

YOUTH CORNER

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SSSSSHHHH! Don't tell!

We, as Youth Hosts for the 2019 Northwest Regional Meet, are pleased to spill the beans to you about our Grand Tour. Swan's Trail Farm in the Snohomish Valley will be our hosts for our 2019 Northwest Regional Meet Grand Tour. We are so excited because they offer a multitude of activities that youth will just LOVE! From live duck races to Gem mining to giant jumping pillows, there is so much for all ages to do (even your parents) besides eating. You will enjoy a lunch of BBQ buffet, hotdogs, and hamburgers all for a customized low youth price! Be sure to tell your parents about all the activities and the yummy food! We look forward to seeing you. More information will be coming soon about the Grand Tour on The Regional Meet's main website.

And know we are continuing to plan other youth friendly activities and will let you know what those are as we get more details.

Looking forward to meeting you in 2019!

Your Youth Hosts: Tim and Bonnie Nau

OUR REGIONAL EVENT BUS TOURS:

MUSEUM OF FLIGHT – what's in it for kids?

Rich with history of flight! Signing up for the bus tour includes a lunch at the museum. See the registration form for costs for this bus tour.

PIKE PLACE MARKET – what's in it for kids?

The following are tips with kids straight from the Pike Place Fishmonger's wife!

Suggested to bring when with kids: coins for Rachel, five one-dollar bills per kid to spend on fruits and veggies, wipes for cleaning up.

What to wear – have fun! Dress up! If your children like attention, have them wear a favorite costume.

Things to do:

1. [Ride Rachel](#)

Start with a requisite ride on the market mascot, Rachel the Pig, in the heart of the market at the corner of Pike Street and Pike Place directly under the neon Public Market Center sign and the “clock”. Have your kids jump on her back for a photo op, then drop some coins in to her change slot. She is a life-size piggy bank. Can you find her hoofprint? Know that your donation supports food banks, a preschool and a senior center as well as a medical clinic in the market.

2. Pike Place Fish and more

Ever see a fish thrown? Pike Place Market is known for “flying fish”. See the fish-throwing fishmongers up close. Hang out by the corner counter next to the display case, but leave room for the guys to walk through. Duck when you hear them yell “Back Jack” or “TT” (test toss). And then watch those fish fly!

Look for the grotesque gargoyle hanging from the salmon bench. That’s the monkfish! You can ask one of the guys to “coach you” on how to pull the monkfish chord. When done correctly, it jiggles and lurches towards unsuspecting onlookers.

Before you leave the fish guys, grab a sample of the smoked salmon; it is easy to eat on the go.

If not a big seafood fan, try a little sausage landjager from “Don and Joe’s Meats”.

Before moving on, try an apple chip sample from “Simply the Best Dried Fruit stand”.

Then directly behind you is the “Sunny Honey Co”. Kids can purchase a honey stick.

And many of the sweet products cost under six dollars. Everything at “Sunny Honey Co” is handmade in Bellingham, WA.

3. Pike Place Market Urban Garden and Crepe de France

A hidden rooftop garden, Pike Place Market Urban Garden is a favorite hidden treasure, a gorgeous place to have a snack and enjoy the view. You can find it by heading just to the left of Pike Place Fish towards Maximilien restaurant. Follow the hallway through gray double doors. A pig will also greet you at the entrance of this fruit-and-veggie wonderland. Look for another porcine sculpture; but on this one you can leave your John Hancock in chalk. At one time, this garden produced over 455 lbs of food that was donated to the Pike Place Market Food Bank and Senior Center.

If the weather is too cold and rainy to hang out at the garden, pop into nearby Crepe de France (<http://www.crepedefrance.com>) for some delicious food.

4. Thomas the Clown, Frank’s Produce, Ellenos Yogurt, Britt’s Pickles and Beecher’s Cheese.

Near Rachel the Pig, be sure to watch the balloon-twisting magic of Thomas the Clown, also known as Twister Thomas and the Balloon Man. He’s usually seated near Rachel. You can choose one of Thomas’ balloon creations for a dollar. And then guess how many balloons he used to make his hat.

At this point you can cross the street to the fresh fruit stands. There are always samples at Frank’s Produce (<http://franksproduce.net>) and you can use the remainder of your money to buy something you have never tried before. Tucked-in and down the hall behind the nearby market is Ellenos Greek Yogurt, which offers yummy, creamy samples to tempt your palate. Down the hall a little more is Britt’s Pickles (<http://www.brittsliveculturefoods.com>), which sells pickles on a stick. On the next

block is Beecher's Handmade Cheese and they usually offer samples and a viewing window to watch the cheese making.

5. Take a break at a Local Color Café or Lowell's Restaurant

If you need a rest or potty stop, visit the back of Local Color Cafe, near Beecher's. Here you will find couches surrounded by art and a quiet space for some downtime. Across the street, Lowell's Restaurant (<http://eatatlowells.com/>) offers three floors of waterfront views (one has a restroom) and a Northwest menu from breakfast through dinner.

