

XIT Connections

Volume XV, Number 3, Summer 2013



*True happiness can be found
dancing in the rain!*

Cover photo taken by Cassidy Horn of Dalhart. This is a photo of Emory Horn, Cassidy's little sister, during a July Fourth rodeo event in Clarendon two years ago. "We hadn't seen rain in quite a while. When it started sprinkling outside, Emory got so excited. She started twirling around and trying to catch rain drops in her mouth," Cassidy said of the photo. More of Cassidy's photos can be seen on her website at www.cassidyhornphoto.com

XIT Directories Are Coming Soon

The 15th Edition of the XIT Communications' Regional Telephone Directory should be arriving in mid to late July! The directory is filled with information to help make your life easier. The directory includes yellow page listings, local city and county government pages, Amarillo and Canyon listings and local telephone listings of your friends and neighbors. It also has area code lists, state government and 800 number listings, international calling information and much more. It's the only phone directory you will need!

On the cover of our directory this year is a three generation photo taken by Kylie Ford of Dumas. The photo includes her father-in-law, David Ford; husband Kevin, and their son, Grant, holding hands while walking down a row in one of the cotton fields the family farms. It is a sweet and touching photo. We thank Kylie for the wonderful picture!

Each year, XIT strives to make our directory the most accurate and complete one in the area. We proof each XIT subscribers listing to ensure it is correct and listed properly in the publication. However, our directory does include listings that XIT obtains from other telephone providers, and based on agreements with these providers, XIT cannot make any corrections to these listings. If there is an error in your directory listing, and you are not a subscriber of XIT Communications, you must call your provider to have them correct the listing.

So be on the lookout for the new XIT Regional Telephone Directory! XIT subscribers will receive a directory in the mail in the next few weeks. Additional directories for your home, office or vehicle will be available at any of our XIT office locations. Stop by and pick some up!



August 2013

• Adrian • Amarillo • Boys Ranch • Bunkerhill • Cactus/Etter
• Canyon • Channing • Coldwater • Dalhart • Dumas
• Hartley • Kernick • Lantz • Middlewater • Stevens
• Stratford • Sunray • Texline • Vega • Wildorado

XIT Communications
Regional Directory



Three Dalhart High School track team members recently qualified for the I-3A State Track and Field Competition that took place in Austin in early May. XIT Communications presented the athletes and their coaches with XIT backpacks full of goodies for the bus trip to Austin. Shown here with their backpacks are (left to right): Sydney King, who competed in pole vault; Pierre Valencia, who competed in the 800 meter run; and Sara Smith, who competed in the 600 meter and 3200 meter runs. Way to go athletes!!!



XIT Communications made a donation to the Coldwater Manor Nursing Home in Stratford to assist with the residents' room renovations being done at the home. Kathy Duggan (back left), XIT Assistant Manager is shown here, presenting a check to Coldwater Manor Nursing Home Administrator, Karl Punch. Shown with them are (back left-right) Cece Yelek, Gail Schmidt-Witcher and Katie Page. Nursing home residents sitting in front include (left-right) Geneva Bell, Vivian White and Betty Sue Mizer. XIT Communications is a proud supporter of local organizations and activities within our service area. XIT offers local phone, high speed Internet and IPTV services to the Stratford and surrounding communities.

Karaoke Anyone???

Are you aware that XIT's IPTV service includes FREE Karaoke? Karaoke is a fun and free way of enjoying an evening of laughter and song with your family or friends. The FREE On Demand Karaoke Music includes songs everyone enjoys, from "Love Shack" to "Gangnam Style". Song categories include Country, Oldies, Rock, Kid Songs, Pop, R&B, Hip Hop, Disney and even a Spanish/Latino category. With over 650 songs to choose from, kids or adults, young or old, can enjoy their favorite music to sing and perform for their live audience. So, the next time you want some fun and laughter at your next get together, try out XIT's FREE Karaoke and enjoy an evening in on us!

To access free Karaoke, with your XIT IPTV remote control. Select Menu > VOD > OK > Free on Demand > OK > Music > OK > Karaoke > OK > Select Type of Music > OK > Select Song > Rent > Enter purchase Pin and Press Buy. There is no purchase fee for Karaoke, so have fun and enjoy!





We are XIT Communications!

Around Dalhart and the surrounding area, we have one simple goal at XIT ... To bring you the best communications network around! Not just today's best, but also the latest technology for tomorrow as well.

XIT management and employees live and work here, and strive to meet and exceed our customers' expectations. Whether it is local telephone service, long distance, a high speed Internet connection or IPTV service, we make it our mission to simplify our neighbors' lives, and to give them the best possible service and technology we can deliver. XIT has invested millions of dollars in updating our network with the most advanced technologies that are available to us. Whether it is digital IPTV service with HD, DVR and Video on Demand, TRUE high speed Internet service, Fiber to the Home (FTTH) in our rural areas, or plain old telephone service, you can count on the employees at XIT to give it our best!

