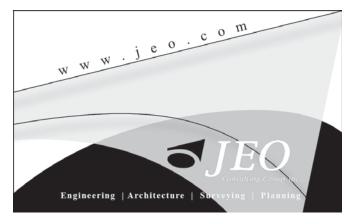
Iowa County lowa State Association of Counties December 201 Outgoing President's Year in Review ISAC Fall School Wrap-up Donate to the Scholarship Program



AN IOWA COMPANY SERVING IOWA COUNTIES



FOR COST ALLOCATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Contact Randall (515-778-9397) or Jeff (515-238-7989)

Knowledge.

Providing investment management through money market and fixed income vehicles:

Money Market Investments:

IPAIT Diversified Fund

Fixed Term Investments:

- CD Placements
- Government/Agency securities

We have made it our business to understand the investment needs of public agancies and have successfully managed public funds since 1987. IPAIT effectively provides useful products and services, and offers peace of mind through:

Safety / Liquidity / Competitive Returns



Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust

www.IPAIT.org

ISAC Sponsored. Miles Capital, Investment Advisor.





The Iowa County

December 2010 * Volume 39, Number 12

The lowa County: The official magazine of the lowa State Association of Counties
501 SW 7th St., Ste. Q Des Moines, IA 50309
(515) 244-7181 FAX (515) 244-6397
www.iowacounties.org
Rachel E. Bicego, EDITOR

4-5
6, 7
8
10
11, 12
13
14
15-18
19
19
20
21
22



ISAC members are elected and appointed county officials from all 99 counties. *The Iowa County* (ISSN 0892-3795, USPS 0002-150) is published monthly by the Iowa State Association of Counties 501 SW 7th St., Ste. Q, Des Moines, IA 50309-4540. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines, IA 50318. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Iowa County*, 501 SW 7th St., Ste. Q, Des Moines, IA 50309-4540. Subscriptions: \$25 per year.

ISAC OFFICERS PRESIDENT

Chuck Rieken - Cass County Supervisor 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Marjorie Pitts - Clay County Auditor

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Wayne Walter - Winneshiek County Treasurer
3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Darin Raymond - Plymouth County Attorney

ISAC DIRECTORS

Tim McGee - Lucas County Assessor Lori Elam - Scott County Community Services Dan Cohen - Buchanan County Conservation Director Lori Morrissey - Story County Emergency Mgmt. Mike McClain - Jones County Engineer Jon McNamee - Black Hawk County Environmental Health Wayne Chizek - Marshall County IT/GIS Terri Henkels - Polk County Public Health Nancy Parrott - Jasper County Recorder Mike Balmer - Jasper County Sheriff Harlan Hansen - Humboldt County Supervisor Melvyn Houser - Pottawattamie County Supervisor Anna O'Shea - Dubuque County Zoning Gary Anderson - Appanoose County Sheriff (Past Pres.) Grant Veeder - Black Hawk County Auditor (NACo Rep.) Judy Miller - Pottawattamie County Treasurer (NACo Board) Lu Baron - Linn County Supervisor (NACo Board)

ISAC STAFF

William R. Peterson - Executive Director

Lauren Adams - Financial Administrative Assistant Rachel E. Bicego - Marketing/Comm. Coordinator Nathan Bonnett - Legal Counsel Cindy Chappelle - Case Management Specialist Hanna De Groot - Public Policy Specialist Josh DeGroote - Program Support Analyst Deb Eckerman Slack - Case Management Services Mgr. Robin Harlow - Technology Project Manager Linda Hinton - Government Relations Manager Brad Holtan - Accounting Manager Stacy Horner - Meeting/Event Administrator Linda Kemp - Case Management Specialist Jenna Kunstle - Receptionist/Administrative Assistant Mary Beth Mellick - Fiscal/Public Policy Specialist Tammy Norman - Office Manager Jackie Olson Leech - Case Management Specialist Chelsea Walden - Program Support Specialist Sam Watson - Information Technology Specialist

SAC's Mission:

To promote effective and responsible county government for the people of lowa.

ISAC's Vision:

To be the principal, authoritative source of representation, information and services for and about county government in lowa.

feature

Outgoing President's Year in Review

This has been a great year! As I look back on the year of 2010, I ask myself, "Where has it gone?" I have always heard that as we mature through life; time goes at a faster pace. I didn't realize I was that far along in my life. (Ha Ha)

To start, I would like to thank Bill Peterson and all the ISAC staff for everything they have done for me this year and in the past. With all your help, there is little stress in being President. I would also like to thank the Board of Directors for a great job!

The year started out with a bang! In January, Bill and I attended the NACo Presidents/Executive Directors Conference in Washington, D.C. That's when I found out how well respected Bill Peterson is with all of NACo and the Executive Directors throughout the United States. It was great to meet many of the presidents and exchange ideas. We also attended a reception at the National Press Club, which was a very neat experience.

In March, my wife Doris and I attended the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. We attended many educational meetings, and yes, Doris found some that she enjoyed too. All attendees from Iowa were able to interact with our Senators and Congressmen through a number of individual

By: Chuck Rieken

Cass County Supervisor ISAC President

meetings and a roundtable discussion. The group was also given an update on the administration by White House legislative staff. It was great to greet old friends and



meet new ones. The conference was well attended by county officials from all over the United States. The weather was great for two extra days spent visiting the sights. You could spend a month there and not see everything. We came home to lots and lots of snow—just as we left it!

The spring school in March was well attended and extremely high-quality information was presented at all the sessions. If you haven't been attending ISAC's conferences, you should start. Why? Because you can learn a great deal and get lots of information that you can use in the future. The ideas exchanged amongst attendees are very beneficial. County officials are a great resource.

In July, the ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser was held at Blank Park. Boy was it hot! Everyone had a good time golfing, and the networking and meal were also very good. Thanks to the ISAC staff and supervisors for putting it all together, and a big thank you to Blank Park for hosting the event.



ISAC Board and staff at the Cass County Historical Museum in Griswold during the ISAC Board Retreat in September. Each year the ISAC president hosts the September meeting and retreat in their home county.

feature

The day after the golf outing, Doris and I attended the NACo Conference in Reno, Nevada. We attended sessions that were very informative. Again, we met many new friends and got to spend time with friends we have met throughout the years that I have been a county supervisor. As a first-time annual conference attendee, I was astonished by the vast amount of information that attendees can gather that has great value in our counties. Reno was also a very beautiful area to visit.

November is fast approaching, and ISAC will be in Coralville at the Marriott Hotel for fall school. ISAC and each of the affiliates have worked many hours putting this school together just for you, so please plan on attending. These conferences are for everybody who is an elected or appointed official, along with staff. They are also great opportunities to compare notes and exchange ideas that will benefit the counties and the state of Iowa.

Again, I must brag on our Executive Director and the ISAC staff for all their hard work in putting all these sessions together. Along with the meals and having everything ready for the presenters, the other duties which each of them take responsibility for, they strive to make each activity a success.

Let's not forget the vendors! These people take time to come to our conferences and events to spend time with each of us, to answer questions, and listen to what we each have to say. Please thank each one of them for taking their time to spend with us. If you didn't know, each vendor pays for each space they use. Again, THANK YOU!

