The Iowa County

What's your Cybersecurity IQ?

October 2018

Cybersecurity Month

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ISAC
Iowa State Association of Counties

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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Cybersecurity Month

Soup is good for you (and your network too)!
It's getting to be that time of year already! As the days grow shorter and cooler many of us will start to think about some of those hearty fall/winter meals that we gave up during the hot summer months. Who doesn't love a warm homemade apple crisp? (A-la-mode of course!) We enjoy our casseroles, crock-pot meals, and it seems like there's always a delicious soup simmering somewhere, welcoming us in with a tantalizing, heart-warming aroma.

Soup is good for the soul they say…and to that I would add that it can be good for your computer and network too!

County IT professionals work with the "alphabet soup" of technology acronyms constantly, and it can work wonders for your computer systems (just like mother's chicken soup). Here are a few highlights from the IT "alphabet soup" that every county can benefit from and should seriously consider using.

Each one of these items is available FREE to use by your county. Some items simply require turning on a setting in order to benefit from the technology. Other items may be offered as a paid service but typically have free versions available that can be used at no charge.

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FREE E-mail Technologies
SPF (Sender Policy Framework)
Much like you can write any return address you want on a US Postal Mail letter, an email sender can put any "From" address on an email that they choose. SPF, in a nutshell, helps prevent this type of spam or phishing attacks by preventing bad guys from impersonating or "spoofing" your email address.

DKIM (DomainKeys Identified Mail)
DKIM allows your email server to attach a hidden digital signature or "fingerprint" to each email that you send out. The recipient e-mail server can then verify this hidden "fingerprint" as proof that the message came from your email server.

DMARC (Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting and Conformance)
DMARC essentially takes the first two items of SPF and DKIM and amplifies their effectiveness. Not everyone will be ready or able to implement DMARC without some planning and effort but it is worth considering.

What's your cybersecurity IQ?

Throughout this magazine there will be 10 questions. Test your knowledge! Answers are provided on pages 14-15.

1. Which of the following is the safest password?

R%R$R@aMtaUN!	M@h@skaIA	a and d
Summ3r2017	iLm!J@c)&dl^A	all of the above

Cybersecurity Month

FREE Website Technologies
SSL (Secure Sockets Layer)
If you see "HTTPS://" in your web browser for the website address you are visiting, then the site you are visiting is using SSL. Use of SSL on your county website is strongly encouraged and makes it more difficult for a bad guy to intercept web browsing sessions or to tamper with the information as it travels across the Internet to the person viewing your website.

CDN (Content Delivery Network)
If you've ever used Facebook, watched a YouTube video, or streamed your favorite sports team or show online, then you have used a CDN. For counties, a primary benefit of a CDN is to provide your website with a strong enough connection to the rest of the world that it can withstand attacks or keep your website online during times of intense usage.

DNSSEC (Domain Name System Security Extensions)
DNSSEC provides a digital signature or "fingerprint" of the DNS address records associated with your website or email system and protects them from tampering. Not everyone will be ready or able to implement DNSSEC without some planning and effort, but it is worth considering.

FREE General Security technology
MFA/2FA (Multi-Factor Authentication or 2-Factor Authentication)
Once you've chosen a decent password for your online account, MFA is often the next step to making sure your account is secure and cannot be easily hacked into by Internet bad guys. Most commonly, MFA is implemented in the form of a text message code that must be entered in addition to your password before you can access a website. Banks often use this technology for online banking, although if you look for the setting, many online service providers (i.e. Microsoft, Google, Facebook, etc.) offer MFA as an option that you can turn on with the click of a button.

We at ICIT encourage each county to discuss these items with their local IT professional and/or vendors to see if there are additional steps a county can take to protect its computers and network.

Squash Soup
3 lbs Butternut Squash
(2 lbs after prep)
4 cups vegetable broth
1 tsp thyme
Salt and pepper to taste

Cashew Cream
1 cup raw, unsalted cashews
1 cup vegetable broth

Peel, halve, and remove ends and seeds of squash. Place on baking sheet cut-side down and brush with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake 30-40 minutes at 400 degrees.

Blend cashews with 1/2 cup vegetable broth, slowly add other 1/2 cup while on low. Reserve.

Add cooked squash to pot with 4 cups vegetable broth and seasoning. Blend until smooth with emulsion blender. Bring to boil, turn down heat, and let simmer 20 minutes.

Add all but 1/4 cup of cashew cream, season to taste, and serve with drizzle of reserved cashew cream.

2. TRUE or FALSE

Software and application updates are not important and can be ignored.

3. What is the only true guarantee against data loss due to a cyber attack such as ransomware?

a. My county is small. We don't need to worry about cyber attacks.
b. Having anti-virus software
c. Having data securely backed up and accessible
d. Having enough money to pay the ransom
e. Restricting internet access to employees

Cybersecurity Month

Goodbye, Windows 7: The importance of Updating Operating Systems

Joel Rohne
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"Change is the only constant in life" – Heraclitus (Greek Philosopher and County Supervisor)

Over the years, county government here in Iowa has seen numerous changes. We have witnessed changes in state and federal laws (unfunded and otherwise), the culture of our citizens, health care and mental health, economic ups and downs, and the list goes on forever.

