mirada: Left to right are: Ron Molendyk and Julio Fuentes. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the quarterly lunches, and the September lunch was cancelled by the venue. The next "Proof of Life" lunch will be Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at the North Wood's Inn Restaurant, 14305 Firestone Boulevard, La Mirada. God willing and the creek don't rise, we will all assemble at 11:30 a.m. for the noon lunch.



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Retired City Managers **Fran David** and **Jeff Kolin**, a past President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities, serve on the Avenu Advisory Board.



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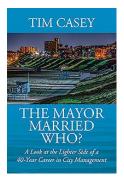
Fran Mancia may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

Sandy Hess is the <u>Vacaville</u> Employee Relations Manager. Sandy started her public service care in 1997 as a Facilitator for the Solano County Office of Education. In 2000-2001 she worked for a health care company, and in 2001 she joined the city staff in the City of Fairfield as a Human Resources and Risk Analyst. After 4-years in that position, Sandy jointed the Vacaville city staff in 2005 as a Human Resources Analyst, and began working her way up in the city organization: Senior Human Resources Analyst (2016-2017); and Employee Relations Manager (January, 2018 to the present). Sandy earned a BA in anthropology from the University of California, Davis. She also has a CALPELRA Labor Relations Academy Mast Certification, and an IPMA-HR Senior Human Resources Professional certificate.



Tyra Hays, City Planner who works in the Community Development Department, Advanced Planning Division. Joined the City of Vacaville as a City Planner in October, 1999. She has been with the city for more than 21-years.

Tyra took classes at Chapman University, and earned a BA in geography from California State University, Stanislaus.



The Mayor Married Who?

A Look at the Lighter Side of a 40-Year Career in City Management by Tim Casey

Tim retired as a City Manager in November, 2019 after 22-years as a City Manager in <u>Laguna Niguel</u>.

He previously served as the <u>Redondo Beach</u> City Manager (1981-1990).



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Professional Women in Cities from Upland to Vallejo



Emily Cantu is the City of <u>Vacaville</u> Director of Housing Services. Emily joined the <u>Vacaville</u> city staff in November, 2007 as a Project Coordinator. After nearly 6-years, she was asked to serve as the Interim

Director of Housing Services in August, 2013 following the retirement of **Cyndi Johnston**. After nine months of quality service, Emily was tapped to serve as the Director of Housing Services in April, 2014. Emily earned a BA in sociology from California State University, East Bay, and an MPA from Golden Gate University.

Connie Donovan is Assistant to the City Manager Special Project Coordination in the Office of the <u>Vacaville</u> City Manager.





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Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder, and currently is City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley.

The firm was recognized as one of California's Top Ranked Law Firms by Martindale-Hubbell in 2014.

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Former City of <u>Vacaville</u> City Manager **Laura Kuhn** began her public service career in 1983 with the City of <u>Tustin</u>. She worked in various capacities from Assistant Planner to Senior Planner. In 1989, Laura took the Planning

and Zoning Director position in the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona. In 1992 Laura returned to California to work as the City Planner in Simi Valley. She next moved to Scotts Valley where she was appointed Deputy City Manager and Community Development Director in 1996. Laura worked for Scotts Valley for 9-years. She was recruited to serve as the Vacaville Assistant City Manager in 2005 and she was appointed Interim City Manager in 2008 and City Manager in 2009, and held that position until she retired in 2017. Laura earned a BS in urban and regional planning from California State Polytechnical University, Pomona, and a BS in urban and regional planning from California University, Long Beach. Laura was the President of the Vacaville Sunrise Rotary Club in 2015-2016. She also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) for a time.



Retired Wasco City Manager Larry F. Pennell and his wife **Denise Buchanan Pennell** with **Dick Taylor** at the historic Guild House Restaurant in Bakersfield.



Thank you for the picture **Andy Nickerson**. This is a circa 1987 picture of the **HdL Companies** founders **Robert Hinderliter** and **Lloyd de Llamas**.



