



SECURE & PREPARED

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Special points of interest:

- Iowa submitted its application for the 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) on April 5th. See page 3.
- The Amber Waves II exercises held recently in Cedar Rapids in Des Moines focused on the private sector and what impacts pandemic influenza would have on businesses in the state. See page 4.

Save the dates July 16-18 for this year's Fourth Annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference!

Visit iowahomelandsecurity.org for more information.

Governor's Fourth Annual Homeland Security Conference

The Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management Division will host the fourth annual Governor's Homeland Security Conference, July 16-18 at the Polk County Convention Complex in Des Moines. This year's theme is "Teaming for Success."



TEAMING FOR SUCCESS

Plenary sessions on day one include presentations from:

- Richard Hainje, regional administrator, FEMA Region VII on The New FEMA;
- Anthony Cahill, director, Division of Disability and Health Policy, Center for Development and Disability, University of New Mexico School of Medicine on Planning for Special Needs Populations;
- Dr. Haven Simmons, associate professor, Salisbury University on The Need for Public Information Officers; and
- John Metzgar, primary firearms instructor and Firearms Training Systems Simulation instructor from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on Planning for School Terrorism. *Continued on page 2*

Iowa Receives SBA Disaster Assistance

On April 27, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced that it is making low-interest Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to small businesses that were economically impacted by winter storms that occurred from February 23 through March 2, 2007.

The declaration covers the following Iowa counties: Audubon, Benton, Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Clinton, Crawford, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Harrison, Howard, Ida, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Keokuk, Linn, Mahaska, Marion, Marshall, Mitchell, Monona, Monroe, Muscatine, Polk, Pottawattamie, Poweshiek, Sac, Scott, Shelby, Story, Tama, Wapello, Washington, Woodbury, Worth, and Wright. *Continued on page 2.*

Fourth Annual Homeland Security Conference

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Breakout sessions on day two include: developing training; special needs planning; utilization of the public information officer; automated critical management systems; Safeguard Iowa; the hazards of e-85 production; National Incident Management System requirements and compliance issues; alert notification systems; homeland security grants; exercise issues; and lessons learned information systems.

For more information or to register, visit www.iowahomelandsecurity.org and click on the conference link at the top of the page. County emergency management coordinators, please note that attending the conference counts towards the annual training requirement.

Iowa Receives SBA Disaster Assistance

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SBA's disaster declaration immediately makes these low-interest loans available to help small businesses meet financial needs caused by a decrease in customer sales as a result of the winter storms. SBA is offering working capital loans of up to \$1.5 million at an interest rate of four percent with terms up to 30 years.

SBA customer service representatives will be on hand at the following Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA's disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each individual complete their application. If a business owner is unable to meet with SBA, they may call (504) 388-0073 to schedule an appointment at their business location.

Bettendorf Chamber of Commerce
Open May 3, 10 and 17, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Denison City Hall
Open May 7, 14 and 21, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Marshalltown City Hall
Open May 7, 14 and 21, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Osage City Hall
Open May 3, 10 and 17, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Oskaloosa Area Chamber & Development Group
Open May 1, 8 and 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Waverly Area Development Group
Open May 2, 9 and 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Business owners also may obtain information by calling (800) 659-2955 or by visiting SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance. Hearing impaired individuals may call toll-free (800) 877 8339. The deadline to apply for these loans is January 28, 2008.

Culver Requests Assessment of Late Spring Freeze

On April 27, Governor Culver asked the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) State Farm Service Agency (FSA) to assess the impact the late spring freeze has had on Iowa's agricultural commodities.

Preliminary reports indicated that fruits, vegetables and alfalfa hay were particularly hard hit, but this assessment will provide the Governor, state FSA officials, and the State Emergency Board with a more detailed account of all types and amounts of damages sustained across the state. The assessment data will be used to determine whether a request for a U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration is warranted. This type of disaster declaration would provide FSA Emergency Loans to growers in the affected counties who qualify for the programs.

