



1. Pick up a grocery tote from LPC Connect
2. Fill it with non-perishable items for the holiday boxes or cold weather gear for the Mitten Tree
3. Drop off the items to LPC Connect, 306 Main Street, La Porte City, Iowa
4. Keep the tote for yourself!

LPC CONNECT ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR FOOD PANTRY & MITTEN TREE

Beginning this month and while supplies last, visit LPC Connect to pick up a LPC Connect grocery tote, and we invite you to use this tote to fill it with non-perishable food items or cold weather gear for our holiday box drive and Mitten Tree that runs through December. We encourage you to use the tote to donate cans of vegetables, fruit, soup, or cereal as well as other nonperishable food items including items for the Cedar Valley Food Pantry holiday boxes, before Thanksgiving.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY BOXES INCLUDE:

- Green beans
- Cream of mushroom soup
- Evaporated milk
- Muffin mixes
- Pumpkin
- Biscuit mixes
- Cake mixes
- Corn
- Instant potatoes
- Gravy mixes
- Cornbread
- Applesauce
- Stuffing mixes

LPC Connect is hosting the Mitten Tree Program again this year through Christmas. We are collecting new or handmade hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for people within our community who are in need. This is an opportunity for individuals, families, groups and businesses to support a local program and help a child/children, adults and/ or seniors to stay warm during the winter months. The proceeds will go to families of Black Hawk, Benton and Tama counties.

As an added bonus, LPC Connect customers who make a donation will be entered into a drawing for a LPC Connect gift package. Please contact Barb or Heidi at **319-342-3369**, or visit us at www.facebook.com/lpctel for details.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE MITTEN TREE INCLUDE:

- Hats
- Scarves
- Gloves
- Mufflers
- Mittens

Come for a cool time at our

HOLIDAY CUSTOMER APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

We're hosting our annual Holiday Customer Appreciation Open House at our office at 306 Main Street, La Porte City to say thanks for being a LPC Connect customer in 2016. You'll be treated to holiday refreshments and door prizes.

To help feed those in need, we're also hosting a Mitten Tree and Food Drive. Please bring nonperishable food items and cold weather gear to our office in November and December. Thank you!

LPC Connect

306 Main St. • P.O. Box 185
La Porte City, Iowa 50651
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

319-342-3369

email: lpctelco@lpctel.net
www.lpctel.com
www.facebook.com/lpctel

Internet Tech Support: 855-558-9863
SecureIT Tech Support: 877-373-3320
After Hours Repair: 319-342-2213

The Connector

Expect More. Do More.

Q4 2016 Newsletter



AUREON PROVIDES QUALITY CHARITY GRANTS TO IOWAN COMMUNITIES

Aureon, in conjunction with LPC Connect, is pleased to announce that Aureon Charity Grants have been awarded to two organizations within LPC Connect's service area. Hawkins Memorial Library received a grant for \$500.00 and the La Porte City FFA Historical and Ag Museum received a grant for \$300.00.

Upon reviewing an abundance of applications, our Aureon Charity Grant Committee delegated funds to projects committed to the betterment of local Iowan communities. The grants were presented in conjunction with LPC Connect who sponsored the grant application.

Aureon, the new name for Iowa Network Services, created the grant program in 1993 to increase service and support to rural independent telecommunications companies and the communities they serve. The Aureon Charity Grant Program awards grants on a quarterly basis. Over the course of twelve years, Aureon has donated over \$850,000 to local communities and their surrounding areas. We believe in rewarding various organizations for their passion and dedication to advancing their own neighborhoods.

"We believe in rewarding various organizations for their passion and dedication to advancing their own neighborhoods."



Pictured: Heidi Barz, LPC Connect; Jolene Kronschnabel, Hawkins Memorial Library; Kent Atha, Aureon



Pictured: Heidi Barz, LPC Connect; Jan Erdahl, FFA Museum; Kent Atha, Aureon

LPC CONNECT IN YOUR COMMUNITY – MITCH HARRISON

LPC Connect is deeply dedicated to giving back to the communities we serve. Mitch Harrison, outside central office plan technician for LPC Connect since 2010, is committed to giving back to the area. Soon after moving to the area, Mitch joined the La Porte City Fire Department because of his desire to become involved in the community and to help people in need. He was a training officer and received his 5-year fire department certificate. He is actively involved with fundraising as a volunteer at the LPC Firemen's annual fish fry and benefit auction. He also drives the fire truck in the Festival of Trails parade and serves sandwiches each year at the department's brat stand. Recently, Mitch was involved in the Mark Harrison Fish On Cancer Awareness, after losing his father to stomach and liver cancer.

Mitch is married to Jenna and has a 10-month old son, Carter.

We are proud of Mitch and his contributions the La Porte City and Mount Auburn communities.



