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Iowa State Association of Counties

October 2012

ISAC Fall School of Instruction

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The Iowa County

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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.

8th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser a Success!

On Wednesday, August 23, ISAC held its eighth annual Scholarship Golf Fundraiser at Otter Creek Golf Course in Ankeny. The event, which was hosted by the Iowa State County Treasurers Association and the Iowa State Association of County Supervisors, raised around \$24,000 for the ISAC Scholarship Fund! ISAC uses the Scholarship Fund proceeds to award college scholarships to Iowa high school seniors who are children of county officials and employees. ISAC would like to thank the golfers, volunteers, and sponsors for making the event a success. Congratulations to the winners of this year's golf fundraiser, the ISAC Team. Member as pictured below from left to right were: Mark De Groot, Jay Syverson, Brad Holtan, and Rob Peterson. A full list of our sponsors and donors is below and on the next page.

A special thanks goes out to all of our sponsors and volunteers!

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 Iowa Lakes Community College - Water bottles and flash drives
 Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative - Gift basket
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 KUOO Radio - Koozies and shirt
 Little Swan Winery - Wine and corkscrew
 Parks Marina - Glass Bottom Boat tickets and sweatshirt
 Polaris Industries - Hat, t-shirt and sweatshirt
 Prairie Meadows - Two Wilson Phillips concert tickets
 Priority Envelope, Inc. - Hats, shirts and umbrellas
 Renaissance Savery Hotel - Overnight stay and breakfast for two
 Roc Management and Associates - Godfather's Pizza coupons
 Scheel's - \$200 Gift Certificate
 SpringHill Suites by Marriott, West Des Moines - Overnight stay
 Stoney Creek Inn - Overnight stay
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 The Three Sons - Blankets and golf balls
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 Wapello, Crawford and Hamilton Counties - Various prizes



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Donations of various amounts were made to the Education Foundation on behalf of Judy Miller by the following:

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capitol comments

Election 2012

In addition to the down-to-the-wire presidential election, on election night Iowans will be watching to see what happens at the Iowa statehouse. In particular, the Iowa Senate is currently controlled by the Democrats by the slimmest of margins - 26 to 24. Making things all the more interesting is the fact that this is the first general election since redistricting. There are 26 Senate races. Of the 24 seats that are not being contested this cycle, the Democrats hold a 13 to 11 edge. Of the 26 races, ten might be considered safely Republican and seven might be considered safely Democratic. So there appear to be nine contested races that will decide the control of the Senate. Factors considered in determining whether a race falls into this category include whether a seat is being contested by two new faces and what the September voter registration differences show in terms of party strength.

Senate District 14: This is an open seat where Amy Sinclair (R), a farmer and Wayne County Supervisor, faces off against Dick Schrad (D), Knoxville city manager. The Republicans hold the registration advantage, but Schrad is from the major population center in the district. This is the only race of the nine where the registration difference is more than a thousand.



Senate District 26: This is the only race that pits two sitting senators against each other. Republican Senator Merlyn Bartz, a farmer who has served one term in

the Iowa House and four terms in the Iowa Senate, vies for the seat against Democrat Mary Jo Wilhelm, former Howard County Supervisor and first term Senator who is a certified residential appraiser. The district has a 562 voter registration advantage in favor of the Democrats.

Senate District 30: Democratic Senator Jeff Danielson, a Cedar Falls firefighter, is challenged by Republican Matt Reisetter, owner of a Cedar Falls consulting firm. There is a difference of 776 in the voter registration numbers favoring the Republicans. Danielson won reelection in 2008 by a mere 22 votes over Representative Walt Rogers and Reisetter lost a bid for a House seat to Representative Bob Kressig by 106 votes in 2006.

Senate District 32: Senator Brian Schoenjahrn (D), teacher and

By: Linda Hinton

ISAC Government Relations
Manager



former mayor of Arlington, versus Elliot Henderson (R), Fayette County farmer, small business owner and veteran of Afghanistan. The Republicans have 294 more registered voters.

Senate District 34: Democratic Senator Liz Mathis, Chief Information Officer of Four Oaks, a child welfare program in Cedar Rapids and former news anchor, faces Ryan Flood, former Ron Paul staffer. The district has just under a thousand more Republican registrations than Democratic registrations. Mathis won a special election in 2011 to fill the seat vacated by Senator Swati Dandikar (D-Linn), who was appointed to the Iowa Utilities Board.



Senate District 36: Senator Steve Sodders (D-Marshall), Marshall County deputy sheriff, defends against Republican Jane Jech, a Marshalltown

teacher. Jech showed her political chops in beating former Senator Larry McKibben in the primary in June. The district leans Republican by 641 voter registrations.

District 38: Senator Tim Kapucian, (R-Benton) Benton County farmer v. Shelley Parbs (D), President of the Hawkeye Labor Council, who works at Rockwell-Collins in Cedar Rapids. The Republicans have a 384 voter registration advantage.

Senate District 46: Incumbent Republican Senator Shawn Hamerlinck (R-Scott), former Davenport alderman and community college faculty, faces off against Chris Brase, a Muscatine firefighter. This district has a registration advantage of 126 for the Democrats.

Senate District 48: This open seat features Representative Nate Willems (D-Linn), a Lisbon attorney, against Dan Zumbach, a farmer from Ryan. The district has just over 800 more Republicans registered than Democrats.

