



Dickinson County Newsletter # 38

August 28, 2007

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New Courthouse Update: The pictures below were taken the week of August 13th . At the Construction meeting on 8-16-07, it was reported that the mechanical was 90% done. Electrical was reported as a concern. Mike McCline will talk to Mueske and try to get a commitment from him on the completion of the electrical. Mueske currently has only one worker on site. Millwork will start arriving the first week in September and the tower roof will be constructed by the end of August. The next construction meeting is September 6, 2007. Mike McCline has given the County November 2, 2007 as the substantial completion date. Move dates will be worked out with the Department Heads.



Get Your Driver's license in Dickinson County:

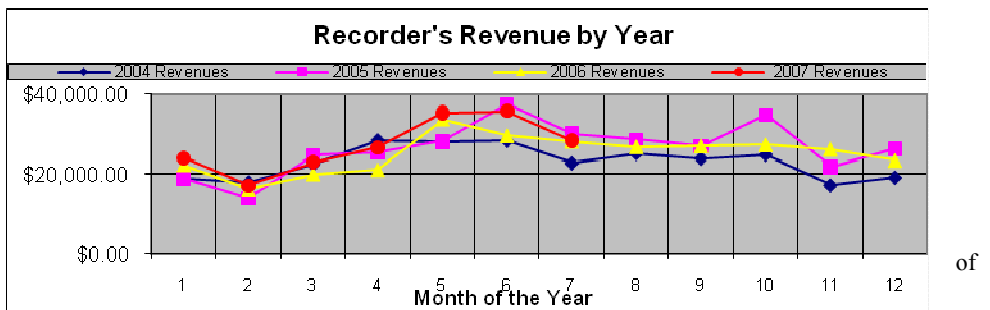
Dickinson County Driver's License Office is Open Monday – Friday.

To accommodate the driver's license needs of our community, Kris Rowley, Dickinson County Treasurer, expanded the Driver's License Office hours of operation from one day to five days a week; now open Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. (closed from 1:00 -2:00 for lunch) The extended hours have immensely cut down on the wait time for customers and alleviated the need to travel to other counties to receive driver's license services. The Dickinson County Driver's License Office is committed to delivering professional, courteous and prompt service when assisting with your driver's licensing needs. Michelle Caskey, Dickinson County Driver's License Deputy, assists on average twenty-five customers' each day. The County receives revenues of \$7.00 per each license issued. Revenues for June 2007 were \$2513 and July 2007 were \$2772. Services offered include: Drivers License, Identification Card and Handicap Placard first time issuance and renewal, Operator, Commercial and Motorcycle knowledge exams and standard Class C drive exams. All services are available Monday through Friday. Appointments for exams are not necessary and are administered until 3:00 pm each day. Frequently, Michelle receives questions about when to renew an Iowa Driver's License. Under normal circumstances, one should renew their driver's license within 30 days of the expiration date. It is important to remember that a driver's license expires on the license holder's birthday although; the license is still valid for an additional 60 days. If the driver's license remains expired after the 60 grace period, the license holder will be required to take the written knowledge test in addition to the vision screening test. If the driver's license remains expired for more than one year a driving test will be required in addition to the written knowledge test and vision screening test. Under special circumstances an early renewal may be applied for from 30 days to one year before the expiration of the driver's license. An explanation will be required detailing these circumstances.

The complete Iowa Driver's Manual, Motorcycle Manual, Commercial Driver's Manual and most forms are available on the internet, at www.iowataxandtags.com. Please phone the Dickinson County Driver's License Office for further assistance at (712) 336-6277. The Dickinson County Driver's License Office located in the Dickinson County Court House, 1802 Hill Avenue in Spirit Lake.

Recorder's volume exceeds 2005:

If you don't remember, 2005 was a record breaking year for transactions and revenues in the Recorder's office. As you can see from the graph, revenues are at or above 2005. This chart shows all of the Recorder's offices revenues, which include real estate, boat, ATV, snowmobile and passports to name some. The recorder reports that the increase is due to the sale real state in the county. Southern Glen and Bridges Bay have been the biggest contributors. Dickinson County Recorder's office collected \$408,931.20 in real estate transfer taxes in FY2007. The State receives 82.8% of those taxes or in '07 \$338,390.56 and Dickinson County kept 17.2% or \$70,540.64. Jan says to keep an eye out for the October sales as those can be some of the highest in a year.



IT Update:

It has been nearly 4 weeks since the County's IT Director, Alissa Julius, left Dickinson County's employment. Before she left, she set up a County employee help desk to be used by anyone having technical problems. Everyone should be commended and thanked for their use of the help desk and for their patience during the resolution of their problem. The Board of Supervisors contracted "weekend and remote dial-in services" from Alissa and "immediate services needed" from Chris Klinghagen of Layer 3 Technologies. Chris came highly recommended and provided a long list of clients including the law office of our Assistant County Attorney, Lonnie Saunders. John Miller, assistant to the County Engineer, is overseeing the help desk and making assignments to either, John, Chris, Alissa or Mardi, depending on the technical assistance needed. Through the County help desk, John keeps track of the status of each problem and John, Chris, Alissa, and Mardi communicate by recording what action has taken place on each task until the task is completed.

In the meantime, the interview committee has met several times. They reviewed all 27 applications and eliminated many that were not qualified or did not fit the County's needs. First interviews took place Thursday, August 16th and again August 23rd. On August 28th, the Board of Supervisors approve the hiring of Dominic Sanculi. His first day will be September 12, 2007. Welcome aboard Dominic!