



Work to begin soon on rural Iowa broadband project

USDA financing will help lay fiber for high-speed internet.

A rural telephone cooperative in western Iowa will begin work soon on upgrades to its broadband capabilities. The Coon Valley Cooperative Telephone Association in the Guthrie County town of Menlo recently landed a \$6.5 million loan for the project from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

All Arkansas schools to have high-speed Internet before classes resume

A years long project to get high-speed Internet into every school in Arkansas will conclude before summer break ends. By running fiber-optic cables from the Ozarks to the Delta, and serving all 477,268 students in between, Arkansas will be one of a handful of states that guarantees the service everywhere.

Video Continues to Eat the Internet: Cisco Study

Video expected to account for 82% of global IP traffic by 2021.

Video will account for about 82% of all global IP traffic by 2021, up from 73% in 2016, Cisco Systems concluded in its latest Visual Networking Index.

TECH WEEK: Why Broadband is a Hot Topic Right Now

It means access to jobs, education, healthcare, connections with each other.

Ask most people about their broadband and you'll likely get blank stares or questions along the lines of "what do you mean by 'broadband?'" But ask more people if their internet connection is good and you will likely get a wide range of comments—from basic complaints and compliments to some choice words about not having access at all.

Not enough fiber to grow the internet for 5G, says consultant

For 5G to achieve suggested blockbuster status US must invest in fiber.

5G's rollout, coming commercially as early as 2020, is "due to provide 10 to 100 times more capacity than 4G," according to Ericsson. Interestingly, though, the 5G tech could encounter trouble, according to a consultant.

MythBusters: A FirstNet edition

An attempt to clarify some potentially confusing statements about the NPSBN.

Many things are being said about FirstNet, but not all of them are entirely accurate. Here's an attempt to clarify some potentially confusing statements that have been made about the much-anticipated nationwide public-safety broadband network (NPSBN).

3 ways to use technology for amazing parental engagement

Tech tools can play a big part in helping families become more involved in their children's education.

Involving parents in their children's progress in the classroom has long been shown to significantly increase student outcomes. With parent engagement top of mind in many school districts, teachers can benefit from these best practices from peers for using education technology to get, and keep, parents engaged.

Telemedicine creates savings for patients who don't have to transfer to bigger ER

Strong savings for patients.

The overall cost to society of caring for emergency-room patients goes down by about \$3,800 per patient when doctors employ telemedicine instead of transferring patients to a bigger hospital. Consumers come out better financially when you consider the cost of travel for family, lost work, and other indirect expenses.

The FirstNet Board Recognizes Progress of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network

During their June 28, 2017 meeting, the FirstNet Board met with FirstNet leadership to discuss the release of state plans, first responder network priorities, and what it means for the public safety broadband network moving forward.

Home Internet Access for All Students Is a Game-Changer

Lower-income families remain under-connected, not connected.

But a sizable number of lower-income families remain under-connected, or without Internet access at all. That hurts students who increasingly rely on education technology to learn.

Technology Is Improving, So Why Is Rural Broadband Access Still a Problem?

Only 55 percent of people living in rural areas have access to speeds that qualify as broadband, compared to 94 percent of the urban population.

PSAC Association Profile: American Public Works Association (APWA)

Strong impact beyond that of traditional first responders

Traditional first responders, such as law enforcement, fire and EMS personnel, rush to the scene of an incident and their mission to save lives is clear. But what about the other responders involved in an emergency who quickly clear and repair the roads or help restore electricity and water after an emergency event? The FirstNet network will have an impact beyond that of traditional first responders.

US Ignite Announces 5 New Smart Gigabit Communities

Strong: keeping pace with rapidly changing technology & economy.

US Ignite announced the expansion of a national network of Smart Gigabit Communities (SGC). Each community joining the network has made a significant commitment toward embracing next-generation smart city and Internet technologies to

keep pace with the world's rapidly changing technology and economy.

Lawmakers Work to Bring Broadband Access to Rural Areas

Strong and flexible broadband needed.

Whether you're a teen applying for college online or making a doctor's visit through TeleMedicine, you need reliable high-speed internet service. And what seems like a basic necessity for some communities is now a barrier for poor and rural areas that lack access.

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