



WEEKEND GETAWAYS

One of the joys of living in this amazing city is its proximity to deserts, rainforests, quaint coastal towns, and more. Get out this summer!

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SEATTLE ORIGINAL

Mike Bethea, coach of the renowned Rainier Beach High School boys basketball team, is the latest hero in our Seattle Original series.

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SUMMER CLOSURES

SMCU will be closed on **Monday, September 7** in observance of Labor Day.

NEW ONLINE BANKING COMING ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 25

Every day it's getting closer and closer to the release of the new and improved SMCU Online Banking. The new interface is streamlined and easier-to-use, and it will offer you the same great experience no matter what device you use. The system will also be more reliable, so you'll notice fewer downtimes.

To get ready for the upgrade, the existing Online Banking will have **limited functionality during the week prior to the conversion** to the new platform. Visit smcu.com/upgrade to learn more about which services may be limited. We sincerely appreciate your patience during this process.

THREE WEEKEND GETAWAYS FOR SEATTLEITES: WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO SEE

You've been to most of Seattle's must-eat food spots. You've seen the sunset from Gasworks. And you've explored every neighborhood and green space in Seattle proper. Now what?

If you've explored the Seattle sights and are wondering where to have your next adventure, it's time to get out of the city. Here are three weekend getaways within a 3-hour drive from Seattle.



LEAVENWORTH

With the surrounding mountains, Old World architecture, and the flapping German flags, you might think you've been transported to a Bavarian village as you drive through Leavenworth, Washington. And that's the point. In 1962, the small town was transformed into a Bavarian-style village in hopes of revitalizing its economy.

At first glance, the town can be mistaken for a typical tourist trap. But dig beneath the stylized facades, and you'll find great shopping and food, even better beer, and friendly locals – all surrounded by the beauty of the Cascades.

What to Do

Attend a festival. Leavenworth loves its festivals. While there's usually some form of market, live music, or street fair every week, this village is known for the Autumn Leaf Festival, Oktoberfest, Christkindlmarkt, and Christmas Lighting Festival.

Hunt for souvenirs. Those wanting to bring a little Bavaria home with them will find Leavenworth doesn't disappoint. Wandering the maze of streets is the best way to discover the unique clothing boutiques, specialty food stores and, of course, the souvenir shops.

Sip some wine. You won't need to leave Leavenworth to sample wines from the nearby Columbia Cascade wine region. More than 15 tasting rooms are now operating in Leavenworth – many of them in the heart of this quaint village.

When to Go

Leavenworth is a four-season town. In the summer, warm weather, numerous outdoor activities like camping and hiking, and outdoor events draw travelers all season long. The sunny days on the eastern side of the mountains offer a respite from Seattle clouds.

In fall, festivals like Oktoberfest and the Autumn Leaf Festival are big draws. Christmas is magical in Leavenworth as the streets are filled with lights, carolers, and festivities. Leavenworth is also a popular lodging spot for skiers and snowboarders headed to Mission Ridge and Stevens Pass ski resorts.



OLYMPIC PENINSULA

With lush rainforests, wind-swept beaches, and towering mountains, the Olympic Peninsula feels like a land straight out of Tolkien's Middle Earth. Though it's been recently popularized by the Twilight series, the 3,600 miles of the Olympic Peninsula remains rugged and wild.

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What to Do

Explore Port Townsend. To reach the peninsula, take the ferry from downtown Seattle to Bremerton. When you arrive in Bremerton, follow signs for Port Townsend. Most of this Victorian-era city is easily accessible on foot, and strolling through the historic districts is one of the most popular activities. Visit the Port Townsend Visitor Information Center to pick up a guide that lists the city's historic buildings. With unique boutiques, funky art, and several museums, there's enough to keep you entertained for an afternoon.

Hike Hurricane Ridge. Easily accessed by road from Port Angeles, Hurricane Ridge has miles of hiking trails, as well as skiing and snowboarding in the winter months. At an impressive 5,200 feet, Hurricane Ridge offers spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding Olympics range. Visit the National Park Service website for more information.

