



XIT Connections

XXII, Number 4, Fall 2020

Medical Center League House Celebrates its Tenth Anniversary

The Medical Center League House located at 7000 Amarillo Boulevard West in Amarillo, Texas is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. The League House opened for business in 2010 with the sponsorship of the Baptist Community Services, Harrington Regional Medical Campus, Inc., and the Junior League of Amarillo. This facility aids people traveling to Amarillo for numerous reasons by allowing them to stay in a hotel like facility at a fraction of the cost with most of the same amenities. Families traveling to Amarillo to visit relatives in nursing or retirement homes, memory care facilities, patients taking treatments or having a procedure done at one of the many hospitals, have family in one of the hospitals or attending funerals can utilize the services the League House offers according to Executive Director, Amber Glawe.

Like many other businesses, the League House has been required to make accommodations to continue operation during the COVID-19 pandemic. Glawe stated that they have taken many precautions to protect the employees and guests of the facility by tightening their policies and procedures. They are disinfecting all public spaces and surfaces such as doorknobs, counters, etc. Hand sanitizer is located throughout the building for all to use. Employees are being required to wash their hands when coming into work and frequently throughout the day. Before patrons are allowed entry into the building, they will be triaged. Employees will ask guests if they are experiencing any symptoms of the virus, have their temperature taken, and will be required to wear masks in public areas. Once in private areas, such as rooms, guests are not required to wear masks. If the guests have been in close contact with someone who has the virus, or has been hospitalized for the virus, they will not be given the ability to stay at the League



The photo above features one of the rooms guests can stay in with two queen beds.



The Medical Center League House has a community kitchen with coffee pots, a refrigerator, and microwave.

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Directory Photo Contest Entries Wanted

XIT is looking for the perfect photo for the cover for our 2021 XIT Communications Regional Directory and we need everyone's help! If you love taking photos and have some good ones you would like to share, we want to see them!

XIT's Directory Photo Contest offers a \$200 cash prize if your photo is chosen for the cover, along with the bragging rights to your picture being on the cover of over 9300 directories distributed in our regional service area! We also use the photo on XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative's Annual Meeting Booklet, invitation and in our XIT Connections Newsletter.



The deadline for next year's contest is Friday, December 2, 2020! Any photos received after this date will automatically be entered in the next years contest.

All photos must include the photographer's name, address and phone number, as well as a description of each photo. Please make sure the photos are taken in the highest resolution available and in portrait layout. No black and white photos please. Photos can be of people (no children's faces), places, buildings, animals, scenery or anything else you can think of that is photo worthy!

Photos can be submitted via email to xitcom@xit.net or mailed to XIT Communications, Attn: Photo Contest, P.O. Box 711, Dalhart, TX 79022. If submitting photos in the mail, please make sure they are at least 5" x 7" in size. There is no limit to the number of photos a person can submit.

So, get those camera's flashing and send us your favorite photos! We can't wait to see the wonderful and fun photos everyone submits!



August 2020

Adrian
Amarillo
Boys Ranch
Brewster
Cactus/Ester
Canyon
Channing
Coldwater
Dalhart
Dumas

Hartley
Kerice
Luna
Midlandwater
Sweeney
Stratford
Sunny
Truline
Weg
Wildorado



Lifeline Assistance Information

There is help available for low-income residents to help pay their telephone or Internet bill through the Lifeline Program by providing a discount for one of these services in the home.

If you qualify for the Federal Lifeline discount, you can use it for basic telephone service or for Internet service. If you use it for Internet service, you must subscribe to a 20/3 Mbps or higher Internet package to qualify for the federal discount.

There is only one discount allowed per household for either telephone or Internet, and subscribers will need to recertify once a year.

In order to receive the Federal 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. Additional assistance may be available for residents of Tribal lands.

A Texas Lifeline discount may be available if a Texas resident's current total household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. A resident is also qualified if they are currently receiving: Medicaid, Low-Income Home Energy Assistant Program support, SNAP, Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Health Benefit Coverage under the Children's Health Plan (CHIP) under Chapter 62 support, National School Lunch Program-Free Lunch Program, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). At this time, the State of Texas does not provide a Lifeline credit for Internet service.

For more information or to sign up for the Lifeline 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.



Billing or Service Questions?

If you have any questions or problems with any of your XIT services or your XIT monthly statement, please contact one of our XIT offices so we can assist you in getting the issue resolved quickly and with limited service outages! XIT strives to take care of all service issues as fast as we possibly can!

