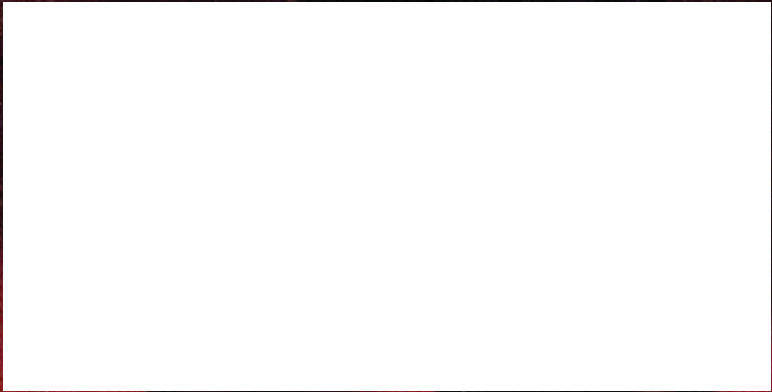
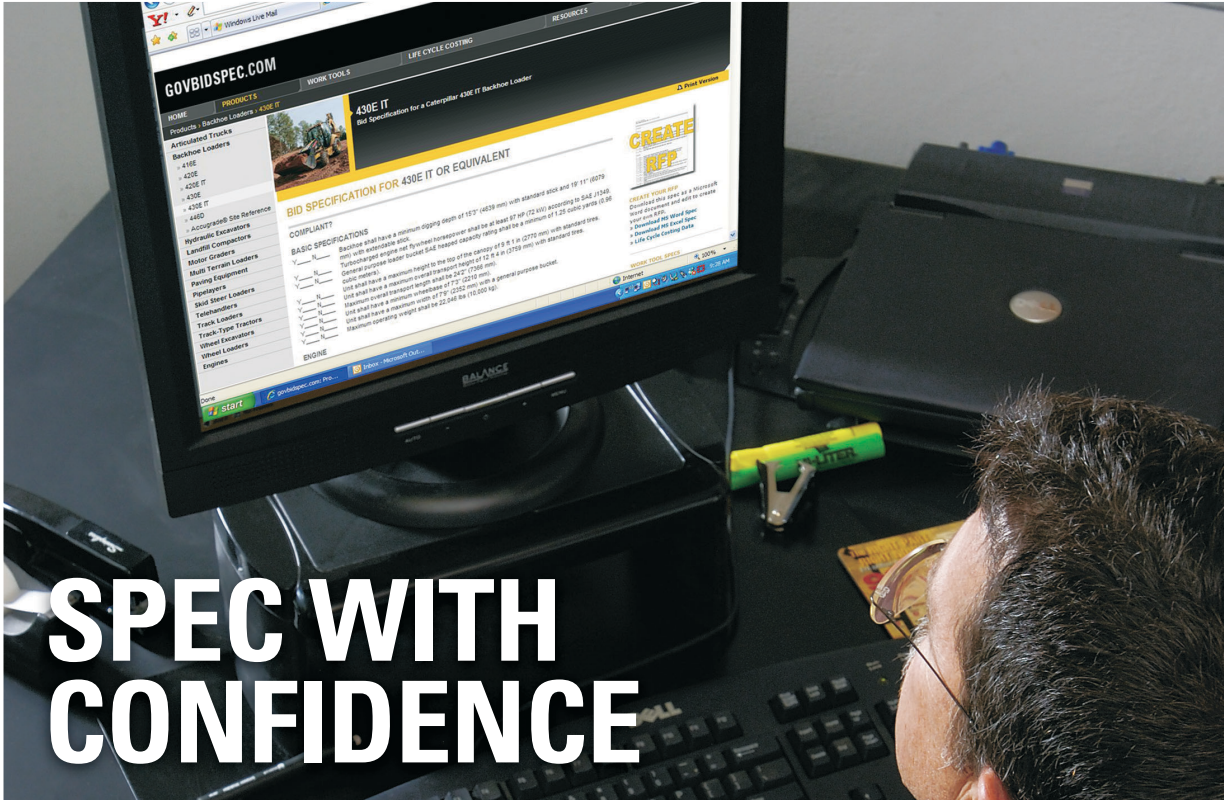


The Iowa County

Iowa State Association of Counties



February 2008
Lincoln Bicentennial
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ISAC's Mission:

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

ISAC's Vision:

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

Lincoln Letters: The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial

Americans will celebrate the two-hundredth anniversary of the birth of their most beloved president on April 12, 2009. Abraham Lincoln, who ended slavery in the United States and saved the nation from destroying itself in a brutal civil war, will be remembered through a variety of programs and projects that will officially begin a year in advance of that date.

Different people have cause to remember Lincoln in different ways. Iowans have special memories of our sixteenth president, and believe it or not, county employees do, too.

The U.S. Congress created the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC), which has liaisons from each state. A number of states, including Iowa, have established state commissions. Walter Reed, the Director of the Iowa Department of Human Rights, is Iowa's liaison to the national commission and the chairman of the state commission. The enabling legislation in Iowa gave ISAC a seat on the commission, and I was greatly honored to receive that appointment.

The ALBC inaugural events will be held February 11 and 12, 2008 in Kentucky, the state of Lincoln's birth. I will be attending as a substitute for Mr. Reed. The kickoff begins in Louisville with a "Lincoln on Leadership" symposium, a symphony concert, and a dramatic production featuring actor Sam Waterston. Events on February 12 move to nearby Hodgenville, which is three miles from the site of Lincoln's birth. President Bush has been invited to deliver the keynote address formally launching the two-year celebration of Lincoln's life and legacy.

Meanwhile, in Iowa, plans are afoot for an event at the State Capitol on February 11. Final details weren't available in time for the deadline of this article, but Governor Culver is expected to issue a proclamation at that time, and the Iowa ALBC is contacting period musicians and actors.

One of the projects I am working on with the Iowa ALBC is a PowerPoint presentation regarding Lincoln's Iowa connections, and I hope to offer it at the ISAC Spring School in March. Also, leading up to the February 2009 bicentennial, we will run a series of articles in *The Iowa County* on some of these connections, including Lincoln's visits to Iowa, his Iowa land holdings, his involvement with Iowa leaders during his life, and his unique family ties here.

Abraham Lincoln's life deserves the notice of all Americans. County employees should hold him especially dear, because he is one of us. Here, then, is the story of Abraham Lincoln: County Employee.

Lincoln grew up a pioneer farmer, but early on he had set his sights on bettering himself. After his storied flatboat trip down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, he settled in New Salem, Illinois at the age of 22, in 1831.

In less than a year he was running for the state legislature. The Black Hawk War erupted on the Illinois prairie between his announce-

By: Grant Veeder

ISAC NACo Board Representative,
Black Hawk County Auditor



ment and the election, and he served three one-month volunteer enlistments before returning home and losing the August, 1832 vote.

Lincoln was a partner in a store at this time, but his efforts in the retail realm would plague him with debts. However, in May of 1833 he was appointed the part-time postmaster of New Salem, and in the fall of that year, Sangamon County Surveyor John Calhoun named Lincoln his deputy.