Not included in this list of contests to watch is District 50 where Senate Majority leader Mike Gronstal (D-Pottawatomie) is challenged by Al Ringgenberg, retired military attorney who works for the Strategic Air Command. The September registration report shows the Democrats out-registering the Repub-

capitol comments



licans by 8,708. It is still worth watching closely on election night since the pre-election bravado was that this seat was going to be a major focus for the Republicans.

The Iowa House is currently controlled by the Republicans by a margin of 60 to 40. It is difficult to envision a scenario putting the Democrats back in control, but it seems reasonable to expect that the Democrats will gain some ground this election. There are approximately 74 seats that could be considered safe (39 Republican and 35 Democratic). That leaves 26 races; eight of those are races without an incumbent (House Districts 26, 28, 30, 72, 73, 76, 80, and 95).

Here is a rundown of the closer races, based on party registrations that feature an incumbent:

House District 7: Representative John Wittneben (D-Emmet), former Estherville City Council member and land surveyor v. Ted Gassman, teacher, businessman, farmer.

House District 12: Representative Dan Muhlbauer (D-Crawford), former Crawford County Supervisor and farmer, v. Barney Bornhoft, Carroll businessman



House District 13: Representative Jeremy Taylor (R-Woodbury), high school teacher, v. Chris Hall (D-Woodbury), former Culver staffer. This is the only house

race in which two incumbents face each other.

House District 38: Representative Kevin Koester (R-Polk), Ankeny Schools Director of Community Education, v. John Phoenix, former business owner, retired from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

House District 47: Representative Chip Baltimore (R-Boone), in-house counsel, Boone Bank and Trust, v. former Representative Donovan Olson, former Boone County Supervisor and current Ogden City Administrator. This is one of two rematches featured during this election cycle.

House District 51: Representative Josh Byrnes (R-Mitchell), NIACC faculty, v. Eric Hungerford.

House District 55: Representative Roger Thomas (D-Clayton), Elkader Economic Development Director, v. Michael Klimish, Mayor of Spillville.

House District 59: Representative Bob Kressig (D-Black Hawk), retired from John Deere, v. James Kenyon, veterinarian.

House District 66: Representative Renee Schulte (R-Linn), strategic planning advisor at Four Oaks, v. former Representative Art Staed, small business owner and educator. This is a rematch from 2008.



House District 68: Representative Nick Wagner (R-Linn), former Marion City Council member and account manager and Project Engineer for ESCO Group, v.

Daniel Lundby. Daniel is the son of Mary Lundby, who served as the minority leader in the Iowa Senate.

House District 71: Representative Mark Smith (D-Marshall), substance abuse counselor, v. Allen Burt, farmer.

House District 75: Representative Dawn Pettengill (R-Benton), former Mt. Auburn Mayor and City Council member, works in retirement and financial services, v. Sandra Cronbaugh, farmer and small business owner.

House District 82: Representative Curt Hanson (D-Jefferson), retired drivers education teacher, v. James Johnson.

House District 88: Representative Tom Sands (R-Louisa), former Columbus Junction and Fredonia City Council member, retired farmer, lay minister, v. Sara Sedlacek, small business owner and former Culver staff.

House District 91: Representative Mark Lofgren (R-Muscatine), Lofgren Investments, v. John Dabeet, Muscatine Community College faculty.

House District 92: Representative Ross Paustian (R-Scott), farmer, v. former Senator Frank Wood, former Mayor of Eldridge.

House District 93: Representative Phyllis Thede (D-Scott), Williams Intermediate School Secretary, v. Mark Nelson, commercial real estate appraiser.

Tax Assessments and the Recession

By: **Kristi Harshbarger**

ISAC Legal Counsel



Should the nation's recession result in reduced tax assessments for local Iowa businesses? One Iowa district court has said "No." On July 27, 2012, Judge Bice of the Carroll County District Court came out with a ruling that denied the local Hy-Vee grocery store's claim that the valuation of its commercial property should be reduced as a result of the recession.

In making the decision, the Court focused on the location of the property - both in the Carroll community in general and the prime location in the town specifically. The court looked at recent development in the Carroll community, including several new businesses in the immediate vicinity of Hy-Vee, to conclude that property values in Carroll were not depressed as they were in areas such as Nevada, Florida or Arizona.

The court dismissed the comparables of vacant buildings and also considered the amount for which the property was insured, which was more than the current tax assessment and much greater than the reduced tax assessment that the business was suggesting as reasonable. The court determined that Hy-Vee would never sell the property for the proposed assessed value, and stated:

"The price for commercial real estate in this area is described as 'stable' and the local economy is not subject to the national recession indicators. The building in question is well-maintained and esthetically appealing with ample parking. Traffic counts in the immediate vicinity are impressive. Simply put, Petitioners-Appellant's argument that the national recession should dictate a reduction in property tax for the Hy-Vee complex in Carroll is not sustainable when applied to the actual economic situation in this progressive community."

An interesting note in the opinion was the lack of persuasiveness the court found in testimony from out-of-state expert witnesses. The court discussed how a cottage industry had developed where large businesses hire companies to prosecute tax appeals for sev-

eral properties under the theory that the recession has reduced property values across the board. In this case, the court noted that no one directly related to Hy-Vee appeared or testified at the trial and that the expert witnesses were all from out-of-state and highly compensated for their time. The court said "the downfall of such an approach to the handling of these matters in such a fashion is that what this Court really wants to hear is testimony of those involved locally and not exclusively professional witnesses." Even on the county side, the Court noted there was only brief testimony from the local assessor and that "a battery of appraisal experts have been organized to counter the state-wide Hy-Vee tax assessment challenges and appeals." I'm not sure how widespread the view that local testimony in these cases is what matters, but it might be something to consider if you are strategizing for how to defend one of these cases. I could certainly see why when the determination of value is the specific property, that local information could be important.