As the year 2010 comes to a close, and 2011 is on the horizon, many questions come to mind. What new challenges will we face? One thing we do know, we will have to deal with state funding. I hope the state will fund 100% of what is due to counties. I said I hope. We all know that isn't going to happen, but again we can always hope. It is very important to have a close working relationship with our Legislators. The challenges for the coming year, be it taxes or funding, will create issues that will stress everyone to their limits. Counties have always done a great job of sticking together. We must continue the effort. For if we do, we will survive and continue to move forward, and if we don't we will fail. Taxpayers count on us to provide the best service to them, and for those who need special services in their counties, for the most reasonable cost to property taxpayers. We must continue to work hard as we have done in the past to be successful county officials.

Another priority of all of us should be to make every effort to educate ourselves as elected officials, appointed officials, or employees of our respective counties. In fact, it is just as important as in the private sector. A question I would ask to each of you is, if and when you seek out a doctor, lawyer, or any other professional would you look for one who is always continuing their education, or one who hasn't looked at a book since getting out of school? I think I know the answer. We as officials must continue to make every effort possible to continue our education in county business. One of the best ways is to attend ISAC and NACo conferences. The sessions provide you ideas and answers to questions you may have. A resource that is often over looked is time spent with other county officials. Exchanging ideas with others will help make you more productive in whatever office you work. I know budgets are tight, but do yourselves a favor. As we put our budgets together for the coming year, please allocate funds for education. I believe the public will be OK with it if you take the time to explain to them the great value it has for all of us.

I would like to wish the incoming President Marge Pitts, Clay County Auditor, and Board of Directors a great year in 2011 and thank the 2010 Board of Directors for making this year such a great success. Again, thanks Bill and all the ISAC staff for all your hard work!

To all Iowa counties: Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President for 2010. It was an honor and a privilege for me.

Thank You!

Chuck Rieken ISAC President Cass County Supervisor

ISAC fall school wrap-up

Fall School a Success

ISAC would like to thank all of you who attended the 2010 ISAC Fall School of Instruction held on November 17-19. More than 800 county officials traveled to Coralville for this year's fall school held at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center.

The conference agenda allowed all refreshment breaks and both conference-wide lunches to be held in the exhibit hall, which gave attendees many opportunities to meet with exhibitors about their products and services during the first two days of the conference. Thank you to the 70 plus exhibitors that attended and supported the 2010 ISAC Fall School. A conference of this scale would not be possible without the exhibitors. We also want to thank ISAC's conference sponsors: Platinum Sponsor – County Risk Management Services representing ICAP and IMWCA and SilverStone Group; Gold Sponsors - CAT Dealers: Altorfer and Ziegler and TrueNorth Companies. Silver Sponsors - Cost Advisory Services, Inc., Cott Systems, Inc., Delta Dental of Iowa, and DEVNET, Inc. A final thank you must be extended to the companies that advertised in the conference program. Their advertising allows ISAC to offset the cost associated with printing the program.

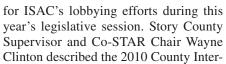
Also held in the exhibit hall for the first time was the Exhibitor Learning Center. Over 100 conference attendees watched the following educational presentations: Hot In Place Recycling by Gallagher Asphalt Corporation; New Communications with Your County Government by Hyde Telecom Partners, Inc.; County Opportunities with Iowa's Wind Farms by Northland Securities, Inc.; and Online Permit Management: Increasing Service and Efficiency by The Schneider Corporation.

ISAC hosted a number of educational seminars during the the conference: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly: How to be Secure Online; Managing Performance in Your Organization; Current Developments in HIPAA; The National Debt: Making the Difficult Choices to Improve America's Long Term Fiscal Outlook; Effective Meetings: Techniques, Tools and Strategies; and National Health Care Reform: Employer's Responsibility. The variety of topics offered had excellent response and provided a wealth of information for our membership to take back to their counties. We would like to thank all of the county officials who assisted, presented or attended the ISAC educational seminars. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any educational seminar topic or speaker suggestions.

During the ISAC general session on Wednesday, November 17, the 2011 legislative package was presented by ISAC 2nd Vice President and Legislative Policy Committee Chair Wayne Walter. The legislative top priorities, objectives and priorities were approved by the membership and will act as the basis

By: Stacy Horner

ISAC Meeting/Event Coordinator





Governmental ISAC Excellence in Action Award and called the winners to the stage. ISAC President Chuck Reiken presented the award to the Cerro Gordo County Precinct Atlas Project. Ken Kline, Cerro Gordo County Auditor, was then recognized by Jones County Auditor and Iowa State Association of County Auditors President Janine Sulzner and presented the individual Excellence in Action award for his leadership with the project. Bill Peterson honored Jane Halliburton, Story County Supervisor, as the first ISAC Golden Eagle. Please read about the ISAC Golden Eagle recognition on the following page. Next, the crowd enjoyed a prospectus of term by outgoing ISAC President and Cass County Supervisor Chuck Rieken and heard the goals of Clay County Auditor Marge Pitts for the upcoming year as president. The general session was concluded by the presentation "Outstanding Performance is Not a Choice: It's a Series of Choices" from keynote speaker Nick Tasler.

The last two days of the conference were dedicated to affiliate meetings. Conference attendees also had the opportunity to relax with their peers on Wednesday and Thursday evenings with Ultimate Entertainment of Iowa City, as they provided fun musical entertainment for dancing and karaoke.

The ISAC Wellness Program offered a workshop presented by Employee and Family Resources, entitled "Managing Stress Through Resiliency." Program members were also invited to the annual wellness breakfast during which Amy Gould, Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health Management Consultant, described the wellness program incentives for the upcoming year.

We greatly appreciate any feedback that was given on our online post-conference survey. All feedback is taken into consideration when planning and making alterations to future conferences. Please contact me at shorner@iowacounties.org if you ever have any comments or suggestions regarding ISAC conferences and events.

We hope to see everyone again at ISAC's Spring School of Instruction March 23 - 24 at the Des Moines Marriott Downtown and Renaissance Savery Hotels. Registration and room blocks will open on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 8:30 am. All conference information, including registration, hotel room blocks, agenda details and affiliate information, will be available soon at www.iowacounties.org. Please be sure to check out the site for the latest conference information!

ISAC fall school wrap-up

Halliburton Recognized as First ISAC Golden Eagle

The ISAC Board of Directors selected Story County Supervisor Jane Halliburton as the first Golden Eagle Honoree at their regular meeting in October 2010. At that meeting, ISAC Marketing/Communications Coordinator Rachel Bicego presented the concept of establishing a program that would recognize and honor individuals who have provided extraordinary public service to ISAC and county government. Those eligible for induction would be current or former elected and appointed county officials, business or civic leaders, ISAC Preferred Vendors, persons providing assistance to counties as trainers, consultants, or advisors, and former members of the ISAC staff. Current ISAC Board members and staff aren't eligible since they are involved in making the selection.

Honorees will be selected on the basis of their service to county government generally and their service rendered to county government through ISAC. Such service includes, leadership in ISAC, ISAC-affiliated boards, or other municipal organizations, service on state or national boards or commissions, service to the National Association of Counties (NACo), providing extraordinary service to counties in training, education and development of local leadership, advocating for counties and good local government, and providing exceptional professional assistance and support to counties.

The Golden Eagle Honorees will be selected from nominations submitted to the ISAC Golden Eagle Committee, which will consist of ISAC board members, staff and any past Golden Eagles. The committee will be named by the ISAC president when they take office each January. The call for nominations, the criteria and the deadline for submission of nominations will be published in the February issue of *The Iowa County* magazine each year. The Golden Eagle Committee then submits their recommendations to the ISAC Board for approval. The ISAC Golden Eagle honoree(s) are to be recognized at the ISAC Fall School of Instruction each year starting in 2011.

