

ALPINE COMMUNIQUÉ

Real Access. Real Value. Real People.

ALPINE
communications

Q1 2023 Newsletter

Aureon Grant Winners Announced

AUREON™



◀ ELGIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Aureon Charity Grant Committee and Alpine Communications are proud to present the Elgin Historical Society with a grant to purchase a chair lift and other renovations to continue their mission to preserve the history of Elgin and its people. ***Pictured are Todd Van Epps, Aureon; Paul Foxwell, Elgin Historical Society; and Lanette Schutte, Alpine Communications.***

METHODIST CHURCH PRESERVATION FOUNDATION ▶

The Aureon Charity Grant Committee and Alpine Communications are proud to present the Methodist Church Preservation Foundation a grant to help with the purchase of a security system. This system will help protect the art work currently on display. ***Pictured are Todd Van Epps, Aureon; Joe Brooks, Methodist Church Preservation Foundation; and Lara Duff, Alpine Communications***



◀ ELGIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sons of the American Legion - The Aureon Charity Grant Committee and Alpine Communications awarded the Sons of the American Legion Post 352 a grant to continue the beautification of the Elgin Veterans Memorial Community Building where they meet monthly. ***Pictured are Todd Van Epps, Aureon; Brian Wenger and Paul Foxwell, Sons of the American Legion Post 352; and Brian Koth, Alpine Communications.***



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 March 31, 2023, and we'll apply a \$5 credit to your account!

Meet the Crew – Zach Bruns

When you wrestle with something, it usually means you are struggling or engaging in deep thought. For Zach Bruns, Alpine Support Technician, “wrestling” has a different meaning.

Zach was a wrestler all through high school at North Fayette Valley and placed 6th in the state. He continued wrestling through his four years at Upper Iowa University where he earned his BS with a major in Information Technology. Even though Zach no longer competes, his love for the sport hasn’t changed. You can find him volunteering as an assistant wrestling coach at North Fayette Valley High School in his free time. If you don’t find Zach helping high schoolers practice their half

nelsons, you can find him playing video games or playing with two Huskies, Callie and Greyson. (563-252-4252)

Zach joined Alpine Communications in 2021. He and his wife Paige were living in Texas and wanted to move back home to Iowa. Alpine Communications gave him the opportunity to use his education and experience to serve people in Clayton and Fayette counties.

Helping customers get their Internet working so they can stay connected is

Zach’s favorite part of working at Alpine. He sees firsthand the dangers of being online. “Cyber security and online safety are the most important things customers need to know about”, says Zach.

The next time you are “wrestling” with your Internet service, give Alpine a call and Zach will help you with all the right moves to get you connected. We are fortunate to have Zach on our team.



Welcome, Zach!

APPLY TODAY!

College Scholarship Applications Now Available

Alpine Communications has teamed up with The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), and Aureon, two scholarship opportunities to our service areas’ high school seniors.

1. The FRS college scholarship program awards twenty-five scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 to winning applicants across the nation. Eligibility requirements and the application can be downloaded from FRS at <https://www.frs.org/programs/youth-programs/scholarships>. Completed applications must be returned to our office by January 31, 2023, so that we may complete the sponsor certification and forward the applications to FRS.

2. The Aureon Scholarship makes \$10,000 in funds available to students pursuing a STEM-related course of study (science, technology, engineering or mathematics) and residing in a home with service from an Iowa Independent Telecommunications Company (ITC). The application and additional information are available online at <https://www.aureon.com/eventpages/aureon-scholarship-program/>. The scholarship deadline is March 1, 2023.

Please call Lori Keppler, Alpine’s sales and marketing manager, at 563-245-4000 if you have questions about applying for these scholarships.



FOUNDATION FOR RURAL SERVICE

Stay Connected in 2023:

7 Ideas for a Great New Year

Setting New Year's resolutions can be overwhelming, so we have compiled a list of simple New Year's ideas below that should help keep you connected to the things that matter most.

Find Work Life Balance

Life is busy. Work can be overwhelming at times – pulling you away from the very reasons why you work so hard. Family. Friends. And your communities. The new year represents a time to set some goals for you and your family to slow down and prioritize what is important. (563-873-3372)

Use Social Media in a Healthy Way

Social media can be stressful. However, we recommend you identify and unfollow the people and groups that create stress in your life. Then, use social media to connect with friends and family as it was originally designed. Reach out to friends and spread positive vibes.

Fitness Online

We can always find an excuse to avoid exercise, but the weird thing is, we always feel better after a good workout. Add exercise to your schedule. Find groups online for support. And stick to your plan.

Get Organized

Sometimes the biggest part of the problem is being unorganized. This year, beat the clutter – whether that means cleaning out a closet, organizing the pantry, digitalizing your schedule online or organizing files in the cloud.

Get Outside

Relaxing on a sofa and streaming a good show is always nice. Browsing the internet and sharing on social media can be fun but remember to be balanced. Get outside. Take a walk. And breathe.

Learn a New Hobby

Maybe this is the year for a new hobby. Get a ukulele to serenade your family. Start to document your family's life together in scrapbooks. Discover new recipes to wow friends and family. Whatever you choose, there are great resources online to help you perfect your new craft.

Volunteer In Your Community

There are opportunities and great needs to serve others in the community. Check with local churches and non-profits organizations to see how you can help.

