A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)

BROADBAND EXPANSION

Iowa Plans to Invest $450M in Broadband Expansion. Here's Why it is Needed

The president of the Technology Association of Iowa explains why this investment is long overdue.

Source: WHO-TV

Cybersecurity

[Apple warns of "remote attacker" security threat on iPhone and iPad, releases iOS 14.4 update](#)
Since the threat is tied to internet browsing, your regular web browsing may cause you to be compromised, without having to do anything else.
Source: CBS News

[How Do You Stop Hackers? Hire One to Help You](#)
In the battle against cyber thieves, automated security scans and "white hat" hackers are indispensable tools.
Source: Pratum Security

[Identity Theft Awareness Week was Feb 1-5, 2021](#)
In the past year, we had about 1.4 million reports of identity theft, double the number from 2019. Find out about identity theft in the age of COVID-19.
Source: Federal Trade Commission

[Sens. Hassan, Cornyn Reintroduce National Guard Cybersecurity Bill](#)
"Hoping to help states utilize the impressive expertise that our National Guard members have in order to strengthen state and local cyber resiliency."
Source: MeriTalk

[Protecting Your Identity](#)
What can you do to keep your personal info secure? Are identity protection services worth the cost? What about credit freezes? Check out the @FTC's identity theft articles to find out.
Source: Federal Trade Commission

[Security chaos engineering helps you find weak links in your cyber defenses before attackers do](#)
Instead of waiting for daily operations or attacks from outsiders to highlight security flaws, security teams can get ahead of these problems by experimenting to see how a system really works.
Source: Tech Republic

Education

Presidential Primary Sources Project

If you are looking for relevant resources about the presidency, Internet2 has a great series. Their Presidential Primary Sources Project (PPSP) is a series of free, standards-aligned, 45-minute interactive videoconferencing webinars aimed at students in grades 4-12.
Source: Internet2

Computer science becoming staple in tri-state schools

An Iowa law signed last year will require schools to develop a K-12 computer science plan by July 1, 2022, including instruction in the subject in elementary, middle & high schools.
Source: Telegraph Herald

Winners Announced for Internet2 Community Anchor Program's Distance Learning Scholarship

We are thrilled to announce the 38 teachers who won CAP Distance Learning Scholarships! The winning teachers' schools connect to @internet2 via 7 research & education networks, and each class gets a free @cilcorg course. Over 1600 students will benefit!
Source: Internet2

Biden Nominee's School District Prioritizes Digital Equity

Connecticut's public schools are leading the way in digital education during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Source: Center for Digital Education

University Boils Cybersecurity Concepts Down to Learning Game

The University of Texas at San Antonio is working with elementary school educators to nurture an early interest in cybersecurity, starting with a simple card game.
Source: Center for Digital Education

Healthcare

Rep. Kelly, Fed Experts Weigh Telehealth Benefits, Challenges

Strengthen health IT to prevent ransomware attacks, increase telehealth adoption, and ensure that new devices, especially those using AI, are safe and secure for all patients.
Source: MeriTalk

2021 Could be a Busy Year for Telehealth Adoption and Sustainability

As the new year begins, telehealth will be front and center in a lot of conversations from the halls of Congress to the patient's home.
Source: mHealth Intelligence

Nearly half of adults older than 65 don't have online medical accounts that could connect them with COVID-19 vaccines

The data also raised concerns about gaps in patient portal use for Black and Hispanic older adults.
Source: Fierce Health

Telehealth Is Not Just Technology

Today The next few years could see even greater flourishing of telehealth as it becomes an integral part of our nation's clinical healthcare services, and particularly if legislation passes to expand its use.
Source: MedPage

Government

Waterloo, Iowa, Appoints Residents to Broadband Committee

As part of the mayor's smart city strategy, the city of Waterloo is putting together a committee of 3-5 residents to explore the idea of forming its own municipal broadband utility.
Source: Government Technology

Governors on Tech: Broadband and Telehealth Top the 2021 Agenda
State of the State addresses signal strong support for connecting citizens with investments in broadband expansion, more online services and virtual health-care delivery.
Source: Government Technology

Public Safety

Cloud driving public safety improvements
Public-safety organizations have more opportunity than ever to be efficient, interoperable and data-driven thanks to cloud computing, a panel of experts said during a webinar.
Source: GCN

Building interoperability standards for computer-aided dispatch
The CAD2CAD project aims create a resilient, efficient and interoperable public safety ecosystem that supports multidiscipline response to regional, multistate or national events.
Source: GCN

Digital Divide

The Digital Divide Has Narrowed, But 12 Million Students Are Still Disconnected
Closing the gap for good will make learning more equitable, more flexible and more accessible, and will help break the cycle of poverty.
Source: EdSurge

Is A Digital Divide Hindering COVID-19 Vaccine Access For Seniors?
Those of us who were not born into the digital world but have become fascinated by and adopted many or most aspects of the new technology are Digital Immigrants.
Source: Forbes

Technology

Iowa female entrepreneurs create new app for farmers
Farmers can list jobs that they need help with either now or in the future. Service providers can list what services they can help with. From there, GIS locaters link the two together.
Source: CBS 2 Iowa's News Now

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network
providing high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services to
Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.