May 2014
Scholarship Golf Fundraiser: REGISTER TODAY!
Scholarship Program Update
New Legal Access Program
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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.
Have you ever wondered . . .

Your county is contemplating hiring a new company to perform a service for your entity. The company sends you a copy of its “standard” contract for you to “kindly sign where indicated and return.” But in reviewing the liability section, you see that the “Indemnitor” shall agree to “defend” “protect” and “hold Indemnitee harmless” from any and all liability. Have you ever wondered what all of this means? Who is the “Indemnitor” and is there a difference between “defend” and “hold harmless”? Moreover, have you ever wondered if you should be agreeing to assume any liability at all?

Or, let’s say your county is interviewing for a new position. Have you ever wondered if you must consider an existing employee who has expressed interest in being considered for the position? With frequent changes in how the American with Disabilities Act is interpreted, do you have to offer this existing employee an accommodation for this new position? And in interviewing the prospective candidates, have you ever wondered what you can and cannot ask?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, then the risk sharing pool endorsed by ISAC, known as the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (ICAP), has a service for you.

About ICAP

ICAP is a local government risk pool comprised of 697 counties, cities, townships, fairs and a number of other special districts and units of local government. It was formed in 1986 to provide broad coverage to public entities at fair and stable rates in response to a severe insurance crisis. But ICAP’s focus doesn’t stop at coverage. “The ICAP Board of Directors looks for ways to not only provide broad coverage to its members, but also to provide services that our members find valuable. Our Member Services Committee regularly considers new and innovative programs to offer to the membership” says Mr. Jody Smith, Chairman of the ICAP Board. One such program is the ICAP Legal Access program that was launched in 2013.

How does ICAP Legal Access work?

ICAP members seeking legal consultation on any of the above matters may call 877.374.9774. The individual calling in on behalf of the member entity must be authorized by the member entity to use this service. After membership, authority and area of inquiry are confirmed, the caller’s information will be provided to Hopkins & Huebner and an attorney will contact the member directly. The attorneys at the law firm of Hopkins & Huebner will track the time used by each ICAP member and notify members when their time has been used. If a member uses the 90 minutes provided pursuant to the Legal Access service and desires additional services from Hopkins & Huebner, P.C., such additional services will be at the member’s expense. The legal consultation provided to ICAP members pursuant the Legal Access service is subject to the Legal Consultation Policy, which can be found on ICAP’s website at www.ICAPIowa.com.

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Scholarship Program Update

By: Tammy Norman
ISAC Office Manager

During this year’s Spring School General Session ISAC awarded scholarships for the 17th time. The awards were presented by ISAC President Harlan Hansen and Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff and ISAC board member. ISAC’s Education Foundation Fundraising Committee hosted a summer golf tournament and raised more than $22,000 for these scholarships. The ISAC Board of Directors approved granting six top ISAC district scholarships in the amount of $2,500 each and six runner-up district scholarships in the amount of $1,000.00 each.

The following, outstanding high school seniors are this year’s scholarship winners: District 1 - Charlie Rupp, 35 CSD High School in Warren County. Charlie’s parents are Kathy and Jim Rupp. Kathy is the Warren County Budget Director. District 2 - Beth Benschoter, Algona High School in Kossuth County. Beth’s parents are Karen and Kevin Benschoter. Karen is the Kossuth County Recorder. District 3 - Abby Lubeck, Cherokee Washington High School in Cherokee County. Abby’s parents are Jennifer and Michael Lubeck. Jennifer is a jailer/dispatcher with the Buena Vista County sheriff’s office. District 4 - Monica Witzman, Atlantic High School in Cass County. Monica’s parents are Stephanie and Christopher Witzman. Stephanie is a Civil Process Server for the Cass County sheriff’s office. District 5 - Sara Gragg, Tri-County High School in Keokuk County. Sara’s parents are Christine Edmundson and Mickey Gragg. Christine is the Keokuk County Treasurer. District 6 - Samuel Bennett, Assumption High School in Scott County. Samuel’s parents are Pamela and Todd Bennett. Pamela is an office administrator for the Scott County sheriff’s office. Samuel is pictured on the cover of this magazine.

The $1,000 runner-up scholarship recipients are as follows: District 1 - Zachary Thomas, Nevada High School in Story County. Zachary’s parents are Shelly Bitz and Barry Thomas. Barry is Story County Chief Deputy. District 2 - Carson Miller, Iowa City West High School in Johnson County. Carson’s parents are Kayleen and Al Miller. Al is the Fayette County Engineer. District 3 - Erik Drost, Emmetsburg High School in Palo Alto County. Erik’s parents are Margaret and Douglas Drost. Margaret is the legal secretary for the Palo Alto County attorney’s office. District 4 - Alison Hanner, Guthrie Center High School in Guthrie County. Alison’s parents are Michele and Joe Hanner. Joe is the Guthrie County Conservation Director. District 5 - Ashlyn Frank, Wapello High School in Louisa County. Ashlyn’s parents are Vicki and Jason Frank. Vicki Frank is the Louisa County Treasurer. District 6 - AJ Petersen, Davenport West High School. AJ’s parents are Craig and Diane Peterson. Craig Peterson is a correctional officer with the Scott County sheriff’s office. A one-time scholarship was awarded with funds donated on behalf of District 1 in the amount of $1,400.00 to Adam Byrne, Manson Northwest Webster High School. Adam’s parents are Matthew and Dawn Byrne. Matthew is an EMT with Calhoun County Public Health department.