Visit the Hoh Rain Forest. Every year, Olympics' west side valleys are drenched with over 12 feet of rain. This soggy environment is one of North America's best remaining examples of temperate rainforests and is home to Roosevelt elk, bobcats, river otters, and many species of birds. The most popular hiking trail is the Hoh River Trail, which winds through 17.3 miles of mossy forest to Glacier Meadows.

When to Go

While the park is accessible year-round, visitors will see the driest weather in the summer months. In June and July, wildflowers carpet the sub-alpine meadows. The wildflowers begin to wilt as summer moves on, but August and September bring warm weather and sunny skies. Visitors hoping to avoid the crowds may have the best luck in September before the rain moves in. On winter weekends, the road to Hurricane Ridge is usually open for skiers and snowboarders.



SAN JUAN ISLANDS

Though there are over 400 islands and rocks in the San Juan archipelago, only four of them are accessible by ferry from Anacortes, about an hour and a half north of Seattle. Tourists and northwest locals alike visit these four islands – Lopez, Orcas, Shaw, and San Juan – in the warmer months to enjoy the scenic views and to see our resident orcas.

What to Do

Get adventurous. Activities like zip-lining, horseback riding, hiking, kayaking, and paddleboarding are all readily available in the San Juan Islands. Golfers can also enjoy several courses here. For something a little tamer, visit one of the many art galleries showcasing sculptures, pottery, jewelry, glass, and fine art.

Indulge in farm-fresh food. Farm-to-table food is a staple of the San Juan Islands culture. You can enjoy fresh produce, eggs, and seafood at a number of local restaurants and bed & breakfasts. You can even make your own northwest cuisine by stopping by one of the many roadside farm stands. First visit the local farmers who can teach you all about identifying mushrooms and cooking with locally-sourced ingredients.

See the wildlife. Orca whales seem to be the regional favorite, but you can also spot gray whales, humpback whales, porpoises, seals, sea lions, otters, and eagles in the area. Tours are available by both sea and air.

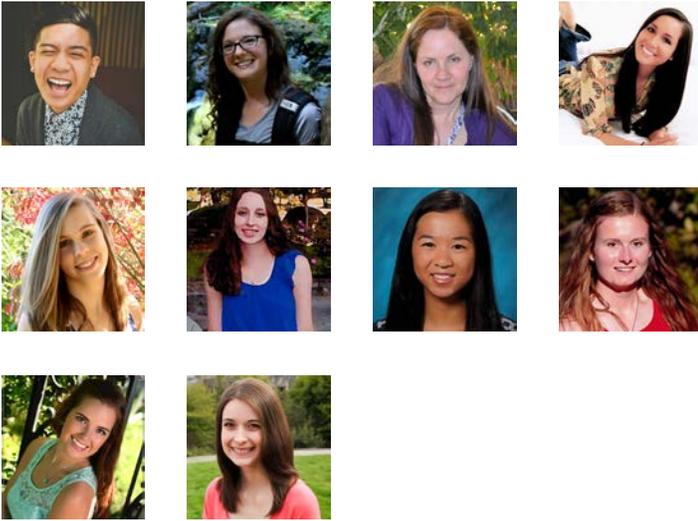
When to Go

Whales are known to be in the area between late May and mid-October, but the peak visiting season is between July and September due to warmer weather. If you're visiting during the summer months, be sure to make ferry reservations prior to traveling to avoid the long wait.

SMCU'S TEN 2015 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

We're proud to announce the winners of our \$2,000 A.G. "Tony" Marino Scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year. Each of the ten winners demonstrates a strong commitment to education, achievement, and community service.

Congratulations to this year's winners!