The opinion mentioned that Hy-Vee has made several of these types of claims. If your county is dealing with a claim that tax assessments should be lowered due to the national recession, whether it's Hy-Vee or otherwise, I'd be interested in hearing about it. I'd like to follow this issue and will be curious if any of the claims that the national recession should lower assessments here in Iowa are successful. While this opinion is not binding authority for most, it certainly provides persuasive authority if you find yourself confronting one of these claims and opens the door for counties defending their tax assessments by arguing that the national recession did not lower property values here in Iowa.

I checked in with John Werden, the Carroll County Attorney, and as of the writing of this article in early September 2012, Hy-Vee has appealed the ruling. So as is often the case with my articles covering ongoing litigation, stay tuned...

2013 Scholarship Application Now Available!

The 2013 ISAC Scholarship application is now available at www.iowacounties.org. It will also be published in the November 2012 issue of the magazine. Deadline for applications is Friday, December 14. If you have any questions about the scholarship program, please contact Tammy Norman at 515.244.7181 or tnorman@iowacounties.org.

The 3 R's: Resiliency, Recovery and Rejuvenation

This article's title was the name of our 20th Annual CCMS Conference in August held at the Des Moines Embassy Suites. Aaron Thomas, son of the beloved Parkersburg high school football coach Ed Thomas, talked about the resiliency of his family and community. Parkersburg was struck by an F-5 tornado in May of 2008, and his father was shot and killed by a former student, a year later. Despite these tragedies, Aaron talked about the legacy his father left the community and family he loved: to work hard, take pride in what you do, and care about and help those around you. He spoke of the power of forgiveness, and how the community rallied around the family of the young man who had taken his father's life.

Aaron encouraged those in the audience to be the best that they can be, stand for their beliefs and values, and give their clients the highest level of service that they can. Through his down to earth, courageous story, Aaron reminded all of us of where we came from, what we believe in, and how important it is to always do the right thing. Aaron Thomas returned to Parkersburg after his father died, and is currently a teacher, coach and administrator at Aplington-Parkersburg High School.

The Milestones of Adjustment Post-Psychosis (MAPP) Recovery Model was presented by Mary Moller, who is an Associate Professor of Nursing, and the Director of the Psychiatric Nursing Master's Program at the Yale University School of Nursing. Mary has participated in several studies to learn about the recovery process of persons diagnosed with schizophrenia, after having their first episode of psychosis. MAPP is comprised of four stages: cognitive dissonance, insight, cognitive constancy, and ordinariness. It takes a person diagnosed with schizophrenia three to five years to move through

By: Jackie Olson Leech

ISAC Case Management Specialist



these stages. Another way that Mary describes these milestones of recovery is from the couch to the bus depot to the mall to work. The ability to move through these stages of recovery are dependent upon the existence of the ability to communicate therapeutically and socially, empathy, finding the right medications, encouragement, a positive outlook and acceptance of the diagnosis.

Kathy Peterson rejuvenated the audience with much laughter in her keynote presentation on finding happiness in the chaos of work and life. Outside circumstances don't give us joy or rob us of happiness. Ultimately, we choose our level of happiness through our attitudes - positive or negative. We have a choice in how we react to events and circumstances in our lives. Kathy suggested five things to do to be happy - despite crazy times: listen to yourself, remember that life isn't a stress rehearsal, have an attitude of gratitude, nurture your relationships, and enjoy the ride!

Aaron, Mary, and Kathy set the tone for our 12 breakout sessions. Presenters spoke on topics addressing education, research, advocacy and resources for persons with intellectual disabilities, development disabilities, brain injuries or mental illness. We offered post conference sessions on ethics and mandatory reporting. With almost 300 case managers and supervisors attending our full conference, we once again received great scores and comments on evaluations. Before this issue of *The Iowa County* magazine has been printed, the CCMS Training Committee has already met to review conference evaluations, and training needs assessments, and we have begun planning for our next annual conference in August of 2013.



About the Cover

The cover photo is entitled Lineville Gate and was taken by Joyce Thomas of Centerville near where she grew up in Southeast Lucas County near the Wayne County Line. The photo won first place in the 2nd annual Keep Iowa Beautiful Photography Contest. The contest is aimed at raising awareness of Iowa's beauty. It offers both amateur and experienced photographers an opportunity to tell Iowa's story in a fun and engaging way.

The 3rd Keep Iowa Beautiful Photography Contest has been announced. The deadline for electronic entries is Friday, November 30, 2012. Contest guidelines and rules are available at: www.KeepIowaBeautiful.com/kib-photography-contest.cfm. If you enter any photos please share them with me as well. I'm always looking for interesting photos for the cover of the magazine and interesting feature stories, please contact me at rbicego@iowacounties.org.

CSN: The Process of Change

By: **Josh DeGroot**

ISAC Program Support
Coordinator



The Community Service Network (CSN) is a robust web application with a complex database structure and dynamically created pages; it handles large transactions data sets; and does all of this in a highly secure environment. So with a large web application like CSN (or any other similarly functioning system), one of the only constants is that there will be changes. Change is inevitable. CSN is ever changing in order to make it as efficient, helpful, and functional as possible. It is important to have a process flow for how changes are identified, prioritized, developed, tested, and then released to the live production site.

