

A man in a blue t-shirt, khaki shorts, and a baseball cap is working on a green mesh fence. He is holding a shovel and appears to be installing or repairing the fence. The background shows a residential area with trees and a house.

The Iowa County

April 2017

Iowa Flood Center
ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser
ISAC Excellence in Action

THE NEW CAT® 12M3 MAKES THE GRADE



The new Cat® 12M3 motor grader and its all-wheel-drive (AWD) counterpart not only meet EPA Tier 4 Final emission standards, but also provide improved fuel efficiency and operator comfort.

COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE

Electronic joysticks reduce hand and arm movements by 78 percent to help reduce operator fatigue and enhance productivity. The cab features a more comfortable seat with heated and ventilated options, as well as several convenient new storage bins.

FUEL EFFICIENCY AND EMISSIONS REDUCTION

The 12M3 motor grader meets Tier 4 Final standards using emissions reduction technology that requires no interaction by operators. Selective catalytic reduction (SCR) utilizes diesel exhaust fluid (DEF), which can be conveniently filled from ground level while machines are fueled.

New standard economy mode (ECO) saves fuel — an average of 10 percent — by reducing engine speed, so that machines work in a more efficient range.

M SERIES 3 MOTOR GRADERS	12M3	12M3 AWD
Engine	Cat C9.3 ACERT™	Cat C9.3 ACERT™
Operating Weight (typically equipped)	42,647 lb	44,614 lb
Base Power (First Gear) – Net	179 hp	179 hp
Emissions	Tier 4 Final	Tier 4 Final
Maximum Torque	840 lb ft (VHP Plus)	920 lb ft (AWD on)
Top Speed	29 mph	29 mph

Contact Ziegler CAT today to learn more about the benefits of adding the new, fuel-efficient Cat 12M3 motor grader to your fleet.

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The Iowa County

April 2017 * Volume 46, Number 4

The Iowa County: The official magazine of the
Iowa State Association of Counties
5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190
West Des Moines, IA 50266
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www.iowacounties.org
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Iowa State Association of Counties

ISAC members are elected and appointed county officials from all 99 counties. *The Iowa County* (ISSN 0892-3795, USPS 0002-150) is published monthly by the Iowa State Association of Counties, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines, IA 50266. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines, IA 50318. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to rbennett@iowacounties.org. Subscriptions: \$25 per year.

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.

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** The views and opinions expressed in articles authored by anyone other than ISAC staff are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of ISAC.

Iowa Flood Center

Ready for the Flood

The Iowa Flood Center helps improve flood preparedness in Iowa and beyond

On June 12, 2008, a young man waded through thigh-high floodwater to his Cedar Rapids home. He was on a mission to rescue two family members — his cats, Fry and Bender. The frightened felines struggled desperately, clawing and squirming, as their human rescuer carried them out to higher ground. One day later, the Cedar River crested at an all-time high of 31.12 feet.

When the floodwaters rolled through Iowa in 2008, many Iowans were in denial. Many waited, despite evacuation orders, hoping for the best. Some lost everything — homes, jobs, cars, and more.



Aerial view of Iowa City's City Park during 2013 flooding.

When floods struck Iowa again in 2016, Iowans were forearmed and forewarned, in large part because of the work of the Iowa Flood Center (IFC). Today, Iowans have the resources of IFC behind them, providing information that wasn't available in 1993 or 2008. With this new information, Iowans won't find themselves wading through water to rescue family members — they'll know in advance what to expect and how best to respond.

Created by Iowans, for Iowans

Since the Iowa Legislature founded IFC at the University of Iowa (UI) in 2009, the center has focused on helping Iowans become more flood resilient.

The Iowa Flood Information System's (IFIS) (<http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/en>) free online tools include real-time stream-sensor data and flood inundation maps. IFIS offers reliable information about flood conditions hours or days in advance. IFC's flood prediction model provides forecasts and alerts for the entire state of Iowa. IFC also recently completed a project to provide updated floodplain maps for 85 of Iowa's 99 counties.

"Flood preparedness is an investment that pays off," says IFC Director Witold Krajewski. "The tools and strategies we developed after 2008 have left Iowans and our communities in a better state of readiness for future floods." Krajewski, who is also a UI professor of civil and environmental engineering, co-founded IFC with Larry Weber, director of IIHR—Hydroscience & Engineering at the University of Iowa.

People across Iowa have used IFC's tools and services, and we asked a few of them to explain how IFC is helping them reduce flood damage and promote public safety.

Keeping an Eye on the Streams

Dickinson County in northwest Iowa is home to the Iowa Great Lakes. With a thriving tourism industry on the line, the county has to be prepared for flood events.

When Dickinson County Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Ehret found out that IFC wanted to expand its network of stream-stage sensors to help communities track stream and river heights remotely, he was quick to sign on. IFC installed two sensors on the Little Sioux River and one on the West Fork of the Little Sioux, southeast of Lake Park. "We worked with the hydrologist at the weather service at Sioux Falls to establish flood stages, and they've been great to have in the county," Ehret says.

"The best thing about it is that I can get updates every 15 minutes, instead of going manually down there to get it," Ehret says. Since 2010, IFC has deployed more than 250 of its stream stage sensors on rivers and streams across the state, with more installations planned later this year. The network is an important partnership between IFC and Iowa Department of Natural Resources, which requested and funded many of the sensors.

Iowa Flood Center

IFC stream-stage sensors serve primarily as an indicator of flooding on agricultural land and roads, Ehret says, but they also benefit residents of nearby Spencer and Clay Counties, where homes are sometimes inundated when water levels are high.

