

3rd Annual Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive Begins

XIT Communications' Annual Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive kicked off its third year on October 1st! The local food drive is being held to collect food for the local food pantries in Dalhart, Stratford, Texline and Vega. The food drive will once again focus on non-perishable breakfast foods, like boxed cereals, pancake and muffin mixes, powdered milk, juices, coffee, jams, cereal bars, Pop-Tarts, and other breakfast items.

This year, the collection time frame for the food drive effort has been extended and will now wrap up on December 31st. This will give us the opportunity to collect even more food for those in our communities needing a little help! This would be a great family endeavor to do for the holiday season. What a great way to give back to our fellow neighbors during the season of Christmas!

Last year, XIT representatives collected and distributed more than 113 grocery totes full of food to area pantries, including The Pantry of Stratford, The Food Pantry at Lincoln Street Baptist Church, Dalhart Church of the Nazarene Food Bank, Texline Food Pantry and the Vega Food Pantry/UMC. This year, we would like to surpass that amount by a bunch!

All XIT customers and community members are invited to stop by any of the XIT office locations and pick up a Rise & Shine Grocery Tote. Fill the tote with non-perishable breakfast food items, and then drop them off back at the XIT office. Whether



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Copyright Infringements

If you or someone you know is downloading movies, videos or music illegally on the Internet, XIT recommends that this action stops immediately! This is against the law and legal action could be taken. Owners of this content are aware of the illegal downloads that are occurring, and they will notify Internet Service Providers (ISP), like XIT, of these ongoing infringements.

The ISP will receive the information from the copyright owners, including the IP address of the violator, along with the date and time of each infringement. The ISP can locate the modem, with the IP address, to identify the perpetrator. This is fairly easy to do. The owners of the material can then choose to file charges against the violators. If found guilty, violators can be fined, or even be subjected to jail time for the offense. Please make sure anything you choose to do on the Internet is legal and right in the eyes of the law!



XIT Communications recently made a donation to the Dalhart Wolves Band Boosters to purchase food for the concession stand. Shown here presenting the check to a few of the band members is Sherry Steffen, XIT Customer Service Representative (third from left). Members of the marching band receiving the donation are: (left to right): Jorja Jones, Skylar Jones, Zoe Jones, Radley Wilkison and Shelly Solis. XIT is a proud supporter of the Dalhart Wolves and Lady Wolves!

Attention Shutterbugs

The 2018 XIT Communications' Directory Photo Contest is now in full swing! XIT is looking for fun, unique and colorful photographs that could be used in designing our 2018 XIT Communications' Regional Directory Cover! The photos can be of a place, event, person, landscape, or anything else you can come up with! The winning photographer will have the honor of their photograph on the cover of the directory, along with a check for \$200 in their pocket!

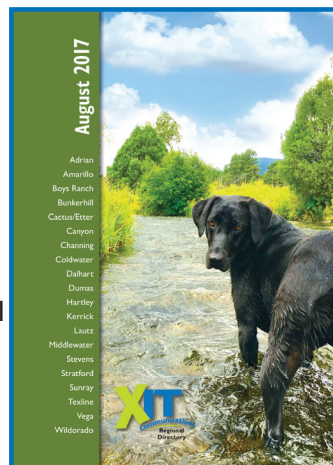
Photos for the 2018 contest must be submitted by December 8, 2017. Any submissions received after this date will automatically be entered into the next year's contest! Photos can be submitted all year long, and there is no limit to the number of entries a person can submit!

Photos should be taken in the highest resolution available on the camera, and in portrait layout. Photos must be in color; no black and white photos will be considered. If the photo contains a child, make sure not to show their face. Photographs taken from the side, back or looking downward are acceptable.

All photos become the property of XIT and will not be returned. Photos not chosen for the directory cover may be used on the cover of our quarterly newsletters.

Digital photos can be emailed to xitcom@xit.net. In your email, be sure to include your name, address and a contact number, along with information about each photograph (when, where and who). Photos mailed in or brought to any XIT office location must be at least 5 x 7 in size, but preferably 8 x 10. Entries can be mailed to: XIT Communications, Attn: Photo Contest, P.O. Box 711, Dalhart, TX. 79022.

So, get those cameras snapping and submit your photos! We can't wait to see the photos submitted for this year's contest! May the best photograph win!



Stingray Music Temporary Change

Stingray Music will be making a change to its channel lineup on the night of November 27th. The station, Latino Urbana, will become Felices Fiestas, and will continue this way through the holiday season. The transition back to Latino Urbana will occur the night of January 3, 2018. Please make note of this seasonal change and enjoy the festive music!

