



# The Ninety-Three

November 9, 2023

## Counties Light Courthouses in Support of Veterans for "Operation Green Light"



County buildings across Nebraska were illuminated green this week as part of

Operation Green Light for Veterans, a nationwide effort by counties, the National Association of Counties (NACo), and the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers.

We at NACO extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the brave men and women who have served our nation. Thank you for your selflessness and commitment to our country. Happy Veterans Day!

Visit our Facebook page to like and share #OperationGreenLight photos of participating counties.



## 2023 NACO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 13-15, YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER NORTH, KEARNEY, NE



# PRE-REGISTRATION CLOSING SOON

Register at [www.nebraskacounties.org](http://www.nebraskacounties.org)

Registration Deadline: November 22, 2023

**JOIN US IN DECEMBER**

## Pre-Registration Deadline November 22

Conference registration will also open on August 1, 2023. The cost is \$150.00 per attendee and \$100.00 per guest. A spouse is considered a guest.

The registration deadline is November 22, 2023 at 11:59 P.M. CT.

The walk-in registration fee after November 22, 2023 is \$175.

All cancellations after November 22, 2023 are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee.

[Click Here for Registration and More](#)

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## Annual Conference Agenda

[Click Here to Download the Full Agenda](#)

*Please note items in the agenda are subject to change. Print copies of the finalized agenda will be available at the conference.*

*\*\*Mobile App Link Coming Soon\*\**

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## CONFERENCE KEYNOTE EVENTS



**Richard Hight**

Keynote Speaker

Thursday, December 14th



**Lunch with State Senators\***

Younes Center Gold Ballrooms

Thursday, December 14th

*\*Pending Availability*



**Bryan Tuma**

Nebraska Crime Commission

Friday, December 15th



## NACO West Update

The crew continues to work on the concrete foundation.





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## Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Toolkit

NACo's new [BEAD toolkit](#) will guide counties through broadband funding and deployment strategies.

**About the BEAD Program:** The [Broadband Equity Access and Deployment \(BEAD\) program](#) earmarks over \$42 billion for the expansion of high-speed internet to locations without adequate service.

**Toolkit for counties:** NACo's toolkit offers [resources and information](#) for county leaders, including guidance in navigating the state challenge process to prioritize areas for broadband investment.

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# Don Harpst Sr. Leadership Nebraska Award

Nebraska Press Association has revamped one of its annual awards in hopes of it becoming one of the most highly coveted honors among Nebraska community newspapers.

It is the Don Harpst Sr. Leadership Nebraska Award -- established by the Harpst family to encourage and reward leadership by newspaper publishers or employees in the communities they serve.

One of the key changes made is to seek nominations from outside of the Nebraska newspaper industry. It is the local people, the local elected officials who know best if someone from their local newspaper is deserving of the award. Also, the annual award will now come with a \$1,500 grant with those proceeds to be gifted back into one or more community organizations of the recipient's choice.

The information and nomination form is all available through this link:

<https://nebpress.com/harpst-award/>

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## NACo High Performance County Leadership Academy



The **NACo High Performance Leadership Academy**: An **online, 12-week** program to empower  online county government professionals with fundamental, results-oriented **leadership skills**.

Course information is available for the NACo High Performance County Leadership Academy for sessions starting in January and April.

January 2024 Course Overview

April 2024 Course Overview

Learn more about the program here:

<https://www.naco.org/page/high-performance-leadership-academy>

<https://www.pdaleadership.com>

Contact Luke Afeman, [lukea@pdaleadership.com](mailto:lukea@pdaleadership.com).

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## Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program



The [Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program](#) is available at no cost to all NACo member counties, providing relief to uninsured and underinsured Americans who face growing prescription drug costs.

**Millions saving millions:** Currently, half of all NACo members participate in the program and have saved residents millions of dollars on prescription drug costs.

**Learn more:** [Visit our program page](#) to see if your county is participating, enroll in the program or update your program contacts.



# Nebraska Broadband Office Invites Comment on Initial Proposal Volume 2

The Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO) is moving to the next phase of efforts to ensure access for all Nebraskans to reliable broadband.

As part of this effort, there will be ongoing public engagements across the state including a series of nine public meetings and an open comment period from Nov. 13 to Dec. 13. During the open comment period the public will be asked to provide comments on NBO's long-term goals and objectives to deploy broadband and plans to coordinate with local representatives. Meetings and comments will also focus on NBO's plan to ensure that an equitable and highly-skilled workforce is utilized throughout the buildout process, the subgrant process and NBO's low cost affordable and middle-income plans.

Opportunities will be available to submit public comments online <https://ndot.info/community>, or in-person at one of the following meetings hosted by the Nebraska Broadband Office:

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**O'Neill, Nov. 9, 5:30-7 p.m.**

The Evergreen, 300 Jeanette Way

**Fairbury, Nov. 13, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Union Bank, 1313 K St.

**Springfield, Nov. 14, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Springfield Community Center, 170 N 3rd St.

**Lincoln, Nov. 15, 5:30-7 p.m.**

NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Nebraska Parkway

**Columbus, Nov. 16, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, 753 33rd Ave.

**Kearney, Nov. 20, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Express, 110 2nd Ave.

**Ogallala, Nov. 21, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Express, 206 Pony Express Lane

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Meetings are open to the public and will include a subgrant discussion, as well as

provide an opportunity to learn about broadband programs and buildout across the state and provide input into digital access, affordability and need for technical skills to create equitable distribution of resources.

For those who are unable to attend the meetings or open comment periods and want to learn more about high-speed internet access in Nebraska, visit <https://ndot.info/community> to review information and provide feedback.

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## **Nebraska Rural Broadband Task Force Findings and Recommendations October 2023**



NEBRASKA

**Rural Broadband Task Force**  
Findings and Recommendations  
October 2023



[Click Here to Read the Report](#)

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## Programs & Opportunities - Rural.gov

Visit the link below to browse funding opportunities, technical assistance, and other programs supporting a broad range of rural community and economic development activities. You can also find assistance for residents, including families, homeowners, seniors, veterans, small businesses, agricultural producers, and more.

Find Programs & Opportunities here: <https://www.rural.gov/programs>

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## NACO Sponsor Spotlight



[Applied Connective Technologies](#)

2585 State Hwy 14  
Albion, NE 68620  
Telephone: 402.395.6924

Cyber Security, Managed IT Services, Phone Systems, Physical Security, Infrastructure,  
Audio/Video Solutions

Applied Connective | One team. All your technology solutions.

Contact: Ed Knott  
[eknott@appliedconnective.com](mailto:eknott@appliedconnective.com)

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## NACO RESOURCES

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Legal Calendar



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