ISAC’s scholarship program is supported by the hard work and efforts of its membership and staff. To aid in the continued need to find innovative ways to support this program through fundraising efforts, the ISAC Education Foundation Fundraising Committee was formed. The committee is made up of representatives appointed from each of ISAC’s affiliates. The current committee consists of the following members: Christy Tinnes, Washington County Assessor; Dan Widmer, Washington County Auditor; Sheila Kobliska, Chickasaw County Community Services; Daniel Cohen, Buchanan County Conservation; Darin Raymond, Plymouth County Attorney; Dave Penton, Kossuth County Emergency Management; David Carney, Monona County Engineer; Kathy Babcock, Chickasaw County Public Health; Melissa Bird, Keokuk County Recorder; Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff; Cara Marker Morgan, Fremont County Supervisor; Melvyn Houser, Pottawattamie County Supervisor; Wayne Clinton, Story County Supervisor; Chuck Rieken, Cass County Supervisor; and Tracey Marshall, Cass County Treasurer. If you wish to join this committee, please contact your affiliate president.

Our scholarship fundraising efforts this year were kicked off with a 50/50 raffle held during the Spring School. Committee members worked hard and sold $2,392 in raffle tickets. The winner of the raffle was Kevin Williams, Grundy County Conservation Director. He won $1,196, and the same amount went to the scholarship fund. The next fundraising event that you can support will be the ISAC Scholarship Golf Outing being held on Wednesday, August 6 at the Toad Valley Golf Course in Pleasant Hill. Registration forms are included on pages 11-12 of this magazine and more information can be found at www.iowacounties.org. This year’s event will feature a mini-golf tournament and other NEW, fun activities. Don’t miss it!

Continues on next page.
**feature**

ISAC is starting a new program entitled Where are they Now? that will highlight past scholarship winners and update you on their lives. It seems appropriate to begin this program by highlighting the very first recipient of the ISAC top scholarship back in 1997. The winner was Nathan Martin, son of Paul and Diane Martin. Paul Martin was the former Cerro Gordo County Attorney. Please enjoy Nathan’s update.

I was born in 1978 and grew up in the Mason City area. After high school, I went to Northwestern College in Orange City. During college I enjoyed studies in sociology and missions along with getting to know international students, being a part of campus ministries, and wrestling for Northwestern College.

I met Brianna at an old fashioned ice cream store where we worked in high school, and we were married on May 22, 1999 in Mason City.

Following Northwestern, I went on to study at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary near Boston where I pursued a Master of Divinity and Brianna an M.A. in Missions.

Shortly thereafter, we were compelled by the story of Cambodia and seriously considered work among Cambodian people. Our last year of seminary we moved to a suburb of Boston where several thousand Cambodian refugees lived, and we learned about Cambodian culture and life.

Following seminary, I invested roughly three years pastoring a small church in Salem. Then in October of 2009, we moved from the fields of Iowa to the fields of Cambodia to be part of OMF International’s mission work in Cambodia. After completing the first stages of OMF Cambodia’s language and culture learning program, we moved to rural Cambodia to join a team that does Bible teaching and partners with the Ministry of Education in doing Cambodian literacy and a libraries project.

We now have two boys, Caleb, born July 21, 2011, and Jonah, born October 18, 2013, and we are currently living in Mason City for a year as we prepare to return to Cambodia for another four years in the fall of 2014.

**employment**

**County Engineer**

The Warren County Board of Supervisors is now accepting resumes for County Engineer. Applicants must have an Iowa Professional Engineering License in Civil, Highway or Construction Engineering. The engineering department has approximately 30 employees. Salary is based on experience and qualifications. Resumes may be sent to Jean Furler, County Administrator, 301 North Buxton Street, Suite 202, Indianola, IA. Further inquiries can be made to jeanf@co.warren.ia.us. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

**feature**

Continued from page 4.

Helping ICAP Members Avoid Claims in the First Place

Although members join ICAP for the primary purpose of having their claims covered, ICAP understands that once a claim or lawsuit is filed, it can be a considerable distraction from the members’ day-to-day activities. “That’s why the Member Services Committee looks long and hard at ways to avoid claims in the first place. After seeing claims develop in the areas noted above, we thought of ways to assist at an earlier point in time—before the contract is signed, before the interview takes place, or before the open records request is responded to” says Tom Roth, member of the ICAP Member Services Committee.

If you are an ICAP member and have questions in one of these five areas, consider trying out ICAP’s new Legal Access service. And for a complete list of all of the risk management resources available to ICAP members, please visit www.ICAPIowa.com.
At the time of this writing, the legislative session is winding down and legislators will soon be hitting the campaign trail. Each even year, all 100 seats in the Iowa House of Representatives and half of the 50 seats in the Iowa Senate are up for re-election. With the vacancy of a U.S. Senate seat and two Congressional offices, along with the usual retirements and competitive districts, the 2014 elections are shaping up to significantly change the landscape of both the federal and state level delegations. This month’s Capitol Comments will serve as a primer for the June 3 Primary Election and November 4 General Election.

There is currently a partisan split between the Democratic majority in the Iowa Senate and the Republican held House and Governor’s office. At the state level the Democrats will aim to expand their majority in the Senate and take back the House and Governorship, while the House will seek to retain what they have and gain control of the Senate. In the Senate, 25 seats will be up on the ballot with Democrats currently holding 14 and Republicans having 11. In the House, all 100 seats are up for election with the Republicans currently holding a 53-47 majority. In the Senate, at least five districts will see a new face with four senators retiring and Senator Jack Hatch giving up his seat to run for governor. In the House, there will be at least 10 new representatives. Six legislators are retiring, including Mark Brandenburg who is running for Pottawattamie County Recorder. Representative Jason Schultz is running for an open state Senate seat, while Representatives Pat Murphy and Anesa Kajtazovic are running in the Democratic primary for the first Congressional district, and Representative Mark Lofgren is running in the Republican Primary for the second Congressional district.