The major change that we have all experienced would be technology. Smartphones, web applications, social media, cybersecurity, and many more, have become a daily way of life for counties across Iowa. Those changes are only accelerating. Artificial intelligence, blockchain technology, cyber currency, and cyber crime are all technologies that are going to be affecting county governments in the very near future.

One change that needs to be implemented sooner than later is saying goodbye to those Windows 7 desktops and laptops that you have enjoyed using over the years. Many of you have made the switch to windows 10, but many have not. Microsoft will be ending support for Windows 7 on January 14, 2020. That seems like you have some time, but trust me, it will go quickly. Getting your budget and other resources in line to make sure that this can be accomplished has to happen soon. Once that support goes away, those Windows 7 machines will no longer get security patches from Microsoft. You can bet that there are a huge numbers of hackers out there just waiting for 2020 to start causing issues for those poor Windows 7 systems. For those of you who may have an old XP system still around on your network, please call me as I have some nice Russian friends that would love to meet you.

The flip side of this January 14, 2020 date is behind the scenes. Many counties are happily running servers that have Windows 2008 on them. This is wonderful except that Windows 2008 will be ending support in January 2020 as well. Now is the time to budget time and resources to get those servers updated as well as your laptops and desktops. Those servers are running your applications and house your files and documents. If those systems are not updated to newer operating systems or replaced you could be without any technology in your county in the near future. 2020 is a whole lot closer than you realize.

4. Which website URL is legitimate?

a. https://www.payapl.com/us/webapps/mpp/requesting-payments

b. http://www.paypay.com.home/

c. https://www.pay.pal.com

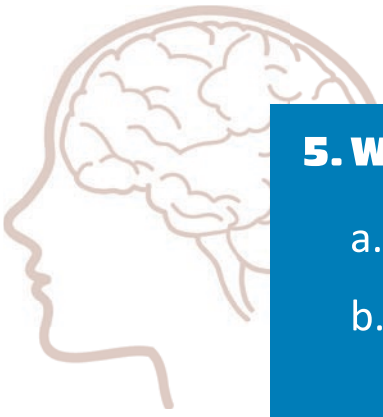
d. https://www.paypal.com/us/home

Cybersecurity Month

Many of you have plans to replace servers and user machines, and I applaud your foresight and amazing wisdom. If you don't have a replacement plan or if your plan does not include that 2020 date there is help for you. Reach out to the ICIT group and/or your technology people and get yourself started on the road to cyber happiness while there is still time. There are many resources to assist counties in Iowa for all of the technology changes that are happening today and on the horizon.

Change can be incredibly tough and frustrating. In the short time I have been in county government I am amazed at how the amount of "kids" that are now attending the meetings and conferences has increased! But these new people bring an original and fresh perspective on county government and the roles we have in serving the public. Change is hard, but it is a positive force to make ourselves that much better.

Thanks for reading, and please contact the ICIT affiliate for any technology questions and concerns.



5. What is Wardriving?

a. Interstate 80

b. Looking for unsecure wi-fi networks

c. The next Mission Impossible movie

6. TRUE or FALSE

All of our county employees have anti-virus software installed on their computers, so our network is fully protected.

7. You receive an email from a co-worker with an attachment. The subject line reads "Please See Attached Document". The email contains no further information. What should you do?

a. Open the attachment to get more information

b. Contact the sender via phone or separate email to confirm the validity of the message

c. Delete the email

d. Both b and c are correct

Cybersecurity Month

Technology, Data Breach, and your Public Entity

Colette Klier
IT Loss Control Specialist
Iowa Communities Assurance Pool
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In April 2017, it was discovered the Wisconsin Department of Revenue had an annual sales report available online that was meant for real estate professionals. This report contained the social security and tax identification numbers of both persons and businesses who sold property in Wisconsin, and was mistakenly posted for three months. It was accessed a total 138 times before it was finally taken down.

Later that year, in August, a staff member with the New Hampshire Department of Corrections found a cable line hooked to the computers used by inmates had been linked to a line that was connected to the entire Concord prison computer system. This allowed prisoners to view, steal, or change sensitive records, including staff member information, sentencing, and parole dates.

Data Breach | According to Theft Resource Center, the world saw more data breaches in 2017 than it had in any prior year. This statement is based on annual statistics, which counted a total of 1,293 total data breaches, compromising more than 174 million records, in 2017 alone. This was a 45% increase over the number of breaches that occurred in 2016, marking a disturbing trend that is expected to continue through 2018.

