



## Gov. Kim Reynolds signs law aimed at growing broadband access, housing in rural Iowa

"We're connecting, investing and growing our rural communities through this collaborative initiative."

### Iowa Secures Elections with Extensive Cybersecurity Efforts

For the past three years, the state has stepped up its training, outreach and coordination to protect county election systems, with the Office of the Chief Information Officer playing a key role.

### Poor broadband access in rural areas limits telemedicine use: study

Telemedicine is frequently touted as a technology tool that can help improve healthcare access for rural populations, especially in areas with physician shortages. But telemedicine might not be the silver bullet to improve rural healthcare when those same areas have significant infrastructure challenges, according to researchers.

### Weaponized Documents: It's Just a Matter of Time Before One is Opened

Weaponized documents are an example of attacks that can come from a web download, a shared drive or a file attached to a legitimate looking email. PDFs, Excel, Word or other Microsoft Office documents can all be compromised to contain code, links, or even videos that covertly release malware, trojans, ransomware or even remote access software onto a system or network.

### Highlander Code Camp Builds Tomorrow's Tech Workforce

Studies have shown that programming benefits a child's cognitive development, especially reflectivity and divergent thinking skills, both crucial to creative problem-solving. Therefore, teaching a kid to code could improve their chance for future success, even if they decide not to pursue a career in programming.

### Finland is winning the war on fake news. What it's learned may be crucial to Western democracy

The initiative is just one layer of a multi-pronged, cross-sector approach the country is taking to prepare citizens of all ages for the complex digital landscape of today – and tomorrow.

### iEXCEL Revolutionizes Healthcare Education through Immersive Technology

University of Nebraska Medical Center's Interprofessional Experiential Center for Enduring Learning (iEXCEL) employs real-life visualization and simulation technology to educate students and professionals in the healthcare industry.

## How to stop the phone scam that leaves your most critical data exposed

SIM swapping takes advantage of a flaw in two-factor authentication via text messaging—but you can protect yourself.

## Telecom, Cable Groups Push Rival Plans on FCC Broadband Mapping

Two influential industry groups are vying to get the Federal Communications Commission to adopt competing proposals for how to map broadband coverage across the country.

## Internet By Drone? New Tech Is Making It More Likely Than Not

The attraction of drones and balloons is they could cost much less than building cell towers in remote areas. And their location, closer to Earth than satellites, could offer faster response times.

## Rep. Clyburn Forms Rural Broadband Task Force

House Majority Whip Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.) has launched the House [Democratic] Task Force on Rural Broadband to try and help close the rural digital divide and eliminate "digital deserts."

## NERC to analyze first potential cyberattack on US grid

The March 5 cyber event, reported last month by E&E News, resulted in interruptions of electrical system operations across several states, including California, Utah and Wyoming.

## The "smarter" wall: how drones, sensors, and AI are patrolling the border

There is another kind of border wall increasingly being talked about — one that proponents pitch as being less costly, less disruptive, and less politically controversial than a physical barrier: a so-called "smart wall."

## How cybercriminals hold data hostage... and why the best solution is often paying a ransom

Targets have included hospitals and municipalities, but the FBI says anyone on the internet should expect to be attacked by cybercriminals.

## Microsoft Banks on AI to Close Tech Gaps for Disabled Users

Plans include grants toward a speech recognition app that helps people with speech disabilities communicate in real time and a chatbot that prepares job seekers with cognitive disabilities for interviews.



**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)