Of the 25 seats up for election in the Senate, six districts held by Democrats and five districts in Republican control will be contested, leaving eight Democrats and six Republicans with a clear path to re-election. A few of the contested races will feature current and former county officials. Running in the Republican Primary to face Senator Amanda Ragan of Cerro Gordo County is former Butler County Sheriff Timothy Junker, and taking on Senate Rita Hart of Clinton County in the fall is Republican Clinton County Supervisor Brian Schmidt. On the Democratic side, Wapello County Supervisor Steve Siegel is competing in the Primary to take on incumbent Senator Mark Chelgren of Wapello County, while Johnson County Deputy Sheriff Kevin Kinney is competing in the Primary for the seat left open by the retirement of Senator Sandy Greiner of Washington County.

Of the 100 seats up for election in the House, 32 seats currently held by Democrats and 26 seats held by Republicans will go uncontested in the general election, but several will have challenges in the Primary. This leaves 27 districts held by Republicans and 15 districts in Democratic control in play in the November election. The House races will also feature some current and former county officials and employees. Former Madison County Supervisor Joan Acela is running in the Republican Primary against incumbent Representative Stan Gustafson. For the Democrats, former Cedar County Supervisor Dennis Boedecker is running in the Primary for the chance to challenge Representative Bobby Kaufmann, and Wright County Public Health Nurse Nancy Paule Huisinga is running against Representative Henry Rayhons.

Current and former county employees now serving in the legislature will also be up for re-election this year and two are retiring. Former Johnson County Supervisor and current state Senator Joe Bolkcom will run unopposed. Former Pottawattamie County Supervisor Hubert Houser and former Jasper County conservation director Dennis Black will both retire from the Senate. In the House, former assistant Woodbury County Attorney Dave Dawson, former Wapello County Auditor Mary Gaskill, former Lee County Supervisor Jerry Kearns, former Crawford County Supervisor Dan Muhlbaier, former Warren County Public Affairs Director Scott Outh, current Assistant Floyd County Attorney Todd Prichard, and former Johnson County Supervisor Sally Stutsman are all seeking re-election. At the federal level, State Senator Joni Ernst, a former Montgomery County Auditor, is seeking the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by retiring Senator Tom Harkin. In the executive branch, former Story County Auditor and current State Auditor Mary Mosiman, is running for her first full term after being appointed to the position last year. Former Clarke County Treasurer and current Lieutenant Governor Kim Reynolds, is seeking re-election as the running mate of incumbent Governor Terry Branstad.

This article is meant to be an overview of the 2014 elections, but for more information and specifics about the races in your county please visit the Secretary of State’s website for a complete listing of candidates for every state and federal office. Please take every opportunity to talk to legislators and candidates about county issues, and of course, remember to get out and vote!
One year and one month ago, I wrote an article on statutory and case law regarding rural improvement zones (RIZ). At the time, the most recent case on the issue was a district court case out of Appanoose County. The district court found that considering cost-benefit analysis to the county when making a determination on a RIZ petition was not allowed under the law and that a board of supervisors could only consider need and that “need is not premised on resulting tax consequences of establishing a RIZ, but is rather based on the quality and characteristics of the proposed RIZ area.” Homeowners Association of The Coves of Sundown Lake v. Appanoose County Board of Supervisors, No. CVEQ004052 (Iowa Dist. Ct. for Appanoose County February 1, 2013).

Appanoose County appealed the case to the Iowa Court of Appeals and an opinion was issued by the court on March 26, 2014. The court denied the county’s appeal and affirmed the district court’s opinion. There are two important rules to glean from this opinion. The first is that a board of supervisor’s only opportunity to consider whether the petition is adequate under the law is prior to the public hearing on the merits of the petition. See Homeowners Association of The Coves of Sundown Lake v. Appanoose County Board of Supervisors, No. 3-1013/13-0296, page 8 (Iowa Ct. App. 2014). The main criteria for adequacy of the petition is whether it has signatures from “twenty-five percent of the residents of the proposed rural improvement zone and if the assessed valuation of the property owned by the petitioners represents at least twenty-five percent of the total assessed value of the proposed zone.” Iowa Code §357H.2(1). A board of supervisors would have 10 days to determine the adequacy of the petition, because a public hearing must be held within 30 days of receipt of the petition and notice of 20 days must be given for the hearing. Iowa Code §357H.3. A public hearing should only be called if the petition meets the statutory criteria, and thus the adequacy of the petition is not a topic that can be considered at the public hearing. Homeowners Association of The Coves of Sundown Lake v. Appanoose County Board of Supervisors, No. CVEQ004052, pages 8-9 (Iowa Dist. Ct. for Appanoose County February 1, 2013).

The second rule to glean from this opinion is that a board of supervisors’ ability to consider need when deciding whether or not to approve a petition for the establishment of a RIZ will be interpreted very narrowly. The board of supervisors can only consider the needs of the area under consideration for the RIZ. Id. at 10-11. In this case, the court determined it was improper for the board to consider a cost-benefit analysis of the impact the RIZ would have on the entire county. Id. A case involving Poweshiek County that went up to the Iowa Court of Appeals in 2010 held the consideration by the board of supervisors of the negative tax implications to the county by establishing the RIZ was improper. Holiday Lake Owners’ Association, Inc. v. Poweshiek County Board of Supervisors, No. 09-0511 (West) (Iowa Ct. App. Feb. 10, 2011).

Bills have been introduced this and last session to the Iowa Legislature to attempt to allow counties broader latitude when presented with proposals for a RIZ, but these bills have not made it through the process as of the date this article was written. A footnote in the court’s opinion suggests the Legislature should consider the impact to county home rule from the current statutory RIZ language:

We are uncertain if the Legislature, in drafting these statutory provisions, intended to limit the board’s ability to consider the needs of the county as whole when determining the “need” for improvements. We are also unsure whether the Legislature intended to draft a statute, as presently written, that infringes upon the doctrine of county home rule, effectively limiting the county’s power to protect the rights of its citizens in these matters. See Iowa Code §331.301(1). Though statutory construction is an exercise in giving effect to the legislative intent, we are required to discern the legislature’s intent by considering “what the legislature actually said, rather than what it should or could have said.” Stille v. Iowa Dep’t of Transp., 646 N.W.2d 114, 116 (Iowa 2001).

