



## Microsoft helping to bring free public Wi-Fi to Valley Junction in West Des Moines

A 3-year pilot project will create a free, public Wi-Fi system from 1st to 8th Street and Railroad to Vine; 1,200 residents, 639 households & 180 businesses.

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## Electric utilities use red-teaming, AI to prepare for advanced threats

The U.S. electric industry has responded to a steady stream of cyberthreats with more rigorous red-teaming and by using artificial intelligence, utility executives said.

## Don't Hate the e-Rate: Tips for Success

In 1996, Congress implemented the Telecommunications Act, which established the e-Rate program. The Universal Service Fund provides money for the valuable e-Rate discount program for schools and libraries. Eligible schools include public, private, charter, parochial and tribal. School/library consortia can also apply to share e-Rate expertise.

## FCC moves ahead on 3.7-4.2 GHz order seeking more details

The 3.7-4.2 GHz band is currently used by satellite companies that in turn serve entities like NPR and Comcast in distributing programming to millions of Americans. One of the options for clearing the spectrum is a proposal by satellite companies that would have them forming a consortium to work with 5G operators to free up spectrum, but the order adopted today will look at multiple strategies for clearing the spectrum.

## **Orlando police are testing Amazon's facial recognition software again**

Privacy advocates continue to criticize the city's exploration of Amazon's Rekognition platform, which has resumed less than two weeks after the end of a controversial pilot.

## **States with 'most vulnerable' voting systems named in congressional report**

The document calls for \$1.4 billion in more assistance to states for election security, with an emphasis on paper-based ballot machines.

## **Elections agencies have a lot of security work to do before November, state and federal officials tell Congress**

Rhode Island Secretary of State Nellie Gorbea said her state started buying new paper-ballot optical scanning machines to count votes in 2015, but replacing hardware is only one part of making the elections she oversees less vulnerable. In her experience, she said, the state-, county- and city-level officials who actually manage elections are “ill-prepared” to deal with cyberthreats.

## **Economists Put the Tab at \$61 Billion to Bring Fiber Broadband to Rural U.S.**

The \$61 billion estimated cost to deploy fiber to unserved U.S. rural areas is based on deploying GPON fiber-to-the-premises technology and does not include ongoing operational costs.

## **Senators question vulnerability disclosure process after Spectre and Meltdown stumbles**

Lawmakers are pondering what can be done to improve the complex vulnerabilities disclosure process, which involves spreading enough word among vendors to address a bug but not so much as to risk leaking information before patches are ready.

## **Dove, IoT, and the Future of Connectivity**

In the future, faster & more reliable connectivity will not only be for mobile devices & computers. The next expansion is into the internet of things (IoT); all types of devices connected to the internet.

## **HHS makes awards to mHealth vendors for at-home flu tests**

The Department of Health and Human Services is partnering with two mHealth vendors to develop devices that leverage mobile technology so that patients who test positive for influenza can receive a telemedicine consultation and, if needed, a prescription for antiviral drugs—all without leaving home.

## Georgia's first cybersecurity center opens to the public

The center is intended to strengthen state and federal defenses against cyberattacks, while filling the cybersecurity workforce gap through certification programs and both undergraduate and graduate-level degree programs. The number of unfilled cybersecurity jobs worldwide is expected to reach 3.5 million by 2021, according to Cybersecurity Ventures.

## Public-Private Partnerships, Local Involvement Central to Colorado Broadband Success

Colorado broadband officials stressed the importance of public-private partnerships in extending broadband access to unserved Americans in rural areas, and expressed doubts that the so-called fifth-generation wireless standard dubbed 5G will be the answer to closing the digital divide.

## A Teen-designed App Could End Lonely School Lunches

A California teen developed an app called Sit With Us. It's designed to connect lonely teens with people who will welcome them to their table at lunch. Kids sign up to be "ambassadors" and post open lunches so others at the school know they can join their tables without the fear of public rejection.

## Bismarck State launches cybersecurity curriculum partnership with Palo Alto Networks

A partnership between North Dakota's Bismarck State College and California-based cybersecurity firm Palo Alto Networks will provide the school with resources to build out its computer science curriculum and add a new bachelor's degree next fall.



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