

ALPINE COMMUNIQUÉ



Real Access. Real Value. Real People.

Attracting Success Campaign Draws Iowa Lt. Gov. Gregg to Clayton County

Iowa Lieutenant Governor Adam Gregg visited Osborne Nature Center in July to learn more about “Attracting Success in Clayton County” as part of his 99 County Tour. He was interested in this exciting new project spearheaded by Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Executive Director.

According to Pollock, the purpose of Attracting Success in Clayton County is “to engage young adults and young families, and to grow a strong Northeast Iowa Young Professionals Network.”

“Northeast Iowa is known for its natural scenic beauty. Few people know the vibrancy of our diverse and growing young professional workforce. Clayton County hosts diverse industries, and with the installation of broadband services, expanded our ability to host telework occupations. Outdoor recreation amenities that complement the natural beauty of Northeast Iowa attract young adults and young families. There’s a growing appreciation for less crowded areas, like rural Clayton County, that check all the boxes for quality of life: affordability, community vitality, engaging lifestyle, and outdoor recreation,” said Jenna Pollock, Clayton County Conservation Executive Director. (426-1044)



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Pollock explained they are producing promotional videos that highlight young professionals demonstrating the Clayton County lifestyle. The videos’ target audience includes students planning for their future, young adults looking to start and or/ grow career experiences, and young families building family memories and work/life balance.

Future project phases will also include a marketing campaign, a YouTube channel, and a 2022 Summit for Northeast Iowa professionals.

During the roundtable discussion, Lt. Gov. Gregg expressed that the initiative is “on point” for rural

Iowa. He encouraged the Attracting Success organizers to target alumni from local school districts. Alpine Communications is a sponsor of the Attracting Success initiative and matched funding through the Iowa Area Development Group Ripple Effect grant program.

Visit the Northeast Iowa Young Professionals Network to watch the latest “Attracting Success” videos or join the Northeast Iowa Young Professionals on Facebook.



If your phone number appears in parentheses (XXX-XXXX) in this edition of the Alpine Communiqué, please give us a call at 563-245-4000 by December 31, 2021, and we’ll apply a \$5 credit to your account!

Aureon Awards \$2,200 in Charity Grants to Local Nonprofits



Aureon is pleased to announce that Aureon Charity Grants for the first quarter of 2021 have been awarded to area nonprofit organizations in Northeast Iowa. The grants were presented in conjunction with Alpine Communications who sponsored the grant applications. Upon reviewing an abundance of applications, the Aureon Charity Grant Committee delegated funds to projects committed to the betterment of local Iowa communities. (245-2163)

- **City of Guttenberg – \$250.00 to help fund a pickleball court**
- **Elgin Historical Society – \$500.00 to help fund a new computer, monitor, and video camera for the museum**
- **Guttenberg Chamber of Commerce – \$750.00 towards the purchase of directional signage to the Cassville Ferry**
- **McGregor Park Board – \$700.00 towards the expansion of the community splash pad**

“The communities we serve, and their active volunteers, are spearheading projects that are helping our communities grow and thrive. Their efforts today will positively impact tourism, culture, and recreation for decades. We are excited to partner with Aureon to make these grants possible,” shared Chris Hopp, General Manager, Alpine Communications.

“Aureon is delighted to support nonprofit organizations that enhance the quality of life for Iowans,” said Scott Behn, CEO, Aureon. “We look forward to aiding future community-improvement projects and extend our best wishes to your community.”

The Aureon Charity Grant Program was created 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 twenty-five years, Aureon has donated over \$950,000 to Iowa nonprofits through the grant program. To learn more, please contact Giving@Aureon.com.