All growers who sustained loss are encouraged to contact their county FSA office. The deadline for submitting assessments is May 21st. For more information contact your county FSA office: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=ia&agency=fsa>

Three Counties Added to Snow Emergency Declaration

On April 24, Dickinson, Plymouth, and Woodbury Counties were added to the Presidential Emergency Declaration for Iowa counties affected by heavy snowfalls during the period of February 28 to March 2, 2007. Public entities in the 30 declared counties are eligible for reimbursement of 48 continuous hours of snow removal expenses and other emergency protective measures incurred as the result of record and near-record snowfalls. Counties included in the declaration are Adair, Audubon, Buena Vista, Carroll, Cass, Cherokee, Clay, Crawford, Dickinson, Emmet, Greene, Guthrie, Hancock, Harrison, Humboldt, Ida, Kossuth, Monona, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Pottawattamie, Sac, Shelby, Webster, Winnebago, Woodbury, and Wright.

On March 14th, Iowa received a Presidential Disaster Declaration for the ice storm and severe winter weather for the counties of Benton, Black Hawk, Boone, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Calhoun, Cedar, Chickasaw, Clinton, Des Moines, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Greene, Grundy, Hamilton, Hardin, Henry, Howard, Humboldt, Iowa, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Keokuk, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Marion, Marshall, Mitchell, Muscatine, Pocahontas, Poweshiek, Story, Tama, Van Buren, Wapello, Washington, Winnebago, Winneshiek, Worth, and Wright. Mahaska and Polk Counties were added to the declaration on March 26th. The declaration made federal funding available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the severe winter storms.

'07 Homeland Security Funding Update

Iowa submitted its application for the competitive portion of the 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) on April 5th, 2007. The submission contained 12 Investment Justifications, with a total request of \$29,630,558. Funds received in the competitive portion of the HSGP will augment the \$7,000,886 we received in base funding for '07. The '07 request breaks down as follows:

Citizen Preparedness	\$703,660
CBRNE Detection	\$1,084,679
Critical Infrastructure Protection	\$698,475
NIMS/NRP Implementation	\$2,247,550
Expanded Regional Collaboration	\$4,315,500
Food and Ag Emergency Preparedness and Response	\$2,735,775
Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture	\$313,777
Program and Planning	\$1,227,840
Interoperable Communications	\$1,438,500
Intelligence and Information Sharing	\$8,921,897
Medical Surge	\$258,145
Iowa's Emergency Response Teams	\$5,684,760

Between May 21st and May 25th, Iowa's submission will be reviewed by homeland security and emergency management peers from across the country. Their scores will be compiled into an "effectiveness score." This score will be combined with Iowa's "risk score" to determine our final levels of competitive funding. Iowa's final funding amount will tentatively be released on July 5th. We will then have 60 days to allocate the funding.

Between now and July 5th, Iowa will work with the First Responders Advisory Committee, Executive Committee and other stakeholders to set priority needs in Iowa. We will also be asking the workgroups who worked on the investment justifications to prioritize items within their own investments. For questions, contact Kyle Karsjen at 515-725-3237.

Amber Waves II Exercise a Success

The Amber Waves II exercises held in Cedar Rapids on April 24 and in Des Moines on April 26 focused on the private sector and what impacts a prolonged, high impact pandemic influenza would have on the businesses in this state. This project was developed through HSEMD and Safeguard Iowa Partnership efforts.

The exercises were developed as a follow-on to the success of the Amber Waves exercise conducted in 2004. Iowa remains a pioneer in developing the public-private exercise partnership process. These exercises were designed to assess communication efforts between public and private sectors as well as review business continuity plans to ensure the viability of private organizations. About 200 people participated in the exercises.



A group representing the banking and finance sector discusses issues during the Des Moines Amber Waves II exercise.

“It was a successful experience for the attendees and that success was due in large part to the willingness on everyone’s part to discuss openly their issues and plans and remaining open to opportunities for improvement,” said HSEMD Exercise Specialist Janet Riley. “Comments received from both exercises were very positive and participants are looking forward to adapting their current business continuity plans and exercising them again in the future.”

