QUARTER 3 NEWSLETTER 2026

P.A.G.E. ONE

PUBLIC RESPONSE ◆ ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES ◆ GRAFFITI ◆ ENFORCEMENT

NO MUSS, NO BUS





When a commercial vehicle appears parked in your neighborhood, you likely assume it's a temporary arrangement and it will be gone soon enough. The bus is probably dropping off passengers. The moving truck is obviously helping someone move. The delivery driver is dropping off a delivery, and will be on their way with the large delivery truck soon.

Then sometimes "soon enough" turns into a couple of days without movement, then a couple of weeks, then you're into the second month of this vehicle loitering in the right-of-way.

A recent Code Enforcement case dealt with a passenger bus, with a capacity to carry at least fifty people.

Title 14 of the Clark County Code restricts parking a commercial vehicle within 1000 feet of a residential district. The exception is when they are actively providing a service or loading and unloading passengers or merchandise. The reasons are practical: a bus like this typically runs 35 to 40 feet long and stands over 10ft tall. When parked on a neighborhood street or near a stop sign, it can obstruct views for pedestrians, cyclists, children playing, and drivers. Space on the road becomes narrow, making it difficult for the usual residential traffic to pass, as well as other large vehicles providing a service, such as garbage trucks, street sweepers, and emergency vehicles. If the vehicle is in a state of disrepair, it can leak fluids, attract pests and debris, and become a hazard on its own.

Not to mention, no one in the neighborhood is a fan of one vehicle taking up multiple parking spaces that could be shared by residents.

In this case, the white bus was settled right across the street from a neighborhood, well within the 1000 feet listed in the code. *Continued on Page 10.*

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WHAT IS A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE?

A commercial vehicle is a vehicle which requires a Commercial Driver's License to operate.

- **Does it weigh more than 26,000 lbs?**
- **Is it designed to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver)?**
- **Does it require a hazardous material placard?**

IT'S LIKELY A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE!



A school bus, or a large passenger bus in this case, is classified as a commercial vehicle even after it's retired from service.

PIGGYBACKED INTO A CORNER

Animal Protection Services Officers interact with animals every day, and many of them will tell you it's a highlight of the job. But if you're not expecting an animal to be part of your work day, you'll end up with a distraction at best, and a safety hazard at worst.



When employees of a local recycling plant arrived for work, they found that a small pig had already clocked in for the day. She was settled down in a shady area and the facility workers left her where she was and gave APS a call.

When Officer Prol arrived, she was taken to the pig, who fled the scene. When she squeezed down a narrow aisle between some pallets, staff assisted Officer Prol in confining her there. Once it was clear that the pig did not have access to the rest of the facility, staff returned to work, and Officer Prol did the same. She still needed to capture the pig, out of reach and uncooperative. Various strategies were attempted before a trap was set.

Officer Prol chose a stretcher trap, which has worked well for her in the past. She laid out a stretcher with ropes, and in the center, she set some bait. Typically, animals would approach the food and begin to dig in, and the officer would pull the rope and safely contain them.



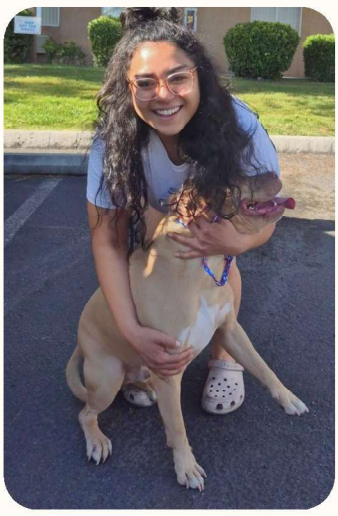


For a fleeting moment, this seemed to work. But the pig was too smart, and wiggled out of the trap. She was nearly loose in the facility again before retreating between more pallets.

A second officer was called in. Officer Martinez arrived and she and Officer Prol devised a plan. Officer Martinez made use of a pallet on its side to begin herding the pig out of her hiding place. As the pallet closed in on her, she was forced to head for Officer Prol, who finally captured her with a snappy snare.