We get various requests to make fixes, add pages, or improve the overall performance of CSN. These requests come in the form of tickets submitted through CSN, emails, phone calls, and/or committee meetings. Each request is highly valued and important, but it is important that we have a way of treating them with the appropriate level of urgency. When we look at a change request, we have to make a determination as to which kind of change it is.

Changes are going to fall into one of three broad categories: bug fix, maintenance, or enhancement. There is a bug in CSN when something in the web application isn't working the way it is supposed to work. An example of a bug would be (in technical terms) when a page bombs out and you get an ugly yellow page full of all sorts of encoded words and characters. You could obviously say, "That wasn't supposed to happen!" This, of course, would be a bug that we'd want to look at and get fixed immediately. However, it would also be a bug if the client demographics screen was not showing client information that it should be showing. This is certainly less dramatic, but still a bug that needs to be addressed. Most often these change requests come in the form of a ticket submitted through our user support site.

Then there are maintenance issues. These are not typically items that CSN users would request, but rather changes that need to be made in order for CSN to maintain its functionality. For instance, when the new legislation was passed doing away with county of legal settlement definitions, it required that we plan for and appropriately address these changes in order to maintain the way that the system works for the users of CSN. Specifically, CSN checks to see if a client has a valid legal settlement in order to approve services. We know that soon we'll have to stop checking for valid legal settlement and start looking at other validation requirements for approving services.

An enhancement is a different animal. An enhancement is a change request which improves something that is currently working OR requests something altogether new be added to CSN. This can be a new page, a new report, or a completely new way a section of CSN works. A recent enhancement was added to CSN to dynamically create a notice of decision document for a client showing their application decision (approved, denied, etc.). This would be considered an enhancement since it was a brand new document.

Once it is determined whether the change request is a bug fix, maintenance issue, or enhancement, there will be a support ticket opened (if there isn't already one) so that it can be assigned to a developer. Opening a support ticket is really important for a couple of reasons. First, it gives a paper trail of where the request came from and why. Second, the support ticket allows the developer to type notes and document the changes that he/she made. From there the developer will research and develop a solution to the change that is needed and/or requested. Of course, the development for a minor bug fix is fairly insignificant. However a large enhancement could take a significant amount of time for one or more developers to research and develop a solution.

After the development is done, there's the testing phase. Again, for a really minor bug fix, this is a quick process. For a major enhancement or maintenance issue, this can be quite an undertaking to get through all the testing items. We often even include our CSN users to help us test on one of our testing environments. Once the testing is done and it has been determined that the developed solution meets works and meets the desired requirements, it is ready to be communicated to the counties and transferred to the live production site.

We really do appreciate when we get a heads up on a bug in CSN or an idea on how CSN could work better for its users. Our aim is for CSN to be a huge benefit for the county community services offices so that their clients can be served as effectively and efficiently as possible. If you have any questions about anything in this article, please email me at jdegroote@iowacounties.org.

Don't miss out!

ISAC's *Fall School* of Instruction

Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union
Convention Center
Des Moines
November 28-30, 2012

2012 ISAC *Fall School* of Instruction.

We have put together a great program that you won't want to miss. Check out the new location, schedule and events including ISAC Steps to Wellness, lunches, affiliate times and more!

See you back in Des Moines!

Thank and support our sponsors!

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Cost Advisory Services, Inc.



All fall school information available at
www.iowacounties.org.

ISAC
Iowa State Association of Counties



Wednesday, November 28

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| 9:00 am - 3:00 pm | ISAC Registration and Information Desk (Exhibit hall) |
| 9:00 am - 10:00 am | Exhibitor Morning Refreshments (Exhibit hall) |
| 10:00 am - 11:30 am | Exhibitor Learning Center (Meeting room level) |
| 10:00 am - 11:30 am | ISAC Educational Seminars (Meeting room level) |
| 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Exhibitor Box Lunch (Exhibit hall) |
| 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm | Exhibitor Learning Center (Meeting room level) |
| 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm | ISAC Educational Seminars (Meeting room level) |
| 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm | Exhibitor Ice Cream Social (Exhibit hall) |
| 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm | ISAC General Session (Meeting room level) |
| 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Hospitality Rooms (Des Moines Marriott Downtown) |
| 8:30 pm - 11:00 pm | ISAC Dance/DJ (Des Moines Marriott Downtown) |

2012 Exhibit Hall

Learn about new products and services and make valuable networking connections through the various events planned in the exhibit hall. The exhibitor learning center will be located on the meeting room level of the convention center.

Wednesday, November 28

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am
Exhibitor Morning Refreshments
- Assorted breads and pastries, fruit, and coffee
- 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Exhibitor Learning Center Presentations
- 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Exhibitor Box Lunch
- Ham or turkey sandwich, apple, chips, cookie, and beverage
- 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Exhibitor Learning Center Presentations
- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Exhibitor Ice Cream Social
- Ice cream sundae bar

Thursday, November 29

- 7:30 am - 8:30 am
Exhibitor Morning Refreshments
- Assorted breads and pastries, fruit, and coffee
- 11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Exhibitor Lunch Buffet and Vendor Drawing
- Assorted breads and rolls, Caesar salad, assorted pizzas, cheese manicotti, iced tea or lemonade, and assorted dessert bars.