If you or anyone in your family have symptoms of Covid-19 or are recovering from Covid-19, please make sure to let our customer service representatives know this when you call in. XIT is doing everything we can to keep you and your family, along with our technicians, safe during these unprecedented times! We appreciate your honesty!

If you prefer, you can also send inquiries by email. Please email us at customerservice@xit.net. **We are here to assist you in any way we can!**

Dalhart: 244-3355 or 384-3311

Stratford: 366-3355

Vega: 967-3355

Boys Ranch: 533-3355

Or call our Toll Free number at 1-800-232-3312.



Meet Janie Sneller. Janie is a Customer Representative at XIT Dalhart Customer Care Center located at 1624 Tennessee Ave.

Christmas Open Houses Cancelled This Year

XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.'s and XIT Communications' management and employees are sad to announce that due to the spread of the Covid-19 virus, the decision was made to cancel this year's Christmas Open Houses! It was a tough decision, but one that was made to keep everyone safe and healthy. We will miss getting to visit and see all of our wonderful customers, but we will plan to have them again in 2021!

We want to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope 2021 is a better year for everyone!



Reminder of Lobby Closures at XIT

We would like to remind you that until further notice, our office lobbies remain closed. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and are still offering other methods to best serve you. It is still business as usual at our drive-up windows. If you need assistance but cannot come by, you can reach us at any of the following numbers to speak to one of our many representatives.

Dalhart: 806-244-3355
1624 Tennessee Ave, Dalhart

Headquarters: 806-384-3311
12324 US Hwy 87, Dalhart

Stratford: 806-366-3355
401 N 3rd St, Stratford

Boys Ranch: 533-3355

Vega: 967-3355

We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this time!

XIT's Breakfast Food Drive Now Going On!

XIT Communications kicked off its Sixth Annual Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive on October 1st! The breakfast food drive will continue through the end of the year and we would like to encourage everyone, XIT customers and community members alike, to participate this year's drive as food is so badly needed in all of our local communities!

With the XIT lobbies still closed, we will not be able to accept donations at our offices this year like we have in the past! However, XIT has made arrangements for those participating in the food drive to take their non-perishable, breakfast food items directly to the food pantries! We have arranged specific drop off locations below for each pantry participating.

Whether you drop off one item, several items or a whole bag full of items, you will receive an XIT reusable tote bag as our THANK YOU for participating! All food collected will stay at the food pantry you choose and will be used to feed families in need during this hard and difficult time! We all need to come together to take care of our fellow neighbors like never before!

Last year, XIT representatives collected and delivered more than 60 grocery



Celle Hancock of the Lincoln Street Baptist Church is shown with donations given to the church during last year's drive.

totes full of food! This year, we would like to double the amount of food collected because the need for these items is so great in our communities! Some of the suggested breakfast items needed include oatmeal, hot and cold cereals, grits, gravy, pancake and muffin mixes, granola bars, peanut butter and jelly, powdered milk, coffee and fruit juices. Of course, any kind of food donated will be appreciated and accepted! Please make sure to check product expiration dates before dropping off the food.



Belinda Waide, director of the Texline Food Pantry, is shown picking up donations after the 2019 Rise & Shine Breakfast Food Drive.

The following food pantries are participating in the drive again this year: The Pantry of Stratford, Vega Food Pantry/UMC, Texline Food Pantry and the Food Pantry at the Lincoln Street Baptist Church.

Food drive participation is very easy! Just shop for non-perishable breakfast food items and deliver them to one of the locations during the specified times:

The Food Pantry at Lincoln Street Baptist Church at 1019 Lincoln Street in Dalhart, Texas, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Fridays. If this time won't work for your schedule, you can call the church parsonage at 249-2372 to set up a different time.

The Texline Food Pantry at 300 S. 3rd Street in Texline, Texas, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

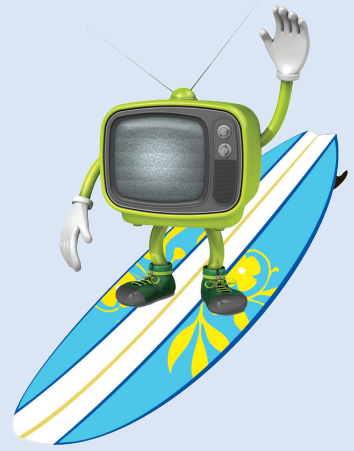
The Pantry of Stratford is accepting food items at Southside, 217 E Texas Avenue in Stratford, Texas, Monday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Vega Food Pantry/UMC donations can either be left at the Taylor's Vega Market or the Oldham County Chamber of Commerce Office during regular operating hours.