After successfully moving her to a kennel, the officers provided water to the malnourished pig. She was taken to the shelter for evaluation. Despite being underweight, she was found to be healthy otherwise, and was soon transferred to a rescue.

WHEN THE CHIP COMES IN



What a delight it is to have another happy reunion to share! In each newsletter of 2026 so far, there have been stories that prove how effective microchips are in returning lost pets to their people.

Cielo, a tan pit bull, was running in and out of traffic when two kind strangers lured him to safety. Unable to take him, they called Animal Protection Services, and Officer Enright soon arrived. She scanned the friendly dog for a microchip, found one, and called the registry.

Soon, Officer Enright was put in touch with Cielo's owner, Gabriela, who answered the phone tearfully, asking if Cielo was still alive. He had escaped nearly two weeks earlier, and Gabriela had begun to fear the worst. Officer Enright was happy to report that he was alive and doing well.

Safely loaded in the APS truck, Cielo was given a ride home, nearly ten miles away. Gabriela and Cielo were overjoyed to be reunited, all thanks to some kind strangers and his registered microchip.

PSA: MOTHER KNOWS BEST



If you follow Clark County, NV on any social media platform, and if you've trained your algorithm to show you cute animals, you may have seen Officer Esquivel on your feed. Educating the public is one of Animal Protection Service's main objectives, and this is just the first of our PSAs to be released!

Officer Esquivel explains in the PSA that the best hope of survival for stray kittens is not the helpful hand of a human rescuer, but their own mother. If you stumble upon a stray litter, the mother cat is likely somewhere nearby.

It's dangerous to take kittens from their mother too early, and during kitten season, shelters can quickly become overwhelmed. If the kittens are clean, warm, quiet, and calm, they are doing just fine, and it's best to leave them where they are and let their mother continue to take care of them.

But are there instances when you should step in? For general questions about found kittens, call the Animal Foundation at **702-760-7387**. Contact Animal Protection Services if kittens are sick or injured, or if a mother cat has not been seen in a few hours.







CONTACT ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES

PSA: KEEP YOUR COOL





Two additional PSAs were shot on the same day! Both feature Officer Caldera and Senior Dispatcher, Angela. Top billing, of course, goes to Chloe, Angela's beloved German Shepherd who steals every scene.

Both PSAs bring attention to calls that flood in during the summer months in particular: CCC 10.30.030 - Animals Kept Outdoors, and CCC 10.32.060 - Vehicle Confinement. While enforcement of these codes is always in effect, the summer months can make violations deadly.

Officer Caldera explains, while Chloe demonstrates, that animals kept outdoors in extreme heat must be provided shelter, shade, water, and some form of supplemental cooling, such as a misting fan or kiddie pool. While it is legal for animals to live outdoors, as long as special care is taken to protect them from the elements, the shelter and climate controls of your home are the safest place for your animal when the weather takes a turn for the worse.

In the second PSA, Angela parks her car and assures Chloe that she will only be a minute before leaving the dog behind. Officer Caldera explains that even on a mild day, the temperatures in a vehicle can rise rapidly and animals can overheat in minutes. Leaving an animal in such an environment is considered animal cruelty, which can result in fines and criminal charges. If you can't bring your animal inside your destination, leave them at home, not inside your vehicle.

Chloe, of course, was only acting and was never in any danger during filming. She enjoyed a day of air-conditioned car rides, cool water, and lounging on the elevated bed.







WORTH YOUR REPTILE



According to a study by the American Veterinary Medical Association, the most popular pet in the United States is the dog, with about 56 million households owning at least one. Cats are in second place, with 43 million households. But Animal Protection Services exists to ensure the welfare of all domestic animals, so staff meetings become perfect opportunities for everyone from officers and dispatch to office staff to get a refresher on other species that may need assistance.

About 2.4 million households in the United States own a reptile, and one of those households belongs to Officer Enright. During a recent staff meeting she gave a presentation on the most commonly owned reptiles and their specific needs, such as external sources of heat and specific lighting requirements.

Of course, any presentation is improved with a good visual aid, and Officer Enright's sulcata tortoise and ball python gladly played this part, getting plenty of affection from staff throughout the presentation. The tortoise, in particular, was collecting a shell scratch tax from just about everyone as payment for their appearance.





