

Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger!

XIT will be kicking off its second-annual breakfast food drive this October. Last year, thanks to the generous donations from our customers, employees and others in the local communities, we collected more than 150 bags full of breakfast food items and delivered them to several local food pantries for distribution! This year, we are asking for everyone's help so we can exceed last year's donation numbers!

The food drive will begin October 1st, and continue through the end of November. October is National Cooperative Month, so this is a great way for XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative management and employees to highlight the 7th core principle of cooperatives, which is Concern for Community. We chose the breakfast food drive as a way for us to help give back to the communities we serve.

These days, it is difficult for many families to put food on their tables. We want to assist in filling the need. Breakfast food items are still in demand, so we are focusing again specifically on these items for the drive. You know what they say, "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day!"

Beginning October 1st, XIT customers and area residents can come by any XIT office in Dalhart or Stratford to pick up a large, reusable grocery tote. Then, purchase non-perishable breakfast food items and place them in the tote. Drop off the filled tote to XIT. When you bring it to us, we will give you another reusable tote to keep – our way of saying THANK YOU for helping us with this important effort! Whether you donate one item, or a whole tote full, ALL ITEMS are welcomed and very much appreciated! Monetary donations are also accepted for those who do not have time to shop.

Vega residents can participate too by picking up a tote bag at either the Oldham County Chamber Office or at Taylor's Vega Market. Purchase your breakfast items, put them in the tote bag, and drop off the filled tote at the Chamber office or leave it at Taylor's Vega Market. They will then give you another reusable tote to keep.

The pantries participating in this year's breakfast food drive are The Pantry of Stratford, Vega Food Pantry/UMC, Texline Food Pantry, The Food Pantry at Lincoln Street Baptist Church and the Dalhart Church of the Nazarene Food Bank. All food donated will be used locally!

We, at XIT, want to encourage everyone to join us to Rise & Shine to Fight Hunger! Without help from generous, caring folks, like yourselves, we will not be able to accomplish our goal of helping our friends and neighbors in need! Won't you join us?



Lifeline Assistance Program

Assistance with paying your telephone bill is available to qualifying low-income residents as part of the federal support program called Lifeline. Lifeline is a plan that assists residents by providing a monthly reduction of up to \$13.47 on their local telephone service. Residents that participate in one or more of the following programs are eligible:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Medicaid
- Child Health Plan under Chapter 62 Support (CHIP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Support
- Federal Public Housing Assistance
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program-Free Lunch Program
- Or total household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level

You may only receive low-income assistance from one wireline or wireless telephone carrier per household. The program does not cover the cost of additional features like caller ID or voice mail.

For more information or to sign up for the program, either call 1-866-454-8387 or go online at www.puc.state.tx.us/consumer/lowincome/assistance.aspx.



Karaoke Rebrands to Stingray Karaoke

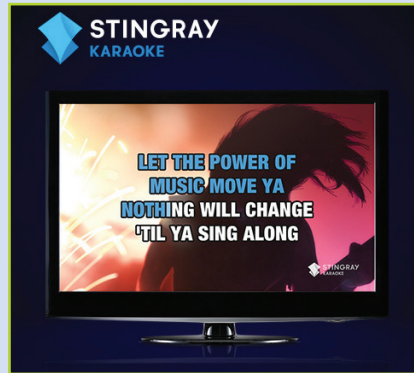
Now, you can be a singing star right in your own living room! XIT's Karaoke has recently rebranded to Stingray Karaoke! Enjoy everyone's favorite pastime in the comfort of your own home, while enjoying hundreds of music tracks from across 8 different genres, all available whenever you want them! No need to buy or rent a complicated Karaoke machine or purchase a bunch of CD's. We have it all together in one easy-to-use system!



- Stingray Karaoke is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- Scrolling lyrics are displayed on the television screen over original video backgrounds and images, so songs are easy to follow.
- Songs are high-quality re-recorded hits from today's top artists and yesterday's legends.
- Choose from songs in popular music categories such as Pop, Rock, Country, R&B, Hip Hop, Golden Oldies and even a Kid's Songs category.
- Easy to use and best of all ... FREE!

