

40 NORTH

Yuma County Employees Newsletter

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HHS Truck Driving School Success

In March, the Department of Human Services in cooperation with Integrity CDLA Academy hosted a truck driving school for local citizens. Classes ran for three weeks and five participants graduated the program and have all found employment with trucking companies. The program, designed by Eligibility Supervisor Grant Smith, has just received additional funding and will continue as a recurring program infusing qualified drivers into the local workforce and providing unemployed or underemployed citizens opportunities to grow and contribute locally.

Yuma County Employee Tenure is Above Average

Did you know that the average employee works for Yuma County for 7.55 years? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national average employment tenure in 2016 was 4.2 years, meaning Yuma County employee tenure exceeds the national average by approximately 80%. While a number of factors contribute to this exceptional figure, it is certainly clear that much of the credit goes to the dedication of our workers and their desire to make a positive contribution within their community. It doesn't hurt that Yuma County Elected Officials have all contributed to our stability and growth as multi-term officials. Thank you to all of our employees and Elected Officials for giving us yet another reason to be proud to work for Yuma County.

Employee Spotlight: Roger Brown Named OEM of the Year

In March our very own Emergency Manager, Roger Brown, was named Colorado Emergency Managers Association Emergency Manager of the Year for Colorado's Northeast Region. Mr. Brown has served as the Yuma County Emergency Manager for over 25 years. The award was based on colleague nomination and a vote by Mr. Brown's peers.

Mr. Brown has innumerable accomplishments to be proud of and has made considerable contribution to the safety of Yuma County.

First Quarter New Employees

Carl Brown, Road & Bridge

Clayton Foster, Sheriff's Office

Hank, Sheriff's Office

Jax, Sheriff's Office

Josh Mainord, Road & Bridge

Josh Wakefield, Road & Bridge

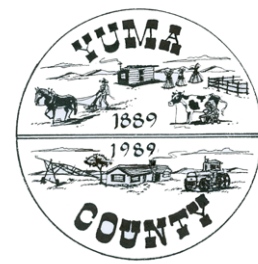
Maverick, Sheriff's Office

Trigger, Sheriff's Office

Veteran's Officer Retiring

Yuma County Veterans Officer KT "Tom" Gregg announced his planned retirement at the March 16 Board of County Commissioners meeting. Gregg has served veterans of Yuma County since 2015 and has done an outstanding job in his role. Yuma County wishes him well in his next endeavor.

The BOCC is currently accepting letters of interest for the vacancy.



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Political Rights of Government Employees

As we enter the 2019 election cycle, it is important for employees to be knowledgeable about what they can and cannot do with respect to political campaigns. The Fair Campaign Practices Act CRS 1-45-101, the Colorado Constitution Article XXVIII, and the Yuma County Employee Handbook all contain guidance on appropriate political behavior of government employees.

Participation in political activities is encouraged and necessary in a democratic environment, but for our employees must be completed entirely separately from County facilities and resources and must be completed as a private citizen. County time and the influence of authority as a County employee may not be used to campaign for candidates. This includes the display of campaign materials in the work environment.

Employees with questions on the appropriateness of election participation efforts are encouraged to speak with their Elected Official/Department Head, the Administration Office, or seek guidance from reputable sources, such as the Special District Association of Colorado, referenced below.

<https://www.sdaco.org/news/guidance-colorado-governments-complying-fair-campaign-practices-act>



Dates to Remember:

- 4-16 Payroll Deadline
- 4-6, 4-19 Payables Deadlines
- 4-16 CCOERA Member Scholarship Apps Due
- 4-16 BOCC Meeting
- TBD Courthouse Security Makeup Training
- 4-30 BOCC Meeting
- 4-30 Elected Officials/ Department Head Meeting

Republican River Compact Settlement Reached

On February 22 the Governors of Colorado and Nebraska jointly with their Attorneys General announced a \$4 million settlement of claims involving Colorado's use of water under the Republican River Compact. The settlement is pending approval by the Colorado and Nebraska Legislatures and funds are proposed to be managed by the Department of Natural Resources. The official press release can be found at the link below.

<https://coag.gov/sites/default/files/contentuploads/ago/press-releases/2018/02/02-22-18/finaldraft-february2018republicanriver.pdf>

Have an idea for content? Information that needs shared? Email your suggestions and information to administrator@co.yuma.co.us for inclusion in next month's newsletter.