In fact, a number of counties and other public entities have already been "hit" this year, with Atlanta, Georgia, having experienced a significant ransomware attack in March. The attack locked certain city data down behind a wall of encryption, and demanded a $51,000 payment to release it, according to Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms. As a result, the jail and other departments were forced to resort to using old fashioned pen and paper; the municipal courts temporarily went without access to electronic records; and residents were unable to pay their bills electronically.

Unfortunately, Atlanta hasn't been alone. Countless other public entities have also been affected by network security and data breaches. According to the Association of Governmental Risk Pools, 40% of municipal data breaches were due to lack of encryption on laptops, desktops, smartphones, and USB devices. Public entities also experience ineffective password policies, weak physical security, inadequate network security, and lack of vendor controls.

Needless to say, ICAP members – and all Iowa public entities, for that matter – must take steps to protect themselves. Municipal employees regularly interact with – and rely on – technology. These interactions can make our counties and cities desirable targets for security exposures and data breaches, which can compromise the information and integrity of our citizens. They can also result in exorbitant costs to public entities. No public entity is immune, and no entity should go unprotected. Especially when considering the significant amount of personal information stored by municipalities.

Cyber Coverage | Needless to say, the risk is high. And getting higher, for what that's worth. As the threat from hackers and cyber criminals intensifies, a growing number of municipalities are buying cyber insurance to protect themselves and taxpayers. Such coverage is not only necessary, it's also worth it.

Worldwide, we're seeing breaches that cost public entities, states and private organizations millions upon millions of dollars. Cyber insurance policies help protect entities from such unforeseen costs, and generally cover property, expenses and cyber liability, subject to their terms and conditions, if a computer network is hacked. This may include the costs of: data repair and restoration; notifying those whose information may have been compromised; providing public relations services; and credit monitoring services.

Municipalities can try to keep a handle on the data they are supposed to be protecting, but with cyber, if one little thing is overlooked or you mistakenly leave something undone, your entity will be left with the costs to cover it. In recent years, hackers and cyber criminals have taken aim at state and local government networks, which contain information such as social security numbers, bank account details and credit card information on millions of people and businesses. Online activists have hijacked public entity computer systems, defaced websites, and hacked into data or email and released it online.

This has become such a problem, state information technology officers ranked cyber security as their top priority for the third year in a row, according to the 2016 Deloitte-NASCIO Cyber security Study. Fortunately, states are taking this threat seriously, and responding accordingly. The 2017 NASCIO State CIO Survey indicates, at the time of report, 38% of states had some types of cyber security coverage, up from 20% in 2015. This is indicative of the fact many IT leaders now realize having such coverage can help ensure security protocols are kept up to date - something that can be challenging, as the majority of us don't understand

the risks we face or the coverages we might need. Fortunately, by providing free risk assessments, ICAP takes some of the work out of things for its members.

Technology Valuations | The mentioned risk assessments are conducted by ICAP's Information Technology Loss Control Specialist, Colette Klier, who provides on-site system evaluations, internal control assessments and consultative services to all ICAP members.

Colette brings nearly 20 years of experience in the Information Technology field with an educational background in computer network administration and criminal justice. In addition to a broad understanding of information security, Colette has experience working to enforce and enhance security measures for both public and private industries.

Colette works directly with ICAP member entities to: Confirm the hardware and software inventory align with the property schedule; Verify employee handbooks include policies to protect members from cyber liability claims; and Develop a cyber security plan in the event of a disaster or data breach.

The IT Loss Control Specialist can also review computer information controls, processes, and provide recommendations to: Help member entities improve network management; Complete a detailed network security and data privacy assessment; Provide training and/or resources to meet individual or group training needs; and Answer questions and/or provide feedback on IT topics.

These services and offerings are of significant value to municipalities and are customized to the needs of each member including the solutions and recommendations that result from the valuation. The goal is to improve data security and help ICAP members establish the framework for stronger, more stable security measures. Technology valuations and security consultations are available to all ICAP members, which are strongly encouraged to schedule an IT loss control visit. They may do so by contacting Colette Klier, ICAP's IT Loss Control Specialist, via email colette@icapiowa.com.

"While coverage can be a big help after the fact," Colette says, "members need to invest in risk assessments, increase security, keep their technology updated, and be prepared for hackers and cyber criminals. You need to pay attention to it every day. ICAP has really identified that need to provide a resource to help their members manage their IT assets and cyber security needs."

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Cybersecurity Month

Protect your county with NACo and the MS-ISAC
County governments are tasked with protecting and serving the residents of their community. As our country shifts towards using more technology, protecting digital information has become a new challenge for counties.

To solve these challenges, NACo is pleased to announce our partnership with the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) to promote increased cybersecurity protections for county governments.

The MS-ISAC is the US Department of Homeland Security's key resource for cyber threat prevention, protection, response, and recovery for state and local governments.