Willing Partners

In Johnson County, where the Iowa River is a constant reminder of flood risk, the sensors have proven to be a great link between emergency management coordinators and the public. Johnson County Emergency Management Coordinator Dave Wilson says he used to get hundreds of phone calls from residents wanting to know how high the water would get on their property. Assisting the property owners was very labor-intensive, and he's grateful that he can now point them to the flood inundation maps on IFIS.



Sutliff Bridge looks beautiful at sunset despite floodwaters rushing beneath. (September 2016)

Wilson says he has also worked with IFC staff to install two temporary stream-stage sensors during the September 2016 flood on the Cedar River. One sensor was placed upstream from the historic Sutliff Bridge to help emergency management staff know when to take measures to protect the bridge and the public (removing panels to prevent damage from debris in floodwaters, closing it to pedestrians, etc.). After the flood, IFC staff moved this sensor to another site at Wilson's request. He says he appreciates the "extra eyes" the sensors provide.

"You can't sit back and be complacent about preparedness," Wilson says. "I think all these tools and all these floods have helped us prepare for the next big thing."

It doesn't hurt that IFC is right in Wilson's backyard. He says he communicates regularly with Krajewski during flood events. Wilson says IFC is also an essential part of the Johnson County Emergency Operations Center's flood mitigation efforts.

"That's the number one goal — to protect lives and property," Wilson says. "If you've got a willing partner based right in Iowa, you'd be remiss not to utilize that asset."

Spot-on Maps

In northeast Iowa, the community of Elkader is also benefiting from IFC's community-based flood inundation maps. Twenty-two communities now have online access to flood maps specific to their areas through IFIS.

The maps allow users to view flood levels at various river stages. Elkader Mayor Josh Pope says that the IFC's efforts to better prepare Iowans for flooding are very valuable. "It helps communities have a better understanding of what can happen," he

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The Iowa County

April 2017

Iowa Flood Center

says. IFC has created flood inundation maps for the cities of Ames, Cedar Falls, Cedar Rapids, Charles City, Columbus Junction, Des Moines, Elkader, Hills, Humboldt, Independence, Iowa City, Kalona, Maquoketa, Mason City, Monticello, Ottumwa, Red Oak, Rock Rapids, Rock Valley, Spencer, Waterloo, and Waverly.

Elkader City Administrator Jennifer Cowsert says people are very interested in viewing the IFIS website—she even had business cards printed with the web address to hand out. “I can show them a map and how it will impact their property,” Cowsert says. She believes that IFC carries more weight in the minds of individuals when family homes and businesses are on the line, and that the IFIS maps have been spot on.

Cowsert says the maps were particularly useful during flooding there in June 2014, as well as August and September 2016. “We moved campers out of the city campground, moved items out of two public buildings, started making sandbags, and then watched and waited,” Cowsert says. She says IFIS provided information to Elkader residents that supported good decision-making to prevent losses to businesses along Main Street.

