



MORRISON & COMPANY

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Meet Colleen Souza



Get to know the newest member of the Morrison & Company team.

The Hignell Companies



A diverse property management and construction and maintenance company, the Hignell Companies is a family owned business that employs more than 150 people.

Morrison Tidbits



We've welcomed a new baby into the Morrison & Company family and spent some time with old friends.

Taylor Brothers Farms: A Vanguard In the Global Prune Industry



A global game changer and international innovator, Taylor Brothers Farms is the world's largest producer and processor of organic prunes.

Based in rural northern California, Taylor Brothers Farms is run by brothers John and Richard Taylor. John and Richard are the third generation to farm California's rich soils; the Taylor family has farmed consistently for nearly a century.

Want to get your hands on your own package of the exclusive Taylor Brothers Farms Hello Kitty Prunes? We will ship one to the first 20 people to subscribe to the Morrison blog in January.

Visit www.morrisonco.net/blog to sign up today!

John and Richard have expanded the family farming operation to a global organic prune business, making an astounding impact on international prune markets. With offices in Poland, Korea, and China, Taylor Brothers has introduced consumers all over the world to their organic California-grown prune products. In addition to sales and distribution, their operation in Poland packages prunes for retail sale and makes juice from concentrate shipped from California.



In addition to their Taylor Brothers branded dried, diced, and pitted prunes, as well as prune juice, and prune extract, Taylor Brothers recently launched a branded "Hello Kitty" prune product, available to their consumers in Asia. This pitted, dried California prune product boasts the iconic Sanrio Hello Kitty image in attractive packaging that highlights the prunes as California grown.

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Taylor Brothers Farms has been a longtime client of Morrison & Company. Our team has had the opportunity to assist Taylor Brothers with everything from interim finance and accounting services to executive recruiting and grant preparation. We look forward to continuing our relationship with this dynamic company and look forward to seeing what they come up with next!



Getting To Know Colleen Souza



Morrison & Company welcomed Colleen Souza as our newest consultant in October, a great addition to our team! Colleen joined us from Enloe Medical Center, where she served as the senior accountant in the hospital's finance office. Prior to joining Enloe, Colleen was a Quality Assurance Specialist for Sungard, one of the world's leading software and technology services companies. Colleen began her career with Matson and Isom, a leading regional California-based CPA firm, working in the audit and tax departments and assisting companies in agribusiness, healthcare, education, and a variety of other industries. She holds a bachelor's degree in accounting information systems from California State University, Chico.



Here are a few fun things about Colleen:

Favorite activities:

Spending time with my two boys, RJ (18) and Matt (16) .

Dream vacation destination:

Any warm location on the beach.

On the weekends, you can usually find Colleen:

Sitting on the sidelines of a lacrosse field watching my son Matt play.

Favorite part of working at Morrison & Company:

The people I work with but also the diversity of the projects and clients. There is such a variety that the work stays interesting and keeps me growing. Love it!

Welcome New Clients!



Sweet Grass Organics

HERB FARM, LLC



**CALIFORNIA
SUSTAINABLE WINEGROWING
ALLIANCE**



Whitney Warren Ranch

The Hignell Companies: Thriving Over Time



Now one of north state California's best known family-owned companies, "The Hignell Companies" had its beginning shortly after the close of World War II. A building boom had begun as returning soldiers came back to restart their lives in a newly industrialized nation. For many, this meant new homes for new Baby Boomer families.

Beginning in 1948, Fred Hignell Jr. and Floyd Strange, then his partner, constructed over 1,000 homes in 25 subdivisions along with many apartment and commercial projects. After Floyd Strange retired and an economic slowdown in the mid-1960s slowed home construction for about five years, the company was down to Fred and one part-time employee. Fred's son Doug joined his father in 1970, bringing with him a new vitality and an expanded vision for the company. Since then, the company's services have grown to include:

- Residential property management: Management of nearly twenty multi-family communities and a growing portfolio of single family homes.
- Commercial property management: Management of over 350,000 square feet of commercial real estate in northern California.
- Remodeling and new construction: Eight divisions providing remodeling and new construction of single family homes, commercial buildings, and apartment complexes.
- Home repair and maintenance: Painting, cleaning, electrical, HVAC, plumbing and drain rootering, water extraction, carpet cleaning and other maintenance services.

- Homeowners' association (HOA) management: Currently providing full board advisory and accounting services to nearly 40 associations, ranging in size from 25 units to 2,300 units.
- The Courtyard at Little Chico Creek: An assisted living community for people needing assistance with daily activities but who still wish to live as independently as possible.

Doug Hignell, now chairman of the board, oversees a professional management team led by President and CEO Phil Larios. Doug holds an M.B.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University and B.S. and M.S. degrees in civil engineering but despite those credentials he most cherishes his Christian faith and its values, which are shared by the executive team and guide the company in its daily business.

To help advance Hignell's goal of providing a satisfying and productive work environment, Morrison & Company conducted an anonymous survey of Hignell's nearly 160 employees on several areas of employee satisfaction and engagement and conducted wage and benefit studies for nearly every position, sharing observations and suggestions with the company's management. Morrison is currently assisting Hignell's newly promoted chief financial officer transitioning to his new duties.

Morrison & Company is honored to be able to work with this fine company and looks forward to what its future holds.





Morrison & Company Tidbits



Morrison Consultant Stacy Kennedy and her husband Jason welcomed daughter Elizabeth in December. Elizabeth was born at 11 pounds, 10 ounces (this is not a typo) and already loves her life with mom, dad, and big brother Cody.



Morrison Consultant Tim Peters and his wife Jaime spent the holidays in beautiful New Zealand. This picture was taken during the first of their four weeks in the Southern Hemisphere.



The Morrison Team enjoyed a beautiful fall evening at Llano Seco Rancho for the Northern California Regional Land Trust Harvest Dinner, along with our friends from California Olive Ranch, Sun Valley Rice, Lundberg Family Farms, and Springboard Biodiesel.

We joined our friends at Chabin Concepts and MC2 for a holiday lunch in mid-December to celebrate another great year of collaboration on client projects.



Morrison & Company specializes in planning and feasibility, interim/outsourcing assistance, special projects, and grants.