At no cost, counties can get involved in this cybersecurity program, which can provide:
vulnerability management program,
IP and domain monitoring,
notifications of possible compromises,
incident response resources,
tools for simplifying security updates,
secure portals for communication and document sharing,
cyber intel advisories and alerts,
malicious code analysis platform, and
self-assessments for cybersecurity management.

Cybersecurity for counties provides real-time monitoring and early threat detections through MS-ISAC's Security Operations Center and threat response with their Computer Emergency Response Team. They provide 24x7 support and offer a professional team to assist with cybersecurity incidents.

In addition to these resources, MS-ISAC can provide additional cybersecurity services at cost. These services include:
Network security monitoring and analysis
Vulnerability assessment services
Network and web application penetration testing
Phishing assessments

To learn more about protecting your county with NACo and the MS-ISAC, please visit www.naco.org/cybersecurity.

8. What's your best defense against cyber threats?

a. Hope it doesn't happen
b. Get an annual security audit from an unbiased source
c. Never access the internet
d. Plan for an attack
e. Train staff
f. b, d, and e

9. TRUE or FALSE

Employees are responsible for the majority of security breaches in the United States.

10. TRUE or FALSE

No internet connection means no virtual security threats

Cybersecurity Month

HIPAA Security Rule

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) contains several rules that revolve around keeping protected health information (PHI) private and secure. Simply stated, HIPAA requires covered entities to keep PHI private, and the privacy of PHI is at risk if someone can easily hack into an electronic system containing PHI and gain access to the information it houses. This is where cybersecurity comes into play.

Beth Manley
Compliance Officer
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The Security Rule contains several requirements that help covered entities keep their information safe. The requirements within the Security Rule are flexible, and covered entities are allowed to implement different measures to comply with each requirement. The flexibility is both good and bad. It can make it hard to decide what measures to implement in order to comply with the requirements. However, covered entities come in different shapes and sizes. The flexibility allows organizations to implement different measures that comply with the rule while also taking into consideration the size and complexity of each individual organization. A large hospital or insurance company might be able to afford a complex and expensive information security system run by a team of information technology (IT) professionals while a small Iowa county might have limited funds and no IT department.

These questions and answers provide some guidance on how to comply with the requirements in the HIPAA Security Rule.

How flexible are the Security Rule requirements?

The flexibility of approach is outlined in 45 CFR 164.306(b) and says covered entities "may use any security measures that allow the covered entity or business associate to reasonably and appropriately implement the standards and implementation specifications[.]" Covered entities must take into consideration the following four factors:

The size, complexity, and capabilities of the covered entity or business associate.

The covered entity's or the business associate's technical infrastructure, hardware, and software security capabilities.

The costs of security measures.

The probability and criticality of potential risks to electronic protected health information.

What is the difference between a required and addressable implementation specification?

Implementation specifications within the Security Rule are either required or addressable. It's easy to tell whether an implementation specification is required or addressable because the word required or addressable will appear in parentheses immediately after the title (i.e. *Risk analysis (Required)*). The required implementation specifications are easy, all covered entities and business associates are required to implement the specification. For example, every covered entity and business associate is required to conduct a risk analysis to identify potential vulnerabilities and risks. An addressable implementation specification is not optional, but the covered entity can assess whether it would be reasonable and appropriate to implement the specification. The implementation specification must be implemented if it is reasonable and appropriate. However, if the implementation specification is not reasonable and appropriate, the covered entity must "(*1*) Document why it would not be reasonable and appropriate to implement the implementation specification; and (*2*) Implement an equivalent alternative measure if reasonable and appropriate."

What is a risk analysis, and how do I complete one?
A risk analysis is a required implementation specification in 45 CFR 164.308(a)(1)(ii)(A). This is probably the most common requirement covered entities are found to be noncompliant with during an audit. Covered entities and business associates are required to "[c]onduct an accurate and thorough assessment of the potential risks and vulnerabilities to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of [their] electronic protected health information[.]"

There are numerous ways to conduct a risk analysis. You can conduct a risk analysis yourself or hire a third party to help you. There are numerous options available to entities that want to hire a third party to help. There are online programs that will walk you through the process and store your risk analysis and there are consultants that will visit your office and provide hands on support. If you conduct your own risk analysis, it is easiest to start with a template rather than creating one yourself. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has an online risk analysis on their website. You can find it by using the link in the last question. Other options might be more thorough or easier to customize to fit your specific entity. Members of the ISAC HIPAA Program have access to a risk analysis toolkit and webinar series that explains how to walk through the process.

Do I have to use tapes to save my data backups?
There are a variety of ways to save data backups. Having a data backup plan is a required implementation specification in 45 CFR 164.308(a)(7)(ii)(A). The requirement is to "[e]stablish and implement procedures to create and maintain retrievable exact copies of electronic protected health information." Data backups are required to prevent covered entities from losing electronic PHI. Some computer viruses can infect an organization's entire system and make their data unusable. An effective data backup system would prevent your entity from losing everything because the backups would allow you to essentially start over with your data unharmed.