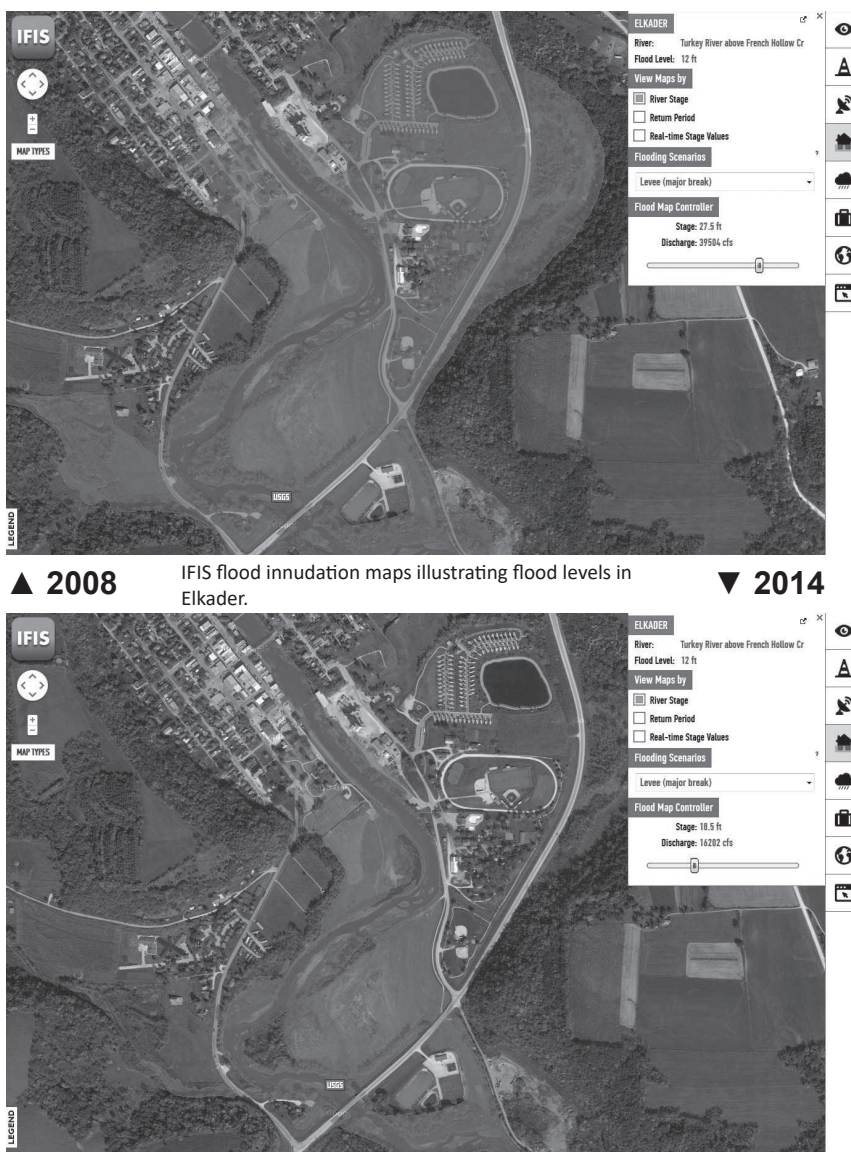
Grassroots Organizing

Cowsert is very familiar with IFC. She also represents the city on the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority (TRWMA), which partnered with IFC’s just-completed Iowa Watersheds Project, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to model flood reduction strategies. IFC is now involved in the statewide Iowa Watershed Approach, a five-year grant that will address needs in nine watersheds. Each will form a Watershed Management Authority, develop a hydrologic assessment and watershed plan, and implement conservation practices to reduce downstream flooding and to improve water quality during and after floods.

IFC’s involvement in the Turkey River Watershed and in the TRWMA has been very positive, Cowsert says. IFC helps the authority move forward and stay focused on its mission. She adds that IFC helps elevate the TRWMA to a state level. “It isn’t just our little part of northeast Iowa and our flooding concerns anymore. It reminds everyone that our part of the state affects everyone else, and vice versa, and that flooding in Iowa is a concern for the entire state, not just the communities that feel the brunt of the flood waters.”

Cowsert says she believes IFC involvement will continue to help in technical ways that may open up funding opportunities for members of the TRWMA. “I think the Iowa Flood Center brings attention to flooding concerns in Elkader by bringing attention to the whole watershed, as well as the Turkey River itself.”

For more information, visit: <http://iowafloodcenter.org> and <http://ifis.iowafloodcenter.org/ifis/en>. Pictured on cover: HESCO barriers go up on the University of Iowa campus in Iowa City to provide a temporary flood wall.



ISAC Meetings

ISAC Leadership Institute

Join us around the state as we present this year's ISAC Leadership Institute: Performance Management and Effective Performance Reviews! Registration is available at www.iowacounties.org for only \$150. This course is approved for select affiliate CEUs, and an outline is included below.

Performance Management and Effective Performance Reviews

- The Importance of Establishing and Communicating Expectations
 - o "No! They DON'T Always Know!"
- The Performance Management Cycle
 - 1) Identifying Job Requirements
 - o Tips and Strategies for Developing Performance Expectations
 - o Exercise – Developing Expectations
 - 2) Assessing Performance
 - 3) Determining Areas for Growth and Development
 - 4) Analyzing Causes for Lack of Growth
 - o Competency, Commitment or Resources
 - o Exercise – "Seymour's Icy Performance"
- Creating an Employee Development Plan
- Feedback
 - o Why It's So Important
 - o Do's and Don'ts for Giving Feedback
 - o Exercise / Activity – Feedback
- Putting it All Together – Motivating Your Employees to do Their Best
- The State of Performance Reviews in Today's Business World
- Mistakes Leaders Make Most Often in the Performance Review Process
- Preparing for the Review
 - o It Takes All Year!
- "Just What Do I Review?"
- The Importance of Proper Documentation
- The Appraisal Discussion
 - o Steps of the Discussion
 - o Giving Positive Feedback
 - o Giving Corrective Feedback
- Closing – Making the Review Process a MOTIVATING Experience



Kelsey Sebern

Meeting/Event Administrator

ksebern@iowacounties.org

Dates and Locations

District 1 – May 11 – Des Moines
(registration deadline May 4)

District 3 – May 24 – Storm Lake
(registration deadline May 17)

District 5 – May 25 – Ottumwa
(registration deadline May 18)

District 6 – May 31 – Cedar Rapids
(registration deadline May 24)

District 2 – June 7 – Mason City
(registration deadline May 31)

District 4 – June 8 – Atlantic
(registration deadline June 1)

Registration is limited to 30 seats per district and is open to all ISAC members in any district.

Employment

County Engineer

The Clay County Iowa Board of Supervisors is accepting resumes for the position of County Engineer. Applicants must have an Iowa Professional Engineering License. Clay County, Iowa, with a population of 16,507, is a rural county located in northwest Iowa. The County Seat is the community of Spencer and home to the World's Greatest County Fair. The County is led by a five-person board of supervisors. The engineering department has approximately 30 employees. The Engineer plans, coordinates, assigns, and supervises all engineering and construction work performed by the county secondary roads department, as well as independent contractors. In addition, the Engineer will prepare and let contract documents for projects, present an annual budget, and a five-year construction program identifying future road improvement projects, and work with union representatives on employment matters. The ability to establish and maintain an effective working relationship with department personnel, other government agencies, other county departments, contractors, vendors, and the general public is absolutely essential. Previous county engineering experience is preferred. Salary based on experience and qualifications. Resumes may be sent to: Clay County Auditor, 300 West 4th Street, Spencer, IA 51301 or mpitts@co.clay.ia.us. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled, with preference given to those who apply before April 17, 2017.

Technology Center

Wearable technology is a device that can be worn on the body and has the ability to connect to the internet in some matter. According to Forbes, the wearable market is projected to be a \$34 billion market by 2020, so let's take a look at these devices and see what they bring to the technology market. Examples of wearable technology are smart watches, fitness trackers, sport watches, head mounted displays, smart clothing, and smart jewelry. There are many options and variations on the market currently, and this is sure to grow. This article will break down two of the more popular models and compare their features.

