

## **COURTHOUSE NEWS:**

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

The Recorder's office records 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 and takes passport pictures; issues hunting & fishing licenses, ATV/Snowmobile/Boat registrations; and records military discharges.

Starting July 1, we will accept Visa/MasterCard as an option for payment. There is a service fee associated with using your credit card.

Passport fees charged by the federal government are going up effective July 13. We are now doing Passport pictures at the office. We will process the pictures at the time of application or for renewals. 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.

Remember it now takes a passport card or passport book to travel across the border into Canada or Mexico. Please plan ahead for your summer vacation trips.

Boat registrations are now on a 3 year rotation and current boat registrations expired April 30, 2010. There will now be a \$5.00 penalty to renew. 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.**

Effective July 1, 2009 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**

**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.

**Tax Collection:** The annual tax sale was held June 21<sup>st</sup>. If you are a deed or contract holder of a parcel you should have received notification of the parcel sold and the amount required to redeem the property.

**Drivers License:** The auto test system has been installed, all written drive test will now be completed on the computer system.

Our office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30. Drivers Licenses hours are Monday-Friday 8:30-4 with all testing to be started by 3:30. Visit us on the web at [www.iowatreasurers.org](http://www.iowatreasurers.org)

**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**

June has been a month of great concern for Emergency Management. Our storms on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> resulted in numerous homes throughout the County receiving lots of water in their basements and first floors. The Governor has declared us a disaster area and the State, FEMA, UCEMA are working together to do assessments on all the damage. The main concern I have at this point, is I think we probably had a lot more homes and businesses affected by these storms than I have received information on. It is vital to the process we have complete information for the County and its residents. I am sure many of you have cleaned up and gotten on with other things, however, these numbers determine the type of assistance we are eligible to receive. Perhaps your neighbors were not as lucky, and unfortunately, numbers is the necessary part of getting some programs initiated. Those of you on septic systems, if they were affected, we also need to know this information. If you have not reported your damages, please contact my office at 641-782-1622.

UCEMA, the Community Emergency Response Team, and the Southwest Iowa Amateur Radio Association will be at the Union County Fair the 26<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>, please be sure and stop by. Emergency Management will be holding a drawing daily at 5:00 PM for a weather radio to be given away. They are really nice radios and can be programmed to receive only Union County alerts.

Have a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July and we will see you at the Union County Fair!