

# TEXASGULF NEWSLETTER

Spring 2017

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## 2017 Texasgulf FCU Holiday Schedule

**New Year's Day**  
Monday, January 2

**President's Day**  
Monday, February 20

**Memorial Day**  
Monday, May 29

**Independence Day**  
Tuesday, July 4

**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 4

**Columbus Day**  
Monday, October 9

**Thanksgiving Day**  
Thursday, November 23

**Day After Thanksgiving**  
Friday, November 24

**Christmas Day**  
Monday, December 25

**New Year's Next**  
Monday, January 1, 2018

## Legal Corner

*by John D. Perches*



### WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE NEIGHBOR'S OVERHANGING TREE?

Our neighbors' trees may often become troublesome, either because their branches block sunlight, yield unwanted pollen, acorns or leaves, or because they create a risk of injury or property damage. What a person's rights and obligations are as they pertain to their trees or the trees of the neighbors depends upon state law. In Texas, a person is not under an affirmative duty to prune or trim a healthy tree when its branches extend over his neighbor's property, even if the tree branches extend over the neighbor's roof or driveway where cars are parked. The law protects the owner of a healthy tree if tree limbs were to fall on his neighbor's property and cause injury or damage.

The neighbor does have the right to trim the overhanging tree with the following limitations: (1) the tree can only be trimmed to the property line; (2) the tree must not be trimmed to such an extent as to damage or harm the health of the tree; (3) there is no right to trespass upon the neighbor's property in order to trim the tree; (4) the cost of trimming the tree is borne by the neighbor doing the trimming.

In the case of a tree that the owner knows (or should know) is unhealthy, the law of negligence imposes a duty upon the owner of the tree to take all steps necessary to prevent injury and property damage caused by falling limbs and branches. A tree owner who ignores this duty and fails to adequately trim the unhealthy tree would be subject to liability for any injury or damage caused by fallen branches.

*John D. Perches is a guest columnist and attorney/shareholder at the law firm of Wadler, Perches, Hundl & Kerlick in Wharton, Texas. Attorney's note: The information in this column is not intended as legal advice but to provide a general understanding of the law. Readers with legal problems, including those whose questions are addressed here, should consult attorneys for advice on their particular circumstances. Submit your questions for this column via email to Philip J. Hundl at [phundl@wophk-law.com](mailto:phundl@wophk-law.com) or via U.S. Mail to Wadler, Perches, Hundl & Kerlick, Philip J. Hundl, c/o TGCU Legal Column, 101 W. Burselson Street, Wharton, Texas 77488.*



# Download Our Mobile App Today!

Our mobile app is available in both iTunes and GooglePlay stores. Search for Texasgulf Federal Credit Union and download our app.

You must sign up for access before you can use the app, so come by or call us. Once you're signed up, you can access your accounts, make loan payments, transfer between your accounts, and even deposit your check with the remote deposit feature.

## Texasgulf FCU Scholarship Program



*2016 Scholarship Recipients*

This will be the 10th year that Texasgulf FCU is offering a scholarship program to credit union members and the children of credit union members. Ten scholarships of \$1000 each will be awarded. They will be disbursed as \$500 for the fall semester and \$500 for the spring semester.

A scholarship application, along with the eligibility requirements, may be picked up at either our Wharton or El Campo location or email a request to [info@texasgulffcu.org](mailto:info@texasgulffcu.org) and note Scholarship Application in the subject line or download it from our website [texasgulffcu.org/membership-scholarship-program](http://texasgulffcu.org/membership-scholarship-program)

All completed applications and required documentation must be submitted to Texasgulf FCU by April 15, 2017.

by Ann Hundl



## **DON'T DERAIL YOUR RETIREMENT: WATCH FOR THESE 3 RISKS**

If you're in or nearing retirement, you're likely thinking about it as a time to relax, check items off your bucket list and enjoy what you've earned. But from a financial standpoint, it's important not to get too comfortable. Once you leave the workforce, you will likely be reliant, at least in part, on your savings to cover living expenses. So it is important to stay diligent and be aware of potential risks to your financial security. Here are three key risks to keep an eye on in retirement:

### **1. Not revisiting your investment strategy**

As you approach or enter retirement, you may have to re-assess your risk tolerance and make sure that your portfolio aligns with your goals, the lifestyle you want in retirement and your financial situation. Remember that you may have less time to recover from market swings, so consider protecting your portfolio as you prepare to live off your savings. With that said, being too conservative isn't always the right solution. With many retirees living decades in retirement, you will likely have time for your assets to grow or at least, keep up with inflation. Plan to periodically review your portfolio in retirement to make sure you're comfortable with your progress and risk tolerance.

