

UNDER THE ARCH:

Celebrating 90 Years of Gateway Metro



August 2025

Single At Retirement

Q: Most retirement advice is geared toward people “growing old together.” How do I plan for a fabulously single life after work?

A: If you’re single at retirement, you won’t have several benefits: spousal Social Security benefits, life insurance payouts and equity, and preferential tax treatment for married couples.

You’re not alone. The U.S. census reports that 54% of men and 27% of women over age 65 are single, facing a more difficult retirement landscape than married couples.

However, there are many retirement strategies that are easier for single people to execute. Here are three steps you can take to make your retirement years safe and secure.

1. Start saving now

Single people often have significantly less in retirement savings than married couples. There’s only one solution: Start saving more.

It’s easier to start small. Try saving a dollar every day for 30 days. Use that money to start or add to a tax-advantaged retirement account like an IRA. After 30 days, this practice will become habit.

Single retirement may require a more cautious retirement plan – you may need to work longer to achieve security in retirement. For many, the years just prior to retirement are their peak earning years. Several more years at your max salary (and max savings rate) can add up quickly!

2. Choose your accounts wisely

There are some common retirement situations that put single people at greater risk than married couples. Primarily, single people have less support and flexibility if they outlive their savings because they lack the larger pool of assets and supplemental income streams of married couples. Consequently, they must be more careful in their selection

of retirement vehicles. Guaranteed sources of income that provide security, like lifetime annuities and defined benefit plans, can alleviate these concerns.

Also, without a partner to depend on if you require long-term care, major medical problems pose a more significant challenge. Long-term care insurance provides excellent protection against these costs. Similarly, keeping a robust Health Savings Account (HSA) can help save on taxes now and pay for medical expenses later.

3. Take advantage of the opportunities

Retiring single offers exciting opportunities. For example, you no longer need to live near your old workplace, and can move to a community with a lower cost of living.

Other available opportunities that aren’t as desirable for married couples include starting a small business, consulting or freelancing. These can help maximize your tax benefits and bolster your income over those early retirement years.

Since there’s no guaranteed inheritance outside a marriage, your estate planning has many more options; you can dedicate your remaining savings to your favorite cause.



Article provided by our partner, cuContent

Writing a Will

Ever considered writing your own will? While you can draft a will on your own, there are plenty of reasons why you may not want to go that route. Most people do it to save money, but they may overlook or forget to take care of some important details – details that could eventually cost them much more than the amount they could save.

Some of the biggest mistakes include:

- **Ignoring state law differences.** Will kits and online wills may not always take state laws regarding the administration of probate into account. An estate planning attorney can inform you of these state laws; a will kit or website may not.
- **Not revoking an earlier will.** Many wills contain boilerplate language that automatically revokes any preceding will. If you are writing your will totally on your own (some people still do), you may not realize the necessity of such a clause.
- **Assumptions.** If you will property to an heir, what happens if you outlive that heir? What if you will an asset to a friend or relative today and that asset is gone when your will is executed someday? These are important things to contemplate; things that most people who write their own wills have not considered.
- **Vagueness.** Sometimes executors are not given enough power by the language of a will. Sometimes a home will be left to a spouse, but with no one assigned to pay for upkeep of the home during the rest of that widow's lifetime. Alternate executors are sometimes omitted from wills, and names of nonprofit groups can easily be misstated or misspelled, inviting complication and possible dispute of charitable intent.

Keep in mind this article is for informational purposes only and is not a replacement for real-life advice. You may want to consider consulting a legal professional before making any changes to your estate strategy. Fortunately, many financial professionals have relationships with attorneys. Instead of searching the Internet or the Yellow Pages for a stranger, ask for a referral from the financial professional you consult.



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Would you like to discuss investments or your financial goals?

Reach out to Bill Anderson at 636-222-7585 or email banderson@hntlgh.com

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About Bill



Bill has been a financial advisor since 2012, focusing on creating a client-centric experience by providing education, organization, objectivity, proactivity, accountability, and partnership. In 2012, Bill started his financial services career at Edward Jones, providing investment services, retirement planning, protection strategies, estate planning opportunities and education savings plans for almost six years. In April of 2018, Bill moved his practice to Huntleigh Securities to provide a more customized client experience for his varied clientele and continue to grow professionally. Since then, Bill has continued to grow his services and practice, and has expanded into offering services and advice to Gateway Metro Federal Credit Union members.