Apple Watch 2

The second iteration Apple Watch came out in September 2016 and has brought quite a bit of competition to the wearable technology market. Its primary strength is that it is an extension of your iPhone and there are many apps that currently interact with the watch interface. The following features were added: twice the brightness, water resistant up to 50 meters with swim and surf tracking, built in GPS, and a dual core chip to help increase processing.



Andrea Jansen

IT Program Manager

ajansen@iowacounties.org

Fitbit Charge 2

The Charge 2 is the next level up from the Charge HR from Fitbit and was also released in September 2016. Key differences in this version upgrade are: connected to GPS via mobile, call/text/calendar alerts, Cardio Fitness Level functionality, and a Guided Breathing feature to help personalize breathing sessions based on your heart rate.

In looking at these two options there are several differences. The price of the Apple Watch 2 will cost you \$369 and the Fitbit Charge 2 is much lower at \$149. The battery life of the Fitbit Charge 2 is a whopping five days and the Apple Watch 2 is two days. Based on those two categories you may be thinking to automatically go with the Fitbit. However, the next three areas are the reasons for the price increase and battery life difference in the Apple Watch. The first is built in GPS, which allows you to complete workouts without your phone. The second is that the Fitbit is not water resistant. Finally, you can receive all notifications from your phone, and there are over 10,000 apps (and counting) that interact with the watch.

In comparing these two particular options, my final review would be that if you are only looking for a fitness tracker and not interested in any of the interaction with your phone, then the Fitbit would be a good choice for you. If you are interested in more advanced functionality and the idea of a device as extension of your phone then the Apple Watch is the best choice.

Research is always the best idea when buying any new product, and wearable technology is no different. Here are few websites that allow you to compare options and make the best decision based on your needs:

- <http://www.wearables.com/devices/>
- <http://www.techradar.com/news/wearables/best-smart-watches-what-s-the-best-wearable-tech-for-you-1154074>
- <http://www.digitaltrends.com/wearable-reviews/>

I am by no means an expert, but I received an Apple Watch 2 for Christmas. (Thanks Mom and Dad!) So, if you have any questions about my experiences, please feel free to send me an email to ajansen@iowacounties.org.



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Nominations Open!



Excellence in Action Awards
Iowa State Association of Counties

ISAC Excellence in Action Award Nomination Form



The Excellence in Action Award program is a competitive awards program that seeks to identify and recognize innovative county government employees, programs, and ISAC affiliates. Please encourage all county departments to apply.

CRITERIA

- Programs nominated must be **innovative** and do one or more of the following:
 - Offer a new service to county residents, fill gaps in the availability of existing services, or tap new revenue sources.
 - Improve the administration or enhance the cost effectiveness of an existing county government program.
 - Upgrade the working conditions or level of training for county employees.
 - Enhance the level of citizen participation in, or the understanding of, government programs.
 - Provide information that facilitates effective public policy making.
 - Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in addressing shared problems.
 - Provide a model from which other counties or affiliates may learn.
- Nominated individual must demonstrate exemplary service to citizens or staff or stakeholders.

JUDGING

CoSTAR will rate each application based on the following seven attributes: creativity, innovation, cost savings, replication, leadership, increased efficiency, cooperation with others, and perseverance.

GUIDELINES

- Nominated programs must have become operational after January 1, 2016.
- Individual nominations should reflect the individual actions of the last 24 months.
- Nomination should be made using the application form below.
- A narrative of the county program or individual's action must be included; please limit to three pages.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Awards will be presented at the 2017 ISAC Annual Meeting which is being held August 23- 25, 2017 in Des Moines, Iowa. The winners will receive a special ribbon to be worn on their nametags. Winners will be recognized on the ISAC website and in a news release sent to statewide media. When appropriate, an ISAC staff member will also attend the board of supervisors meeting to present the award.

QUESTIONS

Contact Robin Harlow, ISAC's Innovation and Research Manager at 515.369.7006 or rharlow@iowacounties.org.

NOMINATION FORM

- Attach a narrative of the county improvement/project/program/individual (three-page limit).
- Return all nominations by **April 21, 2017 (postmarked date)** to:
Iowa State Association of Counties
Attn: Robin Harlow
5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190
West Des Moines, IA 50266.
- OR email your application form (containing all the information on the form below) to Robin Harlow.

Please fill out each field completely.

Please indicate nomination type: Individual ☐ Program ☐

Name of individual/program: _____ County or affiliate: _____

Name of nominator: _____ Title: _____

Nominator's phone: _____ Nominator's email: _____





The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) announces the 13th Annual ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser to be held Wednesday, August 2, 2017 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 title sponsor of this year's event is IP Pathways.