Detectives Leyva and Jones with Metro's Animal Cruelty division were in attendance as well, to present an award to Officer Enright for her excellent work as an Animal Control Officer. They too, paid the shell scratch tax.

SNAKE, RATTLE, AND CODE

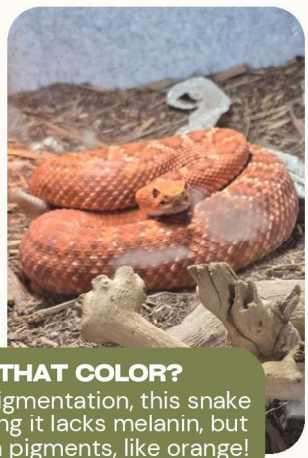
Time to put the reptile presentation to the test! On the list of reptiles that can legally be kept as pets, you will not find the rattlesnake.

This is because it qualifies as an inherently dangerous exotic or wild animal, as defined by Clark County Code 10.04.212. Inherently dangerous exotic or wild animals cannot be kept as pets, as they pose a danger to the general public. There are quite a few prohibited animals in the code, including all reptiles and amphibians whose venom can cause death in human beings.

In general, Animal Protection Services does not respond to rattlesnake calls. However, the rattlesnake is not usually in a tank in someone's apartment. APS Dispatch received a call from a concerned party stating that the owner had told them they could get a permit to keep the snake legally. Dispatch confirmed that this was not the case, no permit allows for a rattlesnake to be kept as a pet.

Officer Narro was sent out to investigate and for a time could not get in touch with the residents, leaving notices and reaching out to the National Department of Wildlife as well as management with the apartment. Once contact with the residents was finally established, it was revealed that one half of the couple, who was out of town, had been far more comfortable caring for the rattlesnake than the other half. This left the tank dirty and the snake without adequate water. In consideration of the snake's quality of life and of the safety of the people and other animals in the apartment, it was decided that the snake should be surrendered.







Officer Prol met with one of the residents to sort this out, and the rattlesnake was not pleased to be disturbed, rattling and ready to strike in its dirty tank. Still, the surrender form was signed, and with Lieutenant Firth stepping in to help, the rattlesnake was soon on its way to the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

WHY IS THE SNAKE THAT COLOR?
While albino animals lack *all* pigmentation, this snake is partially amelanistic, meaning it lacks melanin, but can still produce non-melanin pigments, like orange!

CAN YOU HANDLE IT?

Clark County Code 10.30.190 requires owners of businesses that provide pet services, as well as their employees who have direct animal contact or job duties related to animal care, to attend an Animal Handler Training Course conducted by Clark County Animal Protection Services.

In August, classes officially began. Hosted online by APS Lieutenants, the classes are live, allowing attendees to participate and ask questions during the presentation. The class is free to attend and must be completed every two years.



The course provides essential knowledge in the following areas:

- Understanding Clark County laws and ordinances
- Recognizing animal cruelty concerns
- Understanding minimum standards for animal care facilities
- Maintaining required records
- Understanding mandatory reporting and signage

Employees are required to complete the course within six months of employment, and business owners are required to take the course prior to obtaining or renewing a business license. Existing employees have until February 4, 2027 to complete the course, while existing business owners must complete the course before renewing their business license, or February 4, 2027, whichever comes first.

For more information and to register for an upcoming class, visit **ClarkCountyNV.gov/AnimalHandlerCourse**

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Who brought the delicious vegan snacks into the dispatch office? Who's always ready to jump in and help when things get overwhelming? Who goes the extra mile with every call? It's Dispatcher Keisha Brooks, Animal Protection Services' employee of the quarter!

When asked what the best part of working for the county was, Keisha said it was the work-life balance, as well as the people. The best thing she's learned here is that there are always opportunities to learn new things outside of the realm of her everyday tasks.

When she's not clocked in, she's a movie enthusiast. Watching films, acting (ask her to see the clip of her acting with *The Office*'s Craig Robinson!), working on film sets with friends, she does it all, and even models on occasion. When asked what her favorite film was, she answered with a classic, *The Matrix*.