**Please email any special dietary needs to shorner@iowacounties.org by 4:30 pm on Friday, November 2. After this date we can not guarantee meeting any special dietary needs. All food and beverage items are subject to change.

ISAC Iowa State Association of Counties General Session

2012 Keynote Speaker

Iowa State University Director of Athletics Jamie Pollard will be the fall school Keynote Speaker. Pollard is in his seventh year as the Director of Athletics at ISU and his impact has been dramatic. The enthusiasm in the Cyclone fan base today is the result of Pollard's vision and the collective efforts of the entire staff. He will discuss his challenges and relate them to the challenges of public leadership.



ISAC Dance

The ever popular dance floor will be alive once again at the fall school. From big band to current hits to your requests, an extensive music library with favorites from all genres will be available. Enjoy a night full of fun and music! Beverages and light snacks will be served during this social event.

Family Meal Ticket

For only \$25 a spouse or family member can join conference attendees in the two delicious lunches being offered (the exhibitor box lunch on Wednesday, November 28, and the exhibitor lunch buffet on Thursday, November 29). Meal tickets can be purchased online with registrations prior to the November 13 registration deadline.

ISAC Educational Seminars

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Cyber Security/Investigations and the FBI: This presentation will cover how the FBI investigates cyber crimes. Brian Endrizal and Brian Arcand, FBI Special Agents, will speak from their experiences about these ever-changing crimes.

Business Finesse: The Importance of Business Etiquette: This session will help you project a professional image for yourself and your county. Topics will include: public speaking, communicating with the media on controversial subjects, meetings and greetings, phone and email etiquette, and professional image. This seminar will be led by Callista Gould of the Culture and Manners Institute.

Budgeting for Outcomes: This presentation will relate the experience of Linn County over the past two years with this innovative budgeting process that often leads to new and creative ideas that may save your county money. Presenter Dawn Jindrich, Linn County Budget Director, will explain how to begin to align your county's strategic goals with your ever more limited budget dollars while inspiring county staff at the same time.

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

The Importance of Integrating Wellness in the Workplace: Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield will share strategies to assess and organize readiness and tools to engage employees in a well-structured wellness and prevention program. Amy Gould will discuss how wellness in the workplace can reduce your healthcare costs and improve employee productivity.

Investment IQ: This session will discuss specifics about investing, saving and retiring including characteristics, goals, products and the "why" of all three. Burt Burrows from Nationwide Retirement Solutions will lead this lively discussion in hopes of heightening your Investment IQ.

The Value of Planning: Policy Leadership to Enhance County Effectiveness: This session will discuss various methods by which county leaders can act strategically, including goal-setting, strategic planning and financial planning. Jeff Schott from the University of Iowa Institute of Public Affairs will also provide tips for success and potential pitfalls.

ISAC Exhibitor Learning Center Presentations

10:00 am - 10:40 am

Improving America's Roads with Full Depth Reclamation/ Recycling and Stabilization: Learn how to get more out of your budget dollars by recycling road surface material into the base and receiving long lasting results.

Presented by:
Asphalt Zipper, Inc.
(Exhibit Booth 47)

10:50 am - 11:30 am

Saving Your County Money with U.S. Communities: Learn how your county can take advantage of immediate savings through this free purchasing program. Take advantage of competitively bid contracts to purchase the items your county needs each day.

Presented by:
U.S. Communities
(Exhibit Booth 4)

12:30 pm - 1:10 pm

The State of Information Security and Risk Mitigation: ACES President and CEO Phil Kenealy will review common cyber crimes, including past examples, and will teach you the best prevention strategies to protect your county.

Presented by:
ACES
(Exhibit Booth 45)

2:20 pm - 3:00 pm

Local Government in the Cloud: Permitting and Land Records Examples: Learn how Iowa and Midwest communities are leveraging cloud based solutions to improve workflows and constituent services in the areas of permitting and land records.

Presented by:
The Schneider Corporation
(Exhibit Booth 23)



Thursday November 29

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| 7:30 am - 4:00 pm | ISAC Registration and Information Desk (Exhibit hall) |
| 7:30 am - 8:30 am | Exhibitor Morning Refreshments (Exhibit hall) |
| 8:30 am - 11:00 am | Affiliate Time (Meeting room level) |
| 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Exhibitor Lunch Buffet and Vendor Drawing (Exhibit hall) |
| 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm | Affiliate Time (Meeting room level) |



Friday November 30

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 7:30 am - 12:00 pm | ISAC Registration and Information Desk (Meeting room level) |
| 7:30 am - 8:00 am | Morning Refreshments (Meeting room level) |
| 8:00 am - 12:00 pm | Affiliate Time (Meeting room level) |

Steps to Wellness *New!*

This walking program, with support of the ISAC Wellness Program and Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, was designed to encourage conference attendees to exercise by walking through the Des Moines skywalk system during the conference. All attendees will have the opportunity to participate free of charge and a chance to win spring school registrations and other gifts. Be sure to check your registration packet for a pedometer and instructions.

Books for Blank *New!*

ISAC encourages attendees to donate new children's books to support the literacy programs at Blank Children's Hospital in downtown Des Moines. There will be a book drop-off area at the convention center. The primary need is for books for children from toddlers to middle school, although books for older children are also needed. Please, no books about sensitive issues like divorce, abuse or death.