Remember, Alpine Communications is here as a resource to keep you connected to what matters most. Our fiber internet services offer reliable performance at a great value.



Call **563-245-4000**
today to discuss
which package is
right for your home.

We Are Excited to Announce New, Faster Speeds

Better performance and fiber reliability at a great value.

The internet is becoming more and more important in our everyday lives. Whether that means sharing-from capturing Instagram-worthy meals to enjoying video chats with friends to working from home to streaming entertainment-and Alpine's unmatched reliability and performance make enjoying the benefits of the internet a reality at a great value.

OUR NEW RESIDENTIAL INTERNET PACKAGES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

While Alpine 300 is the best value, it is important to consider how you are using the internet when selecting. Each of the new packages offer symmetrical speeds which is important based on how you use the internet. If you are unsure which package is best for you, reach out to Alpine Communications and we can help you find the best fit for your home to create a trusted connection. **And, best of all, these speeds will provide unmatched reliability and performance – making each package a great value.**

Download speed refers to the rate that data is transferred from the Internet to your computer, phone, smart TV as well as other internet connected devices. Common uses include browsing the internet, viewing social media, streaming TV, online shopping and streaming music.

Equally important is upload speed – which is the speed in which information is transferred from your device back to the internet. Common uses include for upload speeds include video calls (like Zoom), online gaming, emails with photos or videos attached, uploading/sharing on social media, remote work, video cameras and working with cloud-based storage solutions.

If you currently have Alp50, ALP100, ALP200 plans with Alpine Communications we will simply upgrade your speeds. And, if there is a need, we will reach out to you if you need new equipment in your home to handle the faster speeds.

Additionally, you can add home phone (VoIP voice line) to any new package for no extra costs in year 1. Year 2 a \$5/month fee will apply and year 3 and beyond a \$10/month fee will apply.

For more information, reach out to us at 563-245-4000.

Alpine 75 (75/75 Mbps)	Alpine 300 (300/300 Mbps)	Alpine 500 (500/500 Mbps)
\$85	\$100	\$115

If you currently have Alp50, ALP100, ALP200 plans with Alpine Communications we will simply upgrade your speeds.



What is the FCC Affordable Connectivity Program?

Today's internet is not just a source of near-endless entertainment options, email messages, and social media connections. From providing opportunities to work from home, to receiving telehealth online from healthcare professionals, to remote learning during public health crises or emergencies, being connected to high-speed, reliable broadband internet isn't a luxury, or even a mere convenience.

High-speed broadband internet is now an integral, indispensable part of our daily lives.

And fiber internet from Alpine Communications provides the dependable broadband service you and your family need to stay productive, healthy, safe, and fully interconnected to the global economy.

While we strive to price our services affordably, we understand that paying for internet can sometimes be a challenge. That's why we want to ensure all our customers are aware of a new program from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to assist people in getting connected to broadband: the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Read below to learn more about how this program works, if you qualify, and how much you can save each month on broadband service.

THE FCC'S AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM IN A NUTSHELL

The Affordable Connectivity Program (the ACP) provides discounts on monthly internet bills to qualifying individuals to help purchase high-speed broadband internet service.

Established by Congress in 2021, the ACP is a now-permanent program, replacing a similar, but temporary program launched during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, then known as the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program. (If you are already enrolled in that program, you can easily move into the new ACP.)

Participation in the program is based on financial need, and there are several ways to qualify for the ACP's benefits. If you qualify, enrollment is a simple, two-step process, and once completed, your discount will be automatically applied to your monthly broadband internet service bill.

Keep reading to learn more about this program!

THE ACP'S BENEFITS

Participants in the ACP can receive savings of up to \$30 per month for broadband service. That discount is a significant chunk of the typical broadband monthly service cost and can put high-speed internet access within reach for many people.

QUALIFICATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACP

The ACP's benefits are available based on financial need. There are several ways to qualify for the program:

1. Your income must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines;
2. You already qualify for and participate in programs like Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, commonly called Food Stamps), Federal Public Housing Assistance, SSI, WIC, or Lifeline;
3. You already receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program;
4. You received a Federal Pell Grant (for higher education) during the current award year.

HOW TO ENROLL IN THE ACP

Enrollment is a simple, two-step process.

First, visit acpbenefit.org and follow the steps to completing and submitting an application. You can apply online on that website or, if you prefer, print out and mail the completed application. (563-245-2498)

Second, reach out to Alpine Communications to select a plan and have the program's discount applied to your bill.

Remember that both steps are required in order to enroll and receive the discount—application through the ACP website and contacting Alpine Communications to choose your plan—so please be sure to complete these two steps.

For additional information about the Affordable Connectivity Program visit <https://acpbenefit.org> to learn more. And to stay on top of the latest news and information about broadband internet access and services, be sure to follow Alpine's social pages!



NOTICE:

Effective January 3, 2023, Alpine Customer Service will be implementing winter hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CST Monday - Friday. Calls received after 4:00 p.m. will be transferred to our after-hours technical support for assistance.



CONNECT WITH US:

923 Humphrey St.
PO Box 1008
Elkader, Iowa 52043

Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday

563-245-4000

or 1-800-635-1059

www.alpinecom.net

Technical Support:

1-888-264-2908

SecureIT Tech Support:

1-877-373-3320



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Everything you want in home WiFi for every room, every device, every day

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To learn more,
visit www.alpinecom.net/wifi
or call 563-245-4000.



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