First Row: Germe Anthony R. Ambion, Hannah Burke, Kelly Cogswell, Daysha Gunther

Second Row: Callaway Holm, Rebecca Hursh, Pinya Kambhiranond, Hannah Little

Third Row: Katie Maureen Splaine Duchsherer, Alexandra Villagan

About the Scholarships

The Marino Scholarship was created to honor the legacy of Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union's founder, A.G. "Tony" Marino, and his years of service to the credit union. All Seattle Metropolitan members or dependent children of members are eligible for the scholarship program with the exception of Board of Directors, children of either Board Directors or Scholarship Committee Members, and previous scholarship winners. Scholarships are awarded based on academic standing, financial need, and extracurricular activities and/or employment.

Applications for the 2016-2017 scholarship will be available in branches and online in February 2016.

SUPPORT CREDIT UNIONS THROUGH CULAC AND FEEL GOOD CHECKING®

When you open a Feel Good Checking account, we donate \$20 to the non-profit partner of your choice. We have seven community partners each year, elected by the community, but for a limited time, you can designate your donation to an eighth partner!

When you open a Feel Good Checking account between now and December 31, 2015, you'll be able to choose the Credit Union Legislative Action Council (CULAC) to receive your \$20 donation.

What is CULAC, and why should I give?

CULAC is a vehicle through which credit union advocates can actively participate in advancing the future of the credit union industry. It is the political action committee of the Credit Union National Association.

Legislative and regulatory decisions are being made every day in Washington that affect the ability of credit unions to serve their members. By contributing to CULAC, you are joining with the thousands of credit union members and employees nationwide to ensure that credit unions have a voice on Capitol Hill when those decisions are made.

Where does the money go?

If you open a Feel Good Checking account and designate your donation to CULAC, the money will be put to use helping to elect candidates who understand the credit union difference and who will fight to ensure that credit unions remain the best financial services option for our communities.

Credit unions have been making a difference in their communities since the 1800s by providing better rates, lower fees, and credit to those who couldn't get loans elsewhere. By offering a local alternative to the big banks, we help keep money in the very communities we serve. We appreciate your thought and generosity in supporting our mission to serve you.

To learn more or open a Feel Good Checking account, please visit smcu.com/feelgood.

SEATTLE ORIGINAL: MIKE BETHEA



Mike Bethea is more than just the coach of the nationally renowned Rainier Beach High School's boys basketball team, a position he has held since 1994. For many of the young men who come through his program, Coach Mike is an answer to some pretty important questions: "Who cares?" and "Where do I belong?"

For Bethea, coaching and basketball are a means to an end. That end is making sure that as few kids as possible fall through the cracks, that they get the chance to grow up and find a path they can be proud of. For some of them, that means earning a living as a professional basketball player, but Coach Mike holds just as dear those young men who go on to further their education, work in professionally-fulfilling careers, have a family, and give back to those who follow them.



You see, Mike Bethea is dedicated to building a community that can provide for and nurture its members. Even first-round draft picks heed the call to come home and give back to the next generation, because that's what Coach Mike requires. That's how he makes a difference.

Watch the Seattle Original video featuring coach Mike Bethea at smcu.com/seattle-original.

LOVE YOUR SAVINGS WITH LOVE MY CU

Everyone is looking for ways to save money, and that's just what Love My Credit Union Rewards is all about.

Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union is excited to offer you exclusive discounts and benefits on products and services you use every day. Credit union members have already saved over \$1 billion with Love My Credit Union Rewards discounts. So along with lower loan rates and fewer fees, here's another way you can save even more.

- Receive exclusive pricing on most new Chevrolet, Buick, and GMC vehicles with the Credit Union Member Discount from GM
- Receive a 10% discount (15% for business members) on select regularly priced Sprint monthly data service. Waived activation fee on new lines and upgrade fees (\$36 savings each)
- Get the safety and security of roadside assistance and more for less than \$1 per week* with Credit Union Auto Club
- Save up to \$15 on TurboTax Federal tax products
- Save on services for your home from ADT, DIRECTV, Allied, and more
- Earn cash back when you shop at over 1,500 online retailers with Love to Shop

Start saving today at LoveMyCreditUnion.org.

**Based on individual roadside assistance plan*



Seattle Metropolitan Credit Union is Federally Insured by the NCUA and is an Equal Opportunity Lender.