The new deputy county surveyor bought a compass and chain, studied the authorities for six weeks and was then put to work in the north end of Sangamon County. He was paid \$2.50 to plat a quarter section of land, \$2.00 for a half-quarter, and 25 cents to 37 ½ cents for small town lots. "This," he later wrote, "procured bread, and kept soul and body together."

Lincoln's reputation for accuracy led people to consult him in boundary disputes. An old-timer later recalled, "Mr. Lincoln had the monopoly of finding the lines, and when any dispute arose among the settlers Mr. Lincoln's compass and chain always settled the matter satisfactorily."

However, he was still struggling to pay his debts, and when he couldn't pay for the horse, saddle and bridle that he bought on credit from William Watkins for \$57.86, Watkins went to court in April, 1834 and attached his surveying equipment for sale at auction.

Lincoln was despondent over the imminent loss of his job. Fortunately, he was popular in the area, and admired for his industry, studiousness and humor. A friend went to the auction and purchased the equipment for \$120 (about \$2,500 today) and returned it to the surprised surveyor.

Successful in his second attempt at the Illinois House of Representatives in August, 1834, Lincoln kept his county job, doing surveys when the legislature was out of session. He also independently studied law during this period, and passed the Illinois bar in September of 1836, shortly after his re-election to the House. County records indicate that he made three more surveys in October and November of '36, and then left off surveying for good.

County auditors will be interested to know that Lincoln also served as a precinct election official. Among other instances, he was paid \$1.00 for acting as clerk of the New Salem polls in the September and November elections of 1833. He also made \$2.50 for delivering the poll books to the county seat at Springfield, eighteen miles away.

Featured in next month's *Lincoln Letters*: Abraham Lincoln and the Case of the First Mississippi River Bridge.

Goal-setting and Board Effectiveness

By: Jeff Schott

Institute of Public Affairs
University of Iowa

“Acting strategically” - addressing critical issues, identifying priorities, and developing plans to accomplish the priorities - is a fundamental means by which county leaders can provide effective policy leadership. Many local governments have found the goal-setting process beneficial in meeting this strategic objective, and thereby achieving board effectiveness.

The goal-setting process helps policy leaders develop a future focus, discuss issues and opportunities facing the community, set strategic directions, and determine priorities. Goal-setting by policy leaders provides a clear message to staff as to what the elected officials want to accomplish in the upcoming planning period. It provides valuable direction for developing the annual budget and capital improvements program, allocating staff resources, and other important governmental functions.

The Process Since 1980, the Institute of Public Affairs of the University of Iowa has facilitated hundreds of goal-setting sessions with county elected officials, city councils, staff, boards and commissions, and other local government agencies and organizations. Goal-setting sessions are tailored to meet the specific needs of the individual agency and involve skilled, experienced third-party facilitation in a structured, informal work session. A “typical” county goal-setting session could include the following components:

- Review of recent major accomplishments;
- Identification and discussion of issues, concerns, trends, and opportunities that may affect future county services, programs, policies, finances, or operations;
- Identification of on-going priorities;
- Identification and discussion of significant programs, policies, projects or initiatives that the county should consider in the next few years;
- Selection of priorities for the upcoming 18 – 24 month period by elected officials;
- Discussion of ways to improve organizational effectiveness, teamwork and decision-making; and
- Implementation of planning.

Staff input is very important in this process. In some organizations, department heads participate directly in the goal-setting session, while other agencies hold a separate session with key staff in advance of the meeting with the elected officials.

Follow – Up After the goal-setting session, the Institute prepares a written report summarizing the results and information from the meeting. This report is submitted to the Board of Supervisors and other key officials for review and approval.

The Institute recommends the report be widely disseminated throughout the county – posted on the county’s web site, published in local newspapers, available at county buildings, libraries, community centers, etc. It is recommended that staff prepare an “action plan” for accomplishing the identified priorities. The action plan should de-

fine the steps that would be needed to accomplish each goal, identify who is responsible for implementation, and establish a timeline for accomplishment. The action plan should then be presented to the Board for review and approval. It is also recommended that staff regularly (at least once a quarter) review with the Board and key officials the status of accomplishing the goals.

Benefits Policy leaders have identified the following benefits from the goal-setting process:

- A shared vision and focus;
- Issues/opportunities clearly defined;
- A clearly defined set of goals and priorities;
- Improved teamwork and decision-making;
- Consensus on an action agenda;
- Increased citizen awareness and support; and
- A clear set of expectations and directions for staff.

Goal-Setting and Strategic Planning

It is helpful to distinguish and contrast goal-setting and strategic planning.

Goal setting focuses on developing priorities for the relatively near term (typically 18 – 24 months). The process is limited to a few key components. The typical goal-setting session is usually accomplished in a single 3 – 5 hour meeting.

A “true” **strategic planning** process has a longer time perspective – usually 4 - 8 years – and involves a much more elaborate and detailed process (identification of key purposes of the organization, development/confirmation of a mission statement, identification of core values, development of a strategic vision, conducting of a strategic inventory/environmental scan, identification and selection of key strategic issues, development of goals, objectives, and strategies for each issue, development of an implementation strategy, and development of a monitoring/feedback process). Accordingly, strategic planning involves multiple sessions usually over several months and is much more time consuming.

The Institute of Public Affairs can, and has, facilitated both goal-setting and strategic planning activities for local governments. Most governmental organizations prefer the goal-setting process to set strategic direction.

Institute of Public Affairs The Institute provides many other services to local governments in addition to goal-setting and strategic planning, including: board/council effectiveness training, professional development training for staff, organizational improvement, and development of government information resources.

Fees are based on population, number of sessions, travel, and other direct costs. The base fee schedule and other information about IPA may be accessed at www.ipa-uiowa.org. For further information, contact the author at (319) 335-7586 or e-mail at jeff-schott@uiowa.edu.

capitol comments

Iowa Caucuses Break Records

Iowans turned out in record numbers (some 359,000) to make their preferences known in the 2008 presidential nomination races. Fifty-seven percent of the voters in the Democratic caucus were under 30 years old. The final tally for the Democrats placed Senator Barack Obama, the recipient of much of the under-30 support, in first with 38% of the delegates, followed by former Senator John Edwards and Senator Hillary Clinton at 30% each. The Republican outcome with 95.5% of the votes tallied gave former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee a first place finish with 34% of the vote, followed by former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney with 25%, former Senator Fred Thompson and Senator John McCain tied with 13% and Representative Ron Paul with 10%.

On the Democratic side, Iowa can certainly be said to have performed the role of winnowing the field. Only three candidates appear to be left with an opportunity to win the nomination with only marginal support for New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Senator Joe Biden, and Senator Chris Dodd. The latter two withdrew from the race on caucus night and Governor Richardson has also recently withdrawn. On the Republican side the winnowing role may not have been as clear since national front runner, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani did not compete here.