To access Stingray Karaoke on XIT's IPTV system:

1. Press Menu on the XIT Remote Control
2. Scroll down to VOD, press OK
3. Scroll down to Free on Demand, press OK
4. Scroll down to Music, press OK
5. Scroll down to Stingray Karaoke, press OK
6. You can then choose your songs by decade, genre, song title or favorite artist
7. Find the song you want to sing, press OK
8. Press Rent, then OK
9. Press Buy (it's free), then OK
10. The song will then appear on the screen with the scrolling lyrics!



Stingray Karaoke is great for parties, family gatherings, holidays and even just giving your best solo performance! It's fun for the whole family and always ready when you are!

XIT's Online Reverse Telephone Number Lookup

If you need a local telephone number and don't have a phone book handy, try XIT's reverse telephone number lookup that is available online at www.xit.net. You can find a listing either by phone number or by name.

To see who a phone number belongs to, click on the Reverse Lookup Link on the left side of our homepage and you can look up any local number quickly and easily from the list of phone numbers that are in numerical list order.

Or, if you need to look up a phone number by name, you can do that too! Click on the Reverse Lookup Link, then press the Control Key + F to bring up a search box. Type in the last name, then first name and the listing will highlight in blue.

Reverse Lookup is fast and easy and it's just another way XIT tries to make our customers lives more convenient! Try it out!



Pictured here is Trena Howell, XIT Sales & Customer Relations Representative and Sherry Steffen, XIT Customer Service Representative throwing candy to the crowd as they took part in the XIT Rodeo & Reunion Parade recently while driving the XIT Communications Ford Mustang.





is a quarterly publication for
**XIT Rural Telephone
Cooperative, Inc.** Members
and **XIT Communications**
Customers.

Direct correspondence to:
XIT Connections
Attn: Marketing Department
P.O. Box 711
Dalhart, TX 79022

or e-mail to xitcom@xit.net

www.xit.net



XIT Email On The Road

As summer winds down and fall sets in, many students are going back to school. If your child is off to college and has their own XIT email address, they can still keep up with their emails while they are away at school! This keeps them in touch with family and friends, especially if they don't want to have to learn and remember a new school email address. All they need is a computer, tablet or phone with Internet access.

Here is how to access XIT email away from home:

- Go to our website at www.xit.net
- Click on the link that says Webmail in the upper right corner of the page
- Enter your email User ID and Password
- Get your email! You are able to send email too.

This is just one way that XIT keeps your family connected ... even when away from home at college! Of course, XIT email also works for business people who travel out of town or when families are vacationing and want to keep up with the home front. It's quick and easy!

The screenshot shows the XIT Communications logo at the top. Below it is a green box containing the text "WebMail Login". There are two input fields: "Email:" and "Password:". To the right of the "Password:" field is a "Login" button. Below the input fields is a checkbox labeled "Remember my Name" and the text "What's this?". At the bottom of the green box is the text "Your MagicMail WebMail Interface".

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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.

XIT Connections

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Our cover photo is an adorable photo of Aaron & Jacklynn Potter's son, Branston Kole, petting Aaron's late grandfather's horse, Old Paint. Old Paint is 33 years old. The picture was taken by Jacklynn in the pasture behind their home, where Old Paint is spending his retirement. The photo was taken in August of 2013. The Potters are members in XIT Rural Telephone's Bunkerhill Exchange.

2016 XIT Communications' Regional Directory Now Available

A copy of the new 2016 XIT Communications Regional Directory was recently mailed out to all addresses in the XIT coverage area! This is the 18th edition of the directory. We are excited for everyone to start using the new directory! Along with local residential and business telephone numbers, it also contains local city and county government information, area code listings for long distance calling, state government phone number information, white and yellow pages and even contains Amarillo and Canyon phone listings in the back! It is the directory you will want to reach for again and again!

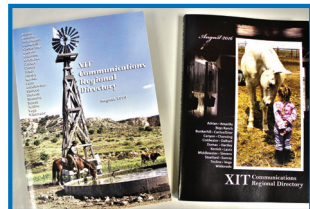
On the cover this year is a photo of Adam and Katie Raney's daughter, Bregan, with Katie's old rodeo horse, Jolly. The photo was taken in Gruver, Texas, at the home of Katie's Parents, Frank and Laura Winters. Bregan took treats out to Jolly daily when she was at the home. Jolly got to where he expected them whenever she came outside. This photo was a cute standoff between them while he was waiting for Bregan to give him his treat.