Before you leave, check out the lower levels of the market for a magic shop, a chocolatier, a comic store, a pinball machine, photo booths, fortune tellers and collectible rocks.

6. The Market Theater Gum Wall

A brick wall covered in used chewing gum located in an alleyway on Post Alley under Pike Place Market. In November 2015, the wall was cleared of gum and received a total scrub down for maintenance and steam cleaning to preserve the brick. Immediately after the cleaning, gum began appearing again. Head on Pike St and go under the Market. It is near the box office for the Market Theater.

Youth Technical Seminar

THE INS AND OUTS OF THE MODEL A ENGINE

The youth seminar will discuss and demonstrate the inner workings of a Model A engine. This is a hands-on demonstration and each participant will have the opportunity to rotate the engine and watch the inner workings on a cutaway engine especially prepared for their education. Watch the pistons go up and down as the valves open and close and the connecting rods turn the crankshaft. See the clutch open as you press on the pedal and the gears move as you shift the transmission. You will even see the distributor as it directs the spark to the proper spark plug at the correct time as the piston reaches the power stroke. In addition, there will be knowledgeable people present to provide information and answer any questions.

Mike Mears Driving Award

A written exam and driving skill test on the Model A. Open to youth who have their driver's license. Model A's are not provided by the event. You will need to use your family's Model A or perhaps a close family friend will loan you theirs. Youth with the highest score will be awarded the Perpetual Mike Mears Trophy and the Northwest Region typically awards a small cash or scholarship award. There is no cost to sign up and take the exam!

Looking for things to do with the family on your travels before, during, or after the Northwest Regional Meet?

There are lots of places for the family to explore. Below are some suggestions.

South of Bellevue:

Greatwolf Lodge (www.greatwolf.com)

Greatwolf lodge located just off of I-5 approximately 78 miles south of the host hotel for the Northwest Regional Meet. Swim, splash and slide throughout the indoor water park in Grand Mound, WA. From toddlers to teens and moms and dads too. Visit on your way to or from the Regional Meet.

Northwest Trek Wildlife Animal Park (www.nwtrek.org)

Located in Eatonville, WA, central to Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia WA. It is 55 miles south of Seattle/Bellevue area. For those techies – GPS coordinates are 460 55' 24.37" N and 1220 17' 02.35" W.

There is something for all ages at Northwest Trek: Tour Trams and Trails, "Zip Wild" which is made up of 5 zip line challenges, Kid's Trek where you can hang like a spider, walk a rope bridge, climb in a treehouse, and more. Of course, the best part! LOTS and LOTS of animals! Over 40 species of native Northwest animals live in the 720 acre wildlife park.

Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium (Tacoma WA)

40 miles south of Bellevue. Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium is a combined zoo and aquarium situated on 29 acres in Tacoma's Point Defiance Park. The zoo and aquarium are home to over 9,000 species. It's exhibits reflect the zoo's theme of ecosystems from the Pacific Rim, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Northwest, the Tundra, and aquatic environments.

Wild Waves Theme & Water Park (<https://www.wildwaves.com>)

Located in Federal Way, WA which is approximately 30 miles south of Bellevue, WA Roller coasters and kid-friendly rides plus a water area with pool and slides. If you plan ahead and want to splurge, you can reserve a cabana for the family to hang out in for the day. Rentals start at \$150 per day for a family of 4 and are in addition to the entrance fee.

North of Bellevue:

Outback Kangaroo Farm (<https://www.outbackkangarooroom.com>)

The Outback Kangaroo Farm is located in Arlington, Washington which is approximately 75 miles north of Bellevue. 10030 State Route 530 NE, Arlington WA (7 miles east of I-5.)

A fun interaction with Kangaroos and other exotic animals. Feed the kangaroos, feed the llamas, pet the mini donkey, see peacocks, lemurs, alpacas, wallabies, and more. And you may just learn something along the way. Tours run Wednesday through Sundays 10am, 12pm, 2pm, and 4pm. Be prompt as tours do leave on time.

East of Bellevue:

Silverwood Theme Park and Boulder Beach Water Park (Idaho)

Located 308 miles east of Bellevue, WA in Northern Idaho near the town of Coeur D'Alene (approx. 16 miles north of I-90 on US Route 95.) It is the largest theme and water park in the Northwest situated on 413 acres and boasting more than 70 rides (including 6 roller coasters – both wood and steel), raft and tube slides, lazy river, toddler play complex, shows, and attractions. Visit on your way to or from the Regional Meet.

In Bellevue

KidsQuest Children's Museum. (1.5 miles from the host hotel.)

Hands-on Interactive exhibits staged indoors and outdoors for ages 0 to 10 years old. Science, Technology, Engineer, Art and Math (STEAM) exhibits.

Kelsey Creek Park Farm (east of the host hotel and I-405 – approx. 2 miles)

A Farm (originally established in the 1930's) located in the heart of the city full of free farm fun. Visit horses, bunnies, chickens, sheep, goats, rabbits, waterfowl and pigs every day from 9:30am to 3:00 pm. You might get lucky and see a horse sized for new shoes or a sheep being sheared. Lots of fun animal facts posted as you make your way around.