While the debate will continue as to whether Iowa should maintain its first-in-the-nation status, Iowans should be proud of the showing in the caucuses. No one can say that Iowans didn't take their charge seriously. The Iowa caucuses are conducted by the two political parties, utilizing hundreds of volunteers. The volunteers find the precinct locations, prepare the materials, staff the event and report the results. With all of this volunteer help, the integrity of the results has never been questioned.

Additionally, the economic impact resulting from Iowa's position in the presidential election process is in the tens of millions of dollars. In 2004, an Iowa economist estimated the statewide economic impact at \$50 to \$60 million. Notable differences exist between the 2004 and 2008 caucuses in that both the Republican and Democratic parties participated this time around and the candidates began actively campaigning much earlier. Consequently, hotel, restaurant, vehicle rental businesses, as well as other service industries have received an economic boost that will likely exceed that found in 2004. Going beyond direct financial impacts from candidates canvassing the state, is Iowa's heightened image on the national stage as a great place for diverse industry, renewable energy development, financial services, and high quality education. These are all reasons for the citizens of Iowa to be proud of our unique roll in the election process.

Retirement Announcements Mount

As of the beginning of 2008, 11 legislators have announced their retirement from the Iowa legislature. The 2008 legislative session will be the last one for six Republican State Representatives, four Republican State Senators, and one Democratic State Senator. They are:

- Rep. Carmine Boal (R, Polk)
- Rep. Dan Clute (R, Polk)

By: Linda Hinton

ISAC Government Relations
Manager



- Rep. Chuck Gipp (R, Allamakee and Winneshiek)
- Rep. Clarence Hoffman (R, Crawford, Ida, Monona and Woodbury)
- Rep. Libby Jacobs (R, Polk)
- Rep. Walt Tomenga (R, Polk)
- Sen. Jeff Angelo (R, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Montgomery, Ringgold, Taylor and Union)
- Sen. Mike Connolly (D, Dubuque)
- Sen. Thurman Gaskill (R, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Hancock, Winnebago, and Worth)
- Sen. Mary Lundby (R, Linn)
- Sen. John Putney (R, Benton, Grundy, Iowa and Tama)

Two Democratic State Representatives are leaving the House to run for the State Senate. They are Rep. Pam Jochum representing Dubuque County, and Rep. Swati Dandekar representing Linn County. There may be more retirement announcements in the coming weeks.

If you or someone you know has an interest in serving in the Iowa Legislature, now is the time to keep a watchful eye on what the incumbents are doing. It is always helpful for local government to have legislators who have had experience at the local level before moving into a seat in the legislature. For example, Kim Reynolds, Clarke County Treasurer and past president of the Iowa State County Treasurers' Association, has announced her bid for the Republican nomination for Senate District 48, held by retiring Senator Jeff Angelo. Anyone running for state senate or state representative must file paperwork with the Secretary of State by March 14, 2008.

District Meetings in February

ISAC's District Legislative Days will be held every Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Wallace Building Auditorium during the month of February. Districts 2 and 3 are scheduled for February 6, District 1 and 4 are scheduled for February 13, District 6 is scheduled for February 20 and District 5 is scheduled for February 27. This day at the Capitol gives county officials an opportunity to participate in the lobbying process by meeting with legislators and ISAC lobbyists. The program provides a great opportunity for counties to sit down with state policy makers and shed light on how specific bills and actions will affect their county.

The agenda for the briefing includes short presentations from ISAC staff, governor's office staff and a state department head. As an ISAC member county it is important to be involved in the legislative session and work to promote ISAC's legislative priorities and objectives. The district legislative day gives our members and opportunity to support ISAC's efforts and work towards improving county government. Our association would appreciate you giving your time to ISAC this legislative session.

Please contact Jenna Kunstle at 515-244-7181 or by email at jkunstle@iowacounties.org, so we will have an idea of how many participants to expect. See more on pages 11 and 12.

Interim Legislative Committee Rewrites Open Meetings/Public Records Laws

By: *David Vestal*
ISAC General Counsel



Forget everything you think you know about Iowa's Open Meetings Law and Public Records Law. A legislative interim committee met four times between September and January, working on rewriting these two important laws. A lot can happen between now and when the Legislature adjourns, but if this interim committee has its way, both of these laws are going to change quite dramatically.

The biggest change in the rewrite is that it creates the Iowa Public Information Board (IPIB). The five-member board, appointed by the Governor, with a full-time staff, would offer advisory opinions, investigate complaints, oversee training, and prosecute government officials for violations of these laws. The IPIB would take over the enforcement function currently given to county attorneys and the Attorney General.

Enforcement of these laws does need to be stepped up. Compared to the rewrite, ISAC favors a scaled-down enforcement body, along the lines of the Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board.

The IPIB model, with a staff of full-time attorneys, is not going to be cheap. Some have estimated that the IPIB may require an annual budget of up to \$1 Million, which may be tough to find in the 2008 Legislature.

Here are the best parts of the remainder of the draft bill:

Criminal sanctions The rewrite repeals the criminal penalties in the Public Records Law, so it is all handled as a civil matter. Oddly, the Open Meetings Law never had criminal penalties.

Draft material The wording is very confusing, but the rewrite changes the scope of the law so that preliminary materials, such as drafts of board minutes, are not public records.

Time limits Until now, there has not been a timetable for responding to records requests. This would clarify that all requested records, if not produced immediately, must be produced within five business days except for good cause.

Identical exemptions The rewrite attempts to have identical exemptions in the Open Meetings Law and the Public Records Law, so if you could go into closed session to discuss a given record under Chapter 21, that record is made a confidential record under Chapter 22

Undue invasion The rewrite tries to write some additional protections into the law to address identity theft. It says that if the opportunity for misusing a given record outweighs the public benefit, then that record does not have to be produced. This would apply to records containing things like social security numbers and bank account numbers.

There are also some things in the draft bill that county officials are not going to like:

Civil penalties The criminal penalties would disappear, but the civil fines would jump from \$100-\$500 to \$1,000-\$2,500. So any time two members of a three-member board of supervisors mistakenly start talking county business when they run into each other at the store, they could be looking at a \$1,000 fine. That is excessive. It's already hard to get people to run for local office.

Employee personnel records The rewrite would make any final disciplinary action taken against a county employee a public record. Up until now, these matters have been confidential.

Job applications Under the rewrite job applications could be kept confidential until the five finalists were selected, at which point the applications of those five finalists would be a matter of public record. This will mean that some qualified people will not apply for county jobs, for fear that word will get out that they are seeking to leave their current job.

Email meetings According to the rewrite, if a county supervisor's e-mail message concerning county business is sent to a majority of the supervisors, that constitutes a "meeting." The only way to cure the problem is to post the email on the county website, post it on a bulletin board at the courthouse, or make copies available to the public. My biggest problem is I just don't think that's a "meeting" to begin with.

Walking quorums Some local boards attempt to avoid the Open Meetings Law by having a series of meetings where less than a majority meets. That is a problem. But there is no way to write a law that gets to that conduct without prohibiting all sorts of innocent conversations as well. This bill is an example of that.

Emails are public records Up until now, to be a public record it had to be a record "of or belonging to" the government. This bill changes that, so all emails drafted on a county official's private computer are public records, so long as they pertain to county business. That is a bad idea and a great way to chill speech on important issues.