Id. at 11. If there are further developments on this RIZ issue, we will let you know. In the meantime, if you are going to deny a RIZ petition, use caution. Make sure you can demonstrate the petition is denied due to lack of need in the area that will be in the proposed RIZ and involve your county attorney in the process from the start.
CCMS recently hosted a training entitled “Navigating Through Prolonged Uncertainty” at the Polk County River Place in Des Moines. The course content was relevant because Iowa counties and their respective targeted case managers, case management supervisors and other direct providers have a need to operate strategically and tactically on a daily basis. However, recent changes at the federal and state levels have resulted in a prolonged period of uncertainty where leaders are struggling to balance present needs and future expectations.

Geery Howe, M.A, from Morning Star Associates, led the daylong event. Geery is a consultant, executive coach and trainer in the fields of leadership, strategic planning and organizational change. Over the years, he has worked extensively with corporations, non-profits, colleges, universities, public school districts, hospitals and other organizations that serve people with disabilities.

Throughout the training, Geery helped participants understand how successful organizational change takes place and how effective leaders move people through the difficult periods to a new level of performance. The key learning objectives from the day were:

1. Understand the vital connection between strategy and culture, and how it can improve greater levels of excellence in service delivery.
2. Comprehend the importance of a strategic performance management system and how it delivers focus and organizational clarity.
3. Recognize the value of routine coaching as a way to increase capability and competence.
4. Transform SMART goals into SMART execution which will result in excellent service delivery.

Another point Geery made was the importance of understanding the differences in our types of problems (Technical vs Adaptive). He mentioned that with Technical Problems, the solution falls within the range of current problem solving expertise. These problems can often be solved by applying existing skills, resources and processes. While with Adaptive Problems, the problem requires new perspective, expertise and solutions. This type of problem requires a new way of thinking and can only be addressed through changes in people’s priorities, beliefs, habits and loyalties.

Geery also emphasized for the group that standard organizational change may take five to seven years to complete. He recommended that while working through organizational change, it is important to allow people the time to gain clarity. Clarity is an essential element and necessary to work through challenges. Organizational clarity consists of the following components:

- Purpose (not what we are changing, but why?)
- Picture (what it looks like when it all comes together and is working)
- Plan (How we will make it work?)
- Part (How do I fit in? What is my part?)

Geery went on further to say that if we feed clarity, we grow commitment; especially when multiple changes are occurring at the same time. He let us know that people do not necessarily resist change, but rather they resist the loss of the familiar and how during times of change, it is important for all of us to allow ourselves to let go of our old ways of thinking and to be open to embracing the new.

At the conclusion of the day long training it was apparent that having a clear, concise, thought out plan is critical to successfully navigating through organizational change.

CCMS regularly provides trainings for case managers and case management supervisors/directors. Please view and register for all trainings provided by CCMS on our website.
HIPAA. PHI. Secure Servers. EHR. All the terminology and acronyms can be overwhelming. We understand the pressure in today’s world to be increasingly more cost conscious, be fully compliant with all the changing mandated regulations while still giving your clients the high standard of care to which they are accustomed.

This article will focus on using Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) as a HIPAA compliant solution to exchanging Protected Health Information (PHI) data electronically between multiple parties. This may be especially helpful as counties form into regions and case management agencies begin combining administrative services.

What is it?
Without getting too technical, an SFTP is a way to access, manage and transfer data between remote parties. The service ensures that any data exchanged between entities is fully secure and meets the HIPAA PHI data exchange requirements. Examples of this could be data exchanged between counties, from a county to the region, or from counties to providers.

Several security checks are in place to allow or deny authentication. These include: username and password, IP address, and public/private encryption keys all while using the SFTP, which is also an encrypted procedure.

Why use it?
According to Health IT Security, the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) reported a data breach due to employees using, "personal devices, email accounts, and online storage accounts to house and transmit confidential work-related data outside DHS’s secure network." These accounts were password protected but because the information was transmitted outside the secure network, it opened up the threat that data could be accessed inappropriately.

Furthermore, there has been a recent case of county government being penalized for non-compliance when exchanging data between external entities. According to the press release:

“This case marks the first settlement with a county government and sends a strong message about the importance of HIPAA compliance to local and county governments, regardless of size,” said Susan McAndrew, deputy director of health information privacy at the Heath and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights. “These agencies need to adopt a meaningful compliance program to ensure the privacy and security of patients’ information.”

HHS is expected to start the next phase of audits in 2014. Therefore, it is crucial that HIPAA policies and practices are not only up to date but also being applied to all technical and business procedures.

Who should use it?
This SFTP service may be used by anyone who is a member of ETC. While there are many scenarios where this is useful, one of the more crucial applications we are seeing is within the new claims processing practices being adopted by regions. Many regions are designating a single county to be responsible for receiving provider invoices. This county then disperses the provider invoices to claims processors in other counties. Because, for the most part, counties within a region are not under a single secure server environment and the need to electronically exchange data outside of an internal network environment is mandatory. There are several ways data can be exchanged electronically. For example, an invoice containing PHI could be attached to an email and sent to another county, the county acting as a fiscal agent, or even a provider. If encrypted email is not used, this would be a clear violation of HIPAA privacy and security regulations.

Recently we had a region approach us concerned about this very issue. Because the ISAC SFTP service is closely entwined with our ETC processes and procedures, we were easily able to create a solution for the region using technology that is already available. ISAC IT staff created a custom folder structure enabling the region to upload multiple invoices at a time and place them in pre-designated folders. The regional claims processors can then login to the server and retrieve the invoices at will. Testing has been done and the region is ready to begin securely exchanging information whenever they wish.