Internet Speed Tests ... How Do They Work?

Internet speeds are increasing dramatically year after year. Even with faster Internet speeds available, you still may want to check up on your delivered speeds, and see where your Internet provider is on the speed spectrum. This allows you to make sure you are getting the speeds you are paying for!

So, how do speed tests actually work? Most speed tests provide you with an upload and a download speed. The test measures the time it takes for the server to reply to a request from the user's client, by sending binary files to the computer with instructions to send them back. The round-trip time is measured in milliseconds. The test is repeated multiple times with the lowest speeds determining the final results.

But, there are a couple of factors that can impact the accuracy of the readings:

- Make sure to close any applications and turn off any other Internet devices before running the test. Other devices and applications compete for bandwidth within the home, and can affect the results.
- Another smart thing to do prior to testing is to restart your computer. Parts of the speed test rely on your hardware to perform the test properly.
- Where the test provider's server is located makes a difference too. The closer the server, like in the same town, the faster reaction time you tend to get.

XIT offers an Internet speed test on our website at www.XIT.net. Click on the 'Test Your Internet Connection Speed Now' link on the left side of our home page to see if you are getting the speeds you are paying for! We'd love to be your Internet provider of choice! Give us a call or come by today!

Dalhart 244-3355 1624 Tennessee Ave
Dalhart 384-3311 12324 US Hwy 87
Stratford 366-3355 401 N 3rd St



Texas Telephone Foundation Scholarships

The Texas Telephone Association Foundation (TTAF), will be awarding six, four-year scholarships, in the amount of \$2,000 per year to students entering college for the 2018-2019 school year.

TTA Foundation will accept applications for scholarships through March 30, 2018. Those applying must:

- Be a U.S. Citizen
- A student graduating from a Texas high school no later than June, 2018
- Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher (out of a possible 4.0)
- Planning to attend a Texas college or university by the Fall of 2018
- Submit a completed application, postmarked no later than March 30, 2018, including a current transcript
- Have a letter of acceptance from a Texas college or university
- Submit a copy of the student's SAR (Student Aid Report)

Special consideration will be given to students who will be pursuing college degree fields of study which are of particular interest to telecommunications (such as math, business, education, technology, engineering and computer science). In addition, special consideration will be given to students who have established financial need.

Scholarship recipients will be notified by early May, 2018. Applications are available on the TTAF website at www.tta.org.

Applicants do not have to be members or customers of XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. or XIT Communications. Good Luck to the students who apply!



Coming Soon...XIT Christmas Open Houses



Some of our happy customers at last year's open house in Dalhart.

The holiday season will be here before we know it, and with the season comes the XIT Christmas Open Houses! Mark your calendar to come by and enjoy a wonderful BBQ meal with all the trimmings at one of our three office locations.

We enjoy getting to visit with our customers and ring in the Christmas Holiday!

Besides a delicious meal, customers can register for some great door prizes too! Our Stratford Open House will be held on Friday, December 1st, at the Stratford Office. Open House for both Dalhart locations is set for Friday, December 8th.

Invitations will be mailed to all XIT customers closer to the celebration times! Can't wait to see everyone there!



Dalhart area customers enjoyed a BBQ lunch at the downtown office last year.



Some of our wonderful customers enjoying lunch last December at our Stratford office.

Lifeline Discounts Available

Lifeline is a government assistance program, available from XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. and XIT Communications, that provides a monthly discount on basic telephone or Internet service to qualified, low-income customers.

- Customers can now apply the monthly Lifeline discount towards Internet service, basic telephone or wireless phone service. With XIT, you must subscribe to a 12/2 or higher Internet package to be eligible for the Internet discount. Remember, there is only one discount allowed per household for either phone or Internet service, but not both.
- In order to receive Lifeline assistance, you or someone in your household must participate in at least one of the following programs: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA), Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Program, or your annual household income must be at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.
- Lifeline subscribers' eligibility recertification has been changed to a rolling process, which is based on each subscriber's service activation date. Subscribers will need to recertify once a year.

For more information, or to sign up for the program, either contact the Texas Low Income Administrator (LIDA) at 1-866-454-8387 or go online to www.puc.state.tx.us/consumer/lowincome/assistance.aspx.

XIT Communications is a proud supporter of the Stratford schools.