If all of these changes are approved, the Legislature will need to give counties a reasonable amount of time before the law is implemented. This rewrite cannot be passed during this session with an expectation that it will be implemented on July 1.

There is a lot in the rewrite, and I cannot do justice to all of the proposed 17 major changes. For a full text of the draft bill, go to the General Assembly website: <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/> and click on "2007 Interim Calendar and Briefing."

Parting Ponderable From Mike Wentzien
"When I die, I want to die like my grandfather—who died peacefully in his sleep. Not screaming like all the passengers in his car."

—Author Unknown

by the numbers

Excessive and Inappropriate TIF Use

By: Jay Syverson
ISAC Fiscal Analyst



At a recent meeting on property tax issues, I described one of ISAC’s legislative priorities on Tax Increment Financing (TIF) reform as designed to prevent the “excessive and inappropriate” use of TIF. One of the listeners bristled at the suggestion that TIF was being used either excessively or inappropriately, and he asked for examples. In this month’s *By the Numbers*, I oblige.

According to FY 2008 valuation data from the Department of Management (DOM), there are ten Iowa cities in which more than 50% of the total taxable valuation is in a TIF increment. That means, of course, that more than half of the taxable value in those cities is being used to retire TIF debt – and not to fund normal government operations of the city, county or school district. Huxley, whose population of 2,959 makes it the largest city among Iowa’s top-ten TIF-users, has \$73 million of taxable value, \$39 million of which (or 53%) is in a TIF increment. West Okoboji, whose vacation-town status gives it a small population (432) but a large taxable value (\$75 million), has 58% of its value locked up in TIF. Many of Iowa’s larger cities, while not at the top of the list, still have a significant percent of their taxable value in TIF. Spirit Lake, for example, is 11th on the list with 49% of its taxable value in TIF. West Burlington, Pleasant Hill, Le Mars and Altoona all have more than 30% of their taxable value in a TIF increment.

But the poster child for excessive TIF usage is tiny McCallsburg (population 318) in Story County. Of McCallsburg’s \$5.4 million in taxable value, \$4.9 million – over 90%! – is in a TIF increment. Most of that is in residential TIF districts. In fact, 100% of McCallsburg’s taxable residential value – every last dollar – is in a TIF increment. It’s a wonder the city has enough revenue to function. According to McCallsburg’s budget for FY 2008, the city will collect just under \$8,000 in general property taxes, and a whopping \$174,000 in TIF property taxes. For comparison’s sake, the city of Kelley, also in Story County and about the same size as McCallsburg,

will collect about \$50,000 in general property taxes in FY 2008 and zero TIF property taxes.

Of course, it’s not just having too much of a city’s value in a TIF that seems excessive – it’s also how long the value is tied up in a TIF. Any TIF district created before 1995 can run forever. According to DOM’s valuation data, Iowa has more than 800 TIF districts created in 1994 or earlier. All of them are potentially unlimited in duration. Not all of these districts are active (meaning they still have valuation in the increment), but many are. In fact, the cities of Evansdale, Carroll, Mason City, and Dubuque all have active TIF districts that began in the 1960s. Evansdale releases over 80% of the possible increment value in its 40-year-old TIF back to the base. That’s good, because releasing value to the base benefits all taxing districts, and it’s how TIF is supposed to work. But Carroll, Mason City and Dubuque are still using every last bit of their increment valuation, nearly 40 years after their TIFs began. The value in Mason City’s TIF has more than doubled; the Dubuque TIF’s value is up over 500%; and the Carroll TIF’s value is up almost 800%. Yet in each of these cases, none of that increase in value is available to finance the general operating costs of the cities, counties or schools.

Lest anyone spin this article as a call for the end of TIF, let me be clear: it’s not. It’s a call for reasonable limitations on TIF. No TIF should be allowed to siphon money from the other local governments for more than twenty years. No city or county should be allowed to have more than 50% of its value in a TIF increment. (A much lower limit say 25% is eminently reasonable, and there are 65 Iowa cities above that level.) No city or county should be able to circumvent the constitutional debt limit by using so-called “annual appropriation” debt. For the vast majority of cities and counties who use TIF wisely and fairly, these limits would have no effect. But the limits would act to rein in those jurisdictions that are using TIF excessively and inappropriately.

Iowa's Top Ten TIF-Users			
City	Total* Taxable Value	TIF* Taxable Value	Percent of Taxable Value in TIF
McCallsburg	5,438,852	4,902,900	90.1%
Marquette	18,559,064	14,976,437	80.7%
Kellogg	11,239,336	8,520,557	75.8%
Baxter	19,382,936	14,029,255	72.4%
Panama	5,393,805	3,607,333	66.9%
Tiffin	49,500,413	31,446,707	63.5%
Carson	15,268,733	9,392,243	61.5%
West Okoboji	75,418,824	44,001,200	58.3%
Huxley	72,636,129	39,194,598	54.0%
Mingo	5,802,050	3,104,842	53.5%

*FY 2008 taxable values excluding gas and electric utilities
Source: Iowa Department of Management

Defining E-government

Depending on who I talk with, the term E-government has been now thrown around enough that it means something different to different people. Let me try to explain both the spirit and complexity of E-government. The term is simple to explain, but hard to accomplish.

In general terms, E-government is the use of information and the internet to transform government by making it more accessible, effective and accountable.

Based on several studies, effective E-government implementations would include:

- Providing greater access to government information;
- Promoting citizen involvement by enabling the public to interact with government officials;
- Making government more accountable by making its operations more transparent; and
- Providing development opportunities, especially benefiting rural and traditionally underserved communities.

Simple enough, right? Now let us implement it....

E-government websites have three stages of implementation: publishing, interacting, and transacting.

At the publishing stage the websites seek to disseminate information *about* government and information compiled *by* government to as wide an audience as possible.

The interacting stage builds on the publishing stage by involving two-way communication, starting with basic functions like email contact information for officials or feedback forms for citizens.

The transacting stage builds on the two previous stages by allowing users to conduct transactions online. A transacting website offers a direct link to government services, available at any time.

Most county websites are in various stages at the same time. One county office can offer online payment of taxes and another office may only offer information.

In broad strokes, the three stages paint a picture that E-government is about transforming the way county government interacts with the citizen.

By: Robin Harlow
ISAC Technology
Project Manager



Local government groups that have attempted to implement E-government have found that the process is:

- Neither quick nor simple;
- Not a tool to cut costs or staff (though important); and
- Inclusive of stakeholders outside of government.

It is my belief that E-government implementation is like the Rubik's cube puzzle; it has different colored sides that get rotated until all colors are together and the puzzle is solved. But the E-government Rubik's Cube's additional challenge is that there are more sides and the colors may change before you complete the puzzle.

Some of the colors or challenges of E-government are:

- IT structure (if any);
- Digital divide - E-literacy and access;
- Trust - privacy and security;
- Transparency;
- Inter-operability;
- Records management permanent availability and preservation;
- Law and public policy;
- Education and marketing;
- Public/private competition/collaboration;
- Workforce issues;
- Cost structures; and
- Benchmarking.