Keisha also loves to spend time with her family and friends, and when asked if she could have dinner with anyone, alive or dead, who it would be, she named her eldest sister, Dana. Dana died of cancer ten years ago, and Keisha would start the meal with a hug and spend the duration catching Dana up with everything.

When she gets the chance, Keisha loves to travel, and would love to one day visit Zhanang County, Shannan in Tibet. The region's beauty and rich history have her intrigued, and she would love to go there to relax, learn, and find some time to just be still.







3RD QUARTER STATISTICS

6,247

CALLS HANDLED IN THE FIELD

8,047

CALLS RECEIVED BY DISPATCH

$47,100

ADMINISTRATIVE CITATION FINES ISSUED

IN 2026 SO FAR, CCAPS HAS RETURNED

209

LOST PETS TO THEIR OWNERS!

WITH STILL ONE QUARTER LEFT OF THE YEAR, THIS IS ALREADY MORE THAN 2025'S TOTAL of 191!



VEHICLE CONFINEMENTS	110	TOTAL STERILIZATIONS	1,436
STRAY ANIMALS	273	HEALTH AND WELFARE CHECKS	506
IMPOUNDED ANIMALS	1,887	INJURED ANIMALS	441
MISDEMEANOR CITATIONS ISSUED	183	FELONY CASES TO METRO	33
BITE REPORTS	326	RETURN TO OWNER IN THE FIELD	48

CODE ENFORCEMENT

3RD QUARTER STATISTICS

ABANDONED / UNSECURED PROPERTY	49
AUTO REPAIR	94
BUILDING WITHOUT PERMITS	198
COMMERCIAL VEHICLES IN ROW	941
DANGEROUS / UNSAFE STRUCTURES	39
DEAD VEGETATION & WEEDS	186
IMMINENT DANGER	11
LANDSCAPE PARKING	129
OUTSIDE STORAGE	39
PARKING CITATIONS	530
SHORT TERM RENTAL	139
SQUATTER HOMES	25
TRASH & DEBRIS	800
UNLICENSED / INOPERABLE VEHICLES	89
VAGRANT CAMPS	737
ZONING VIOLATIONS	639

5,146
TOTAL CCPRO CASES

2,546
TOTAL GRAFFITI CASES

2,074 OUT OF 2,368 CASES, 87%
RESOLVED WITHOUT FINES



TOTAL FINES $22,100.00

DEAD VEGETATION & WEEDS	$24,000.00	TRASH & DEBRIS	$25,250.00
BUILDING WITHOUT A PERMIT	$90,550.00	ZONING VIOLATIONS	$8,150.00
DANGROUS / UNSAFE STRUCTURES	$1,250.00	LANDSCAPE PARKING	$5,400.00
UNLICENSED / INOPERABLE VEHICLES	$5,850.00	PARKING CITATIONS	$54,050.00
RUNNING A BUSINESS OUT OF A HOME	$4,100.00	OUTSIDE STORAGE	$3,500.00

MAKE LIKE A TREE AND LEAF





Palm trees are iconic characters in our region. Standing tall in both residential and commercial areas, you can see them waving their palms in greeting in the backgrounds of promotional images, family photos, and work by local artists.

If you've ever tried to remove one from your property, however, you know that they do not wave goodbye without a fight, and the work of professionals is often required.

Officer Morales was assigned a complaint about excess weeds and vegetation causing a hazard, with the largest of them all being a dead palm tree that was broken in two and had fallen into an area used by both pedestrians and vehicles. This put both groups at risk when attempting to pass through the affected area.



A notice of violation was issued, and upon reinspection, the tree was still there, the stump firmly in the ground and the rest stretched across the sidewalk and into the street.

Due to the severity of the condition, an Imminent Danger Committee was formed. The committee reviewed the circumstances surrounding the fallen tree and determined that the condition met the criteria for an imminent danger to the public.

As a result of this determination, an Imminent Danger Declaration was issued and posted on the property to formally document and notify the responsible parties of the hazardous condition. The abatement process began, and in the end a private company was hired to remove the palm tree from the property for $1,500.00.



APPRECIATING VALUE



Congratulations to Nicole Hendley, Code Enforcement's Office Services Supervisor, for being named one of Clark County's 2026 Value Champions!