Shuttle Services

Thanks to the Greater Des Moines Convention and Visitors Bureau, we will be providing complimentary shuttle service to/from the Des Moines Marriott Downtown, Renaissance Savery Des Moines Hotel, and the convention center at the times listed below. The shuttle will run a continuous loop during these times dropping off in front of the convention center (Fifth Street entrance).

Wednesday, November 28

AM Shuttle: 7:00 am - 9:30 am
 PM Shuttle: 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Thursday, November 29

AM Shuttle: 7:15 am - 8:30 am
 PM Shuttle: 4:45 pm - 5:45 pm

Friday, November 30

AM Shuttle: 7:15 am - 8:30 am
 PM Shuttle: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm



Parking

Parking is available north of the convention center with entrances off the following streets: Third, Fifth and Crocker. These surface lots offer the closest and most convenient access to the facility and easy access to I-235. ADA Accessible parking is available by entering the lot south of Crocker Street. Cost is \$7 per day. Please have cash available.

More information and registration at
www.iowacounties.org

Board Meeting Summary - September 13-14, 2012

ISAC President Wayne Walter called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The ISAC Board of Directors meeting minutes from June 28, 2012 were reviewed and approved unanimously. The ETC Board of Directors meeting minutes from June 28, 2012 were reviewed for informational purposes.

Bill Peterson reported that the auditors have finished all in-house work. The board will be presented with the results at the October meeting.

Bill reviewed the year-end financial statement in comparison it to the FY 2012 budget. Although ISAC collected 93% of budgeted income, only 91% was expended. He highlighted areas of the budget that exceeded expectation and areas that were low. The financial report as of June 30, 2012 was accepted unanimously. Bill also gave an overview of the financials as of August 31, 2012.

Stacy Horner reported that the 8th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser netted around \$24,000 thanks to a great

turnout, sponsorships, and an abundance of raffle donation made by treasurers around the state. Possible changes for next year's event will be discussed at the October board meeting.

Kristi Harshbarger gave an update on ISAC vs. IDR.

Robin Harlow gave an update on CSN, CCMS and ETC. All ISAC staff members completed HIPAA training in July. Sam Watson, ISAC Information Technology Specialist, will be relocating and leaving ISAC sometime in the near future. He will be very difficult to replace. Robin continued by notifying the Board that the CRIS 28E termination letter will need to be approved at the October meeting and that letters will go out to counties after the fall school. The CCMS module implementation is going well and should be completed by the end of October.

Rachel Bicego reviewed the proposals that were submitted by companies wishing to present during the fall school as part of the Exhibitor Learning Center. The following companies were

Continues on the next page.



2012 ISAC Board of Directors Pictured: Front row (L to R): Harlan Hansen, Darin Raymond, Wayne Walter, Melvyn Houser. Second Row (L to R): Lu Barron, Linda Langston, Deb McWhirter, Sarah Kaufman, Peggy Rice, Richard Crouch. Third row (L to R): Wayne Chizek, Dave Morlan, Jon McNamee, Grant Veeder, Kathy Babcock. Not pictured: Dan Cohen, Jim George, Joan McCalmant, Mike Balmer, Bret VandeLune, Marge Pitts.

NACo news

selected by the Board as presenters: ACES; Asphalt Zipper, Inc.; The Schneider Corporation; and U.S. Communities.

Stacy Horner gave three options for the dates and location of the 2015 ISAC Fall School of Instruction: November 11-13 (November 11 is Veterans Day) in Des Moines; November 18-20 in Coralville; and November 18-20 in Cedar Rapids. These are the only three available options due to availability and the way in which the calendar lies. Stacy also suggested that the 2016 Fall School of Instruction be held at the Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center in Des Moines from November 30 to December 2. Beyond 2016 it was suggested that the Board look at completely moving the conference to a different month earlier in the fall because of conflicts in November. The board had ample discussion about all of the dates and locations.

Staff was dismissed for the Executive Director's evaluation session.

The board recessed at 4:45 pm and was reconvened by President Walter at 8:30 am on Friday, September 14.

Linda Hinton led a discussion about the changes in county operations that are required by the recent legislation regarding mental health redesign and the potential impact on ISAC programs, operations, funding and staffing. The Board also discussed the possible resources that will be needed to provide technical assistance to counties. CCMS will likely be retained as it is currently, but there may be minimal changes to the structure, and therefore, the fee structure.

Robin Harlow discussed that changes to the individual county ETC 28Es will likely be needed. There are a lot of questions being discussed regarding CSN's ownership and how the changes will affect the system. However, the system will still be needed.

Kristi Harshbarger discussed that much technical work will be needed to meet the requirements of the law and that she will be available for assistance. During the process, the creation of new regional 28Es will be most of ISAC's involvement.

Bill Menner, Iowa Rural Development State Director, USDA, was introduced and addressed the board.

Stacy reported that following the research of all possible dates, the three original options remained for the Board's decision. The Board unanimously approved holding the 2015 fall school at either the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center

or the Cedar Rapids Convention Center from November 18-20. The Board came to the consensus that the decision would be made in October based on the most advantageous offer from these two locations.

The Board unanimously approved holding the 2016 fall school November 30 through December 2 at Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center in Des Moines.

The Board asked to have three fall school dates explored starting in 2017 and spanning five years beyond for consideration at the October meeting. The importance of getting dates and locations set for the future was emphasized both for consistency for members and to keep registration and hotel rates as low as possible.

J. Patrick "Pat" White, Former Johnson County Attorney and ISAC Past President, was recommended and approved unanimously as the 2012 ISAC Golden Eagle.