How do I get this and what does it cost?
There is no additional cost for using the SFTP process on the ETC servers to your region or county. ISAC provides this as part of your annual ETC/CSN membership

If you are interested in using this service the first step is to email cstechnsupport@iowacounties.org. We will ask a few questions about how you will be utilizing the server space and why. Understanding the why will help to determine the best solution for your situation. This is usually accomplished in a single phone call or email. ISAC IT staff will then send you instructions on how to proceed. The set up process is technical due to security precautions on both our end and yours so usually a county IT staff person will need to assist. If you do not have a county IT person available, ISAC IT staff should be able to walk you through the process. While you follow the instructions on your end we will complete the configuration needed on the server.

In Conclusion...
Please contact us with any questions, comments, or to start the setup process. As regions are formed and new business processes are implemented we look forward to helping meet your technology needs.
The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) announces the Tenth Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser to be held Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at Toad Valley Golf Course in Pleasant Hill, Iowa. The ISAC Education Foundation Fundraising Committee will host the event to raise money for the ISAC Education Foundation, which awards scholarships to high school seniors who are children of county officials or county employees.

The 18-hole scramble (best-shot) with a shotgun start will begin promptly at 10:00 am. Registration begins at 9:00 am. You may register individually or in a group of up to four people. The $80/golfer fee includes golf with a shared cart, lunch, beverages, and dinner following golf.

***NEW in 2014! Miniature Golf – If you are not a golfer, but still would like to participate and support the fundraiser, try Toad Valley’s mini-golf course! Registration for the mini-golf tournament will begin at 12:30 pm and play will begin at 1:30 pm. The fee is $40 per mini-golfer. This fee includes lunch, a drink and dinner. Lunch will be served around 12:00 pm.

To celebrate 10 years of ISAC Scholarship golf fundraisers, ISAC will also host a number of new games and events in conjunction with the fundraiser including a poker run, a ring game, free range balls and much more!

DON’T MISS THIS YEAR’S EVENT!

Individuals wishing to golf, mini-golf or just attend the meal/s should fill out and return the registration form by Friday, July 25, 2014. Payment must accompany your registration and is non-refundable. The course is limited to 144 golfers, and we have sold out in the past, so register early to reserve your spot! If you have any questions please contact Brad Holtan at 515.244.7181 or bholtan@iowacounties.org.

Directions:
Please find detailed directions at www.iowacounties.org. Toad Valley Golf Course is located at 237 NE 80th Street, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327.

We look forward to seeing you on August 6! Remember, registration begins at 9:00 am and golf begins with a shotgun start at 10:00 am sharp - please be prompt.
When: Wednesday, August 6, 2014
9:00 am – Registration
10:00 am – Golf - four-person scramble (best-shot)
Approximately 4:00 pm – Dinner (immediately following golf)

Where: Toad Valley Golf Course
237 NE 80th Street, Pleasant Hill, Iowa 50327
515.967.9575

Cost: $80  (18 holes of golf with a shared cart, lunch, beverages, and dinner)
$35  (Lunch and dinner only)
$25  (Dinner only)

___ I will play in the ISAC Golf Fundraiser on August 6. My $80 is enclosed.
___ I will play in the ISAC Golf Fundraiser on August 6. As a qualifying sponsor my fee is waived.
___ I have organized a group to play in the ISAC Golf Fundraiser. Our total entry fee is enclosed.
___ No golf, meal/s only. My $35 or $25 is enclosed.

Contact Name: _____________________________________________________________
County/Company: __________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________________________________________________
Phone/Fax/Email: __________________________________________________________

If you wish to arrange a group of players, please confirm your group prior to indicating the names on this form. Individuals and groups of less than four will be paired with other players.

1) Name: __________________ County/Company: _______________________________
   Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________________________________
2) Name: __________________ County/Company: _______________________________
   Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________________________________
3) Name: __________________ County/Company: _______________________________
   Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________________________________
4) Name: __________________ County/Company: _______________________________
   Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________________________________

Payment MUST accompany registration and is non-refundable. Make checks payable to the ISAC Education Foundation. Entries must be received by Friday, July 25, 2014, and are filled on a first come, first served basis. Mail to: ISAC, Attn: Golf Fundraiser, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines, IA 50266. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Holtan at 515.244.7181 or bholtan@iowacounties.org.
After each major ISAC event we post an online survey to gather attendee feedback. This feedback (both positive and negative) is invaluable to us when planning for future events. Thanks to all who took the time to give us feedback about the 2014 ISAC Spring School of Instruction. We had great survey participation! I wanted to share the survey results with you to attempt to answer some of the questions and concerns that were mentioned.

Conference Location
The Des Moines Marriott Downtown has served as the main conference location for several years. When the Spring School moved to downtown Des Moines from the Holiday Inn Airport to accommodate conference growth, the Renaissance Des Moines Savery Hotel was also utilized for additional affiliate space. However, we received numerous complaints about not having all the affiliates under one roof. The Marriott had the space to accommodate everyone, so we responded to these complaints and moved all affiliates under one roof at the Marriott. However, as the conference continues to grow, the Marriott’s available meeting spaces are becoming increasingly tight. This year the exhibit hall was at its capacity and many of the affiliate meeting spaces were also maxed out due to great attendance numbers. We understand this was uncomfortable and to the point of becoming unusable for a number of affiliates, and thus, we are currently exploring larger venue options in Des Moines for future spring school dates. Another note to share: affiliate meeting space assignments are determined by the number of pre-registered attendees for each affiliate group, so it’s important for your affiliate members to register early and prior to the deadline so meeting spaces can be assigned accordingly.