Please join XIT to Rise & Shine to fight hunger where we live and work! We need you more now than ever! Let's shatter last year's total and stomp out local hunger ... Together!

Smart Surfing

Big Sky is a drama series premiering on Tuesday, November 17, at 9:00 p.m. on ABC, Channel 7/507 in HD. The series features private detectives Cassie Dewell (played by Kylie Bumbury) and Cody Hoyt (played by Ryan Phillippe), who join forces with Cody's estranged wife, ex-cop Jenny Hoyt (played by Katheryn Winnick), as they search for 2 sisters who are kidnapped by a truck driver on a remote highway in Montana. However, they soon discover these are not the only 2 girls that have disappeared, and the detectives must find and stop the killer before another girl is taken. If you like suspense, you will want to check this new series out!



Call Your Mother is a comedy series that will be coming to ABC, Channel 5/507 in HD this fall (time and date to be announced). The series focuses on empty-nester mom, Jean Raines, played by Kyra Sedgwick, who wonders how she ended up alone when her children are out living their best lives thousand of miles away. Raines decides to reinsert herself into her kid's lives, so she moves from Iowa to Los Angeles to be closer to them. Her children then come to realize that they need her in their lives just as much as she needs them in hers. Sherri Shepherd plays Raines best friend Sharon, who lives in Iowa, but keeps Raines grounded and in touch with her roots. Looks like a cute, comedy show to check out. Keep a look out for launch date before the end of the year!

The Undoing is a thriller drama series on HBO, premiering on Sunday, October 25th at 8:00 p.m. The series features Nicole Kidman as Grace Frazer, who is a successful therapist with a devoted husband and a fine, young son, who is about to publish her first book. Weeks before her book is released, Grace finds herself in the middle of a violent death, missing husband and her life turned upside down! She is left in the wake of a very public disaster and she must learn to dismantle one life in favor of a new life for her and her son. If you are an HBO subscriber, this looks like an exciting series. If you would like to subscribe to HBO, please give XIT a call!



NOW YOU CAN watchTVEverywhere

ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICES, LAPTOP, TABLET OR PC ...

AND IT'S **FREE** TO ALL XIT IPTV CUSTOMERS!

WatchTVEverywhere (WTVE) provides streaming access to top rated shows and movies from over 80 different networks. You can watch WTVE anywhere you can receive an Internet connection. Best of all, it's included with your XIT Communications' IPTV subscription. If you already have our IPTV services, register online at www.xit.net and click on the WTVE link to get started.

Go to WWW.XIT.NET for more info!



XIT Recognizes its Newest Retiree, Altus Jones

XIT would like to honor our newest retiree, Altus Jones, who has been employed by the Cooperative for 45 years. Altus began his employment with the company while still in High School. He worked part time in the summers of 1972, 1973, 1974, and 1975. Jones began his full-time employment on October 15, 1975. While employed for the company, he has held many positions in the outside plant. These positions include flagman, construction crew, installation and repair technician, construction foreman, engineer, construction and maintenance supervisor, and the outside plant manager. Regarding some of the changes he has seen during his years with XIT, Jones stated "it has been amazing to be part of XIT going from eight party open wire service to the fiber optic facilities we are deploying today, going from three switch offices to seven and now one soft switch, and the technology changes of plain old dial tone to the internet and video services of today." After retirement, Altus stated that he hopes to do some traveling in the summers with his wife and grandchildren. In the fall and spring, he will be involved in stock shows and plans to coach softball.

Congratulations Altus! We wish you a happy retirement!



Young Altus 1975



Current

Temporary Stingray Music Change

Stingray Music will be temporarily changing its lineup from November 3, 2020 to January 6, 2021. Channel 936, normally Ritmos Latinos, will become Stingray Felices Fiestas. This channel will feature music for the holiday season in Spanish. Channel 940, Stingray Holiday Hits, will be broadcasting traditional and remakes of Christmas and Holiday Classics. Tune in to take advantage of the full Stingray Music tier that comes with both the Limited Basic and Xpanded Basic IPTV packages (free of charge) to XIT IPTV subscribers!