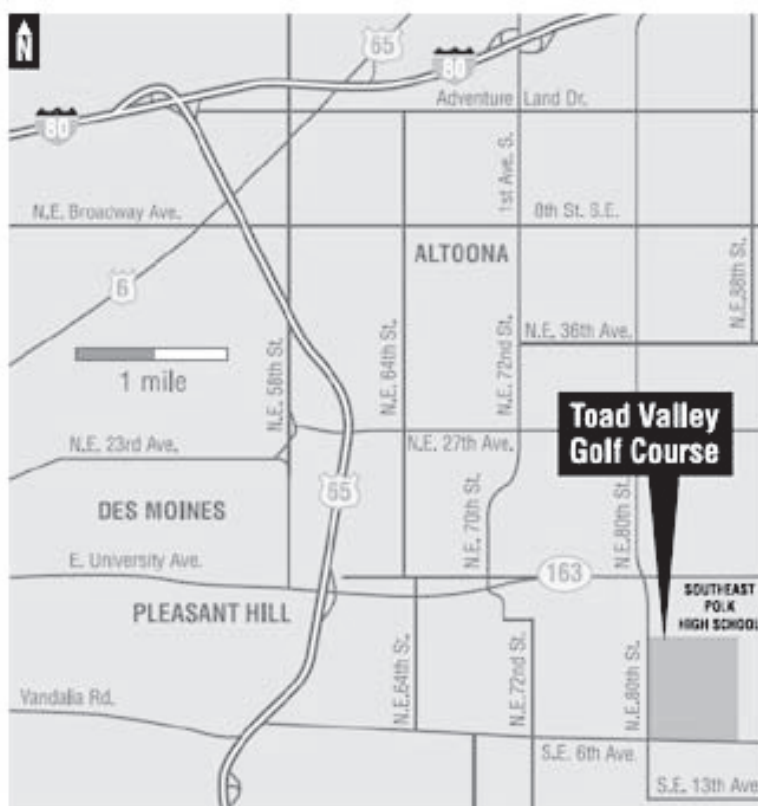
The 18-hole scramble (best-shot) with a shotgun start will begin promptly at 10:00 am. Registration begins at 9:00 am. You may register individually or in a group of up to four people. The \$80/golfer fee includes golf with a shared cart, lunch, beverages, and dinner following golf.

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S EVENT!

Individuals wishing to golf or just attend the meal/s should fill out and return the registration form by Friday, June 30, 2017. 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 2! 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 2, 2017**
 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 2. My \$80 is enclosed.
- ☐ I will play in the ISAC Golf Fundraiser on August 2. 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, June 30, 2017, 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.



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Title Sponsor – IP Pathways: Exclusive sponsorship; premium signage on tournament banner; chance to briefly address attendees during dinner; listed in program; company brochure (provided by company) distributed to players; four golf registrations; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Dinner Sponsor - \$2,000: Exclusive Premium signage displayed during dinner; listed in program; company brochure (provided by company) distributed to players; two golf registrations; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Lunch Sponsor - \$2,000: Exclusive Premium signage displayed at registration; listed in program; company brochure (provided by company) distributed to players; two golf registrations; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$1,500: Premium signage displayed on beverage cart on the course; company name listed on beverage tickets; listed in program; company brochure (provided by company) distributed to players; one golf registration; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Reception Sponsor - \$1,500: Exclusive Premium signage displayed during post-golf reception at clubhouse; listed in program; company brochure (provided by company) distributed to players; one golf registration; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Hole Sponsor - \$1,000: Exclusive hole sponsorship; signage at tee box; listed in program; opportunity to display company material at tee box; opportunity to provide non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, or small items to golfers (sponsors should bring their own table, chairs, etc.); one golf registration; lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people; and a website and magazine listing.

Hole Co-Sponsor - \$500: Signage at tee box; listed in program; opportunity to display company material at tee box; opportunity to provide non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, or small items to golfers (sponsors should bring their own table, chairs, etc.); and a website and magazine listing.

Sponsorships - \$250: Your choice of the following exclusive sponsorships. Each sponsorship provides signage, a program listing, and a website and magazine listing.

- Range Ball Sponsor – free range balls will be given to all participants prior to the fundraiser.
- Ring Game Sponsor – a par three green will have a ring drawn around the hole. Any participant who lands their ball inside the ring will get a portion of the prize pot.

Prize Sponsors - Eagle Level - \$300, Birdie Level - \$200, Par Level - \$100: Opportunity to donate cash or prizes for raffle, contest and tournament prizes; listed in program; company name will be mentioned when awarding prizes during dinner; listed on ISAC's website and in one issue of ISAC's magazine. If donation \$1,000 or more then one golf registration and lunch and dinner provided for up to two additional people.



When: Wednesday, August 2, 2017
 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

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone/Fax/Email: _____

Sponsorship Opportunities:

SOLD! Title Sponsor – IP Pathways (includes 4 golfers)* _____ Dinner Sponsor - \$2,000 (includes 2 golfers)*

_____ Lunch Sponsor - \$2,000 (includes 2 golfers)* _____ Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$1,500 (includes 1 golfer)*

_____ Reception Sponsor - \$1,500 (includes 1 golfer)* _____ Hole Sponsor - \$1,000 (includes 1 golfer)*

_____ Hole Co-Sponsor - \$500 _____ Range Ball Sponsor - \$250

_____ Ring Game Sponsor - \$250

_____ Prize Sponsor* - Eagle - \$300, Birdie - \$200, Par - \$100 and/or a prize of _____

Sponsorship Fee: _____ **Signature:** _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____ **Date:** _____

* If your sponsorship level is \$1,000 or above, please fill out the golfer registration form for the appropriate number of golfers. Feel free to register additional golfers beyond those included with your sponsorship and remit the golfer fee of \$80 for each additional golfer.

Payment MUST accompany this contract and is non-refundable. Make checks payable to the ISAC Education Foundation. Contracts must be received by Friday, June 30, 2017. 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.

NACo News

"The measure of a civilization's growth is its ability to shift energy and attention from the material side to the spiritual and aesthetic and cultural and artistic side." - British historian Arnold Toynbee

NACo's Legislative Conference last month was great as usual. Maybe even better than others, for me anyway. Much of the discussion at the board meeting and general session was how different it is going to be working with the new Administration. It's not just a whole new ball game, it's a whole new kind of ball game. However, NACo staff have already been meeting with the President's staffers as well as with Congressional leaders. More and more NACo is becoming THE reliable source of data and information.