XIT Communications donated a large gift basket to the Stratford High School Senior Class for their Fall Festival, which was held in early November. Shown presenting the basket to SHS senior, Brandon Mireles (right), is Lupe Duarte (left), XIT Customer Service Representative.



SMART SURFING...



Hodges Half Dozen will premiere on Tuesday, November 7, at 9:00 p.m. on TLC, Channel 35/535 in HD. Daniel and Liz Hodges from Temple, Texas, are giving an honest look into what happened when their quintuplet babies, 1 girl and 4 boys, arrived three months premature. The Hodges turned to fertility drugs to help conceive a sibling for their two-year-old son, Rowan. The show will cover Liz's pregnancy, the NICU journey, and how they are adjusting to life as a family of eight. Check out this family's amazing journey!

Knightfall is an upcoming historical fiction drama series that will premiere on Wednesday, December 6, at 9:00 p.m. on the History Channel, Channel 34/534 in HD. The series stars Tom Cullen as Landry, leader of the Knights Templar, and Ed Stoppard as King Phillip IV. The series focuses on the legendary brotherhood of Templar Knights. From the battles in the Holy Land, to their complex relationship with King Phillip IV of France, to the betrayal that would lead to their tragic dissolution, the story of the Knights Templar is being told like never before. Check out this new series!

Fox will be airing a live musical performance of the legendary movie "**A Christmas Story**" on Sunday, December 17, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on Channel 14/514 in HD. An 11-year-old boy, Andy Walken, of Seattle, WA., has been cast for the lead role of Ralphie. Jane Krakowski will play Ralphie's teacher, Miss Shields, and Chris Diamantopoulos will play Ralphie's dad. For those who love the original movie, you might want to check this one out!

Service Reconnection Guidelines

If any customer is disconnected for non-payment of their XIT bill, they will be required to pay the reconnect fee and all amounts due on the account with cash, debit or credit card to have their services restored the same day.

Any customers who choose to pay with a check, E-check or online bill pay will not be reconnected from non-pay status for 7 days after XIT receives the payment. This is to allow time for the payment to clear the bank prior to reconnection of the account.

Remember, cash, debit or credit card are the best forms of payment on a reconnection for same-day restoral. **Thank You for your cooperation!**

Location Transfers

Please make sure to provide XIT Communications with at least a 2-week notice when moving to a new home and transferring service to a new location within XIT's service area. By providing us prior notice, XIT can get the location transfer on the installation schedule so we can get your services hooked up at the new location in a timely manner. **We appreciate your cooperation!**

NOTE: No credit will be issued for loss of service due to the customer not providing the proper move notification as indicated above.

3rd Annual Rise & Shine ...

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you donate one item, a couple or a whole tote bag full, the food will help feed those in our communities who are struggling to put food on their tables. When you return the food, XIT will give you a new reusable grocery tote as our Thank You for your generous support!

Vega customers can participate too! Just visit the Vega Market, where you can pick up a Rise & Shine Grocery Tote to fill up. You can either leave the tote at the store for delivery, or take it to the Vega Chamber of Commerce, and Keila will deliver it to the Vega Food Pantry.

All food donations will be graciously accepted, but we ask that you remember to check the food expiration dates before donating. Monetary donations are also welcome for those who may not have the time or ability to shop.

We want to **THANK** everyone who participates in this year's food drive! Without our wonderful customers, friends and neighbors, this endeavor would not be possible! Let's stomp out local hunger TOGETHER!



Fake Caller ID Spoofing



Here is the scenario ... your telephone rings, you look and recognize the number, so you answer the call. Except, when you pick up the phone, it's actually a sales recording or someone you don't know on the line. Has this been happening to you? It is happening more and more often to people in our area and across the country. It's known as Caller ID Spoofing!

Why is this happening? Scammers have learned a new trick in their bag of deception – using fake Caller ID information. By using a local phone number, you are more likely to answer their call, and then they have a better chance to scam you! The Caller ID displays a local number, appearing to be from someone you know. But, when you answer the call, the message can range from recordings such as “there are no problems with your credit card number, but we can give you great interest rates”, to someone live on the line supposedly from the “IRS” trying to scam you out of your hard-earned money.

Don't ever rely on Caller ID to verify who is on the line. It can be nearly impossible to tell whether the Caller ID information is legitimate or not anymore. Here are a few tips when answering these kinds of calls:

- If you get a strange call from the government, law enforcement or IRS, just hang up. These organizations won't call 'out of the blue' to demand money or account information.
- Don't give out, or even confirm, your personal or financial information to someone who calls.
- Don't wire money or send money using a reloadable card. Do not ever pay someone who calls randomly, even if the Caller ID looks real.
- If someone is pressuring you to do something immediately, just hang up. This is a sure sign of a scam.