Conference Housing
One of the biggest and most consistent concerns brought to our attention is that there are not enough hotel rooms set aside for our members at Des Moines Marriott Downtown. The hotel sets the number of rooms in our hotel block, and we ask them for the maximum amount of rooms that they will give us. This maximum number is set by the hotel and based on the actual number of rooms that are occupied during our events. It is true that the Marriott room block always fills up extremely quickly on the first day of registration; however, the block consistently ends up with extra rooms available prior to the deadline because of cancellations. Due to these cancellations, the hotel will not increase our block because our history shows that we have unused rooms available within our block at the cut-off date. Items to remember when booking your conference hotel rooms: 1. Rooms often open up prior to the hotel block deadline. Check back at that time if you did not receive your hotel of choice. 2. We understand that circumstances arise that call for cancellations. If you need to cancel near or after the deadline, please check with your affiliate and see if anyone would like to take over your room instead of leaving it unused within the block. This not only allows us to increase our block in future years due to good history, but it also allows other ISAC members to save money by staying within the ISAC room block. Another note to share: we know that the Marriott rates do not fit within everyone’s budget, so we offer a variety of overflow lodging options for those attendees who wish to stay elsewhere.

Conference Parking
Most survey participants agree that Des Moines is a great, centralized location for the conference, but the parking in downtown Des Moines can be a headache and quite expensive. We unfortunately cannot control the Marriott parking fees, but we do provide alternate hotel and parking options on our conference website, such as nearby parking garage maps and D-Line shuttle information.

Conference Schedule
The majority of survey participants see great benefit in attending the ISAC Educational Seminars. We are always taking suggestions for seminar topics and look to those ideas when securing future educational seminar topics and speakers. Please continue to share them with us at any time.

We are continually asked about providing additional affiliate time. To support our conference exhibitors who spend a lot of money to support the conference and to keep your registration rates as low as possible, we do not allow for affiliates or committees to meet during any exhibitor activities. Likewise, we do not allow meetings during ISAC activities, such as the ISAC General Session. This year and in recent years, we have set aside affiliate committee meeting time prior to the conference as an additional time for affiliates to meet with their committees, etc., and we have allotted the same amount of meeting time for the affiliates. It is up to the affiliates as to whether or not they take advantage of all of the allotted time. Each affiliate is responsible for creating their affiliate agendas.

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Lastly, I want to apologize that complimentary soda was not offered during the Exhibitor Reception and Vendor Drawing. There was a miscommunication with hotel staff, and soda was supposed to be complimentary. Unfortunately, I caught this error a little too late, and I know that some of our members were charged for their soda. I assure you that complimentary soda will always be available to our members if alcohol is present.

Overall, we are proud that most members rate our conference “good” in comparison to other conferences of similar type, but we continue to strive for “excellent.” So, please never hesitate to contact ISAC with your concerns and comments. Thanks again for your feedback and support of ISAC meetings and events. We look forward to seeing you at the next ISAC event!

General Session Summary - March 13, 2014

President Harlan Hansen, Humboldt County Supervisor, called the General Session to order and introduced Stan Watne, Wright County Supervisor, who gave the invocation. President Hansen led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced the ISAC Executive Committee and ISAC Board of Directors.

Bill Peterson gave announcements and introduced Linda Langston, Linn County Supervisor and NACo President, who discussed the importance of NACo membership.

Bill Peterson presented the FY 2015 ISAC Budget giving an explanation of the budget process and a general overview that included a proposed increase in dues and conference registrations. Following questions regarding a decrease in assets and IPAIT royalties, the FY 2015 ISAC Budget was passed unanimously by the membership.

President Hansen introduced Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff and ISAC Board member, to present the 2014 ISAC top scholarships and two ICIT scholarships. Details are listed on pages 4-5 of this magazine.

Keynote Speaker Stephen Tryon presented “Preserving the American Dream in the Information Age.”
Emancipation Part 3: Lincoln’s Proclamation

A brutally brief summary of the plot to now: Although Abraham Lincoln finds slavery abhorrent, he is reconciled to the fact that it is protected by the Constitution in the states where it exists. He hopes it will eventually wither in the South, and he supports gradual, compensated emancipation to help it die. But a “Popular Sovereignty” law for the territories and the Supreme Court’s Dred Scott decision create fears in the North that slavery is waxing rather than waning. These fears propel Lincoln to the presidency. The election of a “Black Republican” president leads to Southern secession and Civil War. The evolution of Lincoln’s views on race and slavery accelerates.

It’s possible I didn’t actually cover all of those things, but please hold your questions until the end.

Lincoln was very enthusiastic about the chances of his compensated emancipation plan. Once the war was begun in earnest, he thought that people would see that slavery was doomed, and would accept what he thought was a generous and reasonable offer. And since the states would pass the laws to abolish slavery under this scenario, everything would be constitutional. But 20 of the 29 representatives and senators from the Border States who had been summoned to the White House to hear Lincoln’s heartfelt proposal signed a rambling rejection. They protested their patriotism and their tangible commitment to the war effort, and complained that they shouldn’t have to defend the institution of slavery because it was, as Lincoln had often said, theirs by right. They said the increase in the national debt caused by the purchase would be unconscionable, and by the way, if Congress was serious about the idea, it would have appropriated money for it. The other nine legislators gave credit to the reports that the Confederacy had offered to abolish slavery as a condition for intervention by England and France, and said, “If they can give up slavery to destroy the Union; We can surely ask our people to consider the question of Emancipation to save the Union.” But the response of the 20 probably better reflected how the citizens of their states would vote if Lincoln’s plan were put to a referendum.

The rejection of his offer deeply disappointed Lincoln, but however much faith he had in his scheme, he was already working on a Plan B. Just eight days after receiving the unwelcome reply from the Border Staters, Lincoln on July 22, 1862 presented to his Cabinet a draft of an “emancipation policy.” His plan would free slaves in areas that continued in rebellion against the national authority. What about the slaves in the loyal but uncooperative Border States? They would still be slaves. As some saw it, Lincoln intended to free slaves in areas where he couldn’t enforce emancipation, and to not free slaves in areas where he could. Still, it was an abrupt departure from Lincoln’s gradualist posture and it was seen by many Americans as too radical.

