



Reynolds applauds Internet growth

Bringing broadband services using two technologies; fiber & wireless

The deployment of broadband wireless Internet service in Plymouth County was highlighted Friday, Oct. 6, at the Farmers Cooperative Company in Craig. The service is offered by N.E.T. Broadband, a partnership created by Evertek and North West REC to connect rural areas with broadband services and technologies.

Gov. Reynolds, Lt. Gov. Gregg announce Text-to-911

Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg announced Text-to-911, a new public safety tool available to Iowans, Tuesday morning at their weekly press conference.

Why Community Anchor Institutions Should Care About the Connect America Fund

Three federal universal service programs – all of which subsidize the cost of critical communications services – are administered separately, with significantly different program rules, funding cycles, eligibility requirements, and vocal constituencies. It's time to step back and ask the question of how these programs could work better together to ensure that 21st century communications infrastructure is available to everyone in rural America.

Digital divide narrowing between rural & urban areas

71% of farms are on the internet. Flexible broadband for farms.

The so-called digital divide between rural and urban areas is narrowing, with the result that farmers are nearly as likely as their city neighbors to have internet access. A biennial USDA survey says 71% of farms are on the internet, nearly the same as the U.S. average of 73% or 75%. It's a big step up from 2009, when fewer than 60% of farms had a connection.

Hackers linked to North Korea targeted U.S. ICS companies, breached energy firm

Hacking likely focused on reconnaissance.

Hackers possibly linked to North Korea were able to successfully gain access to the corporate network of at least one U.S.-based energy company in recent months, according to multiple sources with knowledge of a recent cyber threat intelligence report on the matter.

Cord-cutting for the enterprise

A managed broadband network based on satellite technology.

With many of its 2,400 connected sites and offices in the United States and its territories situated in remote locations such as the bottom of the Grand Canyon or in Alaska's Denali National Park and Preserve, the Interior Department was struggling to maintain connectivity through traditional methods or services. TDM, DSL and satellite weren't cutting it, but "we didn't really have a lot of options," said John Holmes, enterprise service network operation manager at Interior. Then he and his team found one: a managed broadband network based on satellite technology.

Florida Virtual School to enroll up to 20,000 Puerto Rican students

Flexible broadband helps schoolwork resume.

As Puerto Rico begins to recover from the devastation brought by Hurricane Maria, students from the U.S. territory have been offered an opportunity to resume their schoolwork — but online, through the Florida Virtual School.

[Iowa governments vulnerable to Johnston-like cyber attacks](#)

Smaller governments are vulnerable because of limited resources.

Hundreds of Iowa governments and schools are vulnerable to cyber attacks like those unleashed this week on Johnston's school district, multiple Iowa government officials and a former Facebook security officer warned Friday.

[5 Strategies to Thwart Cyberattacks in Higher Education](#)

Make sure everyone is on board with your defense strategy.

Universities are a wealth of sensitive data and prime targets for cyberattacks. Making sure everyone on campus is on board with your defense strategy is key to ensuring your institution's cybersecurity.

[The Growing SDN Market: \\$130 Billion by 2022](#)

A strong, programmatic way to control, manage, change network behavior.

It's hard to overlook the sheer level of data we create on a regular basis. From mobile devices to social media and cloud computing, we're collaborating to overwhelm the average traditional network. Today, we need stronger, more complex network infrastructures if we want any hope of managing the data we're dealing with on a daily basis. The good news is that Software Defined Networking could be the answer.

[Cybersecurity Is Not a Device](#)

Cybersecurity takes a programmatic, trackable, risk-based approach.

Stakeholders in most organizations want the peace of mind that comes with confidently knowing secure practices are in place. Unfortunately, most aren't aware of all that is involved in getting there. Cybersecurity remains among the hottest points of contention when speaking to leadership, executives and corporate boards across the globe. The problem: What is needed for a company to be secure varies greatly, and no one seems to understand how to capture exactly what it is or how to manage it.

[Peterson and Cramer lead bipartisan support of rural broadband funding](#)

This week, Representatives Collin Peterson and Kevin Cramer sent a letter urging the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to address the budget shortfall in the High-Cost Universal Service Fund (USF). The bipartisan letter, signed by 37 Members of Congress, argues that a lack of sufficient funding for rural broadband development puts millions of Americans at a significant disadvantage.

[U.S. employers make big push for telehealth](#)

Using a doctor online when unable to travel or hands-on exam not needed.

Employers hope this concept of gaining remote access to doctors catches on quickly, because it promises cost savings. As companies start the annual process of open enrollment for healthcare benefits for the coming year, expect a big push by Corporate America to promote the availability of telehealth.

[Agriculture Sector Leveraging Crop Science, IoT, Data Analytics, AI](#)

Bringing small farmers together into smart farming collectives.

Internet-enabled shared services in farming allow small farmers to enjoy advanced technology and resources by sharing technology using the Internet. Aibono, an agritech start-up, recreates the economies of scale by bringing small farmers together into what we call as smart farming collectives.

[PSAPs Move Ahead with Next-Generation 911 as Carriers Lag](#)

Strong upgrade: proponents say NG911 will save lives.

State and municipal emergency leaders are revamping their legacy technology to support NG911 capabilities. Now they want the carriers to step up.