STINGRAY
ALL GOOD VIBES

What's Cookin' at XIT

Hot Chicken Salad by Estelle Chambers

2 c. cooked chicken
1 c. Ritz cracker crumbs
2 c. chopped celery
2 cans cream of chicken soup
2 Tbsp. onion, grated

1 c. mayonnaise
6 boiled eggs, chopped
4 Tbsp. lemon juice
1 c. silvered almonds
Salt to taste



Reserve $\frac{1}{2}$ the Ritz cracker crumbs and $\frac{1}{2}$ the almonds for the topping. The remainder of the ingredients mix together and put in a buttered 9 x 13 baking dish. Top with remaining Ritz cracker crumbs and almonds. Bake at 350 degrees for about 40 minutes or until bubbly.

Find even more great recipes in the XIT Country Cookin' Cookbooks (2 editions available) for sale at any of our XIT locations for just \$14.95 + tax. They make great birthday, wedding and anniversary gifts!

BE A Blessing SPONSOR

Cover the cost of a family's stay at MCLH during their medical crisis and experience the joy of being a blessing.

WILL YOU SPONSOR A FAMILY?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 200 Families, \$10,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Families, \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100 Families, \$5,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Families, \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50 Families, \$2,500 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Families, \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Families, \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Family, \$50 |

Please share with others and challenge them to get involved so they can experience the secret joy of giving!

Be a Blessing and experience the joy of giving!

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____
 STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 PHONE _____
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PAYMENT OPTIONS

Check enclosed
 Invoice me monthly for \$ _____
 Please charge my credit card.
 Visa Mastercard Discover
 NAME _____
 CARD NO. _____
 EXPIRATION DATE _____



Thank you for supporting MCLH, a home away from home for families traveling to Amarillo for medical care. For more information contact us at (806) 358-3759 or at www.leaguehouse.org.

House. Amber Glawe stated this was a decision that was made in effort to protect other guests who have compromised immune systems. Director Glawe stated that at normal capacity, the League House runs with ten employees. She mentioned that due to the virus, they are running with three employees other than herself. Another measure being taken includes daily testing of the employees for the virus.

Annually, the Medical Center League House has a celebratory "Dinner in the Garden" for sponsors of the facility. Due to the virus, they will be doing a stay safe symbolic dinner in its place. Ms. Glawe mentioned that they will be doing a "Be a Blessing" program to accept donations and help for families needing assistance in their stay at the League House.

XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative is proud to be a long-time sponsor of the Medical Center League House. XIT donates funds to a scholarship at the League House set up for residents of Dallam, Hartley, Sherman, and Oldham Counties. XIT also sponsors within the League House the Board Room and Executive office. To take advantage of the XIT provided sponsorship, you can contact the facility at 806-358-3759.

You too can become a sponsor of this wonderful facility. Director Glawe mentioned during our call that any donation whether monetary or supplies are welcomed with open arms. You can send a check to 7000 W Amarillo Blvd, Amarillo, TX 79106. Calls can be made to donate with a credit card to 806-358-3759, or you can donate on leaguehouse.org if you wish to make a monetary donation. Glawe stated if you are making purchases on Amazon, you can set up the

League House as your preferred non-profit on Amazon Smile and a percentage of your purchases will benefit the facility as well. The League House is always in need of items as well, such as:

- Bleach
- Clorox wipes
- Cleaning products
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Travel sized toiletries
- Other paper goods

Anyone can start their own scholarship or can donate to an existing one. If you have interest in making donations, please contact the League House.



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

or e-mail to xitcom@xit.net

www.xit.net



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Update Your Account Information

With identity theft, scams and fraud at an all time high, updating your account information, email passwords, and adding or updating your Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) password on your XIT account are very important!

If you have recently changed your contact phone number or mailing address, or if you did not set up a CPNI password on your XIT account yet, now is the time to do it! Just contact XIT at your earliest convenience so we can get your information updated! Any of our customer service representatives can assist you with any of these!

XIT works hard to make sure your account information is protected and secure at all times! By having a CPNI password on your account, you can help ensure that unauthorized persons cannot access your account. It is another level of security protection that is just a smart idea!

Also, please remember If you are an XIT Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. customer and you move and disconnect phone service, make sure to inform XIT of your new address. Patronage Capital Credit Checks are mailed to customers for years after an account may be disconnected, and we mail these checks to the last known address on record. It's really important that you let us know anytime you move to a new location!

During these crazy times, it doesn't hurt to make sure you are protected! We are here to help and appreciate your business!



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 <https://www.ascr.usda.gov/ad-3027-usda-program-discrimination-complaint-form>, 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 USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.