If you receive a call from a scammer, you can report it by filling out an online complaint to the FCC Consumer Complaint Center at <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov>. Complaints can be filed with or without false Caller ID information.



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NBC Sports Network*	ESPN Classic	ESPNU*

* Must subscribe to HD service to receive these channels in HD.

CALL XIT TODAY TO SUBSCRIBE! 384-3311

What's Cookin' at XIT

Chicken & Noodle Casserole By *Helen Lowrey*

1 can cream of chicken soup
4 chicken thighs, cooked and chopped
1 c. shredded parmesan cheese

1 c. milk
1 c. egg noodles
1 ½ c. frozen mixed vegetables



Boil egg noodles and cook vegetables with noodles the last few minutes. Noodles should be soft. Mix everything in one skillet and cook until heated through. Add salt and pepper to taste and then add shredded cheese.

Find more great recipes in the XIT Country Cookin' Cookbooks for sale at any of our XIT locations for just \$14.95 + tax. There are two editions to choose from. They make great gifts for anniversaries, birthdays or Christmas!

Staying Connected During Bad Weather

As fall turns into winter, and the weather gets nasty outside, it is a smart idea to have a corded landline telephone at your home for any emergencies that may arise. Cellular phones and even VoIP phones are not reliable communication during storms or power outages when they stop working!

In the event of a power outage, the backup battery installed on the ONT at your home will provide you with up to 8 hours of telephone service on a corded telephone. Cell towers can get overloaded, causing traffic jams where calls can't get through. Cell phone batteries cannot be recharged during power outages either, so the phone can go dead if the battery was not charged recently. Corded landline phones are always on and ready when you need them. You always know where they are too, unlike cell phones that can get misplaced easily.

A landline phone is great for an elderly person in the case of an emergency. If someone can't speak due to a health crisis, the 911 operator knows exactly where the call came from and can dispatch help immediately, saving time and possibly even a life!

A landline corded phone is also great for families. Kids can always call 911 to receive help, even if the parents are incapacitated for any reason. It is also an added security when teens are babysitting, or when older children are home by themselves.

Just like flashlights, candles, and other emergency items, a corded landline telephone should be on your list of essential safety items in your home! It is better to be safe than sorry when trouble arises!



Take Control of Your TV with DVR Service

You can take control over your TV viewing experience with DVR (Digital Video Recording) service from XIT Communications! DVR service lets you watch what you want, when you want to watch it. You can keep up with all of your daily activities, and still not miss your favorite shows! It makes it quick and easy to automatically record any show that airs on XIT's cable TV. Then, whenever you are ready to watch your shows, they are there waiting for you!

DVR service allows you to:

- Watch one show while recording another one.
- You can pause and rewind the action during live shows or recorded ones.
- Pause live TV when you need to grab something to eat or answer the door.
- Skip through commercials and other scenes that you don't want to watch.

DVR makes TV viewing convenient and easy! You can add DVR service to your account for just \$9.95 per month. For complete information, give us a call at 806-384-3311.



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is a quarterly publication for
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and **XIT Communications**
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Direct correspondence to:
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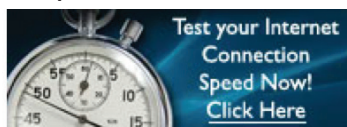


XIT Internet ... All The Speed You Need!

With the average household having about 8 Internet connected devices being used at a time, Internet speeds are more important now than ever! With XIT's high-speed broadband Internet service, you don't have to "share" your bandwidth with others in the neighborhood like you do with other Internet providers ... the more customers in the neighborhood, the slower your connection! XIT's Internet connections don't share, therefore you get the maximum performance from your Internet service!



Think of your Internet speed like a freeway. To get to your destination faster, the more lanes of open road there is, the faster you can get there. But if you have a one lane road with lots of traffic, it will take you much longer to reach your destination. It's the same with Internet speeds! The more open bandwidth (speed) you have the faster your Internet runs. Don't get bogged down by the competition! Check out XIT Internet!



Test your Internet speed connection now! Go to www.XIT.net and run a speed test to see if you are getting the speed you are paying for with your current Internet provider. If you are not getting the correct speed, give XIT a call! XIT will give you the speed you need and the service you deserve!

We are the only local Internet provider in town!



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complain_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.