This question is a good example of things that need to be updated over time. It's important to mention there is a requirement in HIPAA to review and modify measures used to comply with the Security Rule. Technology changes over time so procedures need to be evaluated periodically to see if anything needs to be updated. A common way to backup data 10 or 20 years ago was to save everything to a tape and store that tape in a different location. That location could have been a secure storage facility or an employee's basement. Technology has changed so you no longer need to have tapes sitting around. Systems are now able to automatically store backups in the cloud. Backup solutions can be expensive, and not all covered entities have mass amounts of electronic PHI to store. This is where the flexibility of the rule comes in. Covered entities have the option to implement a data backup system that works for their specific organization.

Where can I find additional information about ways to comply with the implementation specifications?
HHS issues guidance on how to comply HIPAA. HHS published several educational papers on how to comply with the Security Rule and has developed other guidance materials and tools. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is also a good resource; however, information from NIST is not legally binding for covered entities. You can find links to applicable materials from both the HHS and NIST here: https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/index.html.

You can also find information specific to cybersecurity here: https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/cybersecurity/index.html.

Another resource for Iowa counties and mental health and disability services regions is the ISAC HIPAA Program. For a small yearly fee, the ISAC HIPAA Program provides basic consultation, assistance and training on general HIPAA topics and issues. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Cybersecurity Month

What's your cybersecurity IQ?

Answer Key

1. Which of the following is the safest password?

a. R%R$R@aMtaUN! b. Summ3r2017 c. M@h@skaIA d. iLm!J@c)&dl^A f. a and d g. all of the above

Answers a and d are examples of good online passwords or passphrases. Some security experts recommend the use of complex passwords that are at least 12 characters, others recommend the use of a passphrase. 'iLm!J@c)&dl^A' is a random, computer generated password. 'R%R$R@aMtaUN!' is a passphrase consisting of the first letters of a quote and a few added symbols and punctuation marks. The most important is to make it long and don't use common language or symbols as much as possible. For example, hackers are smart enough now to look for things like D@GGI3! (replacing the o with @ and the e with a 3).

In addition to a strong password and whenever possible, use two-factor, or multi-factor, authentication. Sites using this method will ask you to put in your password, then text or email another code you must enter before proceeding.

2. True or False Software and application updates are not important and can be ignored.

False. Keeping your software and browsers updated is vitally important. Most updates include security fixes and additions. Older software will continue to have bugs and exploitable holes that allow hackers and cyber criminals easier access to your machine and data.

3. What is the only true guarantee against data loss due to a cyber attack such as ransomware?

My county is small. We don't need to worry about cyber attacks.
Having anti-virus software
Having data securely backed up and accessible
Having enough money to pay the ransom
Restricting internet access to employees

c. The only way to ensure protection against attacks such as ransomware is to back-up your data securely, preferably to a remote site, and have it easily and quickly accessible.

4. Which website URL is legitimate? The correct URL is a. https://www.payapl.com/us/webapps/mpp/requesting-payments. See incorrect portions of the other URL addresses in red below.

b. http://www.paypay.com.home/
c. https://www.pay.pal.com
d. https://www.paypal.com/us/home

Paypal will always use the 'https'. This s at the end of http indicates they use a secure socket layer (SSL) which encrypts the transmission of data from your browser to their web server. Be suspicious of links when: additional characters are added after the .com; additional words are added; and slight misspellings are used.

5. What is Wardriving? a. Interstate 80 b. Looking for unsecure wi-fi networks c. The next Mission Impossible movie

b. The term used to describe hackers driving around neighborhoods looking for unsecured wi-fi networks.

6. TRUE or FALSE All of our county employees have anti-virus software installed on their computers, so our network is fully protected.

False. Antivirus software installed on an individual computer is only one component of a complete cyber-security strategy.

7. You receive an email from a co-worker with an attachment. The subject line reads "Please See Attached Document". The email contains no further information. What should you do?

a. Open the attachment to get more information
b. Contact the sender via phone or separate email to confirm the validity of the message
c. Delete the email
d. Both b and c are correct

d. The correct answer is to contact the sender via a separate email or phone call and delete. If the sender has no knowledge of the email, delete it. Attachments from an unknown source should never be opened. Attachments that appear to be from an unknown source, are not expected, or appear to be out of the ordinary should be verified.

8. What's your best defense against cyber threats?

a. Hope it doesn't happen
b. Get an annual security audit from an unbiased source
c. Never access the internet
d. Plan for an attack
e. Train staff
f. b, d, and e

f. The best defense against a cyber attack is to regularly train staff, have a plan that can be implemented immediately when an attach does occur, and consider having a security audit done by an external, unbiased source.

