

The Connector

Expect More. Do More.

Q2 2020 Newsletter



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Kramer Sausage Company

Kramer Sausage Company is a La Porte City institution and known world-wide for custom meat processing services. Heinz Kramer apprenticed at age 14 in Rhaderfehn, Germany, learning the trade of sausage making and meat processing. Heinz and his wife, Heide opened for business in 1964. Joest Kramer, vice president of Kramer Sausage Company, carries on the family tradition today. When asked what makes their business unique, Joest said, "Old-fashioned products, our own recipes, and natural smoke."

Located at 322 Main Street in La Porte City, Kramer Sausage Company has relied on its neighbor, LPC Connect, for telephone services for 56 years. More recently, broadband services enable them to connect to customers and vendors in the United States and Europe. "We receive a lot of phone calls generated by the website," described Kramer. The machines they use for processing are connected to the Internet, and they troubleshoot with manufacturers through their broadband connection when problems arise.

"We receive instant service from LPC Connect if anything goes wrong," shared Kramer. He continues, "We have a cold, hot, and wet environment which can cause some problems." They recognize the value of working with a local service provider, notably after they experienced a fire and were able to have their services reconnected right away.

As a hometown partner and neighbor, we appreciate the service that the Kramer Sausage Company has provided to the La Porte City area. Thank you for your business and we look forward to serving you for the next 50 years and beyond.



Pictured are: Dan Kramer, Heinz Kramer, Joest Kramer and Marc Kramer

We Appreciate Your Input

Thank you to everyone who completed the 2020 Customer Satisfaction Survey this year. The ratings and comments you provide in the survey help us serve you better.

Congratulations to the following customers who were randomly selected from the survey respondents:

\$25.00 WINNERS

Dennis Sparks
Randy & Joan Sherwood
Neal Keegan
Zach Hoover

\$50.00 WINNERS

Janice De Witt
Roxanne Fuller
Royce Moore

\$75.00 WINNERS

Stacy Fleshner
Greg & Brenda Allers

\$100.00 WINNER

Barbara Calvert



AREA EVENTS

LPC Women's Club Supports the Community In Style

Preview the season's latest fashion trends while giving back to the community by attending the La Porte City Women's Club Spring Style Show. This annual event is a fundraiser for the club, and the monies raised benefit numerous local initiatives, including education, historic preservation, healthcare, and community safety.

The Spring Style Show will be held on **Monday, April 20, 2020**, at the La Porte City Golf Club. The evening begins with a social at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner at 6:00. At 6:30, local retailers will show what's new in fashion for the 2020 season.

LPC Connect is a sponsor of the LPC Women's Club Spring Style Show.
Purchase your tickets at our office or call 319-342-3369 for more information.



Pictured are Heidi Barz, La Porte City Women's Club, presenting a donation to the La Porte City Library director Jolene Kronsabel.

2020 Festival of Trails Guarantees Fun for Everyone

LPC Connect invites you to join the festivities at the Festival of Trails celebration, **Thursday - Sunday, June 18-21, 2020**. Enjoy live music, parade, and fun activities for all ages each day. Due to the Main Street Reconstruction Project, the celebration will be moved to a new location. Stay tuned for more details as they become available. Thank you to the La Porte City Lions Club for coordinating our annual hometown celebration.



Vendors Needed!

The La Porte City Farmers Market is seeking vendors for the upcoming season. The Farmers Market is scheduled for **Fridays from June 26 - August 21** and is being relocated to the City Park due to downtown construction. Registration is required to become a participating vendor.

To register, please contact Barb Bader at 319-342-3369.

Common Wi-Fi Problems and How to Fix Them

Your home's WiFi network will undoubtedly hit a snag every now and then. But there's no need to panic. Many common WiFi problems can be easily fixed, so hang onto this article for future reference.

SLOW SPEEDS

✓ Fixes:

- **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. The further away you are from your router, the slower your speeds will be. Keep it away from thick walls made of brick or concrete, and make sure it's not around metal items, which can reflect WiFi signals.
- **Protect your WiFi network.** If someone nearby is leeching off your network, it can slow down your internet speeds. Set up security for your WiFi network that includes a password.
- **Upgrade your internet plan.** Your current internet plan may not be fast enough to support all the users and devices in your home, regardless of how well placed and secured your router may be. If so, you may need a speed upgrade.