After the ISAC Board approved Rachel's concept, it was suggested that there might be a candidate in 2010. Someone who could be nominated and approved by unanimous acclimation, due to their outstanding record of service to their county, ISAC and the NACo. Someone, who because of their superior character, could set the standard used to measure future golden eagles. After consideration of this suggestion, the ISAC Board selected Jane Halliburton to receive the 2010 ISAC Golden Eagle. A little about Jane's exceptional service will help you understand why.

By: Bill Peterson
ISAC Executive Director

Jane was first elected to the Story County Board of Supervisors in 1986 and took office in January 1987. She will retire from county office on December 31, 2010



after six consecutive terms. Her first charge as a county supervisor was to lead the transformation of the Story County Human Services Program from a facility based program to a community based program. Working closely with fellow supervisors, county staff and community members, Jane led the effort to create Story County's Individualized Community Life Program. An accomplishment she lists as her most rewarding many years later. Jane served as board chair many times during her 24 years and has also chaired the Story County Board of Health and Story County Emergency Management Commission.

Jane has not only been active within her community, but at the state level as well. In 1996, she served as president of the Iowa State Association of County Supervisors. Between 1997 and 2007, Jane served seven years as a member of the ISAC Board of Directors. She served as the co-chair of the State County Management Committee, a group responsible for implementation of SF 69. Later, Jane served as vice-chair of the MH/DD Commission for three years.

Jane Halliburton also served county government at the national level. She served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Counties for six years. She has been a member of the NACo Justice and Public Safety Committee. She chaired NACo's Rural Action Caucus for three years. She co-chaired the NACo Methamphetamine Action Group. In 2004, Jane was selected to serve on the Task Force on State and Local Homeland Security Funding that was formed by Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. She has represented NACo on the Rural Preparedness Consortium and FEMA's Region VII Advisory Committee as the local government representative. Most recently, Jane was selected to serve on FEMA's National Advisory Council. Larry Naake, NACo Executive Director has said about her, "She has been a leading voice on national issues affecting local government through NACo for many years and is an outstanding choice to represent the interests of local government and communities on critical emergency management issues."

Continues on page 9.

legal briefs

Odds and Ends

Construction Evaluation Resolutions Due Next Month

If a county chooses to use the master matrix to evaluate applications for construction permits for large animal confinement operations, the board of supervisors must adopt and file a "construction evaluation resolution" annually with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The process for county participation is laid out in Iowa Code §459.304 and in Iowa Administrative Code § 567-65. In order to use the master matrix between February 1, 2011 and January 31, 2012, the board must file the resolution between January 1 and January 31, 2011. The board may adopt the resolution at any time prior to that, but the filing deadline is strict.

Last January, 79 counties filed resolutions with the DNR. This was the fewest participants in the eight years the law has been in place. Counties that do not adopt and file a construction evaluation resolution lose the ability to evaluate construction permits using the master matrix and to submit a formal recommendation for approval or disapproval of an application to the DNR, whether based on the master matrix score or on public comments. Without approving a construction evaluation resolution, counties can still submit comments to the DNR, but they are not given as much weight as a formal recommendation. Counties without a resolution also lose the ability to send a county employee on the site inspection conducted by the DNR and to appeal the DNR decision for approval or disapproval to the Environmental Protection Commission.

Passing a construction evaluation resolution is an easy way for counties to exercise some amount of local control over these important siting decisions, albeit a modest amount. Whether you generally support or oppose this type of livestock production, boards of supervisors should be front and center in the debate over these developments, as they can directly impact county budgets and the health and welfare of citizens. Be on the lookout for a brief memo and sample construction evaluation resolution from ISAC to aid you with the process.

Americans with Disabilities Act Regulations Revised

On March 15, 2011, new rules revising the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA") become effective. Compliance with these new 2010 standards is slated for one year later, on March 15, 2012. During the period between September 15, 2010, when the final rule was published, and the compliance date in 2012, covered entities may choose between the current 1991 standards and the new 2010 standards. These rules made several changes, of which counties should be vigilant, to Title

By: Nate Bonnett

ISAC Legal Counsel

II of ADA, which governs nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in state and local government services. 28 C.F.R. Part 35.



Safe Harbor

If your county has complied with the 1991 ADA standards for required elements in building and renovation projects, you generally will not be required to comply with the 2010 standards until you undertake a future planned alteration. A similar safe harbor is included for accessible paths of travel that comply with the 1991 standards. The safe harbor is granted on an "element-by-element" basis and there are no protections for certain elements like playgrounds, swimming pools, fishing piers, recreational boating facilities, and golf courses.

Service Animals

The definition of "service animal" was revised to specify that dogs that are individually trained to perform tasks that mitigate the effects of a disability are the only qualified type of service animal. Trained miniature horses can be used as alternatives to dogs in suitable circumstances, but they are not included in the definition of "service animal" to allow flexibility for covered entities in situations where they would not be appropriate.

Mobility Devices

A distinction has been drawn in the new standards between wheelchairs and "other power-driven mobility devices." Certain devices not specifically designed for mobility-impaired individuals, such as Segways, are now included in the latter group. Wheelchairs and other manually-powered mobility aids (crutches, walkers, etc.) must be allowed in all areas open to pedestrian use. Other power-driven mobility devices must be permitted for use and can only be restricted if the public entity can demonstrate such use would cause legitimate safety hazards. In making this decision, counties can consider the type, size, weight, dimensions, and speed of the device, the volume of pedestrian traffic in the facility, the facility's design and characteristics, whether safety requirements can be established for safe operation of the device, and potential harm to environmental, natural, or cultural resources. The public entity may also request proof that the device is required because of the individual's disability, such as a valid state-issued disability placard or verbal assurance.

Continues on next page.

ISAC fall school

Continued from page 7.

When first elected in 1986, Jane's campaign slogan declared that she was "Prepared to Serve." In 2009, ISAC Executive Director Bill Peterson in a letter recommending her selection to the FEMA National Advisory Council stated, "When selected to serve – she gets things done. She participates; she does her homework; she works well with others; and she shares her ideas."

During the Golden Eagle presentation at the 2010 ISAC Fall School of Instruction, Peterson further stated, "it has been my great pleasure to work with Jane Halliburton over the past 24 years and I know many of you feel the same. She will be greatly missed when she retires, but I know that her passion for local government won't soon be forgotten. I wish today, that former ISAC President Fred Mathison, her mentor and dear friend on the Story County Board, could be here as a witness to her recognition – but I imagine, he and his singing partner Marvin Johnson, are singing a tune in Jane's honor – wherever they might be. Ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor and joy, to introduce ISAC's first Golden Eagle honoree, Story County Supervisor Jane Halliburton."

legal briefs

Continued from page 8.

Jails, Detention and Correctional Facilities

The standards include a requirement that newly constructed or altered jail facilities must contain a minimum of three percent, but no fewer than one, accessible cell in the facility. With respect to existing facilities, public entities must implement policies and/or physical modifications to cells in accordance with the new standards to ensure that inmates with disabilities are provided safe, appropriate housing and are not excluded from services, programs, or activities because a facility is inaccessible.

More ADA Changes on the Horizon?

Although not included in the most recent revisions to the ADA rules, the Department of Justice ("DOJ") has published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking concerning the accessibility to individuals with disabilities of websites operated by state and local governments. At this point, the DOJ is only seeking public comment on issues related to the establishment of web accessibility requirements, but further changes may be on the way.

SAVE THE DATE!



January 26-27, 2011 West Des Moines Marriott

All county officials are invited to join us for the ISAC New County Officers (NCO) School.