Upcoming Events & Holidays

Sept 1	Labor Day - CLOSED
Sept 13	Recycling Event @ St. Peters 9-11:30
Oct 13	Columbus Day - CLOSED
Oct 18	Recycling Event @ North 9-11:30

New Website Look

Coming Soon: We are currently working on updating the look of our website. We are excited to share it this summer.

Our address will remain goGMFCU.org. Stay tuned to social media for more information.

LOAN RATES

EFFECTIVE August 15th, 2025

VEHICLE LOANS

The following are approx. payback terms.	AS LOW AS
Up to 36 months	5.25% APR*
37 to 48 months	5.25% APR*
49 to 63 months	5.25% APR*

OTHER LOANS

	AS LOW AS
Mortgage	Click for current rates
Share Secured	2.01% APR*
Stock Secured	9.25% APR*
Personal Loans	7.99% APR*
Personal Line of Credit	12.9% APR*

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Rates are subject to change, and terms and conditions apply. Our website contains the most current rates. Contact GMFCU for complete details. NMLS #410276

LOST CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

If your GMFCU credit or debit card is lost, stolen or if you suspect unauthorized use, please call:

CREDIT CARD - (800) 558-3424 | 24/7

DEBIT CARD - (314) 621-4575 or

(800) 621-4828 during business hours or

(800) 472-3272 | 24/7

Gateway Metro Outreach Call to Action Update

Written by Jeri Peterson

We would like to thank our members for inviting Gateway Metro to be of service to organizations that are important to them. It is a treat for us to provide financial literacy and responsibility programming within your community.

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra – Youth Orchestra

As a long-time Gateway Metro member, I believe in connection, empowerment, and creativity. I have been a participant and supporter of the arts and culture community throughout my life. The one thing I was usually tasked with was the fiscal responsibility of many of the projects I was involved with. I never thought anything about it. I shared financial information freely. In hindsight, I realized my financial intelligence and business degree gave me the confidence to manage money.

As a staffer at GMFCU I was able to connect with our nation's second oldest Symphony Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO). Three years ago, Gateway Metro leadership allowed me to introduce financial literacy concepts along with several of our products and services to the creative teens and young adults as an official sponsor of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra – Youth Orchestra. I, along with a few of my co-workers have had great conversations with the SLSO – YO community.

Often a student's ability to play an instrument can serve as a gateway to scholarship opportunities the same way a student-athlete might work towards receiving a college scholarship. These young musicians must practice incredible symphonic pieces diligently with grace and curiosity. They must also maintain their academics at an elevated level to reach their goals. The days of being a "starving artist" are different from when I was growing up. Now some teens and young adults are a bit more entrepreneurial and comfortable navigating money. As I engage with youth throughout the bi-state area, I find some of them are fearful about banking. They are inundated with mixed messages from social media and even family and friends. Parents need help cutting through the noise and even realizing they may have a few things they may need clarity about as well.

To experience beautiful music, creativity and the promise of young talent, be sure to visit the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra – Youth Orchestra. Their concerts are usually free and open to the public. It was an honor to be in the audience once again in May at the Touhill Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Missouri – St. Louis. Having the opportunity to continue to contribute to the young creatives financial literacy and responsibility education means the world to me. We are looking forward to continuing this partnership in the coming season in the newly renovated Powell Symphony Hall in the Grand Arts District after it re-opens this Fall. We hope to see you there too.

All the organizations featured in this series have a Gateway Metro Federal Credit Union membership connection. Gateway Metro is committed to providing support to organizations important to our membership.

Please contact us if you are a Gateway Metro member interested in submitting for consideration a non-profit organization you are connected to as either an employee or a member. Your organization may receive free financial literacy and responsibility programming. This offer is available only to current full-service GMFCU members in good standing. This opportunity is non-transferable. You must have a willingness and ability to serve as facilitator between GMFCU and the organization. Please include your name, contact information, the name and address of the organization you are representing, what service the organization provides to your community, the age range of the audience and what sort of programming/topic you would like GMFCU to present. Here's our contact information: marketing@gmfcu.org.



Youth Orchestra - Grab & Go Event: April 2024



Youth Orchestra - Final Performance of 2025 Season at Touhill PAC Hall

Becoming a Member Could Land You \$90!

