May 2009 ICN Monthly Update

ICN – Web V2

A new version of the ICN web site has been launched! With a new look, features, and new navigational capabilities the site incorporates enhanced video snippets and information resources. Let us know what you think!

Connections to Afghanistan Now Possible through Iowa Communications Network

Iowa families now have the potential to visit with military family members deployed to Afghanistan via the ICN!

As part of the Operation Hometown Link initiative of the national non-profit Freedom Calls Foundation, the Network has hosted approximately 60 reunions since 2007. With the recent announcement of additional locations in Kuwait, at Camp Arifjan and Ali Al Saleem Airbase, and now Afghanistan, the ICN can continue to assist Iowa's troops and their families.

Connections to Afghanistan must be for milestone family events like births, weddings, or graduations and have to be arranged a minimum of three weeks in advance. In addition to the sites in Kuwait and Afghanistan, families can also connect to family members serving in Iraq at Al Asad Air Base, Fallujah, Taji, Camp Victory (Baghdad), and Camp Taqaddum.

Iowa families with a deployed service member from any military branch may take advantage of the video reunions. The visits may take place during the week and on some Saturdays at many of the 730 ICN video classrooms located around the state. ICN staff members find an appropriate location for the family, while Freedom Calls schedules and pays for the soldier's satellite time. Video reunions to Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan are arranged through ICN staff.

For more information, or to arrange a Freedom Calls/Operation Hometown

Link ICN session, contact the Iowa Communications Network at 877-426-4692 or visit www.icn.state.ia.us and watch the video accessed via the Freedom Calls button on the top menu bar!

Sister City Partnership Continues via ICN

ICN helped bring dental professionals together across the ocean in a videoconference session held April 15. The session was held between staff from the Creighton University Dental School and Baghdad Dental School, as part of the Sister City Partnership between Council Bluffs and Karadah, Baghdad, Iraq. There were five people involved in Iraq and four involved in Council Bluffs. The meeting originated from the Iowa National Guard Armory in Council Bluffs and was coordinated by LTC Rick Burns, who is leading the Sister City Partnership. Burns said the session was "flawless" and, "I truly believe this is a first step toward great things." This is the second session LTC Burns has coordinated for the Partnership.

Upcoming ICN Video Sessions for Students and Educators through IPTV K-12 Connections

Creating A Millionaire's Mind

Grades 5-8
May 20, 9-9:50 or 10-10:50
Registration deadline – May 15
http://www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9670

Production and educational outreach funding is generously provided to Biz Kid$ by a coalition of America's Credit Unions.

Money. It's one hot topic right now! But money doesn't come with instructions on how to earn, spend, save, or invest it. Ever wonder why some become millionaires while others don't? An Iowa entrepreneur and financial educator will give you and your class ideas to start down the investing path, discover money personalities, and learn how millionaires made their money. The hands-on activities and classroom ideas will be geared for grades 5-8, but can be adapted for others.
Millionaire status isn't out of reach for your students…It's simply *eek*-o-nomics.

Confirmed registrants for this session receive the hard cover book *Entrepreneur Extraordinaire...Grandpa Helps Emily Build A Business* as well as the comic book *Be Money Smart* both written by the presenter of this session, Joanne Seymour Kuster.

Youth at Work: Teen Safety and Health in the Workplace

Grades 9-12
May 21, 9-9:50 or 10-10:50
http://www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9673
Registration deadline - May 18
Many young people go into work situations without the information and knowledge needed to keep them safe and healthy. In the United States, 250,000 youth are hurt on the job each year, with 84,000 of those injuries requiring hospitalization. Presented by a certified Iowa Workforce Development master trainer for the Youth @ Work – Talking Safety Curriculum. This is a foundation curriculum in occupational safety and health and the session will include segments of the curriculum.

The purpose of this session is to inform and to initiate the thought process about safety on the job with teens. During the session, students will learn:

- How to identify a hazard
- Hazards can be controlled
- What to do in an emergency
- Workers have rights
- How to speak up effectively with employers

School Food Service 2009

This session is sponsored by the Consortium of Iowa Community Colleges, Iowa Public Television, and the Iowa Communications Network.
This three-day program provides up-to-date information for all school food service personnel. This 20-hour course contains two School Nutrition Association-approved classes to meet the Nutrition Education, as well as the Sanitation and Safety components, to meet the new Level I Certification requirements with SNA (School Nutrition Association).

Registration deadline is June 2.

Class meets on June 17, 2009, from 1- 4:30 p.m. and continues on June 18, 2009, from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Time includes a one-hour break for lunch on June 18.
Click on the links below to register and for more information.

Food Safety and Sanitation
http://www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9587
This newly revised 10-hour class uses the curriculum Serving It Safe and is designed specifically for school food service personnel who will learn about methods of safe food handling, sanitation, and safety in all areas. Cost for Food Safety and Sanitation is $90 which includes presenter fees, materials and CEUs. Registration deadline is June 2, 2009.

School Food Service Nutrition 101
http://www.iptv.org/iowa_database/event-detail.cfm?ID=9585
This 10-hour course is designed for school food service personnel. The most current information on nutrition needs, program requirements and practical how-to's on implementing good nutrition practices are included. Cost for School Food Service Nutrition 101 is $90 which includes presenter fees, materials and CEUs. Registration deadline is June 2, 2009.

As always, please share this newsletter with others. To be added to the distribution list, please e-mail gail.mcmahon@iowa.gov. If you wish to be removed from the list, please reply to this e-mail with "unsubscribe" in the subject line. Have an ICN-related topic to share? Let me know