



## What does rural Iowa need? High-speed internet and housing, task forces tell governor

Rural Iowa needs more assistance from the state to address housing shortages and limited access to high-speed internet, three state task forces told the governor Tuesday.

---

## New system gives first responders priority to communicate

AT&T developed FirstNet after September 11 attacks to help those in public safety contact each other faster.

## Facial recognition technology adds layer of 'prevention' at dorms' front doors

University of San Francisco — with 11,000 students spread across its 52-acre campus — is one of very few higher ed institutions worldwide using a facial recognition tool in combination with an upgraded video security system. It's most useful when a building is most vulnerable — the moments when students are coming in and out.

## Education ranked worst at cybersecurity out of 17 major industries

The education industry has been ranked the worst in cybersecurity out of 17 major industries. Analysis published last week by SecurityScorecard, a New York City-based IT security company, reveals an incredible risk to students considering the sheer amount of personal data amassed on school networks.

## mHealth Wearables Hit the Mark in Tests to Measure Diabetic Foot Care

California researchers say a test of sensor-embedded socks has proven that the mHealth wearable can help both patients and providers track foot health in real time and spot early signs of diabetic ulcers.

## **Farm Bill Expands Rural Broadband Funding**

The farm bill passed by Congress this week would grant the U.S. Department of Agriculture more authority to create grants and provide loans for local rural broadband projects.

## **Expert gives tips for protecting your identity online**

As the Christmas shopping season hits full stride an expert says its time to be sure your online purchases are properly protected.

## **U.S. internet speeds rose nearly 40 percent this year**

The internet is getting faster, especially fixed broadband internet. Broadband download speeds in the U.S. rose 35.8 percent and upload speeds are up 22 percent from last year, according to internet speed-test company Ookla in its latest U.S. broadband report.

## **Gov Reynolds Meets with Statewide Leaders on 'Empower Rural Iowa' Initiative in Sheffield**

Recommendations aim to grow, invest and better connect rural Iowa counties and communities.

## **Telemedicine in reverse: Rural Minnesota doctors exporting their craft**

Telemedicine is growing rapidly in Minnesota, according to a study released last week, with rural patients seeking expertise via videoconferencing from urban specialists.

## **USDA Launches New Program to Create High-Speed Internet e-Connectivity in Rural America**

Telecommunications companies, rural electric cooperatives and utilities, internet service providers and municipalities may apply for funding through USDA's new ReConnect Program to connect rural areas that currently have insufficient broadband service.

## **3 Ways to Solve the People Problem in Cybersecurity**

Your organization is only as strong as the weakest link — don't let employees go untrained and systems unprotected.

## **Five reasons schools need to address cybersecurity now**

Even after recent high-profile incidents, cybersecurity can seem abstract and non-urgent, but of course, cybersecurity is a necessity in education. Schools have valuable information to protect for both students and employees. However, as financial and physical security issues arise, cybersecurity can fall down the list.

## **DMACC partners with Greater Des Moines Partnership to create coding education program**

The Greater Des Moines Partnership and Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) are partnering on a new coding education program for adults called Code DSM.

## Librarians Worry About The Digital Divide Ahead Of 2020 Census

New York state libraries are preparing to aid their communities in filling out the 2020 census, according to testimonies given Friday.

---



**BROADBAND STRONG:** Delivering **FLEXIBLE** broadband and **FAST** experiences to meet the growing broadband needs of education, government, public safety, and healthcare in Iowa.

---

Connect with Broadband Matters at: [broadbandmatters.com](http://broadbandmatters.com)  
[twitter.com/BroadbandIowa](https://twitter.com/BroadbandIowa) | [facebook.com/BroadbandMattersIowa](https://facebook.com/BroadbandMattersIowa)