When passing through the Code Enforcement department on any given day, you'll likely overhear someone saying, "let me ask Nicole," "this seems like a question for Nicole," or "I bet Nicole knows." Where there is a problem, Nicole will either already have an answer, or know just where to look to find it. Even Animal Protection Services office staff will appear in her office doorway to ask for her input.

She is kind and approachable, and her great attitude was highlighted as a reason she was nominated for the award. Nicole's experience and professionalism shines through in every interaction. She is exactly the kind of person anyone would want on their team, and the county has been lucky enough to have her for eighteen years. One of the last people to leave the office each day, it's routine for others to stop by her office on the way to the time clock to remind her to stop working for the day.

Of Clark County's more than 10,000 employees, only twenty-four receive this honor annually. Nicole was recognized for her demonstration of "excellence," among the Clark County Values of service, integrity, respect, accountability, excellence, and leadership.



Congratulations again, Nicole!

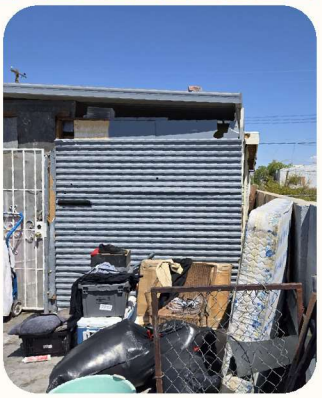
SET YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER

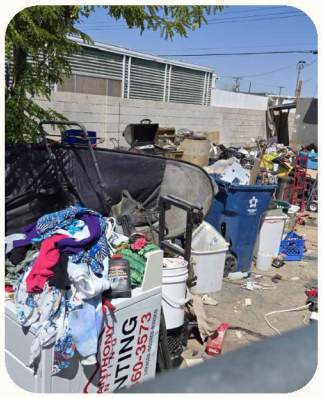
When moving into a new home, one of the first items on your to-do list is to contact the electric company. The account for the property needs to be placed in your name, the start date for the service needs to be established, and proof that you reside at the residence needs to be provided.

This is why, when Code Enforcement receives a report of possible unauthorized occupants on a property, the first item on the officer's to-do list is to call NV Energy. Officer Chavez reached out about a recent case to verify if the property had active electrical service. NV Energy checked their records and confirmed that there was no active power to the property.

With this information, Officer Chavez went to the site to conduct an initial inspection. The front and side yards were covered with furniture, trash, and other debris, which necessitated opening an additional case for those violations. Making his way to the front door, Officer Chavez knocked and could hear people talking inside.

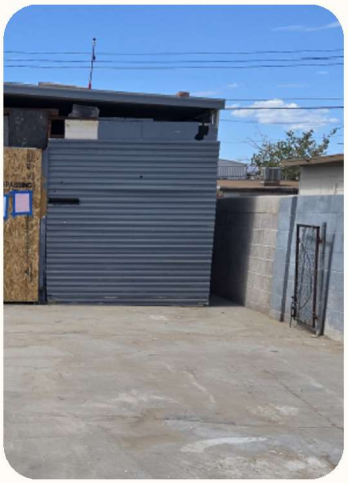
An individual answered the door to speak with Officer Chavez, and in the course of the discussion admitted that she was living in the structure despite it not having active power.





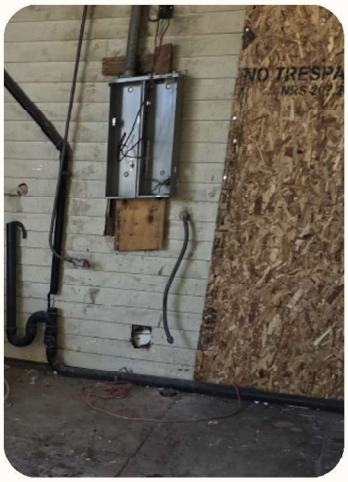












Cases like these are elevated beyond a typical property-maintenance violation, as there are additional concerns regarding the safety and welfare of anyone accessing or occupying the property. Without power, particularly in the harsh summer months, the home was a safety hazard, surrounded on all sides by more hazards in the form of trash and debris. A Notice of Abatement was subsequently prepared and mailed to the property owner.

