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Recommended Broadband News from Around the Web



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A Broadband Initiative from the **Iowa Communications Network**



CenturyLink announces expanded broadband in rural lowa

The expanded broadband services reach more than 30 lowa communities, including Muscatine, Winterset, Independence and Indianola.

Iowa House passes autonomous vehicle bill

The lowa House on Tuesday passed a bill regulating self-operating vehicles in the state. The bill now heads to the Senate.

Beware of Calls Saying Your Social Security Number is Suspended

A common phone call scam that people have been receiving states that your Social Security number is suspended for suspicious activity. It then prompts you to speak to a government agent in order to receive help resolving the issue.

Half of security pros would rather walk barefoot in a public restroom than use public Wi-Fi

Public Wi-Fi is rife with security risks, and cybersecurity professionals aren't taking any chances, according to a Lastline report.

A New Law and an App Will Make Voting in Kansas More Convenient

Senate Bill 130, once signed into law, would allow Sedgwick County voters to cast their ballots at any polling place, while a supplemental app would show respective wait times at each location.

Next-gen emergency services technology aims to make smart cities safer

Cisco and Carbyne are helping government agencies share data from sensors and IoT devices to provide a crucial source of information for emergency responders.

FCC broadband maps challenged as overstating access

With broadband internet speeds crucial to telemedicine, precision agriculture and economic development, the first step in addressing the need for expanded services is identifying where they're lacking. But while the Federal Communications Commission reports that 90 percent of lowans have access to the FCC benchmark for "advanced broadband," or 25 megabits per second download speeds and 3 Mbps upload speeds, a Microsoft report argues only about 30 percent of lowans actually use broadband.

Health systems get failing grade when it comes to NIST cybersecurity best practices: report

Healthcare organizations continue to fall short with managing cybersecurity risks as measured by how well they are conforming with recognized best practices for security and privacy.

FCC announces \$20 billion for rural broadband providers, schedules third 5G auction

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Ajit Pai announced Friday a \$20.4 billion fund to expand rural broadband, plus the commission's third spectrum auction for 5G wireless coverage. The new Rural Digital Opportunity Fund would re-allocate funds from the FCC's current subsidies to provide internet for 4 million homes over the next decade, Pai told reporters on a conference call.

More Telehealth Benefits Coming To Medicare Advantage Plans In 2020

Access to telehealth services for seniors got another boost Friday when the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services said it would allow private Medicare Advantage plans to offer additional access to virtual doctors in their basic benefit packages.

By The Numbers: What The USDA's Latest Census Tells Us About American Agriculture

It's been five years since the last ag census. More rural areas are connected to the internet, something that's a priority for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which gathered the data from farmers and producers across the U.S. — as long as they earned more than \$1,000 and grew a federally recognized crop (i.e. not cannabis).

New Phishing Attacks Make Two-Factor Authentication (2FA) Useless

These latest attacks are designed to proxy login requests that incorporate SMS-based authentication as a way to seamlessly bypass 2FA protection without being noticed.

It's time for a new approach for mapping broadband data to better serve Americans

This lack of connectivity has a very real impact on economic well-being. There are at least six independent studies that show that broadband has a direct impact on jobs and GDP growth. Analysis shows that the counties with the highest unemployment also have the lowest broadband usage (and broadband access).

How to integrate creative coding and robotics into your classroom

Two common misconceptions about computer science are that it's just about programming and that only teachers with computer science degrees should teach it.



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