Each challenge is competing against each other for limited funds. How in the world can each county deal with these challenges by themselves? Where would you begin? This puzzle reminds of the old joke that asks, "How do you eat an elephant?" The standard answer is; one bite at a time. In the context of county E-government, I would offer an alternative answer: throw a party and then have everyone eat one bite at a time.

In the complexity of E-government implementation, the counties have the opportunity to practice what I call "Centralized De-centralization." This means that by pooling resources together, counties can still meet the needs of their own county, but at the same time cooperate and collaborate to meet the common challenges all the counties face.

Continued on page 10...

technology center

Digital TV is on its Way!

Q: I have been told that my analog TV will no longer work next year. Is this true and why?

A: Yes, digital television broadcasting is scheduled to replace analog television broadcasting by February 17, 2009. There are benefits to digital television. It provides a clearer picture though the increase of pixels. It also does not have “snow” “ghosts” or other types of interference. As an illustration, comparing digital TV to analog TV is like comparing DVDs to VHS with the digital TV being the DVD and the analog the VHS. The good news is that the digital broadcasts will be broadcast over the free airwaves unlike digital cable service for which viewers may pay extra. One of the reasons for the transition to digital broadcasting is to free up the analog broadcast channels for public safety communications such as the police, fire departments, rescue and ambulance services. Consumers will be pleased with the improved quality of picture and sound.

Analog TVs

Do you have to toss your old analog TVs away? No. Analog TVs can be used when the digital broadcasting begins by installing a converter box. You can receive a converter box at no charge. You can apply for these converter boxes by going to <https://www.dtv2009.gov/> or simply call 1-888-388-2009. However if you currently are a cable or satellite subscriber, you will not be affected by the February 17, 2009 deadline. The February 19th deadline applies to full-power broadcast TV stations that use the public airwaves to broadcast and provide the free over the air programming. This same deadline does not affect the cable and satellite providers.

Digital TVs

There is a difference between a DTV (Digital Television) and a HDTV (High Definition Television). All TVs imported and shipped in the US since March 1, 2007, should be equipped with a digital tuner. A digital tuner will enable a TV to broadcast the new digital broadcasting but will not be able to provide the high definition quality that many cable and satellite providers provide at an additional charge. The same is true for the converter boxes that are being provided for the analog TVs. They will not provide high definition quality to the television broadcasts; they will only enable an analog TV to broadcast the digital signal. Satellite and cable companies may make this transition at some time but it is not currently mandated.

By: Tammy Norman
ISAC Office Manager



Website Note: Spring School registration is now available online at the ISAC website.

Have a question regarding new technology and would like it addressed in this column? Contact me at 515-244-7181 ext. 315 or via e-mail at tnorman@iowacounties.org. Until next month, keep clicking!

Defining E-Government Continued from page 9...

The best example of this in practice is the new County Community Services Network (County CSN). By building flexibility into the design and agreeing to a common data structure each county will be able to choose which tools in the County CSN they want to apply while at the same time working together to address common needs in client tracking, costing and reporting. The system will be centrally administered, but operated at the local level in the manner determined by the county. This allows us to bring technology to counties at a fraction of the cost in terms of both development and support.

We are in a time of unprecedented change in our state and county demographics, attitudes, and technology. Our population is growing older and we will soon have more work than workers. Attitudes on where people work, how people work, and for how long people work are different than the baby boomer generation. And finally, technology not only seems to change overnight, but the rate of change seems to increase overnight.

In next month's article I will cover the work that has been done by the County Technology Clearinghouse Advisory Board. This Advisory Board took on the task of developing a strategic plan to help counties meet the common opportunities the counties will face in the coming years. As we work together to implement the plan, the path through the technology jungle will become clearer for county government, their citizens, and outside stakeholders. With some additional work, the path will lead us to a future where all counties will have the resources to provide a consistent level of services to their citizens regardless of the county's size or location.

welcome Cindy

Hello everyone! I would like to introduce myself. I am Cindy Chappelle, and I am the new County Case Management Specialist at ISAC. My first day with ISAC was on Monday, January 7. What a great way to start the New Year! I am extremely excited to be working with ISAC, as I have had the privilege of utilizing their County Case Management Services for several years.



Prior to coming to CCMS, I was a Targeted Case Manager for County Community Services in Boone and earlier, with Tri-County Case Management.

I earned my BA degree in Human Services from Grandview College in Des Moines, and I am a licensed social worker. Prior to my case management experience, I worked with Des Moines Public Schools in a behavior disorder classroom and also with children with disabilities in a variety of classroom settings. I have worked at a Youth Shelter and with Children and Families of Iowa as an In-Home Family Counselor. I then started working for the State of Iowa doing Child and Adult Protective Services for 7 years. I left the State to start up my own business providing RTS services for children and families. My office was in my home and I missed the office setting, therefore, I started working at Tri-County Community services as the county social worker for Boone. I later joined the case management team and had the honor to work with many wonderful people. I was also a group facilitator for the Batterers Education Program through Children and Families of Iowa for 11 years. I have been extremely lucky to have had the invaluable experience all of these positions have given me.

I live in Des Moines with my husband Mark and my dog Cody. We enjoy traveling when able. I love Yellowstone and the mountains and he scuba dives; therefore, we go back and forth between mountain areas and beach areas. I have two lovely daughters, one son-in-law, and one wonderful grandson who is 5 months old and that I just can't get enough of. I enjoy exercising (most of the time) and have found that Yoga is my favorite. During the warmer months my husband and I also walk at Gray's Lake.

I am excited about my new career adventure. I look forward to a long tenure at CCMS and working with Deb, Dan, Linda, Jackie and the entire ISAC staff.

welcome Jenny

Hello everyone! I'm happy to have this opportunity to introduce myself to you. My name is Jenny Schulte and I am serving as ISAC's legislative intern for the 2008 Iowa legislative session. Though my internship is just getting underway, I have already gained a lot of useful knowledge, and I am excited at the chance to learn and grow both professionally and personally.



I am currently working towards my Masters of Public Health degree at the University of Iowa College of Public Health. I believe that this internship with ISAC will supplement my academic preparation with practical experience in policy development and ensure my future success as a public health professional.

My background includes growing up in Iowa City where I stayed to attend the University of Iowa. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Integrative Physiology in 2006. After I complete my MPH degree, I plan to begin medical school at the University of Iowa College of Medicine,

In my free time, as I work my way through school, I enjoy working out, watching sports and reading. I currently hold two part-time jobs in Iowa City, which I will continue throughout this internship on the weekends, one at Givanni's Café and the other at North Dodge Athletic Club. I enjoy being busy and the opportunity to work; therefore, I got a night job working at Kin Folks BBQ in Altoona.

I look forward to working with the ISAC staff during the legislative session, and I hope to leave filled with new knowledge and abilities that I can take into my future profession.

ISAC
Iowa State Association of Counties
District Legislative Days
2008

District 2 and 3 - February 6
District 1 and 4 - February 13
District 6 - February 20
District 5 - February 27

(All meetings will be held in the Wallace Building auditorium.)