This is a very educational conference that can help you sharpen up on important county related topics.

The first day of training will consist of general issues: open meetings law, ethics and budgeting. The second day will be specific to each office.

Register today and receive a discount!

More information at www.iowacounties.org.

capitol comments

Election 2010 -What We Learned

1. What is old has become new again. The conventional wisdom going into the election was that former Governor Branstad would unseat current Governor Culver. And he did just that in a big year for Republicans. He brings with him Kim Reynolds, former Clarke County Treasurer and State Senator, as Lieutenant Governor. Hopefully, that will put local government in the loop as discussions about government reform continue. While we do not yet know who they will be, we know that most agency directors will be replaced. This will ultimately have a significant impact on issues of interest to Iowa counties.

Additionally, we know that Governor Branstad's endorsement will be a major coup for the myriads of presidential hopefuls who will be visiting Iowa over the next two years.

- 2. Expensive Races, Negative Television Ads are here to stay. As Richard Doak, retired Des Moines Register editor, noted in a guest column in the Register, "The slander-your-opponent approach has become standard. Such campaigns are orchestrated behind the scenes by partisan hacks and financed by special interests." The research on whether negative political ads work or not is conflicting, but there was plenty of it from both sides during the recent election cycle. Surprisingly, the House Democrats raised almost twice as much as the House Republicans, but that does not take into account spending by either party or outside groups. For example, the American Future Fund poured \$1.2 million into the Braley-Lange race, while the U.S. Chamber of Commerce spent \$248,000 and Commonsense 10 added \$165,000. Unless there is significant change in campaign finance laws, funding by outside groups will continue to have significant impact on elections in Iowa and across the nation.
- 3. Iowa continues to be difficult to predict and is now neither a red nor a blue state, but a purple state. In a year marked by a "throw the bums out" mentality, Iowa's Congressional delegation remains the same, almost perfectly balanced between the two parties. All but two of the statewide offices were won by incumbents and is a mix of the two parties.
- 4. There was a shift of power in the Iowa Statehouse with Republicans winning the Governorship after 12 years, trimming the Democratic majority in the Senate significantly, and winning control of the Iowa House. There was a sixteen seat swing in the Iowa House with the Republicans defeating 13 Democratic incumbents and winning four open seats that had been held by the Democrats. The Democrats managed to take only one open seat that had been held by the Republicans.

By: Linda Hinton

ISAC Government Relations Manager

5. Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal will continue to be a force to be reckoned with. Although the Democratic majority in the Senate was trimmed to 26-24 the



newly-elected House Republican majority and the newlyelected Republican Governor will have to work with Senator Gronstal to get anything done.

Surprises

- 1. Blue Dog Democrats Six Democratic members of the Iowa House were able to significantly impact what happened in the past two years by refusing to support the will of the majority in the Democratic caucus. Only one, Brian Quirk, remains after the election. While these representatives were not targeted by the opposition, the Republicans picked up the open seat vacated by Dolores Mertz, and defeated incumbents, Geri Huser, Larry Marek, McKinley Bailey, and Doris Kelley.
- 2. Supreme Court Justices The three Iowa Supreme Court judges up for retention were all defeated, Chief Judge Marsha Ternus, Justice Michael Streit, and Justice David Baker. The impact of the public's reaction to the court's gay marriage decision will reverberate for years to come.
- 3. Supervisors for House Seats In a Republican year as it relates to the Iowa House, it was surprising that one former and one current county supervisor who ran on the Republican ticket for house seats were not successful. Lannie Miller from Palo Alto County lost by 38 votes and Stephen Burgmeier from Jefferson County lost in a rematch to Democratic incumbent Curt Hansen.

Biggest surprises

- 1. Geri Huser Representative Huser has served seven terms in the Iowa House and her seat was not on most of the lists of races to watch. She was defeated by Kim Pearson in Iowa House District 42.
- 2. Paul Shomshor Representative Shomshor was elected to the House in a special election in 2003. He served as chair of the Ways and Means Committee. This was another race that failed to make the list of races to watch. Shomshor was defeated by Mark Brandenburg, a newcomer to elective office.
- 3. Michael Mauro First term Secretary of State, Michael Mauro, had served as Polk County Auditor for nine years before being elected Secretary of State in 2006. He also had served as the Polk County Election Director from 1984-1996. He has worked well with Iowa's county auditors during his tenure and it is surprising that he lost when the other statewide offices were held by incumbents, whether Democrat or Republican.

technology center

Hello, Can You See Me Now?

The last couple of months I wrote about the data found on the Connect Iowa (www.connectiowa.org) website and presented detailed statistics for the county level. This month I want to move sideways and present a snapshot of the ways in which people are using the high speed broadband.



Each year Cisco (network equipment manufacturer) updates their Visual Networking Index (VNI) Usage research. This research attempts to measure the impact of visual networking (a combination of video,

social networking and advanced collaboration applications). In other words, what images or files are people sharing, where are they sharing, and what are they using to share them.

Highlights of the Cisco VNI Usage Results

Currently, the average broadband connection generates 14.9 GB of Internet traffic per month. This is up from 11.4 GB per month last year, an increase of 31%.

"Busy hour" traffic grew at a faster pace than average traffic, growing 41% since last year. This hour's Internet traffic is 72% higher than Internet traffic during an average hour.

Peer-to-peer (music swapping, etc.) file sharing is now 25% of global broadband traffic, down from 38% last year, a decrease of 34%. The report states that peer-to-peer is still growing, but growing more slowly than visual networking and other advanced applications. Peer-to-peer has been surpassed by online video (YouTube, etc.) as the largest category.

Over one-third of the top 50 sites by volume are video sites. There is a high degree of diversity among the video sites in the top 50, including video viewed on gaming consoles, Internet TV, short-form user-generated video, commercial video downloads, and video distributed via content delivery networks. Before going further it's worth mentioning that the Cisco website states, "Contrary to popular belief, none of the top 50 global web sites (by traffic volume) featured explicit adult content."

By: Robin Harlow

ISAC Technology Project Manager

Voice and video communications traffic, such as voice over IP (VoIP) and voice and video over instant messaging, is now six times higher than data communications traf-



fic (email, instant messaging, instant messaging file transfer). Voice and video communications traffic has reached two percent of all traffic, up from less than one percent last year.

Online video fluctuates more than file sharing traffic. Online video's volatility (defined as the spread of traffic volume during the course of the day) is 51% higher than that of file sharing. The peak video hour is 91% higher than the average video hour, while the peak file sharing hour is 64% higher than the average file sharing hour.

The top 1 percent of broadband connections is responsible for more than 20 percent of total Internet traffic. The top 10% of connections is responsible for over 60% of Internet traffic, worldwide.

In an average day, Internet "prime time" ranges from approximately 9:00 pm to 1:00 am around the world. This contrasts to broadcast TV prime time, which is generally from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. I would guess this shift is in direct connection with the average user age being much lower for those of the Internet.

In summary, it appears that the use of video and the sharing of video will continue to grow, thus placing more demand on what we should expect of our connection to the internet. If the 3 meg I wrote about is adequate today, will it be viewed as a dialup connection in five years?

In February, I will write about the regional taskforces and how counties can work to make sure that their local telephone companies are listening.

1 Cisco Visual Networking Index: Usage, October 25, 2010, http://www.cisco.com/en/US/solutions/collateral/ns341/ns525/ns537/ns705/Cisco_VNI_Usage_WP.pdf

technology center

Holiday Wish List

Are you searching for a fun gift for that hard to buy for family member or friend? Check out the list below for a few ideas that may aid you in your quest.