We also play a big part in the communities we serve. Year after year, XIT gives thousands of dollars in donations, gift baskets and goodie bags to local groups, schools and other activities that benefit our communities. Just a few of the many organizations we have donated to so far this year include: Care Net Pregnancy Center, Dalhart High School, Oldham County Stock Show, Dalhart Volunteer Fire Dept., XIT Rangers, Relay for Life, Texline High School, Dalhart Youth Soccer League, Dalhart Christian Academy, Coldwater Manor Nursing Home, Stratford High School and many more! Larger national providers aren't as involved or supportive of our smaller communities like XIT. So, if you are a current XIT customer, we want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for your business! We appreciate you as our customer!

If you do not have XIT service yet, come on by one of our offices and see what we have to offer you! You will discover that our story is about a group of people whose goal is to provide services that combine not only the best of yesterday and today, but the technologies for tomorrow as well!

And remember, our door is always open! If you have any questions about services we offer, your XIT account, or how we can better assist you, please stop by! We are local, and we are here to serve you! We want to be (or continue to be) your communications provider now and in the future ... WE ARE XIT COMMUNICATIONS!!!

Storm & Amber Alert Notifications

Summer is upon us, which means an increase in thunder storms and severe weather activity for our area. If you happen to encounter one of the local storm alert notifications by the American Broadcasting System while watching a TV show, simply press any button (except volume) on the XIT IPTV remote control. This will remove the alert notification from the screen and allow you to continue with the current TV show you are viewing uninterrupted. You can also press any button on the XIT IPTV remote control when Amber Alert notifications come on the TV to continue viewing your TV show.





Sandy Reynolds Retires From XIT

Sandy Reynolds retired May 1, 2013, from XIT Communications after 10 years of dedicated service to the company. Sandy began her career with XIT in November of 2002 as the Executive Secretary.

Sandy's plans for retirement include traveling and spending time with her family. Happy Retirement Sandy!!!

Internet Speeds Within Your Home

As individual families purchase more and more Internet compatible devices (tablets, cell phones, laptops, gaming consoles, etc.) that are used within the home and when all the kids are home for the summer, slowdowns on the Internet can occur. If multiple users are on different devices in the home all at the same time, keep in mind that all of those devices are competing for the same bandwidth within the home itself, all coming from a single pipe to the Internet.

It used to be that most households only had 1-2 computers in the home. Only one or two people could use the computers, so all of the bandwidth coming into the home was only being used by those one or two machines. Now, with so many devices that connect wirelessly with the Internet, some homes have seen a slowdown on the Internet on the actual devices because of this. The bandwidth coming into the home is the same speed, but it is being divided among all the devices, which can cause slowdowns depending on how many devices are being used at one time.

You may want to consider going with a higher speed Internet connection, or limit the number of devices being used at one time, if you need a faster connection for whatever you are doing. If by turning off some of the devices, the Internet connection improves, this will let you know the system is being overloaded within your home.

If you still think your current Internet is not working properly, go to www.xit.net and click on the "check your Internet connection speed now" icon on the left side of the page. Begin the test, and it will show you exactly what speeds you are getting from your current provider. If you are an XIT customer and experiencing any Internet or speed issues, please contact one of our offices so we can provide assistance and get your issue resolved quickly. We want to be EVERYONE'S Internet provider of choice!



What's Cookin' at XIT

Cindy's Old-Fashioned Vanilla Ice Cream *by Cindy Tharp*

6 eggs	2 tsp. vanilla
2 cans Eagle Brand milk	1 c. sugar
2 ctn. Whipping cream	Half & Half to finish filling freezer
2 ctn. Half & Half	

Whip whipping cream with $\frac{1}{4}$ c. sugar. Add other ingredients and remaining sugar. Mix well in large bowl. Pour into ice cream freezer. Finish filling freezer to fill line with Half & Half. Freeze and enjoy!

This recipe is featured from our 2012 Country Cookin' Cookbook now available for sale at any of our XIT offices for only \$14.95 each. The new cookbook is made up of 709 of the tastiest recipes from the finest cooks in our area! Come by and get yours today!



SMART SURFING...

Adam Richman's Fandemonium is a new show premiering July 14, 2013 at 9 p.m. on The Travel Channel, XIT IPTV's Channel 36. Adam is on a mission to experience the very best fan gatherings across the country and to meet the true believers, fanatics and followers of anything worshipped, watched or celebrated across America. In each episode, Adam immerses himself into an event that has a legendary base of obsessed, passionate fans, from the Daytona 500 to the Kentucky Derby to Comic-Con. He finds the best food, the best party, the best traditions, and, of course, the greatest fans. Should be something to see!