“Safeguard Iowa was proud to be a co-sponsor of this important event,” said Ed Beaman, Safeguard Iowa Partnership executive director. “The interaction between the government and the private sector is essential for all parties to be able to identify and correct gaps in our joint response and recovery operations.”

Safeguard Iowa Partnership Appoints Executive Director



Ed Beaman

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership, a newly formed public-private coalition for disaster management, recently announced the appointment of Ed Beaman as its executive director. Beaman will lead the partnership’s efforts to strengthen statewide disaster management capabilities.

Beaman has over 20 years of experience in agribusiness and has developed and lead issue-oriented coalitions, in Iowa and abroad. He will be responsible for the administration and operations of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership. This includes the coordination with the Operating Council to implement initiatives that deliver new homeland security/emergency management capabilities. Improving communications during crises, developing a database of business resources that can aid in emergency response, and building new operational capabilities by coordinating business and government disaster planning and joint exercises will be the focus of the Safeguard Iowa Partnership in the upcoming year.

The Safeguard Iowa Partnership is a voluntary coalition of Iowa’s business and government leaders who share a commitment to strengthening the state’s collective capacity to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from natural and human-caused disasters through effective public-private collaboration.

Mills County Students Learn About Fire Safety

On April 18, Nishna Valley Schools in Mills County participated in Fire Safety House training. Students K-7th grades were provided with a unique hands-on fire safety experience that will enhance their abilities to know what to do if a fire breaks out in their home.

The event was coordinated by Nishna Valley Schools, Hastings Fire Department and the Mills County Emergency Management Agency. Fire House operation assistance was provided by Hastings Fire, Emerson Fire, Mills County E-911 and the Mills County Emergency Management Agency. Special thanks to Linda Plummer, Hospital Center for Advocacy and Outreach & Fire Safety House Program Coordinator from Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines for helping to bring this type of training to southwest Iowa.



Mills County Emergency Management Coordinator Larry Hurst was elated with how the Safety House was received. "The children truly enjoyed the experience that the House provided. Even the teachers commented on the superb hands on learning opportunity this training aid provided their students as well as themselves, said Hurst."

Hurst said several important issues were identified, "We found out that not all children know their home address let alone their phone number." He said that having a trained 911 center representative role play with the children helped them build their confidence in making that important call. As a result, Mills County will be pursuing an E911 educational campaign in the coming months.

Go-Kits Going to the Capitol Complex



HSEMD's Dave Johnston, safety coordinator and CERT trainer for the capitol complex, assembles one of the 100 kits for the State Capitol Complex. The kits contain first-aid and other materials that may be needed in an emergency response situation.

One hundred emergency go-kits are being distributed to buildings on the State Capitol Complex in Des Moines. The purpose of the go-kits is to equip those trained through Citizen Emergency Response Teams in the event of an emergency.

Since May of 2003, HSEMD has offered State Capitol Complex employees in Des Moines the opportunity to participate in CERT training, making them ready to take action in an event where first responder resources may be stretched or delayed. The teams are valuable resources and highlight the importance of volunteering to help your community and your workplace.

More CERT Training opportunities will be available this summer. Look for updates in future newsletters.

Iowa Delegation Visits Russia

From March 25-April 1, HSEMD's Tom Baumgartner had the opportunity to join an Iowa National Guard Delegation on a recent trip to Stavropol, Russia as part of the "State Partnership for Peace" project. The group was invited to visit Federal Disaster Response Units of Russia's EMERCOM or Ministry for Extraordinary Situations and to Stavropol to observe flood planning and response actions of EMERCOM's South Regional office.

"Our primary mission during this trip was to network with Russian leadership and first responders about flood mitigation measures," said Baumgartner. "Thanks to the great work in this area by our mitigation planning group, I was able to share many good ideas and concepts that they found useful. My special thanks to the Iowa National Guard for allowing me to join their team for this mission. The delegation learned a great deal and represented Iowa in the highest tradition of excellence."