Elgin Historical Society –
Sara Hertrampf, Alpine; Deanna Walvatne, Elgin Historical Society; Eric Benson, Aureon



Guttenberg Chamber of Commerce –
Eric Benson, Aureon; Brandie Tomkins, Guttenberg Chamber of Commerce; Lanette Schutte, Alpine



McGregor Park Board –
Eric Benson, Aureon; Cheri Moser and Maria Brummel, McGregor Park Board; Chris Hopp, Alpine



City of Guttenberg –
Denise Schneider, City Clerk; Sara Hertrampf, Alpine

MEET THE CREW - Tony Young

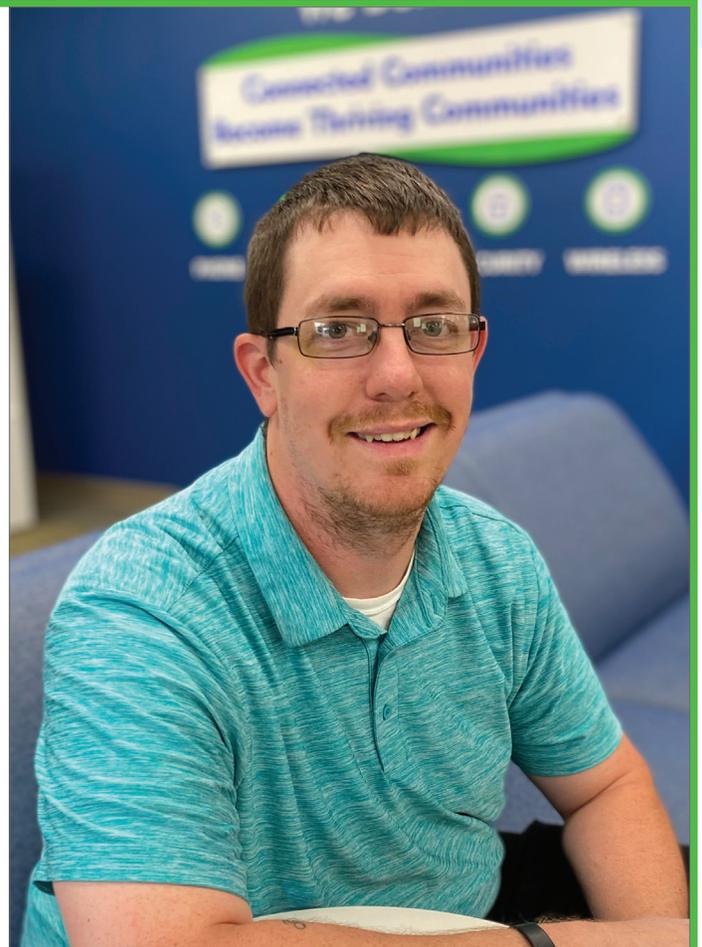
Alpine Communications is excited to welcome Tony Young to the team. Tony started his role as Alpine's accounting assistant in July 2021. His job duties are many, including accounts payable, receivables, and inventory management, to name a few. He previously worked at Lori Knapp Companies and Theisen's.

Tony's hometown is Dubuque, Iowa, where he graduated from Dubuque Senior High School. His hobbies include playing and watching sports. He's an avid fan of the Iowa Hawkeyes, Green Bay Packers, and the Chicago Cubs. After relocating to rural Guttenberg four months ago, he is glad to add farming as his newest interest. Spending time with his growing family is a top priority for Tony. He and his fiancé, Jessie, recently welcomed a baby boy to their family of five children – ages 10, 9, 8, 6, and 1 month. He is also the middle sibling with two sisters. (252-3875)

Tony Young shared the most significant piece of advice he's received: When faced with tough decisions in life, listen to your head, as that thinks logically and does not lie. If you go with your heart, that can lie to you.

With that wisdom, Tony describes his tenure at Alpine so far, "great people, great atmosphere, and people that are more than willing to help."

Please join us in warmly welcoming Tony Young to the Alpine team and community.



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I love Alpine and they are always great with “issues”- big or little. **You are absolutely fantastic about customer service!**

- Pat, from Elgin

TIS THE
SEASON TO BE
GRATEFUL

As we prepare for the Holiday season. We are grateful for customers like you.



Elkader is a #SmartRural-Community Powered by Fiber Broadband

What does it mean to live, work and be part of a Smart Rural Community? For Elkader, it started with Alpine Communications investing millions of dollars in building the 100% fiber-optic Fusion Network in 2007. In the past 14 years, Elkader has experienced how fiber broadband has given the community a competitive edge to attract new residents, businesses and improve the quality of life for those who live and work here.