Dracula is a new drama series coming this fall on NBC starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers. The drama is set in 19th Century London and Dracula arrives posing as an American entrepreneur who wants to bring modern science to Victorian society. He's especially interested in the new technology of electricity, which promises to brighten the night – useful for someone who avoids the sun. Another reason for his travel though is to take revenge on those who cursed him with immortality centuries earlier. Everything seems to be going according to plan until he becomes infatuated with a woman who appears to be a reincarnation of his dead wife. This drama is a twisted, sophisticated and sexy take on Bram Stoker's classic novel, proving that some stories never die. This series premieres on Friday nights at 9 p.m. on Channel 4 this fall.

Holmes Makes It Right premieres August 6th at 8 p.m. on DIY Network, XIT's IPTV Channel 86. Mike Holmes is back expanding his expertise outside of his residential domain and outside his own comfort level. The new stories are not just about typical renovation rip-offs, they are heart-wrenching people stories too. Mike doesn't just want to make a difference in people's homes, he wants to make people's lives better. He will be taking on disasters that would make any other contractor run. The kinds of circumstances where you don't just need a contractor, you need a miracle! This show will not only transform property, but people's lives! Check it out!

The Crazy Ones, a new comedy series, will start this fall on Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. on CBS. Oscar-winner Robin Williams returns to TV as a renowned advertising genius whose unorthodox methods would get him fired – that is, if he wasn't the boss. He heads a powerful advertising agency with the biggest clients and represents the largest brands in the world. The office is staffed with an eclectic group intent on keeping his antics in check, including his daughter, Sydney (played by Sarah Michelle Gellar), who questions her father's sanity while trying to make a name for herself in the advertising world. Watch for this new comedy on CBS, Channel 10.

Check Out XIT Classifieds!

The Internet has forever changed the ways we socialize, communicate and now ... even advertise! XIT Communication's now offers XIT Classifieds, a new premier website where anyone can sell, buy or giveaway their items or treasures safely and easily online! XIT Classifieds can save time, money and stress, and lets the seller choose if the ad reaches just local folks in town or a nationwide market. Setting up an account is quick, and listings can be posted the same day! There are 3 different account types to choose from:

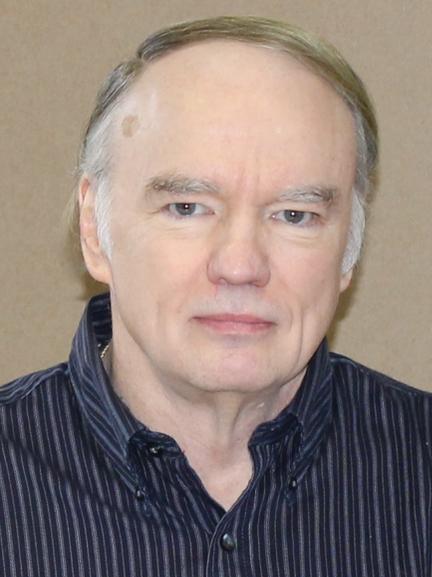


- Personal Account – FREE unlimited listings
- Business Account – 1 Free Listing
- Business Pro Account – \$3.00 per month & .50 per listing

Log on at www.xitclassifieds.com and click on the Sign Up Link to get started. Choose your account type and press the Sign Me Up Button. Enter the registration information, set up a User ID and Password, and you are done! It's just that easy! There are even how-to video tutorials to help with any questions about the site that you may have.

XIT Classifieds is a great way to advertise your goods or services in an easy and inexpensive venue. You control if your ad is locally viewed or nationally viewed, so you reach the customer base you want to connect with. You don't even have to leave your house to list an ad!

So, if you have something to sell, want to buy, or just want to browse, check out the XIT Classifieds website! There are even I-Phone and Android apps available for your wireless phone, so you can keep up with your listings even when away from home. We want to be your choice for advertising online! Check us out!!!



In Remembrance ...

XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. board, management and employees would like to take a moment to remember Byron Douglas "Doug" Schoppe, XIT former Comptroller, who passed away on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 in Amarillo.

Doug worked for XIT for a little over 27 years, starting his career as XIT's Office Manager in 1985. He later held the position of Comptroller until his retirement. Doug retired from XIT on March 1st of this year. A retirement breakfast was held at the headquarters' office in his honor.

Doug was a music lover and enjoyed attending concerts in his free time. He leaves behind three children, Wes, Desirae and Austin, and five grandchildren. Doug will be missed by all who knew him!

Computer Shortcuts for Windows

Ever wonder how some people can whiz through computer screens to get things done quickly and efficiently, while others are constantly searching and struggling with how to do things? Keyboard shortcuts can be the answer! Not only do they cut down on computer work time, but make things a whole lot easier to navigate. Once you learn the key shortcuts, it's all downhill from there!