Interestingly enough, Katie's father, Frank Winters, was in one of the first photos used on the XIT Regional Directory cover back in 1999! Frank was the head cowboy/foreman of the Reynold's Ranch at that time. The ranch was located about 12 miles south of Dalhart. The photo on the cover shows Frank sitting on his horse while the horse drank from a tank out in the field. The landscape behind him made a beautiful backdrop for the photo. It's a fun fact that grandfather and granddaughter have both been on an XIT Regional Directory cover!

Additional 2016 directories are available at any of our XIT offices in Dalhart and Stratford. Just come by and pick up additional copies for your vehicles, home or office! Copies are also available at the Dalhart Chamber of Commerce Office.

We work hard to make sure our directory is one of the most accurate and up-to-date directories around! We proof each customer's listing to ensure it is correct. XIT also obtains listings from other telephone providers to complete the book. Based on our agreements with these providers, XIT cannot make any changes to these listings. If there is an error in your listing, and you are not an XIT Communications or XIT Rural Telephone subscriber, you must contact your provider to have the listing corrected.

We hope you enjoy the new directory and will use it often!



Watch TV Everywhere With XIT

Attention all XIT TV subscribers! As an XIT Communications cable television customer, XIT has an exciting and convenient way for you to enjoy TV – ON THE GO – on your computer, tablet, smartphone or any other compatible device.

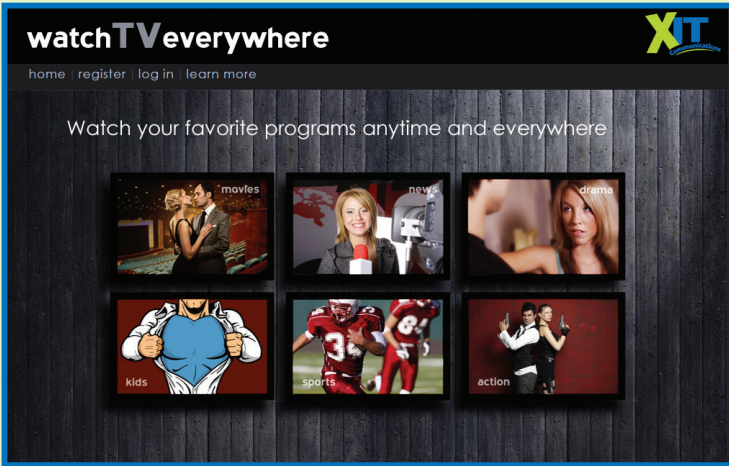
Watch TV Everywhere (WTV) streams some of your favorite channels and programming, including live TV and full episodes of current TV shows, right to your device, any time day or night! And, it works anywhere in the U.S. where you can access an Internet signal - at the office, hotel, airport, backyard, vacation home or anywhere else your day may take you! As long as you subscribe to a channel on your XIT TV package at home, you will be able to watch the channel on WTV, if it is available on the WTV platform. The WTV service is FREE to all XIT TV subscribers!

Registration is easy! Just go to our website at www.xit.net and click on the Watch TV Everywhere Link. Click the Register button at the top and follow the simple registration instructions. Once you're registered, you can access the Watch TV Everywhere platform anytime. Just go to www.watchtveverywhere.com. Click on XIT Communications from the drop down menu of providers, then log into the platform to watch TV!

If you use a smartphone or tablet on a wireless data plan to Watch TV Everywhere, make sure to check with your wireless provider about the size and cost of your data plan. WTV programs transmit a lot of data, and XIT has no way to notify you if you exceed your data plan limits, so please be careful. You are responsible for all charges billed to you by your mobile carrier.

Make sure to log in often as new channels will be added as they are launched by the networks. Many of the networks are expanding their viewing and programming choices, and many offer live feeds. ABC and NBC offer full episodes of many of their TV shows, but do not offer live feeds because XIT is not an owned and operated station of the networks. NBC does offer some live content for special events. These decisions are up to the individual networks. When new channels or programming are added, they will automatically appear in your WTV platform when you log in.