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HdL was founded in 1983 by former City Manager
Robert "Bob" Hinderliter, who successfully
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Andy Nickerson is the President

HdL Companies offers diverse services that include: allocation

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"A day without water skiing probably wouldn't kill me...but why risk it?
--Anonymous



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Roxanne Diaz, Steven L. Flower, Peter M. Thorson, Kevin Ennis, Gregory W. Stepanicich, Serita Young and Craig Steele are among the City Attorneys on the RWG staff.

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Roxanne Diaz is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

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Professional Women in Cities from Upland to Vallejo

Other Vacaville names that surfaced include: Christa Cruz, Administrative Assistant in the Finance Department, Human Resources Department, and Information Technology Department; Regina Pietszak, Human Resources Analyst; Mindy Boele, Water Quality Laboratory Supervisor; **Jeanne Casten**, Administrative Assistant, Human Resources: Celeste Garrett. Risk Manager; Davina Hatfield, Accounting Manager; Doris Ayala, Finance Supervisor; Mindy Boele, Water Quality Manager; Jessica Bowes, Director of Human Resources; Emily Cantu, Director of Housing Services; Gwen Owens, Traffic Engineer; and Linda Richer, Senior Personnel Analyst, among others.



<u>Vallejo</u>, California is a waterfront city in Solano County. Founded in 1851, the city is named

for General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, a Mexican officer. The General was a leading proponent of California's statehood, and he was one of the first members of the California State Senate. Vallejo has twice served as the seat of the Capital of the State of California; once in 1852 and again in 1853. Vallejo was incorporated in March, 1868. Greg Nyhoff is the City Manager and Dawn G. Abrahamson is the City Clerk, appointed by the City Manager.



https://www.mmasc.org/ President Izzy Murguia, Poway Vice President Kristen Nelson, Indian Wells Secretary Tanya Spiegel, Ontario Treasurer Dominique Samario, Menifee

MMASC is one of the oldest and largest associations of its kind in the nation. **MMASC** has more than 800 members.



City of <u>Vallejo</u> Human Resources Director **Heather Ruiz** worked as a Human Resources Management Analyst for San Mateo County starting in 2001. She left the county in 2004 to be the Director of Human

Resources for the San Mateo Medical Center, and in June, 2008 she was hired as the Deputy Director of Human Resources for the City of San Jose. Heather move to the County of Napa in October, 2010 to serve there as the Deputy Director of Human Resources. She became the Napa County Assistant Director of Human Resources in December, 2013, and then the Director in January, 2016. Heather joined the City of Vallejo as Director of Human Resources in July, 2018. She earned a BA in psychology and business from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), and an MPA from California State University, Hayward.



Stephanie Sifuentes worked as a Human Resources Analyst II for the County of Riverside starting in 2009. She became a Senior Human Resources Analyst in

September, 2013, and left Riverside County in December, 2013. In February, 2015 Stephanie joined the city staff in Napa as a Human Resources Analyst. In May, 2016 she moved to the County of Napa staff as a Human Resources Analyst II. Stephanie joined the Vallejo city staff as a Senior Personnel Analyst in November, 2018. She was promoted to Human Resources Program Manager for Recruitment & Selection; Classifications and Compensation in February, 2019. Stephanie earned a BA in sociology from California State University, San Bernardino, and an MPA from California Baptist University.



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



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Professional Women in Cities from Upland to Vallejo



Anne Cardwell began her public service career as an Executive Secretary in the City Manager's Office in the City of Benicia in 2003. Anne was elevated to Assistant to the City Manager in 2006, and served as Assistant City

Manager starting in January, 2014. She joined the staff in the City of <u>Martinez</u> in July, 2016 as Assistant City Manager. Anne joined the <u>Vallejo</u> city staff in December, 2018 as Assistant City Manager. Anne earned a BA in psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master's in educational psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Rekha Nayar is the <u>Vallejo</u> Finance Director. She join the city staff as Deputy Director in October, 2016. She became Director in 2018.

Doris Papillon-Allen, Employee & Labor Relations Personnel Analyst II in <u>Vallejo</u>.