The following limerick was given by Jon McNamee upon resignation.

I will soon bid farewell to this board,
It's a job that I really adored.
Neither rebel nor rouser,
I was no Melvyn Houser.
But truly, I never was bored.

Bill Peterson led a discussion about an ISAC-funded grant program to encourage counties to participate in strategic planning and goal setting. The Board had ample discussion about what ISAC's role should be in various county government restructuring efforts and

came to the conclusion that a program involving incentive from ISAC was a great idea. The Board agreed that the application process should not be cumbersome, and that Jeff Schott from the University of Iowa, is a great option to lead counties but not a requirement. Details will be brought back to the board in the future to finalize.

Rachel Bicego reported on the ISAC website redesign project. A project background, goals and timeline were given to the board and discussed. The project will need significant financial investment which will be included in the FY 2014 budget.

The Board came to the consensus that going paperless is a good option.

The board materials included a resignation letter from Jon McNamee, Black Hawk County Environmental Management, effective following the October meeting.

Board members shared issues, concerns, ideas and achievements.

President Walter adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

Barron Wins National Award

The National Association of Counties (NACo) recently named Linn County Supervisor Lu Barron as a winner of the 2012 NACo Prescription Discount Card Outstanding Program Champion Award. Supervisor Barron was selected for her outreach to maximize use of the prescription discount card in Linn County, which included spearheading the effort to include the prescription discount cards in Linn County's property tax bill mailing.

"Linn County implemented the Prescription Discount Card Program in 2006, and since that time more than 16,800 Linn County residents have saved more than \$519,000 on prescriptions that were not covered by insurance," said Barron. "We are pleased to see the program is making a difference and is helping people save money on their prescriptions."

Linn County is one of more than 1,400 counties across the nation currently offering the NACo Prescription Discount Card Program

to residents. This free program offers an average of 23% off the retail price of commonly prescribed drugs. The discount card program is administered by CVS Caremark and is accepted at more than 59,000 participating retail pharmacies nationwide.

There is no enrollment form, no membership fee and no limit on the number of times card can be used. It even works with pet medications received from pharmacies.

For more information on the Prescription Discount Card program, and to obtain a prescription discount card, visit www.caremark.com/naco.



In Memoriam - Jeff Arnold

It is with great sadness that I announce the death of our colleague and friend Jeff Arnold, NACo's deputy legislative director and chief lobbyist on telecommunications. Jeff joined the NACo family in January 1994 as associate legislative director for public lands and the Western Interstate Region.

He first came to Washington to work for Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon and subsequently served as a professional staff member for the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. From Capitol Hill, Jeff moved to the Department of Interior during President George H.W. Bush's Administration, where he first served as chief of the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs for the Minerals Management Service and later as the deputy director of the department's Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs.



By: Larry Naake

Former NACo Executive Director

Jeff had a keen mind with great political instincts. His contributions to NACo went beyond the Legislative Affairs Department. He was a mentor to many at NACo and his office was always open to all. Current and former NACo staff will always remember his wise advice, humorous anecdotes and daily walkabouts.

Jeff was a multi-faceted individual. Some of you may not know that he was involved in theater when he was younger and played John Adams in the musical, "1776," his favorite role. Jeff also served as the national president of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society from 1976-1977 and remained a strong advocate for higher education. Some of his other interests included country music, NASCAR racing, golf, and of course his beloved University of Oregon football team – Go Ducks!

He will be profoundly missed.

counties in the spotlight

Fitzgerald Named to National Board

Story County Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald is one of the 12 newly-appointed members to the First Responder Network Authority (First Net) Board. The announcement was made during the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) Annual Conference in Minneapolis..

The FirstNet Board is tasked with deploying a nationwide, interoperable, public safety communications network as recommended by the 9/11 Commission in order to resolve communications challenges faced by emergency responders nationwide.

On February 22, 2012, President Obama signed into law the "Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012," which included provisions to fund and govern a Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network. It also called for the formation of FirstNet as an independent authority within the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to create the overarching framework for

the network and secure nationwide standards for use and access to the network. The FirstNet Board is also responsible for issuing requests for proposals to build, operate, and maintain the network, and overseeing the contracts with non-federal entities to build, operate, and maintain the network.



The Act directed the Secretary of Commerce to appoint 12 FirstNet Board members, who will serve for staggered, three-year terms. By law, the FirstNet Board represents experts in public safety, technology, network operations, and finance. The Act also requires the Board's inclusion of at least three public safety professionals and at least three members representing the interests of states, localities, tribes, and territories.

counties in the spotlight

Scott County Facility R2 Certified

Waste Commission of Scott County's Electronic Demanufacturing Facility has achieved Responsible Recycling (R2) certification. It is the first public agency in the world and the only agency in the state of Iowa to achieve this certification. There are approximately 239 facilities globally that hold R2 certification.

The R2 Standard sets forth requirements relating to environmental, health, safety, and security aspects of electronics recycling. R2 also requires recyclers to assure that more toxic material streams are managed safely and responsibly by downstream vendors—all the way to final disposition. It sets requirements for recyclers and their downstream vendors regarding the safe export of toxic materials to certain countries. All of these practices are verified by an independent auditor.