The delegation is preparing an after action briefing and is in the process of consolidating pictures and comments.



General Dardis, left, is presented with a gift to Governor Culver on behalf of the Iowa delegation of Steve Altman, Mary Parmenter and Kevin Eppens, Iowa National Guard and Tom Baumgartner, HSEMD Homeland Security Coordinator.

Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Workshop Offered

HSEMD will host a FEMA-sponsored and funded Local Hazard Mitigation Planning Workshop May 23 – 24 at the Joint Forces Headquarters in Johnston. The target audience for this workshop is local or regional planners who will be writing and/or developing the planning process in completing or updating of Local Hazard Mitigation Plans that are compliant with The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000, Public Law 106-390).

This workshop is important as many communities will be awarded planning grants under the Pre-disaster Mitigation 2007 program within the next few months. HSEMD also anticipates making planning grants available under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program from Disaster 1688 in an effort to encourage mitigation planning in communities that do not have a DMA compliant plan and for those communities that need to update their approved plans.

For course technical information, contact John Wageman at 515-725-3225. For enrollment information, contact Kathy Karn at 515-725-3216.

Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division

A Division of the Department of Public Defense

Administrator

David L. Miller

7105 N.W. 70th Avenue
Camp Dodge, Bldg W-4
Johnston, IA 50131

Phone: 515-725-3231

Fax: 515-725-3260

Web Site:

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

Secure & Prepared is published by the Iowa Homeland Security & Emergency Management Division for those involved in the homeland security system in the state of Iowa. For more information, contact Kara Berg at 515-725-3271 or at kara.berg@iowa.gov.

News Team

Kara Berg

Beth Gathercole

David Johnston

Kyle Karsjen

Lucinda Robertson

Kathy Stodola

Bret Voorhees

Lynda Wessel

HSEMD Mission

Lead, coordinate, and support homeland security and emergency management functions in order to establish sustainable communities and ensure economic opportunities for Iowa and its citizens.

We're on the Web!

www.iowahomelandsecurity.org

HSEMD Spotlight: Linda Madison

Linda Madison is the friendly voice on the phone when you call HSEMD's Readiness and Response Bureau. As the bureau's administrative assistant, Linda says she is kept busy assisting staff with projects, participating in the Iowa Disaster Human Resource Council, keeping the State Emergency Operations Center in a state of readiness, issuing security badges, and updating the HSEMD duty officer and action officer books.



Linda began her employment with HSEMD in 1996 as the secretary for the Radiological Emergency Preparedness Bureau, and was the secretary for the Administration Bureau from 1998 to 1999 before assuming the position she now holds. She has worked for the State of Iowa since 1984, first at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women and then at the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Linda met her husband, Jim, at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. While Jim got his bachelor's degree, Linda says she received her MRS degree—and they've been married for 40 years. Before settling in Mitchellville 34 years ago, Linda and Jim lived in Clinton, IA and Orrick, MO. They have two children, Jason and Melinda, both of whom live in Phoenix, AZ. Jason is a civil (structural) engineer, while Melinda coaches and teaches elementary physical education. Seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren keep her busy. It will come as no surprise that upon her retirement, she and her husband plan to move to Arizona.

Other activities Linda enjoys include volunteer work at the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women, reading, traveling, spending time with family, and working at the nursery and as part of the care team ministry at her church.

Miscellaneous

State Hazard Mitigation Plan—A draft version of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan is now available on the HSEMD Web site at www.iowahomelandsecurity.org. Comments/feedback on the draft are due to HSEMD by May 15th. A final version will be sent to FEMA for approval on June 1. For more information, contact Linda Roose at 515-725-3212.

After Action Reports – Just a reminder that HSEMD has made an e-mail account specifically for submission of exercise reports and improvement plans. Please send all your after-action reports and improvement plans to exercise@iowa.gov. If you have questions, please contact Ann Garvey at Ann.Garvey@iowa.gov or 515-725-3291.