We hope that you continue to enjoy the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown. We are only allowed to distribute the newsletter due to the professional services of **Ryder Smith**

and the staff at **Tripepi Smith & Associates**. For the past five-years or so **Sara Appel Scarbo** has been our primary service provider on the **TSA** team. She is amazing, but will be moving on to new challenges. **Ethan Kielty** will be stepping in behind her, and be putting up with our poor scheduling and production quirks. We wish him luck, because we know we are not easy to understand. We wish Sara a fond good-bye and best wishes for every future success. Thank you, Sara for making Trackdown Management look good for so long.***



http://www.hdlcompanies.com/







The HdL Companies are dedicated to helping cities, counties, redevelopment agencies and special districts maximize revenues through allocation audits, financial and economic analysis and through the provision of related software products.

The HdL Companies serves more than 335 local governments across the nation and North America.

HdL was founded in 1983 by Robert Hinderliter, a former Director of Finance and City Administrator in Commerce, California. Bob developed California's first computerized sales tax management program, and worked to secure the legislation that allows independent verification of the State Board of Equalization's allocation of sales tax revenues to local governments. In 1987, Lloyd de Llamas purchased 50% of the corporate stock and the company became Hinderliter, de Llamas and Associates with a primary focus on sales tax analysis, allocation audits, and software.

In 1993, a separate corporation was organized by partners **Paula Cone**, **Martin Coren**, **Robert Hinderliter**, and **Lloyd de Llamas** to provide property tax related services, including allocation audits, trends analysis, tax increment verification, tax allocation bond fiscal services, and related software products.

In 1996, HdL Software LLC was established with participants Nancy Hicks, Robert Hinderliter, and Lloyd de Llamas in order to provide easy-to-use, integrated "counter tools" for the processing and tracking of revenue related functions, such as business licenses, building/planning permits, animal control licenses, and code enforcement violations.

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Among The HdL Companies' officials are:

Lloyd de Llamas, Executive Chair, provided sales tax services to local governments since 1987. He previously served as City Manager in Monterey Park, Lawndale and Woodlake and as an Assistant in Torrance and San Diego.

Andrew Nickerson, President of the **HdL** Sales Tax arm, has more than 20-years of experience with local governments revenue enhancements and protection. He is a California State Polytechnic University, Pomona graduate.

Paula Cone, President of **HdL** Coren and Cone, the property tax arm of the **HdL Companies**, has more than twenty-years of municipal finance and city management experience.

Robert Gray, President of **HdL** Software LLC has been with **HdL Companies** since 1996. He earned an MBA from Azusa Pacific University.

The HdL Companies

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Picking Up the Pieces: Gridley City Administrator Paul Eckert resigned after a recent arrest for driving under the influence on October 3. Paul served in the U.S. Marines from 1980 to 1983. He worked as an Administrative Assistant in Foster City (1987-1990) and Assistant to the City Manager in Santa Paula (1990-1992). He then served as the Director of

Administrative Services in Paradise (1992-1995) and Finance Directtor in Morgan Hill (1995-1997). Paul then took the Assistant City Manager position in Sioux City, Iowa (1997-2002) before being appointed City Manager in Sioux City (2002-2013). He worked as the Gridlev City Administrator from 2016 to 2019 before he left to work as the Hollister City Manager. He resigned the Hollister position after only eight-days, and he returned to Gridley. Paul earned an MPA from California State University, East Bay. Sausalito City Manager Adam Politzer, 55, will retire in late December, 2020. Adam has served as the Sausalito City Manager for the past 13-years, starting in 2007. Adam is not a member of ICMA. Adam's tenure in Sausalito is the longest as City Manager in the City's history. He began his public service career as a Recreation Leader in 1987 for Palo Alto. He was promoted to Recreation Service Manager in 1995. He joined the Sausalito city staff as the Parks and Recreation Director in 2000. Fresno City Manager



Wilma C. Quan, a former State of California Associate Transportation Planner, joined the city staff in Fresno in 2009 as an Urban Planning Specialist. Wilma was promoted to Deputy City Manager in 2014 and she became Assistant City Manager in 2016. Wilmas was

appointed to the Fresno City Manager position in June, 2017. Wilma earned a BS in health policy administraton from Penn State University, and an MBA from California State University, Fresno. Wilma began her working experience in high school when she went to work for the Dairy Queen in Washington, Pennsylania. Former Cofax City Manager, John **Schempf** is the new Interim Town Manager in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. This Sierra Nevada Mountain Town has a population of 8,127. John spent a combine 28-years of service in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Coast Guard. He served a number of east coast towns as manager. John earned a BA in economics, political science and geography, and a Master's in strategic planning from Dartmouth College.