Bellevue Arts Museum (BAM)

510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue. Regardless of the current exhibit on display, BAM hosts imagination stations located throughout the facility. These all-ages activity stations are open daily and free with admission. Kids can arrange tubes and ramps to create a path for their ping-pong ball at Magnetic Motion, draw their portrait and favorite things and add it to the Community Portrait Wall and use bright colors and different materials to create original art at Reduce Reuse Create.

West of Bellevue (i.e. Seattle):

Woodland Park Zoo (approx. 13 miles west and north of Bellevue):

Woodland Park Zoo is located just north of downtown Seattle and encompasses' 92 acres of exhibit and public spaces, has 1,090 animal specimens, 300 animal species, 35 endangered and 5 threatened animal species. The zoo is a recipient of multiple Best National Exhibit awards from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and ranks second to the Bronx Zoo in New York City for the number received. The zoo began as a small menagerie on the estate of Guy C Phinney. After Mr. Phinney's death in 1888, his wife sold the 188 acre woodland park to the city for \$5,000 in cash and the assumption of a \$95,000 mortgage. The city's mayor vetoed the acquisition, but he was overruled by the City Council. Today's exhibits include Zoomazium (an interactive play space for children), Tropical Rain Forest, Tropical Asia, Northern Trail, African Savanna, Australasia, Temperate Forest, a Raptor Center, a Penguin Exhibit, and has an original

hand-carved carousel originally built for the Cincinnati Zoo in 1918 by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company (PTC #45).

Seattle Aquarium: (approx. 9 miles west of Bellevue)

The aquarium promotes marine conservation and instructs over 800,000 visitors per year. Exhibits include “Washington Waters” which represents the coastal waters of Washington state from 5 to 60 feet deep, “Crashing Waves” which is a 40 foot wave tank that replicates Washington shores from the intertidal zone, Life on the Edge that include “touch zones” which allows a visitor to see the tidepool life, Life of a Drifter (a 12 foot high glass donut that surrounds the visitor with moon jellies, Pacific Coral Reef, Ocean Oddities, Birds and Shores, Marine Mammals which exhibits harbor seals, northern fur seals, sea otters, river otters; Puget Sound Fish, and the Underwater Dome which is a 400,000 gallon tank.

If you don't want to drive and figure out parking, there is a bus that will take you from Bellevue Transit Center to University St Station Bay A (approx. a 40-50 minute ride depending upon the time of day) and then it's a 9 minute walk to the west and then north along the waterfront. The Bellevue Transit Center is less than a mile's walk from the Hilton Hotel. You can also walk from Pike Place Market down to the waterfront and pier. So, you could take the Pike Place Bus tour to Pike Place Market and then about an 8 minute walk down to the waterfront/aquarium.

Pacific Science Center

Located at the southwest corner of Seattle Center. The Science Center is composed of eight buildings including two IMAX theaters, a Laser Dome theater, a tropical butterfly house, a planetarium and hundreds of hands-on science exhibits for kids of all ages. Also at the Seattle Center is the Space Needle, Chihuly Garden and Glass (which includes a demonstration of glass blowing), a food court, a children's museum, and the Museum of Pop Culture or MoPOP (previously called the Experience Music Project Museum).

There are a number of options to get there such as drive and there is plenty of paid parking available. There are two bridges to get across the lake – either I-90 which is south of Bellevue or the SR 520 toll bridge which is just north of Bellevue. You could also take the bus from the Bellevue Transit station in to town and then walk to Westlake Center where you can catch the monorail that runs to Seattle Center (although this is definitely the longest in time to travel), or UBER from the hotel to Seattle Center and back.

Seattle Waterfront/Pier 57 (approx. 9 miles west of Bellevue)

Pier 57/58 houses The “Great Wheel”, a Ferris wheel like ride on the pier, Wings over Washington (ever been to “Soaring California” at Disneyland? It's a similar experience, but done over Washington State.) You can also get some great seafood at The Crab Pot, or head down to Pier 54 and check out the local seafood restaurant, Ivar's Acres of Clams or go to Ivar's fishbar for something fast. If you don't care for seafood, there is a great local burger place called Kidd Valley also at Pier 54 and is highly recommended.

The waterfront's iconic Ye Olde Curiosity Shop is also located at Pier 54. It was founded in 1899 and is a historic family-run novelty shop and museum of oddities. Other things to see at the waterfront is the ferry boats sailing to and from Vashon Island (Pier 50) and you might be able to see the cruise ships docked.

If you don't want to drive and figure out parking, there is a bus that will take you from Bellevue Transit Center to University St Station Bay A and then walk to the west towards the waterfront. The Bellevue Transit Center is less than a mile's walk from the Hilton Hotel. You can also walk from Pike Place Market down to the waterfront and pier. So, you could take the Pike Place Bus tour to Pike Place Market and head down to the waterfront on foot. It's about an 8 minute walk.