Keyboard shortcuts usually work by pressing down two or three keys at the same time. If this sounds too complicated to do ... keep in mind that you can press and hold the Control (CTRL) key down first and then press the other keys. If you use a Mac machine, use the Command (CMD) key instead of the Control key for these shortcuts:



CTRL S (Save): The first rule of computer work is to save what you are doing often. You never know if or when your program or computer may stop working.

CTRL C (Copy): If you are doing a lot of copying and pasting, this can save you a bunch of time with your project. Just use your mouse to select what you want to copy, then press CTRL C .

CTRL V (Paste): Once you've copied the text you want, click the mouse where you want to paste it at and press CTRL V.

CTRL Z (Undo): Allows you to undo a mistake quickly and easily. Pressing CTRL Z several times will usually undo the last several changes you may want to get rid of.

To Copy a File: Press and hold down the CTRL key while you drag the file to the desktop or other folder you want to copy it to.

To Create a Shortcut: Press and hold down the CTRL Shift keys while you drag the file to the desktop or other folder.

Once you get comfortable with the main shortcuts above, here are a couple more that can make your life a whole lot easier:

F1 Key: Windows Help

CTRL A: Selects all the items in the current window at one time.

CTRL B: Bolds the type

CTRL U: Underlines the text

CTRL I: Puts text into Italic

CTRL ESC: Opens the start menu

Windows Logo Key L: Locks the computer (without having to use CTRL ALT Delete)

So give these shortcuts a try and see how much easier computer work can be! There are hundreds of other keyboard shortcuts you may want to try out and learn. For more information on them, go to www.support.microsoft.com/kb/26449 for a complete list.

Texline Community Days Held Recently

The original Texline Community Days were started back in 1977 by James Burns and Ray Eads, both of whom worked at the Texline Fire Department. In later years, the event was hosted by both the Texline Fire Department and the Texline EMS in order to raise money for equipment they needed. The event was held at the old fire station in Texline, where crafters and bakers would set up booths and sell their goods to the public. There were turtle races, a dunking booth, fire truck rides, a raffle ticket drawing for a trip for two to Red River and a softball tournament. Later in the afternoon there was a BBQ that usually served over 500 people, followed by a dance that evening.

The last Texline Community Days were held back in 2004. A group of Texline residents decided to bring the community event back this year. The event was held on June 15th. A committee of ladies consisting of Valeetah Sanner, Candy Greene, Michelle Reeser, Amanda Galloway and Heather Luther got together and wanted to resurrect the event for the people of Texline and the surrounding areas. With generous donations from businesses in Texline, Dalhart and Clayton, the day was full of fun, prizes and fellowship for all! There were craft booths, turtle races, dunking booth, fire truck rides, a raffle for the trip for two to Red River, a BBQ that was hosted by the Texline Fire Department, and a dance that featured the band "Blue Steal".

Also added this year were the Texline Summer Games, consisting of things like three-legged race, tug-o-war and super soaker shootout. Relay for Life started a 5k walk/run early that morning as well. There was a kid's dummy calf roping contest, a horseshoe tournament and prizes given away throughout the entire day. The grand opening of the Texline Visitors Center took place during the day too.

Overall, it was a great day of fun and laughter for everyone involved! Way to go ladies!



Accepting a donation check for the recent Texline Community Days is Heather Luther, left, from XIT employee, Mary Brazell. This is the first year since 2004 that the event has been started back up for the residents of Texline and the surrounding areas.



XIT Customer Service Clerk, Jessica Sanchez (left), is shown presenting Tami Arrington of Dalhart with her new Amazon Kindle Touch.

Kindle Touch Winner

XIT is pleased to announce that the winner of our recent Paperless Billing Contest is Tami Arrington of Dalhart. Customers who signed up for an XIT online account and paperless billing during the promotional period for the contest were entered into a drawing to win an Amazon Kindle Touch! Tami was excited to hear she had won the contest. She said she had wanted a Kindle for a long time, and now she has one thanks to XIT! Thank you to all of you who signed up and participated. Congratulations Tami!

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

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Call Before You Dig

With summer now in full swing, many people are doing home improvements and landscaping while the weather is so nice! XIT Communications wants to remind you that 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 prior to digging. Everyone, contractor or homeowner alike, must call at least two business days prior to the start of digging. If you have to dig, call the statewide telephone number: 811. For more information, please visit www.texas811.org.



DALHART CHRISTIAN ACADEMY DONATION

XIT Communications recently donated a gift basket full of goodies (valued at \$270.00) to the Dalhart Christian Academy for their annual Steak-Out fundraiser and auction. Shown here picking up the gift basket from XIT are Krista and Morgan Turner of Dalhart. Morgan is a student at DCA.