Speaking of facts. Senator Mark Warner of Virginia, who was the founder and CEO of NexTel, said that much of the "fake news" we receive comes from Russian hackers. So, if you hear some outrageous story about some political figure, question it. It's kind of like the TV advertising we get where some guy is telling you how white your shirts can be, but he can't be a man because he doesn't smoke the same cigarettes as me. We all need to be a bit more like Joe Friday. "All we want are the facts, ma'am." Another point he made was how our capitalist system is not working as it did decades ago. What we need, he said, is Capitalism 2.0. A new way of structuring our economic system. It is leaving too many folks behind. I recently read Robert Reich's book, "Saving Capitalism." It laid out a plan to restructure without depending on the government as much as we now do. I recommend it.

Speaking of a new way to do things. Utah Representative Rob Bishop talked about restructuring or reassigning governmental power. Currently, we have too much "horizontal power" in our federal government. Executive, Congressional, and Judicial. Not to mention all of the regulatory agencies. It needs to be more vertical, allowing more decision making at the state and local levels, without unfunded mandates, I presume.

Fighting poverty is Speaker of the House Paul Ryan's initiative, and at our Rural Action Caucus that was the focus of all of our speakers. Diane Calmus of the Rural Health Association said that the health measures of rural America are lower than the rest of the country. And, contributing factors are many. Besides being older, sicker and poorer, other issues are: access to health care, transportation, hospital closures, housing, and drug abuse. Most people think that heroin use is predominately an urban problem, but it is more prevalent in rural areas. These issues and many more need to be addressed at the federal, state and local levels. Speaker Ryan's emphasis is probably on job creation and a healthy local economy. That is what was addressed at the Arts and Culture Commission meeting.

The Arts have always been portrayed as a "fluffy" concept, enjoyed only by the rich snobbery, people standing around in museums trying figure out what the artist was trying to say. America for the Arts has historically tried to advance the idea that the arts are more than that. Art appreciation can be not only good for the soul, but also good for a community. Now they are taking the tack that arts and culture programs are good for the local economy. They can be an economic driver for a local community. The arts include not only the visual arts but theater. Tom Phillion from Greensboro, North Carolina talked about Arts Greensboro that has invested \$20 million in facilities and programming. They hold music festivals that bring in thousands of visitors every year. Even little, rural Washington County, Virginia has a rich history of supporting and preserving the arts, bringing in visitors from all 50 states. My little town of Macedonia has the Grist Mill Fine Arts Council, the McReady Theater, the Painted Camel where a local potter sells his and other rural artist's pieces, and the Stemple bird museum. We see these



Melvyn Houser

Pottawattamie County Auditor

ISAC Representative - NACo Board of Directors

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efforts in many of our small Iowa towns, and they need to be promoted and advertised. I think counties should play a role, also. We should look at it as a financial investment and try to create more than we consume as Toynbee suggests. But the arts can do so much more. America for the Arts has developed the National Initiative for Arts and Health in the Military. Arts are being used as physical and emotional therapy for veterans and their families.

I elaborate on this partly, because NACo's annual conference in Columbus, Ohio will be showcasing the arts. I wasn't really too excited about going to Columbus until I learned this. It should be a fun time. I hope to see many of you there.

Oh, yeah. There was one more event that I forgot to mention. NACo staff tracked me down and wanted my personal information. I was chosen, along with several others to go to the White House and be present when President Trump signed an executive order telling the EPA to rewrite their Waters of the U.S. ruling (WOTUS). NACo has been fighting WOTUS for 10 years. This is a victory for counties in a long fought battle. So, I'm standing behind the President with Senator Joni Ernst. People are crowding around him to get a picture. When he gets up to leave I pull his chair back to allow more room for his exit. Then more pictures are to be taken and Mr. Trump starts to sit back down, sans chair! My quick, catlike reflexes kicked in, and I pushed the chair back under him. Close call. So, if you see me in Columbus next summer. Hang on to your chair!



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ISAC Brief

Summary of Minutes - Thursday, February 9, 2017

ISAC President Peggy Rice called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The January 20, 2017 meeting minutes of the ISAC Board of Directors and the February 1, 2017 meeting minutes of the ISAC Executive Committee were approved unanimously.

Brad Holtan reviewed the financial report for January 31, 2017, and it was accepted unanimously.

Kristi Harshbarger gave an update on legal matters, and the Board unanimously approved spending up to \$1,500 on a legal brief regarding the challenging of the public-duty doctrine.

Bill Peterson reported on the activities of the ISAC IT department. He discussed progress to CSN 3.0 and reported that regional training will take place in May. He also discussed that a contract to approve adding Precinct Atlas to ISAC IT will be brought to the Board in April. Jon Covalt, Network Administrator, submitted his resignation effective February 24.

Robin Harlow gave an update on the County Strategic Technology Advisory Resource (CoSTAR) goals, objectives and action plan and the work that is being done related to each goal.

Kristi gave an update on the State Elections Administrators Training (SEAT). The 28E will expire at the end of March. The SEAT Task Force is currently looking at what changes need to occur moving forward. The Task Force recommended that the 28E Agreement be amended to read that if SEAT were to dissolve the monies would go back to the Iowa State Association of County Auditors to be used for election education purposes. The proposed changes to the SEAT 28E were unanimously approved.