"We are proud to be the first R2-certified facility in the state of Iowa," said Keith Krambeck, special waste manager for Waste Commission of Scott County (Commission). "Becoming R2-certified was one of the goals of the Commission's Environmental, Health and Safety Management System

(EHSMS) through the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. While we already had an EHSMS in place, the R2 standard was much more rigorous and our staff worked extremely hard to meet those standards. Because of this, we feel we have an outstanding EHSMS that will better protect our employees and better serve the needs of our customers," he said.

The Electronic Demanufacturing Facility, located in Davenport, provides residents and businesses throughout Iowa and western Illinois an environmentally sound and economically feasible disposal option for electronic waste (e-waste).

For more information about the Electronic Demanufacturing Facility call 563.823.0119 or visit www.wastecom.com. For more information about R2 certification, visit www.r2solutions.org.

Waste Commission of Scott County is an inter-governmental agency established in 1972 to provide environmentally sound and economically feasible solid waste management services for Scott County. It operates the Scott Area Landfill, Scott Area Recycling Center, Electronic Demanufacturing Facility, two Household Hazardous Material Facilities, a public education program and a Keep America Beautiful affiliate called iLivehere Quad Cities.

Winneshiek Recycling Program Receives Award

The Winneshiek County Recycling Department has been named the best government recycling program in Iowa for 2012.

"This is the biggest award out there in the recycling business that we're aware of. We're real happy to get it," said Terry Buenzow, Winneshiek County Recycling Department manager.

The honor was among the Iowa awards for excellence in recycling for 2012 announced recently by the Iowa Recycling Association (IRA).

"Award recipients represent premier facilities, programs, projects and individuals exhibiting cutting-edge waste management and recycling practices," the IRA said in announcing the awards last week.

The awards was presented at the IRA annual awards luncheon in Des Moines this summer.

Factors

Accomplishments, improvements and the organizational structure of the program were all factors in the award.

Over the past several years, the Winneshiek County Recycling Department has made major improvements to the program such as construction of a new public drop-off facility, new collection bins at many sites, installation of a 40-horsepower document shredder and the acceptance of additional material types, Buenzow explained.

"These and other improvements have made the program a model of efficiency that other similar programs can follow. The program offers total transparency, and everything is public record. All revenue from the recycling efforts not needed to cover the expenses of the program is returned to the Winneshiek County general fund to be used for property tax relief. This is a very unique organizational structure that lets everyone have a financial stake in the program," he said. Participation in the county's recycling program is "extremely good," Buenzow commented.

Horrrifying

The cost of some other recycling operations in the state is "horrrifying," Buenzow said. "We're one of the very few governmental recycling programs structured to operate in the black like this."

The director said he strives every year to "cancel out" his budget through the revenue created by the recycling program. "We

try to run the most efficient recycling operation anywhere," Buenzow said.

John Logsdon, a member of the Winneshiek County Board of Supervisors who represents the Board in the recycling program, said that's been his goal since the county took over recycling in April 2009 from Spectrum Industries. Under the non-profit organization, the program had been losing money.

"We managed to put a lot of money back into the county general fund," Logsdon said.

Almost \$100,000 has been invested in capital improvements, which have enhanced operating efficiency, he said.

"It allows us to do more with less labor," Buenzow said.

"We're doing a lot more volume than surrounding counties with less people," Logsdon said.

A year ago, the program employed the full-time equivalent of 3.8 employees, and now there are 3.4 workers. In addition to Buenzow, Keith Sanderson and Scott Logsdon are employed full time and Doc Muchow works part time.

"Winneshiek County Recycling Department thanks everyone for their help in making this award possible," Buenzow said.

More information

The services of the Winneshiek County program are not limited to residents of the county. For more information, contact the Winneshiek County Recycling Department at 563.382.6514, via e-mail at recycling@co.winneshiek.ia.us, or visit the program's Facebook page.

employment

IT/GIS Coordinator

Louisa County is accepting applications for a full-time Information Technology (IT)/ GIS Coordinator. This position is responsible for maintaining the reliable operation of the computer networks for the county; selecting and maintaining the county's computer hardware and software; providing support and training to end-user departments to facilitate efficient use of technology; and managing the county's GIS system.

To apply, please visit the Louisa County website at www.louisacountyiowa.org.

Deadline for applications is October 12, 2012.

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employment

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2012/2013 calendar

October 2012

- 12 Fall School Program Deadline
- 17-18 CCMS Fundamentals Training (Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)
- 23 CCMS Administrators Meeting (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)
- 25-26 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, West Des Moines)

November 2012

- 1 CCMS Advanced Case Management Meeting (Hilton Garden Inn, Johnston)
- 2 Fall School Housing Bureau Deadline
- 13 Fall School Pre-registration Deadline
- 11-14 County Attorneys Fall Training Conference (Dubuque)
- 28-30 ISAC Fall School of Instruction (Veteran's Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

December 2012

- 4-6 Engineers Statewide Annual Conference (Scheman Center, Ames)

- 13 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office, West Des Moines)

January 2013

- 8 CCMS Administrators Meeting (Hilton Garden Inn, Johnston)
- 23-24 New County Officers School (The Meadows Events and Conference Center, Altoona)

February 2013

- 6 Statewide Supervisors Meeting (Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)
- 27-28 CCMS Fundamentals Training (Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)

March 2013

- 2-6 NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)
- 13 County Day at the Capitol (State Capitol, Des Moines)
- 14-15 ISAC Spring School of Instruction (Des Moines Marriott Downtown)

Please visit ISAC's online calendar of events at www.iowacounties.org and click on 'Upcoming Events.' A listing of all the meetings scheduled for 2012-2013, 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.

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