

COUNTY HUB

Yuma County Employees Newsletter

In this issue:

- New Retirement Contact
- South YW Paramedic
- SO and OEM Website Updates
- Lifelong Learning Series
- Landfill Feasibility
- Yuma County Unemployment

Yuma County Boasts Lowest Unemployment Rate in State

According to recently released statistics, the October 2019 unemployment rate in Colorado tied the historic low at 2.6%.

Of particular note is that the Yuma County unemployment rate of 1.2% is the lowest in the state, suggesting a strong local economy.

Colorado is also boasting faster job growth than the national average, indicating continuation of the low local unemployment rates. This is especially notable given that this period of economic expansion is already the longest in recorded state history.

According to State statistics, 85% of prime age workers are employed in Colorado, comparable with unemployment statistics from the late 90s and indicating strong recovery from the recession experienced earlier in the decade.

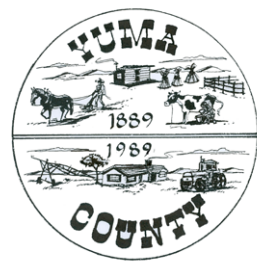


Landfill Starts Long-Term Strategic Planning Process

At the November 20, 2019 Landfill Board meeting, proposals for a long-term strategic feasibility study were reviewed. Two environmental consulting firms, American Environmental Consultants and the Weaver Consulting Group, bid on the project designed to provide the board with operational and financial guidance to determine the best long-term strategy for ensuring stability in solid waste services in Yuma County. Based on pricing, the Board selected the bid from AEC and work is expected to begin shortly.

Solid waste disposal is a service we generally take for granted in our day-to-day lives; one of those services you don't realize is there until it isn't. With the increasing regulatory pressure on landfills in the State of Colorado and the rising costs of equipment and staff, the Yuma County Landfill is in need of a plan to ensure that solid waste disposal services are available to residents long-term at an affordable rate.

The struggle is not unique to Yuma County and the Landfill Board expects to be more vocal and visible in the public following the study with hopes that the citizens of Yuma County will take a more active and educated role in supporting landfill operations. Look for more to come from the Landfill Board on how they are working to ensure this vital service remains available and cost-effective in our county.



COUNTY HUB

Yuma County Employees Newsletter

CSU Opens Lifelong Learning Series

The Colorado State University Northeast Regional Engagement Center has initiated a Lifelong Learning Series held in Yuma the first Thursday of every month. The series offers hour-long courses on a variety of topics designed to engage the community in the practice of lifelong learning. Topics include mindfulness, reflexology, Native American history, and the latest fraud schemes, among others. Participation is welcome in person at the Yuma Library or via Zoom meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/5842143355>. Additional information and schedules can be obtained from the Yuma Library.

Sheriff's Office and OEM Launch New Websites

Both the Yuma County Sheriff's Office and the Yuma County Office of Emergency Management have undergone website redesigns over the last few months. Both sites boast updating styling and easier access to information. While the Sheriff's Office website has some minor tweaks yet to make, both sites are up and ready for public viewing. Links to the sites can be found below.

Emergency Management <http://oem.yumacountysheriff.net/>

Sheriff's Office <http://yumacountysheriff.net/>

South YW Ambulance Volunteer Becomes Paramedic

Chris Monahan, a long-time volunteer with the South YW Ambulance Service recently graduated valedictorian from a grant-funded paramedic program. Chris' participation in the course was funded through the Colorado Rural Health Center CREATE Grant program with matching funds contributed by Yuma County. Chris will serve as the lone paramedic in the south half of the county, increasing the emergency services safety net for residents. Yuma County congratulates Chris on his accomplishment and is proud to support the grant dollars well spent.

Dates to Remember:

- 12-6, 12-19 Payables Deadlines
- 12-7 Pay Day
- 12-13 Christmas Coffee
- 12-13 BOCC Meeting
- 12-15 Budget and Mill Levy Certifications Due
- 12-24 Courthouse Closed, Christmas Eve
- 12-25 Courthouse Closed, Christmas Day
- 12-31 BOCC Meeting

New CRA Retirement Contact

Current CRA (formerly CCOERA) retirement account rep, Kristin MacKenzie has accepted a new role within the Colorado Retirement Association family and has recently introduced us to our new account rep, Rick Chase. Rick brings with him over 15 years' experience in local government retirement. Rick can be contacted at rchase@cra-online.org or at 720.493.6506. Future site visits will be held by Rick, so keep an eye out for his name in upcoming scheduling emails.

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