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Recommended Broadband News from Around the Web

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A Broadband Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)

FBI: 10 reports data held for ransom in Iowa, number could be higher

The FBI received 10 reports of ransomware attacks in Iowa in 2018, but experts think the problem is bigger than that. When ransomware hits, all information in a system can be held hostage, unreachable by the system's owner, until they pay a fee.

mHealth, Telehealth Help Doctors Improve Cancer Screening, Counseling

A Midwest health system is using an mHealth questionnaire and a telehealth platform to identify women at risk of breast cancer and connect them with genetic counselors as soon as possible.

On America's backroads, an information superhighway is being built

For a pocket of our population, particularly in rural parts of the country, lack of internet creates barriers for economic development, educational equality, health care delivery and public safety response.

How 5G can save lives by aiding first responders

Drones, AR firefighter helmets, artificial intelligence and connected officers: First responder tech has already arrived. Here's what 5G will add to it.

Why the United States needs more cybersecurity experts — badly

With a shortage of cybersecurity experts, the United States is extremely vulnerable to a large-scale cyberattack, but the solution lies with students, Alan Paller, founder of the SANS Institute, said at an event in Fairfax, Virginia.

Rural America needs the Broadband Data Improvement Act | Opinion

Rural broadband is critical to support the farmers and ranchers who grow our food, the long-term economic viability of rural communities and the overall quality of life for rural Americans.

How to Avoid Internal Data Threats – And Investigate Them When You Can't

The rise of technology has created endless new ways to get things done – we can chat face-to-face with friends or colleagues across the globe, ask digital assistants like Alexa what's next on our

calendar or the weather in some remote corner of the world. But with all those conveniences comes more data – a lot more data – and thus, more data security risks.

'Dig Once' Provides Future-Proofing Solution for Federal Highway Infrastructure, Says BroadbandNow

Investment in future-proofing roads for high-speed fiber optic infrastructure could save $126 billion federal dollars on broadband deployment.

Technology Changes How Students Learn in Alabama School

The city of Decatur has invested $14 million in technology since 2011. This includes a $3.2 million tech budget this year, the largest in the school's history, resulting in the completion of its one-to-one initiative.

Social Engineering Attack Nets $1.7M in Government Funds

Believing it was working with a trusted contractor to change banking information, Cabarrus County, N.C., paid scammers $2.5 million. The incident highlights yet another way cyberthieves are targeting government.

Iowa Virtual Academy Students Begin New Year of New Opportunities

Students at Iowa Virtual Academy (IAVA) will begin the 2019-2020 school year on August 23 simply by turning on their computers. A full-time online public school program of Clayton Ridge Community School District, IAVA provides a tuition-free public education option for students in grades K-12 across the state.

5 Talking Points About Tech for Your Back-to-School Night

No matter how much –- or how little –- technology you use in your classroom, parents and caregivers are bound to have questions, and even concerns, about it. Back-to-school night is a great opportunity to address these issues up front. You might even be able to answer a lot of parents' questions before they ask.

Census Bureau hopes Siri and Alexa can help it reach hard-to-count populations

Have you asked Alexa or Siri to recite the weather this week? The Census Bureau hopes you'll ask your digital assistant of choice about the upcoming 2020 census, too.

Texas ransomware incident could be 'new type' of cyberattack

The ransomware attack reported last week against 22 small cities and towns across Texas is potentially a new type of cyberattack that hits multiple public-sector targets at once, a cybersecurity researcher told StateScoop.

Why teachers are essential to building a secure 'internet of things'

Many of today's students are digital natives — born with a seemingly innate understanding of how technology works — but with the proliferation of internet-connected devices, teachers have a critical role in educating kids to live and build a safer, more secure digital world.

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

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