Bill Peterson gave an overview of the budget process and a review of the FY 2017 budget highlights. He discussed the board designated fund and requirements related to the programs that ISAC manages. He highlighted staffing position changes. Revenue will increase by \$437,263 and total expenses will increase by \$313,855. The biggest changes are in the staffing area with positions being added by ISAC IT and ICACMP. He reviewed a summary of required actions which included:

- County dues at \$5,800 per county, an increase of \$100;
- ISAC Legislative Conference registration fee set at \$190, an increase of \$20;
- Authorize a 2% increase in the staff salary line item; and
- No salary adjustment for Executive Director.

Following ample discussion the recommended budget was unanimously adopted and recommended to the membership.

Rachel Bennett reviewed the Iowa attendee schedule of events during the 2017 NACo Legislative Conference.

Kelsey Sebern gave an update on County Day at the Capitol, reviewed the Legislative Conference board scenario, and outlined the proposed agenda for the 2017 ISAC Annual Conference. The agenda was unanimously approved.

Robin gave an overview of the 2017 Smart Connections Conference being held on April 27, and Brad shared the dates and locations of the 2017 ISAC Leadership Training: Performance Management and Effective Performance Reviews.

Jamie Cashman called in from the Capitol and gave an update on the legislature, and Tammy Norman updated the Board on the results of the Scholarship Selection Committee. The Board committee appointments were distributed, and the meeting was adjourned following reports and inquiries from board members.

General Session Summary - March 9, 2017

The General Session was called to order by President Rice. Burlin Matthews, Clay County Supervisor, gave the invocation, and President Rice led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Rice introduced the head table and the remainder of the ISAC Board of Directors. Bill Peterson gave the conference announcements.

Continues on page 17.

Affiliate Highlight

Iowa Counties Information Technology (ICIT) and Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC) are extremely happy to talk to you about our new conference coming up June 20 - 23, 2017 in Des Moines! The ITAG (Iowa Technology and Geospatial) Conference will be held at the West Des Moines Sheraton and all of the conference information can be found at www.itagconference.com.

The ICIT Mid-Year Conference has always been one of the top technology conferences in the state, but this year we decided to join forces with other technology folks from across Iowa to bring you a technology event like no other. This conference is designed to bring together technology folks from across the entire state and from all walks of life to share our knowledge and experiences.

We have an outstanding agenda full of IT and GIS topics and discussions that will benefit one and all. We have ESRI setting up their Hands-On Lab for the entire conference. We have folks from VMware coming in to update us on the latest and greatest that they have to offer and to run attendees through the VMware Hands-On Lab experience. We have dark web and cybersecurity! We have Python training and web apps! We have drones and parcel fabric! Visit our website and click on the schedule tab to see everything we have to offer. The conference will have more than 50 hours of educational content.

Tuesday, June 20, will be a day of interactive training for a full day of GIS and IT topics. A multitude of networking and social experiences will also be provided along with food and coffee in abundance. Rumors of a night filled with bacon have been whispered about, and Legos will be all over the place.



Find out more!

<https://www.itagconference.com>

ISAC Brief

Continued from page 16.

Bill gave an explanation of the budget process and a general overview of the FY 2018 budget that included a proposed increase in dues and legislative conference registrations. Following questions and a call for the vote, the budget was unanimously accepted.

Bryan Desloge, NACo President, explained the current work that NACo is doing and the benefits of membership and showed a short video.

Joan McCalmant, Linn County Recorder and ISAC Past President, presented the 2017 ISAC scholarships. The \$2,500 ISAC scholarship winners were awarded by district and presented with a certificate by President Rice. The District 1 winner was Sarah Schrupp from Boone County. The District 2 winner was Claire Beyer from Allamakee County. The District 3 winner was Allison Freeman from Palo Alto County. The District 4 winner was Sara Ingoldsby from Mills County. The District 5 winner was Alyssa Wessel from Lee County. The District 6 winner was Nolan Lyness from Delaware County. The \$2,500 Past President Scholarship winner was Zachary Hengesteg from Worth County. This year's Golf Scholarship Fundraiser will be held on August 2, 2017 at the Toad Valley Golf Course in Pleasant Hill.

President Rice adjourned the meeting.

County Government Highlights



Linn County Diversity Proclamation

The Linn County Board of Supervisors signed a proclamation on February 8 affirming support for religious, ethnic and cultural diversity. The proclamation cites religious, cultural and ethnic diversity enriches the quality of life in Linn County and that human dignity, equality and liberty are fundamental principles of our society.

"I think that this is incredibly important for Linn County government to do, particularly in the wake of a lot of things that are happening nationally where religious and ethnic minorities may feel marginalized," said Linn County Supervisor Stacey Walker. "I think one of the founding principles of this country is articulated on the Statue of Liberty – give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses – the Lazarus poem that was inscribed on our Statue of Liberty, which was a beacon of hope for folks all over the world who came to America in search of a better life."

New Positions Bring Positive Results in Jackson County

In 2015, the Jackson County Board of Supervisors created two new county positions. The individuals who were hired are young, dynamic, and passionate about their work, and they both have proven very valuable to the county.

The first position was a GIS director. The county, for years, had been trying to better utilize GIS without much success. The new position was paid for by pooling the funds allocated for GIS from several departments. Heather Skidmore has hit the ground running and can be reached at 563.652.1754 or hskidmore@co.jackson.ia.us.

The second position is more unique. Ryan Conley was hired as the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Coordinator. The position was funded by reallocating the funds going to the ambulance services for education. Ryan provides all of the ambulance service education, including the hospital staff, at little or no cost, and it is local, so he has eliminated travel costs. He also assists the ambulance services with their paperwork and certification work, and he is teaching CPR to employees and the public. He can be reached at 563.221.2661 or rconley@co.jackson.ia.us.