If you have any trouble registering or have additional questions, please give us a call at 806-384-3311. We will be happy to assist you! Enjoy Watch TV Everywhere from XIT Communications!



Call Before You Dig

There are things beneath the ground in your yard besides just earth worms and dirt! Some utility lines are located underground, including lines for water, sewer, gas and communications. Before you begin any construction project (even a small project like planting a tree), call 811 to get all utility lines located for free.

Texas law requires that anyone digging 16" or deeper on private property or any public right-of-way to call the Texas One Call Center at least 2 days prior to digging. Digging without calling cannot only disrupt services, but may cost you some money in repairs to the equipment. For more information, visit www.texas811.org.





XIT Communications was a proud scoreboard sponsor for the 80th XIT Rodeo & Reunion, which was held August 4-6 in Dalhart. XIT Communications supports this event each year, along with other community events and activities. Shown here for the check presentation are XIT employees and XIT Rodeo & Reunion Directors (back left to right): Jake Burns, Joe Garcia, Darrell Dennis (XIT General Manager), John Bezner, Seth Maness, John Brewer, Charlie Griggs, Steven Yeager and Altus Jones (XIT Plant Manager). The 2016 XIT Rodeo Queen Candidates shown are: Tequita Ellis, Faith Bontke, Jaiden Nixon (2015 XIT Queen), and Jessie Messick. Not present was Christiana Dickson. XIT Communications is the local provider of high-speed broadband Internet, Cable TV and local telephone and long distance services for Dalhart and the surrounding areas.

Is It Time For A Speed Upgrade?

Is your Internet connection keeping up with your families' needs and demands these days? If not, you may want to look at upgrading your Internet speed package. Now is a great time to do a speed upgrade! Students are going back to school and they will be using the Internet for research and homework assignments more than ever before! Higher speeds will allow them to do their homework faster, giving them more time to relax and sleep at night, so they wake feeling refreshed and ready for the next school day!



Choosing the right Internet speed can be tricky, depending on:

- The number of devices connected in the home
- How everyone is utilizing the Internet (gaming, streaming movies, video chatting, etc.)
- Your overall performance expectations

These days, most households have an average of 5 connected devices being used at one time. The more devices that are connected, the more speed you will need to support them all!

Think of your current Internet speed like the network of pipes in your home. The more devices connected to the Internet main "pipe", the slower it becomes. Now, think of each faucet as if it was a connected device in your home. Turn on the faucet in the kitchen sink by itself and it works great, the water pressure is strong. But, start a bath, a load of laundry and go water the flowers outside, all about the same time, and all of a sudden the water pressure goes way down! This is the same concept with your Internet speed.

XIT offers several different speed packages to accommodate every household! Right now, you can even get a FREE Roku 3600 Streaming Stick when you upgrade your current Internet speed package or get new (6/1 Mbps or higher) Internet service with us! Switch over your service from another Internet provider, and we will even waive the connection fee! Give us a call today to discuss your Internet speed options and available packages! You will love the always-fast, always-on Internet service you get with XIT Communications!



We Want Your Photos!

Attention shutterbugs of all ages ... XIT is on the lookout for colorful photographs for our 2017 XIT Regional Telephone Directory Photo Contest! We are looking for photographs that are different from ones that have been used on our past directory covers. Something new and unique! Photos can include landscapes, people, livestock, flowers or anything else you can come up with! The winning photographer will win \$100.00, in addition to having their photo on the cover of 10,000 directories!

Deadline for next year's photo contest is Friday, December 9, 2016. Photos must be received by this date to qualify. Any photos received after this date will automatically be entered into the contest for the following year. The guidelines are simple and there is no limit on the number of entries a person can submit:

- Photos should be taken in the highest resolution available and in portrait (vertical) layout. No black and white photos please.
- Be sure to include your name, address and a contact number with your entries. Make sure to include a brief description of each photo, including who, what, when and where.
- We prefer photographs that do not show children's faces. Photos from back, side or looking downward are acceptable.
- All photos become the property of XIT Communications and may be used for advertising purposes in addition to having it featured on the cover of the directory.
- Digital photos can be submitted and emailed online at xitcom@xit.net.
- Photos can also be submitted by mail. Please submit photos at least 5" x 7" or larger in size. Photos can be mailed to: XIT Communications, Attn: Photo Contest, P.O. Box 711, Dalhart, TX 79022



2015 cover winner by
Cassidy Horn



2013 photo winner by
Kylie Ford

*Remember, photos must be received by
Friday, December 9, 2016 for the 2017 contest.*

So, get those cameras clicking! We can't wait to see what great photographs will be submitted this year!

