

# 40 NORTH

Yuma County Employees Newsletter

## In this issue:

- Human Services Director Hired
- Sheriff's Office Updates
- Accounting Software
- Service Animal Defined
- DMV Websites

## Clerk's Office Warns of Unaffiliated Vehicle Registration Sites

*As they participate in National Consumer Protection Week, the County Clerk's Office has recently warned the public about unofficial/unaffiliated vehicle registration sites. Citizens who search online for vehicle registration renewal or DMV services are easily directed to incorrect sites that charge extra fees and may*

*or may not provide the service that customers believe they are paying for. The Clerk's Office reports that the State Division of Motor Vehicles is working with the Attorney General's Office to coordinate a consumer alert on the topic. For now, an alert about the issue can be found on the State website at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dmv/unofficial-websites>. The Clerk's Office encourages employees and citizens alike to advocate for themselves in helping to @StopFraudCo.*

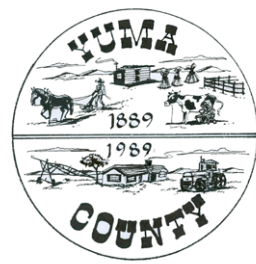


## Service Animal Definition Updated

The recent uptick in high-profile news stories related to service animals of varying types in often unusual locations is hard to miss. Recently, the Department of Justice has issued new regulations narrowing the definition of "service animal" as protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

For local governments and other public places, a "service animal" is considered a specifically trained dog or miniature horse who performs tasks to assist an individual with a covered disability. The new language specifically excludes other species of animals as being considered service animals for purposes of allowed entrance into public spaces. Emotional support animals are not included in the definition of service animals.

When encountering an animal in a public space, public servants may inquire as to whether the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform. We may not ask about the nature or extent of the disability. Employees with questions about service animals in public buildings are encouraged to visit the Administration Office for more information.



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## Finance Office Software in Testing

The Finance Office is continuing their progress toward the full implementation of a new, more modern accounting software. Over the preceding several months, data has been transitioned from the existing software into the new system and the Finance team is now working through first-hand experience in completing their tasks in the new system.

The new software was implemented with the over-arching goal of increasing efficiency and easing the labor burden within the Finance Office. We appreciate the patience that everyone has demonstrated while implementation and testing has been under way.

## Sheriff's Office Carries Forward

The Yuma County Sheriff's Office continues their forward momentum with the hiring of two new detentions deputies, Matt Yost and Jason Allacher. Yost and Allacher join Shannon (Mooney) Petterson as new hires made in 2019 as part of the goal of returning Yuma County inmates from neighboring Washington County Jail.

The Sheriff's Office is making numerous staffing changes in line with their forward-looking vision including the promotion of Levi Witte to the position of Jail Corporal and the transition of Useful Public Service to Deputy Kate George. Efforts to recruit POST-certified patrol deputies, with a focus on the south end of the county continue.

YCSO is also preparing for the much-needed replacement of the jail control panel, scheduled to occur before the return of Yuma County's inmates. The new control panel will improve the safety and functionality of jail management.

### Dates to Remember:

- 3-4 Road & Bridge To 10-Hour Days
- 3-8, 3-20 Payables Deadlines
- 3-10 Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 3-15 BOCC Meeting
- 3-18 Payroll Deadline
- 3-28 BOCC Meeting

## New Director of Human Services Hired

*As of March 1, Yuma County is glad to welcome our new Director of Human Services, Kara Hoover. Kara has prior been an integral part of the Yuma County team and returns to us in a new leadership role. Kara will be spending the coming months getting reacquainted with the Human Services team and getting up to speed on the myriad programs and policies that help guide the department. Welcome back, Kara!*

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