A follow-up inspection showed no improvements with the trash and debris, and the individual that Officer Chavez had spoken with before was still present despite acknowledging again that she should not be there.

Code Enforcement returned to the scene, this time accompanied by police and a warrant. There was much work to be done to correct the hazards, starting with the removal of the unauthorized occupants.

Following clearance by the police, the doors and windows were boarded up. "No Trespassing" stenciling was completed and a red tag was posted at the property.

Code Enforcement is about more than maintaining appearances. It is about public safety, community welfare, and preventing dangerous conditions from being overlooked.

NO MUSS, NO BUS (CONTINUED)

Continued from cover.

A handwritten sign in the window proclaimed that the bus was being converted into a mobile home, but this did not mean it was allowed to be parked where it was. Officer Neal issued a $100.00 parking citation, along with a yellow tow sticker. A yellow tow sticker is posted to any commercial vehicle in violation of CCC 14.10.043(e), warning that the vehicle must be moved and/or comply with the law immediately, or it is subject to being cited, or towed and impounded after 72 hours.

When the 72 hours had passed, Officer Neal returned to assure that the bus owner had complied and moved the vehicle. The bus was still there, obstructing views and taking up space. Officer Neal scheduled a tow, and soon the bus was on its way out of the neighborhood, no passengers along for the ride. Code Enforcement closed the case with an outstanding balance of the $100.00 parking citation still to be paid.



Enforcement for commercial vehicles moves in stages: a complaint is received, a case is opened, an inspection is completed, and a citation or notice is given with time to comply before any towing takes place.



If you're unsure what is allowed in the area that you live in, a quick call Code Enforcement at **702-455-4191** or the Department of Comprehensive Planning at **705-455-4314** costs a lot less than a citation. In the case of a non-commercial vehicle in your neighborhood that has been abandoned for more than 72 hours, you can contact the Constable's Office at **702-455-4099** to file a report.

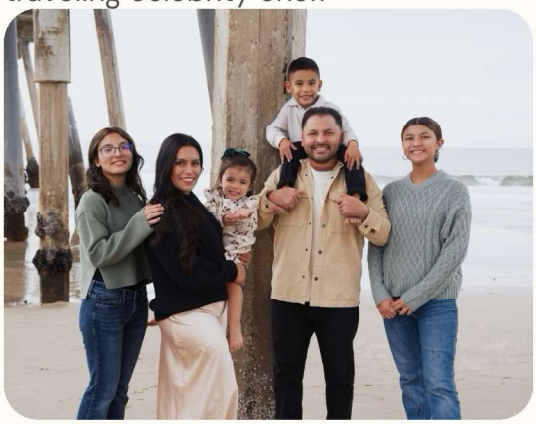
WELCOME TO THE TEAM

Elizabeth "Liz" Tellez joins the Code Enforcement team as an Office Assistant II! After working in real estate for a decade, she felt ready to make a change and looked to bring her experience to public service. She wanted to pursue a career that felt meaningful, allowed her to learn continuously, and offered growth opportunities, so Clark County felt like a perfect fit.





A lover of food, outside work, Liz can usually be found cooking. If she's not preparing a meal herself, she might pour a glass of wine and relax in the backyard while watching her husband grill. She finds food to be a wonderful way to experience different cultures and stories, and when asked who she would trade lives with for two weeks if she could, she picked a world-traveling celebrity chef.



Liz's life isn't just good meals, she and her family know how to work up an appetite. They all practice Jiu-Jitsu together and love to hike or go on bike rides. If a long weekend comes up, the California native might even be loading everyone up to go visit the beach.

When she does stay in, she spends time with her two dogs. Dogs are her favorite animals, and she believes they are the best kind of company.

When asked about her favorite films, she expressed fondness for gripping crime shows and her favorite films not landing in any particular genre. Her top picks are *Cast Away, Tombstone, Gladiator,* and *The Notebook*.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Say "hello!" to Code Enforcement's new Office Specialist, Christina Sanabria! Christina has a love of organization and of helping things run smoothly, which served her well as a clerical assistant at a worker's compensation company. Looking to build a career that would help the community while providing stability and opportunities to grow professionally, she applied for the position with Clark County.