What's Cookin' at XIT

Chicken Salad by Rhonda Brewster

1 chicken
8 oz. cream cheese (1/3 less)
1 Tbsp. dehydrated onion
3 stalks of celery
6 Tbsp. Miracle Whip

1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 c. walnuts
1 c. red grapes, cut in half
1 c. chopped apples



Cook chicken thoroughly. Cook chicken and then debone and chop. Soak onion in water then drain and add to chicken. Soften cream cheese. Mix chicken, onions, cream cheese and Miracle Whip together. Fold in nuts, grapes, celery and apples. Served chilled with bread or crackers.

Find tons of wonderful recipes in the XIT Country Cookin' Cookbooks now available for sale at any of our XIT locations for just \$14.95 + tax. We have 2 editions to choose from! They make a great gift for any occasion!



Here is an exterior view of the proposed Frank Phillips College Dalhart Campus. Voters in Dallam and Hartley Counties will decide if the project moves forward with a tax increase vote on the ballot in November.

Frank Phillips College Branch Expansion Project

At a recently held public forum, Frank Phillips College announced its plan to build a new, larger satellite campus in Dalhart. This will allow the college to expand the number of classes and other educational opportunities it offers to students here in Dalhart and the surrounding communities in the future.

Due to the generosity of former Dalhart Mayor, Gene Rahll, and his wife Louise, who have graciously offered a \$4 million donation to build the new college campus facility out by the Rita Blanca Lake on the old KOA campground site. The campus, which will be fittingly named the Frank Phillips College Louise and Gene Rahll Learning Center, will be constructed on a 32-acre plot of land located along FM 281, which is being donated by the City of Dalhart.

Since opening the Dalhart satellite campus in 2012, Frank Phillips College has been conducting classes in the Dallam County Annex, but lately the school has been experiencing some growing pains. Due to the downtown location, the current building does not have enough room to expand the number of classrooms or the parking capacity that are needed. Enrollment at the campus has been steadily increasing both in the number of academic and workforce students who are enrolled. Right now, the classrooms and computer labs are at capacity. According to Ilene Walton, Frank Phillips College Dalhart Campus Director, "the current location has been great. It has about 18,000 square feet, but there is a lot of the space that is unusable. We have 11 classrooms at the current location, so the new campus will allow us to have even more classrooms, along with other expansion options," she states.

The only stipulation to the generous donation is the passage of a junior college district branch maintenance tax. The tax, as set by law, will not exceed five cents per \$100 valuation of taxable property in Dallam and Hartley Counties. This means that even at the maximum rate of .05 cents, if you own a \$100,000 home, you would only pay an additional \$50.00 a year. The money will be used for the maintenance and operation of the facility only. It will not be used for the construction of the new campus. Both the residents of Dallam and Hartley Counties will have a chance to vote on the proposed tax increase on the November 8th ballot. It must pass in both counties in order for the college to move forward with the construction of the new campus.

"If the tax increase passes, the new building will allow the college to expand the number of classrooms, add a chemistry lab, a simulation lab for the allied health classes, more computer testing space and, this sounds funny, but we are excited about having additional parking! Parking is at a premium at our current location," Mrs. Walton said. "We will be able to increase the amount of allied health classes that are available for students," she adds. The new, larger campus will also have plenty of room for expansion, if the need arises in the future.

The new Dalhart satellite campus would be a wonderful addition to the City of Dalhart, and a great benefit to the people who reside here, and in the surrounding communities. Education is vital for continued economic growth. It is a main support tool for many companies who are currently operating here and for those who are possibly looking to relocate here. For corporations like Hilmar Cheese, JBS Farms and the TDCJ-Dalhart Unit, being able to train current and potential employees is a necessity. They need well-trained and skilled workers for their operations. This is where Frank Phillips College continues to play an important part in the community, now and well into the future!

Make sure to vote on November 8th and have your voice heard!