9. TRUE or FALSE Employees are responsible for the majority of security breaches in the United States.

True. "Negligent employees are the number one cause of data breaches at small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) across North America and the UK" – Keeper Security and the Ponemon Institute, 2017

Source: DeNisco Rayome, Alison (2017, September 19 Published). *Report: Negligent employees are no. 1 cause of cybersecurity breaches at SMBs*. https://www.techrepublic.com/article/report-negligent-employees-are-no-1-cause-of-cybersecurity-breaches-at-smbs/

What can you do?
1. Update the workplace policy: The report suggests a clean desk rule as well as a chapter of company policy dedicated to remote workers and external vendors.
2. Secure physical access to information: Keep sensitive information locked in desk drawers or in lockers, shred paper documents when necessary and take notes on a computer or laptop.
3. Dispose of old hard drives correctly: "A lot of companies or employees assume that information can be deleted or cleaned on a hard drive, but it's not true. The hard drive has to be destroyed," said Shred-it's Kalsi.
4. Make sure every employee knows whom to call: An employee should feel comfortable reporting a lost or stolen device and do it as quickly as possible. "Communication is number one," said Kalsi.

Source: Reinicke, Carmen (2018, June 21 Published). *The biggest cybersecurity risk to US businesses is employee negligence, study says*. https://www.cnbc.com/2018/06/21/the-biggest-cybersecurity-risk-to-us-businesses-is-employee-negligence-study-says.html

10. TRUE or FALSE No internet connection means no virtual security threats

False. Unless you are dealing with a machine that never connects to the internet at some point it will interact with other computers or physical data sharing devices like USB drives or CDs.

Interesting note: While being entirely disconnected from the internet is a safer strategy in today's world, it may not be soon. A malware is being researched/tested that uses radio waves, sound, light, and other covert channels to access fully disconnected computers!
https://www.wired.com/story/air-gap-researcher-mordechai-guri/
https://hub.packtpub.com/top-5-cybersecurity-myths-debunked/

ISAC Brief

ISAC Annual Conference General Session Summary - August 22, 2018
ISAC President Lonny Pulkrabek called the General Session to order and led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced the ISAC Executive Committee and all members of the ISAC Board of Directors.

Bill Peterson gave conference announcements.

Joel Rohne, recognized the Johnson County Board of Supervisors and GROW: Johnson County and the Hamilton County Conservation Board as the 2018 ISAC Excellence in Action Award winners.

Matt Chase, NACo Executive Director, gave the keynote address.

Mark O'Connell, Wisconsin Counties Association Executive Director, and Fred Hubbell, candidate for governor, discussed issues of importance to Iowa counties as part of the ISAC gubernatorial candidate forum.

Peggy Rice, ISAC Past President and Humboldt County Auditor, honored Harlan Hansen, ISAC Past President and former Humboldt County Supervisor, as the 2018 ISAC Golden Eagle.

President Pulkrabek gave a perspective of his term.

Mark O'Connell, Wisconsin Counties Association Executive Director, and Governor Kim Reynolds discussed issues of importance to Iowa counties to conclude the ISAC gubernatorial candidate forum.

President Pulkrabek adjourned the session.

Keep Iowa Beautiful

There is no silver bullet!

The use of the term 'silver bullet' often refers to the ability to cut through red tape and complexity to provide an immediate, quick, and easy solution to a problem or a need. It is like a miracle or waving a magic wand. In myth, the silver bullet was the only way to kill a werewolf. In more modern times it was the silver bullet from the Lone Ranger. He often appeared out of nowhere, left a silver bullet, and the problem was solved.

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Gerald F. Schnepf
Executive Director, Keep Iowa Beautiful
gschnepf@keepiowabeautiful.com

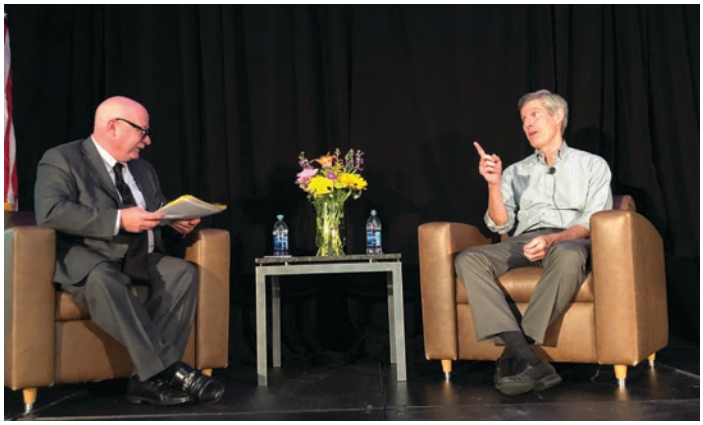
It tends to be our nature to look for the "easy way" out or a quick and convenient solution to a problem. Yes, on occasion, that does happen! That is rare and the normal rule is creative thinking, clear vision, and hard work to get the job done.

Spending time trying to find that 'silver bullet' has about the same chance of success as buying a lottery ticket as the way to finance your new home. Sure, go ahead and try, but, recognize that you can waste valuable time and effort. Having a clear target and working toward it in small steps with diligence and commitment can be far more efficient and effective in the long run. Improving and enhancing your community takes leadership, time, and effort along with support by the community.

