

# 40 NORTH

## Yuma County Employees Newsletter

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### Motor Vehicle Gets New System

The Yuma County Clerk's Office is gearing up for major changes to the Motor Vehicle System set to go live later this summer. The Driver's License system experienced an upgrade in February of 2018 and the new Motor Vehicle System, called DRIVES, will go live in August of 2018. The two new systems will have the ability to integrate and will eventually be able to share information. The new system is fully Windows-based and will provide drastic improvements in functionality for Clerk's Office staff. For more information, see <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/colorado-drives>.

### Exemplary Safety Work at Road & Bridge

Yuma County Road & Bridge is taking a proactive approach to employee safety. At the April 26 Safety Meeting, Yuma County Road & Bridge Supervisor JR Colden, along with staff members Mark Sievers and Casey Sievers, rolled out a comprehensive safety plan designed to reduce safety-related incidents and lost time within the Road & Bridge Department. The program, designed with input from several members of the Road & Bridge Department, features new lock-out/tag-out procedures, reinforces mandatory PPE requirements, and continues focus on comprehensive stop-work authority.

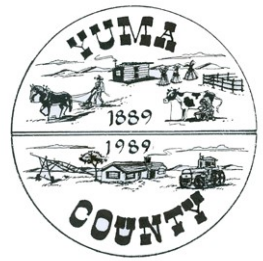
Addressing the group, flanked by posted lock-out/tag-out/test-out procedures and a sign displaying 60 days since the last safety incident, Colden read near-miss incidents that staff have reported since the last meeting and recognized one submitted by Zach Barr as the best near-miss reported for the month for recommending structural changes designed to prevent collision between a propane storage tank and County equipment.



### The Value of Benefits

In 2017, the National Conference of State Legislatures determined the average annual cost of health insurance premiums per employee in Colorado to be \$5,714. The average Yuma County employee pays an annual cost of \$1,434 for health benefits, just 25% of the state average cost. If you're interested in how Yuma County health insurance costs stack up, the link below evaluates the state of health coverage in Colorado for last year.

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/health/health-insurance-premiums.aspx>

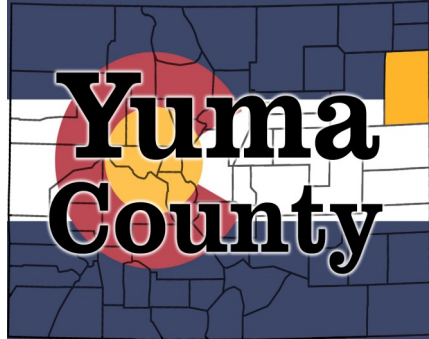


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## New County Logos Designed

Yuma County has recently commissioned the design of new County logos for use on employee clothing and other swag items, one of which is pictured below. Offices and Departments will be able to order logoed apparel items for each employee. Items will be ordered jointly and employees will also have the opportunity to purchase additional items if desired. Logos are currently available for use on a variety of employee items and are a great way to show pride in our tribe and our dedication to ensuring the continued success of our community.



## State Needles Over 2018-2019 Budget

On March 26, the 2018-2019 State budget, also known as the 2018 Long Bill (HB 18-1322), was proposed, marking the first step in approving an annual State budget. This bill is based on recommendations put together by the Joint Budget Committee for consideration by the General Assembly as a whole. After receipt, each legislative chamber considers the bill and amendments are proposed and negotiated. Once negotiations have settled and both chambers of the legislative branch have passed the amended Long Bill, it goes to the Governor for review, potential line-item veto, and eventual signature before the July 1 start of the State fiscal year.

Curious what's contained in this year's recommendations by the JBC? The link below will take you to the FY 2018-2019 Long Bill Narrative, which will explain the recommendations made by the JBC.

<http://coga.prod.acquia-sites.com/sites/default/files/18lbnarrative.pdf>

### Dates to Remember:

- 5-8, 5-18 Payables Deadlines
- 5-15 BOCC Meeting
- 5-14 Payroll Deadline
- 5-28 Memorial Day—County Offices Closed
- 5-31 BOCC Meeting

## Joy Akey is Shining Star

In April, Joy Akey of the Yuma County CSU Extension Office was named a "Shining Star" by the Northeast Colorado Health Department. Akey was recognized for her exemplary efforts to have a positive impact on the health of the citizens of Northeast Colorado.

Check out what Golden Plains Extension's Family, Home and Consumer Science is all about at the link below.

<http://goldenplains.colostate.edu/fami/fami.shtml>

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