There's never been a better time to share the benefits of credit union membership. With our \$90 referral bonus, both you and your referred friend will receive \$90 when they join and meet the qualifications!

Whether it's a friend, family member, or coworker, you can earn big just by spreading the word. And the best part? Your referral also gets rewarded—because growing together is what community is all about.

By referring others, you're not only earning cash—you're helping build a stronger financial community. Enjoy competitive rates, personalized service, and exclusive member perks all year long.

This is the last month to take advantage of this opportunity, so don't let it pass you by!

Learn more at gogmfcu.org/memberspecial



*New member must qualify for membership. Referral cannot be an existing GMFCU member, joint member or previous member. Current member will receive incentive within 60 days of their referral opening any GMFCU account. New member will receive \$90 new member incentive(s) for completing the following actions: 1) open an auto loan with a minimum balance of \$5,000 2) open a Save to Win certificate with a minimum of \$25 3) open a personal loan with a minimum balance of \$500 4) open a share certificate with a minimum of \$500 deposit, youth certificate only requires \$100 minimum deposit 5) open a new checking account with direct deposit of at least \$200 per month. Direct deposit must post to new account within 90 days to qualify. (A qualifying direct deposit is a recurring electronic direct deposit of a paycheck, pension, Social Security or other regular monthly income by an employer or outside agency; does not include financial institution to financial institution transfers, person to person transfers or credit card cash advance transfers) GMFCU may modify or discontinue this offer without notice. Current member name must be provided when new member opens an account for referrer to qualify for \$90 referral incentive. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. 1099 will be issued to members who receive total bonus over \$600 within 2025. Offer is only valid from July 1, 2025 through August 30th, 2025.

Student Loans to Help Your Educational Journey



August is the perfect time to prep for college—and we're here to help you cover the costs with confidence. Whether you're paying tuition or stocking up on supplies, our student loans are designed to support your academic journey.

With Gateway Metro, you can borrow up to \$120,000 for undergraduate expenses and take advantage of competitive rates that keep your future affordable.

From college prep to graduation day, we've got your back every step of the way. Apply now and start the semester strong at goGMFCU.org/loans

*Must be eligible for membership with GMFCU. Must qualify for loan based on credit worthiness. Rates current as of 8/1/2025 and are subject to change. Actual APR will be determined at the time of loan approval based on your credit, loan amount and term. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate.

Recycling Event at St. Peters

Where: 1421 Jungermann Rd, St. Peters MO 63376

When: September 13 | 9am - 11:30am

Come dispose of your paper documents and electronic items* to make some space before autumn hits. Visit us inside the branch for fun games, great prizes and refreshments! Don't forget to bring donations to assist The Butterfly Project with collecting items for Annie's Hope this year. We will be collecting cash donations as well as rolling and cutting tools for Play Doh, bright acrylic paint (2 oz. bottles), brushes for acrylic paint (1-3") and gifts cards to the following stores: Amazon, Michael's and Sam's Club.

*Most items are free but some will incur a small fee. Fees can be located online at goGMFCU.org/events

What You Have to Say

Written by Jeri Peterson and Gateway Metro Members

The Gateway Metro Federal Credit Union team is committed to serving our members and our community. We choose to stand out from other financial institutions by being member-focused, relationship-focused and fiscally responsible advocates. We build authentic relationships, adhere to rigorous professional training and are mindful that this is your credit union we take care of every day. To share some of the memorable testimonials and meaningful acknowledgments we receive from members of the Gateway Metro family is an honor.

My Joy-filled Experience with Gateway Metro

Mr. Hood is a branch favorite in North County. He believes in enjoying life. He shares, *"What keeps me at Gateway Metro are the people there. They are so wonderful, knowledgeable, cheerful and always smiling. They are always able to help me when I need help. I stop by sometimes just to say, 'Hi' and that's the truth." One of the fun facts about Mr. Hood is that he is interested in collecting coins. Whenever we come across an interesting coin, we make sure to give him a call to see if it may be something he would like to add to his collection. Here's that origin story, "You see, I blame this on my grandmother. When I was growing up, she would take me with her to Gas Light Square in St. Louis. There were a lot of antique shops there. That's where I began my love of collecting old things. Coins became a part of my collections and now it is an activity I share, and it may be something I can pass on to my grandkids. I like to look for old silver coins at Gateway Metro. The year a coin was minted always has me ask what was happening in history say in 1867 or 1965 etc. I enjoy history and coins are a part of history you can hold in your hand. My uncle used to give me Indian head pennies dating from 1903 or 1907. I have pennies from the St. Louis World's Fair era. It puts things into perspective, and I have fun with it."*