Another thing happens when you work for success. It turns out that you build your skills and talents at working to find solutions and then acting on them. Building partnerships, developing strategies, and doing the research and investigation become increasingly valuable over time. Learning, sharing, and partnering are often the keys to success.

It is somewhat like taking a trip – you know where you want to go, so you use a map to find the route to get there. You can take a fast route, scenic route, or maybe even one based on history or culture. The point is that there is often more than one way to reach your goal. Select the one that appeals to your interests and proceed.

Regardless of the route you choose, you can only get there if you start moving in that direction through hard work and effort. As mentioned, small steps make the journey much easier. There is an old phrase – "How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time." There isn't any quick and easy way. The silver bullet is elusive! It doesn't replace leadership, a vision, and hard work in building pride in your community.



Pictured above and on the previous page are photos from the ISAC Annual Conference General Session and the Annual Conference conferece-wide entertainment event, ARTS + EATS + TUNES, which was held at Mainframe Studios in Des Moines.

ISAC
Iowa State Association of Counties

Criteria and Procedures for ISAC Scholarships

The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) is a private, nonprofit corporation whose members are county officials and employees from the 99 counties in Iowa. ISAC has established the following criteria and procedures for granting scholarships:

1. Eligibility to apply is limited to children of current county officials or employees. This does not include city employees, employees of county extension offices, or candidates who are themselves county employees.

2. At least one (1) $1,000 scholarship shall be awarded annually.

3. The candidates must be seniors in high school.

4. This is a one (1) year scholarship and can be received only once by an individual.

5. The scholarship can be awarded to anyone who will be a full-time student of any college requiring at least a minimum of two (2) years for a degree.

6. The scholarship monies will be paid directly to the college; one-half upon acceptance, one-half upon completion of the first semester.

7. The candidates must provide personal reference statements from three (3) individuals other than family members, complete an application, and submit to an interview.

8. The criteria used in awarding the scholarship will be scholastic achievement, financial need, participation in extracurricular/community activities and overall character.

9. The scholarship committee shall award all scholarships and the decision of the selection committee shall be final.

10. The scholarship committee shall consist of seven (7) members, to be appointed by the ISAC President. The selection committee shall consist of one (1) representative from each ISAC district, plus one (1) member of the ISAC Board of Directors.

11. ISAC reserves the right to verify any information provided on any application.

12. Scholarships will be announced at the ISAC Legislative Conference in March.

13. Scholarship winners have two years to use their award. During the two years, they may apply to the scholarship committee for an extension of the time limit. The scholarship committee shall recommend to the ISAC Board of Directors whether to allow the extension of the time limit.

14. It is a requirement of the finalists for this scholarship to come in and participate in a personal interview (early February) with a panel of judges or you may be disqualified for the award.

15. Applications must be **postmarked by December 7, 2018**.

16. Applications should be mailed to:
ISAC, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines, IA 50266-8202

ISAC
Iowa State Association of Counties

Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

City_____Zip _____

Home County_____Home/Cell Phone_____

E-mail Address_____Name of High School _____

Mother's Name_____Mother's Job Title/Occupation_____

Father's Name_____Father's Job Title/Occupation_____

Which parent is a county official or employee?_____

County and Department_____County Position _____

County Phone #_____Work E-Mail _____

Proposed college _____

Have you taken the SAT/ACT_____If so, your score _____

Total Class Size _____ Rank in Class _____ Grade Point_____on a 4.0 scale

Financial Need:

Family's Household Income: ***Please circle***

($0 - $49,999) ($50,000 - $99,999) (Over $100,000)

Special circumstances that have impacted your family's income:_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Essay: On another sheet of paper type an essay of no more than 250 words explaining your career plans and future goals. MAKE US SEE THE REAL YOU.

Extra-Curricular Activities: In the space provided, please identify your most significant extra-curricular activities, school activities, work experience, etc. that might be helpful to the committee in judging your application.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

References: We need personal reference letters from three (3) individuals other than family members (Teachers, employers, advisors, etc.).

Transcript: Please enclose a copy of your high school transcript with your application.

For you to be considered for a scholarship you must:

1. **Return application filled out completely and signed**
2. **Enclose your typed essay**
3. **Include three letters of personal reference**
4. **Enclose your official high school transcript**

NOTE: If you do not comply with these requirements, your application may be disqualified.