Jackson County would be happy to share further details through board reports and an introduction letter. Please contact LuAnn Goeke, Executive Assistant to the Board of Supervisors, at 563.652.3181 or jcbos@co.jackson.ia.us, to request these documents and with any questions.

Happy 100th Birthday!

Hallie Cobb, former O'Brien County Recorder, celebrated her 100th birthday on February 18, 2017.



2017 Calendar

April 2017

- 7 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)
- 13 ISAC HIPAA Program Training
(Courtyard by Marriott - Ankeny)
- 23-26 ISSDA Civil School
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 27 Smart Connections Conference
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)

May 2017

- 11 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines)
- 11-12 CSN 3.0 Training
(Council Bluffs)
- 15-16 CSN 3.0 Training
(Ankeny)
- 22-23 CSN 3.0 Training
(Mason City)
- 24 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Iowa Central Community College, Storm Lake)
- 25 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa)
- 24-25 CSN 3.0 Training
(Cedar Rapids)
- 31 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids)

June 2017

- 1-2 CSN 3.0 Training
(Storm Lake)
- 7 ISAC Leadership Institute
(North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City)
- 8 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Iowa Western Community College, Atlantic)
- 15 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)

- 21-23 Records Summer Conference
(Okoboji)

July 2017

- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference
(Columbus, Ohio)

August 2017

- 2 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)
- 22 ISAC LPC Retreat
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)
- 23-25 ISAC Annual Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2017

- 14 ISAC LPC Meeting
(ISAC Office)
- 17-20 ISSDA Jail School
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 27-29 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat
(Humboldt County)

November 2017

- 16-17 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)

December 2017

- 3-6 ISSDA Winter School
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

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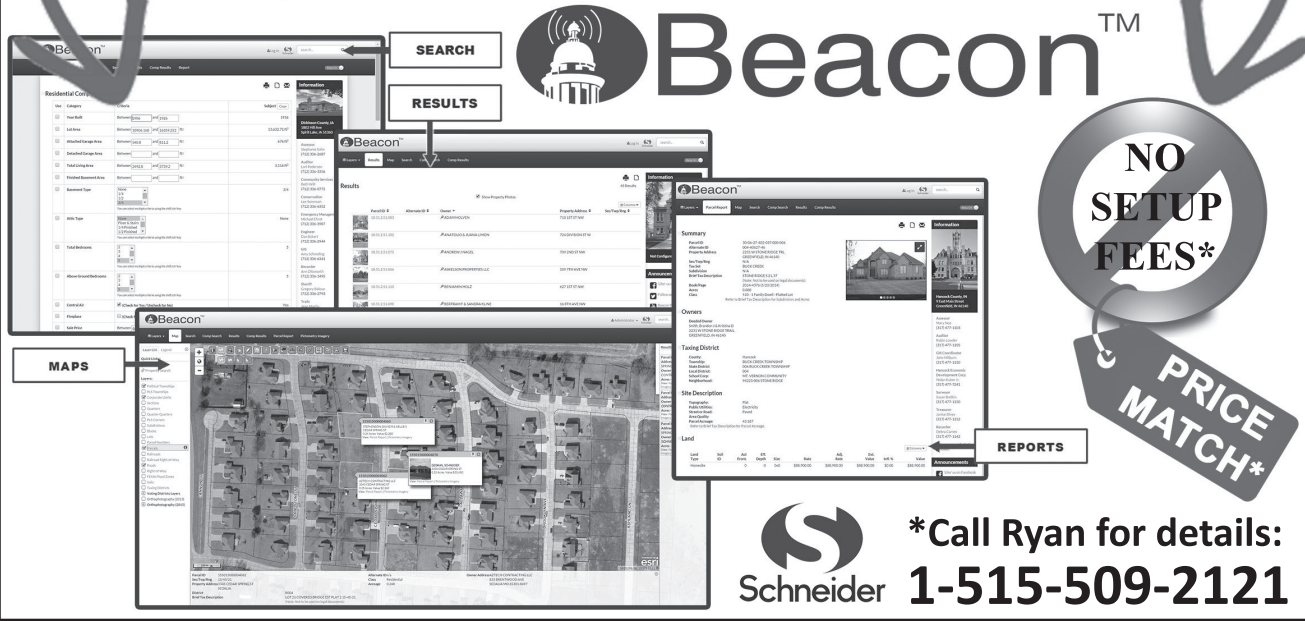
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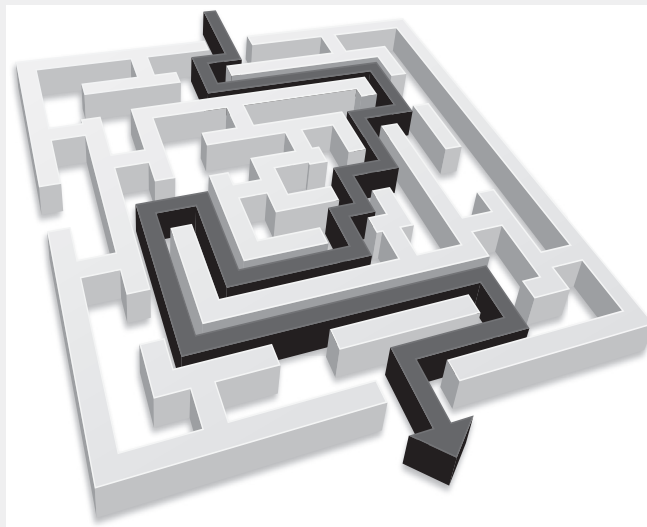
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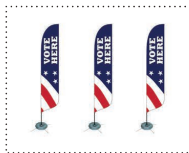


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