Be There!

ISAC meetings

Spring School Update

By: Jerri Noboa

ISAC Meetings Administrator



The Spring School registration is up and running and you can register at http://affiliates.iowacounties.org/isac_mrs/index.cfm?

The Marriott, Renaissance Savery and Hotel Fort Des Moines are all full and we have made arrangements with the Holiday Inn Downtown, 1050 6th Avenue, north of Veterans Auditorium, for additional rooms. The Holiday Inn has rates of \$80/flat and will shuttle you to and from the Marriott or Renaissance Savery. Call the hotel at 515-283-0151 and ask for the block under the Iowa State Association of Counties. This hotel will direct bill the county and is not a smoke free facility.

Wednesday, March 12, schedule is: ISAC Seminars: 1) Emergency Management in Iowa, 2) Is TIF Working?, 3) Controlling Unemployment Costs, and 4) Preparing for Retirement. Also please plan to attend and express your thanks by attending a reception with the exhibitors in the exhibit hall from 5:00 – 6:00 pm.

Thursday morning, March 13, we start the day with rolls and coffee from 7:30 – 9:00 am in the exhibit hall which again gives you a chance to check out the exhibitors. At 9:00 am the ISAC general session starts in the Marriott ballrooms. That evening the Iowa legislators have been invited to a reception at the Renaissance Savery from 8:00 – 9:00 pm. Please plan to attend and visit with them. Following the reception we have the ISAC dance and The Benders have again been booked. Even if you don't dance you will enjoy watching this band perform as they play 50's and 60's music.

ISAC Fall School, November 2008, Coralville - The block of sleeping rooms at all the hotels that we have contracted with will not be taking reservations until August 1, 2008. Further information regarding hotels and rates will be offered in the following months.

Sign Up for ISAC District Legislative Days

Register your county by calling Jenna Kunstle, ISAC staff, at 515-244-7181 or by email at jkunstle@iowacounties.org. Tell Jenna your district, the date you plan to attend, the number of county officials you anticipate will be coming, who the contact person from your county will be, and how they can be reached in the future (phone number or email address).

As a member of ISAC, we count on you to help us promote the association's legislative objectives for the year. As a county official, you share constituents with your legislators. This local connection helps your voice have a significant impact on the way lawmakers vote on key issues affecting counties. In order to take advantage of your unique influence, it's imperative that your legislators hear from you! By taking part in District Legislative Days, you will have a significant effect on the legislation that impacts the future of local government.

The dates and regions are as follows:

- Wednesday, February 6 Districts 2 and 3
- Wednesday, February 13 Districts 1 and 4
- Wednesday, February 20 District 6
- Wednesday, February 27 District 5

Each day will begin with a program at the Wallace Building Auditorium (502 East 9th Street).

The agenda for that meeting will be as follows:

- 9:30am Welcome and introductions – Bill Peterson
- 9:40am Governor's office representative (invited)
- 10:00am Department head (invited)
- 10:30am ISAC lobby staff highlights and Q & A
- 10:45am Adjourn to the Capitol

County officials are encouraged to schedule individual meetings with their legislators and to attend legislative committee meetings and floor sessions the rest of the day.

For more information on District Legislative Days visit ISAC's website at www.iowacounties.org.

2008 ISAC Board

Mike King, Union County Supervisor, was elected the 2008 ISAC President. He spoke to the audience at the fall school general session about his goals as president for the upcoming year.

Members of the 2008 ISAC Executive Committee are: President - **Mike King**, Union County Supervisor; 1st Vice President - **Gary Anderson**, Appanoose County Sheriff; 2nd Vice President - **Chuck Rieken**, Cass County Supervisor; and 3rd Vice President - **Marjorie Pitts**, Clay County Auditor. Executive committee members are chosen by the ISAC Board of Directors and serve a one-year term.

Eight county officials were recently re-appointed to the ISAC Board of Directors. **Tim McGee**, Lucas County Assessor, will represent the county assessors. **Paul Goldsmith**, Lucas County Attorney, will represent the county attorneys. **Linn Adams**, Hardin County Community Services, will represent the community services affiliate. **Steve Lekwa**, Story County Conservation, will represent the conservation affiliate. **Derek White**, Carroll County Emergency Management Director, will represent the county emergency management directors. **Brian Hanft**, Cerro Gordo Environmental Health, will represent the environmental health affiliate. **Wayne Chizek**, Marshall County IT/GIS, will represent the information technology affiliate. **Wayne Walter**, Winneshiek County Treasurer, will represent the county treasurers. New to the ISAC board in 2008 are **Harlen Hansen**, Humboldt County Supervisor, will represent the supervisors. **Joe Buffington**, Henry County Zoning, will represent the zoning affiliate. **Nancy Parrott**, Jasper County Recorder, will represent the recorders. **Michael McClain**, Jones County Engineer, will represent the engineers. And **Terri Henkels**, Polk County Public Health, will represent the public health affiliate. **Kim Painter**, Johnson County Recorder, will act as the past president in 2008 and **Grant Veeder**, Black Hawk County Auditor, was re-appointed to the ISAC board as the NACo board representative. Overall, there are 19 county officials that comprise the 2008 ISAC Board of Directors.

Board members are chosen by their affiliate and serve on the ISAC board until they are replaced by their affiliate. The board members' primary responsibilities include developing and monitoring the ISAC strategic plan, setting legislative priorities and recommending ISAC's budget.

Legislative Tracking Tool

With the legislative session beginning January 14, 2008, remember to utilize ISAC's legislative tracking tool. This is an interactive web-based tool for viewing and printing legislative bills. The tool incorporates features such as listing ISAC's position, ISAC staff assigned to monitor the bill, steering committee, House and Senate status along with the Governor's status, and the affiliate(s) that would be interested in this legislation. You will also find hyperlinks to each of the legislative bills for easy retrieval. The end user can filter and hide columns of information. Printing options are available to allow for printing on letter sized or legal sized paper. You are able to open up the legislative information into an Excel spreadsheet. This will allow for more printing options, such as the placement of headers and column titles on the top of each page.

To use the legislative tool visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org). If you have problems using the tool contact Tammy Norman at tnorman@iowacounties.org or 515-244-7181.

About the Cover

The portrait of Abraham Lincoln on the cover of this month's magazine is a painting done by George PA Healy in 1869. The painting currently hangs above the fireplace in the State Dining Room at the White House. It has held this honorable spot for several years.

The original version of the portrait, *The Peacemakers*, depicting Lincoln in consultation with three of his main military advisers at the end of the civil war, served as a template for the artist's larger painting. Healy is believed to have done his original life sketches of Lincoln at the White House in 1864.

Restore the Partnership: NACo 2008 Key Legislative Priorities

The National Association of Counties has embarked on a mission to remind our nation's leaders of the singular importance of Federalism to the American system of government. We call this effort "Restore the Partnership." Through it we hope to strengthen the relationships between counties and the federal government in order to serve the American people better. Our 2008 key legislative priorities reflect this overarching theme, focusing on those goals most essential to reestablishing the historic tradition and practice of federalism.