Lincoln made his decision based on his reading of the Constitution. As commander-in-chief of the army and navy, he felt he had war powers that Congress did not. Declaring as free the slaves in the Confederacy, and encouraging them to escape to Union lines, would sap the Southern war effort. He also felt that once started, emancipation would spread throughout the country. The response of the Cabinet was mostly tepid, but Lincoln’s mind was made up. Still, Secretary of State Seward prevailed upon him to delay a public announcement until after a Union military victory. General McClellan’s inept campaign to conquer the Confederate capital of Richmond had ended ignominiously at the beginning of July as Robert E. Lee took command of the Army of Northern Virginia. Seward feared

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that the British and French would see an emancipation order as the desperate measure of a flailing administration, a “last shriek on the retreat.”

So Lincoln waited. Meantime, public opinion in the North, while changing, was divided. New York Tribune editor Horace Greeley published a letter in August that he presumptuously titled “The Prayer of Twenty Millions,” which called on Lincoln, “elected as a Republican, knowing well what an abomination Slavery is,” to vigorously enforce the Confiscation Acts (which Lincoln thought were of dubious constitutionality) and free the slaves of rebels. Greeley’s melodramatic screed gave Lincoln an opportunity to lay some groundwork for his announcement. Marking a presidential first, Lincoln answered Greeley in an open letter published in a Washington newspaper. He said he aimed to save the Union. “I would save it the shortest way under the Constitution….If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it; if I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that.”

Since his plan was to free some and leave others alone, he must have been gratified by the positive response the general public gave his letter. But still he waited for a military victory. What he finally got may not have seemed worth the price. Except for the Galveston Hurricane of 1900, the day of September 17, 1862 at Antietam Creek in Maryland was the deadliest day in American history, with over 22,000 casualties. No one truly won the battle, but Lee limped back to Virginia, unmolested by the 25,000 troops that McClellan held in reserve, and Lincoln praised McClellan for his “victory” through gritted teeth.

Five days later he announced that as of January 1, 1863, any slaves in states or parts of states that continued to rebel against the Union would be “then, thenceforward, and forever free.” Despite loud protests that ending slavery was not the purpose of the war, a sentiment that contributed to heavy Republican losses in the November midterm elections, Lincoln signed his Emancipation Proclamation on New Year’s Day, 1863. “If my name ever goes into history,” he said at the signing, “it will be for this act.”

To be continued.
“It’s a shame that everybody who knows how to run this country is busy in the courthouse.”

How fun! I got to witness first hand a “Snowpocalypse” in D.C. After dire predictions of a six to 10 inch snow, the federal government shut down. We Iowans think that six inches of snow is nothing, and we can get around in all sorts of bad weather. Those Southerners just can’t handle a little bit of adverse driving conditions. Later, it dawned on me why they are so quick to shut down. The traffic there is so heavy that a snow plow or sand truck would never make it down the street. Everybody stays home, lets them clear the streets and then makes up the snow day on some nice Saturday in May like we used to do back in high school.

Aside from missing a meeting with Secretary Vilsack and an evening function because of the snow, the conference was very educational and well worth it. I was able to attend part of the Tech Summit on Saturday. Some of you may have met NACo’s Chief Innovation Officer Bert Jarreau at the ISAC Spring School. He helped organize the summit, and there was much promotion of the County Innovation Network, COIN. The cool lapel pin that was handed out asked, “Are You an Innovation Hub?” I suppose any county, no matter how small, has developed some innovative ideas. Sharing those ideas is the key to good governance. We do that at our spring and fall schools, and there is always sharing going on within the affiliate organizations as well. In this digital age our constituents want to connect with their governments via the internet. That venue will be the hub of government. Imagine a small European or New England town. What is at the center of that town? Probably a church. As our country expanded westward, what do we find at the center of town? A county courthouse. That is where the action took place as this country was built. Now that old style of government is going away, and information will be exchanged in a different manner; computer-to-computer and not face-to-face. Will your county be ready for that?

There are some who think that consolidating Iowa’s county governments into 25 counties would be a cost-saving measure. That’s not true, because all the work we do will still need to be done with no money saved. The savings come in sharing information and data. My thinking is that we need to share the information, not the administration. That is why the mental health and disability services redesign is redundant, because all that information is being shared anyway through the ETC/CSN database. As one of the speakers said, “We have to do less with less dollars, but we can do it well with shared services.”

But, enough of that pontificating - on to the rest of the conference and other events. For dinner that evening ISAC President Hansen had the Iowa contingent all mustered up, and we trooped down to Gadsby’s Tavern in Alexandria. According to Bill Peterson, this was a late 18th century watering hole where congressman stopped on their way to and from Washington. The meal was decent, but the entertainment was great. A gentleman who was portraying a songster and storyteller from that era regaled us with stories and good conversation and sang a nice song for our Rachel. Very sweet.

The next day our Ag and Rural Affairs Steering Committee met all morning. There was not much to discuss policy-wise since Congress finally passed the Farm Bill. It included many of NACo’s priorities, particularly regarding the Rural Development title. There were several speakers from USDA. One talked about the need for enhanced local and regional food systems and USDA’s support for those efforts, and another spoke on food waste. Did you know that 30-40% of the food we produce is wasted and that 10-20% of our landfill waste is food? We have plenty of policy and innovation on the production end of our food system but very little on the distribution and consumption (or lack thereof) end. The third speaker from the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) talked at length about the nutritional adequacies of GMO foods. Roundup Ready corn is not a Frankenfood and does not produce extra ears, or noses.