HOW TO IMPROVE THE SPEED OF YOUR WI-FI NETWORK

If your Wi-Fi router is out of date or not set up correctly, it could be slowing down your Internet speed. Here are some tips to help you maximize router performance:

Buy a new router that supports 802.11ac. One of the best ways to make sure your network is as fast and reliable as possible is to use up-to-date hardware that supports the latest standards. With all the devices in your home, it's more important than ever to have a wireless router that can handle the increased demand for Wi-Fi connectivity.

Move your router to its ideal position. For the best signal and coverage, put your router in an open space near the center of your home. Keep it away from thick walls made of brick or concrete, and make sure it's not around metal items which can reflect Wi-Fi signals.

Make sure your router is secured using WPA2 with AES. The latest two standards, 802.11n and 802.11ac, don't operate at the highest possible rates when either the client or router use WPA or TKIP. Putting a password on your router or limiting which devices can access your network will keep other people in the neighborhood from using your network and slowing it down.

Reduce interference by removing or minimizing the use of interfering devices. These include baby monitors, older cordless phones, microwave ovens, wireless speakers, and some security cameras.

Make sure your router is configured to automatically identify and use the least congested frequency. Or you can manually choose the best non-overlapping channel. Slow Wi-Fi speeds may be the result of interference from your neighbors' Wi-Fi networks as all the devices compete to use the same channel. For example, if neighbors are downloading a Netflix movie using the same Wi-Fi channel as your home's Wi-Fi router, your router and devices may only get thin slices of "air time" to talk.

Stop by LPC Connect or **call 319-342-3369** for help selecting a new router. We stock and install a variety of routers designed to meet a customer's individual needs.

Article courtesy of Cornerstone Group



6 THINGS YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO WITH A LANDLINE

Having a corded landline phone at home provides you with many benefits including consistently clearer voice quality than a cell phone. However, did you ever stop to consider all of the little annoying things you don't have to do with your landline phone?

HERE ARE OUR FAVORITES:

1. You don't have to think about signal strength.
2. You don't have to remember to charge the battery.
3. You don't have to run around the house looking for it when it rings.
4. You don't have to be careful not to drop it and break the screen.
5. You don't have to worry about losing your phone.
6. You don't have to take time to do software upgrades.

Sometimes, keeping things simple is simply better.



Have you registered for TV Everywhere yet? One grateful FusionTV subscriber, Sharyl, had this to say:

“ Just wanted to let you know that Sam was so happy for TV Everywhere because in Vinton they did not have the Big Ten Network on their cable when he was working Saturday. He used TV Everywhere on his laptop and got to watch the Hawkeye game. Awesome.”

Thanks for your business, Sharyl and Sam! Visit **www.lpctel.com** to register for TV Everywhere today!



WATCH OUT FOR TECH SUPPORT SCAMS

When you communicate with tech support, you want them to help you solve computer problems, not create them! Yet, that's exactly what scammers pretending to be tech support personnel are doing.

Here's how it works: Pop-up ads claiming to sell fixes for your computer lead you to a website to download the software. The website includes a phone number for you to call to "register" the software. When you call, the person on the other end of the line requests information, such as passwords or remote access to your computer. Using remote access, they "examine" your computer and tell you that it has problems that need additional "solutions." They then ask for your credit card number to purchase these so-called solutions that don't actually do anything. While they're at it, they may infect your computer with malware or use your financial information to commit credit card fraud.

In a variation of this scam, tricksters call you and claim that they're on the tech support team at Microsoft or another well-known technology company. They go through the same process of accessing your computer, getting credit card or other information, and then causing trouble.

TO PROTECT YOURSELF, FOLLOW THESE TIPS:

- Never give access to your computer to someone who calls you out of the blue.
- To contact tech support, call the number you already have for your hardware or software.
- Never provide credit card information, passwords, or other sensitive data to someone claiming to be a tech support representative.
- Protect your computer from viruses.
- Learn how to avoid identity theft.

If you fear you may already have been a victim, check your computer for malware, change passwords you may have given out, and reverse any associated credit card charges. Protect your computer with fully-automated anti-virus software with SecureIT services from LPC Connect starting at just \$4.95/month.

Article courtesy of Cornerstone Group



9TH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE WALK

The La Porte City Chamber of Commerce will host their 9th annual Chocolate Walk on October 27, 2016. Businesses in La Porte City will be offering chocolate treats from 5:30 – 8 p.m. Enjoy a sweet evening and stroll from business to business enjoying chocolate martinis, homemade truffles, chocolate fountains, chocolate dipped strawberries and cake balls, just to name a few. The Chocolate Walk is a great opportunity to visit businesses you may not always get a chance to see and get a taste of what La Porte City has to offer for the holidays! Barb and Heidi will be serving chocolate sensations at the LPC Connect office on Main Street. Please stop by for a chocolate temptation on Thursday, October 27, 2016!



Pictured is Patti Carlson who was the winner of the iPad Mini technology backpack valued at over \$400.00. Patti's name was drawn from all of the customers who upgraded their Internet service to Gold Internet or higher during the month of August.

Congratulations, Patti!