The priorities follow continuing legislative matters left to be resolved from the 110th Congress's first session. Restore the Partnership means looking at these issues in light of the responsibility elected officials have undertaken in seeking common solutions to America's problems. NACo's eleven Steering Committees, Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) and Rural Action Caucus (RAC) have adopted the key priorities listed below, which are consistent with our efforts to restore the partnership, and will be advocating these priorities and other important issues throughout the year.

Opposition to unfunded mandates/preemptions A mainstay of restoring our partnership is to be constantly vigilant against legislative or regulatory initiatives that undermine local government decision making. The partnership with federal policy makers should recognize local government roles and not preempt county authority in issues such as land use, rights of way and other local functions. In addition, administering and bearing the costs of accurate and secure elections for local, state and federal office has always been primarily the responsibility of county officials. NACo opposes federal efforts to dictate specific practices for administering elections. Adequate federal financial assistance should be provided for this key responsibility.

Maintaining and increasing the financial partnership Restore the Partnership means a renewed commitment to maintaining, restoring and increasing the financial partnership to our counties. NACo opposes any restrictions in the federal financing of Medicaid that shift costs to states and localities and place further stress on systems of care. Specifically, Congress should extend the moratorium on the CMS rule restricting Medicaid payments to public providers. Providing funding for programs such as PILT/CDBG/HOME/JAG/Homeland Security/WIA/Transportation and water infrastructure development and many other domestic programs that are the backbone of our ability to jointly provide for our citizens, is essential. Funding for the PILT Program should be provided for at the fully authorized level of \$350 million. Funding for the

Community Development Block Grant formula program should be no less than \$4.1 billion, with a goal of doubling the program over the next five years, and for the HOME formula grant program at no less than \$2 billion. Funding for county programs has been in decline as a result of a lack of commitment to the partnership. NACo supports enhanced appropriations for these and other domestic programs.

Tax issues NACo seeks the repeal of onerous legislation that is contrary to the principle of a sound federal-local partnership. We oppose the mandate contained in Section 511 of PL 109-222 requiring local government to collect a 3% withholding tax for goods and services contracts in order for us to send to the IRS. We also oppose the preemption of county telecommunications and other taxing authority and efforts to require county employees to collect federal taxes or enforce immigration policy. County employees should not be acting as IRS agents. Also, the deductibility of state and local taxes should be protected as well as interest on tax exempt bonds.

Reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act/PILT Funding Providing assistance to our rural counties is important in order to restore the partnership. Following the one-year extension for FY 2007 passed last year, NACo continues to advocate for a multi-year reauthorization. When and if it is approved, NACo will focus its work on a long term solution for the forest counties.

Farm bill reauthorization Restore the partnership must include efforts in developing a farm bill policy that restores our rural communities and eases the burden on rural counties who are losing population, especially their youth, who are the link to future growth. NACo continues to support a robust rural development title as well as renewable energy programs and efforts to attract youth to production agriculture in the farm bill. Congress should also offer increased nutrition assistance, conservation programs and assistance to needy farmers.

Aviation reauthorization During the second session of the 110th Congress, efforts to restore the partnership should also focus on finalizing reauthorization of the federal airport and aviation programs, which should include a well-funded Airport Improvement Program with guaranteed funding from the aviation trust funds and increased funding for rural and underserved communities through the Essential Air Service and the Small Communities Air Service Programs.

Establish a Commission on Intergovernmental Relations NACo supports congressional and administration action to establish a Commission on Intergovernmental Relations that would be a key in helping to restore the partnership. We will be working in a bipartisan and bicameral effort to secure passage of legislation to establish the Commission.

Get Ready to Celebrate!

April 6 - 12, 2008

In 2008, the National County Government Week's theme is "Protecting Our Children." Counties can show their residents the many ways they work to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of children in sensible and cost-effective ways. National County Government Week (NCGW) is an annual celebration of county government. First held in 1991, the goal of county government week is to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's counties. There are activities at the national, state and local levels during county government week. More than 1,000 counties annually participate in NCGW by holding a variety of programs and events. These include tours of county facilities, presentations in schools, meetings with business and community leaders, recognition programs for volunteers, briefings on environmental projects, and adoption of proclamations.

A new booklet is now available to provide ideas on how counties can celebrate National County Government Week and promote counties' efforts to serve and protect children and all residents. Please visit www.iowacounties.org to view this publication.

Contact Rachel Bicego at rbicego@iowacounties.org or call 515.244.7181 if your county will be participating in NCGW. *The Iowa County* would love to feature your celebrations and highlight the many ways in which your county "Protects our Children."



2008 NACo Legislative Conference

March 1-5

Hilton Washington, Washington, DC

The 110th Congress, Second Session will hit town in January and a great number of programs that assist counties will be under intense scrutiny. As a county official you need to know what this means for counties, what you can do about the issues, and how you can strengthen the voice of local government on Capitol Hill. With a philosophy of "those who show up decide," you have a host of reasons to attend the NACo Legislative Conference.

Registration is available on-line through February 15 at www.naco.org. You must register for the conference before you can book a hotel reservation. You can register on-line www.naco.org or by faxing a complete and legible registration form to (919) 882-1570; proceed to make your housing reservations on-line or fax a complete and legible housing form to (919) 882-1570. **Do not call the hotels directly.**

miscellaneous

2008 CARE Grant Deadline Extended

The 2008 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Cooperative Agreement Request for Proposals (RFP) is now available on-line at: http://www.epa.gov/air/grants_funding.html#0802.

This year the application time line has been extended to 3 months and the **deadline** is **March 17, 2008**.

The CARE website has additional information related to the CARE RFP, including our upcoming Q&A Webcasts, so also visit: <http://www.epa.gov/CARE>

About the CARE RFP

Around **\$3 million** will be available in 2008 to support community-based partnerships to reduce pollution at the local level through the CARE program.

EPA anticipates awarding CARE cooperative agreements in two levels. Level I cooperative agreements range from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and will help establish community-based partnerships to develop local environmental priorities. Level II awards, ranging from \$150,000 to \$300,000 each, will support communities which have established broad-based partnerships, have identified the priority toxic risks in the community, and are prepared to measure results, implement risk reduction activities, and become self-sustaining. In 2007, \$3.4 million in cooperative agreements were made available to more than 20 communities through the CARE program, a community-based, community-driven program that builds partnerships to help the public understand and reduce toxic risks from numerous sources. Examples of projects include addressing abandoned, contaminated industrial and residential properties in Gary, Ind.; dealing with agriculture-related toxics in Yakima

County, Wash.; and reducing air emissions from diesel trucks and buses in Woonsocket, R.I. Since 2005, the grants to reduce toxics in the environment have reached almost 50 communities in over 20 states.

Applications for the CARE grants are due March 17, 2008. Eligible applicants include county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. EPA will conduct three conference calls, Jan. 18, Feb. 11 and Feb. 27, for prospective applicants to ask questions about the application process.