Portable USB Hard Drive

A portable hard drive is a necessity for family members who love to download photos, music or videos. These types of files can quickly clog up the hard drive on your computer causing it to perform poorly. A couple of things to keep in mind when purchasing a portable USB hard drive: check on the software compatibility, the speed of the hard drive and the connector cable. You can purchase portable USB hard drives for as little as \$35.00 for an 80 GB hard drive to around a \$100.00 for a 1 TB.

Apple iPod Touch or iPad

For the youngsters on your gift list or the young at heart, you may wish to purchase them the Apple iPod Touch or iPad. These items offer the recipient the ability to download music, videos and movies, check e-mails, surf the Internet, take and send photos, send and receive video calls and play games. The iPad offers even more features. The iPod Touch can be carried in your pocket and weighs just 3.5 ounces; the iPad is larger at 9.5" by 7.5": and weighs about 1.5 lbs. Each can be purchased at the Apple store or your local electronics retailer. The iPod Touch will cost around \$229.00 for an 8 GB and the iPad begins at around \$499.00 for a 16 GB.

By: Tammy Norman

ISAC Office Manager

Kindle or NOOK

The Kindle is Amazon's electronic eReader, and Barnes & Noble carries the NOOK. An eReader allows you to down-



load and read books electronically. If you have Internet access, you will be able to purchase books online, download and read them without leaving your home, office or business. Each product is comparable to the other. The Kindle can be purchased online at Amazon.com beginning at \$139.00 and you can purchase the NOOK at a local Barnes & Noble book store or online beginning at \$149.00. Each offers a wide selection of books to choose from.

Have a wonderful holiday season and I am looking forward to assisting you in 2011. Happy Holidays!

Website Note: Mark your calendars! Registration for the ISAC Spring School of Instruction will be available online beginning at 8:30 am on January 11, 2011.

Until next month, keep clicking! If you have a question regarding new technology and would like it addressed in this column, please contact me at 515-244-7181 ext. 315 or tnorman@iowacounties.org.



March 23-24, 2011

Downtown Marriott and Renaissance Savery Des Moines

Visit www.iowacounties.org for more information.

Registration and hotel room blocks open at 8:30 am on Tuesday, January 11, 2011. You must register for the conference before you can secure a hotel room.

meetings

New County Officers School

By: Stacy Horner

ISAC Meeting/Event Administrator

ISAC will host its New County Officers (NCO) School on Wednesday, January 26, and Thursday, January 27, 2011 at the West Des Moines Marriott Hotel, 1250 Jordan Creek Parkway, West Des Moines. All newly-elected county officials are encouraged to attend this two-day training and get a jump start on learning about county government. While the NCO School is designed for new county officials, it is also an excellent opportunity for incumbent county officials to brush up on many important subjects.

The first day of training will consist of general issues that apply to all county officials (open meetings law, ethics and budgeting). The second day of the training will be specific to each of the four offices that were up for election in November: recorders, treasurers and supervisors.

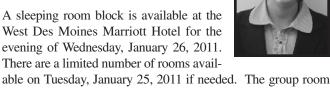
Registration opens on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 8:30 am and closes on Friday, January 7, 2011 at 4:30 pm.

Registration Fees:

Two-Day School: \$130 in Advance, \$150 at the Door One-Day School: \$70 in Advance, \$90 at the Door

Registration includes refreshment breaks, meals and a CD of the 2011 NCO School Manual, which contains in-depth information about each of the subjects presented throughout the training.

A sleeping room block is available at the West Des Moines Marriott Hotel for the evening of Wednesday, January 26, 2011.





rate is \$89/night plus applicable taxes. Please call the hotel's reservation line (800.228.9290) to make your room reservation. The ISAC sleeping room block is listed under "ISAC County Officers," so please mention this group to receive the discounted rate. All reservations must be made no later than Tuesday, January 11, 2011. After this date, any rooms left will be released for general sale and the group rate will be not available.

We are excited to announced that David Bush will present "Becoming an Extraordinary Leader" as the keynote message following dinner on Wednesday evening. David is an author, speaker, entrepreneur and coach to business owners, corporate executives and sales professionals across the nation. Since 2004, David has focused his efforts on helping leaders to live their dreams and change the world through his strategic planning and coaching programs. He has become a leader in the personal and executive coaching industry, and he passionately leads the way for those who wish to succeed in living an extraordinary life.

Please contact Stacy Horner for any questions (shorner@iowacounties.org) or visit www.iowacounties.org for more information. We look forward to your attendance and participation!

Tentative Agenda:			
Wednesday, January 26, 2011			
9:00am-9:45am	Registration		
9:45am-10:00am	Welcome		
10:00am-11:00am	General Session: Open Meetings/		
	Public Records		
11:00am-12:00pm	General Session: Ethics		
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch		
1:00pm-2:00pm	Breakout Sessions		
2:00pm-2:15pm	Break		
2:15pm-3:15pm	Breakout Sessions		
3:15pm-3:30pm	Break		
3:30pm-4:30pm	Breakout Sessions		
4:30pm-5:00pm	ISAC Presentation		
5:00pm-6:00pm	Break		
6:00pm-8:00pm	Dinner/Keynote Speaker		

Thursday, January 27, 2011

7:30am-4:00pm Affiliate Time: (Agendas online)

> · Recorders · Supervisors · Treasurers

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch

CCMS

CCMS Strategic Planning

County Case Management Services (CCMS) contracted with Jeff Schott from the University of Iowa, Institute of Public Affairs, to facilitate a strategic planning process for CCMS and its Board of Directors. The planning session was held on September 29 and 30, 2010 at the ISAC office. Board members in attendance included; Larry Vest, Tama County Supervisor; Ellen Gaffney, Buchanan County Supervisor and CCMS Board Chair; Jack Willey, Jackson County Supervisor; Elaine Armstrong, Page County Supervisor; Kim Motl, Webster County Supervisor and CCMS 2nd Vice Chair; Chuck Reiken, Cass County Supervisor and ISAC President; and Harlan Hansen, Humboldt County Supervisor. All members of the CCMS staff were present, along with Brad Holtan, ISAC Accounting Manager, and Bill Peterson, ISAC Executive Director.

To begin the process, a survey/questionnaire was sent to each member of the CCMS Board of Directors, CCMS staff and supervisors/administrators of county case management programs approximately six weeks prior to the planned session. The questionnaire focused on the following areas as they relate to CCMS: the key purposes; the values; the five year vision; major accomplishments; and issues, concerns, trends and opportunities. The compiled questionnaires were supplied to all planning participants and were used as the working document in the planning process.

The Board reviewed and discussed all of the answers to the questionnaires, and from the answers received, identified the main key purposes, values, five year vision, major accomplishments and issues, concerns, trends and opportunities. As you might expect, key purposes identified focused on training/education, technical assistance, and advocacy efforts along with being the liaison between county case management and other agencies that have an impact on case management (Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME), Department of Human Services (DHS) and Magellan). Many of the identified goals and initiatives developed revolve around the continuation of those services that we already strive to provide. Values identified included person-centered/strengthsbased focus and planning; an individualized service system as opposed to a one size fits all mentality; providing quality services to all individuals served; providing quality services to membership; offering affordable education/training to membership; emphasizing the local level of service delivery; and developing relationships between CCMS staff and members. The five year vision focused on maintaining the emphasis on the key purposes and values of the organization along with developing the Community Services Network Case Management Module, maintaining/upgrading the CCMS website and looking toward technol-

By: Deb Eckerman Slack
ISAC Case Management
Services Manager

ogy for increased cost effectiveness and efficiencies; continually monitor changes in rules/regulations and adjust to these; and continually adjust "best practices" to chang-



ing conditions. Additionally, organizational effectiveness was reviewed, and discussion took place in regards to reviewing the 28E agreement and CCMS by-laws and updating as needed; developing succession plans; increasing internal communication within the CCMS team and keeping current on research and treatment innovations along with increasing knowledge regarding program fiscal responsibilities.