When asked about how GMFCU fits into his life's financial story, he says. *"Over the years Gateway Metro has been good to me. When I need to take out a loan they are there to give it to me. Like my grandmother used to say, 'If, you pay your bills they will give you credit'. I thought that was simple enough, so I did it. I pass that wisdom on to others coming up behind me. I encourage my grandkids and other people's grandkids to join Gateway Metro. Back in 1984 I fell out with banks. I did not like how I was being treated. I have been with credit unions ever since. The people I have recommended to the credit union are also enjoying their time with you. A lot of people don't have the knowledge about what it is that credit union does. I think when credit unions came along, I personally think things have improved. It's not difficult coming into Gateway Metro, I sometime notice families opening accounts for their young ones and that's what it's all about. The young person will watch what the adults are doing. Here's an example, one day my daughter and I were out and about when she was a child. She wanted me to buy something for her, and I said, Daddy doesn't have any money for that toy, and she said, just go to the wall and get some money. She was referring to the ATM (Automatic Teller Machine) she had seen me withdraw money from many times. I had to explain to her that Daddy had to put money in the wall to be able to take money out of the wall. That's when I realized she was watching me, and I had to be clear about money with her and let her know that the ATM is banking without going into the credit union. I opened an account for her when she was 5. She is a mother now and is doing well because we built a solid foundation for her and now her children. So many young people today are fearful of real financial institutions. They think an app is the way to go. I feel it's not serving them well. It doesn't answer their questions or help them build relationships with banking professionals like the Gateway Metro staff. An app can't build their credit or teach them about all the responsibilities that go along with it. I talk to young people to help them try to understand the differences they are unaware of between banks and the benefits of a credit union.*

I just want to tell those who are reading this interview to visit Gateway. Meet the people who can help answer your questions about money and banking with the credit union. Not only do the youth need help, our adults and seniors need to get answers too. Give it a shot. It can't hurt."

Thank you, Mr. Hood. This was truly a joy-filled conversation. We laughed and smiled throughout the entire interview. Mr. Hood's closing remarks to the GMFCU community are, *"Try to enjoy every opportunity and day we are blessed with; it's another day in your life and your story."*

D Hood, enthusiastic Gateway Metro member since 2001

We will continue to take a few moments to feature What You Have to Say to let you know how much your words and deeds of kindness add to the growth of the Gateway Metro culture and community. If you would like to be considered to share your Gateway Metro Experience, please contact us at marketing@gmcu.org.

Save to Win Makes Saving Easy for You!

Save to Win is the perfect way to save over time, receive a great rate and have a chance to win more money! It is a safe and fun way to save money at your own pace with the perk of being entered into a FREE drawing to earn more money.

Every \$25 you save each month qualifies you for one entry. You could win \$25 - \$1,000 as a monthly winner or even up to \$5,000 if you are a Quarterly winner, wow! Learn more about Save to Win online at goGMFCU.org

This certificate is one of the easiest ways to save... even when you're on a budget! If you deposit \$10 one week then another \$15 later in the month... that still qualifies you for an entry!

Save to Win is truly a way to cruise into summer savings while still having enough in your budget for fun!

Congratulations to our June & Quarter 2 Winners!



*Limited to 100 entries per month.



Wrap Up Summer With an Auto Loan



Ready to ride into the last stretch of summer in style—or upgrade before the back-to-school rush? Gateway Metro has your back with auto loan pre-approvals that make car shopping a breeze—so you can be cruising with the windows down before the leaves start to fall.

Take advantage of up to 125% financing, terms up to 84 months, and no pre-payment penalties.

Whether you're eyeing a new ride or upgrading your current one, we're here to help you get behind the wheel.

Apply today at goGMFCU.org/loans or stop by one of our local branches to get started!

*Must be eligible for membership with GMFCU. Must qualify for loan based on credit worthiness. Rates current as of 8/1/2025 and are subject to change. Actual APR will be determined at the time of loan approval based on your credit, loan amount and term. Not all applicants will qualify for the lowest rate.

Follow us on social media to stay in the Gateway Metro loop!

Informative articles, branch closures, upcoming events, contests and more!



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