Additional information about the CARE program, previous cooperative agreement recipients, and applying for the 2008 grants is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/CARE>

CARE Request for Proposals Q&A Webcast (also available on <http://www.epa.gov/care>)

The CARE program will conduct three national information sessions for cooperative agreement applicants via national Internet seminars, or Webcasts, in January and February 2008.

January 18, 2008	12:30 - 2:00 p.m. eastern time
February 11, 2008	1:00 - 12:30 p.m. eastern time
February 27, 2008	10:00 - 12:00 a.m. eastern time

To register for the upcoming CARE Internet Seminar for either of the above dates, please go to:

<http://www.cluin.org/studio/seminar.cfm>

Don't miss it!

ISAC's 2008 Spring School of Instruction

March 12 - 14, 2008 Downtown Marriott and Renaissance Savery Des Moines

More information? Visit www.iowacounties.org

I-Smile for Iowa's Children

Money is the driving force behind today's health care initiatives. See what can be done with \$7,000 worth of dental care for Iowa's children based on current Medicaid fees:

- 1 child with severe decay treated at the emergency room - \$6,498 (Children's Dental Health Project, February 2005);
- 350 sealants placed (Medicaid Oral Health Codes 2007);
- 500 applications of fluoride varnish (Medicaid Oral Health Codes 2007).

I-Smile is working hard to reach more children by providing preventative oral care in a dental home. This redirects costs to preventing future problems for Iowa's children.

The I-Smile coordinators have started making the vision of a dental home for all Iowa children a reality. This first year has been a challenge as everyone involved is new to the project, but there have been many successes in helping the program grow.

A success story from Polk County: a seven year old girl is brought to the dental screening by her mother. The I-Smile coordinator completes the oral screening to find many teeth rotted to the gums, swollen tissue and open sores. With this high degree of decay a follow up meeting is scheduled. A local dentist, present at the follow up appointment, agreed to the level of decay and the need for immediate care. A local, pediatric dentist agreed to take on the case.

This little girl has since had 12 baby teeth extracted, 2 fillings and will return to the I-Smile clinic for cleaning and sealants. After this process the mother has shown a better understanding of how she can now help her daughter take care of her oral health. This little girl is still quiet and shy, keeping her smile to herself. With the continued support of her I-Smile Coordinator her smile should only become stronger.

This little girl is lucky that her community, with the help of an I-Smile coordinator, worked to get her a healthy smile. This effort by the pediatric dentist and the coordinator show the growing strength of the program.

Coordinators have been introducing themselves to health care professionals in their communities as the first step in creating an oral health network. Bringing awareness to the community is another aspect of the I-Smile project. Coordinators have been doing a great job developing local partnerships and linking with boards of health. Many coordinators have already begun screenings, risk assessments and education at various community childhood settings, such as preschools and kindergarten classrooms.



If you are interested in learning more about local I-Smile coordinator activities, contact information is available through the IDPH Oral Health Bureau web site. http://www.idph.state.ia.us/hpcdp/oral_health_ismile.asp

On the state level, the Oral Health Bureau is working to provide I-Smile coordinators with necessary educational materials and support. Each I-Smile coordinator has received an I-Smile Oral Health Coordinator Handbook and standardized modules for providing oral health trainings in their communities. The *I-Smile Screening Guide for Health Care Professionals* has recently been completed and has created a lot of buzz among health care providers. This guide shows non-dental professionals how to provide screenings and fluoride varnish to their young patients. The I-Smile coordinators will distribute the guides in conjunction with educational sessions at medical offices, public health agencies, WIC clinics, and other sites. Distribution of a monthly I-Smile newsletter has also begun. The newsletter will keep I-Smile coordinators updated and allow them to share best practice activities.

To help facilitate state wide promotion of I-Smile, the Oral Health Bureau received a Target Oral Health Services Systems (TOHSS) grant. This grant provides four years of funding to help develop promotional material, determine the best ways to inform minority populations about positive oral health practice, and develop a monitoring system to track the effectiveness of I-Smile.

The I-Smile program is working hard and moving forward. How do you want to see our \$7,000 spent? Continued community support is necessary to see I-Smile become a fixture of better health for Iowans.

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Past issues of The Iowa County can be viewed on ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'News.'

Editor's Note: For consideration of materials to be published in *The Iowa County* magazine, please submit before the first Friday of the previous month. (Materials for the March magazine are due on/before February 1.)

Thank you! Rachel



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calendar

February

- 6 District 2 & 3 Legislative Days at the Capitol (Wallace Building Auditorium, Des Moines)
- 8 ISAC Executive Board (ISAC Office)
- 6-8 CCMS "Fundamentals" (Hilton Garden Inn, Urbandale/Johnston)
- 13 District 1 & 4 Legislative Days at the Capitol (Wallace Building Auditorium, Des Moines)
- 20 District 6 Legislative Days at the Capitol (Wallace Building Auditorium, Des Moines)
- 21-22 ISAC Board of Directors (ISAC Office)
- 27 District 5 Legislative Days at the Capitol (Wallace Building Auditorium, Des Moines)

March

- 1 - 5 NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)
- 11 Supervisors' Executive Board (Downtown Marriott, Des Moines)
- 11 CRIS Board of Directors (Location TBA)
- 12 CCMS Board of Directors (Downtown Marriott, Des Moines)
- 12-14 ISAC Spring School of Instruction**

April

- 8 CCMS Administrators (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 9 CCMS Cost Report Training (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 9-10 Environmental/Public Health Conference (Tentative)
- 10 CCMS Support Staff (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 17 CCMS "East Support Group" (Coral Ridge Mall, Coralville)
- 17/18 ISAC Board of Directors (ISAC Offices)

May

- 8 CCMS Advanced Case Manager (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 13-15 Treasurers' Statewide Meeting (Carroll)

June

- 5 CCMS Supervisors Training (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 11 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser
- 18-20 CCMS "Fundamentals" (Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)

July

- 11-15 NACo Annual Conference (Kansas City, MO)
- 17 CCMS "East Support Group" (Coral Ridge Mall, Coralville)
- 25 ISAC Board of Directors (ISAC Office)
- 30 - 1 Auditors' Summer Conference (Clear Lake)

August

- 30 - 1 Auditors' Summer Conference (Clear Lake)

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 2008, 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, please contact Jerri Noboa at (515) 244-7181 or jnoboa@iowacounties.org.

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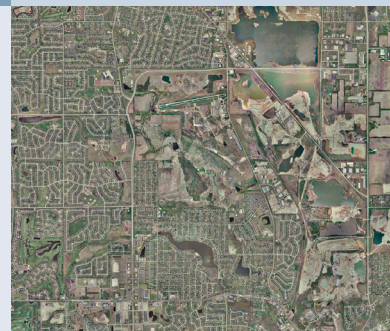
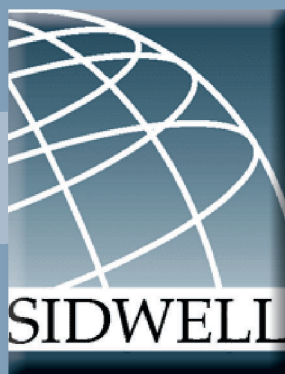
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