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Broadband News from Around the Web

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BROADBANDMATTERS.COM

Recommended Broadband News from Around the Web



STRONG

FLEXIBLE

FAST



Love gaming? This Iowa university has created the perfect major for you

Courses for various careers in the field.

Cyndi Wiley predicted a few raised eyebrows when she pitched a new major at Grand View University that focused on computer gaming. "I expected a lot more pushback," said Wiley, an assistant professor of art and design. "And everybody was like, 'Nope, do it. This sounds awesome.'"

How a small ISP delivers ultra-fast broadband when the giants won't

Bringing gigabit fiber to homes/small businesses.

A small, regional ISP is bringing gigabit fiber service to thousands of homes and small businesses in San Francisco at a surprisingly low price. The success of Sonic, an independent ISP based in Santa Rosa, California, shows that even a small provider can deliver the latest technology when regulators allow it to compete with its much larger rivals on an even playing field.

Facebook Express Network Speeds Traffic Between Data Centers

Fast setup to manage the huge data flows.

Facebook delivers an enormous amount of data to its 2 billion users, including the photos and videos you share with your friends. It turns out that's just the tip of the data iceberg, dwarfed by the massive flow of data between Facebook's data centers.

High-Speed Satellite Broadband Likely On Its Way: SpaceX Tests Later This Year, Launches In 2019

SpaceX is out not just to make a mark in spaceflight. It is also setting its sights on launching the first of a network of internet-providing satellites in 2019, starting the technology's development later this year. Musk initially expressed the intent to build an internet network consisting of thousands of satellites in low-Earth orbit. It is poised to offer 1 gigabit-per-second (Gbps) broadband to customers worldwide.

edX adds new Professional Certificate program for career advancement

Flexible program to help people enhance skills in fields like virtual reality.

As education becomes more personalized, edX is offering a new online tool to get people from classrooms to careers more easily.

Broadband key to economic growth

"Access can...lead to new jobs & higher wages" Striving for strong broadband.

The fate of rural America is the focus of much national attention today. Yet, many across West Virginia have been feeling the very real effects of this debate for some time. Our communities have been hard hit by job loss and decline, creating a major drag on the state's economy and our quality of life.

Google wants to build a city

For testing smart city & connected technologies at scale.

Sidewalk Labs — Google parent company Alphabet's urban innovation arm — unveils a plan for constructing its own metropolis for testing smart city and connected technologies at scale.

Spotlight on Advantages of Open Access Networks at Broadband Communities Summit

“Three-tiered” model splits ownership, network operations, & internet services.

Open access networks are becoming more real for gigabit connectivity in the United States, according to panelists attending the Broadband Communities Summit. The conference was notable in having numerous, positive discussions of the “three-tiered” model: One entity owns the fiber infrastructure, a second entity operates the gigabit network, and a third entity sells retail internet access to customers.

Rural Providers Praise Pai on Title II

Rural Broadband members of USTelecom have told FCC Chairman Ajit Pai that they agree with him that closing the digital divide should be a priority for the commission and that reversing Title II classification of ISPs is part of that effort. That came in a letter to the chairman from over 30 rural operators.

Sen. Capito introduces Gigabit Opportunity bill

Aims to accelerate high-speed broadband deployment.

Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) introduced the Gigabit Opportunity Act, a bill that aims to accelerate the deployment of high-speed broadband through tax incentives. The bill, which Sen. Capito says will encourage high-speed Internet deployment to low-income and rural communities, would allow companies to accelerate depreciation of broadband investment, encourage streamlined broadband deployment policies, and allow companies to defer capital gains for network upgrades.

Pai: Wired, Wireless Broadband Appear Very Competitive to Him

Flexible options for accessing the internet.

At an American Enterprise Institute speech recapping his first 100 days, Pai was asked whether he thought that wireless is now a substitute for wireline. Pai said, for him, at least, “they are very competitive offerings.”

New technology boosting efforts of San Diego police helicopters

Police helicopter pilots in San Diego are getting a boost from new technology that allows them to connect with ground support using the internet instead of radios.

Why rural broadband matters: Silicon holler rises up from old coal country

Displaced mine worker learn to code.

According to a recent article in the Guardian, more than 600,000 U.S. tech jobs go unfilled every year. These jobs pay the same as those \$70K a year coal mining jobs. So in a coal mining town called Pikeville, Kentucky, a new “Bitsource” company was founded from the fingertips of 11 former coal miners.

Telemedicine Helps Keep Students at School

Flexible videoconferencing offers K–12 districts access to care.

Telemedicine has proved to be an effective tool in helping bring access to medical care in rural and underprivileged communities. And, with 58 percent of parents willing to use telehealth options to treat their kids' minor illnesses, like colds and flus, it seems to be a perfect fit for schools.

Bitcoin Is Advancing Rapidly Like In Early Days Of Internet: Experts

Digital currency adoption is growing.

Mainstream adoption of Bitcoin goes hand in hand with an increase in market capitalization as well as the price of Bitcoin and top altcoins. Still, in the very early stages of development with a consistently growing density of adoption, certain factors are considered of utmost importance and fundamental to the development of the crypto industry in general.

4 Ways That Cash-Strapped Schools Can Address the Homework Gap

Strong tips to help bring digital equity to students.

The \$1.5 billion increase in E-rate funding in 2014 may be providing more schools with high-speed internet, but now districts must address a new side to the digital equity issue — the homework gap.

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