Major accomplishments identified were the continued provision of high quality trainings/conferences at a low cost; continued development of relationships with various entities (IME, DHS, Magellan) and on-going advocacy efforts. These efforts have led to being invited by IME and DHS staff to be involved in the re-write of Chapter 24 standards and regularly scheduled meetings with key IME, DHS and Magellan staff to discuss how ongoing issues can be resolved; CCMS members receiving high scores on Chapter 24 surveys, including some with 100% scores; reduced members costs for services; assistance with forms; keeping counties informed of issues; the CCMS website; and continued provision of support to members.

There was a long list of issues/concerns/trends and opportunities identified, including: increased state and federal scrutiny along with continued program expansions and increased expectations of case managers; the prior authorization process for case management and services coupled with the inconsistencies in these practices; lack of coordination among the key players (IME, DHS and Magellan); and health care reform and the Olmstead Plan and what opportunities and issues these might bring for case management services.

From the information received during this process, the CCMS team is developing a work plan to address on-going maintenance activities, enhanced activities or new initiatives. This work plan is being developed and written similarly to an individualized service plan that case managers write on a daily basis for the customers they serve. Our hope is that this becomes a working, living document that drives the services that we provide and that is reviewed regularly by the staff and the CCMS Board alike to assess progress, review issues and amend as needed. Our hope is that this process will further the efforts of the CCMS staff in providing quality customer service to our members. On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very safe and joyous holiday season!

ISAC brief

ISAC Board of Directors Meeting Summary - October 28-29, 2010

President Chuck Rieken called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. He swore in new board members Lu Barron and Judy Miller (pictured).

Joni Tonnemacher, McGowen Hurst Clark and Smith, P.C., gave the FY 2010 ISAC audit report. There were no difficulties in performing the audit. The audit report was approved unanimously.

The ISAC board recessed and the ETC board was convened.

Joni gave the FY 2010 ETC audit report. There were no findings or issues in the report, and it was approved unanimously.

The ETC Board meeting minutes from April 29, 2010 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Brad Holtan reviewed the FY 2011 ETC financial statement and expressed general concern for the ETC budget and fund balance. The budget that will be approved during the December

2010 meeting will need to increase quite a bit in order to build up reserves.

Robin Harlow introduced staff members Chelsea Walden, Sam Watson and Josh DeGroote to explain their duties. Robin explained the progress that is being made to CSN.

President Chuck Rieken adjourned the ETC Board and reconvened the ISAC Board.

The ISAC Board of Directors meeting minutes from September 16-17, 2010 were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Wayne Walter gave an overview of the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) process and the legislative objectives and priorities that were recommended to the board by the committee for approval. He reported that he was very pleased with the group's discussion and that overall it was a much better vetting process

than the steering committees. Linda Hinton described the legislative objectives and the background of each. The board had ample discussion on a number of objectives. Language changes were agreed upon and given to Linda to be returned the following day for approval. A list of top priorities chosen by the LPC and a list of priorities that board members sent to ISAC staff was distributed for discussion.

Bill Peterson shared a five-step action plan that he prepared in response to the board's request during their annual retreat. The

plan was entitled "What will it take for counties to survive beyond 2025?" The board amply discussed the plan and agreed that it was headed in the right direction. They asked that Bill bring budget and staffing implication information to the December 2010 meeting during which action will be taken.

Grant Veeder discussed the request for endorsement regarding the Georgia Records Recovery Contract. His recommendation that the board

pass a motion to support a records recovery contract in Iowa as follows was approved unanimously: "The ISAC Board of Directors sees a real need for governmental agencies to plan for swift and effective records recovery in the case of a disaster. The Board urges the state of Iowa to enter into an agreement for records recovery services similar to the one approved by the state of Georgia. The Board further recommends that local governments and other stakeholders be involved in the preparation of such an agreement."

The board recessed at 4:30 pm and reconvened at 8:30 am on Friday, October 29, 2010.



Continues on next page.

ISAC brief

Bill Peterson introduced Chad Christensen, Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS) Senior Retirement Specialist, who discussed the NRS deferred compensation program and its activities in Iowa counties over the past year.

Brad Holtan reviewed the financial statement from September 30, 2010. A full list of investments was given to the board for review. The financial report was accepted unanimously.

Tammy Norman gave a scholarship update to the board from the committee's meeting on October 28. The committee requested that more children benefit from the scholarships by giving more scholarships at lesser values. The board will act on scholarship amounts at the December 2010 meeting. Discussion continued on the importance of having a successful scholarship program. The board asked that a call for tax-deductible donations from county officials be made in the magazine and at the fall school.

Nate Bonnett gave an update on legal issues including VEBA (Voluntary Employee Benefits Association) Trust Foundation and the amicus brief that ISAC submitted in *Griffin Pipe Products v. Pottawattamie County Board of Review*. He also reported that the by-laws and policies that were updated during the September meeting have been implemented.

Bill Peterson reported that ISAC is still waiting on the SEAT agreement to be drafted as the board requested.

The board authorized Bill Peterson to sign a Disclosure of Interest in Transaction between CBRE/Hubbell Realty Company and ISAC and a Dual Agency Disclosure form because Paul Weeks from Hubbell will be acting in a dual capacity in representing both ISAC and Hubbell for the 501 SW 7th Street property.

Linda Hinton distributed a document to the board listing the suggested board changes that were discussed the day before. As amended, the board adopted the 2011 Legislative Priorities unanimously. After consideration of seven top priorities the board accepted five top priorities unanimously as follows: Funding of TIME-21; Funding of Disability Services; Agricultural Building Value; Guidelines for Classification of Agricultural Property; and Funding of County Programs.

Stacy Horner reviewed the board scenario for the fall school and discussed the new general session set-up.

Rachel Bicego recommended a member recognition program named the ISAC Golden Eagle. The recommended nomination process and timeline were outlined for the board and accepted unanimously.

Bill Peterson introduced Amy Gould and Amanda Downey from Wellmark who explained the ISAC Wellness Program and proposed benefits and incentives for employees. The board unanimously authorized expending the funds for the ISAC Wellness Program incentives as proposed.

Bill Peterson led a virtual site tour of three possible building sites to the board and distributed preliminary cost estimates for each site. The board requested that it be brought information on the future financial impact to the association in connection with each property during the December 2010 meeting.

The board adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Donate to the SAC SAC SAL CONTINUE Education Foundation, Inc.

Make a charitable, tax-deductible donation NOW!

The lowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) annually awards college scholarships to high school seniors who are children of county officials or county employees. The ISAC Education Foundation is an organization whose only mission is to raise money to support ISAC's scholarship program. The ISAC Education Foundation is a public charity exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to the ISAC Education Foundation are tax deductible under I.R.C. § 170. ISAC and all county officials ask that you consider supporting the ISAC Education Foundation and ISAC's scholarship program with a tax-deductible donation. All donors will receive a receipt and, unless they choose not to, will also be recognized in at least one issue of ISAC's monthly magazine, on the ISAC website, and during at least one of ISAC's semi-annual conferences. Your generous support is appreciated.

