

## **COURTHOUSE NEWS:**

### **UNION COUNTY RECORDER-Paula White 782-1725**

The Recorder's office records all documents pertaining to Union County property; files all Union County birth, death & marriages; processes marriage applications; issues certified copies of birth, death & marriages; processes passports; issues hunting & fishing licenses, ATV/Snowmobile/Boat registrations; and records military discharges.

Boat registrations are now on a 3 year rotation and current boat registrations expire April 30, 2010. **You can now renew your boat.**

If you plan to buy a boat you will need a **Bill of Sale from the seller, registration and a title if the boat is 17' or longer.**

Passports are taking between 4-6 weeks for normal processing. If you cannot come to the office between 8:30-4:30, please call for an appointment. Go to [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for additional information. Please apply early to avoid expedite fees.

Renewals for ATV & Snowmobiles are available. Current registrations expired December 31, 2009. Effective July 1, the State of Iowa added sales/use tax to casual sales of ATV and snowmobile transactions. This involves sales between individuals.

Effective July 1, a new law concerning Septic systems went into effect. Contact Union County Sanitarian Louie Boeckman at 782-7803 for additional information.

The Union County Website is [www.unioncountyiowa.org](http://www.unioncountyiowa.org). Forms are available to request a vital record, marriage application, passport application or bill of sale form. If you have a problem with any of these services, please call the office so we can help you.

### **UNION COUNTY AUDITOR-Sandy Hysell 782-1701**

The Auditor's Office is finishing up with the end of the year reports, and working on W-2's, 1099's, valuations, and preparing the budget worksheets for fiscal year 2010-2011. The Township budgets and instructions will be going out this week to the Township Clerks, and the valuations will be mailed/emailed out this week also.

The Democrat and Republican Caucuses will be held January 23, 2010 @ 1:00p.m.  
The Democrat Caucus will be at the Congregate Meal Site, for more information you can contact Monica McCarthy 641-782-3265  
The Republican Caucus will be at the Supertel, for more information you can contact Kevin Kruse 641-782-2238

**UNION COUNTY TREASURER-Kelly Busch 782-1710**

**Drivers License (hours 8:30-4:00)** Visit us online at [www.IowaTreasurers.org](http://www.IowaTreasurers.org)

The Union County Treasurers Office provides the following services: property tax collections, issuance of vehicle titles & registrations, and drivers license issuance.

***Property Tax:***

Delinquent property tax notices for September will be mailed out this month. Any parcel that is delinquent will be mailed a notice of the delinquencies and the amount due in March.

***Vehicle Titles/Registrations:***

Reminder if you register your trucks for over 28 tons you will be required to submit the Federal Heavy Vehicle Use Form 2290 at the time of renewal.

***Drivers Licenses:***

Your Iowa license expires on your birthday. It is valid for driving for an additional 60 days. It can be renewed within one year of the expiration date without having to take the knowledge test. You can also renew your license 30 days prior to your birthday.

You will have to pass the vision screening test each time your license is renewed. If your license has been expired for more than one year, you will have to take the driving test as well as the knowledge test and vision screening.

Our office provides drivers licenses issuance between the hours of 8:30- 4, Monday thru Friday. Drive tests require an appointment and are scheduled on Wednesdays and Fridays upon the completion of all necessary written tests. Written testing can be done Monday thru Friday between 8:30-3:30.

**UNION COUNTY ASSESSOR-Gene Haner -- 782-1735**

Please check and make sure you have a current Homestead and Military Exemption on your property. If you have purchased a different home, make sure you have signed up for these exemptions.

The qualification for any honorably discharged member of the United Armed Forces has been changed to be eligible for the military exemption on your property taxes. Now if you have served eighteen months or more in the armed forces irregardless of when you served, you are now eligible for a Military Exemption or if you have served for twenty

years in the Reserves or the National Guard you are also eligible for the military credit. What is required to sign for this credit is either a DD-214 from the regular service or a complete listing of years served from the Guard or Reserve.

You are also required to inform this office if you have removed or built any new buildings or dwellings or if you have remodeled any buildings or dwellings.

Family Farm Credit is now a one-time sign up and can be signed at any time for qualifying owners.

**UNION COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**-Mike King, Chairperson, Ron Riley, Vice-chair, Bob Brown, Bob Jansen, Tom McCann—782-1720

**UNION COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT-JO DUCKWORTH-782-1622**

Resolved to be prepared! With the large amount of snow we have received thus far and the unusually wet fall; it is time to think ahead to where all that water will go when spring has sprung. The National Weather Service issued its first Spring Flood Report for the year a week or so ago. It is not very promising as far as being dry anywhere in the state. I urge everyone to think about what is stored where and how in their basements, how to protect mechanical systems, and other valuable property in case we have similar flooding to 2008. I know, I prefer not to worry about it, too, however, being prepared and having a plan in place to protect yourselves is vital in not seeing the losses we saw in 2008. The Commission has seen some changes. Mike Fry is now serving as the representative from Arispe. We have much to accomplish this next year, including the approval of a new Emergency Operations Plan that must be re-written to comply with State and Federal formats. The formation of an active Local Emergency Planning Committee, which oversees and makes plans for Hazardous Materials in the County, is in the working stage, letters will go out this week to those entities that had representatives on the old LEPC. Anyone from the public is encouraged to serve on this Committee. The meeting date is planned for January 21, 2010 at 5:15 at 208 W. Taylor Street (Alliant Building). Pay attention to those weather reports, drive safe, and stay warm! If you have any questions or comments, please call me at 641-782-1622.