

TELCO TELEGRAM

THE JOURNAL OF DALLAS TELCO
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Fall 2009

LOCATIONS

Central Expressway

4040 N. Central Expressway
Dallas, Texas 75204

Downtown

1226 Commerce Street
Dallas, Texas 75202
ATM available on first floor

Lancaster

3200 W. Pleasant Run Road
Lancaster, Texas 75146
Drive Thru available, ATM on building exterior

LBJ

5429 LBJ Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75240
Drive Thru available, ATM available at Drive Thru

Corporate Mailing Address

5429 LBJ Freeway, Suite 600
Dallas, Texas 75240

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone 214.742.6551

Website www.dallastelco.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandy Thornton, *Chair*
Scott Bailey, *Vice Chair*
RaFaye Nesmith, *Secretary/Treasurer*
Wayne Gibson
Vincent Hall
Mable Haynes
Tommy Roberts

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Dallas Telco Federal Credit Union
P.O. Box 50014
Dallas, Texas 75250

Deborah Gregory, *Chair*
Kevin Crawford
Gerald Gafford
Raul Mercado
Rick Wray

NOTICE TO MEMBERS WITH OPEN END LOANS

Congress recently passed new legislation entitled the Credit Card Accountability Responsibility and Disclosure Act of 2009 (Credit Card Act of 2009). Although the intent of the new law was to implement reform in the credit card industry, provisions of the law also affect all Open End lending products, including any auto and signature loans you may have with Dallas Telco. The new law requires all financial institutions that use convenient Open End lending practices to have procedures in place to ensure that each periodic statement covering an Open End loan be mailed or delivered to consumers at least 21 days before the payment due date.

If you have an Open End loan with us, you should have received a notice outlining how the transition to meet the requirements dictated in the new law will affect your loan payment.

PLEASE NOTE: THESE CHANGES ARE ONLY REQUIRED ON OPEN END LOANS. THESE CHANGES WILL NOT AFFECT ANY CLOSED END LOANS, SUCH AS HOME EQUITY, AND ALL REAL ESTATE LOANS YOU MAY HAVE WITH DALLAS TELCO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION.

If you did not receive a notice, or if you have any questions, please call **214-742-6551** or stop by one of our branch locations.



REVIEWING YOUR HOMEOWNER INSURANCE

Dallas Telco has partnered with Statewide Insurance Specialists since 2003. One of the services Statewide offers our members, is a policy review of your current insurance coverage. As a homeowner, you should periodically review your homeowner insurance policy to make sure it provides sufficient coverage for the replacement of your home and personal possessions, and that you understand the limitations that may be found within the policy.

The time to review your policy is BEFORE you need to file a claim. Many policies were written with replacement cost calculations that may not reflect the current cost of replacing your home. Even though home prices have fallen, with labor and material costs escalating throughout much of Texas, the cost to rebuild a home has not.

How do you know what replacement cost is? If you have recently refinanced your home, you may have an appraisal that should indicate the appraiser's estimate of the replacement cost of the structure. A local builder may also be able to provide you approximate construction costs in your area. Compare that figure to your current homeowner policy limit.

Review your policy limitations and exclusions. Many policies limit coverage for certain personal items such as jewelry, furs, and firearms, or exclude or limit coverage for animal liability or coverage for certain breeds of dogs. In many cases additional coverage can be purchased.

Insurance premiums and coverages can vary greatly by carrier. **Statewide Insurance Specialists** provides you the opportunity to compare your current coverage with the 25 national and regional carriers they represent. This allows them to "shop the competition" to see if they can save you money.

Statewide also offers competitively priced auto, renters, condominium, investment property, boat, RV, and flood insurance products. To request a free no-obligation price comparison visit our website at www.dallastelco.com and click **INSURANCE under My Home & Family**, or call toll free **(888) 772-7832**.

Statewide Insurance Specialists TX License 7924

Dallas Telco

Federal Credit Union

Serving all of Dallas County



4 WAYS TO DESTROY YOUR RETIREMENT

In 2008, the stock market had its worst year since 1931. Given that returns have remained relatively brutal in '09, and considering the constant chatter about "the second Great Depression," it should surprise no one that many Americans are worried about retirement.

As it turns out, they should be. According to the 18th annual Retirement Confidence Survey, conducted in April 2008, less than half of workers have attempted to calculate how much money they will need for a comfortable retirement. Worse yet, the survey also reports that 46 percent of workers have a total savings of less than \$50,000. And 22 percent say they have no savings at all.

In addition to their insufficient savings, future retirees will have to deal with rising healthcare costs, unreliable Social Security benefits, and underfunded (or nonexistent) pension plans. In the face of these perils, Robert Brokamp, advisor of the [Motley] Fool's *Rule Your Retirement* newsletter, warns against four common mistakes that can lead to a disastrous retirement:

Planning too late

Studies have shown that the length of time for which you invest has more of an impact than the amount you save. An investor starting in his or her 30s or 40s has to save significantly more to catch up. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, you'll need to save three times as much for every 10 years of delay.

Not saving enough

The average American currently saves about 3 percent, while other industrialized nations, such as France and Germany, have a savings rate of about 10 percent. Ensure the discipline to save by having your monthly contribution automatically deducted from your paycheck. The money is less painful to part with, and you'll never skip a month.

Investing unwisely

Asset allocation plays a very important role in retirement planning. Don't put all of your eggs in one basket. This means diversifying your portfolio to include the five major asset classes; large-cap stocks, small-cap stocks, foreign stocks, bonds, and real estate investment trusts (REITs). The amount you allocate to each will depend on your risk tolerance and number of years from retirement.

Cashing out too early

Dipping into your retirement savings might seem like a viable short-term solution if you're in a pinch, but there are so many reasons why you should avoid doing so if at all possible. First of all, you're undoing the magic of compounding interest. As mentioned, starting over can set you back years. So unless you're facing an emergency (medical or otherwise), cashing out is a costly mistake.

Avoid these four common mistakes, and you'll considerably increase your chance of a comfortable retirement. Remember to plan early, save a sufficient amount, invest wisely, and, if you have a choice, *never* cash out your 401(k) or IRA.

For the complete article and supplemental data, please visit

<http://www.fool.com/retirement/general/2009/08/31/4-ways-to-destroy-your-retirement.aspx?source=ihpsitota0000001>.

A PERFECT FIT...YOU AND DALLAS TELCO CHECKING ACCOUNTS

At Dallas Telco, we understand that every member's needs differ. That's why we offer a variety of checking account options including: Flexible Checking — starting over when life isn't perfect; Free Checking — simple, no-fee, no-frills; Prestige Checking — earn dividends for high balance accounts; Traditional Checking — earn dividends, receive benefits, avoid monthly fee with minimum balance; Reward Checking — little extras that make the difference; Student Checking — available to students ages 13-23; and Health Savings Checking — for individuals with high deductible health plans. Each account features terrific benefits such as free home banking, free online bill pay, free e-statements, VISA® check card upon approval, free online check viewing, and free audio response. To find the best fit for you, log onto www.dallastelco.com or call 214-742-6551.

Dallas Telco

Federal Credit Union

Serving all of Dallas County

Holiday Closings

Monday, October 12, Columbus Day

Wednesday, November 11, Veteran's Day

Thursday, November 26, Thanksgiving Day

Friday, November 27, Thanksgiving

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve —
Close at Noon

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

Friday, January 1, New Year's Day



"We Do Business in Accordance
With the Federal Fair Housing
Law and the Equal Credit
Opportunity Act."