Donor Name:	
Donation in Honor of (if applicable):	
Address:	
Phone/Fax/Email:	
Additional Notes/Comments:	
	_SIGNATURE:
AMOUNT ENCLOSED:	DATE:

Please make checks payable to the ISAC Education Foundation, Inc., Mail to: ISAC Education Foundation, Inc., 501 SW 7th Street, Suite Q, Des Moines, IA 50309. If you have any questions please contact Brad Holtan at 515.244.7181 or bholtan@iowacounties.org.



Timeline

- September 1, 2006 incorporated
- September 22, 2006 organizational meeting, bylaws adopted
- June 17, 2007 application for tax-exempt status approved by the IRS

Description

- The purposes of the Iowa State Association of Counties Education Foundation, Inc., are exclusively educational and charitable, in compliance with I.R.C. § 501(c)(3) and Iowa Code chapter 504.
- The ISAC Education Foundation will promote the scholarship program of the Iowa State Association of Counties and conduct fundraising events in support thereof.
- The ISAC Education Foundation was incorporated to help facilitate the collection of tax deductible scholarship funds.
- The ISAC Education Foundation's board of directors includes ISAC Executive Director Bill Peterson and the members of the ISAC Executive Committee. They are:
 - Chuck Rieken, Cass County Supervisor (ISAC President)
 - Marjorie Pitts, Clay County Auditor (ISAC 1st Vice President)
 - Wayne Walter, Winneshiek County Treasurer (ISAC 2nd Vice President)
 - Darin Raymond, Plymouth County Attorney (ISAC 3rd Vice President)

Tax-Exempt Status

- The ISAC Education Foundation is a public charity exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Donations to the ISAC Education Foundation are tax deductible under I.R.C. § 170.

employment

Disease Surveillance Program Manager

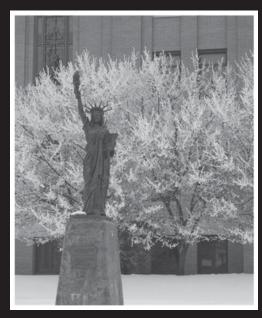
Black Hawk County is seeking a qualified applicant for the position of Disease Surveillance Program Manager. This position assists the Enforcement, Surveillance and Preparedness Division Manager in planning, coordinating and managing the operations and programs of the Communicable Disease Surveillance Program of the Division in a manner consistent with the direction of the Division Manager and policies and procedures established by the Black Hawk County Health Department and the Board of Health. This position is responsible for the supervision of subordinate Disease Surveillance Program staff and assisting the Division Manager with coordinating work activities internally within the Enforcement, Surveillance and Preparedness Division. This position requires a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in nursing, public health, health administration, disease epidemiology or related health field from an accredited college or university. More position information and required experience can be found at www.iowacounties.org.

Please contact the Black Hawk Human Resources Division at 319.833.3009 for more information and to submit an application. This is a non-bargaining positon at a pay grade of 267/GS17 \$42,216.28.

Information Technology Director

Buena Vista County is seeking to fill the newly created position of Information Technology Director. This position is primarily responsible for the technology functions of all county departments. Applicants must possess the following qualifications: Graduation from high school or GED equivalency and Associate Degree in Computer Technology and a minimum of two years in operating and managing computers in local area networks and PCs. Experience may be considered in lieu of education. To apply, mail or FAX cover letter, resume and Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) application to: Iowa Workforce Development, 824 Flindt Drive, Suite 106, Storm Lake, IA 50588. FAX: 712.732.2536. You are required to fill out an IWD generic application which is available at the IWD Office or on their website at: http://www.iowaworkforce.org/centers/ genericapp.pdf. Additional information is available on the IWD website. Applications will be considered until December 15, 2010. All applications and/or resumes will be open to public inspection unless requested to be kept confidential. Discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or handicap is prohibited. Buena Vista County is an equal opportunity employer.

About the Cover



The cover picture of one of Lady Liberty's Little Sisters was taken by Laurie McKay of the Buchanan County Treasurer's Office. The statue sits in front of the Buchanan County Courthouse and is one of over 200 of these replicas in 39 states. The copper statues were manufactured by Friedley-Voshardt Co. of Chicago, IL and purchased through the Kansas City Boy Scout office by those wanting one at the cost of \$350 plus freight. The statues are approximately 8.5' tall without the base. Constructed of sheet copper, they weigh 290 pounds. All were erected in the early 1950's by Boy Scout troops and others to celebrate Scouting's 40th anniversary theme, "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty."

Other statues in Iowa are located in: Bloomfield, Burlington, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Clarence, Clinton, Davenport, Decorah, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fairfield, Fort Dodge, Fort Madison, Grundy Center, Independence, Iowa City, Leon, Mason City, Mt. Pleasant, Muscatine, Sioux City, Spirit Lake, Waterloo, Waverly, West Liberty, West Point, and Woodbine.

I'm always looking for interesting photos for the cover of the magazine. For consideration, please please send your photos to rbicego@iowacounties.org.

miscellaneous

GASB 45 Update

By: Michael Vech SilverStone Group

Over the past few years, the term GASB 45 has become more familiar. As you likely know, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement 45 which implements reporting requirement for state and local governments who maintain other post-employment benefit plans (OPEB). The reporting requirements for GASB 45 were phased in over a three year period, based on the employer's revenue, and we are now finishing up the last of those initial valuations.

Under GASB 45, an actuarial valuation will be required every other year for plans with a total membership of 200 or more, or every third year for plans with a total membership of fewer than 200. For interim reporting these options may be considered

- **1. Estimate:** Use the prior year valuation detail without adjustment or modify using information estimation procedures.
- **2. Roll Forward Valuation:** Prepare an interim valuation for the "off year" based on the prior year member data, claim detail and assumptions and "roll forward" using standard actuarial procedures.
- **3. Full Actuarial Valuation:** Prepare an actuarial valuation based on updated member data, claim detail and assumptions.

Once it is time to perform a renewal actuarial valuation, the actuarial consultant that you are working with will be prepared to guide you in determining what data and information is needed. In most cases this will include:

- Updated member data
- Detailed summary of plan benefit changes, if any
- Updated plan experience
- Financial statement information since the previous actuarial valuation
- Retiree contribution amounts

Renewal valuations should also include a discussion about actuarial methods and assumptions to determine if any changes need to be made.

Another issue that may be considered is the option to prefund OPEB benefits using a trust or another available option.



Funding can add security for retired and active employees, and generally improves the balance sheet presentation of these obligations and can reduce long-term funding requirements with the addition of investment returns. Under GASB Statement 45, the investment return assumption should be the "estimated long-term investment yield on the investments that are expected to be used to finance the payment of benefits, with consideration given to the nature and mix of current and expected investments..." Plan sponsors that finance benefits on a pay-asyou-go basis typically pay retiree healthcare benefits from the general fund. Because an employer's general fund is primarily invested in short-term securities, a low investment return assumption, such as four percent to five percent, is typically used to develop the present value of future benefits. However, plan sponsors that fully-fund retiree healthcare benefits in a separate trust may be able to design an investment portfolio that generates much higher returns, such as seven percent to eight percent. Using a higher investment return such as eight percent will produce a lower Annual OPEB Cost when compared to an investment return of five percent.