The late **Kenny Woodruff** is shown here with **Natalie Sather**, and **Tony Stewart** in the pits at a race. Ken passed away after being diagnosed with ALS. Ken was elected to the Sprint Car Hall of Fame in Knoxville, lowa. He is the father of Trackdown's **Susan Simpson**. Rest in Peace Ken. You are missed.

<u>Claremont</u> Finance Director **Adam Pirrie** is the Acting City Manager with the resignation of City Manager **Tara Schultz** at the end of October. Adam joined the <u>Claremont</u> city staff in 2003. He was appointed Director of Finance in 2011. Adam is an alumnus of the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**).

SHORTS: *Angela Broaddus, a University of California, Davis graduate, worked for Vallejo (2018-2020) before joining the Fairfield city staff as Human Resources Manager in January, 2020. *There are new rules in the City of Oakland that prohibit homeless people from setting up tents in parks and near homes, businesses, schools and some churches as the city copes with an increasing homeless population.*Herlinda Chico, Field Deputy for the 4th Supervisorial District of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, is a candidate for the Long Beach Community College Board.*The Association of California Cities, Orange County (ACC-OC) awarded the Cities of Placentia and Buena Park their "Hero for the Homeless Award" in recognition of establishing and operating Navigation Centers, which serve the homeless population in North Orange County cities.



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All I can say is the more I dig into what ICMA is doing the more disturbing it looks. Now there's a glossary available on the website that includes a list of words that seem innocuous enough until you really give them some attention. Items such as "Systemic Racism" and "Critical Race Theory" are examples. These are notions that have been around a while but rather out of sight. Now they are starting to surface from activists who a pushing a doctrine rather than an honest inquiry. The "theory" puts down such things as being white, being heterosexual, the nuclear family, the founding principles of our government, the tradition of western philosophy as it has evolved out of the Enlightenment and the Enlightenment itself. It is basically modifying Marxism from the idea of natural forces pushing capitalism into socialism to the idea of racism pushing society somewhere but without

saying where they want or believe it to be going.

I'm personally not impressed. We have evolved into a successful (but surely not perfect) democracy which has been evolving and in one case (the Civil War) exploding in the right direction. The Founding Fathers, although mostly slave holders themselves, put in play simply with the language of the Bill of Rights and the Constitution, a process that requires our evolution toward a more perfect society. The Western tradition which was inspired by the Enlightenment has resulted in democracies in most of Europe and has spread around to where it exists on every continent. What other tradition has done that in modern times? NONE. Revolution, instead of evolution, has taken place big time in only a couple places - France and Russia. Where did that lead. France got Robespierre and Napoleon while Russia got Lenin and Stalin. Critical Race Theory is now attempting to penetrate public health and medical research. It's getting dangerous and we need to pay attention. There are plenty of people of all races who are not buying into it. Everybody needs to wake up.

How's that for a rant. Based on the relatively small response to my second rant I assume you're tired of hearing from me. Pederson, out.

--Roy Pederson



<u>Pismo Beach</u> City Manager Jim Lewis and his wife **Debi Lewis** at Rancho Alegre in Santa Barbara.

Letter and Notes:

Keep it up Roy. So refreshing! People need not read it if they don't want to. I've watched ICMA evolve since the mid 1950's when Carl Thornton and E. Robert Turner pushed to keep ICMA focused on local nuts and bolts City Management issues. I am still an idealist about professional city management and am offended by the terminology used to describe me and my colleagues.

--Len Wood

Roy -- I appreciate your research and dedication. I guess my initial take is having a glossary that defines some of these terms (that admittedly seem to be more rhetoric than purposeful in their use) is helpful in opening the dialogue and potential for conversations to identify and move us forward to the "more perfect union". If they start to appear as endorsed terminology for professional managers, I will rethink this initial position.

--George Pettit, former Town Manager in Gilbert, Arizona

"You can't make up for lost time. You can only do better in the future." –**Ashley Ormon**