CyberSecure My Business™ during Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Cybersecurity is not optional. All organizations need to make it a priority. Learn more about this national program helping small and medium-sized businesses learn to be safer and more secure online.

Source: National Cybersecurity Alliance

Cybersecurity

[FTC warns against scams for help with broadband subsidy program](#)
It's free to apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit program. Don't fall for online ads offering signup help for a fee, the Federal Trade Commission warns.
Source: CNET

[Cybersecurity Special Report](#)
Reporters and contributors dive into topics affecting state and local information security, including novel ways the cyber industry is recruiting college students & what risks lie ahead as the next-gen 911 transition begins.
Source: StateScoop and EdScoop

[Cyber Security Concerns in the U.S. Agricultural Sector](#)
Unlike many other sectors of the U.S. economy, the food and agricultural sector does not currently have a sector-wide clearinghouse set up to coordinate its response to cyberattacks.
Source: Farm Journal

Iowa Related

[FCC Announces $40M More in COVID-19 Telehealth Awards](#)
UnityPoint Health was awarded $1 million from the FCC for connected telehealth devices to help keep providers and patients safe, reduce urban-rural health disparities and barriers, improve access to specialty care, and stretch limited provider resources.
Source: Telecompetitor

[Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant Program Notice of Funding Availability #007](#)
Governor Reynolds is making available up to $200,000,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for broadband expansion in Iowa. The

application acceptance window is now open until November 22, 2021 at 5:00 CST.
Source: Office of the Chief Information Officer

[FCC Receives $1.3B in New Emergency Connectivity Fund Applications](#)
"Together with the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, the Commission is investing more than $10 billion to support success in the digital age, no matter who you are or where you live."
Iowa has received $17,821,158.85.
Source: FCC

[Rep. Cheri Bustos and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack make QC visits to focus on infrastructure investments](#)
U.S. Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-Moline) joined U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack Friday to announce the availability of $1.15 billion in loans and grants to expand broadband availability in rural areas through the ReConnect Program.
Source: Local 4 WHBF

[Google pushes fiber in San Antonio, Atlanta, Des Moines, Austin](#)
Source: FierceTelecom

Sector Related

Education

[Groups Meet with FCC to Discuss Cybersecurity](#)
Education and library association representatives explained that the E-rate program could support safe and secure high speed broadband by funding modern firewalls in the E-rate eligible services list.
Source: Funds for Learning

[3 activities that will turn classroom robots into SEL power tools](#)
Classroom robots are great for STEAM lessons, but they also lend themselves naturally to social emotional learning (SEL) -- a lead makerspace educator explains how she blends the two in some of her favorite activities
Source: eSchool News

Government

[States making slow, steady progress to the cloud](#)
Budgeting, cybersecurity and legacy technology are proving stumbling blocks to migration, according to a new NASCIO report.
Source: GCN

Healthcare

[New federal funds spur expansion of home care services for the elderly and disabled](#)
In April, the Biden administration rolled out funding from the American Rescue Plan to help states boost these services. And Thursday, the federal Department of Health and Human Services unveiled every state's plan for how they'll use the funds.
Source: Iowa Public Radio

Public Safety

[FirstNet tops 2.8 million connections, 18,500 agencies after best quarter ever, AT&T says](#)
Public safety adopted FirstNet at its highest rate ever during the third quarter, resulting in the nationwide public-safety broadband network (NPSBN) providing more than 2.8 million connections to more than 18,500 agencies at the end of September.
Source: Urgent Communications

[U.S. military spearheads private 5G for California first responders](#)
Broadly, the effort reflects growing interest in the ability for government agencies, enterprises and others to build their own private 5G networks. But it also highlights the growing role that the US military may play in the development of US spectrum policy and the future of 5G networking technology.
Source: Urgent Communications

Digital Divide

[USDA dishes out $1.2B for broadband in third round of ReConnect funding](#)
The U.S. Department of Agriculture plans to provide loans, grants and combination loan/grant awards to support rural broadband in the third round of funding from its ReConnect Program. ReConnect applications will be accepted starting November 24.
Source: Fierce Telecom

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.