And finally, as more details of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that was signed into law this year emerge, there will be conversations between employers and their actuarial consultants as to what impact should be reflected in the valuation assumptions.

preferred vendor highlights



Federal Signal Notification Solutions

Command and Control
Outdoor Notification
Indoor Notification
Critical Communication

Protecting people is a daily challenge in your mission-critical job. In the event of an emergency, you need reliable partners in place to help protect your community. Federal Signal is your trusted partner for comprehensive alerting and notification.



Partnership

Since 1901, Federal Signal has partnered with public safety officials to help protect counties and facilities around the world. With our comprehensive experience and technology advancements, we are your trusted partner for alerting and notification systems, and we are ready to consult and work with you to meet your specific emerging needs to alert your community, facility and individual constituents fast and effectively.

Technology

Federal Signal is a leader in providing total public safety system solutions that utilize a variety of technologies enabling counties, campuses, healthcare facilities, military installations, and industrial facilities to maintain the safety, security, and well-being of their constituents and personnel. Our market leading equipment, software, and services deliver "holistic" alerting and notification systems that integrate outdoor, indoor, and personal notification systems over a redundant networked platform.

Scalability

Federal Signal employs a modular design methodology for both its alerting and notification products and systems. These systems can be deployed separately or integrated together to provide a county, facility, or installation with a comprehensive integrated alerting and notification network. System solution scalability offers public safety officials the flexibility to meet current safety and security challenges while preparing for future expansion and integration of new system enhancements to meet future challenges.

Reliability

Federal Signal is an ISO 9001:2000 Quality Certified Manufacturer. Our products and systems are designed to be long lasting and ready when an emergency arises.



To learn more please visit our website www.danko.net. You may also contact Butch Hoffman at 866.568.2200 or bhoffman@danko.net.

Advertisers Index

Barker Lemar Engineering Consultants

Cost Advisory Services, Inc.

County Risk Management Services, Inc.

Hopkins & Huebner, P.C.

Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAIT)

JEO Consulting Group, Inc.

Kuehl & Payer, Ltd.

Public Sector Personnel Consultants

Snyder & Associates, Inc.

Speer Financial, Inc.

Please support our advertisers!

If you are interested in advertising in The Iowa County magazine please contact Rachel E. Bicego at 515.244.7181 or rbicego@iowacounties.org. Advertising information is available on ISAC's website, www.iowacounties.org, under corporate opportunities.



Lowering Your Borrowing Cost With:

- Independent Financial Advice.
- A Team of Financial Specialists Responsive to Your Schedule.
- Expertise in Credit Techniques and Rating Agency Presentations.
- Innovative Approaches Tailored To Your Tough Financing Problems.
- · Preparing Long-Term Financing Plans.
- Aggressive Marketing of Competitive Bond Sales To Generate Many Bids.
- · Your Effective Advocates With Underwriters in Negotiated Placements.

Please Call Vice President Larry Burger in our Iowa Office

Suite 608 • 531 Commercial St. • Waterloo, IA 50701 (319) 291-2077 • FAX (319) 291-8628

Suite 4100 • One North LaSalle St. • Chicago, IL 60602 (312) 346-3700 • FAX (312) 346-8833



CONSULTING ENGINEERS LAND SURVEYORS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

1725 N. Lake Ave. Storm Lake, lowa 50588 Phone 712.732.7745

1609 Hwy. 18 E Algona, Iowa 50511 Phone 515.295.2980

423 West Main Street Sac City, IA 50583 Phone 712.662.7859

Email Address: mrk@kpltd.com

WATER • WASTEWATER TRANSPORTATION • BRIDGES SWIMMING POOLS DRAINAGE • LAND SURVEYING EXECUTIVE SEARCHES MANAGEMENT STUDIES

PUBLIC SECTOR

PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS Staff In Various Major Cities

2643 Beaver Avenue, #351 Des Moines, IA 50310 (888) 522-7772

SPECIALISTS IN CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATION

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.compensationconsulting.com



Des Moines, Adel and the Quad Cities

Legal Counsel Experienced In Areas Impacting County Governments

Serving all of Iowa

800-383-0111 www.hopkinsandhuebner.com



SNYDER & ASSOCIATES **Engineers and Planners**

IOWA:

Ankeny (515)964-2020 Atlantic (712)243-6505 Cedar Rapids (319)362-9394 Council Bluffs (712)322-3202

MISSOURI: Maryville (660)582-8888 St. Joseph (816)364-5222

Municipal Engineering Bridges Urban and Regional Planning Surveying **Environmental Services** Geographic Information Systems Energy Water Resources Engineering Transportation Land Development Landscape Architecture Right-Of-Way Services Construction Observation Graphic and Media Services

www.snyder-associates.com

thinking beyond engineering.

The Iowa County

2010/2011 calendar

December 2010

2 District 2 Meeting (Charles City)

3 District 5 Meeting

(The Hotel Ottumwa, Ottumwa)

7-9 ICEA Statewide Annual Conference

(Scheman Center, Ames)

9 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

January 2011

10 CCMS Training Committing Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

11 CCMS Administrators Meeting (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

26-27 ISAC New County Officers School (West Des Moines Marriott)

28 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

February 2011

10 Supervisors Statewide Meeting (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

11 ISAC Executive Board Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

16-17 CCMS Fundamentals Training (Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)

24-25 ISAC Board of Directors (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

March 2011

3 County Day at the Capitol (Des Moines)

5-9 NACo Legislative Conference (Washington D.C.)

23-24 ISAC Spring School of Instruction (Marriott and Renaissance Savery, Des Moines)

April 2011

12 CCMS Administrators Meeting (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)

May 2011

5 CCMS Advanced Case Management (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

6 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

18-20 County Zoning Officials Spring Conference (Dubuque)

June 2011

CCMS Supervisors Training(Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

- 15-16 CCMS Fundamentals Training (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 15-17 ICIT Conference (West Des Moines Marriott)

July 2011

ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office, Des Moines)

12 CCMS Administrators Meeting (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)

15-19 NACo Annual Conference (Portland, OR)

27-29 Iowa State Association of County Auditors Conference (Isle of Capri, Waterloo)

August 2011

4-5

3-5 lowa County Recorders Association Summer School

(Terrible's Lakeside Casino, Osceola) Supervisors Executive Board Retreat

(Springhill Suites by Marriott, Council Bluffs)

10-12 CCMS Annual Conference (Sheraton, West Des Moines)

September 2011

15-16 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat (Clay County, IA)

15-16 CCMS Strengths Based Training (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

October 2011

2-5 Assessors School of Instruction and Confernece

(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
11 CCMS Administrators Meeting

(Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)
19-20 CCMS Fundamentals Training

(Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)
27-28 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office, Des Moines)

November 2011

3 CCMS Advanced Case Management (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale)

16-18 ISAC Fall School of Instruction (Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center)

December 2011

9 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, Des Moines)

Please visit ISAC's online calendar of events at www.iowacounties.org and click on 'Upcoming Events.' A listing of all the meetings scheduled thus far in 2010 and 2011, agendas and meeting notices can be found on ISAC's website. A majority of ISAC's meetings offer online registration. If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC Calendar, please contact Stacy Horner at 515,244,7181 or shorner@iowacounties.org.

COUNTY RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

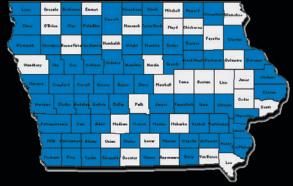
representing





Providing 68 Iowa Counties PROPERTY, CASUALTY & WORKERS' COMPENSATION coverage packages designed specifically for public entities.

Because they never know when they'll need it.



800-397-4947 • www.icapiowa.com • www.imwca.org