## **100% fiber-optic Fusion Network**

from LPC Connect means insanely fast Internet.

Only LPC Connect built a fiber-optic network in this area. Which means we're the only provider for really, really, really fast Internet — the "click and you're instantly there" kind.

	BEST VALUE	
100/100	300/300	500/500
<sup>\$</sup> <b>85.00</b>	<sup>\$</sup> <b>100.00</b>	<sup>\$</sup> 115.00
• 100 Mbps Download	• 300 Mbps Download	• 500 Mbps Download
• 100 Mbps Upload	• 300 Mbps Upload	• 500 Mbps Upload

### Free Extras with every Fusion Internet Package

LPC Connect Fusion Internet is an all-around excellent value. Not only do you get high speeds at low monthly rates, but we also give you these FREE extras:

- UNLIMITED data with no caps or overages
- $\rightarrow$  FREE 5 email accounts with spam and email virus filtering
- → FREE 24×7 Technical Support Our free technical support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-(855) 558-9863.
- $\rightarrow$  FREE access to more than 3.500 live sports events on ESPN3.com

### **Get Connected Today!** 319-342-3369

### LPC Connect

306 Main St. • PO Box 185 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

LPC Connect is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# **The Connector** Expect More. Do More.

Q4 2024 Newsletter

### **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

## **Hawkins Memorial Library**

In early 1945, the La Porte City Lions Club launched a campaign to construct a community library, marking the first step toward what would eventually become the Hawkins Memorial Library. Former Mayor Roy Hawkins, recognizing the importance of the initiative, appointed a Board of Trustees in March 1945 to oversee the project. The board initiated a fund drive to establish a one-room library within City Hall. With a collection of just 100 books and a generous pledge of \$1,000 from the Lions Club, the La Porte City Free Public Library was officially established in October 1961 within the City Hall.

Today, the Hawkins Memorial Library is operated by a small, dedicated team of three employees; two part-time library assistants, Anni DeBoef-Craft and Charlene Moine, and a full-time library director, Jake Rochford-Volk. Together, they work to ensure that the library serves the needs of the community efficiently and compassionately.

Hawkins Memorial Library has long been a customer of LPC Connect, benefiting from their technological services to support the library's mission. With LPC Connect's reliable internet, the library has advanced its digital equity initiative by providing open-access Wi-Fi to the public around the clock, 365 days a year. This service ensures that anyone inside or near the library can access the internet freely.

Additionally, the library staff benefits from a secure network provided by LPC Connect, enabling seamless execution of daily duties and the development of new public programs.

As a neighbor and direct supporter of the library, LPC Connect plays an integral role in ensuring that the library can serve the community efficiently. Their greatest contribution has been their exceptional customer service. Whenever the library encounters any technical issues, LPC Connect is guick to respond, ensuring that services are restored without delay.

Moreover, LPC Connect consistently goes above and beyond, offering thoughtful recommendations and responsive service. Despite the age and condition of the library's physical space, LPC Connect's team has worked tirelessly to ensure that the library stays connected to the community it serves. Their commitment to supporting Hawkins Memorial Library highlights the importance of collaboration between local businesses and public institutions for the benefit of the entire community.

As Hawkins Memorial Library looks toward a future of potential expansion and growth, the support of partners like LPC Connect will remain essential to its mission of providing free, inclusive services to all.





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## Welcome to the LPC Family

### **Proud to Offer Service Like No Other Provider**

Living in a small town often means forming close ties with the community, and Nolan Rolston has embraced that fully. Through his previous involvement with the La Porte City Fire Department and Lions Club, Nolan has established deep roots in the area alongside his girlfriend Zoie and their children, Kaisley and Jase. With a new baby on the way, their family is growing, and so is Nolan's dedication to the community he serves.

In May, Nolan joined LPC Connect as a Broadband Technician, where he is now a familiar face around town. His daily routine involves helping people stay connected—something he takes pride in. One of the things Nolan loves most about working at LPC Connect is the strong bond he shares with his co-workers. Having known many of them for years, the workplace feels more like a family to him, making every day on the job that much more enjoyable.

What truly sets LPC Connect apart, according to Nolan, is their quick response time to customer requests. In a world where reliable internet and communication services are more essential than ever, LPC Connect's ability to address problems promptly makes a significant difference. Paired with exceptional customer service from dedicated employees, it's no wonder Nolan feels proud to be part of the LPC Connect team.

Nolan's commitment to both his work and his community is clear, and as he continues to serve the area, he's proving that LPC Connect is more than just a provider—it's a part of the community fabric.