Outside of work, Christina describes herself as a homebody, enjoying spending time with her family and pets. She has two cats, Star and Moon, and a dog, Nova. She also recently got married to her husband, Chris, and we all wish them congratulations!

A quiet night in with a book, a board game, or a video game is a night well-spent for her. She also loves watching movies and shows, and is a fantasy fan, naming *Beauty and the Beast* (the 1991 animated version, of course) as her favorite film, and dragons as her favorite animal.







Also a lover of food, Christina loves to cook and to bake, eager to try new recipes when she finds them. Gordon Ramsay is who she would trade lives with for two weeks, citing opportunities to learn from some of the best chefs in the world, experiencing the challenge of running high-end restaurants, and the ability to travel all over the world to try different food as her reasons.

Her eagerness to learn and face challenges head-on, even in a fantasy life-trading scenario, will surely serve her well in this position!

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Officer Stephen Feather is Code Enforcement's Employee of the Quarter! Each morning you can catch him walking in with an iced coffee in hand and giving a good natured, "good morning!" to everyone he passes. It's a lot easier to show up to work with a great attitude when you're part of a great team, which is what Stephen singled out as a highlight of working for the county. He finds the work interesting, is always looking to be better, and his knowledge and disposition are big factors in the great atmosphere here.

Working in Code Enforcement has taught him that the work isn't just about property aesthetics. The department is a fundamental component of public safety and community well-being.

Code Enforcement officers spend a lot of time outdoors, and when the work is done for the day Stephen is not eager to go back inside. He loves outdoor activities like kayaking, biking, and relaxing at the beach. When it comes to the indoor hobbies he does have, he describes them as nerdy, tinkering with amateur radio, building and repairing computers, and having a fascination with automotives. When asked where he would go if he could go anywhere, he seemed to combine his love of radios, tinkering, and adventures, and answered that he'd love to set foot on the moon.







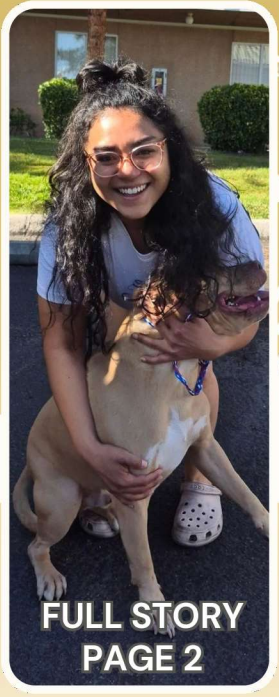
His favorite animal is the dog, and he states he loves any size or breed, but this writer has it on good authority that he has a particular fondness for Dachshunds. One is his hiking buddy, after all.

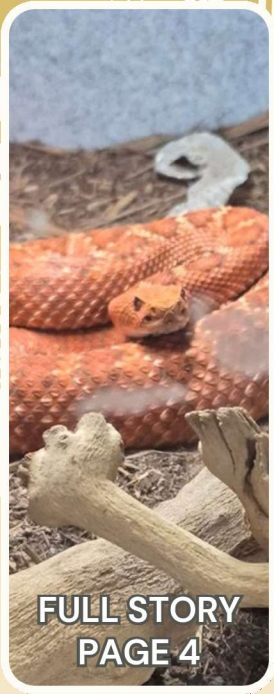
Given the chance to have dinner with anyone, alive or dead, Stephen would pick his deceased father, wanting to share a meal one more time and listen to his stories about his time in Vietnam.


FULL STORY PAGE 8


FULL STORY PAGE 3


FULL STORY PAGE 8


FULL STORY PAGE 2


FULL STORY PAGE 4

ANIMAL PROTECTION SERVICES

CALL US
702-455-7710

EMAIL US
AnimalProtectionServicesInfo@ClarkCountyNV.gov

DID YOU KNOW?

RESIDENTS OF UNINCORPORATED CLARK COUNTY CAN HAVE THEIR PET MICROCHIPPED FOR JUST **$5!**

ClarkCountyNV.gov/Microchip

CODE ENFORCEMENT

CALL US
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