Next, off to the general session during which lunch was served. We had a nice salad, grilled chicken breast with sweet potatoes, and a small dessert. Not wanting to waste any food, I, of course, cleaned my plate just like my mother taught me. President Langston kicked it off by speaking of her initiative, Resilient Counties. ISAC President Harlan Hansen has followed that lead and made resiliency his presidential initiative. It’s nice to see that Western Iowa Republicans and Eastern Iowa Democrats can agree on an issue. Linda was followed by several speakers, all of whom congratulated the county officials on the work that is done at the local level. The most notable were former-Governor Jon Huntsman of Utah and Senator Evan Bayh from Indiana. They are part of an endeavor labeled “No Labels.” Their goal is to muster 100 House and Senate members of both parties to work together without letting party politics dictate their actions. Their objective is to develop a National Strategic Agenda. It seems they are trying to work like counties do. Maybe they can...
Huntsman said, “We should govern for the next generation, not the next election.” There was also an interesting comment from Senator Bayh. Since he has been in office, the Senate has met only three times as a body: the impeachment of President Clinton, 9/11, and the economic crisis. Go figure.

The most interesting speaker at Tuesday’s general session was Brad Fitch, president of the Congressional Management Foundation and author of the book *Citizen’s Handbook to Influencing Elected Officials*. (I thought it just took a lot of money. Maybe that is what the Foundation is for.) But the reality, he says, is that there is a wide gap between the reality and the perception of our congressmen. They work long hours and really do care. They are responsive in three ways: personal stories affect their hearts, data and facts affect their heads, and issues that have an effect on their districts affect the health of their jobs.

He told a good joke about a senator who was particularly full of himself. The senator showed up late for a formal dinner and seated himself at the head table. Wanting some butter, he waved at the waiter who was busy serving others. The waiter just smiled and waved back. Irritated, the senator waved at the waiter again. Again, the waiter smiled and waved back. Finally, the waiter made his way to the senator who chastised him for his tardiness. “Don’t you know who I am? I’m a United States Senator.” To which the waiter replied, “Don’t you know who I am? I’m the guy with the butter!” We all have important roles to play, none less than any other.

Now, a little synopsis of the NACo Board of Director’s meetings. On Monday (the snow day), President Langston presided over the NACo Board Forum. There were presentations on several research projects that NACo has done. *The County Tracker* is on the website and can tell you how your county is responding to the economic recovery. The other is *The Road Ahead*, which gives a comprehensive snapshot of counties’ transportation funding and finance. NACo’s research department is doing a bang-up job, and it would be well worth anyone’s time to check these out on the website, [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org). There was also discussion of what we can do in the future, such as “positioning our advocacy because counties have been dealing with invisibility for a long time.” Other topics for the future are engaging our base and the possibilities of reorganizing our steering committees, which haven’t changed for 30 years. I get the feeling that Director Matt Chase is trying to spark a lot of change in NACo, and Linda Langston is throwing gas on the fire.

The business meeting was pretty much cut and dried since most of the work was done in standing and steering committees. All policies and resolutions were approved, save one which was sent back to committee for massaging. Minutes and financials were approved with a slight increase in dues. Last year, Linda appointed an election review committee after some brouhaha concerning the election for 2nd Vice-President in Ft. Worth. Grant Veeder reported on that at the time, but the committee has yet to come up with a recommendation.

All in all, it was a pretty good conference, and I’ve tried to hit some of the highlights. There was, of course, much more. If you would like to experience a NACo conference, you should sign up for the Annual Conference in New Orleans this July. Believe me, it would be well worth it, and who knows, you might be surprised at how much you’ll learn and be able to teach someone else.

A NACo staffer quoted to me the epigraph that I used for this piece. I assumed that it was a profound observation from a great statesman. However, I learned later that it’s from a promotional bumper sticker created by the Texas Association of Counties.
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## 2014 calendar

### May 2014
1. ISAC HIPAA Training  
   (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)
1. Advanced Case Management Training  
   (Polk County River Place, Des Moines)
14-16. ISCTA Annual May School  
   (Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Waterloo)
21. ISAC Legislative Webinar

### June 2014
8-12. ICAA Spring Conference  
   (Okoboji)
11-13. ICIT Midyear Conference  
   (West Des Moines Marriott)
25. ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
   (ISAC Office)

### July 2014
8. CCMS Administrators Meeting  
   (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)
11-14. NACo County Solutions and Idea Marketplace  
   (New Orleans, LA)
29-1. Auditors Annual Conference  
   (Hotel Blackhawk, Davenport)
31-1. Supervisors Executive Board Retreat  
   (Fremont County)

### August 2014
6. ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser  
   (Toad Valley, Pleasant Hill)
12-15. Recorders Annual Summer School  
   (Isle Casino, Bettendorf)
21-22. ISAC LPC Retreat  
   (Hilton Garden Inn, Johnston)

### September 2014
11-12. ISAC Board of Directors Retreat  
   (Humboldt County)
23-24. CCMS Annual Conference  
   (Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny)
28-30. Assessors Annual Conference  
   (Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)

### October 2014
14. CCMS Administrators Meeting  
   (Hilton Garden Inn, Johnston)
14-15. IEHA Fall Conference  
   (Best Western, Marshalltown)
16-17. ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
   (ISAC Office)

### November 2014
6. CCMS Advanced Case Management Meeting  
   (Stoney Creek Inn, Johnston)
12-14. ISAC Fall School of Instruction  
   (Veteran’s Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

### December 2014
3. ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
   (ISAC Office)
9-11. ISEA Annual Conference  
   (Ames)

### 2015 Conferences/Events
January 2015. ISAC New County Officers School  
   (Des Moines)
February 21-25. NACo Legislative Conference  
   (Washington D.C.)
March 11. County Day at the Capitol  
   (Des Moines)
March 12-13. ISAC Spring School of Instruction  
   (Des Moines Marriott Downtown)
July 10-13. NACo Solutions and Idea Marketplace  
   (Charlotte, NC)
November 18-20. ISAC Fall School of Instruction  
   (Cedar Rapids Convention Complex)

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 shorner@iowacounties.org.

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ITC Midwest, LLC

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