### **2. Spending too much too quickly**

When retirement rolls around, you may find you have more money accumulated than you've ever had before. This can lead to a false sense of financial security and prevent you from adjusting spending in retirement. But if you begin spending at an unsustainable level in the early years of retirement, you risk depleting your nest egg too quickly. If you dream of traveling or starting a business after you step away from the workforce, factor those activities into your retirement budget. That way you can feel good about enjoying what you've earned while also being cautious about not outliving your assets.

### **3. The rising cost of living**

Many retirees believe the amount of money they can generate from their investments and other sources of income, such as Social Security, will be sufficient when retirement begins. But keep in mind that, historically, the cost of living has risen over time. For example, if you live for another 25 years after you retire and the cost of living rises by an average of three percent per year, your annual living expenses could potentially double in that time. Consider the possibility that retirement may be much more expensive as time goes on. Accounting for inflation impacting the most prominent items in your budget, such as health care or travel, is a good place to start.

### **The benefits of being prepared**

Preparation and discipline can keep you on track and feeling secure about your finances in retirement. You can take steps to help address these risks prior to leaving the workforce with proper planning, diligent saving and a portfolio that is aligned with your goals and risk tolerance. If you've already entered retirement, these risks deserve consideration to help you continue to manage your assets on the way to achieving long-term financial security

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## **Deadline Approaching For Dormant Accounts**

The deadline to respond to our dormant account letter is May 9, 2017 at 5:00 pm. After that date, all dormant accounts will be closed and remitted to the State of Texas.

If you received a letter notifying you that your account is dormant, please call us at (979) 282-2300 in Wharton, (979) 578-9000 in El Campo, or toll free 1-800-647-8428.

**To keep your account active, call any of the numbers and tell us you want to keep your account open.**



# Get a \$100 Cash Reward for Every New Line

This new exclusive cash rewards offer is our best one EVER! Now, as a credit union member, you can earn \$100 for every line when you switch to Sprint®.

Here's how it works:

- Members get a **\$100** cash reward for **every new line** when you switch to Sprint®.
- Current Sprint customers will receive a **\$50** cash reward for every line transferred into Sprint Credit Union Member Cash Rewards.
- Plus, get a **\$50** loyalty cash reward **every year** for **every line**

Here's how to sign up for Sprint cash rewards:

1. Become a Sprint customer
2. Register at [LoveMyCreditUnion.org/SprintRewards](http://LoveMyCreditUnion.org/SprintRewards) or in the Love My Credit Union Rewards® app
3. Allow up to six to eight weeks to see cash rewards directly deposited into your credit union account!

Make the switch today and save with the Sprint Credit Union Member Cash Rewards!



## Beat The Deadline & Save up to \$15 on TurboTax®!

The tax deadline is April 18th! This year, file your taxes the smarter way and save. Texasgulf FCU members can save up to \$15 on TurboTax® federal products. With TurboTax® you don't need tax knowledge – or an appointment – to get your taxes done right.

- **Get your maximum refund.** TurboTax searches over 350 deductions and credits to make sure you get your biggest possible refund, guaranteed.
- **Be sure nothing gets missed.** TurboTax CompleteCheck™ reviews every detail in your return, walks you through any final changes, and gives you the green light to file.
- **You're not alone.** Connect with an expert live, on-screen to get answers when you need them with TurboTax SmartLook™.

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## VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Weldon Ferrell**  
Board Vice-Chair

**Joan Anandel**  
Secretary & Treasurer

**L. J. Rolf**

**Russell Bergstrom**

**David Voulgaris**

**Philip Hundl**

## TEXASGULF

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Serving Members Since 1937

### Wharton

2101 N. Fulton  
Wharton, TX 77488  
Telephone: (979) 282-2300  
Toll-Free: 1-800-647-8428  
Fax: (979) 282-2323

### El Campo

1313 West Loop  
El Campo, TX 77437  
Telephone: (979) 578-9000  
Fax: (979) 578-9026

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm

### Drive Thru Hours

Monday-Friday 7:30am – 5:30pm

### Website

**[www.texasgulffcu.org](http://www.texasgulffcu.org)**

### Automated Account Access

**1-888-409-8428**

### Shared Branch Live Help

**1-888-837-6500**



Federally Insured by NCUA.

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