Return to: Iowa State Association of Counties, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines, IA 50266-8202. **Applications must be postmarked by December 7, 2018.**

I hereby certify that this application contains no misrepresentation or falsifications and that the information given by me is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant: _____

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2018/2019 Calendar

October 2018
3-5 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat (Johnson County)
3-5 Iowa Environmental Health Association Fall Conference (West Des Moines Marriott)
21-24 Assessors Fall Conference (Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
24 Iowa Stepping Up Summit (Hy-Vee Hall, Des Moines)

November 2018
15-16 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting (ISAC Office)

December 2018
2-5 ISSDA Winter School (Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
12-14 Iowa County Engineers Conference (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

January 2019
16-17 ISAC New County Officers School (Sheraton West Des Moines)
31 Statewide Supervisors Meeting (Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)

March 2019
2-5 NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)
13 County Day at the Capitol (Iowa State Capitol, Des Moines)
14-15 ISAC Spring Conference (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

July 2019
12-15 NACo Annual Conference (Las Vegas, Nevada)

August 2019
21-23 ISAC Annual Conference (Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, 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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Kingston Life and Health

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IP Pathways

Endorsed Platinum Preferred Vendors
Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAIT)
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa

Platinum Preferred Vendors
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Henry M. Adkins and Son
ISG
Matt Parrott/ElectionSource
MidAmerican Energy
Northland Securities, Inc.
Schneider Geospatial
"Solutions," Inc.
Tyler Technologies

Gold Preferred Vendor
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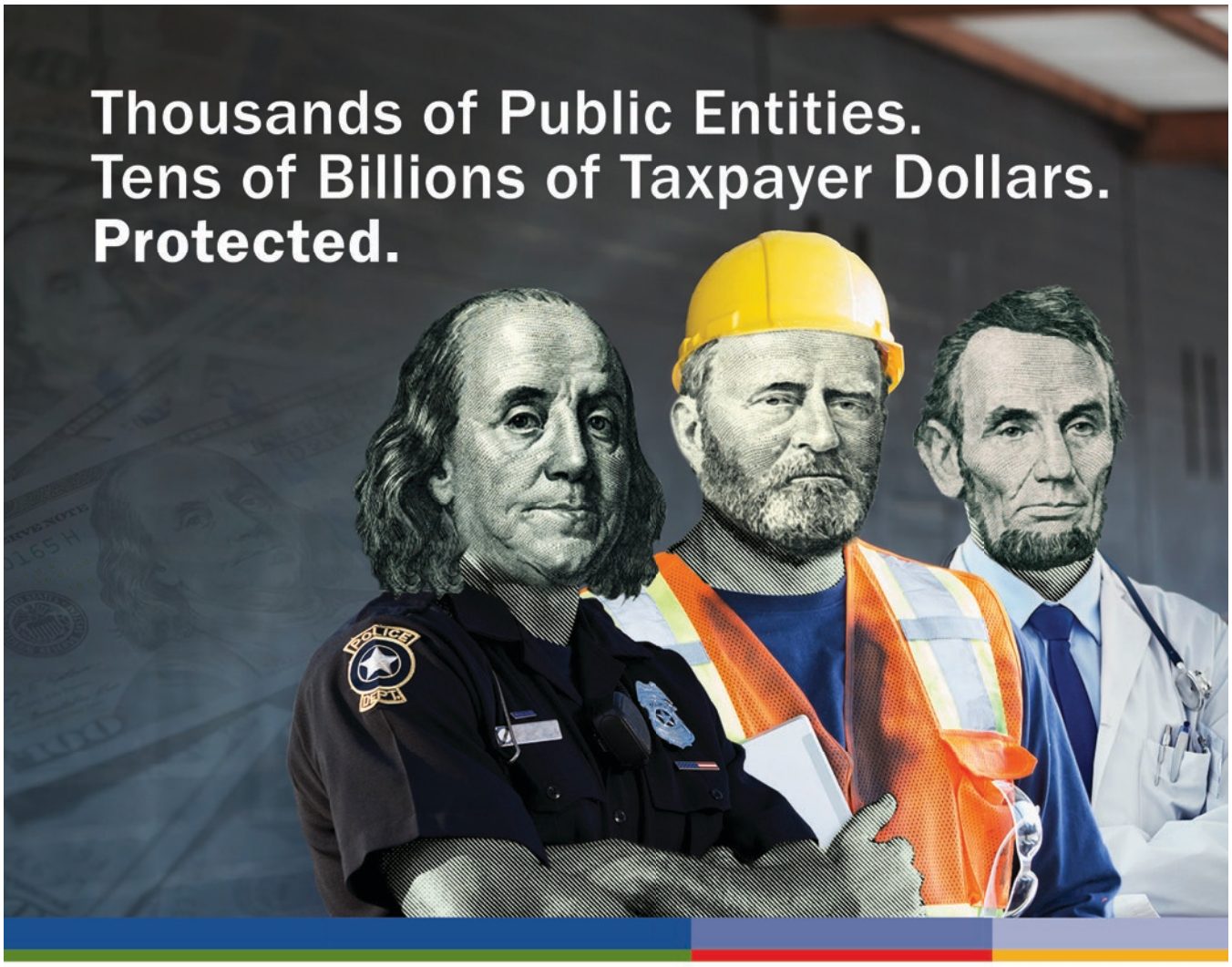

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05/18

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