Recently, Alpine Communications presented two Smart Rural Community road signs to the Elkader City Council. The signs were installed at key entrances into town to showcase the ultra-fast internet network to residents and visitors. Chris Hopp, Alpine's general manager, presented the signs to Mayor Josh Pope during a City Council meeting. (964-2109)

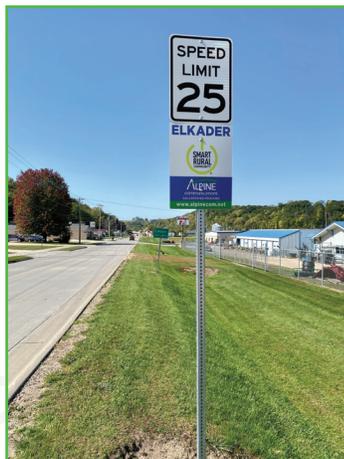
Although rural Iowa has experienced an overall population decline since the mid-20th century, fiber-optic broadband services have attracted new residents and Elkader business opportunities. The relationship between robust broadband availability and thriving rural communities was evident during the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.



- **People relocated to rural areas away from crowded urban areas because fiber broadband enables telework, thus increasing local wage and tax revenues.**
- **Students shifted to online learning with ease because Alpine's Fusion Internet delivers the speed needed for video learning, collaboration, and research.**
- **Broadband-enabled telehealth visits ensured the safety and wellbeing of rural residents without the need to travel.**

NTCA – The Rural Broadband Association's Smart Rural Community (SRC) initiative is a conduit for amplifying the message of the power of broadband to keep small-town America connected. Alpine Communications is proud to be an SRC provider and continues to expand fiber-to-the-home in rural Clayton and Fayette counties.

We invite you to contact us to learn more about how Alpine Communications is building a brighter future for rural Iowa. Visit connect.alpinecom.net or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube.



Protecting Elders from Cybercrime

Believe it or not, our older generation is not the most victimized age group by scammers. That title belongs to the younger generation ages 20-29, according to recent studies. Although reported fraud may have been less for the older generation, the overall monetary loss from scams is typically much higher. Help these individuals like they've helped you by sharing cybersecurity tips and scams to watch out for.



Romance Scams – Many seniors turn to dating sites or apps to find companionship. Although many legitimate connections can be found, there are possibilities of catfishing with the attempts to defraud money or sensitive information from your older loved ones.

Tip! If your older relative is looking for a connection, help guide them on safe platforms to use and how to avoid falling for a catfish.



Phone Scams – Typically, the most common way seniors are targeted is through phone scams. Common tricks include technology support scams, fake trips or lottery scams, or pretending to be a grandchild or loved one in need of money for an emergency.

Tip! Tell them to watch for threats, impersonations, and offers that seem too good to be true on any call they didn't originate. (873-2192)



Online Shopping– Purchasing goods or services online can be a risk for anyone, especially those with less experience and knowledge about the dangers of online shopping.

Tip! Inform your elders about risky websites and how to identify sites that are not secure.

Poor Password Controls – Seniors may not have as many accounts as we do, but most have at least one. Without strong password controls, any information within the account is vulnerable to exposure.



Tip! Teach them about creating strong passwords and not to re-use those passwords on other accounts. Consider purchasing them a password manager tool where they only need to remember one master password.

Charity Scams – Scammers often pose as reps from charities asking for donations. Watch for unusual payment requests such as wire transfers, cash, cryptocurrency, or gift cards.



Tip! If they wish to donate, use reputable charities and consider donating directly on the charity's web page.

Yes, it may be hard to stop these scams and educate our loved ones at a late age, but there is help nearby. Alpine Communications offers Tech

Home, a fully-automated and managed anti-malware solution with a password manager, and online backup. For safeguarding against phone scammers, we recommend Caller ID, Voicemail, Telemarketer Call Screening, and registering your home phone and cell phone number on the National Do Not Call Registry.

Also, when in doubt, contact Alpine at 563-245-4000 and ask one of our representatives for information.

TECH HOME
Technology Made Easy



CONNECT WITH US:

923 Humphrey St.
PO Box 1008
Elkader, Iowa 52043

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday
563-245-4000
or 1-800-635-1059
www.alpinecom.net

Technical Support:

1-888-264-2908

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or call 563-245-4000.



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