NO CONNECTION

✓ Fixes:

- **Pull the plug.** Periodically, something glitches and the router or modem (or combination) just stop communicating. There isn't always an explanation. It just happens. Try disconnecting your router and modem from power, wait at least 30 seconds, then plug them back in.
- **Contact your ISP.** If the above fix doesn't work, it's possible your internet service provider is dealing with a system outage.

WiFi DOESN'T REACH CERTAIN ROOMS

✓ Fixes:

- **Get a new router.** If you've already positioned your router in the best location within your home – described above – and are still experiencing poor signals in some areas, you may need to buy or lease a more powerful router.
- **Add a wireless signal extender.** If your home is larger than about 3,000 square feet, getting good WiFi signal throughout can be a challenge. Multistory homes can also be difficult if the router isn't plugged into the broadband line somewhere on the middle level. These situations may call for a wireless signal extender.

Would you prefer to let LPC Connect handle the setup and maintenance of your WiFi network? **Call 319-342-3369 to sign up for LPC WiFi Connect for only \$5.00/month for the first year.***

Article courtesy of Cornerstone Group

*Limited time offer valid for current customers with residential internet service. Requires one-time \$100 WiFi installation and optimization fee. 12-month agreement required. Some restrictions apply, contact us for details.



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MITCH,
Broadband Technician



How Do Spammers Get Your Email Address?

Frustration with spam emails in your inbox may lead you to wonder how spammers got your email address in the first place. They use a variety of methods, with these being some of the most common:

Leaked Account Databases – The easiest way for spammers to collect large lists of good, active email addresses is via leaked account databases. Organizations as big as Adobe, LinkedIn, and Snapchat have all been compromised in recent years.

Buying Lists of Email Addresses – Unscrupulous people will sell lists of email addresses to spammers for a low price. Spammers may also just trade their lists of email addresses with other spammers. It's important to note that legitimate businesses won't sell or buy lists of email addresses.

Sending Spam to Random Email Addresses – Since spam emails cost nearly nothing to send, spammers will sometimes start with a popular email service like Gmail and then

generate massive lists of common words and names. For example, they might send mails to the top 100 most popular names and each birth year for people between the ages of 18 and 80. If your email address is bob1965@gmail.com, you'll get one of these emails.

Harvesting or "Crawl and Scrape" Programs – **Any text on a webpage containing the "@" character is fair game for these robotic harvesting tools, and lists of thousands of addresses can be harvested within an hour.**

Dishonest Subscribe/Unsubscribe Newsletter Services – A common unsubscribe tactic is to blast millions of people with a false "you have joined a newsletter" email. When users click on the "unsubscribe" link,



they are actually confirming that a real person exists at their email address. These services then sell your email address for a commission.

Fake Sweepstakes Sites to Harvest Data – An easy way for spammers to get their hands on your personal information, including your email address, is to convince you to hand it over to them by creating a fake sweepstakes site. They might even give away a small prize, but their primary goal is to harvest your personal information and use it to spam you.

Article courtesy of Cornerstone Group

Don't Assume You Know What's Below

When you have a project that requires digging, your first step is to contact Iowa One Call. Every digging job – big or small – including DIY projects like landscaping and building a deck or fence requires that you contact Iowa One Call to locate underground facilities. **You can request a locate by calling 811 or 1-800-292-8989. You can also file your locate requests online at www.iowaonecall.com/homewoners/**

DON'T FORGET:

- You must contact Iowa One Call at least 48 hours (not including weekends and holidays) in advance of your plans to excavate or dig.
- A ticket is valid for 20 calendar days from the time of the call.
- ALWAYS check yard markings and Iowa One Call Positive Response ticket status before beginning excavation or digging.

Striking a single line can cause injury, repair costs, fines, and inconvenient outages. One free, easy call before you begin digging will help keep you and your communities safe and connected.



LPC Connect

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La Porte City, Iowa 50651
Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

319-342-3369

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

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