#### We're proud to have you on the team, Nolan!

### **Staying Close to Home and Loving It**

Working at LPC Connect isn't just a job—it's about being part of a community and helping people stay connected. Jessi Tharp understands how important that is, as she and her husband Rob have lived in the communities served by LPC Connect for the past 19 years. Through LPC Connect's services, their children, Makayla and Nicolas, have been able to stay connected for schoolwork, friendships, and local events, which has been invaluable to their family.

In June, Jessi joined LPC Connect, excited to learn the ropes and offer customers the same great service she and her family had always appreciated. With a background rich in customer service, including roles at Hy-Vee, La



Porte City Nursing and Rehab Center, Thriftway, Transamerica, and DXC Technologies, Jessi came well-prepared for this new chapter. Her extensive experience has given her the tools she needs to provide excellent service to LPC Connect's customers.

Like any industry, telecommunications comes with its own set of challenges and terminology. Jessi is diving into the technical aspects of the job, learning the language of connectivity and the intricacies involved in serving customers in this fast-paced field. She's eager to rise to the challenge and meet the growing number of people moving into the community.

When Jessi isn't on the phone or behind the front counter at LPC Connect, she's often spending time with her family, enjoying football and wrestling. With her strong family values and commitment to customer service, it's no wonder she fits right in at LPC Connect.

#### Welcome to the LPC Connect family, Jessi! We're thrilled to have you on board.



### How Your Internet Bandwidth is **Being Consumed Without You Even Knowing:** Today vs. 5 Years Ago

In the rapidly evolving digital landscape, how internet bandwidth is consumed has changed dramatically over the past five years. With the proliferation of connected devices, increased reliance on cloud services, and the rise of streaming media, many users are unaware of the significant shifts in bandwidth usage patterns. This article explores the key factors contributing to this change and provides insights into how bandwidth consumption has evolved.

#### THE PROLIFERATION OF CONNECTED DEVICES Then (5 Years Ago):

- Five years ago, the average household had fewer connected devices. Smartphones, laptops, and perhaps a smart TV or gaming console were the primary devices consuming bandwidth.
- Internet of Things (IoT) devices were in their infancy, with only a few households adopting smart thermostats, security cameras, or smart speakers.

#### Now (Today):

- Since 2019, there has been an estimated 70% increase in connected devices - from 17.22 billion to 29.32 billion
- The average household now has a multitude of connected devices. In addition to smartphones, laptops, and smart TVs, many homes feature an array of IoT devices such as smart thermostats, security systems, smart speakers, connected appliances, and even smart light bulbs.
- Each device continuously sends and receives data, significantly increasing overall bandwidth consumption without users actively engaging with them.

#### THE RISE OF STREAMING MEDIA Then (5 Years Ago):

- Streaming media was popular but not as ubiquitous. Services like Netflix, YouTube, and Spotify were widely used, but 4K streaming was not as common due to bandwidth limitations and fewer 4K-capable devices.
- Many still relied on cable TV or physical media like DVDs and Blu-rays for high-quality video content.

#### Now (Todav):

- Streaming services have exploded in popularity, growing 182% since 2019. Platforms like Netflix, Disney+, Hulu, Amazon Prime Video, and a plethora of niche services offer vast libraries of content, often in 4K and even 8K resolution.
- Music streaming has also surged, with services like Spotify, Apple Music, and Amazon Music becoming primary sources of audio entertainment.
- The increased guality of streaming content requires significantly more bandwidth, often leading to bandwidth consumption that far exceeds that of five years ago.





**INCREASED RELIANCE ON CLOUD SERVICES** Then (5 Years Ago):

- Cloud services were becoming popular, but many businesses and individuals still relied on local storage and on-premises software for their daily operations.
- Basic cloud storage services like Dropbox and Google Drive were used primarily for file sharing and backup.
- The global cloud computing market grew from \$24.63 billion in 2010 to \$156.4 billion in 2020. That's a 635% jump.

#### Now (Today):

- Cloud computing and storage have become integral to both personal and professional life. Services like Google Workspace, Microsoft 365, and various SaaS (Software as a Service) platforms are essential tools for businesses.
- The shift to remote work and online collaboration tools during the COVID-19 pandemic further accelerated the adoption of cloud services.
- Continuous data synchronization, automatic backups, and cloud-based applications contribute to substantial background bandwidth consumption.

As you can see, internet consumption has changed dramatically. These changes have led to a significant increase in background bandwidth consumption, often without users being fully aware of it. As technology continues to advance, understanding and managing bandwidth usage will become increasingly important for both individuals and businesses.

Fiber internet connectivity plays a significant role in creating a seamless user experience by delivering symmetrical speeds (equal download and upload speeds), which means no buffering, fast speeds, and extremely reliable service. Connect with LPC Connect today to find the best package for your needs.